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FRIDAY, JANUARY 7th, 1916.

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GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLET and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

THE RINGERS' TRIBUTE.

The muffled ringing in our churches on Sunday for those who have fallen in the war was all but universal. The steps which "The Ringing World" took to further the general observance of the day as an occasion when the ringers throughout the country might interpret, through the bells, the national feeling in regard to the sacrifice made by the heroic dead, had splendid results. From end to end of the land the muffled bells pealed out their impressive notes, marking the feeling which we have for those who have given their lives in the cause not only of the Empire, but of humanity and justice. From our great Cathedrals, from our city and village churches, poured forth those strains which stir the emotions, and which recalled the fact that, though so many thousands of our heroes are dead, their memory lives.

We believe we are on quite safe ground when we state that on no previous occasion has a collective action on the part of ringers ever received such wide public recognition, and we may be pardoned for saying that we are proud of the result. The securing of the views of the Archbishop of Canterbury assured the success of the proposal from the start, and, so far as its general adoption by ringers was concerned, the approval of the Archbishop of York and of more than a score of other prelates put the final seal upon it. Our share in the matter, however, was not finished there. We were able to reach the ringers, and, through them, the clergy; but, as we stated, it was also important that the public should be reached as well. Accordingly, efforts were made to obtain the assistance of the Church newspapers and of the daily Press, and several journals announced, in their own way, the part ringers intended to play. Nearly all the London daily papers on Monday laid emphasis on the muffled ringing, and, in one widely read journal, the article upon the day's services was given a heading relating to the bells: "Toll for the Brave. Muffled Peals rung at Nation's Services of Intercession."

So far as the ringers themselves are concerned, we feel that the part they played on Sunday was not only a worthy one, and one which was dictated by a deep appreciation of what the nation owes to its departed heroes, but it was an act which must, in its effect, be helpful. Bishops, clergy and people were made aware of a great united action by a body of Churchmen whose doings seldom come under public notice, and, to those who may give it thought, it will be apparent that such an organised observance could only come from a body who realise the duties as well as the pleasures of their calling, and who are not only ready to interpret national feeling, but are able and ever willing to do so.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs. C. CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract,—we may be able to assist you.

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BIRMINGHAM**

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MUFFLED PEALS.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 3, 1916, in Three Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 37½ cwt.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| WILLIAM H. BARBER ... Treble | R. ALDER GOFTON ... 7 |
| ALFRED DALTON ... 2 | BERT HORTON ... 8 |
| JOHN McKEAG ... 3 | ALFRED F. HILLIER ... 9 |
| JOSEPH E. R. KEEN ... 4 | BENJ. C. DIXON ... 10 |
| WILLIAM W. SINCLAIR ... 5 | ROBERT RICHARDS ... 11 |
| ASA HOLMES ... 6 | JOHN FOREMAN ... Tenor |

Composed by JOSEPH W. PARKER, and
Conducted by WM. H. BARBER.

Rung with half muffled bells as a tribute to the memory of those who have fallen in the war. This composition is now rung for the first time. It contains all the 5—6's in the inverted titlums and handstroke home positions. First peal on the 12 bells in this tower and the first on 12 bells for all except the conductor and A. F. Hillier. Also the first peal of Stedman Cinques by the Association. All the above are members of the Cathedral Guild of Ringers except R. A. Gofton.

GARSTON, LANCs.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

(LIVERPOOL BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 1, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 12 cwt.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| SAMUEL MILLERSHIP ... Treble | HERBERT LUDKIN ... 5 |
| EDWARD CAUNCE ... 2 | WALTER HUGHES ... 6 |
| THOMAS JENNIONS ... 3 | SIDNEY BARNES ... 7 |
| GEORGE WOODHALL ... 4 | HERBERT SAMUELS ... Tenor |

Conducted by S. BARNES.

First peal as conductor. Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of the fallen in the war; also in memory of the late Arch-deacon Madden, of Southport.

WHITLEY BAY, NORTHUMBERLAND.

DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 3, 1916, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17 cwt.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| *FREDERICK NICHOL ... Treble | GEORGE R. HARRISON ... 5 |
| EDWARD A. HERN ... 2 | JOSEPH A. GOFTON ... 6 |
| COLIN GREY ... 3 | THOMAS T. GOFTON ... 7 |
| ARTHUR PAYNE ... 4 | HERBERT P. MUSGRAVE ... Tenor |

Conducted by THOMAS T. GOFTON.

* First peal. Rung with the bells half muffled as a tribute of respect to the soldiers and sailors who have lost their lives in the war.

NEWENT, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(NORTH FOREST BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 1, 1916, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE AND ST. DUNSTON'S DOUBLES,
5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 20 cwt. 3 qrs.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| † JAMES E. ROBERTS ... Treble | HARRY GOUGH ... 4 |
| PRIVATE H. AWFORD ... 2 | EX-SERGT. J. WILLIAMS ... 5 |
| † ALBERT MARTIN ... 3 | * CHARLES PANTING ... Tenor |

Conducted by ALBERT MARTIN.

* First peal. † First peal away from the tenor. ‡ First peal as conductor. This peal was rung with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to our soldiers and sailors who have fallen in the war. Pte. Awford belongs to the 3/1st Batt. Cyclists Corps.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 27, 1915, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 0 qr. 26 lbs.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| JOSIAH HARRIS Treble | ALFRED MEARS 5 |
| LIONEL H. PAGE 2 | GEORGE WILLIAMS 6 |
| CHARLES J. FRAY 3 | WILLIAM H. GEORGE 7 |
| HENRY W. WILKES 4 | WILLIAM T. TUCKER ... Tenor |

Composed by H. DAINS, and
Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

This composition has the 6th at home the last 24 course-ends.

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 29, 1915, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| JOHN DENNER Treble | GEORGE PINCOTT 5 |
| THOMAS B. WORSLEY 2 | *MATTHEW BERRY 6 |
| JOSEPH RIDYARD 3 | JOHN POTTER 7 |
| JOHN WELSBY 4 | JAMES DENNER Tenor |

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK, and
Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

* First peal in the method with a bob bell. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect to Mr. Benjamin Higham, who had been organist at the above church for 37 years, and who died suddenly on Christmas Day.

SIX BELL PEALS.

STEEPLE ASHTON, WILTSHIRE.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
(DEVIZES BRANCH.)

On Monday, December 27, 1915, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, with 10 different callings. Tenor 20 cwt.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| *WALTER BERRETT Treble | †WILLIAM BAXTER 4 |
| †HAROLD BUTCHER 2 | SAMUEL J. HECTOR 5 |
| JESSE FRANCIS 3 | *WILLIAM BARTLETT ... Tenor |

Conducted by SAMUEL J. HECTOR.

* First peal. † First peal away from treble. Messrs. Butcher and Bartlett were elected members before starting for peal. This is believed to be the first peal ever rung on the bells, which have just been rehung by Messrs. Mears & Stainbank.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 21, 1915, in One Hour and Fifty-seven Minutes,
AT THE TOWER OF SS. PETER AND PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising two 720's of St. Clements and five of Plain Bob, called differently.

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| CHARLES POULSON 1—2 | ARTHUR SYMONDS 3—4 |
| STEDMAN H. SYMONDS 5—6 | |

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

First peal in two methods by C. Poulson. This was rung to celebrate the birthday of Mr. Arthur W. Baldwin, schoolmaster of St. Snoring, Norfolk, who was a former ringer of St. Mary's Church, Preston, Suffolk, and who was taught by the ringer of 3-4.

The peal rung at Staveley on December 27th, and recorded in our last issue, was Mr. W. T. Peglar's 200th peal.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers who have joined H.M. Forces:
Gnr. G. F. Williams, of Holy Trinity, Hull, 146th Brigade, R.F.A., now at Hull.

Pte. A. Poulter, of St. Michael's, Yorktown, Surrey, A.S.C., now in France.

Gnr. J. H. Riding, of Christ Church, Crewe, Royal Garrison Artillery, now at Crosby, near Liverpool.

Pte. G. H. Harding, of St. James's, Trowbridge, Wilts, Royal Flying Corps.

Spr. A. E. Abraham, of St. Thomas's, Bristol, Royal Engineers, now in France.

Pte. W. C. Abraham, of St. Thomas's, Bristol, R.A. M.C., now at Bulford.

From Selby Abbey, Yorks:—

Rifleman H. S. Morley, and

Rifleman T. Morgan, 19th (Res.) Batt. King's Royal Rifles (Churchmen's Battalion).

These make the number who have joined from Selby Abbey up to six. From St. Stephen's, Old Radnor, Herefordshire.

Pte. W. Evans, A.S.C. (M.T.), now in France.

Pte. G. Jones, K.S.L.I., discharged through an accident.

Pte. R. Jones, 2nd Batt. Herefordshire Regiment.

A PLEASANT NEW YEAR'S EVE.

A most enjoyable New Year's Eve was spent by a few ringing friends attached to St. Stephen's, Ealing, and St. Mary's, Acton. The bells of St. Stephen's were raised at 7.30, and several touches were successfully brought round open.

The bells were lowered at 8.30, and, at the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence, all adjourned to 24, Wimborne Gardens, for light refreshments—a most welcome interlude. Handbells were brought into use, and several courses brought round, with the aid of "my lady nicotine," by the following: A. W. Davis 1—2, W. Lawrence 3—4, G. Harbour 5—6, Robt. Holloway 7—8. Next an interesting 15 minutes was spent in examining the host's relics, for he seems to possess quite a small museum. One article in particular—a candlestick—should commend itself to those married strings who spend a good deal of time in discussing as to who should put the candle out before turning into sheet alley. Upon entering the bedroom you touch a small lever, and by the time you are in bed the candle automatically extinguishes itself. It was now 10 p.m., so the party adjourned to Acton tower, where the bells were rung half-muffled until almost 12 o'clock, when the mufflers were removed, and touches of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples were indulged in. The conducting at both towers was shared by Messrs. W. Lawrence and Robt. Holloway.

SOLDIERS TAKE PART IN NEW YEAR'S RINGING.

The old custom of ringing the old year out and the new year in was carried out as usual for the 40th consecutive year, at Pulborough, Sussex. The ringers were pleased to have among them their old friends, Sergt. W. H. Hollman and Pte. E. Goodsell, of the Royal Sussex Regiment. The latter unfortunately got a nasty shrapnel wound in the face while serving with his regiment in France, and has been home on sick leave. We are, however, pleased to say he has quite recovered, and will shortly rejoin his regiment. Sergt. Hollman has also been home on sick leave, and is making good progress towards recovery.

During the New Year's ringing at the Church of St. Ignatius-the-Martyr, Sunderland, the ringers had the pleasure of having with them Sapper R. L. Patterson. Prior to the war he was one of the conductors at this tower, but is now doing his duty with the Royal Engineers at Newark. The ringing on New Year's Eve and after midnight, and on the following Sunday, comprised touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and London Surprise Minor, and it was a great pleasure to again hear the voice of Sapper Patterson calling the bobs in two of the touches.

RINGERS' NERVE-SHATTERING EXPERIENCES.

Mr. C. H. Jennings, of Wyke Regis, and one of the district secretaries of the Salisbury Guild, who, since the beginning of the war has been attached to the North Sea Mine-Sweeping flotilla, has, we regret to say, been invalided home. He has been in hospital at Chatham suffering from nervous breakdown, through the strain of the dangerous service in which he was engaged, and is now making good progress. As one may imagine, Mr. Jennings has had some very rough times. He has seen no fewer than ten ships blown up at sea—he was serving on one of them—and has been in five air raids. Surely nerve-shattering experience enough for one man. Mr. Jennings desires, through "The Ringing World," to wish all his "brother-strings" a happy and prosperous New Year, a wish, which we are sure will be reciprocated.

MUFFLED RINGING FOR DEAD HEROES.

UNIVERSAL OBSERVANCE ON INTERCESSION SUNDAY.

Never before in the history of ringing has such united action been taken in a public observance as was the case on Sunday, when, throughout the land, with comparatively few exceptions, the bells of our churches were rung muffled "to give emphasis," in the words of the Archbishop of Canterbury, "to our sense of the loss the country has sustained by the death of the brave men who have given their lives in the cause of what we believe to be loyalty to righteousness and truth." The one important point in connection with this special ringing was the fact that its particular purpose was brought very widely beneath the notice of the public, thanks to the publicity which was obtained through a large number of the great daily papers. Many of them quoted the Archbishop's letter, and the ringers' prelude to those remarkable services held on Sunday made an obvious impression. One great London daily paper dwelt upon the "note of solemnity given to the occasion by peals of muffled bells"; another said "A new and impressive note was struck at the services, for muffled peals were rung in memory of the brave men who have fallen." Thus, in varying phrase, the great journals have made known the ringers' part.

As for the clergy, they readily welcomed the idea of the muffled ringing, and, as in the case of the Rector of Birmingham, whose words we quoted last week, many not only announced the purpose of the ringing, but emphasised its meaning. In hundreds of towers special touches were rung, the ringers themselves going out of their way to make adequate arrangements, and the success which attended the day's observance was the more remarkable from the fact that in so large a number of cases the bands are seriously depleted by the contributions in men which have been made to the Forces. But if only to ring rounds, the muffles were put on, just as readily and just as willingly as if it were for a quarter-peal.

At Colchester, where, in the ordinary way, ringing after sunset is forbidden, special permission was given by the authorities for the bells to be rung in the evening.

We give below particulars of many of the touches rung, and it will be seen they come from all parts of the country.

Our peal columns, too, bear testimony to the efforts that were made. At Newcastle Cathedral the first peal on the twelve bells was rung.

CALDICOT, MON.—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—On Intercession Sunday, the bells were rung half-muffled before each service, and on the evening previous a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), half-muffled, by: E. Rowe 1, H. Morgan 2, J. Bullen 3, A. Lewis 4, N. Margetts 5, C. Greedy 6, J. W. Jones (conductor) 7, H. Lake 8.

CHRISTCHURCH, HANTS.—Winchester Diocesan Guild.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, for evening service, with the bells muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1295 changes): H. F. Elliott (longest length of Caters) 1, S. Best 2, R. O. Street 3, E. Hinton 4, A. Best 5, G. H. Plummer 6, F. A. Sparshott 7, W. Fowler 8, G. Preston (conductor) 9, H. Bagshot 10.

WRENTHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, for morning service, 240 Oxford Treble Bob, and 300 Plain Bob; for afternoon service, 240 Kent Treble Bob, 360 College Single, and 240 Plain Bob, the following taking part: Robert H. Brundle (of Ipswich), Rifleman B. Prewett (London Rifle Brigade), A. J. Naunton, J. Spencer, G. Bertram, L. Naunton, E. Chatten and F. W. Naunton (conductor).

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.—At the Parish Church of All Saints, on Sunday morning, Jan. 2nd, with the bells muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): E. Webb 1, Pte. E. V. Beadle, R.H., 2, A. Bechensale 3, F. C. Goddard 4, C. Dell 5, T. Beadle 6, G. Spencer (conductor) 7, K. T. Beadle 8.

HAMMERSMITH.—At St. Paul's Church, on Sunday, Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: H. Dyas 1, H. Stevens 2, J. Ross 3, Pte. H. J. Dewey, R.A.M.C., 4, R. Mackrill 5, G. Iles 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, P. H. Phillips 8.

BURTON LATIMER, NORTHANTS.—On Jan. 2nd, at St. Mary's Church, for morning service, three six-scores of Doubles, and for evening service, 720 of Doubles, being three six-scores of Grandsire, two of St. Simon's, and one of Plain Bob, each called differently: J. Hendry 1, G. Lines (conductor) 2, H. Meadows 3, H. Saddington 4, J. Pettit 5, F. Capps (first 720) 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled.

HULL, YORKS.—On Friday, Dec. 31st, at Holy Trinity Church, with the bells muffled at backstroke, for the memorial service, as a tribute to our fallen heroes, two courses of Stedman Caters, and one, too, of Bob Major: C. Jackson 1, Gunner G. F. Williams (conductor) 2, T. Stockdale 3, M. Hedges 4, E. Cutsforth 5, G. T. Miller 6, J. Hodds 7, T. Morton 8, D. W. Brown 9, J. Chamberlain 10.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, for the Intercession, a muffled touch of 480.

WALKDEN.—Lancashire Association.—On Sunday evening, Jan. 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: John Denner 1, John Worthington 2, Alfred Potter 3, John Welsby 4, Saml. Oakes 5, B. Welsby (first quarter-peal) 6, John Potter 7, James Denner 8.

COLCHESTER.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, at St. Peter's Church, for morning service, with the bells half-muffled, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major: G. Burch 1, H. T. Pye 2, F. L. Bumpstead 3, R. W. Stannard 4, H. Evers 5, G. Bashbrook 6, W. Chalk 7, W. J. Schofield (conductor) 8 and a touch of Bob Major, in which S. F. Millward, R.A.M.C. (stationed at Military Hospital), of St. Giles', Northampton, took part. For the evening service, by special permission of the authorities, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1280 changes), in 51 mins., with the bells deeply muffled, by: Messrs. G. Burch 1, H. T. Pye 2, R. W. Stannard 3, Pte S. F. Millward 4, F. L. Bumpstead 5, G. Rashbrook 6, W. Chalk 7, W. J. Schofield (conductor) 8.

ABERAVON, GLAMORGAN.—At St. Mary's Church, on January 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, for evening service, after meeting short for Grandsire Triples, 720 Grandsire Minor: E. Stitch 1, A. Perry 2, W. Nurton 3, H. Perry 4, D. Frankcom 5, J. Wethersby 6, A. Pitman (conductor) 7, F. Stone 8. Rung with 6, 8 covering. Also 1200 Grandsire Doubles, consisting of ten six-scores, with different calling: E. Stitch 1, A. Perry 2, D. Frankcom 3, H. Perry 4, W. Nurton 5, A. Pitman (conductor) 6, W. Herring 7, J. Wethersby 8. Rung with 4, 7, 8 covering.

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, with the bells muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): H. Gillett 1, W. E. Stratford (Birmingham) 2, H. Packer 3, T. Banning 4, J. Collett 5, W. Stratford 6, W. Large (conductor), Todenham, 7, J. Buttler 8.

WIMBORNE, DORSET.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, at the Minster, with the bells half-muffled, courses of Grandsire Caters and Triples by the following: E. Tubbs, A. Asmon, C. Perritt, T. Coles, F. Dacombe, H. Kitchell, H. Burling, B. Dredge, W. Bennett, F. Hart.

BARNET.—Middlesex Association.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins., with the bells half-muffled: H. J. Eldred 1, J. Sumpter 2, R. Roffey 3, H. Burlingham 4, W. Soer 5, F. A. Milne 6, A. J. Trappitt (conductor) 7, G. Herbert 8.

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.—With the bells half-muffled, on Sunday, Jan. 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: C. Greenfield 1, Sergt. W. H. Hollman 2, S. Stone 3, G. H. Lee 4, P. H. Doick 5, S. W. Corden 6, A. Greenfield (conductor) 7, H. J. Doick 8.

HEYWOOD.—At St. Luke's Church, on Sunday, Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, for morning service, 266 Grandsire Triples; for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): F. Fletcher 1, A. Chadwick 2, G. Walmsley 3, J. Harrison 4, J. Millett 5, W. H. Ashcroft 6, J. Partington (conductor) 7, J. Cradwick 8.

CHESTERFIELD.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, with the bells muffled, 287 Grandsire Caters: D. Farthing 1, A. Knights (conductor) 2, P. Sault 3, G. Hollis 4, G. Davies 5, F. Stubbs 6, F. Jacobs 7, T. Gore 8, G. Thompson 9, W. Allwood 10; and 576 Grandsire Caters: G. Hollis (conductor) 1, W. Allwood 2, P. Sault 3, F. Jacobs 4, F. E. Smith 5, F. Stubbs 6, A. Knights 7, G. Davies 8, G. Thompson 9, T. W. Gore 10. Also a touch of Stedman Caters.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.—On Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, after morning service, 672 Grandsire Triples: J. Poole 1, F. W. Edwards 2, G. W. Sorrell 3, F. G. Radley 4, R. Wood 5, T. Lincoln 6, W. Lincoln 7, F. Edwards 8. Owing to church parades and other services, ringing at any other time was not possible.

SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.—At Christ Church, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Bristol Surprise Major was attempted for morning service, but lost after 900 changes: G. Bester 1, J. Armstrong (conductor) 2, G. W. Fletcher 3, S. Wade 4, N. A. Tomlinson (conductor) 5, H. Miller 6, J. E. Miller 7, F. G. Tegg 8. For evening service, 224 Superlative Surprise: A. R. Glasscock 1, G. Bester 2, G. W. Fletcher 3, J. Armstrong 4, N. A. Tomlinson 5, F. G. Tegg 6, J. E. Miller 7, W. Pickworth 8.

LONDON.—London County Association. At St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, E.C., on Sunday morning, with the bells fully muffled, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 49 mins.: W. A. Alps 1, F. Andrews 2, F. Davies 3, W. G. Matthews 4, C. H. Hughes 5, T. Walker 6, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 7, W. J. Nelder 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, also in 49 mins.: W. J. Nelder 1, W. G. Matthews 2, F. Davies 3, F. Andrews 4, C. H. Pullen 5, W. A. Alps (conductor) 6, T. H. Taffender 7, T. Walker 8.

Those ringers who desire their Intercession service touches published should forward them without delay.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

By 'BOB MAJOR.'

We are all interested when the wedding of a ringer takes place, and I uttered congratulations last week when I read the notice of the marriage of a lady ringer to a gentleman ringer. This has not often happened in the history of our Exercise, but I have no doubt that it will become a more common occurrence in the future. Now that ladies are playing such a prominent part in ringing, it goes without saying that many a swain will fall a victim to their charms. But from a ringers' point of view there is no doubt that the Leicester ceremony was "some" wedding. Every one of the bridal party, with the exception of one bridesmaid, so a correspondent informs me, was a ringer of repute.

THE RINGER AND THE BELLE.

The bride, Miss Lilian Willson, is one of the foremost lady ringers, and the daughter of a famous father—Mr. William Willson, whom we all know, either in the flesh or through the Press. Miss Willson will be remembered as one of the band who took part in the first ladies' peal at Cubitt Town, and she has something more than a score of peals to her credit. The bridegroom is the hon. secretary of the Leicester Branch of the Midland Counties Association; one bridesmaid, Miss Hilda Willson, enjoys the honour of having been the youngest lady to ring a tower bell peal, and the first to ring two 5,000's on tower bells in a day—although, unhappily, one turned out false—the best man, Mr. Ernest Morris, is a leading exponent of the art in Leicester district; and last, but by no means least, there was W. W. himself, who "gave the bride away," although I imagine he prefers to think he has gained a son rather than lost a daughter. Ringers throughout the country will extend good wishes to the young couple, on the threshold of their new career, for their prosperity and happiness.

A FIVE-YEAR-OLD RINGER.

My notes a fortnight ago about ringing being a pastime which one could follow from the cradle to the grave, and the reference to young Teddy Webb, of Broughton Astley, ringing Grandsire Doubles on handbells at the age of seven, have brought to light a remarkable record of two young men belonging to Bolsover. On March 2nd, 1913, a plain course of Bob Major was rung by Percy Kettleborough 1—2, Fred R. Kettleborough 3—4, W. Lambert 5—6, Fred R. Kettleborough, jun., 7—8. Would you believe it; when that course was rung Percy Kettleborough was scarcely five years and nine months old! His brother, Fred junior, was on that day celebrating his seventh birthday! It was in honour of this latter event that the ringing was taking place, and two courses of Bob Major had been rung by Jesse J. Moss 1—2, Fred R. Kettleborough 3—4, Wm. Lambert 5—6, Fred R. Kettleborough, jun., 7—8. It sounds incredible, doesn't it? If these boys only stick to it, and live to a ripe old age, as we all hope they will, what a record length they will score—in years of active ringing. Dad must be very proud of his boys, and I trust that the keenness which has so early developed in them will grow with their years.

LONG PEALERS.

Murder will out, they say, but it is not always the same with Truth. But often, if truth is not quite savoury, it has an awkward knack of worming its way into daylight. Even in belfry affairs, where everything ought to be fair, straight and above board, the truth gets hidden sometimes. And if it leaks out, its attempted suppression has never improved matters. It was a bit audacious, though, wasn't it, in the year 1831—Anni Domino, as the old lady said—that those long pealers at Elland, whose doings were recalled, under "Peals of the Past" last week, should have endeavoured to palm off the work of ten men, as if it were the work of eight. It was a good job for them, too, that they had two men capable of calling the peal, for seeing that the one who called the first part was one of those who had to accept the assistance of the relief party, it would have been all U.P. if somebody else hadn't known something about the job. And perhaps for the future reputation of the band it would have been better if they had stopped.

HOW A 10,000 WENT "UP THE POLE."

Long peal men are always a source of wonder to me. I can't think how they do it. I only had one turn at it, and that once was sufficient for me. The preparations that were made were enough to break the peal down, and that is what they did. It was only ten thousand of Grandsire Caters that we were after, but you ought to have seen the lay out. Anybody would have thought we were going to ring for a week. The tenorman was a thirsty soul, and he provided himself with

any amount of quarters of orange. We hadn't long been going, before he started practising how to pick up a piece with one hand, while he tried to control his bell with the other. Presently he swallowed a bit too quickly—I mean a bit of the orange, not of the bell—and it nearly choked him. That settled it. Somebody laughed; there was a bit of a "smear," and when the bells came out of it they were wrong. But our tenorman had nearly finished his orange quarters—and when we stopped we had only rung about 3,000 changes. I don't know how he would have fared if he had had to finish the peal. He would have been choked another way I expect. His eagerness to put away that orange reminded me of a tale that an old friend of mine used to tell with gusto. With his workman, he was one morning off to do a job away out in the country. On the journey they came across a boy minding cattle. "What's time, master?" called out the youth as they passed. "Time, my boy; why, quarter to nine." "Quarter to nine?" gasped the boy incredulously, and then he added in disgust and sorrow, "Be darn'd if I ain't eat my dinner."

QUEER NOTIONS.

What funny notions the uninitiated sometimes get about bells and their fittings. I was talking to a lady friend of mine the other day about the muffled ringing that was to take place last Sunday, in memory of those brave men who have fallen in battle, and she seemed quite interested. Suddenly she asked, "How do they muffle the bells? Do they tie padding round them?" Fancy our old friend Ted Horrex having the job of tying cushions round the twelve at St. Paul's! Nearly as queer a notion, surely, as that of some people who think that the harder you pull the louder the bell will ring. It used to be so with the door bells of my youth, and the harder I pulled the faster I used to run. But it is not so with church bells. Still, as I said, there are odd ideas about. On New Year's Eve, for instance, I was "doing my bit" to herald 1916, and some three or four of the parishioners came up into the belfry to watch the proceedings. It was one of those old towers where the ringing room has quite a low ceiling, and the sallies, at backstroke, disappear through the holes. As we were ringing, one young man watched the ropes with evident interest, and when we stopped, blandly asked if those "fluffy things" were on the ropes to keep the holes clean.

THE "CHURCHYARD BOBBERS" "BOB."

Down in the little village of — well, I mustn't say where, but it isn't a hundred miles from Birmingham, there is an old chap who keeps the village stores, and who is foreman of the ringers, calling the touches of "Churchyard Bob" with much precision for the services on Sundays. Now, unlike many of the old-fashioned Churchyard Bobbers, Tom was pious in his way, and deemed it his duty as well as his privilege to attend church every Sunday and to give, according to his means, to the offertory. One Sunday some weeks ago the worthy Vicar waxed eloquent in the interest of foreign missions, and later in the week went into Tom's establishment. Tom usually fussed round a good deal when "parson" came into the shop, but on this occasion he received his Vicar with a marked coldness, which the reverend gentleman could not understand. He therefore inquired the cause. Tom produced a shilling from a drawer, and, throwing it down on the little counter in front of the Vicar, said: "I marked that coin and put it in the plate last Sunday, and here it is back in my shop! I know'd well 'nough they poor Africans never got the money!"

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Bristol Branch was held at St. George's, and during the afternoon touches in various methods were rung, and Divine service was held, the Vicar (the Rev. W. H. Willmott-Elwell) officiating, assisted by the Rev. F. Rogers, Vicar of Warmley. Thirty-six members were present, including the Master (Mr. F. Howell), hon. treasurer (the Rev. H. A. Cockey) and Mr. J. W. Jones (hon. sec. of the Llandaff Association). The service over, tea was partaken of in the school, the tables being presided over by Mrs. H. Howell and other lady friends.

The business meeting followed, at which the chairman of the branch (Mr. H. Howell) presided. The balance sheet was presented, and was of a very satisfactory nature. The receipts, including a balance of £1 2s. brought forward, amounted to £13 9s. 6d. The expenses were £2 19s. 1½d., and, of the balance, £9 9s. 4½d. had been paid to the hon. treasurer, and £1 1s. retained in hand by the secretary.—The Chairman thought the financial position very favourable, and proposed a vote of thanks to the hon. secretary (Mr. G. W. Tomkins) for his persevering efforts.—The Hon. Secretary thanked the chairman and members for all the help they had given during the past year, and expressed a wish not to be re-elected, owing to business and other pressing engagements.—During the election of officers, the Rev. Willmott Elwell took the chair, and Mr. H. Howell was then re-elected chairman of the branch for 1916. Mr. A. W. Seviour was elected secretary, and given power to appoint his assistant at the next meeting. The Rev. W. Burgess (curate of Fishponds) was elected a performing member, and St. Matthew's was decided upon as the next place of meeting.—A vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar of St. George's for his kindness and welcome, and was suitably acknowledged.

A social evening was afterwards spent, songs and games being indulged in. A particularly enjoyable feature was the selections by the St. George's lady handbell ringers, who were encored several times.

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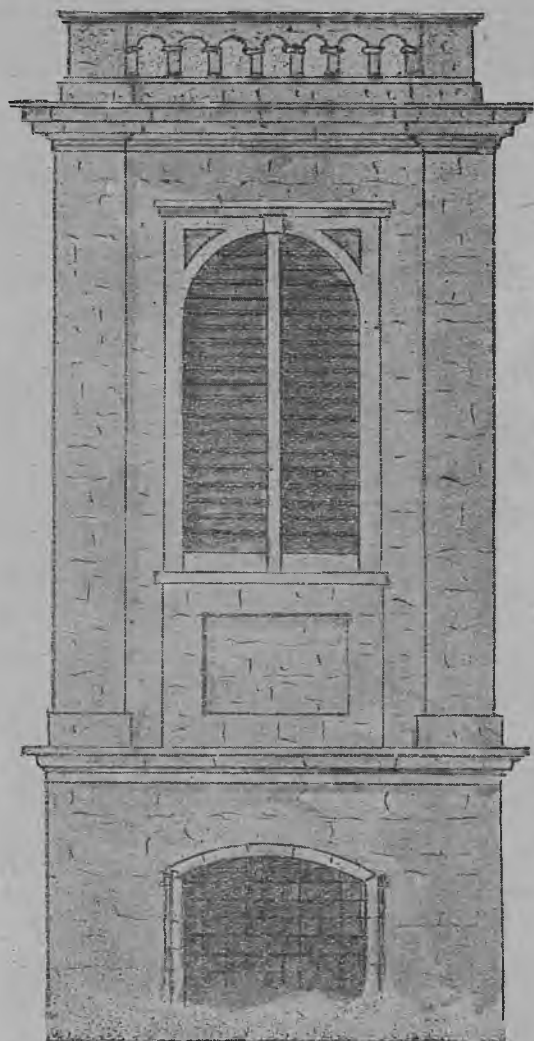
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LONDON'S VANISHED CHURCHES.

THE TOWERS OF ST. DIONIS AND ST. BENET'S.

In our last issue we printed one of Mr. J. R. Jerram's interesting articles upon two vanished London churches, and we give on this page the illustrations of the towers, which, through an accident, had to be omitted last week.



ST. DIONIS, BACKCHURCH.

St. Dionis, pulled down in 1879, possessed a peal of ten bells—now at All Hallows, Lambard Street—upon which several peals were rung, the first recorded being in 1785, and the last in the year 1878.

St. Benet's, pulled down at the same time, was a beautiful little church, surmounted by one of the handsomest towers in London. It possessed, however, only one bell.



ST. BENET'S, GRACECHURCH.

RINGING ON CHRISTMAS EVE.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In reply to "Reader of 'The Ringing World,'" customs vary in different parts of the country. I have rung in many different churches up and down, and the most common custom of ringing at Christmas is, in my experience, at 6 a.m. In the County of Northamptonshire it appears to be the custom to ring at 12 o'clock on the Christmas Eve. It is done in the town of Northampton itself, where there are several good bands of change ringers. We do the same here in Daventry; although until I came to reside here, I had never been in a place where it had been done before. Personally, I think it is

quite as appropriate as ringing at 6 a.m.; it marks the early dawn of the birth of Christ, and that is the reason why we ring; "to commemorate the birth of the Saviour of Mankind."—Yours truly,
High Street, Daventry.

ARTHUR ANDREWS.

Sir,—In reply to your correspondent re ringing at midnight on Christmas Eve, it is the custom to do so here. The only difference from the ringing on New Year's Eve is that we ring through the midnight hour at Christmas, and midnight on New Year's Eve is tolled out on the tenor.—Yours, etc.,
Dunstable, Beds.

A. E. SHARMAN

WEDDING BELLS.

WELL-KNOWN RINGERS UNITED IN MARRIAGE.

"I heard the bells at noon-tide peal,
Their joyous tidings to reveal,
For two young hearts beat blithe and gay
Upon their happy bridal day.
And as the sacred knot is tied
The sun shines forth upon the bride,
While o'er the scene resounding swells
The greeting of the Marriage bells,—
' Blessings on thy happy wedding!
Blessings, joy and brightness shedding,
As along life's pathway treading,
Hand in hand you go! "

As briefly announced in our last issue, the marriage took place on Monday, December 27th, at the Church of St. John the Divine, Leicester, of Mr. Thomas Henry Hardy, Secretary of the local district of the Midland Counties Association, and Miss Lilian Ada Willson, the elder of the well-known change ringing daughters of Mr. William Willson, of Leicester. To do honour to the occasion, the organist and choir of



THE BRIDE AND BRIDEGROOM.

St. Margaret's Church (where the bridegroom is both a chorister and ringer), were present, and at the service, which was fully choral, the Rev. R. S. C. H. Wood, M.A., Vicar, officiated. As the bridal party entered the church, the organist, Mr. Taylor, played the Bridal March from Lohengrin, while during the ceremony, the hymns, "Lead us, Heavenly Father, lead us," and "Love divine all loves excelling," were sung. The bride was given away by her father, Mr. William Willson, while Mr. Ernest Morris, the conductor of St. Margaret's ringers, acted as best man. The bridesmaids were Miss Hilda Willson and Miss May Hardy, sisters of the bride and bridegroom respectively. After the ceremony, and as the party were leaving the church, the organist played Mendelssohn's Wedding March.

In honour of the event the bells of St. John's were rung by a large number of ringers, among whom were Messrs. J. Harris, J. Smith, P. Dunkley, S. Burton, S. Shelton, J. Tomlinson, R. Hubbard (of St. John's), J. Morris, A. Ballard, J. Vernon, F. Sharman (of St. Margaret's), G. Cleal, F. H. Dexter, P. Harrison, H. Broughton (of St. Martin's), A. J. Ballard (Belgrave), and L. Mason (Anstey). Amongst the touches that were brought round were 840 Stedman Triples called by A. J. Harris, and 518 Grandsire Triples called by A. J. Ballard.

It is needless to say that all their ringing friends both near and far, will wish the happy couple the fullest measure of happiness, health, and prosperity, in their future life. E. M.

BRIDAL PARTY OF RINGERS.

The wedding was in some senses a remarkable one, for the whole of the bridal party, with the one exception of Miss Hardy, the bridegroom's sister, are ringers, and have good peal records to their credit. The bride, who is a talented musician, has rung in some 20 to 25 peals, one of which, Kent Treble Bob Major, she conducted. Her most memorable performance, however, was the first ladies' peal, at Cubitt Town, in which she was one of the band.

The bridegroom, who is attached to the company at St. Margaret's Church, is hon. secretary of the Leicester Branch of the Midland Counties Association, and has rung over 30 peals in various methods.

Miss Hilda Willson, one of the bridesmaids, can claim to have been the youngest lady to ring a tower bell peal, and the first member of

the fair sex to ring two peals in one day, viz., Stedman Caters and Double Norwich Major, although, unluckily, the former afterwards turned out to be false. She has rung about a dozen peals in all.

The best man, Mr. Ernest Morris, the conductor at St. Margaret's Church, is known not only for his enthusiasm in ringing, but for his researches into bell history and bell lore. Articles from his pen have appeared in these columns. He has rung just over 80 peals, about half of which he has conducted, including 7,200 and 10,080 of Minor, which is the record on six bells for the Midlands.

Mr. William Willson's belfry feats are well known. His peals number about 240. He was one of the band who took part in the world's record at Loughborough, the 18,027 Stedman Caters in 12½ hours, on Easter Monday, 1909. He also composed and conducted the longest length of Double Norwich that has been rung, viz., 17,104. The other long lengths which he has conducted include 7,001 Grandsire Caters; 10,192 Bob Major; 10,176 Kent Treble Bob Major and 11,008 Double Norwich.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Llandaff Diocesan Association was held at St. Woolos, Newport, Mon, on Monday, December 27th, and proved to be a most pleasant and successful gathering. The bells of both St. Woolos and All Saints' Churches were available for ringing, and advantage was taken of this opportunity, both before and after the business part of the proceedings.

Service was held in St. Woolos Church at 3.30, the officiating clergy being the Vicar (the Rev. D. H. Griffiths), a former hon. secretary of the Association, and the Rev. A. A. Matthews, Vicar of St. Paul's, Newport, the address given by the Rev. D. H. Griffiths being a most interesting one, and much appreciated.

At the conclusion of the service a move was made for the Waters Lane Mission Room, where tea, very kindly provided by the Vicar, was waiting. After the good things had been disposed of, the business meeting was held, presided over by the Rev. D. H. Griffiths.—Arising out of the minutes was the question of inter-affiliation, but nothing was suggested, and the matter dropped.

The Hon. Secretary read a copy of the letter which had been sent to the Rector of Merthyr in regard to the broken wheel of one of his bells, but no reply to it had been received.

The election of officers was next proceeded with, Mr. W. B. Biss being elected to the mastership for the ensuing year. The present hon. secretaries (the Rev. Connop L. Price and Mr. J. W. Jones) were re-elected, and the auditors elected were Mr. C. Hobbs and Mr. M. Selby.

A discussion followed on the printing of the report for 1915, and it was decided that it should be deferred, and that 1915 and 1916 reports should be included in one.

Cardiff was chosen as the place for the next annual meeting. Aberavon, Port Talbot, was selected as the place for the next Glamorgan quarterly meeting, and Rumney for the next Monmouthshire quarterly meeting.

The question of the subscriptions of those members serving with the colours was discussed, and it was unanimously decided that each one's subscription should be considered as paid. It was also requested that all towers affiliated to the Association should, through the respective conductors, send a list of their members serving to the hon. secretary, showing in each case the date of enlistment.

A resolution was carried that the hon. secretary insert in the minute book the Association's appreciation of the visit of the Bristol ringers to Newport on the occasion of the meeting.—Mr. Frank Howell (the Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Association) suitably acknowledged the compliment.

Several new members were elected, and after a vote of thanks to the chairman for his kindness, the meeting closed.

The methods rung during the day were Grandsire Triples and Caters, Stedman Triples and Caters and Kent Treble Bob Royal.

WORKSOP RINGER'S DEATH.

The Worksop Priory band have lost a highly-respected member by the death, from wounds received in action, of Chas. Richard Redfearn. The deceased enlisted in the 1/8th Batt. Sherwood Foresters, and passed away on December 8th at St. Omar, France. As a tribute to his memory a touch of 504 Grandsire Triples was rung at the Priory Church with the bells half-muffled on December 31st; the following of his old belfry comrades being at the ropes: F. Hind 1, E. Clark 2, H. H. Cartwright 3, A. Johnson (conductor) 4, W. Roberts 5, H. Haigh 6, T. Bartholomew 7, G. Hardwick 8. Much sympathy has been expressed with the bereaved family and relatives of the deceased soldier. He was a brave man, and died that England might live. R.I.P.

"FATHER" OF BRISTOL RINGERS DEAD.

The death occurred on December 21st, at his residence, 16, Christmas Street, Bristol, of Mr. George Staden, who was for years the "father" of the Bristol ringers. For 58 years he was verger and sexton at St. John the Baptist's Church, from which position he retired not long since. The interment took place on December 27th, and before and after the funeral, as for evening service on the previous day, the bells of St. John's Church were rung muffled. The deceased was 80 years of age.

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NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members to vote on financial matters, should be paid before February 29th. Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on January 18th, for business, and on the 13th and 27th for handbell practice.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The annual meeting of the Devizes Branch will be held at S James's Church, Trowbridge, on Saturday, January 8th, 1916, at 3 o'clock. Service in Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock. Important business meeting to follow; good attendance hoped for.—Henry Brownlee West, Hon. Secretary, Avalon, Devizes.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting for practice will be held at Loughton on Saturday, January 8th. Bells available from 3 to 6 p.m. All ringers welcome. — H. Rumens, District Secretary, 32, Verulam Avenue, Walthamstow.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Bloxwich on Saturday, January 8th. Bells available at 3. Short service at 5.15, with an address by the Vicar (Rev. J. C. Hamilton). Tea (gd.) in the schoolroom at 6. — H. Knight, Honorary Secretary, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Nicholas, Liverpool, on Saturday, January 8th. Bells ready at 5.—Walter Hughes.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Mark's, Preston, on Saturday, January 8th, 1916. Tower open for ringing at 3 o'clock. Meeting in the tower at 5.30. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—A. E. Woodhouse, Hon. Secretary.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Bridgwater on Saturday, January 8th, 1916. Service at St. Mary's Church 4 p.m. Tea at Holy Trinity Parish Hall 5 p.m., meeting to follow. Bells available from 2 p.m.—A. E. Moulton, Hon. Secretary.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755). — Annual meeting will be held in the Guild Room at the Tamworth Arms Hotel, Moor Street, Birmingham, on Tuesday, January 11th, 1916, at 7.30 p.m. All subscriptions are due, and should be paid at this meeting. The balance sheet will be presented.—A. Paddon Smith, Honorary Secretary, 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Stoke-in-Coventry on January 15th. Bells (8) ready at 3 p.m. Short service at 4.30. Tea will be provided free in the Parish Room to all who notify me by January 12th. Business meeting after tea. — H. Kettle, Honorary Secretary, Rectory Cottage, Allesley, Coventry.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Maidstone District. — The quarterly meeting of the Maidstone district will be held at Mereworth on Saturday, January 15th, 1916. The bells will be available for ringing at 3 o'clock. Short service at 5 p.m. Tea provided by the Rector at 5.30. Business meeting after. The secretary would be glad to know, not later than Monday, January 10th, of any ringers intending being at that meeting.—Stephen Hazelden, Secretary, Lower Street, East Farleigh.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Bury, on Saturday, January 15th, 1916. Bells ready at 3.30 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30 prompt. Reports now ready. Subscriptions are due.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge and District Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Thornbury (8 bells) on Saturday, January 15th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., business meeting to follow. Visitors welcomed.—W. A. Lewis, Branch Honorary Secretary, Ham, Berkeley, Glos.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Manchester Cathedral on Saturday, January 15th. Bells available from 5 p.m. Meeting at 7.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Oldswinford, Stourbridge, on Saturday, January 16th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service in the church at 4.45. Tea kindly provided in the Schools at 5.30. Business meeting to follow. It is very important that all members intending to be present should let me know on or before Wednesday, January 12th.—E. J. Dowler, 11, Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham, Branch Secretary.

MIDLANDS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—The annual meeting of the Derby District will be held in St. Alkmund's belfry on Tuesday, January 18th. Bells open at 7.30 p.m. Meeting at 8 p.m. — J. Lord, District Secretary, 36, Howard Street, Derby.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Hamer Parish Church on Saturday, January 22nd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Business meeting at 6.30.—T. K. Driver, Secretary, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Luke's, Bromley Common, on Saturday, January 22nd. Tower open at 3 p.m., service at 5.30 p.m., with address by the Rev. C. P. Gosselin (Vicar). Further particulars next week. Subscriptions should be paid now. — P. Groombridge, Honorary District Secretary, 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

THE LADIES' GUILD. — I beg to remind members that the subscription for 1915-16 is now due. — E. K. Parker, Honorary Secretary, 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HANDBELLS FOR SALE.

THIRTY-SIX HANDBELLS, from C 22 size, for base; a few duplicates, in good tone; also six music books, with tunes arranged by the late J. Angus, of Bradford; what offers to G. Whiteaker, Brookeville Avenue, Hipperholme, Halifax.

SITUATION WANTED.

WHEELWRIGHT AND CARPENTER, 45, wants situation as caretaker or any place of trust; highest references; can ring standard methods. — "Hammer," "Ringing World" Office, Woking.

SITUATION VACANT.

WANTED, SADDLER.—A good general hand; able to cut out and prepare all kinds of general work; constant to suitable man; good change ringer on 8 bells preferred. —F. R. Kettleborough, Market Place, Bolsover.

TO PARENTS.

Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, Kington Magna, Gillingham, Dorset (Salisbury Guild), can for a limited time take gentlemen's sons, age 12 to 15, as pupils on exceptionally favourable terms. *Spanish* may be taught. Also farming.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE RINGERS' SOCIAL.**LADIES' PRESENT TO INSTRUCTOR.**

On New Year's Eve, a social evening was held in the Schoolroom of St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, when all the lady ringers, along with their friends, were the invited guests of their tutors, Messrs. W. W. Wolstencroft, H. Palmer, J. W. Holme and J. Rolls. Mr. J. W. Holme occupied the chair during the evening, and contrasted that present gathering with the one held two years ago. No one then ever dreamed that the lads who were the heart and soul of the party would be to-day on the battlefields of Europe. One had already laid down his life for honour and liberty, but he trusted the others would have a safe return. — During the evening, Mrs. W. W. Wolstencroft sang "Hearts and Homes," Miss A. Horrocks rendered "Till the lads come home," Miss S. Holt recited "Our Boys," and Miss Ida Wolstencroft "Robin Redbreast." Amusing games were also heartily indulged in.

Mr. Wolstencroft (the captain of the ringers), during an interval, said that, looking back upon the past few months, he was glad to see the progress their ladies had made, and the hearty and spontaneous manner in which they have taken to ringing. He trusted that when their loved ones returned they would have a great reception by the ringing of the bells, the message of which would be, "Ye have done your duty. Be yours the Honour."

Subsequently a surprise was sprung upon the gathering, when Miss Thorp announced that she had something to say and to perform on behalf of the ladies. They did not fail to recognise the self-sacrifice and untiring patience of their esteemed leader, Mr. Wolstencroft, along with Mr. Palmer, Mr. Rolls and Mr. Holme. She asked Mr. Wolstencroft to accept, as a slight token of their appreciation, a gift of a pocket wallet.

Mr. Wolstencroft, who was taken by surprise at the incident, said he failed to find words to express his thanks at their kindness for the little services he had rendered. He was always amply rewarded when he found that he was helping someone to understand the beauties of their loved and cherished art of ringing.

Just before the company parted, the Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Pughe-Morgan, M.A.), who had just returned from Beguilay, Radnorshire, called in to offer his appreciation of the services rendered by the ringers, and to wish all "a happy and victorious New Year."

After the gathering, the whole of the ringers, along with their friends, ascended the church tower to ring the old year out and the new year in.

Pte. Dan Wolstencroft, who fortunately was over on furlough, was present with the party. He is expecting to be drafted out to the East about the middle of January. Many and earnest were the wishes exchanged for the New Year.

EDINBURGH.—At the Cathedral Church of St. Mary, on Christmas Eve, for a carol service, 630 Grandsire Triples on the back eight, after meeting short for Caters: H. Russam 1, Corpl. Bartram, R.F.A., 2, W. C. S. Heathcote (conductor) 3, D. Stocks 4, J. R. Robertson 5, E. F. Price 6, W. B. Sampson 7, Lieut. Clay (Cameronians, Scottish Rifles) 8. The tenth man arriving, a few well-struck rounds on the ten were rung with J. Mowat on the treble, and J. King 2.

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perience in Church Bell Hanging, with confidence solicit the patronage of the
Clergy, Churchwardens, and Ringers generally.

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Ellacombe's Chiming Apparatus fixed, Hand-
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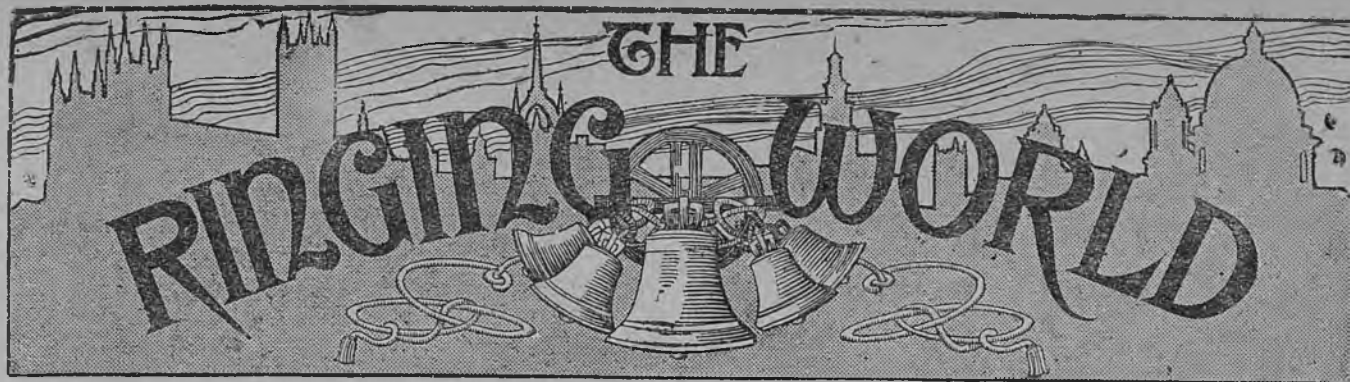


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TELEPHONE: 171 WOKING.

WOKING

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 14th, 1916.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 1d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



**St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.**
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

A NATIONAL OBSERVANCE.

The large number of touches which were specially rung on Intercession Sunday, and which have been sent us for publication, is testimony to the remarkable way in which the movement to pay a public tribute to those who have fallen in the war, was taken up. But these touches, numerous as they are, and coming, as they do, from towers in every part of the country, represent only a small proportion of the belfries where the day was observed by muffled ringing. In fact it is safe to say that the churches, where there are peals of bells, which did not join in honouring the memory of the dead in the way that was approved by so many of our Bishops, were in a small minority, while, even of these, many were prevented by local circumstances from participating in the observance.

So fully was the opportunity appreciated of showing honour and respect to the memory of those who have made the supreme sacrifice in the great cause for which this Empire and her Allies are fighting that in some places, where the drain of war has taken away nearly all available men, and the bells have been rung only occasionally, the remnants of former bands left at neighbouring towers were united in order that muffled ringing might be carried out at one or more of the churches.

As was anticipated, the Archbishop of Canterbury's thoughtful suggestion of making Saturday last also an occasion for muffled ringing for the same purpose, resulted in quite a number of peals being rung in different parts of the country. Doubtless the total would have been greater had the men been available, but, with depleted forces, there was a vast number of towers where peal attempts were out of the question. It is interesting to note, in passing, that the number of peals rung last week is the greatest in any week since the war began, showing once more the tactful manner in which ringers have acted during this time of national stress and crisis. Hitherto they have restricted their operations, but last week provided them with the opportunity of uniting in a set purpose, and the Exercise rose to it, and demonstrated the readiness of the members, who are left at home, to fulfil their time-honoured task of voicing public feeling when national or parochial events dictate it. We feel we cannot close this article without thanking all those ringers who gave their assistance in carrying out the proposal, and thus made it a success worthy of a great occasion. "The Ringing World" set the scheme in train, but the ringers themselves made it a national effort, and the part which they played on Intercession Sunday will ever remain a memorable one in the annals of ringing in relation to public affairs.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
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Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

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Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract, — we may be able to assist you.

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MUFFLED PEALS.

The following peals, as their footnotes show, were rung with muffled bells in memory of the heroes who have fallen in the war:—

TEN BELL PEAL.

TEWKESBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Three Hours and Forty-two Minutes.

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 22½ cwt.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| JESSE GILLET Treble | PTE. G.E. CAPEWELL, R.E. 6 |
| THOMAS BALDWIN 2 | JOHN WATHEN 7 |
| JOHN AUSTIN 3 | THOMAS NEWMAN 8 |
| RICHARD WHERINGTON 4 | EX-SERGT. JOHN WILLIAMS 9 |
| CHARLES DYSON 5 | HUBERT BROWN Tenor |

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and
Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to those who have fallen in the war. It was the first peal on the bells since they were augmented from eight to ten.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

CHESTER, CHESHIRE.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

(CHESTER BRANCH).

On Friday, December 31, 1915, in Three Hours and Twenty-six Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY WITHIN-THE-WALLS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5030 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| FRANK FOX Treble | HENRY W. WILDE 5 |
| ROBERT SPERRING 2 | JAMES MORGAN 6 |
| ARTHUR PRINCE 3 | WALTER THOMAS 7 |
| GEORGE JONES 4 | JAMES V. WRIGHT Tenor |

Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.

Rung with the bells half muffled as a token of respect to our soldiers and sailors who have given their lives for their King and country, and also our brother ringers who have passed away.

CURDRIDGE, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, January 7, 1916, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART: Tenor 25 cwt. 3 qrs. 19 lbs., in D.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| *GEORGE JUPE Treble | WILLIAM J. RYVES 5 |
| CPL. GILBERT BULL, R.F.A. 2 | *ALFRED POOK 6 |
| ALFRED MEARS 3 | ANDREW MEARS 7 |
| GEORGE WILLIAMS 4 | CALEB JOHNSON Tenor |

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal. Rung with the bells muffled for all those who have fallen in the war, one of whom, Pte. Edwin Welstead, 13th Hants, being a much respected and promising member of this tower.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| WESLEY WATSON Treble | WILLIAM MILLER 5 |
| LEONARD A. PYE 2 | GEORGE R. PYE 6 |
| CHARLES T. COLES 3 | REUBEN SANDERS 7 |
| *ERNEST J. BUTLER 4 | WILLIAM PYE Tenor |

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and
Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

* First peal in the method. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute to those fallen in the war.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

TAYLOR'S. Tenor 10 cwt.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| RICHARD KILBY Treble | BENJAMIN FOSKETT... .. 5 |
| CHARLES H. HORTON 2 | HARRY KILBY 6 |
| *GEORGE M. KILBY 3 | THOMAS LANGDON 7 |
| *FRANK BARRATT... .. 4 | *ARTHUR FRENCH Tenor |

Conducted by HARRY KILBY.

* First peal in the method. The above is the first peal since the old six were augmented to eight and was rung at the first attempt. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to those members of H.M. Forces who have unfortunately lost their lives in the war, and who were at one time residents of Willesden.

CHISLEHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| JOHN MITCHAM Treble | THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. 5 |
| GEORGE DURLING 2 | ROBERT BYETT-SMITH ... 6 |
| HARRY DURLING 3 | THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 7 |
| ALFRED JAMES, SEN. 4 | ARTHUR BYGRAVE, SEN. ... Tenor |

Conducted by THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN.

This peal was rung half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of those who have laid down their lives in the war.

HEADINGLEY, LEEDS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 20½ cwt.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| *JOHN H. BUTLER Treble | *PERCY J. JOHNSON 5 |
| †GEORGE ROBINSON 2 | JOHN F. SMALLWOOD 6 |
| WILLIAM O. TALBOT 3 | HENRY LINDSAY 7 |
| WALTER WOOD 4 | HARRY WILLIAMS Tenor |

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD, Bart., and

Conducted by PERCY J. JOHNSON.

* First peal. † First peal in the method. ‡ First peal in the method as conductor. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a last tribute of respect to those who have fallen in the service of their country during the war, especially for several parishioners who met their death in action, and as a memorial to the late Lieutenant C. O. Sayer, a former valued member of the band, who died at Courtrai in Belgium from wounds received in action. R.I.P.

PENHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

TAYLOR'S BOB AND SINGLE VARIATION.

| | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| GEORGE THOMPSON Treble | GEORGE TURLEY 5 |
| HERBERT MARKWELL 2 | GEORGE EDWARDS 6 |
| JAMES HEASMAN 3 | HARRY SEAL 7 |
| HARRY COOMBER 4 | HARRY BAKER Tenor |

Conducted by GEORGE EDWARDS.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the soldiers and sailors who have lost their lives in the war.

PAINSWICK, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF PAINSWICK YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 26 cwt.

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| CHARLES WEST Treble | ALBERT WRIGHT 5 |
| ARTHUR TATNELL 2 | WILLIAM STAITE 6 |
| PTE. H. SMITH, R.G.H.Y. 3 | FRANK COLE 7 |
| HUBERT SCRIVENS 4 | JAMES SINGLETON Tenor |

Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

Rung with the bells half muffled as a tribute to the memory of those who have fallen in the war.

ILKESTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 17 cwt. 9 lbs., in E.

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| *HUBERT TARLTON Treble | HENRY BEARDSLEY 5 |
| †HENRY STRAW 2 | JAMES F. GEORGE 6 |
| ISAAC HUFTON 3 | EDWARD C. GOLEY 7 |
| HENRY HARRISON 4 | †HERBERT TURNER Tenor |

Conducted by EDWARD C. GOLEY.

* First peal away from tenor. † First peal with a bob bell. ‡ First peal on eight bells. Rung with the bells double muffled as a tribute to the memory of those who have fallen in the war.

SOUTHAMPTON.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lbs., in E flat.

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| HENRY W. WILKES Treble | ALFRED MEARS... .. 5 |
| WILLIAM G. EDWARDS 2 | WILLIAM T. TUCKER 6 |
| *PTE. A. JONES, A.S.C. 3 | WILLIAM H. GEORGE 7 |
| GEORGE WILLIAMS 4 | ERNEST DUMPER Tenor |

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal of Stedman. First peal on the bells. Rung with the bells half-muffled for all those who have fallen in the war.

LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| *ALBERT COPPOCK Treble | NEVILL H. WIDDOWSON ... 5 |
| ALLEN R. HICKTON 2 | ARTHUR LOWE 6 |
| PERCY PRICE 3 | JOSEPH BAILEY 7 |
| RICHARD DRAGE 4 | THOMAS HUTCHENSON ... Tenor |

Conducted by JOSEPH BAILEY.

* 6th peal. Rung with the bells half muffled as a tribute of respect to the soldiers and sailors who have laid down their lives for their King and country.

BARNET, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| *C. W. DALE Treble | W. SOER 5 |
| J. SUMPTER 2 | A. J. TRAPPITT 6 |
| F. A. MILNE 3 | J. ARMSTRONG 7 |
| H. BURLINGHAM 4 | †G. HERBERT Tenor |

Conducted by A. J. TRAPPITT

* First peal. † First peal on 8 bells. First peal as conductor. Rung with the bells half muffled in memory of those fallen in the war.

SOUTHWOLD, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, January 9, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| *JOHN SPENCER Treble | *ALBERT J. L. NAUNTON ... 5 |
| PRIVATE THOMAS KING 2 | FRANCIS W. NAUNTON ... 8 |
| ROBERT H. HAYWARD 3 | FREDERICK J. SMITH 7 |
| RIFLEMAN B. PREWETT 4 | NORMAN R. BAILEY Tenor |

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and

Conducted by BERTRAM PREWETT.

* First peal of Kent Treble Bob Major. This peal was arranged and rung with the bells half muffled as a tribute of respect to the soldiers and sailors who have fallen in the war.

WHISTON, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lbs., in F.

| | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| JOHN H. BROTHWELL Treble | JOHN W. J. COTTAM 5 |
| MISS WINIFRED M. HAGUE 2 | WILLIAM BIGGIN 6 |
| RUFERT RICHARDSON 3 | CLEMENT GLENN 7 |
| EDWIN JAMES 4 | WILLIAM WARBURTON ... Tenor |

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

First peal on the bells. Rung as a tribute to the memory of our soldiers and sailors who have fallen in the war.

EASTON NESTON, NORTHANTS.
THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 10½ cwt.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| FRED HOPPER Treble | WILLIAM ROGERS 5 |
| FRED WILFORD 2 | *THOMAS LAW 6 |
| SIDNEY J. LAWRENCE 3 | WILLIAM J. ALLEN 7 |
| JOHN T. HENSMAN 4 | *FRANK ROLLINS Tenor |

Conducted by WILLIAM J. ALLEN.

* First peal of Stedman. Rung with half muffled bells as a tribute to the memory of those who have fallen in the war. The best thanks of the band were given to Mr. J. Slarke, for his kind hospitality after the peal. Mr. Slarke was unable to take part in the peal, having an appointment which could not be avoided.

EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
At the Bell Tower,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 31 cwt., in C sharp.

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| HERBERT JORDAN Treble | *FREDERICK JORDAN 5 |
| JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 2 | HENRY J. PHIPPS 6 |
| FREDERICK J. JOHNSON 3 | HARRY MIDDLETON 7 |
| JAMES HEMMING 4 | FRANK JINKS Tenor |

Conducted by H. MIDDLETON.

* First peal of Stedman. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to those heroes who have fallen in the struggle for liberty and civilisation.

SIX BELL PEALS.

WOLVERLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

42 six-scores, 10 different callings. Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| JOHN WOODBERRY Treble | ERNEST J. BROOKS 4 |
| FRANCIS S. SHAW 2 | WILLIAM SMITH 5 |
| THOMAS J. SALTER 3 | ALFRED MORRIS Tenor |

Conducted by THOMAS J. SALTER.

Rung with half muffled bells as a humble tribute to the fallen heroes of the war.

BARCOMBE, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 42 six-scores called differently. Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 9 lb.

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| PERCIVAL J. BROOKS Treble | JAMES H. COX 4 |
| LUKE VERRALL 2 | ALBERT E. EDWARDS 5 |
| HENRY JONES 3 | ALBERT MARTIN Tenor |

Conducted by ALBERT E. EDWARDS.

Rung in accordance with views expressed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, with bells half muffled as a national tribute to, and in honour of the memory of, those men who have fallen in the war. Mr. Jones, who was elected a member of the Association previous to starting for the peal, hails from Ringmer, and very kindly took part in the peal owing to five members of the local band serving in H.M. Forces.

PETERBOROUGH,
THE PETERBOROUGH AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being seven 720's called differently. Tenor 8½ cwt.

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| *HERBERT HOARE Treble | OSWALD RICHARDSON 4 |
| FRANK DAINTY 2 | GEORGE H. BARKER 5 |
| THOMAS R. VAUGHAN 3 | †JOHN J. JUTSON Tenor |

Conducted by J. J. JUTSON.

* First peal. † First peal as conductor. Mr. G. H. Barker was made a member before starting. Rung with the bells half muffled for the soldiers and sailors who have fallen in the war.

EDENHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,
At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 720 each of Double Court, and Single Court, two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, one of Kent Treble Bob, and two of Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| JOHN NEAL Treble | *HORACE M. DAY 4 |
| JOHN W. LAKE 2 | ARTHUR I. HOLMES 5 |
| THOMAS L. BAINBRIDGE 3 | JAMES OSBORN Tenor |

Conducted by JOHN W. LAKE.

* First peal and proposed a member previous to starting. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute to the memory of those who have fallen in the war.

WALLESEY, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,
At the Parish Church of St. Hilary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 720 Grandsire and three 720's each of Plain Bob and Canterbury.

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| W. H. ROGERS Treble | *EDW. WEBSTER 4 |
| E. PEERS 2 | S. STRONG 5 |
| G. R. ROGERS 3 | J. WALTER Tenor |

Conducted by S. STRONG.

* First peal. Rung with the bells half muffled in memory of, and as a token of respect for, the men who have lost their lives in the war. This was S. Strong's first peal as conductor.

CHATTERIS, CAMBS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, January 9, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Consisting of two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob and 720 each of Woodbine and Kent Treble Bob, Grandsire, College Single and Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lbs.

| | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| A. R. BARKER Treble | D. CRASHLAY 4 |
| F. ROWLINSON 2 | J. GRANGER 5 |
| J. ROWLINSON 3 | A. J. ABRAMS Tenor |

Conducted by A. J. ABRAMS.

First peal in six methods by all the band. Rung with the bells half muffled in honour of the brave men who have given their lives in the cause of what we believe to be loyalty to righteousness and truth.

OTHER TOWER BELL PEALS.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD
AND DUDLEY GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 4, 1916, in Three Hours and Thirty-four Minutes,
At the Church of St. Bartholomew,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANCES;

Tenor 24 cwt. 0 qrs. 18 lbs.

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|
| WALTER E. BRITAN Treble | WILLIAM COOPER 6 |
| HORACE BELCHER 2 | GEORGE HUGHES 7 |
| EDGAR MARLOW 3 | WILLIAM FISHER 8 |
| CHARLES TYLER 4 | *BENJAMIN GOUGH 9 |
| CHRISTOPHER WALLATER 5 | JOHN BARBER Tenor |

* Composed by GEORGE HAYWARD (Bromsgrove) and

Conducted by GEORGE HUGHES.

* First peal of Treble Bob Royal with a bob bell. First peal of Treble Bob Royal as conductor. First peal of Treble Bob Royal for the Dudley Guild. First peal of Treble Bob Royal for all the band except ringers of the 8, 9 and 10. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Joseph Bate and Mr. William Cooper.

LONGNEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Monday, December 27, 1915, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Lawrence,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 10 Six-Scores of Grandsire, and 32 Six-Scores of St. Dunstun's,
each called differently. Tenor 11 cwt.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| *WILLIAM GARDNER Treble | THOMAS LEACH 4 |
| THOMAS BALDWIN 2 | *EDWIN SIMS 5 |
| PHILLIP POCKETT 3 | *GEORGE DYER Tenor |

Conducted by THOMAS BALDWIN.

* First peal.

MORETON VALENCE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Monday, December 27, 1915, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

With 10 different callings.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| *GEORGE BOYCE Treble | *THOMAS LEACH 4 |
| THOMAS BALDWIN 2 | *OLIVER DANIELS 5 |
| PHILIP POCKETT 3 | *JAMES SMITH Tenor |

Conducted by THOMAS BALDWIN.

* First peal.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ISHAM, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, January 1, 1916, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
At the Rectory,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANCES;

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| DAVID G. NICOLS 1-2 | E. MAURICE ATKINS 5-6 |
| J. EDWARD CHAPMAN 3-4 | FREDERICK W. SAWFOOT 7-8 |

Composed by G. R. FLEMING, and

Conducted by E. M. ATKINS.

Arranged for Mr. Atkins, who was on short leave from the trenches.

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, January 7, 1916, in Two Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Residence of LEWIS WISEMAN,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

With seven different callings.

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| LEWIS WISEMAN 1-2 | SIDNEY HALE 3-4 |
| PTE. OLIVE BROVD 5-6 | |

Conducted by OLIVE BROVD.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,
In the Old Room at King Edward VI's Grammar School,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5041 CHANCES;

Tenor, size 18 in G.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 1-2 | MAURICE SMITHER 5-6 |
| ALFRED H. PULLING 3-4 | SEPTIMUS RADFORD 7-8 |

THOMAS W. RADFORD, 9-10.

Composed by SERGT. F. A. HOLDEN, R.M.L.I., and

Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

Umpire: C. HAZELDEN.

Witnesses: MRS. PULLING, MRS. HAZELDEN, and

Mrs. YVONNE L. ELOIE-LELOUE.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. C. Willshire, of Montreal,
formerly of the Holy Trinity band, Guildford, chairman of the
Guildford District of the Winchester Guild, and a member of the
Central Council.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, Jan. 8, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,
In the Guild Room at the TAMWORTH ARMS HOTEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANCES;

Tenor, 13 size in E flat.

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| GEORGE F. SWANN 1-2 | *JAMES E. GROVES 5-6 |
| THOMAS RUSSAM 3-4 | *ALBERT WALKER 7-8 |

†MORRIS J. MORRIS 9-10.

Composed by JOHN CARTER and

Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Referee: GEORGE GARRISON.

* First peal of Stedman and first of Caters on handbells. † First peal
no handbells.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES AND THE YORKSHIRE
ASSOCIATIONS.

On Sunday, January 9, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,
At 31, HIGHER ALBERT STREET,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANCES;

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| GEORGE HOLLIS 1-2 | WILLIAM J. THYNG 5-6 |
| CLEMENT GLENN 3-4 | ARTHUR KNIGHTS 7-8 |

*ALBERT H. WARD 9-10

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

Witness: JAMES GEORGE. G. Davies, W. Allwood, and R. Richardson
also heard the peal.

* First peal of Royal on handbells.

NATIONAL RELIEF FUND.

A CONTRIBUTION FROM THE TRENCHES.

We have received the following further contributions
towards the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund:—

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|------|----|----|
| Amount already acknowledged | 120 | 12 | 2 |
| Lieut. R. W. Falconer, 16th Service Batt. Northumberland Fusiliers, "in the trenches" | 0 | 10 | 6 |
| Ringers of St. Matthew's, Stretford (per Mr. W. J. Moss) | 0 | 6 | 9 |
| York Minster Society, December contribution (per Mr. G. Horner) | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| Total | £121 | 13 | 5 |

ROLL OF HONOUR.

Mr. C. J. Bowen Cooke, Master of the Chester Diocesan Guild, has
been gazetted Major in the Royal Engineers. Major Cooke is Chief
Mechanical Engineer to the London and North Western Railway Co.

The following is a further list of ringers who have joined H.M.
Forces:—

From Solihull, Warwickshire:—

Pte H. Shepherd, 3/8th Batt. Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

Pte R. Bragg, Inns of Court O.T.C.

EXCITING FLIGHT EXPERIENCE.

FORMER RINGER'S ADVENTURE IN FRANCE.

Flight-Sergt. George Lusted, who was some years ago a member of
the Southover, Lewes, Guild, and whose father, Mr. J. R. Lusted, has
been for a long period, and still is, the respected people's warden of
the church and one of the Guild's vice-presidents, has had some ex-
citing experiences while serving in the Royal Flying Corps. Previous
to enlisting he was an experienced aviator, and since going to France
he has done some splendid work as pilot. Recently he had a most mar-
vellous escape from death. He was out on a bombing raid in France,
and after he had dropped his bombs one of the German anti-aircraft
guns fired a shell, which burst between the two left planes of his
machine. Flight-Sergt. Lusted was over two miles up, but he suc-
ceeded in gliding 25 miles back into the British lines with a broken
plane. When about 250 feet from the ground the machine turned over
and then crashed to the earth. The airman was badly bruised, and
he has up to the present lost the use of one leg, but it is thought,
happily, that this trouble is only temporary. The observer who was
with him in the machine was killed, but it is not known whether his
death was caused by the shell or by the effects of the fall. Flight-
Sergt. Lusted is a patient at Queen Mary's Royal Naval Hospital,
Southend. He considers that he has been most lucky in his bomb raids,
as he has flown for more than 900 hours over the enemy's lines.

MANY WOUNDS.

Corpl. G. Bull, of the Curdridge, Hants. company, has just come
out of hospital, where he has been under treatment for a great many
wounds received from shrapnel, while gallantly attempting to repair
a communication line which had been broken, and which thus en-
dangered the artillery. He is now home on sick leave, and was able
to take part in a 500 of Grandsire Triples rung for men's service on
Sunday, January 2nd. The band have lost Pte E. J. Wellstead,
R.A.M.C., who was drowned when the "Royal Edward" was sunk,
and another member, Pte R. Elcock, is serving with the colours. De-
spite the loss of the services of these three men, the company, during
1915, rang one quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, and 46 504's, two 720's
and eleven 360's of Bob Minor, and 104 six-score of Stedman Doubles.

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A.D. 1670.

Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road,
LONDON, E.



Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

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For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contests, held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

UNIQUE FOR PRESENTATION.



An Inkstand in the
— design of a —
Well-shaped Bell.

This charming model in Solid Hall-Marked Silver will make a most appropriate and useful Gift.

It can be supplied in the following sizes:—

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| Diameter | 2½ in. | 2¾ in. | 3½ in. | 3¾ in. | 4 in. | 4½ in. | 5 in. |
| Price ... | 9/- | 13/6 | 17/6 | 22/6 | 27/6 | 35/- | 46/6 |

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WOKING
(MAKER OF THE RINGERS' BADGE.)

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CHARLES A. W. TROYTE.

[Fourth Edition.]

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— PATERNOSTER BUILDINGS, LONDON. —

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ROPE-SIGHT. 1s. 6d., sixth ed. 150 pages; treats Plain Bob, commencing on three bells.

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STEDMAN. 2s. 6d.; 275 pages, by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, M.A., with an appendix by Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., etc., etc.

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ESTIMATES FREE FOR ANY DESCRIPTION
OF THIS KIND OF WORK.

F. W. COULTER, c/o "THE RINGING WORLD"
OFFICE, WOKING

KEEP THE HOME FIRES BURNING AND THE CHURCH BELLS RINGING.

LADY RINGERS OF ST. PETER'S, ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.



PTE. T. ALLOTT. MR. H. PALMER. MR. W. W. WOLSTENCROFT (Captain). MR. T. ROLLS.
MISS G. SCOTT. MISS E. GRIMSHAW. MISS A. HANCOCKS.
MISS THORPE. MRS. W. WOLSTENCROFT. MISS E. WILLIAMS. MISS S. HOLT. MISS A. WOLSTENCROFT.

In many parishes ladies have very gallantly come forward to fill the gaps in the belfry caused by the absence of the men on war service. Seven of the band of St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, have enlisted (one, alas, was killed in the early part of the war), and members of the fair sex have come to the aid of those who are left. As the shield in the picture shows, they "will keep the home fires burning and the Church bells ringing till our lads come home." This is the splendid spirit in which ladies in many parts of the country are giving a helping

hand. At Ashton-under-Lyne the fair ringers are immensely proud of their self-imposed task, and have taken enthusiastically to the art. They promise to become most efficient ringers, and already Mrs. Wolstencroft, and the Misses Thorpe, Scott, Wolstencroft (sister of the captain), and Holt have rung courses of Grandsire Triples. We hope they will be able to take part in the peals for Victory and Peace and for the lads' home-coming when the war is over.

A VETERANS' QUARTER-PEAL.

There was an interesting gathering at St. Leonard's Church, Streatham, on Sunday evening, when to celebrate the 86th birthday of the steeplekeeper (Mr. S. Greenwood), and that of Mr. Charles Gordon, a band of veterans met from five different parishes for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. This they were successful in ringing in 45 mins., the combined ages of the company being 538 years: They stood in the following order: G. Barrington (age 65) 1, J. D. Drewett (61) 2, E. Horrex (77) 3, H. Pates (71) 4, C. Lewry (66) 5, A. J. Perkins, composer and conductor (63) 6, C. Gordon (65) 7, W. Shepherd (70) 8.

BELL RESTORATIONS.

Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry, have just completed the rehang of the peal of eight at Crosthwaite Church, the Parish Church of Keswick, Cumberland, and the bells were first rung after their restoration on Christmas morning. The work has included the installation of a new iron frame and the recasting of the treble, which was previously a poor bell. The fittings have also been partly renewed, and the excellent manner in which the contract has been carried out has given the utmost satisfaction.

A set of nine bells, with a tenor of 12 cwt., is being made by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank for the new tower at All Saints', Basingstoke, and the Whitechapel firm have also in hand, among other work, the rehang of the peal of five at Durrington, Wilts, in a new iron frame and fittings, and the recasting of three bells and the rehang of the ring of five at Imber, in the same county.

THE OLDEST RINGER.

On Tuesday, Mr. John Heathorn, of Guildford, who, we believe, is the oldest ringer in England, celebrated his 92nd birthday. He learnt change ringing after he passed the age of 60, and has rung several peals. He rang a touch on Holy Trinity bells when over 90 years of age. He is spending his declining years in Abbot's Hospital, beneath the sound of the bells, and considering his great age enjoys comparatively good health.

WIND STORM MAKES PEAL IMPRACTICABLE.

By the kind permission of the authorities, the bells of Christ Church, West Didsbury, were at liberty for the annual peal by members of the Lancashire Association. An attempt was made on New Year's Day, when a dozen ringers turned up, some to ring and others to listen, but unfortunately the wind storm was at its height, and the louvres being very open, it was practically impossible to ring the bells. However, two hours of good practice were put in, and all took part. Afterwards, by kind invitation of the conductor, the visitors adjourned for a cup of tea, which Mrs. Davies had waiting for them. The wind did not stop that touch from coming round. Afterwards, Master Davies (aged 6) played for the entertainment of the party, and Mrs. Davies, Miss Davies and Messrs. Greenhalgh and Davies sang, and an extremely pleasant evening was passed. The best thanks of the party are tendered to the authorities for kindly granting the use of the bells, to Mr. Davies for his kind invitation, and Mrs. Davies for making the visitors so welcome, and remembering the names of all the guests, although a long time had elapsed between the visits.

THE MUFFLED RINGING.

INTERCESSION DAY TOUCHES.

The tribute of muffled ringing to those who have fallen in the war produced, as was, of course, natural, many special touches on Intercession Sunday, and a number of them are given below.

The suggestion for this muffled ringing, which gained the approval of the Archbishops and Bishops, was not only almost universally taken up, but in many cases it was made a special feature of. In numerous instances, in order to fall into line, it involved special effort being made to get a band together, and the ringing of rounds had to suffice, owing to many of the more practised members being away on service. But this only served to accentuate the desire which was felt to share in the widespread public tribute. For instance, at Godstone, Surrey, where they have had a peal of eight only quite a short time (the bells having recently been restored by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston), and where only four of the old hands are left, the gaps have been filled by school boys between the ages of 11 and 13. Their services were enlisted a few weeks ago, and on Intercession Sunday they were able to take their part in some round ringing for each of the services, including that at 8 a.m., and Godstone was thus able to pay its token of respect to those who have given their lives in the war, and especially to the seven men of the parish who have been killed.

An example of the way in which a large number of towers entered into the proposal is to be found in the following letter from Mr. C. Tribe, of Tenterden, Kent:—"I thought perhaps you would like to know how we carried out your excellent suggestions with reference to the muffled ringing for our departed heroes. I handed 'The Ringing World' to our Vicar on Friday (Christmas Eve) with the result that he gave out in church, with the other notices on Sunday, the 26th, that the bells would be rung muffled in memory of those who had fallen in the war. A midnight service was held in the church at the close of the old year, from 11.30 to 12.30. We rang a 518 of Grandsire Triples for that service, and seven of the ringers attended the service. After the service we rang a 336 of Grandsire Triples with the bells open, to welcome the New Year. On Sunday, the 2nd inst., for the morning service, we rang a 350 of Grandsire Triples, muffled, and for the evening service, a 504 of Grandsire Triples, and after the service we rang 168 in the same method, and lowered the bells. We have since been thanked by our Vicar and churchwardens for the ringing. The following are the names of those who took part: G. Neve, A. Snelling, W. Savage, F. Bennett, E. Want, F. Gilbert, G. Cramp, H. Rumery, N. Tickner, A. Field, H. Holdstock, Sergt. Kentspear, H. Baker, I. Bailey and C. Tribe."

Other touches rung include the following:—

WORCESTER.—At All Saints' Church, on Sunday, with the bells muffled, 720 Bob Minor (conducted by W. Page), and 360 Oxford Bob (conducted by W. Edgington): E. Watkins 1, W. Ranford 2, G. Hinton, junr., 3, W. Lewis 4, W. Page 5, W. Edgington 6. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles, in which Mrs. Watkins took part. The ringing at All Saints' is largely dependent on several long-distance men (some having to cycle 14 to 20 miles), and owing to the unpropitious weather only six mustered on Sunday. Of those who have to cycle only one daring spirit ventured through the rain and mud.

MALDON, ESSEX.—On January 2nd, for morning service, at All Saints' Church, with the bells muffled, 360 Plain Bob Minor: W. Last 1, R. Orth 2, A. South 3, A. J. Peake 4, F. Chalk (conductor) 5, H. J. Mansfield 6. Also 216 Oxford Treble Bob: W. Last 1, W. J. Brinkley 2, A. South 3, A. J. Peake 4, F. Chalk (conductor) 5, H. J. Mansfield 6. After service, 360 Plain Bob Minor: W. J. Brinkley 1, R. Orth 2, A. South 3, A. J. Peake 4, F. Chalk (conductor) 5, H. J. Mansfield 6.

DORKING, SURREY.—At St. Martin's Church, with the bells fully muffled, two short touches of Grandsire Triples for morning service; for afternoon service, two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles; for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: W. Hills (first quarter on treble) 1, E. Pressling 2, W. Tarling 3, A. Baker 4, E. E. Dodd 5, H. Boxall (conductor) 6, J. White 7, W. Lynch 8.

ENGLEFIELD, BERKS.—For morning service, on Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, 360 Grandsire Doubles: W. Vince 1, B. Allen 2, W. Lamperd 3, C. Pocock 4, J. Abery (conductor) 5, E. Cottrell 6. For evening service, a 720 Grandsire Doubles: E. Cottrell 1, B. Allen 2, W. Lamperd 3, C. Pocock 4, J. Abery (conductor) 5, T. Harris 6.

MALDON, ESSEX.—At St. Mary's Church, on January 2nd, for morning service, with the bells muffled, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, by: E. Mansfield 1, R. Hutson 2, A. Mansfield 3, J. Gozzett 4, J. H. Waldock 5, A. Gozzett (conductor) 6.

HERSHAM, SURREY.—On January 2nd, for morning service, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 47 mins.: F. Shepherd 1, W. Shepherd (conductor) 2, F. J. Shepherd 3, Pte. J. Loveridge (B. Surrey Regiment), first quarter-peal of Stedman 4, A. F. Shepherd 5, A. Woodrow 6, J. Emery 7, R. J. Polley 8.

THETFORD, NORFOLK.—The bells of St. Peter's Church were rung muffled for all services on Sunday. Owing to seven of the members being at the front, Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles were all the method ringing that could be done.

DUNSTABLE, BEDS.—For Intercession service, on January 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, 336 Bob Triples and a course of Kent Treble Bob Minor, the following taking part: Canon W. W. C. Baker, E. Franklin, junr., E. Franklin, senr., F. Baldock, C. King, junr., G. Heley, A. E. Sharman and C. King.

ERITH.—At the Parish Church, on January 2nd, with the bells muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): F. Cullum 1, J. Cullum 2, G. Cullum 3, C. Bush 4, A. Mason 5, J. Lowney 6, F. J. Cullum 7, P. Robinson 8.

WESTON FAVELL, NORTHANTS.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, for divine service, with the bells muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), each six-score called differently: W. Law 1, F. Rollings 2, C. Haines 3, A. Richardson 4, T. Law (conductor) 5.

HACKFORD, NORFOLK.—On Sunday, January 2nd, at the Parish Church of St. Michael and All Angels, with the bells muffled, 720 of Minor: W. Ducan 1, Jacob Moy (Aylsham) 2, F. J. Barber 3, G. Timbers 4, W. Rought 5, John Moy (Aylsham), conductor, 6.

WALTHAMSTOW.—St. Mary's Society.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, at St. Mary's Church, for morning service, with the bells half-muffled, 419 Grandsire Triples: W. Coakham 1, F. Rumens 2, C. T. Coles (conductor) 3, J. C. Adams 4, J. H. Wilkins 5, W. J. Kemp 6, F. C. Maynard 7, H. T. Scarlett 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: H. T. Scarlett 1, F. Rumens 2, H. J. Maynard 3, J. C. Adams 4, J. H. Wilkins 5, R. Maynard, junr. (conductor) 6, F. C. Maynard 7, R. Maynard, senr., 8.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.—At St. Nicolas' Church, on Sunday, Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, 559 Grandsire Triples: E. G. Heath 1, E. Etheridge 2, S. Radford 3, W. Loader 4, G. Petter 5, S. G. Steer 6, T. W. Radford (conductor) 7, E. Heather 8.

LONDON.—At St. Matthew's Church, Upper Clapton, after the abandonment of a peal attempt by members of the Metropolitan Police Force, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung by: J. Barry 1, A. Coles 2, S. S. Dunwell 3, A. Turner 4, F. Richardson 5, W. Bottrill 6, J. Hunt (conductor) 7, Miss G. Adams 8. Also 360 Bob Minor. The above were rung with bells half-muffled.

CHILVERS COTON, WARWICKSHIRE.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled for all services, the usual "whole pull and stand," together with touches of Grandsire Doubles.

HACKNEY.—For evensong, on Jan. 2nd, at the Church of St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, with the bells half-muffled, in 49 mins.: W. Pye 1, C. T. Coles (conductor) 2, O. L. Twist (first quarter-peal of Stedman) 3, G. B. Lucas 4, R. W. Green 5, W. T. Powell 6, J. Hunt 7, Sergt. J. Bullock (R.F.A.) 8. Sergt. Bullock was home on short leave from France.

STOURBRIDGE.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, at St. Thomas' Church, with the bells half-muffled, for morning service, 360 Bob Minor: V. Harmon W. Hand 1, C. W. Cooper 2, J. Bass 3, G. Pagett 4, W. A. Pugh 5, Dodd (conductor) 6, W. Ward 8. For evening service, 784 Bob Triples: W. Hand 1, C. W. Cooper 2, J. Bass 3, G. Pagett 4, W. A. Pugh 5, A. W. Dodd 6, R. Matthews (conductor) 7, W. Ward 8. After evening service, 360 Bob Minor, conducted by A. W. Dodd.

BIGBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, for evening service, with the bells half-muffled, 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins.: E. Rusling 1, E. Leedham 2, A. Peart (first 720 as conductor) 3, Rev. H. T. Parry 4, H. Rusling 5, G. Blanchard 6.

BOSHAM.—On Sunday evening, Jan. 2nd, at the Parish Church, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), in 43 mins.: J. H. Blake 1, Fredk. Brown (conductor) 2, G. W. Christian 3, G. Marshall 4, W. Ticehurst 5, Charley Smithers (longest length) 6. Also 180 in the same method, with Geo. Brown and Fred Kearvell standing in.

SOLIHULL, WARWICKSHIRE.—For evening service, on Sunday, Jan. 2nd, a half-muffled touch of Grandsire Triples: W. Leeson (conductor) 1, A. Bragg 2, W. Meeks 3, Pte H. Shepherd 4, Stan. Bragg 5, Sam Bragg 6, J. Bragg 7, H. Foster 8.

SITTINGBOURNE.—Kent County Association.—At St. Michael's Church, on Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: A. Burley 1, E. J. Bottle 2, E. J. Dobbie 3, Lance-Corpl. C. Brett, R.E., 4, H. E. Simpson (conductor) 5, F. S. Macey 6, S. B. Dobbie 7, G. Mills 8. In the evening, an attempt was made for another quarter of Grandsire, but after 40 minutes' ringing it was found there was not time enough to finish it, so "stand" was called. The ringers were: E. J. Bottle 1, H. E. Simpson 2, E. E. Spice 3, F. S. Macey 4, J. Excell 5, E. J. Dobbie 6, W. Spice (conductor) 7, A. Burley 8.

TRING, HERTS.—At SS. Peter and Paul's Church, on Sunday, Jan. 2nd, with the bells muffled, 630 Grandsire Triples: F. Fitkin 1, F. Reeve 2, H. Lovell 3, A. Thompkins 4, Pte H. F. Cooper (5th Essex Regt.), conductor, 5, O. Bayes (Berkhamsted) 6, H. Heley 7, W. Redman 8. A quarter-peal had been arranged, but owing to the inclement weather, the visitors who had five miles to travel in opposite directions arrived a little late, and the above was rung instead.

BROMLEY, KENT.—At SS. Peter and Paul's Church, on Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, 504 Stedman Triples: H. J. Blackwell 1, G. Durling 2, P. Spice 3, S. Marshall 4, G. Huxley 5, A. Bygrave 6, I. Emery (conductor) 7, C. Austin 8.

NOTTINGHAM.—At St. Peter's Church, for evening service, on Jan. 2nd, with the bells muffled, 1316 Grandsire Triples: W. Flinders 1, W. Sevier 2, E. Hughes 3, G. Parlett 4, A. Barratt 5, G. Johnson 6, W. C. Hunt (conductor) 7, H. R. Cobbin 8.

DEPTFORD, KENT.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, at St. John's Church, for morning service, 1302 Grandsire Triples, in 41 mins.: R. Forsdyke, T. G. Deal, E. J. Pannett, A. G. Bennington, F. W. Richardson (conductor), J. Law, W. J. Jefferies, T. Esterby.

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. Kendall 1, L. Wiseman (conductor) 2, Pte R. Rayner 3, F. Wiseman 4, E. Barker 5, B. Pettitt 6, S. Hale 7, W. Ruffle 8. Also 700 of Grandsire Triples, conducted by S. Hale.

STREATHAM.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, for evening service, at St. Leonard's Church, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 46 mins.: G. Barrington 1, J. Lee 2, F. Smith 3, H. Pates 4, H. Lewry 5, L. Attwater (conductor) 6, I. J. Attwater 7, J. Chapman 8.

SLOUGH.—At St. Mary's Parish Church, on Sunday, Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, 583 Oxford Bob Triples: W. Bedford 1, R. Flaxman 2, A. Leader 3, T. Smith 4, G. T. Leader 5, P. Jones 6, E. Hooper (conductor) 7, F. Purdue 8. This was the first 583 of this method rung upon the new bells, and the first attempt by five members of the band.

HOLBECK, LEEDS.—On Jan. 2nd, with bells half-muffled, for evening service, 672 Grandsire Triples: W. Hudson 1, P. L. Cooper 2, R. Squires 3, R. H. Howland 4, J. Jessop 5, P. Larvin (conductor) 6, J. R. Moger 7, D. York 8.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.—At St. Mary's Church, on Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, for morning service, three six-scores of Bot Doubles: E. Holman 1, C. Gasson 2, C. Holman 3, A. Marchant 4, A. E. Gasson (conductor) 6. For evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob C. Gasson 1, P. Hall 2, F. Streeter 3, A. Marchant 4, C. Holman 5, A. Gasson (conductor). Also 240 Oxford Bob, with E. Holman treble and 240 Plain Bob, conducted by C. Holman.

SAWSTON, CAMBS.—On Sunday afternoon, Jan. 9th, at the Parish Church, with the bells fully muffled, 720 Plain Bob: H. Bright 1, R. Matthews 2, S. Nunn 3, A. E. Austin 4, M. Lyles 5, F. Hurry (conductor) 6, R. Wilson 7.

Numerous other touches are unavoidably held over.

"MENTIONED IN DESPATCHES."

TWO RINGERS GAIN DISTINCTION.

Two ringers have recently been mentioned in despatches, and are the first members of the Exercise, we believe, to gain this honour. One is Captain J. H. B. Hesse, Vice-President of the Middlesex Association, who is filling an important position in the Motor Transport Department "somewhere in France."

The other is Corpl. A. Hiestad, a member of the band of Shiplake, Oxon, who won his distinction on the battlefield, while serving with the 5th Royal Berks Regiment. In honour of their comrade, his fellow members at Shiplake on Sunday, January 2nd, rang for evening service, 630 Grandsire Triples: A. Sheppard 1, E. Nash 2, O. W. Porter 3, W. G. Wicks 4, E. W. Wenman 5, J. Hiscock 6, G. Cleave (conductor) 7, H. B. Quaint 8. After service another touch was rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of the fallen.

The congratulations of the Exercise will go out to Capt. Hesse and Corpl. Hiscock upon the distinction they have won.

A BIRTHDAY PEAL.

The peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal rung at Wednesbury, and reported in this issue, was specially arranged for the 85th birthday of the veteran ringer, Mr. Joseph Bate, who, despite his great age, regularly rings for divine service and at the Tuesday evening practices. He is still able to ring the standard methods, and, in addition, Forward, Erin, Court Bob, Darlaston, and Oxford Bob, but Treble Bob has always been a favourite with him.

In April, 1866, he rang his last peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, and we believe that no other peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal has since been rung at Wednesbury until the one on January 4th, 1916. Mr. Bate has rung on three peals of bells in the Wednesbury tower: The old peal of eight, the subsequent peal of ten, which took the place of the old ring, recast, rehung and augmented to ten in March, 1855, by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank; and the new ten after the bells had been recast and rehung in October, 1915, by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon. We believe Mr. Bate to be the oldest change ringer in the Midlands. He rang his last peal (Grandsire Caters) on his 83rd birthday. May he be spared longer to fulfil his duty in the belfry he loves so well.

The peal was also the ringers' New Year peal, and a welcome to the new Vicar, the Rev. T. H. P. Hyatt, M.A., who had recently been inducted to the living of St. Bartholomew's.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Bristol Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Association was held at St. Matthew's on Saturday last. The bells were available from 3 o'clock, and soon after that time ringing was started, touches of Grandsire and Plain Bob being rung before the service, at which the Rev. Bland (Vicar), who officiated, gave a splendid address. Tea was then partaken of in the Parish Hall, to which 26 members did full justice.

The business meeting followed, Mr. H. Howell taking the chair.—Four new members were elected, and, after some discussion, it was decided to hold the next meeting at Stapleton, on the 5th February, if possible.

Mr. R. J. Wilkins then proposed that the annual branch meeting be held in future in January instead of December, which would enable the secretary to place a completed balance sheet before the members.

Mr. C. J. Walton was elected hon. assistant secretary.—Some discussion followed on the advisability of holding four quarterly meetings, but the matter was postponed until the next meeting. This brought the business to a close, and the ringers then resorted to the tower once more. Various methods were rung until after 8 o'clock, and brought a very enjoyable meeting to a finish.

A MIDNIGHT DEDICATION.

THE AUGMENTATION AT ST. MARY'S, WILLESDEN.

Some two or three years ago two bells were added to the old six at St. Mary's Church, Willesden. Originally the bells hung in the tower of St. Peter-le-Pore, but were taken down and placed in the crypt of St. Paul's Cathedral, from whence they passed into the hands of the restorer, were recast into two trebles and placed in the old tower of St. Mary's. Owing to unforeseen circumstances it was not found possible to dedicate them at the time. Now, as a memorial to those who belonged to Willesden, and have lost their lives in the war, these bells were dedicated at midnight at Christmas by the Vicar of the parish.

Before the evening service, 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung on the old six by C. H. Horton 1, F. Barratt 2, R. Kilby 3, G. Kilby (conductor) 4, A. Hill 5, H. Kilby 6. After the dedication ceremony the eight bells were rung in rounds for a few minutes, and then 447 of Grandsire Triples was rung by: E. Lankester 1, C. H. Horton (conductor) 2, G. Kilby 3, F. Barratt 4, R. Kilby 5, H. Kilby 6, A. Hill 7, A. French 8.—On Christmas Day, for service, 320 and 240 Grandsire Triples. The two bells were recast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of London, and give entire satisfaction.

The following ringing has also been done upon the bells: A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: C. H. Horton 1, B. Foskett 2, G. Kilby 3, F. Barratt 4, G. Chalkley 5, R. Kilby 6, H. Kilby (conductor) 7, A. French 8, and a 504 in the same method; also 630 and 513 of Stedman Triples, by: G. Kilby, H. Kilby, R. Kilby, T. Langdon, G. Chalkley, B. Foskett, A. French, F. Barratt and C. H. Horton (conductor). Several 720's of Plain Bob Minor, Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge have also been rung, and, as recorded elsewhere, a muffled peal of Grandsire Triples was rung last Saturday. There is ringing on Sundays at 10.15 a.m. and 5.45 p.m., and on Tuesdays at 8.30 p.m.

PEAL BOARD UNVEILED AT CHEWTON MENDIP.

In commemoration of the first peal rung in the grand tower of the Parish Church of Chewton Mendip, Somerset, the peal board was unveiled on Sunday, January 2nd. The former ring of six bells had recently been recast into one of eight by Messrs. J. W. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, so that it was practically an inaugural peal. The tenor is 24cwt., and the total weight of the bells 92 cwt. The key is in D, and the name of the firm is a guarantee of the perfection of the tone. The actual performance still lives in the memory of those who heard it, from a critical and professional point of view, the peal being in every way worthy of its surroundings.

The presentation of the board was made on behalf of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association by Sergt. Walter Farley, of the North Somerset Yeomanry, who was on leave from war service, and the only member of the peal band who could be present. The gift was accepted by the Rev. J. A. Bengley, on behalf of himself and the churchwardens (the Earl Waldegrave and Mr. J. H. Flower), and a short service of dedication followed. The wording of the inscription was as follows:—

"Praise to God.

"Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—On Tuesday, January 20th, 1914, there was rung in this tower, in 3 hours and 38 minutes, Thursdays' four-part peal of Stedman Triples (5040 changes), being the first peal on the bells; William T. Pates treble, George H. Phillott 2nd, Albert W. Humphries 3rd, Rev. G. F. Coleridge 4th, Rev. H. A. Cockey 5th, Rev. C. D. P. Davies 6th, Rev. Cyril Jenkyn 7th, Walter Farley tenor. Conducted by Rev. Cyril Jenkyn."

A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was then rung by members of the Wells Branch of the Association before the usual evening service: H. Fry 1, T. Hayward 2, F. Loxton 3, W. J. Mills 4, E. E. Lush 5, A. E. Mills 6, Sergt. W. Farley (conductor) 7, W. Leakey 8.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members to vote on financial matters, should be paid before February 29th. Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on January 18th, for business, and on the 27th for handbell practice.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Stoke-in-Coventry on January 15th. Bells (8) ready at 3 p.m. Short service at 4.30. Business meeting after tea. — H. Kettle, Honorary Secretary, Rectory Cottage, Allesley, Coventry.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District. — The quarterly meeting of the Maidstone district will be held at Mereworth on Saturday, January 15th, 1916. The bells will be available for ringing at 3 o'clock. Short service at 5 p.m. Tea provided by the Rector at 5.30. Business meeting after.—Stephen Hazzelden, Secretary, Lower Street, East Farleigh.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Bury, on Saturday, January 15th, 1916. Bells ready at 3.30 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30 prompt. Reports now ready. Subscriptions are due.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Manchester Cathedral on Saturday, January 15th. Bells available from 5 p.m. Meeting at 7.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Oldswinford, Stourbridge, on Saturday, January 16th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service in the church at 4.45. Tea kindly provided in the Schools at 5.30. Business meeting to follow.—E. J. Dowler, 11, Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham, Branch Secretary.

MIDLANDS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—The annual meeting of the Derby District will be held in St. Alkmund's belfry on Tuesday, January 18th. Bells open at 7.30 p.m. Meeting at 8 p.m. — J. Lord, District Secretary, 36, Howard Street, Derby.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—On Saturday, Jan. 22nd, the annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Martock. Bells (8) available all the afternoon. Service at 4.15 p.m. Tea at 5. Meeting to follow.—F. Farrant, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Parish Church on Saturday, Jan. 22nd. Bells available from 6 p.m. Meeting 7.30.—G. Pincott, Branch Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Hamer Parish Church on Saturday, January 22nd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Business meeting at 6.30.—T. K. Driver, Secretary, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Luke's, Bromley Common, on Saturday, January 22nd. Tower open at 3 p.m., service at 5.30 p.m., with address by the Rev. C. P. Gosselin (Vicar). Tea in St. Luke's Institute at 6 p.m., at 8d. per head. but notice of those requiring same must reach me not later than first post Tuesday, Jan. 18th. Subscriptions should be paid now.—P. Groombridge, Honorary District Secretary, 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The annual meeting will be held at Southgate on Saturday, January 22nd. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5.30. Tea at the Cherry Tree at 6.15, 6d. each to those members who inform me by the 19th inst. of their intention of being present.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 49, Wood Street, Walthamstow.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Titchfield on Saturday, Jan. 22nd. Bells available from 2 o'clock. Short service at 5 o'clock. Tea at 5.30. Members requiring tea, kindly inform me not later than the 19th inst.—J. W. Whiting, District Secretary, 9, Colenso Road, Fareham.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Wraxall on Saturday, Jan. 29th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Divine service 4.30. Tea at 5.15; business meeting to follow.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at Stansted on Saturday, January 29th. Bells available from 4 to 9 p.m. Business meeting in the Tower at 5.30 p.m. Wm. Watts, District Secretary, Mont House Cottage, Stansted, Essex.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at Accrington on Saturday, January 29th, 1916. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—A committee meeting will be held at the offices of the British Equitable Assurance Co., 1, Greyhound Street, Nottingham, on Saturday, Jan. 29th, at 5 p.m., followed by general meeting at 5.30. Business: Appointment of Auditors, etc. A notification of intention to be present will be esteemed.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec., Cotgrave.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Evesham on Saturday, January 29th. Service in All Saints' Church at 5 p.m., at which members are requested to attend. Tea will probably be arranged, and it is most important I should be notified by those intending to be present by the Wednesday previous. The bells (10) will be available for ringing.—J. Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Hampton, Evesham.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Wakefield on Saturday, Jan. 29th. Service in the Cathedral at 4 p.m. For full particulars of the day's arrangements see circular sent to each tower secretary.—C. Glenn, Hon. Gen. Sec., 11, Fisher Road, Sheffield.

THE LADIES' GUILD.—I beg to remind members that the subscription for 1915-16 is now due.—E. K. Parker, Honorary Secretary, 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HANDBELLS FOR SALE.

THIRTY-SIX HANDBELLS, from C 22 size, for base; a few duplicates, in good tone; also six music books, with tunes arranged by the late J. Angus, of Bradford; what offers to G. Whiteaker, Brookeville Avenue, Hipperholme, Halifax.

SITUATION WANTED.

BLACKSMITH AND HOT WATER FITTER wants job. Age 44; 14 years' good character; country town preferred. Change ringer. — Smith, "Ringing World" Office, Woking.

WHEELWRIGHT AND CARPENTER, 45, wants situation as caretaker or any place of trust; highest references; can ring standard methods. — "Hammer," "Ringing World" Office, Woking.

SITUATION VACANT.

WANTED, SADDLER.—A good general hand; able to cut out and prepare all kinds of general work; constant to suitable man; good change ringer on 8 bells preferred. —F. R. Kettleborough, Market Place, Bolsover.

TO PARENTS.

Rev. F. L. Edwards, Kington Magna, Gillingham, Dorset (Salisbury Guild), can for a limited time take gentlemen's sons, age 12 to 15, as pupils on exceptionally favourable terms. *Spanish* may be taught. Also farming.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

A NEW YEAR'S GATHERING.

Following an old custom, the Salehurst (Sussex) Society of Church Bell Ringers assembled at the tower of St. Mary's Church at 11.30 p.m. on New Year's Eve, and rang the old year out and the new year in, with several touches of Grandsire Triples. The bells were also rung at intervals throughout New Year's Day. In the afternoon the party adjourned to the Old Eight Bells Inn, where an excellent tea had been provided by Host and Hostess Kirby, the usual supper having been dispensed with owing to the war. Ample justice was done to the good things provided, and the party again repaired to the tower, where several touches of Grandsire Triples were brought round.

Subsequently a gathering took place at the inn, the Rev. C. E. Ward (Vicar) presiding. After proposing the usual loyal and patriotic toasts, which were musically honoured, the Vicar gave "The Bell Ringers." He thanked them for the excellent manner in which they had performed their duties, and said the bells fulfilled a variety of purposes. That day, for instance, they had been ushering in the New Year, while on the morrow they would be sounding muffled peals for the heroes who had fallen in the war. No one appreciated the work of the ringers more than he did, and he congratulated Mr. T. Booth, their captain, on the way he had kept the band together during the trying time through which they were passing.

Mr. Booth, in reply, thanked the Vicar for his kind remarks, and said it had been a pleasure to him to have such a band as they at present possessed. In proposing the toast of "The Visitors," he said the members were glad to have Messrs. W. Franks and W. Thomas, of Battle, again with them.

Mr. Franks, responding, said he hardly looked upon himself as a visitor, as he always seemed at home when amongst the Salehurst ringers.

Mr. T. Booth also gave the toast, "The Host and Hostess," to which Mr. and Mrs. Kirby responded.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to harmony, selections being given on the handbells by Messrs. W. Franks and W. Thomas (Battle), and Messrs. T. Booth and W. Hoad (Salehurst), while songs were rendered by Messrs. W. Franks, F. Morgan, J. Goodsell, E. Mills, H. Weston, H. Pantry, A. Mills, S. Goodsell, T. Booth and W. Thomas. —The National Anthem brought an enjoyable evening to a close.

The Salehurst band now has two lady ringers—Miss E. Hoad and Miss C. Booth, both of whom are showing excellent promise.

Clewellins

& James, Ltd.,



CHURCH BELLS SINGLY OR IN RINGS.

Bell Frames in Cast Iron, Steel
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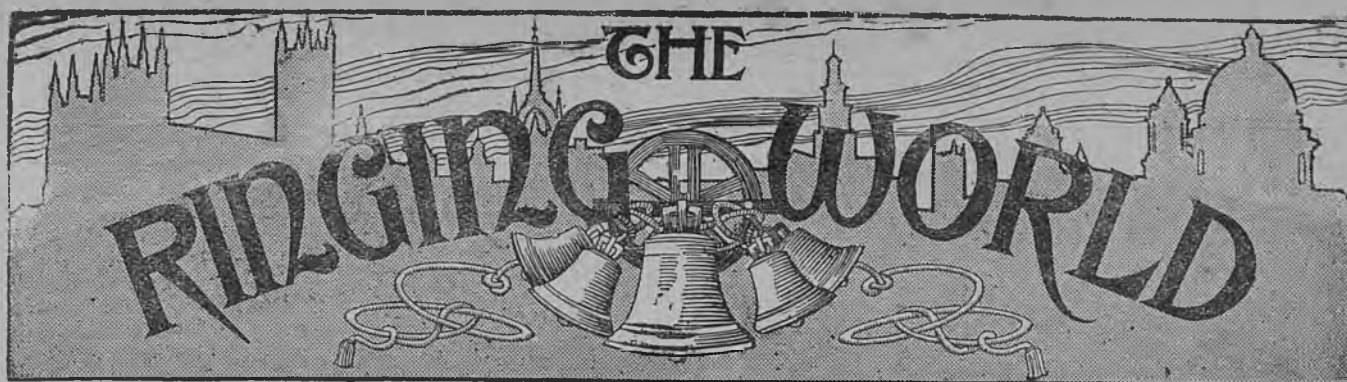


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WOKING

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FRIDAY, JANUARY 21st, 1916.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



**St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.**
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

BELL RESTORATION IN WAR TIME.

A paragraph in our last issue, recording the fact that bell founding and restoration is not altogether in a state of "suspended animation," will have been read with interest. Except for contracts placed before the war, the present seemed an unlikely time for this sort of work to be put in hand, and it is gratifying, therefore, as well as interesting, to know that matters of this kind are not absolutely at a standstill. Before war broke out all the principal founders were so busy that they had sufficient orders on hand to last them for months, and, doubtless, since the resources of the country have been organised for munition purposes, they are now equally busy on Government work. In that respect it is well that these businesses, in which so much capital has been sunk, should be able, at a period like the present, to turn their attention to profitable work which will, when peace again reigns, leave them unhampered to resume the avocation of pre-war times.

Some firms, we believe, will be unable to take any bell contracts while the war lasts—their whole energies being required for munition work—but others, while "doing their bit" for the country, are able to undertake private orders. Of course, it cannot be expected that, just at this period, there will be many big "jobs" going, but there must, nevertheless, be many churches where overhauling is really necessary and where, despite the war time drain, it would be possible to carry out restoration. In nothing more than in regard to bells and their fittings is it true that a stitch in time saves nine, and a comparatively small amount spent at first inevitably saves a big expenditure later. Unfortunately it is often only too true that church authorities are inclined to think that, as long as the ringers are able to make the bells sound, it is all that is required. They know nothing of the unnecessary labour involved in ringing, even for half an hour before service, a bad going bell or bells. It is, in such cases, only when ringers take a firm stand and decline to ring until something has been done, that the work, long overdue, is undertaken. Such a condition of affairs is naturally a thing to be avoided, and, because this is war time and money for anything but war purposes is none too plentiful, necessary work upon bells ought not to be indefinitely postponed. Those ringers who are left at home should not only see that, as far as possible, the bells are rung upon the proper occasions, but should also bestir themselves to see that the bells are maintained in a proper condition for ringing. They will be wanted, presently, when victory comes and peace is proclaimed. Let there be no tower where the dilapidation of the bells will prevent their sharing in this event.

CHARLES GARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCH WARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs. C. GARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract, — we may be able to assist you.

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MUFFLED PEALS.

The following peals, as their footnotes show, were rung with muffled bells in memory of the heroes who have fallen in the war:—

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

EPSOM, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

REV. E. B. JAMES' TEN-PART.

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ALFRED E. BASSETT Treble | JOHN CRAWFORD 5 |
| JOHN BEAMS 2 | THOMAS A. SHRUBB 6 |
| ALFRED L. BROWN 3 | CHARLES E. READ 7 |
| THOMAS MILES 4 | ALFRED HART Tenor |

Conducted by JOHN BEAMS

Rung with half-muffled bells as a token of respect to our fallen countrymen in the war.

SEDGLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE DUDLEY & DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| J. RAY Treble | F. EVANS 5 |
| *A. ABBESS 2 | W. MILLS, Senr. 6 |
| W. MILLS, Junr. 3 | H. JEAVONS 7 |
| T. GRIFFITH 4 | B. FULLWOOD Tenor |

Conducted by H. JEAVONS.

* First peal. Rung with bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of the soldiers and sailors who have given their lives in the war, and of sympathy with the bereaved friends in the district.

READING, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(READING BRANCH. ST. GILES' SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| *MISS MILDRED NEIGHBOUR Treble | ARTHUR BAILEY 5 |
| LEONARD T. OSBORNE 2 | †HORACE OSBORNE 6 |
| †HARRY NEIGHBOUR 3 | AMBROSE W. OSBORNE 7 |
| MISS ETHEL GOODSHIP 4 | *LEIGH LEACH Tenor |

Conducted by AMBROSE W. OSBORNE.

* First peal. † First peal in the method. Rung with bells half-muffled, in accordance with the wishes of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, as a tribute of respect to the soldiers and sailors who have lost their lives in the war.

BUXTED, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 15, 1916, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| *FREDERICK WREN Treble | SERG. W. FARLEY, N.S.Y. 5 |
| GEORGE ADES 2 | JAMES A. HART 6 |
| WILFRED BOOTH 3 | HENRY STALHAM 7 |
| ARTHUR J. CAUSLEY 4 | †Pte. F. V. HAGGIS, A.S.C. Tenor |

Conducted by JAMES A. HART.

* First peal. † First peal of Triples. Rung with the bells half-muffled for all those who have fallen in the war. This peal was arranged for Jan. 8th but had to be postponed. Sergt. Farley and Pte. Haggis were elected members of the association previous to starting for the peal.

SIX BELL PEALS.

BEDFORD.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER DE MERTON,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Oxford and Plain Bob.

Tenor 13 cwt.

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| HARRY TYSOE Treble | MISS EVELYN STEEL ... 4 |
| GEORGE LINES 2 | CHARLES W. CLARKE ... 5 |
| WILLIAM STAPLETON ... 3 | ALBERT ROBINSON ... Tenor |

Conducted by C. W. CLARKE.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the soldiers and sailors who have lost their lives in the war.

KILLAMARSH, DERBYSHIRE.

YORKSHIRE AND SHEFFIELD DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 720 each of Lightfoot, Weymouth, Lancashire, Stamford, London, Wells, and Cambridge. Tenor 11½ cwt.

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| FRED PARR Treble | GEORGE BURNHAM ... 4 |
| HARRY GREAVES 2 | WILLIAM H. TURTON ... 5 |
| THOMAS HOWES SMITH ... 3 | CHARLES SEVERN ... Tenor |

Conducted by C. SEVERN.

Rung with half-muffled bells as a tribute of respect to the memory of soldiers and sailors who have fallen in the war.

POTTON, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 15, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being two 720's each of Single Court, Single Oxford, College Single, and 720 of Plain Bob.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| CHARLES SMITH Treble | SYDNEY J. COLEMAN ... 4 |
| GEORGE W. INSKIP 2 | GEORGE D. COLEMAN ... 5 |
| ALFRED O. BAILEY 3 | CHARLES A. PRATT ... Tenor |

Conducted by GEORGE D. COLEMAN.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to those who have fallen in the war.

OTHER TOWER BELL PEALS.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, January 15, 1916, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANCES;

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| CHARLES FAULKS... .. Treble | WILLIAM GOODMAN... .. 6 |
| GILBERT GUEST 2 | JOHN GOODMAN, Jnr. ... 7 |
| WILLIAM MILLS 3 | BENJAMIN GOUGH 8 |
| HERBERT SHEPPARD ... 4 | HARRY GOODMAN 9 |
| JOHN GOODMAN, Senr. ... 5 | WILLIAM MEEK Tenor |

Composed by the late WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT, and

Conducted by JOHN GOODMAN, Jnr.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. John W. Mills, who for upwards of 40 years was a devoted and faithful ringer and worshipper at the Dudley Parish Church.

MILNROW, LANCs.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROCHDALE BRANCH.)

On Sunday, January 9, 1916, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| R. BUCKLEY Treble | J. GREENWOOD 5 |
| G. STAFF 2 | *C. FIELDING 6 |
| JOHN FITTON 3 | J. H. C. MASSEY 7 |
| EDWARD SCHOFIELD ... 4 | H. BUCKLEY Tenor |

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD, and

Conducted by G. STAFF.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells by a local band. Rung as a welcome to the new Vicar (the Rev. E. Elliott) and Mrs. Elliott.

NEWCHURCH, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BOLTON BRANCH).

On Friday, January 7, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being seven different 720's. Tenor 9½ cwt.

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| *WILLIAM GOULD Treble | ERNEST LEATHERBARROW ... 4 |
| GEORGE POWNALL 2 | JOHN YATES 5 |
| THOMAS GRIMSHAW 3 | JOSEPH LEATHERBARROW Tenor |

Conducted by J. LEATHERBARROW.

* First peal. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect to Squire Withington of Culchette Hall, who died on Friday, Dec. 17th, in his 85th year, and was interred on Tuesday, Dec. 21st. Squire Withington has been a churchwarden at Newchurch Church since 1860, and was respected by all the parish.

HANDBELL PEALS.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Saturday, January 8, 1916, in Two Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes,

AT THE VICARAGE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 15 size in C.

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| J. BRUCE WILLIAMSON... 1-2 | REV. E. BANKES JAMES... 5-6 |
| REV. A. H. F. BOUGHEY 3-4 | REV. H. LAW JAMES ... 7-8 |

Composed by J. PATRICK, and

Conducted by the REV. H. LAW JAMES.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, January 10, 1916, in Two Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,

AT ST. MICHAEL'S, JOSEPH ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Size 14 in D.

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| CHARLES HAZELDEN ... 1-2 | MAURICE SMITHER... .. 5-6 |
| ALFRED H. PULLING ... 3-4 | MRS. CHARLES HAZELDEN 7-8 |

Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

Witnesses: Mrs. PULLING and Mdlle. YVONNE LUCIE ELOIE-LELOUE, Arranged and rung as a compliment to Mdlle. Yvonne Lucie Eloie-Leloue, niece of Mrs. Hazelden, on her 12th birthday.

SOUTHALL, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.*On Sunday, January 16, 1916, in Two Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,*

AT 54, BEECHCROFT AVENUE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Bells, size No. 18 in G.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| GEORGE E. HARBOUR ... 1-2 | Q.M.S. J. R. MACKMAN 5-6 |
| J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ... 3-4 | WILLIAM LAWRENCE ... 7-8 |

Composed and Conducted by J. A. TROLLOPE.

Witness: Mrs. J. R. MACKMAN.

This peal was rung upon a new set of handbells—of excellent tone—belonging to Sergt. Mackman. The composition has the 6th its extent "right" and twenty-one times "wrong."

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers who have joined H.M. Forces:—

Spr. G. F. Rice, of St. Mary's, Cavendish, Suffolk, Royal Engineers, now at Chatham.

Air Mechanic H. L. Garfath, of Croydon, Motor Transport Driver, Royal Flying Corps, now at Curragh, Ireland.

Tpr. H. Littey, of St. Mary's, Langham, Yeomanry, now at Stanway.

Frederick T. Martin, of St. George's, Southwark, Armourers' Section, Royal Navy, H.M.S. "Pembroke."

Pte. Sydney Weatherstone, of St. George's, Southwark, 14th London Regiment (T), London Scottish.

Pte. C. Hunt, of Bradfield, Berks, R.A.M.C., in France.

Pte. A. E. Jarman, of St. Laurence, Thanet, 14th Co., A.O.C., now in France.

Pte F. Jones, of St. Peter's, Irthlingborough, R.F.A., now at Ipswich.

Pte F. Causby, of St. Mary's, Higham Ferrers, 8th Northants Regiment, now at Colchester.

From SS. Peter and Paul's, Bromley:—

Gnr. E. G. Filtess, and

Gnr. A. E. Newick, 2/3rd Glamorgan Batt. Welsh Brigade, R.F.A., now at Bedford.

THE NEWCASTLE PEAL OF CINQUES.

RINGERS ENTERTAINED BY PRESIDENT.

The ringing of a peal of Stedman Cinques is something to be proud of under any circumstances, but when it is the first peal on the bells, the first by the Association, and the first by all except the conductor, to say nothing of the reason which prompted the ringing, it becomes a performance worthy of more than passing notice. The muffled peal, therefore, rung by the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association on the 3rd January, as a solemn tribute to the fallen heroes of the great war deserves some recognition on this account.

The genial and generous President of the Association and Ringing Master of the Cathedral Guild (Mr. C. L. Routledge), recognising this, with great hospitality invited the members of the Guild, the composer of the peal, and several others to "a little supper," as he called it, at the Continental Restaurant, Newcastle. The supper turned out to be a dinner of first-class quality, served in masterly style, which everyone enjoyed most heartily.

Speaking after the loyal toast had been honoured, the President said that his one regret was that he was unable to take part in the peal. However, he heartily congratulated those who rang in the peal, and specially mentioned the composer and the conductor. Fortunate indeed was the Association in having two such men as Joseph Parker and William Barber, one to compose the peal and the other to interpret it on the bells in such masterly manner.—All agreed to this with acclamation, and drank the healths of these two, with musical honours.

Mr. Parker, responding, deprecated his own merits, and said he got far more praise than he deserved, which elicited loud "Noes" from all parts of the room. He thought that the peal would become historic, and be one which, in the future, ringers would turn to when the peal books were available for examination.

Mr. Barber admitted that he felt more at home at the end of a rope than making a speech, but managed to "round off" a few words, in which he said that "the striking was fairly good considering the little practice we had had"—which is a good admission from Billy, who, as we all know, is a stickler for good striking.

A note of sadness was introduced when the toast of "Absent Friends" was honoured, the thought of Lieut. Sayer, one of the fallen heroes in whose memory the peal was rung, passing through all minds.

Mr. E. E. Ferry proposed a vote of thanks to the Ringing Master for his kindness and hospitality, and this was carried with acclamation.

A STRONG GUILD.

It speaks volumes for the strength of the Cathedral Guild when their members (with one exception) could ring a peal of Stedman Cinques, with four such notable men as William Story, William Holmes, Ernest Ferry, and last but not least, Charles L. Routledge, absent. The first-named was in the belfry just before the peal was started, and wished the band "good luck," saying that business calls were imperative, and he regretted being unable to stand in, though it is on the cards that, if he hadn't found twelve men ready stripped, he would have left his business till next day. All honour to him for his unselfishness. Mr. W. Holmes was indisposed, and Mr. E. Ferry was away on holiday. The Ringing Master could not be present owing to an engagement which was cancelled by 'phone half an hour after the peal was started. However, all were pleased that the peal had been rung, though deploring their own hard luck.

There were present at the dinner all those who took part in the peal (with the exception of Mr. R. Alder Goffton), and Messrs. J. W. Parker, W. Story, W. Holmes, E. E. Ferry and J. Youll. Messrs. G. T. Potter and T. T. Goffton were invited, but unfortunately were unable to be present.

The evening passed very pleasantly, interspersed with speeches, stories and handbell ringing, and closing time (9 p.m. in these days) came all too soon, and the company dispersed.

It is interesting to note that out of the seventeen Cathedral Guild members and honorary members one has laid down his life in the great war, one is now in France, and those that are left are either over military age or engaged and badged "on war service," with two exceptions. All those of military age have attested under Lord Derby's scheme.

ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY.

A quarterly meeting of this society was held at Bloxwich, on Saturday week, when members assembled from Bilston, Cannock, Coseley, Harborne, Lichfield, Tipton, Walsall, Willenhall, Wolverhampton, Wood Green, and the local tower.

Ringing began soon after three o'clock, and during the afternoon and evening touches in various methods were brought round, including a well-struck course of Cambridge Surprise Major. A short service was held in church, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. J. C. Hamilton), who, after giving the members a warm welcome, delivered a practical address, his subject being the use of bells as compared with the trumpets used by the priests in olden times to call people to worship—and emphasised the importance of the office of ringers.

Tea was served in the Schoolroom, and the wants of the hungry ones were attended to by Mrs. and Miss Hamilton, and other ladies.—Votes of thanks were accorded those who helped to make the meeting a success.

The next meeting is to be held at Sedgley, on May 6th.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

OLDSWINFORD RECTOR'S WAR-TIME ADVICE.

A very successful meeting of the Northern Branch was held on Saturday last at Oldswinford. For a January meeting the weather was everything that could be desired, and over 70 members were present from Belbroughton, Brierley Hill, Clent, Cradley, Tipton, Halesowen, Harborne, Kidderminster, Old Hill, Oldswinford, Stourbridge, Selly Oak, Smethwick, Wollaston, Wolverley, Wordsley, Edgbaston, Worcester, Rowley, etc.

The service in the church, which was well attended, was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. I. G. Owen), who extended a very hearty welcome to the Association, and reminded his hearers of the many changes that had taken place since their last meeting held there in 1905. He had no doubt, he said, that this terrible war was making a great mark on their association. He was proud to think that their members had responded so well to the call of their King and country. No doubt the call had created difficulties, but they would be gladly met. In passing, he referred to the fact that it was not desirable that peals should be rung at the moment, but said it was most desirable that the bells should be rung for service. He reminded those present of the custom of ringing the bell at 12 noon, and asked each and every one when he heard it to say a short prayer for all those who had answered the call. There would, he continued, be a great day for all ringers when our brave lads came home, when victory was won by our Allies and ourselves, and when peace was declared. No doubt sorrow would be felt in many homes, and he prayed to God that the blessings of peace would soon come. He thought now was the time to train as ringers those who were too young to join the services, and he trusted this would be taken up seriously. The bells brought them many messages of hope and joy through these dark days, and he hoped our hearts would go out to those who had gone to serve their King and country.

After the service, tea was provided in the Institute, to which over 70 sat down. It was pleasing to note the number of lady ringers who were present.—At the business meeting, which followed, the Rector was voted to the chair. Hagley was selected for the next quarterly meeting, to be held on June 17th. Five new members were elected.

On the proposition of Mr. A. E. Parsons, and seconded by Mr. H. Mason, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector for arranging the service and for his address, and also to those who had provided the splendid tea, which they had so thoroughly enjoyed. The Rector, in responding, said how pleased he was to have the meeting there, and hoped it would not be another 11 years before they came again. He also heartily thanked the ladies and all those who had made the gathering such a great success.

Several touches on the handbells were brought round after tea. During the afternoon the bells were kept going in the tower in the standard methods, and it was very gratifying to see the lady members from Smethwick ringing in several touches. Later, the more experienced members indulged in Superlative, Cambridge, Bristol and London Surprise Major, and this brought a very successful and enjoyable meeting to a close.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

SATISFACTORY FINANCIAL POSITION.

The annual meeting of the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held on the 11th inst. in the Guild Room at the Tamworth Arms Hotel. The Presiding Ringing Master (Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., B.C.L.) occupied the chair, and there was a large attendance of members.

All the officers were re-elected for the ensuing twelve months, and were thanked for their past services.

In presenting the balance sheet, the Hon. Secretary (Mr. A. Paddon Smith) called attention to the extremely satisfactory state of the Guild's affairs, from the financial point of view. The Guild was not, of course, a commercial concern out to make money, they had no shareholders clamouring for dividends, but it was nevertheless always "grateful and comforting" to find that the bank balance was inclined to increase. This year it was slightly more than £3 up over the previous year, and this, notwithstanding the fact that the peals had been booked practically up to date.

It was decided to hold the annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner on Saturday, March 4th next, at "Ye Olde Royal" Hotel, where it has been held for many years, and where the excellent cuisine and service have always given complete satisfaction.

Will intending visitors please note that on this occasion the dinner will commence half an hour earlier than usual, at 6 o'clock instead of 6.30.

Four new members were elected, and it was agreed to hold the next quarterly meeting at Sutton Coldfield, on a date in April, which will be announced in due course.

It was also unanimously decided to open a subscription list for the purpose of an oak table for St. Martin's belfry.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.—On Christmas Day, at 6 a.m., for the celebration of Holy Communion at the Parish Church, 882 Grandire Triples: H. Coote 1, C. H. Howard (conductor) 2, H. E. Hammond 3, G. Lindridge 4, W. H. Dyson 5, Saddler Staff-Sergt. E. Foster, A.S.C., 6, E. F. Slade 7, W. H. Hammond 8.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.**BRIDGWATER DEANERY BRANCH.**

There was a large attendance of members of the Bridgwater Deanery branch of the Bath and Wells Association at the annual meeting of the branch held at Bridgwater on Saturday week. The towers represented were: Bridgwater, Emore, West Huntspill, Wembdon, Ilminster, Taunton, Burnham and Middlezoy. Service was held in St. Mary's Church, at which the Vicar (the Rev. J. J. Langham) gave an appropriate address. Tea was afterwards served in Holy Trinity Parish Hall, generously provided by the Rev. E. de St. Croix, chairman of the branch, and Vicar of Holy Trinity, who presided over the subsequent business meeting.

In his annual report, the Hon. Secretary (Mr. A. E. Moulton) stated that it had been decided not to stick to the hard and fast rule of quarterly meetings, but in future to meet in April, June and September so as to avoid the bad weather. When the distance was long arrangements would be made to convey members by brakes, the branch bearing part of the cost. Thanks were accorded the Vicars of the churches where meetings had been held, including the chairman, who entertained them year after year on the occasion of the annual meeting, for the hospitality extended to the branch. As with everything else, the war had taken a good deal of enthusiasm out of many keen ringers, and in many parishes the towers had been so depleted that ringing was practically at a standstill. Many of the members were doing their bit in the trenches, and others were being prepared to take their places as they fell out. God grant that they might be spared to return. During the year one honorary and 19 ordinary members had been elected. "Taking into consideration the serious time through which we are passing," concluded the report, "we may congratulate ourselves that things are no worse. I trust that before the next annual meeting comes round this terrible war will be over, and that the joy bells throughout England will have sent up a joyous melody such as they have never done before."

The financial statement showed a credit balance of £1 17s. 6d.

The report and balance sheet were adopted.

SECRETARY'S GOOD WORK.

The Rev. E. de Croix was unanimously re-elected chairman, and in acknowledgment said the work was very close to his heart, and, as he had previously remarked, it was only medical reasons that prevented him from ringing. He congratulated the hon. secretary upon what must appear to all of them to be an extremely good report, considering all things, especially the war. They at Durlough were left with only one ringer, all the others having gone to serve their country (applause). Might God spare them to return! In other ways it had been an exceptional year. There had been calls of one sort and another, and there had been difficulties in getting about, whilst there was the natural feeling they all had with regard to the war. Bereavement had come into many homes, and it had been a time of difficulty and strain. Their secretary was unfortunate in his first year in starting when the war was really at its height, but he had, notwithstanding, done remarkably well (applause). Whereas so many institutions and societies were finding their finances going back, it was a satisfaction to know that their branch stood in credit. In going about as he had done—he had not missed a single meeting, and he never did if he could possibly help it—one felt at the present moment that there was growing amongst them a real feeling of ringing brotherhood, and that was how it should be. They were reminded that afternoon so well in the sermon that they were fellow workers together in the Christian Church, and that the work of bell ringing, if done well, was done to the glory of God. Practices should be done well in order that when they rang the bells, calling people to service, they might also ring the bells as well as possible, and that after ringing others to church they should occupy their place in the public worship of God. In regard to the tea, he was only too pleased to entertain the ringers, for it was the only opportunity he had during the year of doing so. In conclusion, he again thanked the members for re-electing him, and in his humble way he would try to do all he could for the good of the association.

Mr. A. E. Moulton was re-elected hon. secretary and treasurer, and Mr. A. E. Coles branch representative on the Central Committee. Four new members were elected, including two ladies. It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Greinton on April 29th.

A PRESENTATION.

The Chairman mentioned that the next business was to make a presentation to their late hon. secretary, Mr. W. Sellick, of Huntspill. They had arranged the meeting for a date when it was thought Mr. Sellick would be at home, but in a letter received from him he regretted that he had had to go away earlier than he expected, and therefore he could not be present. He was sure all the members appreciated the very real hard spade work which Mr. Sellick did during the four years he was in office. He was always keen, and was always getting about the Deanery, and was always willing to help towers to the best of his ability. He had the interest of the branch very close to his heart, and they had promoted the present little testimonial to show something of their real appreciation of his past services, and to show their esteem for his genial courtesy and kindness in carrying out the duties of secretary of the branch. Therefore, had he been present, he (the Chairman) would have had great pleasure, and he did in his absence, in presenting to him, in the name of the branch, that very beautiful case of cutlery. The members appointed the secretary, Mr. Coles, and himself (the Chairman) as a committee to arrange the pre-

sentation, and they had done their best to buy what looked like a really useful and good present, which he might keep by him in remembrance of the work which he did amongst them, and as a token of their appreciation for his past services. The accompanying address was the work of Mr. A. E. Coles, junr., and it was a very beautiful piece of engraving, and showed that they had quite a genius amongst them. The inscription on the plate of the case was: "Presented to Mr. W. Sellick as a token of esteem and regard for past services, by members of the local Deanery branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association of Change Ringers, January 8th, 1916." The wording of the address was "Presented to Mr. W. Sellick by the following members of the Bridgwater Deanery branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association of Change Ringers, with a set of cutlery, in token of their respect and esteem, on the 8th day of January, 1916."

Mr. Jeanes reported that in regard to the proposal of giving instruction in change ringing, he had visited the towers of Wembdon, Middlezoy, and Chedzoy, being accompanied at Middlezoy by Mr. A. E. Coles. The result, however, had been rather disappointing, save in the case of Chedzoy, where a wonderful improvement had taken place.

The Rev. Havergal said in regard to Middlezoy the reason of the poor attendance was due to a misunderstanding as to the date of the visit. If Mr. Jeanes and Mr. Coles would visit them again he could promise them a good attendance.

Mr. Jeanes said he should be very pleased to make another visit, because he had change ringing at heart, but he was sorry to say it was the lowest in achievement in the Bridgwater Deanery of the whole Diocesan Association.

The Rev. Havergal expressed gratitude to the Vicar of Holy Trinity for providing the tea, and to the ladies who had made the arrangements for the meal.—Mr. A. E. Coles seconded, and the motion was heartily approved.

A vote of thanks was also accorded to the Vicar of Bridgwater for his sermon at the afternoon service, and for granting the use of the bells of St. Mary's.

Both during the afternoon and after the meeting touches were rung on the bells of St. Mary's Church.

DEATH OF ARCHDEACON CAMPBELL.**A LOVER OF BELLS.**

Ringers, especially those residing in the Eye district of Suffolk, will learn with great regret of the death of the Rev. Colin A. F. Campbell, Archdeacon of Wisbech and Rector of Feltwell, Norfolk. The deceased gentleman had been in failing health for the past two months, but his illness was not considered serious until a few days before his death, which took place at Aldeburgh, at the residence of his sister, Mrs. Harvey, on January 6th, at the age of 52 years. Before being ordained, in 1893, deceased was secretary to the Earl of Kintore, Governor of South Australia. For two years he was curate of Hartlebury, Worcestershire, and became domestic chaplain to the Archbishop of Canterbury. He afterwards held the livings of Thornham Magna, Suffolk; Street (Somerset), Worlingworth, Suffolk, and was appointed Rector of Feltwell in 1912. A few months later, Feltwell went from the Norwich into the Ely Diocese, owing to the boundaries being altered. He was then appointed the first Archdeacon of Wisbech.

He had a wonderful love for bells, and it was through his own efforts that the bells of Thornham Magna, Street and Worlingworth were rehung and augmented, Thornham to six and Street and Worlingworth to eight. Although not a ringer himself he took a great interest in the art, and whenever he went to his old home (Thornham) he always paid a visit to the belfry. He has been described as a broad-minded cleric in the real sense of the word, and he realised the importance of practical Christianity. Although his sojourns in the parishes, of which he was incumbent, were short, the parishioners not only benefited by his ministrations, but they found in him a staunch friend, with whom they were loath to part; and it is the record of many little acts of kindness which will tend to make his name imperishable amongst all who knew him. He was beloved by all, and his death will be greatly deplored.

The funeral took place at Aldeburgh on January 11th. A large number of friends, including deputations from all the parishes where he had lived, gathered together to pay their last respect. As a proof of the esteem in which he was held in the Church, the Bishops of Ely, Bath and Wells and Suffolk were present, as well as a large number of neighbouring clergy. There were many floral emblems. A memorial service was held at St. Mary's, Thornham Magna on January 16th, the Rector (the Rev. E. F. Bingley) officiating. The bells were rung muffled before and after the service, as well as on the day of the funeral. Several touches of Treble Bob were rung, and 720 each of Cambridge Surprise and Plain Bob, the following taking part: A. Berry, C. Nunn, G. Kemp, G. Cattermole, E. Youngs, J. Martin, P. Steggals, H. Moss and W. Rose.

OFFERTORY FOR RINGERS' FUND.

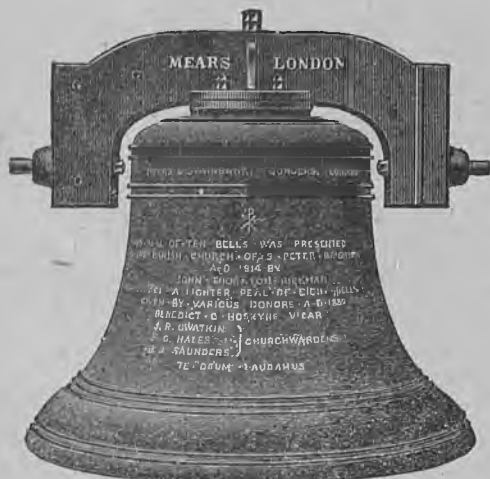
Unable, owing to military restrictions to ring their church bells after dark, the members of the Colchester band rang touches of Minor and Major on handbells as the congregation entered, and left the church on the occasion of a New Year's Eve service held at 8.30 p.m., in place of that customary at midnight. The offertory at the service was, as usual, devoted to the Ringers' Fund, in recognition of their voluntary services during the year.

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WELL-KNOWN RINGER "MISSING."

CORPL. F. T. MARTIN.

Corpl. Frank T. Martin, son of Mr. J. Martin, of 3, Red Lion Cottages, Wealdstone, and a member of the 7th Battalion Rifle Brigade, has been missing since July 30th. News was received of him in a letter from a comrade, Pte H. Wooster, who, writing to Mr. Martin, says: "Your son and myself were together in a wood just behind one of the trenches. The place I must not say, but this was the spot where your son was hit, and I asked him if I could do anything for him, but he said 'No, go and support the boys in the trench,' and I had not got ten yards myself when I was shot through the thigh. I saw no more of him, but the place was a death-trap, for the shells fell in the woods in hundreds, and it made escape impossible."

Corpl. F. T. Martin will be remembered as having at the outset of his ringing career gained the notable and unique distinction of conducting, on handbells, the first peal he ever rang (Holt's ten-part from 1-2). This was accomplished with three other youthful enthusiasts, one of whom (the 7-8 man), in common with the conductor, had not rung a 5,000 before. The two other members of the band (Mr. George Ship and Mr. C. N. Leman) had not previously rung a handbell peal. The perseverance and thoroughness of these youths was to be admired from the fact that, meeting one evening without an umpire, and starting peal fashion, they completed the peal, but refrained from publishing it, until at a subsequent attempt it was rung with an umpire.



CORPL. F. T. MARTIN.

Shortly after this Corpl. Martin went to reside in the neighbourhood of Reading, and with the Caversham band learnt to ring Superlative and Cambridge. Enjoying the friendship and tuition of Mr. Tom Hibbert, he became an accomplished and safe tower bell ringer. Returning to Harrow Weald he joined the Oxhey band, and with them went further into handbell and Surprise method ringing, scoring peals of Stedman Caters and Cinques in hand, as well as peals of Bristol and New Cumberland Surprise on tower bells. While associated with this band everyone had a liking and admiration for "Frank," who, by his manly and upright bearing, won the confidence and friendship of all.

At the outbreak of hostilities he joined the forces, and was quickly picked out for promotion, having been highly spoken of by his commanding officer in a personal letter recently written to his father. The sympathy of the ringing Exercise will be extended to his parents in their present time of anxiety and trouble.

RINGER'S SUDDEN DEATH AFTER MUFFLED RINGING.

After having assisted in the muffled ringing at Wallingford, Berks, on Intercession Sunday, both before and after evening service, Mr. George Edmund Allsworth died suddenly in bed. The deceased, who was 54 years of age, had been a ringer for nearly 20 years, and had always enjoyed good health. On January 2nd, after returning from the belfry, he had supper as usual, but, soon after getting to bed, complained of sickness and pains in his head. His wife sent for a doctor, but before medical assistance arrived, deceased had passed away. Death was due to cerebral hemorrhage, and at an inquest which was held, a verdict to that effect was returned.

THE FIRST PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

Tuesday week was probably the 200th anniversary of the first peal of Grandsire Caters ever rung. The qualification is necessary because it is not certain whether the year was 1716 or 1717. The peal was rung by the London Scholars, who are believed to be the original society out of which the Cumberland Youths were formed. Among the Osborne MSS. in the British Museum is the following: "The first known performance of the London Scholars was a peal of 5040 Grandsire Caters at St. Bride's, in Fleet Street, on January 11th, 1716-17. The frame put up was taken down and destroyed when the church was repaired in 1796. This was supposed to be the only peal of Caters rung whilst St. Bride's contained ten bells, and was said to be the first known peal of Caters ever completed by any company in the kingdom; which was probably the case, as no other peal upon ten bells appears upon record to precede this performance."

January 13th was the anniversary of one of the only three peals of Imperial Treble Bob ever known to be rung. It was a 6048, in 3 hrs. 58 mins., at St. Michael's Coslany, Norwich, in 1772.

January 18th was the anniversary of the first peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, a peal which was also, at the time, the longest length in the method. This was a 7126 rung in 5 hrs. 17 mins., in the year 1844, and of which it is recorded "The bold and regular striking attracted the notice of the public, and is allowed to exceed any other performance ever attempted on twelve bells." Among those who took part in the peal were Charles Middleton and Henry Hubbard.

The anniversary of the first peal of Grandsire Cinques occurred on Wednesday, for on January 19th, 1724, the College Youths "rung completely a peal of 5060 Grandsire Cinques, being the first that ever was done. The persons that performed the same were as follows, viz.: Wm. Woodruff 1, Benjn. Annable 2, Edward Chadwell 3, Jno. Ward 4, Jno. Pearson 5, Robt. Catlin 6, Robt. Carter 7, Wm. Thompson 8, Wm. Jackson 9, P. Merrygarths 10, Math. East 11, Thos. Rowland 12."

In 1767, on January 19th, the London Youths rang 6200 Oxford Treble Bob Royal at Shoreditch, in 4 hrs. 46 mins., but this proved afterwards to be a false composition.

On January 20th, 1777, at the same church, the Cumberlands rang a 6240 of Treble Bob Royal in 4 hrs. 34 mins.

Readers are invited to send copies of old records, to which they may have access, for insertion in this column.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

A most successful and enjoyable quarterly meeting of the Guild was held at Stoke-in-Coventry on Saturday last, and attended by 29 members from Allesley, Birmingham, Coventry, Chilvers Coton, Northampton, Nuneaton, and Rugby. The bells were raised soon after 3 o'clock, and set going to the tune of Stedman Triples. Touches in other methods were also tapped off till 4.30, when a short service was held, which was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. A. Hyslop), who also gave the members a very appropriate address, which was much appreciated.

After service, the ringers adjourned to the Parish Room, where a sumptuous tea had been very kindly provided by the Rector and Mrs. Hyslop. After tea, Stedman Triples and Grandsire Caters were rung on the handbells, and some tune ringing by Messrs. Hessian, Malins and White delighted everyone, especially the ladies present, who evidently had not been entertained with handbells before.

The business meeting was then held, and the Ringing Master (Mr. James George) and secretary (Mr. H. Kettle) were instructed to make the arrangements for the annual meeting to be held at Warwick on Easter Monday.—Three new members were elected, and a vote of condolence was passed with the president (the Rev. H. C. A. Back) whose brother, Capt. Eric Back, lost his life on the "Natal."—A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector and Mrs. Hyslop for providing the tea, and to the Rector for the use of the bells, and for his address.

The tower was afterwards again visited, and the bells kept going till after 8 p.m. The methods rung included Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich and Bob Major, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise.

SUNDAY GATHERING AT THETFORD.

On Sunday last, by kind permission of the Rector of Thetford, the bells of St. Peter's Church were available for visiting ringers. For morning service, and also in the afternoon, touches of Bob Major, Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung, those taking part being Messrs. R. Lathbury, R. Sharp and P. Pinder, of Newmarket; P. Fordham, of Mildenhall; Corpl. J. W. Barker, of Bedford; and Messrs. A. Macro, G. Flatt and T. Fitzjohn, of Thetford. At Mr. Fitzjohn's residence, on handbells, before tea, a course of Grandsire Caters and one of Double Norwich were brought round. This friendly gathering was very much enjoyed by all.

MR. JAMES GEORGE'S NEW APPOINTMENT.

At a meeting at Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham, on Friday, Mr. James George was unanimously elected Ringing Master, and to take charge of the tower and bells. There is a peal of eight at this church, and some noted Birmingham ringers have been associated with it in the past.

MUFFLED RINGING FOR DEAD HEROES

The following were among the muffled touches rung for those who have fallen in the war:—

IRTHLINGBORO', NORTHANTS.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, for morning service, with the bells muffled, 308 Grandsire Triples: J. Tyler (first touch on eight) 1, A. Tyler 2, J. Ward 3, A. Perkins 4, J. Mawby 5, J. Garratt 6, W. Perkins (conductor) 7, S. Ward 8. For evening service, 504 Stedman Triples, and a course of London Surprise Major: J. Mawby 1, A. Perkins 2, C. Newman 3, W. Perkins 4, J. Houghton 5, J. Ward 6, J. Garratt 7, A. Tyler 8.

CIRENCESTER, GLOS.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes): A. Hayward 1, F. W. Bond 2, J. King 3, F. J. Lewis (conductor) 4, J. C. Eden 5, J. J. Jefferies 6, H. C. Bond 7, H. T. Gardner 8, W. J. Carter 9, W. J. Finch 10.—On Thursday, Jan. 6th, at Holy Trinity Church, Watermoor, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): J. E. Waters 1, F. J. Lewis (conductor) 2, A. Hayward 3, A. C. Harmer 4, J. C. Eden 5, H. Lewis 6, W. J. Carter 7, J. J. Jefferies 8. The above touches were rung with the bells half-muffled.

SHIPLEY, YORKS.—At the Parish Church of St. Paul, on Sunday, January 2nd, with the bells muffled, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1264 changes), in 46 mins.: H. Utley (longest length in the method) 1, T. B. Kendall (conductor) 2, E. Simpson 3, W. Joyce 4, E. Murgatroyd 5, J. Joyce 6, J. Ross 7, G. A. Mettleton 8.

PENDLETON, MANCHESTER.—On Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples: F. Smith 1, Cpl. A. R. Macdonald, R.E., 2, W. E. Clark 3, J. Winterbottom 4, G. E. Turner 5, S. Greenhalgh 6, H. Chapman 7, C. Featherstone 8. For evensong, another 504: F. Smith 1, G. E. Turner 2, W. E. Clark 3, J. Winterbottom 4, S. Greenhalgh 5, W. H. Shuker 6, H. Chapman 7, C. Cash (Swindon) 8. Corpl. Macdonald, who belongs to Bournemouth, is in hospital at Manchester recovering from the effects of enteric contracted at the Dardanelles. The Pendleton band will be glad to see or hear from any other soldier ringer who happens to be sent to either of the Manchester hospitals. Pendleton is only a penny tram ride out of the city on the Swinton or Worsley cars.

ISHAM, NORTHANTS.—After Intercessional evensong, on Jan. 2nd, with the bells muffled, 720 Plain Bob Minor.

LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, for evening service, 640 Kent Treble Bob Major: F. Senechall 1, J. Andrews 2, R. Hickton 3, A. R. Hickton 4, R. Drage 5, N. Widdowson 6, T. Hutchinson 7, J. Bailey 8. After service, 312 Stedman Triples: F. Senechall 1, J. Andrews 2, T. Hutchinson 3, R. Drage 4, A. R. Hickton 5, J. Harrison 6, J. Bailey 7, N. Widdowson 8.

EAST PECKHAM.—On Sunday morning, Jan. 2nd, at St. Michael's Church, with the bells half-muffled, 720 Bob Doubles, in 27 mins., by the local band. In the evening the East Peckham ringers journeyed to Hadlow, and, with the help of two of the local men, rang a quarter-peal of Doubles with 7-6-8 behind, in 50 minutes, the bells being muffled.

STANSTED.—Essex Association.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, the bells were rung muffled, for morning service, at the Parish Church.—On Monday evening, Jan. 3rd, with the bells muffled, 360 Grandsire Doubles: H. G. Watts 1, W. W. Watts 2, G. Gray 3, A. Jordan 4, H. W. Watts 5, W. Watts (conductor) 6, T. J. Watts 7. Also 720 Plain Bob Minor: W. Watts 1, G. Gray 2, A. Jordan 3, H. W. Watts 4, T. J. Watts 5, W. Watts (conductor) 6.

KINGSCLIFFE, PETERBOROUGH.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, for morning service, and after evening service, touches of Grandsire Doubles: H. Bailey 1, C. M. Orlebar 2, J. T. Blake (conductor) 3, E. Adams 4, P. Roberts.

BRAINTREE.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, for the evensong intercession service, at the Parish Church, 1008 Grandsire Triples: Lance-Corpl. H. Phillips (A.S.C.) 1, C. H. Howard (conductor) 2, F. Webb 3, H. D. Hammond 4, W. H. Dyson 5, Saddler Staff-Sergt. E. Foster (A.S.C.) 6, G. Lindridge 7, E. F. Slade 8.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, for intercession services, 336 Stedman Triples: A. Crane 1, W. Mead 2, J. Mead 3, H. Morris 4, H. Sear 5, E. Marks 6, W. Sear (conductor) 7, V. Sear 8. 420 Stedman Triples: A. Crane, J. Mead, W. Mead, H. Morris, L. Meager, E. Marks, H. Sear (conductor) 7, W. Sear. A touch was also rung after evening service.

TYLDESLEY, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday morning, Jan. 2nd, with the bells deeply muffled, 840 Grandsire Triples: H. Watts 1, James Allred 2, Robert Allred (conductor) 3, Harry Allred 4, W. Hindley 5, John T. Allred 6, Herbert Allred 7, J. Watts 8. For evening service, 672 Grandsire Triples: H. Watts 1, James Allred 2, Harry Allred 3, W. Hindley 4, Robert Allred 5, John T. Allred 6, Herbert Allred (conductor) 7, J. Watts 8.

SHREWSBURY.—On Jan. 2nd, with the bells muffled, 148 Stedman Triples, conducted by C. R. Lilley. Also 287 Grandsire Caters: T. Peel 1, J. Tudor 2, W. Brooks 3, G. Scarratt 4, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 5, T. W. Belton 6, W. Stockdale 7, G. Jones 8, A. Fullick 9, H. Jones 10; and 288 Kent Treble Bob Major: G. Scarratt 1, J. Tudor 2, W. Brooks 3, T. M. Belton 4, W. Stockdale 5, G. Jones 6, A. Fullick 7, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 8.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, for evening service, with the bells fully muffled, 360 Plain Bob Minor: A. Bewers 1, A. Speller 2, R. W. Everard 3, J. Tarbun 4, A. Tarbun, junr., 5, A. Tarbun, senr., 6. Also 360: A. Speller 1, J. Tarbun 2, R. W. Everard 3, E. Runter 4, A. Tarbun, junr., 5, G. Tarbun, senr., 6.

LANGPORT, SOMERSET.—On Intercession Sunday, touches of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob, the following taking part: A. Case, T. W. Creed, F. Locke, G. Locke, T. Lloyd, W. Tout, W. White, C. Sandford, Sergt. G. R. Mills.

MARTOCK, SOMERSET.—On Intercession Sunday, the bells of All Saints', Martock, were rung half-muffled. For morning service, touches of Grandsire Triples: W. Fort 1, W. Gould 2, F. Strickland 3, F. Farrant (conductor) 4, A. E. Worner 5, W. Strickland 6, F. Sweet 7, J. Wescombe 8. For evening service, 720 Grandsire Minor, with 7-8 covering: W. Fort 1, W. Gould 2, F. Strickland 3, F. Sweet 4, W. Strickland 5, F. Farrant (conductor) 6, S. Gould 7, J. Wescombe 8. Notice was given to the parishioners of the muffled ringing by the following being posted outside the Church House by the Vicar: "The bells will be rung muffled on January 2nd, in honour of our brave 120,000 dead."

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.—At St. Mary's Church, on Tuesday evening, Jan. 4th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins., with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the men of Salehurst who have fallen in the war: J. Goodsell 1, F. Morgan 2, H. Edwards 3, W. Cramp 4, W. Hoad 5, W. H. Perry 6, T. Booth (conductor) 7, E. Mills 8.

STONY STANTON.—Midland Counties Association.—At St. Michael's Church, in an unsuccessful attempt for Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, upwards of 2,000 changes were rung on Saturday, January 8th, with the bells half-muffled: C. Brown 1, H. Briggs (conductor) 2, N. Walker 3, G. Wood 4, W. Hyde Inglesant 5, H. Wright 6, C. Briggs 7, W. Jones 8. Messrs. Brown and Wright hail from Sapcote, G. Wood from Sharnford, W. H. Inglesant from Broughton Astley. The remainder belong to the Stony Stanton branch of the society.

Other touches are unavoidably held over.

RINGERS HELP RED CROSS.

The church bell ringers of Yaxley, near Peterborough, are to be heartily congratulated on the result of their very paise-worthy efforts to raise funds for the British Red Cross Society this Christmas. Under the leadership of Mr. Oswald Richardson, they visited various residents in the parishes of Farceet and Yaxley and gave excellent exhibitions of the art of change ringing, interspersed with well-known tunes on the handbells, and were received by all they visited with appreciation and kindness. Had the weather been more favourable to allow of a larger number of visits, there is no doubt that the amount collected (£4 14s.) would have been considerably augmented. The ringers wish heartily to thank the public for the kind reception accorded them, and for the generous contributions received for the funds. The amount, as stated above, was handed over to the Vicar, who has forwarded it to headquarters. The names of the ringers are as follows: Mr. Oswald Richardson (conductor), Mr. Fredk. Hall, Mr. Alec Lenton, Mr. Frank Lewis, Mr. G. Burton and Mr. G. Hobbs, the last-named kindly taking the place of his son, Mr. Walter Hobbs, who recently left Yaxley to take up a new post on the G.N.R.

MR. HENRY DAINS INDISPOSED.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Having been rather seriously indisposed for some weeks, Mr. Dains asks me to write you tendering his best thanks to the conductors who have so kindly called some of his peals recently, as reported in "The Ringing World":—

(1) A peal of Treble Bob Major in November last by Alderman J. S. Pritchett at King's Norton, Birmingham.

(2) A peal of Bob Royal, at Whitley Bay, Northumberland, in December last, by Mr. Joseph A. Gofton.

(3) A peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major in December last, at North Stoneham, Hampshire, by Mr. George Williams.

Each of these records, as they came along, cheered him up to liveliness, reviving pleasant memories of days gone by. Mr. Dains has been confined to his room for days at intervals by medical restrictions and the conditions of the weather, and he hopes that friendly correspondents will kindly accept this intimation and await his convalescence for replies to their letters, which it is hoped will not be long delayed. Thanking you in anticipation, yours faithfully,

47, Richmond Road, Barnbury, N

D. K. P.

THE USE OF CHIMING APPARATUS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I notice in his letter in a recent issue that Mr. J. R. Jerram does not agree with the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards regarding chiming apparatus. As a practical ringer and chimier of many years' experience, I can fully endorse what Mr. Edwards says. Extensive and serious damage has been done to fine bells, and good rings of bells are never rung owing to the introduction of what he properly describes as "an infernal machine."—Yours truly,

Liverpool, January 6th, 1916.

WILLIAM DAVIES.

DEDICATION OF NEW BELLS AT CROFTON. DONOR KILLED IN ACTION.

New Year's Day, 1916, will long be remembered as a red-letter day in the ancient parish of Crofton, near Wakefield. On that day a new peal of six bells was dedicated in the fine old Parish Church of All Saints'. The church is a cruciform structure of ancient date, having a central tower, and is well situated on a hill. Prior to the New Year, the church possessed but three bells. The two smallest are not dated, but are old bells. The largest bears the inscription: "Venite Exultemus Domino," 1663. These bells have been to Messrs. Taylor and Co., of the well-known Loughborough Foundry, and have been retuned and refitted, and three larger bells added to make a ring of six. They have all been tuned on the Simpson five-tone principle, and are hung in a massive iron and steel frame, with all the latest fittings. The tone and "go" of the bells are perfect, and leave nothing to be desired, and reflect the greatest credit on the founders. The weight of the tenor is 15½ cwt. This ring of six bells is the finest and heaviest within a radius of at least nine miles.

The bells were dedicated "to the Glory of God and in loving memory of William Hurst, of Crofton Old Hall, and Isabella Cockburn Hurst, his wife, the gift of David Lyell, Second Lieutenant, the Royal Scots Lothian Regiment," by the Venerable R. C. M. Harvey, Archdeacon of Huddersfield, who is himself an old ringer. The kind donor was not spared to see the result of his munificent gift, he having been killed in action during the war. Special hymns were sung, which included "Lifted safe within the tower, now our bells are set on high." After the bells had been dedicated a plain course of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung by the Wragby company, who had the honour of opening the bells. As these bells are rung on the ground floor, in the body of the church, and in full view of the congregation, much interest was taken in the ringers' operations.

At the close of the service, a well-struck 720 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung by the Wragby men: J. Brewin 1, W. Jackson 2, G. Harrison 3, F. Atkinson 4, J. Adams 5, J. A. Adams (conductor) 6.

The Wragby ringers, together with the Ackworth ringers, who had been invited, partook of an excellent tea at the Rectory. After tea the Ackworth ringers rang a 720 of Bob Minor: F. Lindsay 1, A. Lamprey 2, H. Moss 3, K. Macaulay 4, F. Atkinson (Wragby) 5, C. E. Lamprey (conductor) 6. Next the Wragby ringers, in the same order as before, rang a 720 College Pleasure, and then "fired" the bells sixteen times to represent the New Year. The bells were then lowered in fine style, and this brought to a close an eventful day in the history of Crofton.

On the following afternoon the Wragby ringers walked over to Crofton, and rang 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the brave men who have lost their lives in the great war. The ringers were entertained to tea by Mr. Shaw, one of the churchwardens.

WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL SOCIETY. AN INNOVATION CELEBRATED.

A very pleasant evening was spent by the members of the Wakefield Cathedral Society and a few friends, on Tuesday of last week at the Manor House Hotel, the occasion being the celebration of his appointment as steeplekeeper of the cathedral by Mr. J. T. Eason. Formerly the post has been filled by a member appointed by the company, and paid a small sum from the annual salary of the ringers. It was thought that the position should be officially recognised, and a recent application resulted in the appointment of Mr. Eason by the Vicar and churchwardens, who appreciated the necessity of having a practical ringer to look after the excellent peal of twelve bells in the tower. They agreed to pay a salary to the steeplekeeper in future out of the church funds.

It was to celebrate this innovation that Mr. Eason invited the ringers to a most excellent supper, and fifteen members and friends sat down to a very substantial repast, provided by the worthy hostess of the Manor House Hotel. Signaller W. Turner, 1/4th King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, and a member of the Cathedral Society, being home on leave from the trenches, was present, to the great delight of his "brother strings." His stirring stories of trench life, and graphic description of a gas attack on December 19th, were listened to with the greatest interest.

The usual loyal toasts were given, and the health of Mr. Eason was drunk with musical honours.—Mr. Eason, in acknowledging the toast, said that he hoped that the Society would make the dinner an annual one in future.—The toasts were interspersed with handbell ringing and songs, the latter being accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. T. R. Hensher.—The chair was occupied by the senior member of the society, Mr. A. Scott, and a pleasing feature was the presence of Mr. Scott's father, a very old ringer at the Cathedral, although now unable to take any active part.—A hearty vote of thanks to the hostess concluded a most enjoyable evening.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A successful practice meeting of the South Western Division was held at Loughton, on Saturday week, about 22 members and friends, representing Chigwell Row, Leytonstone, West Ham, Woodford, Walthamstow, Bromley, Chelsfield, Deptford, and the local men, participating in touches of Stedman, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Superlative. The bells, which were available from 3 to 6 p.m., were half-muffled, as a tribute to the soldiers and sailors who have given their lives in their country's cause. As ringing was not permitted after dark the evening was devoted to handbells.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. DEVIZES BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at St. James' Church, Trowbridge, on Saturday, January 8th, 1916, and being a fine day, was well attended. Ringing commenced at 3 o'clock, and continued until 4.30, when a short service was held in the church, at which the Diocesan form of service was used. The Rector of Trowbridge (the Rev. R. A. Nash), assisted by the Rev. J. H. Keen, conducted the service, and the singing was well sustained by the ringers present, under the guidance of the organist, who kindly gave his services for the occasion.—A most impressive address was given by the Rector, and the whole service was much appreciated by all present. The company afterwards adjourned to the Old Vestry Room, where a good tea was thoroughly enjoyed.

The business meeting was then held, kindly presided over by the Rev. P. A. Nash, who was supported by the hon. secretary (Mr. H. Brownlee West), and ringers from St. John's, Devizes; Holt, Melksham, Trowbridge, Southbroom, Chirton, Westbury, Bath Abbey, Swindon and Bradford-on-Avon.

The secretary's annual report and yearly balance sheet were read, approved of and duly confirmed.—The report showed that eleven meetings had been held during the year, with an average attendance of 24. The members of the tower of St. Mary's, Potterne, had joined the Guild, and at the towers of St. Mary's, Devizes, and St. Mary's, Steeple Ashton, the bells had been restored and rehung. The war had very severely interfered with the ringing in many of the towers, and death has deprived the Guild of a very much-respected honorary member, the Rev. J. Hamlyn Hill, Vicar of Erchfont. They had also lost, through the war, several of their ringing members, whose deaths they much regretted. The membership for 1915 was 197 ringing members and six honorary members; of these 95 were change ringers and 102 round ringers. Although the subscriptions from two of the towers had not yet been paid up, the balance in hand was slightly in advance of last year. The thanks of the Guild were due to the under-mentioned who had generously provided tea for the ringers at the meetings held in their respective parishes, viz., the Rev. Canon Gardiner, R.D., Vicar of Southbroom; the Rev. V. J. Dale, Rector of Fittleton; and Mrs. Llewellyn, Churchwarden of St. Mary's, Devizes.

The officers for the ensuing year were chosen: Mr. Sidney Hillier, of Devizes, was appointed chairman in place of the Rev. J. A. Sturton, resigned; Mr. H. Brownlee West, of "Avalon," Devizes, was unanimously re-elected honorary secretary, with many thanks for his services during the past five years.

The three next meeting places were decided upon as follows: January, 29th, Potterne; February 12th, Westbury; and March 4th, St. John's, Devizes.

RINGER'S WEDDING.

A well-known member of the Exercise, Mr. William Shepherd, of Hersham, Surrey, was married on Wednesday week, the bride being Miss Ethel May Harding, of the neighbouring town of Addlestone. The ceremony took place at Addlestone Parish Church, the officiating clergyman being the Vicar (the Rev. A. Cumming). The bride was given away by her father, and wore a cream silk dress, with white tulle veil and orange blossom. Her sisters (the Misses Florence and Lilly Harding) were bridesmaids, and the duties of best man were carried out by Mr. A. F. Shepherd, the bridegroom's brother, who also assisted Mr. Ferris Shepherd, senr. (father) and Mr. F. J. Shepherd (brother) to ring a touch on the handbells as the party were leaving the church, there being no tower bells.

The wedding breakfast was held at the Village Hall, and about 40 guests sat down. Songs, handbell music, dancing, etc., were afterwards indulged in. The happy couple, who were the recipients of hearty congratulations, and received a large number of presents, spent the honeymoon in Devonshire.

On the previous evening, the annual meeting of the Hersham band, to which Mr. Shepherd belonged, was made the occasion for the gift of a gold bell pendant to the bridegroom on the occasion of his marriage.—The Vicar, in making the presentation, spoke in feeling terms of the good work done by the band, and also of the kindly feeling and good fellowship which prevailed amongst them.—Mr. Shepherd suitably replied, and was evidently highly pleased with the gift, which was quite a work of art, and executed by a ringer, Mr. W. Hiscott, of Plymouth.

DEATH OF A POOLE RINGER.

The death has occurred of Mr. C. Line, for some years a member of the St. James', Poole, band. As a mark of respect, the ringers of St. James', Poole, together with representatives from Wimborne Minster, and from St. Peter's and St. John's, Bournemouth, rang the bells of St. James', half-muffled, on the occasion of the funeral.

After a few short touches, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung by: H. Harris (St. Peter's, Bournemouth) 1, D. Williams (St. Peter's), first quarter-peal, 2, H. Bennett (St. John's) 3, G. Doell (St. John's), 4, E. Waters (St. Peter's), 5, F. Townsend (St. James', Poole), 6, C. Goodenough (St. Peter's), conductor, 7, A. Osborne (Wimborne) 8.

MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

After a period of 37 years of unbroken service as school attendance officer for Dudley, Mr. Samuel Spittle, the veteran Master of the Dudley Guild, who just recently passed his 79th birthday, has resigned his public office. We hope, at an early date, to be able to give a brief story of Mr. Spittle's interesting career.

NOTICES.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Parish Church on Saturday, Jan. 22nd. Bells available from 6 p.m. Meeting 7.30.—G. Pincott, Branch Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Hamer Parish Church on Saturday, January 22nd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Business meeting at 6.30.—T. K. Driver, Secretary, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Luke's, Bromley Common, on Saturday, January 22nd. Tower open at 3 p.m., service at 5.30 p.m., with address by the Rev. C. P. Gosselin (Vicar). Tea in St. Luke's Institute at 6 p.m. Subscriptions should be paid now.—P. Groombridge, Honorary District Secretary, 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The annual meeting will be held at Southgate on Saturday, January 22nd. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5.30. Tea at the Cherry Tree at 6.15.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 49, Wood Street, Walthamstow.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Titchfield on Saturday, Jan. 22nd. Bells available from 2 o'clock. Short service at 5 o'clock. Tea at 5.30.—J. W. Whiting, District Secretary, 9, Colenso Road, Fareham.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Wraxall on Saturday, Jan. 29th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Divine service 4.30. Tea at 5.15; business meeting to follow.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at Stansted on Saturday, January 29th. Bells available from 4 to 9 p.m. Business meeting in the Tower at 5.30 p.m. Wm. Watts, District Secretary, Mont House Cottage, Stansted, Essex.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—A committee meeting will be held at the offices of the British Equitable Assurance Co., 1, Greyhound Street, Nottingham, on Saturday, Jan. 29th, at 5 p.m., followed by general meeting at 5.30. Business: Appointment of Auditors, etc. A notification of intention to be present will be esteemed.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec., Cotgrave.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting for the whole district will be held at the Parish Church of SS. Mary and Nicholas, Leatherhead, on Saturday, January 29th. Bells (10—tenor 20 cwt.) available 3.30. Service at 5 o'clock. Meat tea (members 9d., visitors 1s. 6d.) at the Institute Restaurant 5.45, followed by business meeting for election of officers and other business. Kindly notify intention to be present on or before Wednesday, January 26th, to Ch. Reading, Assistant Hon. Secretary, Union Bank Chambers, Croydon.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Evesham on Saturday, January 29th. Service in All Saints' Church at 5 p.m., at which members are requested to attend. Tea will probably be arranged, and it is most important I should be notified by those intending to be present by the Wednesday previous. The bells (10) will be available for ringing.—J. Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Hampton, Evesham.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Wakefield on Saturday, Jan. 29th. Service in the Cathedral at 4 p.m. For full particulars of the day's arrangements see circular sent to each tower secretary.—C. Glenn, Hon. Gen. Sec., 11, Fisher Road, Sheffield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at Accrington on Saturday, January 29th, 1916. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD OF CHANGE-RINGERS.—Annual meeting January 29th, 1916, at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury. Ringing 2.30 p.m. (also at St. Alkmund's), Service 4.30 p.m. Tea in St. Chad's Room 5 p.m. Meeting after tea. Please reply before the 24th to Rev. F. Tennison, Honorary Secretary, St. Alkmund's Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—The annual meeting of the above Guild will be held at Stamford on Saturday, January 29th. Bells of S. Martin's, All Saints', and S. Michael's available afternoon and evening. Tea at Crown Hotel 5 o'clock. Meeting to follow. Members and friends are cordially invited.—Wm. G. Thorpe, Assistant Secretary.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Droitwich on Saturday, January 29th, 1916. Service in St. Andrew's Church at 4.15 prompt; the bells (8) will be available. Tea will be provided for those who give me notice by the Wednesday previous.—R. G. Knowles, Branch Secretary, Madresfield, Malvern.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at Staplehurst on Saturday, February 5th, 1916. Further particulars will be announced next week.—W. Gatter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting of this society will be held at Ranmoor on Saturday, February 5th. Further particulars next week.—Sam Thomas, Secretary, 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Christ Church, Wanstead, on Saturday, February 5th. Bells available from 3 to 4 o'clock, and 4.30 to 6.30 p.m. Arrangements will be made for tea for all letting me know by Wednesday, February 2nd. All ringers and friends invited.—H. Rumens, Honorary District Secretary, 32, Verulam Avenue, Walthamstow, N.E.

AN UNOFFICIAL MEETING will be held at Dulverton on Saturday, February 5th. Bells (8) available at 3. Service at 4.30. Tea (9d.) in the Parish Room at 5. Those requiring tea are asked to notify me by February 1st.—Rev. E. V. Cox, Bampton, Devon.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks & South Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Slough on Saturday, February 12th, 1916. Service in the Parish Church 4.30 p.m.; preacher. Rev. F. G. A. Phillips, Rector of Taplow. Tea in Church Institute 5.15 p.m., business meeting to follow. The bells will be available from 2.30 until 9 p.m. Names of members intending to be present must reach me not later than Monday, February 7th.—G. Martin, 21, Powney Road, Maidenhead.—United practice will be held at Burnham tower on January 23rd, Beaconsfield on January 27th, and Gt. Missenden on January 29th, all at 7 p.m.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District. —A meeting of the above will be held at Ashford, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. E. H. Sopwith), on Saturday, February 19th. Bells available from 3 till 6. Service in the church at 6 o'clock. Arrangements will be made for tea after the service (for those who wish it) by notifying me of same not later than Tuesday, February 15th. As we have not been privileged to hold a meeting at Ashford for several years it is hoped members will turn up in force to show their appreciation of same.—C. Tribe, British School Villas, Tenterden.

THE LADIES' GUILD. — I beg to remind members that the subscription for 1915-16 is now due. — E. K. Parker, Honorary Secretary, 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HANDBELLS FOR SALE.

THIRTY-SIX HANDBELLS, from C 22 size, for base; a few duplicates, in good tone; also six music books, with tunes arranged by the late J. Angus, of Bradford; what offers to G. Whiteaker, Brookeville Avenue, Hipperholme, Halifax.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

BLACKSMITH AND HOT WATER FITTER wants job. Age 44; 14 years' good character; country town preferred. Change ringer. — Smith, "Ringing World" Office, Woking.

WHEELWRIGHT AND CARPENTER, 45, wants situation as caretaker or any place of trust; highest references; can ring standard methods. — "Hammer," "Ringing World" Office, Woking.

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COACH BODYMAKERS and TRIMMERS for private, commercial and Government work. Constant work to suitable men. Ringers requiring work should apply The Wilton Carriage Co., 107, Waddon New Road, Croydon.

WANTED, SADDLER.—A good general hand; able to cut out and prepare all kinds of general work; constant to suitable man; good change ringer on 8 bells preferred. —F. R. Kettleborough, Market Place, Bolsover.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

MARRIAGE.

HAIRS—BENNETT.—On January 15th, 1916, at St. Mary's, Clapham, S.W., by the Very Rev. J. Bennett, C.Ss.R., Francis Ivie Gane Hairs, only son of Mr. and Mrs. John Ivie Hairs, to Elsie Laura Bennett, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Bennett, of Brighton.

BAGSHOT, SURREY.—At St. Anne's Church, on December 5th, 504 Grandsire Triples: W. Wood 1, J. Corbett 2, F. Nye 3, H. Stapleton 4, T. Gould 5, F. Francis (conductor) 6, H. Gould 7, W. Varndell 8.—On Christmas morning, for service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (from Parker's 12-part): Bandsman W. Nye 1, J. Corbett 2, F. Nye 3, H. Stapleton 4, T. Gould 5, F. Francis (first quarter-peal as conductor) 6, H. Gould 7, W. Varndell 8. Arranged for W. Nye, bandsman in Canadian band, stationed at Shorncliffe, who was home on leave.—On New Year's Eve, 476 Grandsire Triples: W. Wood 1, J. Corbett 2, F. Francis 3, H. Stapleton 4, T. Gould 5, H. Gould 6, F. Nye (conductor) 7, W. Varndell 8. — On Sunday evening, for service, 350 Grandsire Triples: W. Wood 1, J. Corbett 2, F. Nye 3, H. Stapleton 4, T. Gould 5, F. Francis 6, H. Gould (conductor) 7, W. Varndell 8. There is ringing at this church every Sunday, and visitors will be welcome.

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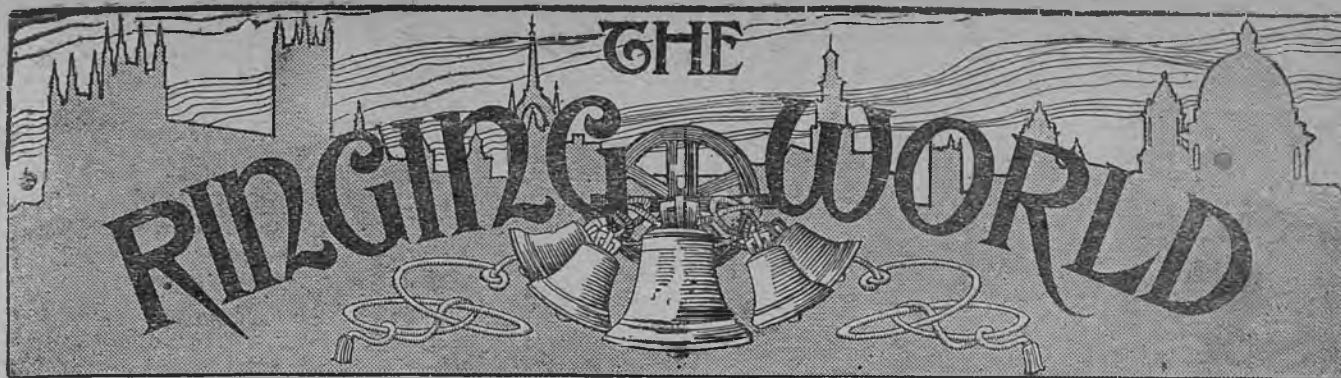


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FRIDAY, JANUARY 28th, 1916.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 1d.

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CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

THE STEEPLEKEEPER AND HIS OFFICE

There is hardly likely to be two opinions as to the steeplekeeper of a tower being one of the most important men attached to a belfry. His duties may not always be heavy, but he has considerable responsibilities, not only to his colleagues, but to the church authorities. He it is who is primarily responsible for the maintenance of the belfry in proper order, and, above all, for the good going of the bells. Now there are steeplekeepers and steeplekeepers. Some have a keen sense of their duty and spare neither time nor pains to discharge their task in the most efficient manner; others address themselves to the work in the most casual way, seldom putting on any grease till someone complains, or re-adjusting a rope until it breaks. They have no enthusiasm for bells or pride in their office, and, truth to tell, they ought not to be allowed to retain their position.

On the other hand there are steeplekeepers—and we are glad to think that they are in a big majority—who discharge their duties with the utmost keenness and who take a personal delight in keeping the bells in proper order and the belfry spick and span. Usually the work of these men passes with little notice and few thanks. Their services are known only to those who ring the bells, for it is very seldom indeed that their efforts are realised or appreciated by those upon whom responsibility for the upkeep of the bells ultimately falls—the incumbent and wardens.

To our mind the position of steeplekeeper ought to be more generally recognised by the authorities, at least to the same degree as the church caretaker. It is usual, we will admit, for the churchwardens to provide the necessary materials for the upkeep of the bells, but, more often than not, any remuneration which the steeplekeeper receives is provided out of the ringers' own funds. An efficient tower keeper, by the care which he bestows upon his work, saves the church authorities a great deal of money in the long run. They may not realise it, because they are ignorant of the facts, but it is time that the proper recognition of the steeplekeeper as one of the custodian's of the church's possessions should be secured far more widely than it is. For that reason we are specially glad to see that at such an important tower as Wakefield Cathedral the position of the steeplekeeper, as recorded last week, is to be henceforth recognised. We hope that in other places where the steeplekeeper, and his office, are practically unknown to the authorities, steps will be taken to secure the proper recognition of the position.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs. C. CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to Inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract,—we may be able to assist you.

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EIGHT BELL PEAL.

LUTON, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 22, 1916, in Three Hours and One Minute.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| JAMES ROOKWOOD Treble | BEN. JARMAN 5 |
| FREDERICK HUNT 2 | THOMAS KENDALL 6 |
| BERT WILSON 3 | ALFRED KING 7 |
| CHARLES WING 4 | WALTER PAYNE Tenor |

Conducted by ALFRED KING.

Rung with bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of Lieut. Woodward, brother of the Vicar of Luton's wife, and the soldiers and sailors who have given their lives in the war. The steeplekeeper, Mr. H. Shaw, was at the last minute unable to participate in the peal owing to bereavement, and Mr. Ben Jarman of Harpenden kindly, at short notice, took his rope.

SIX BELL PEAL.

BISHOP'S CASTLE, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, January 2, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 42 six-scores with 10 different callings. Tenor 9 cwt.

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| GEORGE ROBINSON Treble | CHARLES MINTON, Senr.... 4 |
| EMMANUEL BEDDOES 2 | EDWARD JORDAN 5 |
| CHARLES MINTON, JR. 3 | JAMES ADDIS Tenor |

Conducted by CHARLES MINTON, Senr.

Rung with the bells half muffled in memory of and as a token of respect for the men who have given their lives in fighting for their King and country in the war.

HANDBELL PEALS.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 15, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes.

IN THE COMMON ROOM AT THE ABBOT'S HOSPITAL.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANCES;

Tenor, size 18 in G.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| MRS. FRANK I. HAIRS ... 1-2 | AIR-MECHANIC FRANK I. |
| ALFRED H. PULLING ... 3-4 | HAIRS, R.N.A.S. ... 7-8 |
| MAURICE SMITHER ... 5-6 | SEPTIMUS RADFORD ... 9-10 |

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, and

Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

Umpire: THOMAS W. RADFORD.

Witnesses: JOHN HEATHORN, MRS. PULLING, and PHILIP PALMER (Master of the Abbot's Hospital).

Rung in honour of the 92nd birthday of Mr. J. Heathorn, also as a compliment to Miss E. L. Bennett and Mr. F. I. Hairs on their wedding day. This composition has the quarter peals alternately in the titmums and handstroke position, and it is the first time a lady has taken part in such a peal. It is also the first time a man and wife have rung a peal together on their wedding day. The conductor's rooth peal of Stedman Caters.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 22, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes.

IN THE NETTLE'S ROOM AT KING EDWARD VI GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor, size 18 in G.

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| SEPTIMUS RADFORD ... 1-2 | MAURICE SMITHER ... 5-6 |
| ALFRED H. PULLING ... 3-4 | THOMAS W. RADFORD ... 7-8 |

Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

Witness: MRS. PULLING.

GUILDFORD, SURREY. THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, January 24, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
IN THE NETTLE'S ROOM AT KING EDWARD VI GRAMMAR SCHOOL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

| | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| HOLT'S ORIGINAL, | Tenor, size 14 in D. |
| CHARLES HAZELDEN ... 1-2 | MAURICE SMITHER... 5-6 |
| ALFRED H. PULLING ... 3-4 | MRS. CHARLES HAZELDEN 7-8 |

Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

Witnesses: MRS. PULLING and MDLLE. Y. L. ELOIE-LELOUE.

These two peals were arranged and rung by the Guildford handbell ringers as a wedding compliment to Air Mechanic F. I. Hairs and Miss E. L. Bennett, this being the earliest occasion upon which it was possible to meet.

NATIONAL RELIEF FUND.

We have received the following further contributions to the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund:—

| | £ | s. | d. |
|--|------|----|----|
| Amount already acknowledged | 121 | 13 | 5 |
| Ringers of St. Peter's, Staunton-on-Arrow, Herefordshire (per Mr. Jabez Preece)... .. | 0 | 10 | 0 |
| Bushey Society, December collection | 0 | 3 | 6 |
| Luton Parish Church ringers (per Mr. Alfred King) | 0 | 9 | 0 |
| "Wanderer," December contribution | 0 | 2 | 6 |
| "H. H.," Worksop | 0 | 2 | 0 |
| Total | £123 | 0 | 5 |

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers serving in H.M. Forces:—
W. H. P. Mellin, of Wrentham, Suffolk, Air Mechanic, R.N.A.S.,
now at Sheerness.

W. D. Jackson, and

George Jackson, of Dalton Parish Church, Lancs, Royal Field
Artillery.

J. W. Newton, of Stockton-on-Tees Parish Church, Northumber-
land Fusiliers, now at Harrogate.

RINGERS IN CASUALTY LISTS.

We much regret to announce that Sergt. W. R. Washbrook, second
son of Mr. James W. Washbrook, has been killed in action. He
was serving with the 5th North Staffordshire Regiment.

Among the casualties published on Monday, Lieut. E. Maurice
Atkins, Royal Engineers, was reported wounded.

Pte. A. Rodie, a member of the Little Munden, Herts, company, who
has been serving in the 8th Batt. Bedfordshire Regiment, has been
wounded, and is now in a London Hospital.

Corpl. Robert Stavert, of the Bushey Society, has been invalided
home from Gallipoli suffering from frost-bite. He is now an inmate
of the Tropical School Auxiliary Military Hospital, Pembroke Place,
Liverpool, and is, we are pleased to say, making good progress.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN MILLS.

It is our sad duty to have to announce the death of Mr. John W.
Mills, which took place at his residence, Nelson Road, Dudley, on
Saturday, January 8th, at the age of 70 years. He had only been ill
a week when the news of his death came as a shock to his fellow
ringers. Although he had not taken any part in peal ringing of late
years, he was always punctual in his attendances for Sunday ringing
and practices, and his genial presence in the belfry on all occasions
endeared him to all with whom he came in contact.

The funeral took place on Wednesday, Jan. 12th, at Dudley Parish
Church, at which he had been a ringer and worshipper for upwards of
40 years. The cortege was met at the west door by the Vicar of Dud-
ley (the Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland), who conducted the service, assisted
by the Rev. C. M. Stuart King (curate). As the coffin was being
gently borne into church by his fellow ringers, the organist (Mr. T. W.
North) played "O Rest in the Lord," and, at the close of the service,
the Dead March "in Saul." After the committal, a course of Grand-
sire Triples was rung upon handbells at the graveside by the follow-
ing members of the St. Thomas's band: Messrs. John Goodman, junr.,
1-2, Samuel Spittle 3-4, John Goodman, senr. 5-6, William Good-
man 7-8, who also acted as bearers with Mr. Herbert Sheppard (hon.
secretary of St. Thomas's band) and Mr. E. Harrison, an old friend
of deceased. In the evening the following members of the St. Thomas's
band rang, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Grand-
sire Triples in 50 mins.: C. Faulks 1, S. Spittle 2, J. Goodman, senr., 3, W.
Goodman 4, G. Guest 5, H. Sheppard 6, J. Goodman, junr. (conductor)
7, W. Meek 8.

OXFORD GUILD.

SONNING DEANERY BRANCH.

On Saturday week the annual general meeting of the Sonning
Deanery Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held at Woking-
ham. The proceedings began with a service of intercession held at
All Saints' Church, conducted by the Rev. B. Long, at which the
Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, Rector of Barkham, gave an earnest and appro-
priate address.—Mr. H. R. Eady presided at the organ. There were
several lady ringers present, but the attendance of men was again
somewhat small, owing to the number of members on active service.

Tea followed in St. Paul's Parish Room, by kind permission of the
Rector (the Rev. H. M. Walter), and Miss G. Simmons and other ladies
of the parish attended the tables.

The business meeting was held immediately after the tea. The
chair was taken by the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, President of the
branch, and there were also present: The Revs. P. H. Ditchfield
(Barkham), W. A. Thackeray (Warfield), E. Broome, hon. secretary
(Hurst), B. Long (All Saints'), G. F. Coleridge (Crowthorne), F. M. C.
Hare (All Saints'), H. M. Walter (St. Paul's), Wokingham, and Mr. A.
Reeves, the Guild general secretary.

INCREASED MEMBERSHIP.

The report for the year stated that the branch had lost two mem-
bers, by death in the war, Mr. A. M. P. Nest (Hurst) and Mr. C.
Rideout (St. Paul's, Wokingham), and one (Mr. G. Collins, Sandhurst)
was missing. No combined practice had been held during the year.
—The balance sheet showed a satisfactory surplus of £3 18s. 1d.—The
balance sheet and report were unanimously adopted.

The Rev. E. Broome remarked that last year they expected 85 mem-
bers to the annual meeting, but only 58 actually attended. This en-
tailed some loss. The surplus provisions, however, were not sold, but
were distributed to some troops then in the neighbourhood (hear, hear).
The branch showed an increase in numbers, having now 137 change
ringers, 17 probationers and nine life subscribers, a total of 163,
against 147 last year. He regretted the loss, by death, of one very
old life member, the late Mr. T. E. Ellison. They had also lost from
the same cause, Mr. T. Russell, of Sonning, a ringer, for very many
years, as well as those already mentioned in connection with the
terrible war. On active service they had 36 members, viz.: Arborfield
4, Barkham 3, Hurst 9, Easthampstead 2, Dursfield 3, Sandhurst 4,
Sonning 4, Wargrave 4, Wokingham St. Paul's 1, All Saints' 2. They
welcomed that night a new hon. member, the Rev. W. A. Thackeray
(applause), whose tower of Warfield they would be pleased to see join
the branch. One peal was rung at Hurst on April 3rd to celebrate
their foreman's wedding day. Muffled ringing, in memory of the
fallen, took place generally on January 2nd. He trusted they would
have a brighter and happier new year than the last, and that soon
they would welcome back their comrades from the war.

GUILD MASTER'S WORK AT THE FRONT.

The Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis was unanimously re-elected chairman
of the branch.—In returning thanks, the President said the present
times of great stress and anxiety were calling out the real deep souls
of their people. We were not down-hearted, and were going to
"carry the thing through." He had received a letter from Mrs.
Jenky, in which she said that her husband (the Master of their Guild)
was keeping very well. He had recently been home (in khaki), and
after the service was characteristically among the ringers of Caver-
sham. He was very well, and had lost a stone in weight. His divi-
sion moved back soon after Christmas for rest, which the men badly
needed. The work was harder for him, as the men are so scattered,
but he was glad to be allowed to remain with them. The state of
the country was terrible, but fortunately they had two fine days for
their move back. He was able to take celebrations in four different
camps on Christmas Day.

The Rev. E. Broome was unanimously thanked for his services, and
re-appointed hon. secretary. The committee of foremen of the various
towers in the branch was appointed as under: Arborfield, Mr. S.
Emblen; Barkham, Mr. A. Cook; Binfield, Mr. H. Bungay; East-
hampstead, Mr. A. Gough; Finchampstead, Mr. W. Goddard; Hurst,
Mr. Jos. White; Sandhurst, Mr. H. Watts; Sonning, Mr. G. J. Wright;
Twyford, Mr. F. Dentry; Wargrave, Mr. W. J. Fuller; Wokingham
All Saints', Mr. S. Paice; Wokingham St. Paul's, Mr. T. Houlton;
Hurst, Miss E. Fuller.

Representatives to the Guild Committee were re-elected, viz.: Messrs.
F. Dentry, G. Wright, J. Moth and S. Paice.

The committee for combined practices was also re-appointed, viz.:
Messrs. J. Rance, H. Bungay, J. White and J. Moth.

Mr. Bungay urged that these meetings should be carried on, or their
bells would be silent for six months after the war. — Mr. Wright
seconded this as a resolution, and it was carried.

Mr. Reeves, Guild secretary, gave some account of the Guild busi-
ness meeting recently held. The Guild had, he said, a balance in
hand of £37 17s. 7d., and they had elected three trustees of the
Guild property.

Hearty thanks were accorded the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield for his ex-
cellent address, the Rev. B. Long for the use of All Saints' Church,
and the ladies who undertook the tea.

The towers of All Saints', and St. Paul's, Wokingham, were after-
wards open to the members for ringing.

THE LATE MISS MARGERY SAMPSON.

MEMORIAL UNVEILED AT ERDINGTON.

The memory of the late Miss Margery F. Sampson, of Edinburgh, who was one of the most able lady exponents of ringing, and who was for a considerable time identified with the belfry of Erdington Parish Church, has been fittingly perpetuated at this tower by the erection of a handsome marbette tablet recording the muffled peal rung on the occasion of her death, which took place on January 14th of last year. The tablet is the gift of Mr. Jonathan Preston, hon. secretary of the Erdington Parish Church Society, and the unveiling of the memorial took place on Saturday week, the nearest convenient day to the first anniversary of Miss Sampson's demise. There was a numerous gathering of ringers and friends, including Mr. Wm. B. Sampson, of Edinburgh (who had travelled expressly from the Scotch capital to unveil the tablet commemorative of his daughter and the campanological honours paid to her memory), the Rev. F. S. Swindell, M.A., R.D. (Vicar of Erdington), the Rev. H. G. Johnson, M.A. (Assistant Curate of the Parish Church and Curate-in-Charge of St. Margaret's), Mr. Herbert H. Humphries (Parish Churchwarden), Councillor Edwin J. Houlston (late Parish Churchwarden), Mr. Thos. Boyard, Mr. W. H. Locker, and Mr. George Winnall (sidesmen), Mr. Jonathan Preston (Secretary to the Parish Church Society of Change Ringers), Mr. J. A. Hammon and Mr. J. B. Parkes (verger).

THE TABLET.

The Vicar (the Rev. F. S. Swindell) opened the proceedings by reciting a short but appropriate inaugural office, those present heartily joining in the responses and in the Lord's Prayer. He then called upon Mr. Preston to explain the object of the gathering.—Mr. J. Preston said he wished, first of all, to thank those present for their kind attendance. Their object was to unveil a tablet to the memory of the late Miss Margery Sampson, who came to that church several times to participate in their campanological performances, taking part, moreover, in about five peals in the district, and who was a great favourite with the ringers. Twelve months ago—on January 14th, 1915—she passed away, and a fortnight later—on Saturday, January 30th—the ringers there rang a peal to her memory. To commemorate this and to perpetuate Miss Sampson's memory, the tablet was erected, and her father had come down from Edinburgh to unveil it.

The Vicar said he understood that the cost of this tablet—a very beautiful and quite exceptionally excellent one, as he could testify, for he had been privileged to see it—had been defrayed by Mr. Preston, a member of their bell ringers, of whose liberality in this and other matters he could not speak too highly. He (the Vicar) knew the late Miss Sampson slightly, and was photographed with her, some three years ago, in a group of bell ringers outside the tower of that church. That group included, also, the late Mr. Thomas Wells, the late Mr. Sanders, and others, and it was painfully noteworthy that several gaps had been created by death, amongst the few persons composing it, in so short a time. He was glad to see and to welcome there Mr. Sampson, the father of Miss Sampson. She was one of a number of ladies who had taken up bell ringing, and he was glad to hear that this movement—so pleasant and elevating, and so intimately connected with God's service—was spreading amongst them. He would now ask Mr. Sampson to unveil the tablet.

Mr. Sampson then pulled a cord, releasing the cloth which had covered the tablet, and exposing it to view. It revealed a very beautiful black marbette memorial, with gilt letters and embellishments, on which—besides an excellent medallion portrait of the deceased lady—was set forth the following inscription:—

SAINT MARTIN'S GUILD OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. ERDINGTON PARISH CHURCH SOCIETY.

To the glory of God, and to the memory of Margery Fletcher Sampson, of Edinburgh, member of the above Society, who died January 14th, 1915, was rung upon these bells (half muffled), on Saturday, January 30th, 1915, in two hours and 57 minutes, a true and complete peal of Stedman Triples, Sir A. P. Heywood's Variation of Thurstans', 5040 changes. Tenor, 15½ cwt.: Charles Cottrell, treble; Jonathan Preston, 2; William J. Meers, 3; John Sanders, 4; William G. Anker, 5; George F. Swann, 6; George Garrison, 7; John E. Pywell, tenor. Conducted by George F. Swann.—Frederic S. Swindell, M.A., Vicar; George H. Machin, Herbert H. Humphries, Churchwardens.

MR. SAMPSON'S THANKS.

Mr. W. S. Sampson, who was much moved, said he was a Scotsman, and a man of few words. Moreover, the present occasion, as they could well imagine, had been almost too much for him. Of his late daughter, he could conscientiously and lovingly say, that she was at all times a good girl, and that, whenever he wanted anything done, he could always rely on her. She came amongst the ringers of Birmingham an entire stranger, and was always received with the utmost kindness, especially by the Erdington ringers, who ever afterwards retained a warm place in her heart, and for whom she always had the very highest regard. He thanked them all for their great kindness, and wished to express his special obligations to Mr. Preston—who was

entertaining him whilst he was there—for his most thoughtful and touching kindness and liberality.

Some time was then spent in inspecting the tablet, which elicited warm expressions of admiration, and was universally admired.—Mr. Churchwarden Humphries, in moving a vote of thanks to Mr. Preston for his kindness and liberality in providing the tablet, said it was really a very handsome piece of work. It had come as quite a pleasurable surprise to himself, for he had expected something much plainer. It had not that funeral look about it which some of these tablets had—which he thought was a great advantage—and no expense had been spared to render it a becomingly beautiful and worthy memorial to Miss Sampson, which, he hoped, would encourage others to take up the very attractive pursuit of bell ringing in which she engaged.—Councillor Edwin J. Houlston said he had great pleasure in seconding the motion, because at one time—during his two periods of office as churchwarden—he had very much to do with the bell ringers, and with their enthusiastic secretary, Mr. Preston, to whom they were under such special obligations on this occasion. Bell ringing was a very important matter, and most intimately mixed up with all their ecclesiastical functions and services, and was closely linked in association alike with the gladdest and saddest events of their lives. He was very glad to have been present at that worthy commemoration of one who had done her work so well. The tablet was a great addition to the belfry, and would remind them of one who had passed away, and whom they would long remember.—The motion was carried unanimously, and Mr. Preston briefly returned thanks.—The ringers then rang a short touch on the half-muffled bells to Miss Sampson's memory (her father himself being one of the band).

Canon J. W. Willink (Rector of Birmingham) arrived at the conclusion of the ringing, having been prevented by other engagements from reaching the tower earlier.

CANON WILLINK'S ADDRESS.

At the close of the service, the party adjourned to the Church House for tea kindly provided by the bell ringers of the Parish Church. The tables were very artistically decorated by the Ladies' Committee, consisting of the wives and sister of the ringers, who were responsible for this part of the proceedings. The Vicar presided, and was supported by the Rector of Birmingham (the Rev. Canon J. W. Willink, M.A.), Mr. H. H. Humphries (churchwarden), and Councillor E. J. Houlston. Grace having been said by the Vicar, the party did justice to an excellent repast. Tea being over, the Vicar called upon Canon Willink to say a few words.

The Rector, who was received with applause, expressed his great pleasure at being invited to the service, but, owing to great pressure of work now placed upon him in his new office as Rural Dean of Central Birmingham, he was not able to be at the first part of the unveiling ceremony. He spoke very highly of the good work done by the late Miss Margery F. Sampson in the ringing art, and expressed the sympathy of those present, and of the St. Martin's Guild in the bereavement Mr. Sampson had sustained, and hoped that he would return to Edinburgh much the happier, knowing that his daughter was highly esteemed whilst in Birmingham. He also based his remarks on the word "Bells," taking the letters as follow:—B for Brotherhood, E for Enthusiasm, LL for Love of Church and Loyalty, and S for Self-Sacrifice. Speaking on these letters, Canon Willink said that the ringers were a splendid body of men, and helped in the work of the Church. Enthusiasm was a great feature among them, for the time they spent and miles they walked to ring. They were loyal to the Church, and their love of Church work was great: and (for the last letter) the ringers did a great deal in self-sacrifice for the Church. He concluded by saying that he thanked the Erdington ringers for their invitation, and again assured Mr. Sampson of the true fellowship which existed between his daughter and the ringers of the Guild.

Councillor E. J. Houlston proposed a vote of thanks to the ringers and ladies for their kindness in inviting the visitors to tea, and assured them that the Church authorities appreciated their work, and gatherings such as these helped to bring together a closer union amongst them all.—Mr. H. H. Humphries (churchwarden) seconded the vote of thanks, and expressed his delight to be present on such an auspicious occasion, and to share his sympathy with the bereaved father, who was their honoured guest. He hoped that Mr. Sampson would go back to Edinburgh knowing that Erdington ringers had done their duty to one near and dear to him, who had departed.—Mr. Thomas Boyard—"Father of the Congregation," as the Vicar called him—also spoke in very high terms of the ringers, and, mentioning that one of the old ringers, Mr. J. H. Sanders, had passed away, hoped that a similar tablet would be erected to his memory, remarking that he himself would be pleased to subscribe.—The Secretary (Mr. J. Preston) said the matter was already in hand, and he would be pleased to receive any subscriptions.—Mr. W. H. Locker said he was glad to be present, and had learned that he and Mr. Sampson were both choristers at the laying of the foundation stone of St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh. He hoped that Mr. Sampson would convey his good wishes to those he knew at Edinburgh.—Councillor Dr. Featherstone having arrived (being late on account of professional engagements, said how pleased he was to see them all present

"in his house" (for he was responsible for the Church House), and hoped it would be more freely used by the ringers on such occasions.—Mr. Geo. Winnall also spoke in high terms of the ringers and their work.—The vote of thanks was put by the Vicar, and carried unanimously.—The Secretary thanked the proposer and seconded for their kind wishes, and said it was a great pleasure to the ringers to entertain them and a greater pleasure for the ladies to wait upon them.

The ringers afterwards started for a peal with the bells half-muffled, but, after an hour's ringing had to stop owing to a change course.

Among those present at the tea were: Mrs. G. Swann, Mrs. J. Preston, Mrs. J. Sanders, Mrs. F. Sanders, Mrs. C. Cottrell, Miss P. Garrison, the Vicar of Erdington (Rev. F. S. Swindell), the Rector of Birmingham (Rev. Canon Willink), Councillor E. J. Houlston, Mr. H. H. Humphries, Mr. W. H. Locker, Mr. T. Boyard, Mr. W. B. Sampson, Councillor Dr. W. B. Featherstone, Mr. G. Winnall, Mr. J. B. Parkes, and Mr. J. A. Hammond. Ringers: Messrs. T. Russam, J. E. Groves, C. Stanbridge, C. Cottrell, J. Pemberton, G. F. Swann, W. J. Meers, G. Garrison, T. Bicknell, F. Sanders, A. Hobbs, and J. Preston. Letters of apology for absence had been received from Alderman Dr. A. Paget Evans, Dr. T. J. Baker, Mr. G. H. Machin (Vicar's Warden), Mr. G. N. Guest, Mr. H. W. Ashwell (Parish Clerk), Mr. H. J. Silcock, Mr. C. F. B. Flint, Mr. W. H. Godden, and Mr. S. J. Dixon.

On the following evening, for service at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung, in 46 mins., in honour of the visit of Mr. W. B. Sampson, of Edinburgh, by the following band: Charles Cottrell 1, Jonathan Preston 2, William J. Meers 3, James F. Groves 4, William G. Anker 5, George F. Swann (conductor) 6, William B. Sampson 7, Joseph Pemberton 8.

WINCHESTER GUILD.

PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT SECRETARY'S RESIGNATION.

A very successful meeting of the Portsmouth District of the Winchester Guild was held at Titchfield, on Saturday last, when ringers were present from Portsea, Portsmouth, Bishop Stoke, North Stoneham, Fareham, Swanmore, Curdridge, Wickham, and the local tower. The bells were rung in the afternoon to Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Bob and Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Minor. The ringers attended service at 5 o'clock, at which the Guild form was used. Owing to the Vicar (the Master of the Guild) being with the troops at the front, the prayers were read by the curate-in-charge. The lesson was read by the Rev. E. Bankes James, who also gave a very inspiring address from Corinthians 1—10, "Now I beseech you brethren by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you, but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and the same judgment."

Tea was kindly provided by the Rev. C. E. Matthews, and at the business meeting, which followed, the Rev. E. Bankes James was voted to the chair. A letter was read from Mr. A. T. King regretting his absence owing to a cold.—Mr. Whiting, for so many years district secretary, regretted his inability to continue in office any longer owing to ill-health. His resignation was regretfully accepted, and Mr. P. J. Harding was elected to fill the vacancy. Mr. F. Burnett was elected assistant secretary and representative of the Central Committee. The Rev. C. E. Matthews was again appointed president; Mr. J. Harris, auditor; and Mr. W. Linten, the second representative.

The places of meetings for the year were fixed as follows: Easter Monday, Soberton; July 15th, Privett; October 14th, Havant; the January meeting place to be decided later. — Five members were elected, and votes of thanks were accorded to the Rev. C. E. Matthews for the use of the bells and kindly giving the tea; to the Rev. Bankes James for his address and for presiding at the meeting, and to Miss Carden for presiding at the organ. Owing to military restrictions there was no ringing in the evening.

YORKTOWN DISTRICT RE-SHUFFLES OFFICERS.

The annual meeting of the Yorktown district of the Winchester Guild was held at Chertsey on January 8th. Owing to illness near the church the bells could not be rung, and a move had to be made to the Church Hall, where handbells and the piano were made use of. Tea was partaken of, during which the curate put in an appearance to say that the Vicar had been called away and could not attend the meeting.

The business meeting was presided over by Mr. F. Shepherd, senr., and among the various items transacted was a re-shuffle of officers. Mr. G. B. Edser, who resides in London, retired from the post of hon. secretary, but took the office of auditor, while Mr. W. A. Woodrow was transferred from position of auditor to that of representative. Mr. G. Miles was elected hon. secretary, with Mr. F. J. Shepherd as assistant. The Ringing Master (Mr. W. Shepherd) was re-elected. The places for the four meetings for the year were chosen as follows: Hersham, Farnborough, Oatlands and Hawley.—The annual reports from the ringing master and hon. secretary were confirmed.

Regret was expressed at the retirement of the hon. secretary, to whom the thanks of the members were accorded, and Mr. Edser suitably replied.—The usual votes of thanks concluded the meeting.

Representatives were present from Bagshot, Hersham, Weybridge, Yorktown, and the local band. Handbell ringing terminated a pleasant gathering.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

NORTH AND EAST DISTRICT AT SOUTHGATE.

The annual meeting of the North and East District was held at Southgate on Saturday last, and, favoured with very fine weather, there was a good attendance, quite 50 members being present during the day, and much good ringing being done on the very fine peal of bells prior to the service, which took place at 5.30.

The service was mainly given to intercessions, and it was specially mentioned that many members of the society were away fighting for their country, and also that three members had, alas! already given up their lives. Four other members who had died during 1915 were also mentioned in connection with the intercessory prayers.

Tea was served at The Cherry Tree, followed by the business meeting, at which the chair was taken by the Master, Mr. J. Armstrong.—The Hon. Secretary presented the balance sheet, and in spite of there being many members away whose subscriptions were excused, there was a balance in hand on the year's working of nearly £2. This was considered as very satisfactory.

Mention was made of the £70 War Loan Stock purchased by the treasurer on behalf of the society, with the president, the hon. secretary and treasurer, as trustees.

The Hon. Secretary spoke of the work of the district during the past year. He stated that many bands were very hard pressed to obtain enough ringers to ring the bells, owing to the number who were away serving the country. Cases in point were the bands at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, where eight out of ten had already gone forth, and at Harrow and Clerkenwell with six and five respectively. Great efforts had, however, been made in these cases to keep ringing going, and it was to be hoped that their absent friends would soon return to take their places amongst them once again. Six meetings had been held during 1915, with excellent results, and it was mainly due to the holding of these meetings that the society was able to keep together so well, the meetings also affording opportunities for practice, which in many cases could not otherwise be obtained.

After six new members had been made, the whole of the retiring officers were re-elected.—The Hon. Secretary pointed out that the assistant hon. secretary (Mr. W. J. Kemp) was serving in the army, and that the Master (Mr. J. Armstrong) and himself were at some future date likely to be called up under Lord Derby's scheme. It was, therefore, necessary for them to be prepared for such an emergency, and he asked the members to agree to him calling together the remaining officers and their members of the Central Committee, when that emergency arose, to decide what should be done.—This was agreed to.

THE LATE MR. E. PYE.

The Hon. Secretary moved that a sincere vote of condolence be passed to the friends of the late Mr. Ernest Pye, who died on December 8th last.—Mr. Coles stated that the society had suffered an irreparable loss by the death of this great ringer. Ernest Pye was one of those men who could always be relied upon, in whatever he undertook to do. He was always in his place on Sundays, and although he lived nearly three miles from Romford Church, he seldom missed attending twice on Sundays, and invariably attended divine service after ringing. He was an excellent ringer and conductor, and although usually content to leave the conducting to others, he could always be relied upon to conduct a peal in first-class fashion should the necessity arise. He was always willing, even anxious, to help young ringers, and the speaker testified to this from his own personal experiences. He was buried at Aldboro' Hatch, as already fully reported in "The Ringing World," on December 12th, and amongst the many floral tributes was a beautiful imitation bell from that district of the Association. Two attempts had been made at Romford for a half-muffled peal, but unfortunately without success. The St. Mary's, Walthamstow, bells, had been rung half-muffled in his memory, and a half-muffled peal had been rung at Wrentham, Suffolk, by members of the Norwich Diocesan Association, in which Ernest Pye's old friend and ringing comrade, Bertram Prewett, took part.—The Hon. Secretary moved that their sympathies be shown to the relatives of the deceased member in the usual way.—Mr. J. R. Sharman briefly seconded, and the vote of condolence was passed in silence, the members all standing.

A sincere and hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. C. F. Peplow for the use of the bells, and to Mr. J. E. Miller and the local ringers for their very kind welcome, and a similar vote was passed to the officers of the society for their services during the past year.—This concluded the business of the meeting.

A course of Stedman Caters was rung on Mr. J. Rayner's handbells by Messrs. C. T. Coles, J. Armstrong, G. R. Pye, J. Hunt, and W. J. Nudds, and the latter four gentlemen also rang a course of Stedman Triples.

It being a fine moonlight evening, with no danger from enemy airships, the bells were kept going until 8.30, the methods rung during the day ranging from Grandsire and Stedman Triples to London and Bristol Surprise.

Peal cards 1s 1d. per dozen, post free. Order and remittance must accompany the peal when sent us for publication.

A BIRTHDAY AND WEDDING PEAL.

MR. F. I. HAIRS AND MISS ELSIE BENNETT.

St. Mary's, Clapham, was on Saturday week the scene of a ceremony of interest to many in the ringing world, the wedding being solemnised of Air Mechanic Frank Hairs, R.N.A.S., and Miss Elsie Bennett, both of whom are well known in the Exercise, Miss Bennett having achieved much distinction in handbell ringing. The bride was charmingly attired in a costume of dark green cloth with a velvet hat, trimmed with a coil of ostrich feathers, and carried a spray of lilies of the valley and ferns, whilst the bridegroom was in his uniform of the R.N.A.S. The duties of best man were carried out by Air Mechanic Frank Hawkins, R.N.A.S., the bridesmaid being Miss Norah Hairs, sister of the bridegroom. The Rev. Father J. Bennett officiated.

After the ceremony a small reception was held at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. J. I. Hairs, amongst those present being Mrs. Bennett, Miss Alice White, Mr. W. Hewitt, Mr. and Mrs. Horton, and several other friends of the bride and bridegroom. A touch of Stedman Caters in hand was rung by W. Hewitt 1-2, Mrs. Frank Hairs 3-4, A.-M. Fr. Hairs 5-6, C. H. Horton 7-8, Miss A. White 9-10. After the breakfast the health of the bride and bridegroom was proposed in a neat speech by Mr. Horton, who, on behalf of their many friends,



MR. AND MRS. F. I. HAIRS.

wished them every possible happiness and success in the future.—Mr. and Mrs. Hairs suitably responded. The bride and bridegroom were the recipients of numerous presents. In the afternoon, under the able conductorship of Mr. Hewitt, who kindly lent his car for the ceremony, etc., the bride and bridegroom left for Waterloo en route for the charming county town of Guildford, where a brief honeymoon, limited by the bridegroom's leave of absence, was spent among ringing friends.

Mr. and Mrs. Hairs accomplished the unique feat of both taking part in a peal on their wedding day. This was rung at Guildford, and in addition to being a fitting celebration of the occasion, was also a birthday compliment to England's oldest change ringer, Mr. John Heathorn. The latter is an inmate of Abbot's Hospital, a famous old building in the Surrey county town, and the peal was rung in the ancient dining hall. The ringers were welcomed by the Master of the Institution (Mr. Palmer) and Mr. Heathorn, and after good wishes for success, rang a capital peal of Stedman Caters in 2 hrs. 42 mins. The listeners included Mr. Heathorn, his son, daughter-in-law and grand-daughter, Mrs. Pulling, Mr. and Mrs. Hazelden and their niece, Mr. Steer and Mr. Gafford (a brother of the Hospital). It was a pleasing and remarkable coincidence that Mr. Heathorn should hear a peal which marked not only his 92nd birthday, but the wedding of the daughter of his old friend, Mr. Frank Bennett, and Mrs. Hairs received the congratulations of all present at the conclusion of the performance.

Other ringing which took place during that week-end included an attempt for an odd-hob peal of Stedman Triples on Sunday after-

noon, but a "shift" occurred three courses from half-way. Afterwards touches were rung. On Monday a 500 was rung in which Mrs. Hazelden took part, but a peal, which it was hoped to attempt had to be cried off, as one of the band was unable to join the rest.

As a tower-bell peal was impossible in London, in celebration of the wedding, friends of the bride and bridegroom met at 405, Kingsland Road, Dalston, and rang the following touches on handbells: 312 Stedman Triples: J. Hunt 1-2, A. W. Grimes (conductor) 3-4, W. A. Alps 5-6, H. A. Alford 7-8; and 504 in the same method: J. Hunt 1-2, A. W. Grimes 3-4, W. A. Alps 5-6, R. W. Green 7-8.

It may be of interest to ringers generally to know the number of peals rung by Mr. and Mrs. Hairs. Mr. Hairs' total is 180 peals in 61 towers and on handbells, in the following methods: Grandsire Triples and Caters, Stedman Triples, Caters and Cinques, Bob Major, Royal and Maximus, Treble Bob Royal and Maximus, Oxford Treble Bob Major, Waterloo, Duffield, Forward, Double Norwich, Superlative, Bristol, Brighton, Norfolk, and New Cambridge Major, and Cambridge Major and Royal, and including 8099 Grandsire Caters on handbells.



MR. J. HEATHORN,
The oldest ringer in England.

Mrs. E. Hairs' peals number 63, all on handbells, comprising Grandsire Triples and Caters, Stedman Triples, Caters and Cinques, Bob Major, Royal and Maximus, Kent Treble Bob Major and Royal, including 8099 Grandsire Caters. On one occasion she rang three peals in one day.

DEATH OF A YORKS RINGER.

The death has occurred, at his residence at Mirfield, of Mr. Fred Robinson, a former member for many years of the band at St. Mary's Church. The deceased was a life member of the Yorkshire Association, which he joined in 1897. He was a composer as well as a conductor. He was interred at Mirfield Church on January 13th, and prior to evening service on the 16th a half-muffled touch of 832 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung as a last tribute of respect, by: T. Crawshaw 1, A. North (conductor) 2, Hemmingway Dransfield (Earlsheaton) 3, J. W. Dens (Earlsheaton) 4, W. Idle (Earlsheaton) 5, R. Elam 6, H. Dransfield (Earlsheaton) 7, J. E. Dawson 8.

CHILVERS COTON, WARWICKSHIRE—At All Saints' Church, Chilvers Coton, on December 31st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples with the bells muffled, as a tribute to the memory of the late Miss Tomlinson, who for many years was an earnest church worker: H. Reader 1, T. W. Chapman 2, W. Martin 3, R. Pollard 4, H. Argyle 5, J. Clarke, senr., 6, J. Clarke, junr. (conductor) 7, A. Hancock 8.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

By 'BOB MAJOR.'

Pressure on space, I am told, prevented my notes from appearing last week. For one reason I was rather sorry, for I have got into hot water, and when I get in, I like to get out again as soon as I can. My note about the long peal of Treble Bob, rung at Elland in 1831, has brought down upon my devoted head the verbal chastisement of the present-day champions of that band of former days. I had better begin by giving the indictment. It comes from Mr. George H. Simon, of Elland, who writes, under date of Jan. 10th:—"I am sure that the Occasional Notes, by 'Bob Major,' have always been looked upon with interest by the majority of ringers, but, it is regrettable to note that in your last week's issue, whilst referring to the long peal at Elland, in the year 1831, that he should so far forget himself and introduce remarks which he did, to the effect that the Elland band of ringers should try to palm off the work of ten men as if it were the work of eight. As this aspersion has come as fresh news and as a great surprise to many old Ellanders, I should like 'Bob Major' to tell us where he gathered his information from, and if it is a 'German' tale, as it has always been understood in Elland (so we are told by some of the oldest ringers now living in Elland) that the peal was always known to have been rung by ten men, and that the band which rang this remarkable performance (at that time considered) never endeavoured to make the public believe that the peal was accomplished by eight men only. The 'assumption' of 'Bob Major' that the old ringers of the year 1831 were so 'audacious' to palm off something not accomplished is rather an awkward jar, and such remarks would have been best left unsaid, unless the same can be proved, that is, if 'Bob Major' wishes to retain his 'future reputation' and, seeing that 'Murder will out,' so let the truth."

THE PROOF.

I ought, really, to feel utterly crushed. I have evidently hurt the susceptibilities of my Elland friends, and for that I duly apologise, because I wouldn't, if I could help it, offend the feelings of anyone. But I am called upon to prove what I wrote. Unfortunately for me, I have never lived in Yorkshire, and more unfortunate still, for my present purpose, I was not alive when that 15,000 was rung, and, therefore, cannot give first-hand evidence. But there once lived in Yorkshire a man whom all Yorkshire ringers delighted to honour in life, and whose memory is still cherished. He made lots of researches into ringing history, and we have all come to look upon what he wrote as authentic. That man was Jaspur Snowdon, and I am sure that even my Elland friends will hardly dispute his word. Now, Jaspur Snowdon once wrote a book called "Treble Bob," and in that book was a chapter on the history of the method. The Elland peal, being a record length at the time it was rung, is, of course, given its proper place in the chapter, and, commenting on the peal Jaspur Snowdon says: "For some time it was given out that this peal had been rung by eight men only, but at last the truth crept out that ten men took part in the performance, as the ringers of the third and fourth had to be relieved." I am really sorry if this should be an 'awkward jar' to the present generation of Elland ringers, but this is not the only case where subsequent revelations have caused surprise—but I must not be led into reminiscences of this kind, or I shall be treading on somebody else's toes.

RECENT PEALS.

There were one or two very interesting points about some of the muffled peals rung at the beginning of the month. At St. Mary's, Southampton, the first peal was rung on the bells; at the other end of England, at Newcastle, the first peal was rung on the twelve bells. At Willesden they rang the first peal since having a ring of eight, and on the other side of the country, at Tewkesbury, the first peal on the ten was scored. Then, too, I believe that the peal at Romford was the first peal of London Surprise rung since the war started. It seemed quite like old times—the times that seem to be very distant when, viewed through the happenings of the past eighteen months—to see a crop of over 30 peals in one issue. True, they were, most of them, rung for a sad purpose, but, still, many a familiar name was brought to notice again. And talking of this batch of peals, reminds me of the handbell peal at Birmingham. How refreshing it was to note that performance. It is something like eleven years since a handbell peal was rung for the St. Martin's Guild, and yet it cannot have been for want of capable ringers that there has been this gap. Now that the ice has been broken we may hope to see something further in this direction. Speaking from memory, I believe St. Martin's Guild claim the credit of the only handbell peal rung on the sea; the peal of Stedman Caters rung on the passage between Dublin and Holyhead, and which was called by our old friend Bill Short. Two other famous Bills were in that peal, William Pys and William Barber, and the band was made up by Ernest and Bob Pye. Two equally famous men were the umpires, Jim George and Isaac Shade, and two witnesses of the performance were John Buffery—who seems to have dropped out of ringing—and our Editor.

AN OLD FRIEND'S DISAPPEARANCE.

I have been pondering during the last week or two over the absence of an old friend of mine. For many years—almost more years than I

care to believe—he has looked in upon me every week—well, nearly every week. Sometimes he would miss a week, and then, perhaps, come twice the next week, although formerly it was a regular Saturday morning call. Once upon a time he was always bright and chatty, and I really used to look forward to his coming. But latterly he grew, as it were, dejected and gloomy; he harped often on the same string till he got upon my nerves; his earlier vivacity had disappeared. Perhaps it was advancing years that accounted for the change, although he was not so old as years go, compared with some others whom I know. And now he's stopped coming altogether. I miss his face and familiar garb, and he has sent me no reason for his sudden abstinence. I cannot say I altogether deplore his absence, for he has not, in recent years, been of quite of the companionable nature he once was; and yet I miss him? By-the-way, are you aware that "The Ringing World" is the only paper now published exclusively in the interests of ringers?

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Derby District of the Midland Counties Association was held on Tuesday of last week in the belfry of St. Alkmund's Church, Derby, for the purpose of electing officers, etc., for the year. Members were present from Derby, Duffield and Darley Dale.

The following officers were elected: Chairman, Mr. W. Wallace; two committeemen, Mr. C. Draper and Mr. A. Wright; secretary, Mr. J. Lord, 36, Howard Street, Derby.

It was also recommended to the next quarterly meeting of the association that the general officers be re-elected en bloc.

The following delegates for the Central Council were nominated for the district: Sir Arthur Heywood and Mr. A. Wright.—Seven new members were admitted to the Association.

A resolution was proposed to be forwarded to the next general meeting, that no annual reports should be issued for the year 1915.

A vote of thanks to the chairman and officers concluded the meeting.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Manchester Branch took place at the Cathedral, and was graced by the presence of one of the churchwardens. The genial tower keeper, looking hearty and well, despite his 74 years, was there to welcome one and all, with his "happy and victorious New Year," he having a job on to shake hands with some 40 members and friends from Bolton, Middleton, Stockport, and most of the towers in the branch. Ringing commenced about 5.30, when touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Caters, Bob and Treble Bob Royal were rung, and a few rounds for the ladies. The Vice-President (Mr. Ridyard) conducted the business meeting, at which Miles Plating was chosen for the next meeting.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the authorities, which was responded to by the warden, Mr. Higginbottom. The bells were kept going till about 9 p.m. Khaki friends in the neighbourhood could not attend the meeting, as some were on duty and hospital hours barred others.

THE BUSHEY SOCIETY.

The annual meeting and supper of the Bushey Society took place on Thursday of last week, at the Church Institute, the following being present: The President (Rev. G. M. Hall) in the chair, the Rev. H. H. C. Richardson, and Messrs. Gabain, Head and J. Prewett, vice-presidents; Messrs. F. A. Smith, Edwards, W. J. Oakley, W. E. Oakley, Darlow, Parslow, Andrews, Bates, Willis and B. Prewett, of the local company, and Messrs. Hughes (Stanmore), Cooper (Oxhey) and Inwood (Aldenhams). After supper, the Rector briefly reviewed the work of the year. The society, like every other institution had, he said, suffered from the effects of the war. Five members (Messrs. Stavert, Prewett, George, Whitehead and Sealey) were serving with the colours, but despite their absence, the ringing had been kept up to the usual standard, owing to the loyalty and self-sacrifice of those who were left. No peals had been rung during the year, and, in deference to public opinion, the practices and Sunday evening ringing had been suspended during the winter. Sympathetic reference was made to the loss the society had sustained by the death of Mr. E. E. Huntley, one of the vice-presidents, and for 21 years Master of the band, to whose energy and perseverance the establishment of change ringing in the district was due.

The officers were all re-elected with the exception that Mr. F. A. Smith takes the place of Rifleman B. Prewett as secretary, while the latter is with the colours.

After the meeting various games were indulged in for the remainder of the evening, and the gathering broke up at 11 p.m., after a very hearty vote of thanks had been passed to the President for his hospitality.

It may be mentioned that in 1915 the society has, by means of the penny collections, contributed £2 11s. to "The Ringing World" National Relief Fund.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.

Owing to the pressure on our space the report of the annual meeting of this Guild and several other items are unavoidably held over until next week.

"SNAPPED" AT THE WEDDING.

Mr. William Shepherd and his bride, photographed at their wedding, and Mr. Arthur Shepherd, the best man. The two brothers took part in the world's record of 19,738 Stedman Caters, rung on handbells at Guildford in 1912.

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. STROUD BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Stroud and District Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held at Chalford on Saturday week, and proved to be a most pleasant and successful gathering. The novel and interesting peal of six steel bells were rung during the afternoon and evening in various musical touches in the standard methods by the 30 ringers who attended from 10 out of the 2 towers in the Branch. A service was held in the Parish Church, the Vicar (the Rev. A. E. Addenbrooke) taking the first portion, which was from the Association's form of service, and a brother ringer, the Rev. H. P. Barchard, gave a most interesting address, which was much appreciated.

At the conclusion of the service, by the kind invitation of the Vicar, all partook of tea at the Church Room. The annual report and balance sheet were presented by the Branch Secretary (Mr. W. Hale). It was considered most satisfactory and unanimously adopted, and the whole of the officers were unanimously re-elected and thanked for their services. The report showed that 18 out of the 80 members had enlisted in his Majesty's Forces, and all enlisted would be exempt from paying subscriptions for the duration of the war. Twelve meetings had been held with an average attendance of 20, the record meeting being at Stroud in July with an attendance of 41 ringers. One new honorary member was elected and Minchinhampton selected for the next quarterly meeting, and Painswick and Avening for the monthly meetings.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and churchwardens, the Rev. H. P. Barchard, the organist and local society of ringers for their great kindness and hospitality. In response, a hearty welcome was given to the Association. — Tower and handbell ringing concluded a pleasant day's proceedings.

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BRANCH.

A meeting of the Wotton-under-Edge and District Branch was held at Thornbury on Saturday week. Over thirty members were present from all parts of the district, including a good number of the Bristol Branch, amongst whom were the hon. treasurer (the Rev. H. A. Cockey), Mr. F. G. May, Mr. H. Howell and several other well-known members of the Association. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Cambridge Surprise Major were brought round in the afternoon, and after tea the Rev. Canon Cornwall (Vicar of Thornbury) presided over the business meeting. — Slimbridge was decided upon as the next place of meeting on February 19th. — A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. Canon Cornwall for his kindness to the ringers in giving them such a hearty welcome to Thornbury, and the motion was suitably acknowledged.

The tower was again visited, and a very pleasant evening spent, everyone enjoying the splendid "go" of the bells. Two lady ringers from Dursley took part in Stedman Triples, and a touch on the handbells was rung by the Bristol ringers.

WEST EALING.—On Sunday, Dec. 19th, for the evening service, at St. Stephen's Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1248 changes): C. Edwards 1, J. A. Trollope (conductor) 2, R. Holloway 3, Geo. Harbour 4, V. Holloway 5, W. H. Hollier 6, W. Lawrence 7, A. Harding 8.

MUFFLED RINGING FOR DEAD HEROES

The following were among the muffled touches rung for those who have fallen in the war:—

BROOMFIELD.—Essex Association.—At St. Mary's Church, on Jan. 2nd, for evening service, with the bells muffled, 360 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: H. Bradley 1, C. Parsons 2, G. Parsons 3, Pte. F. Smith (Oxford and Bucks L.I.) 4, E. Clark 5, Quartermaster-Sergt. Hedges (O.B.L.I.) 6. After service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: G. Clark 1, C. Parsons 2, G. Parsons 3, E. Clark 4, H. Bradley 5, Q.-M.-S. Hedges (O.B.L.I.) 6. Also 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor by the same band, conducted by Q.-M.-S. Hedges.

TENDRING.—Essex Association.—On Jan. 9th, with the bells half-muffled, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, before morning service, and 720 of Plain Bob afterwards: C. Marven (Tendring) 1, J. Bowell (Little Bentley) 2, J. Souter (Mistley) 3, E. Eady (Thorpe-le-Soken) 4, G. Jennings (Weeley) 5, W. J. Nevard (Great Bentley), conductor, 6.

CARDIFF.—At St. John's, on Jan. 6th, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 55 mins.: H. Day 1, W. B. Biss 2, W. Heath 3, S. Dawe 4, A. Rowley 5, J. Clutterbuck 6, F. Chamberlain (conductor) 7, S. Barker 8.

UPPER ARMLEY, LEEDS.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, at Christ Church, for evening service, with the bells muffled, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: A. Windsor 1, J. Hey 2, F. Gaunt 3, J. Peacock 4, M. Broadbent (conductor) 5, Jos. Thackray 6.

LANGHAM, ESSEX.—On Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: G. Lilley 1, G. Green 2, A. Smith 3, F. Smith (conductor) 4, J. Smith 5, W. Sterry 6. For evening service, 480 Doubles, by: G. Green 1, A. Smith (conductor) 2, F. Smith 3, H. Lilley 4, W. Sterry 5.

BRADPOLE, DORSET.—For Intercession service, on Jan. 2nd, at Holy Trinity Church, in the morning, 504 Grandsire Triples: C. Lathey 1, Rev. C. F. Langford 2, J. Lathey 3, E. Joy 4, T. H. Beams (conductor) 5, H. Way 6, T. Lathey 7, A. Hill 8. For evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples: W. Stiley 1, Rev. C. F. Langford 2, J. Lathey 3, T. H. Beams (conductor) 4, H. Haines 5, H. Way 6, T. Lathey 7, H. Hill 8. Also 210 Grandsire: H. Corbin treble, the rest as before. Rung with the bells fully muffled. Longest length of Triples by ringers of the treble.

LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.—For the Intercession service, for morning service, 360 Grandsire and Bob Doubles: W. H. Lawrence 1—2, S. Game 3, A. Phillips 4, E. A. Overall (conductor) 5, W. Williams 6. Owing to police regulations no ringing is allowed for evening services.

BATH.—At St. Mary's Church, on Jan. 2nd, for evening service, with the bells half-muffled, 1260 Grandsire Triples: W. Flower 1, T. Hogsflesh 2, A. Richardson 3, A. E. Alexander 4, A. E. Seers 5, C. Densley 6, R. J. Cousins (conductor) 7, H. Davis 8.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, after divine service, in the evening, 1008 Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled: A. E. Baker 1, C. Tyler (conductor) 2, G. Payne 3, E. Lish 4, A. Baigent 5, W. J. Alliss 6, L. Payne 7, A. Hodges 8.

FAKENHAM, NORFOLK.—At SS. Peter and Paul's Church, with the bells half-muffled, on Jan. 2nd: G. Beverley 1, A. Dye 2, F. Harrison 3, C. Wybow 4, A. W. Baldwin 5, C. S. Tuthill 6, F. T. Cooke 7, R. Cooke (conductor) 8. Special ringing was arranged for the afternoon, 1008 changes being attempted immediately before sunset, owing to the church being in a restricted area. After about 784 changes had been rung, however, the fourth bell set itself fast and became immovable.

STOCKPORT.—On Sunday evening, Jan. 2nd, at St. George's Church, with half-muffled bells, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes), in 55 mins.: J. Booth 1, E. Goddard 2, T. Jackson 3, J. W. Bayley 4, E. Jackson 5, J. Mottershead 6, H. Meakin (conductor) 7, G. Asbury 8, H. Jackson 9, G. Marshall 10.

LEICESTER.—On Intercession Sunday, at St. Margaret's Church, special touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, half-muffled, by: E. Smith, A. Peach, J. Vernon, F. Sharman, B. Kirby, A. Ballard, T. H. Hardy, J. Morris, E. Morris (conductor).

LOUGHBOROUGH.—On Saturday, Jan. 8th, at the bell foundry tower, an attempt was made for a half-muffled peal of Stedman Triples, but was lost through a "shift": E. Morris 1, R. Lane 2, E. Leslie 3, W. Willson 4, H. Broughton 5, F. H. Dexter 6, E. Reader (conductor) 7, J. Oldham 8.

ARKSEY, NEAR DONCASTER.—At All Saints' Church, with the bells half-muffled, on Saturday, Jan. 8th, in 45 mins., a quarter-peal of Minor (1260 changes), being 240 each of Violet, New London, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and 300 Plain Bob: F. Garner 1, Rev. Rhys James 2, G. Clarke 3, E. Arrand 4, F. Beardsmore 5, F. Clarke (conductor) 6.

LATE NOTICE.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Burham on Saturday, February 5th. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5.15 at the Clarence Hotel, meeting to follow. Bells available from 2 p.m.—J. Harris, Hon. Local Sec., Burham.

NOTICES.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Wraxall on Saturday, Jan. 29th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Divine service 4.30. Tea at 5.15; business meeting to follow.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at Stansted on Saturday, January 29th. Bells available from 4 to 9 p.m. Business meeting in the Tower at 5.30 p.m. Wm. Watts, District Secretary, Mont House Cottage, Stansted, Essex.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—A committee meeting will be held at the offices of the British Equitable Assurance Co., 1, Greyhound Street, Nottingham, on Saturday, Jan. 29th, at 5 p.m., followed by general meeting at 5.30. Business: Appointment of Auditors, etc. A notification of intention to be present will be esteemed.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec., Cotgrave.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting for the whole district will be held at the Parish Church of SS. Mary and Nicholas, Leatherhead, on Saturday, January 29th. Bells (10—tenor 20 cwt.) available 3.30. Service at 5 o'clock. Meat tea (members 9d., visitors 1s. 6d.) at the Institute Restaurant 5.45, followed by business meeting for election of officers and other business.—Ch. Reading, Assistant Hon. Secretary, Union Bank Chambers, Croydon.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Evesham on Saturday, January 29th. Service in All Saints' Church at 5 p.m., at which members are requested to attend. The bells (10) will be available for ringing.—J. Hemming, Branch Secretary, 29, Church Bank, Hampton, Evesham.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Wakefield on Saturday, Jan. 29th. Service in the Cathedral at 4 p.m. For full particulars of the day's arrangements see circular sent to each tower secretary.—C. Glenn, Hon. Gen. Sec., 11, Fisher Road, Sheffield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at Accrington on Saturday, January 29th, 1916. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD OF CHANGING RINGERS.—Annual meeting January 29th, 1916, at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury. Ringing 2.30 p.m. (also at St. Alkmund's), Service 4.30 p.m. Tea in St. Chad's Room 5 p.m. Meeting after tea. Please reply before the 24th to Rev. F. Tennison, Honorary Secretary, St. Alkmund's Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—The annual meeting of the above Guild will be held at Stamford on Saturday, January 29th. Bells of S. Martin's, All Saints', and S. Michael's available afternoon and evening. Tea at Crown Hotel 5 o'clock. Meeting to follow. Members and friends are cordially invited.—Wm. G. Thorpe, Assistant Secretary.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Droitwich on Saturday, January 29th, 1916. Service in St. Andrew's Church at 4.15 prompt; the bells (8) will be available.—R. G. Knowles, Branch Secretary, Madresfield, Malvern.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Staplehurst on Saturday, February 5th. Tower open at 3. Committee meeting at 4. Service in Church at 5. Tea at the Bell Hotel at 5.45, followed by General Meeting. Members intending to be present must notify the District Secretary not later than Tuesday, Feb. 1st.—W. Latter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting of this society will be held at Ranmoor on Saturday, February 5th. Bells open from 3 to 9 p.m. Service in church at 5.30 p.m., followed by tea to all who notify Mr. R. W. Collier, 78, Everton Road, Brocco Bank, Sheffield, not later than Tuesday, February 1st.—Sam Thomas, Secretary, 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Christ Church, Wanstead, on Saturday, February 5th. Bells available from 3 o'clock, short service at 4 o'clock, after which bells again available till 6.30. Arrangements will be made for tea for all letting me know by Wednesday, February 2nd. All ringers and friends invited.—H. Rumens, Honorary District Secretary, 32, Verulam Avenue, Walthamstow, N.E.

AN UNOFFICIAL MEETING will be held at Dulverton on Saturday, February 5th. Bells (8) available at 3. Service at 4.30. Tea (9d.) in the Parish Room at 5. Those requiring tea are asked to notify me by February 1st.—Rev. E. V. Cox, Bampton, Devon.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Worksop on Saturday, February 5th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. to 8.30. Tea at the Waverley Hotel at 5.15 p.m. to members at 9d. per head, 1s. 3d. to others who advise J. T. Wilson, 151, Eastgate, Worksop, not later than February 1st.—H. Haigh, Honorary Secretary.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The nomination meeting of the above society will be held at Armley on Saturday, February 5th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Business meeting in the White Horse Hotel at 7.30. All members are requested to attend.—Wm. Barton, Honorary Secretary, 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting of the South and West District will be held at Isleworth on Saturday, February 12th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea, by kind invitation of Mrs. McGill, in the Hartland Road Mission Hall at 5. Those members who have not already paid their subscriptions are earnestly requested to do so by the date of the meeting.—H. C. Chandler, Honorary Secretary, Church Road, Hounslow.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meetings will be held at Desborough, February 5th; Finedon, February 12th; Twywell, February 19th; and Kingsthorpe, February 26th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock. Will members let district secretaries know not later than the Wednesday previous to meetings if they require tea.—Fred Wilford, General Secretary, 149, Ashburnham Road, Northampton.

GLOS. AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held on February 5th at Stapleton. Bells (6) open from 3 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.30. Visitors heartily welcomed. Kindly notify by February 1st to A. W. Seviour, 5, Brunswich Street, City Road, Bristol.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Annual general meeting at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields on Saturday, February 12th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5.30 in the Vestry Hall at 9d. per head to those who notify me not later than February 8th.—H. J. Bradley, Parish Church, Shoreditch.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks & South Bucks Branch. — The annual meeting will be held at Slough on Saturday, February 12th, 1916. Service in the Parish Church 4.30 p.m.; preacher. Rev. F. G. A. Phillips, Rector of Taplow. Tea in Church Institute 5.15 p.m., business meeting to follow. The bells will be available from 2.30 until 9 p.m. Names of members intending to be present must reach me not later than Monday, February 7th.—G. Martin, 21, Powney Road, Maidenhead.—United practice will be held at Gt. Missenden on January 29th, at 7 p.m.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District. —A meeting of the above will be held at Ashford, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. E. H. Sopwith), on Saturday, February 19th. Bells available from 3 till 6. Service in the church at 6 o'clock. Arrangements will be made for tea after the service (for those who wish it) by notifying me of same not later than Tuesday, February 15th. As we have not been privileged to hold a meeting at Ashford for several years it is hoped members will turn up in force to show their appreciation of same.—C. Tribe, British School Villas, Tenterden.

HANDBELL PRACTICES are held on Monday evenings from 7.45 to 9.30 p.m. in the belfry of the Church of the Emanuel, Streatham Common. Handbell ringers would be gladly welcomed. — G. B. Edser, 113, Angell Road, Brixton, S.W.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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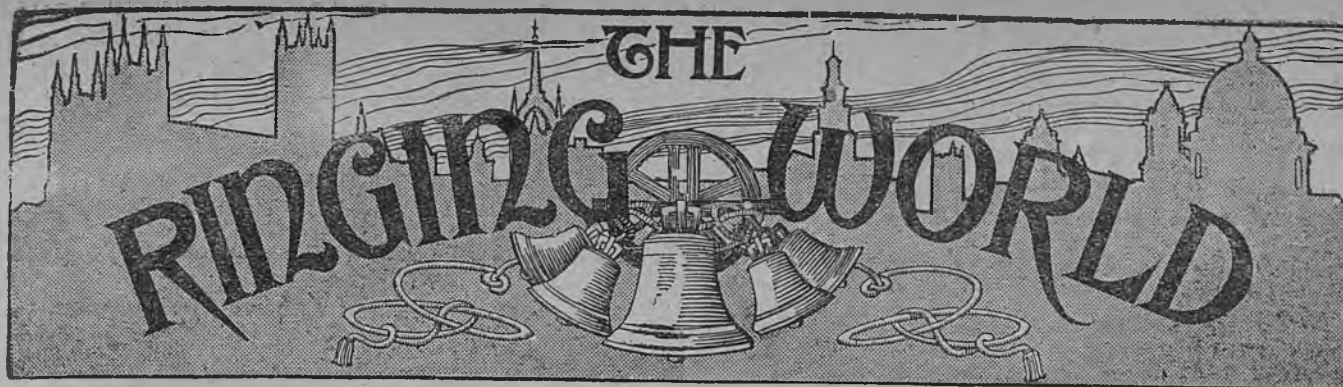
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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4th, 1916.

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Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

MEETINGS IN WAR TIME.

Despite the calls which war has made upon the personnel of our belfries, there is a good deal of activity among the members of the Exercise in many areas, if one may judge by the successful meetings which have been lately held in various parts of the country. It is true that the numbers who are attending these gatherings are not so large as in pre-war times—and for a very obvious reason—but the keenness is there among those who are left behind, and this is a healthy sign. In addition to retaining an active interest in the business affairs of their respective associations, the meetings enable the members to unite for that general practice which it is now often difficult to get in individual towers, and to many they afford a refreshing break from the strenuous tasks which present conditions have thrown upon them.

In the first rude shock of war it was only to be expected that ringing, like many other things, should be thrown into a precarious state. But now that matters have found their new level, as it were, and we know where we stand, we are getting back nearer to normal conditions than, at the outset, one could have thought possible. No one, of course, thinks of ringing peals, except for special purposes, and in certain areas ringing of any description is limited by the necessities of military requirements. But our associations are, happily, keeping their organisation going, and most of them are able to hold their usual meetings. Some few are still adhering to their first resolution not to meet during the war, but the majority have now realised that there is no need to suspend activities indefinitely.

Moreover, there seems to us a very substantial reason why none of our associations need remain in a state of more or less suspended animation. Those societies which do most to encourage their members to meet are always the strongest, not necessarily in point of numbers—for that depends upon the area covered—but in that esprit de corps which is the foundation of success in any organised body. Where, on the other hand, little or nothing is done to bring members together, interest evaporates which it is not always easy to restore. A prolonged war means that those societies, who do not meet throughout its duration, will have some leeway to make up, at any rate among those lukewarm members of the rank and file who, at the best of times, require a good deal of keeping together. To let them slip entirely out of touch with their central organisation for a long period is hardly likely, therefore, to help the recovery of the associations after the war, and if only for the purpose of conserving the strength of the society we believe that war time meetings are fully justified.

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Late 155, Keeton's Road, Bermondsey.

Maker to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute,
Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough,
Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester
and Worcester Cathedral, etc., etc.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, January 29, 1916, in Three Hours and Thirty-four Minutes,
At CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANCES;

Tenor 23 cwt. in E flat.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| THOMAS H. REEVES Treble | *FRANK M. PERRENS 7 |
| ALF. PADDON SMITH 2 | HERBERT KNIGHT 8 |
| CHARLES DICKENS 3 | BENJAMIN GOUGH 9 |
| JAMES L. WELLS 4 | JAMES E. GROVES 10 |
| FREDERICK DICKENS 5 | JAMES GEORGE 11 |
| ERNEST T. ALLAWAY 6 | GEORGE TENDALL Tenor |

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, and
Conducted by THOMAS H. REEVES.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques. First peal of Cinques as conductor. This peal was rung in connection with the Dedication Festival of this church, and as a compliment to the Bishop of the Diocese, who was holding a Confirmation Service the next day.

TEN BELL PEAL.

ASTON, BIRMINGHAM.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 22, 1916, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANCES;

Tenor 22 cwt.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| JOHN JENNINGS Treble | JAMES HOPKINS 6 |
| MORRIS J. MORRIS 2 | WILLIAM WELLS 7 |
| WILLIAM H. JONES 3 | WILLIAM G. ELLIS 8 |
| *GEORGE POPNELL 4 | BENJ. GOUGH 9 |
| *WALTER SEATON 5 | CHARLES ALLEN Tenor |

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and
Conducted by W. G. ELLIS.

* First peal with a bob bell. The ringer of the 4th was proposed a member previous to starting for the peal. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the soldiers and sailors who have lost their lives in the war.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

PENTRE RHONDDA, SOUTH WALES.
THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(ST. PETER'S SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, January 27, 1916, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 26 cwt. 3 qrs. 10 lbs.

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| HARRY PAGE Treble | JAMES CROSS 5 |
| *FRANK WINES 2 | GEORGE WINES 6 |
| *FRED LASBURY 3 | WILLIAM PAGE 7 |
| GEORGE CROSS 4 | TOM PAGE Tenor |

Composed by H. DAINS, and
Conducted by HARRY PAGE.

* First peal. First peal in the method by all the band; on the bells; and by the Association. Rung as a compliment to H. Crabbe, a member of the Society, on the occasion of his marriage.

LEYLAND, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 29, 1916, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 21 cwt.

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| THOMAS B. WORSLEY Treble | HARRY FRANCE 5 |
| TITUS BARLOW 2 | SAMUEL WATKINSON 6 |
| JOSEPH RIDYARD 3 | *WILLIAM PENNINGTON 7 |
| BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS 4 | EDWARD BANNISTER Tenor |

Conducted by BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS.

* 50th peal. This peal was rung to celebrate the wedding of Mr. Ernest Berry and Miss A. Bannister (daughter of the ringer of the tenor); also to celebrate the 31st anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. S. Watkinson's wedding day. First peal of Stedman on the bells.

MILNROW, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(ROCHDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 29, 1916, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

| THOMAS THURSTANS' FIVE-PART. | | Tenor 20 cwt. | |
|------------------------------|--------|------------------|-------|
| ROBERT BUCKLEY... | Treble | CHARLES BENNETT | 5 |
| GEORGE STAFF | 2 | JOSEPH GREENWOOD | 6 |
| JOHN FITTON | 3 | EDWARD SCHOFIELD | 7 |
| JOHN H. C. MASSEY | 4 | HARRY BUCKLEY | Tenor |

Conducted by JOSEPH GREENWOOD.

Rung with bells half-muffled (after failure in an attempt on Jan. 8th) as a tribute of respect to the memory of the soldiers and sailors who have given their lives in the war, and of sympathy with bereaved friends in the district. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar and churchwardens for granting permission for the use of the bells.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ARKLOW, CO. WICKLOW, IRELAND.
THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 15, 1916, in One Hour and Fifty-eight Minutes,
AT LAMBERTON LODGE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Grandsire, College Single, Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, and Plain Bob.

| | | | |
|---------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| JOHN KEARON | 1—2 | RICHARD KEARON | 3—4 |
| ARTHUR HADLEY | 5—6 | | |

Witness: Mrs. A. HADLEY.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 18, 1916, in Two Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE TOWER OF SS. PETER AND PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being three 720's of St. Clement's, two of College Single Reverse and two of Plain Bob, each called differently.

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| *CHARLES POULSON | 1—2 | ARTHUR SYMONDS | 3—4 |
| STEDMAN H. SYMONDS | 5—6 | | |

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

* First peal in three methods. This peal was rung to commemorate the birth of a son and heir to Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Symonds.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Sunday, January 23, 1916, in Two Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE TOWER OF SS. PETER AND PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 720 of College Single Reverse, two 720's of Kent Treble Bob, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and three 720's of Plain Bob, each called differently.

| | | | |
|--------------------|-----|-----------------|-----|
| STEDMAN H. SYMONDS | 1—2 | MAURICE SYMONDS | 4 |
| CHARLES A. POULSON | 3 | ARTHUR SYMONDS | 5—6 |

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

This peal was rung to celebrate the birthday of A. Symonds.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD

On Tuesday, January 25, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH, SHOREDITCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANCES;

| | | | |
|------------------|------|------------------|-----|
| JAMES HUNT | 1—2 | GEORGE R. PYE | 5—6 |
| WILLIAM PYE | 3—4 | ALFRED W. GRIMES | 7—8 |
| WILLIAM J. NUDDS | 9—10 | | |

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Umpire: C. T. COLES.

We are asked to state that the handbell peal reported as rung at Lavenham on December 21st was rung on Dec. 24th, and comprised three 720's of St. Clement's and four of Plain Bob.

NATIONAL RELIEF FUND.

The following further contribution to the Prince of Wales' National Relief Fund has been received:—

| | £ | s. | d. |
|---|-------------|----------|----------|
| Amount already acknowledged | 123 | 0 | 5 |
| Ringers of Martock Parish Church (per Mr. F. Farrant) | 0 | 6 | 0 |
| Total | £123 | 6 | 5 |

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers who have joined H.M. Forces:
Second-Lieut. E. V. Rodenhurst, of St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, 3/4th King's Shropshire Light Infantry, now at Tenby.

Joseph Hanley, of Holy Trinity, Coalbrookdale, Salop, has joined the Army, having been called up under the Derby Scheme. He is the eighth ringer from Coalbrookdale serving with the colours.

W. Little, of Henley-on-Thames, has also been called up.

Pte F. Brightman, and Pte J. Nuttall, of Christ Church, Macclesfield, 3/7th Cheshire Territorials.

From the Stroud and District Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association:—

Painswick:

Stanley Cole, Army Service Corps Mechanical Transport.

Richard Hubert Hanks, 10th Gloucesters, died from wounds received at Loos.

William Ireland, 10th Gloucesters.

Fred Millard, 6th Gloucesters.

Minchinhampton:

Lance-Corporal E. Harris, 8th Gloucesters.

J. Apperley, Army Service Corps.

Harry Barratt, 135th H.B. Oxford and Bucks R.G.A.

Bisley:

William Dean, 8th Gloucesters.

Cuthbert Randall, 9th Gloucesters.

Arthur Cooke, 13th Gloucesters.

Horsley:

Sergt. Albert Williams, 3rd Gloucesters

George Howell, Railway Guard, Winchester.

Stonehouse:

Gilbert Harrison, Army Service Corps.

Walter Price, Army Service Corps.

Avening:

Albert Hayes, 8th Gloucesters.

Leonard Stanley:

Walter Powell, 5th Gloucesters.

Stroud:

H. Smith, Royal Gloucester Hussars Yeomanry.

KILLED IN ACTION.

The sympathy of the members of the Hereford Diocesan Guild and the whole Exercise will go out to Mr. J. G. Buchanan, the popular Master of the Guild, and his wife and family, on the loss of his youngest son, Lieut. D. N. G. Buchanan, who was killed in action on Jan. 22nd, in Mesopotamia.

LIEUT. E. MAURICE ATKINS.

Lieut. E. Maurice Atkins, Royal Engineers, who, as recorded in our last issue, had been reported as wounded, is in No. 7 Stationary Hospital, Boulogne. He was shot through the thigh on January 14th, and is suffering from a compound fracture of the femur. He is, we are glad to say, going on well.

MONEY INVESTED FOR MEMORIAL.

The ringers of Linslade, Bucks, have decided to invest £3 of their funds, until the end of the war, towards a memorial to one of their comrades who had lost his life in France. The band have three other members serving there and one in training, and it was resolved, at a meeting recently held,* to pay the subscriptions of these members to the Oxford Guild. It was reported that contributions to the ringers' fund had not come up to previous years, owing partly to two of the subscribers leaving the parish. Mr. C. Rollings was welcomed back to the belfry as a member, and it was hoped that it would be some time before he had to leave the district again. Messrs. R. Horton and R. Hunt were elected members of the belfry.

LONG STANTON.—On January 23rd, after morning service, 180 Bob Minor: W. Neal 1, Geo. Crisp 2, Rev. H. B. Woolley 3, C. W. Cook 4, B. F. Sheppard 5, J. B. Williamson (conductor) 6. Also at the Vicarage, on handbells, 360 Bob Minor: *J. B. Woolley 1, Rev. H. B. Woolley 2, J. B. Williamson (conductor) 3—4, B. F. Sheppard 5—6. * First touch of Minor, aged 12 years.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

By "BOB MAJOR."

NONOGENARIANS.

Ringling must surely be an aid to longevity—I believe I have said so before, and if I have, well, no matter. But nearly every week the "Ringing World" seems to add force to the statement. Old ringers, I don't mean those frolicing youths of 60 or 70 years, but octogenarians and nonogenarians, are to be found. Dear old John Heathorn, of Guildford, seems to be the oldest of all. He has just celebrated his 92nd birthday, and I believe he attributes something of that admirable constitution of his, which has carried him through to this ripe old age, to the physical exercise which ringing provided him with after he had passed the stage when Sandow developers, football or cricket would have been looked upon as a pastime conducive to his well being. Then there is that splendid old ringer, William Banister, who, this year, will have one of his few real birthdays. On February 29th i.e. too, will be 92. And just think of it, he was ringing peals of Stedman Cinques 70 years ago! Here are living testimonials as to ringing being an aid to longevity. Perhaps, however, we had better not make too much of it, or the Government may want to discourage ringing in case it increases their liability for old age pensions.

CAMPANOLOGISTS AND OTHER ISTS.

Oh, yes, there are poor among the ringers—I am one of them—as well as rich. My sheet anchor for the future is the old age pension, and so you see I have a personal motive for hoping that nothing will be done to knock them on the head, or me either, before I reach the allotted span. And talking of money, I was told the other day that a jubilee £2 piece was now worth 50s. All you fellows, therefore, that have a collection of these coins, stowed away in a stocking somewhere, turn them out. They're valuable. No, it isn't that a beneficent Government—who give you ninepence for fourpence, or something of the sort—is anxious to give you 50s. for two pounds' worth of gold. I asked the man who was telling me about it what the reason was, and he said it was because the coins were rare, and it was the numismatologists who were paying this price. I tried to remember that word, for I thought it could only apply to some really weird and wonderful species, and I didn't want to display my ignorance, as a lady once did. She was reading the local paper and saw a paragraph headed: "Presentation to a Campanologist." What's a "campanologist," she asked a friend, "is it one of those men who stuffs birds and things?" At some time or other, I suppose, she had heard of a taxidermist, and as I had heard of pneumatics, and neurasthenics, I thought, recalling the story of the lady, I had better be like Brear Rabbit, "Lay low and say nuffink." I now know that a numismatologist is one "versed in coins and medals."

MR. JAMES GEORGE'S NEW JOB.

So they've found a new job for our old friend, Mr. James George—of Birmingham. Bishop Ryder's is now to claim his attention, and there will not be any doubt about the energy he will put into the mastership of that belfry. Already, I hear, he is pulling things up to scratch and "waking 'em up," as it were. There is no doubt the task he has taken on will prove a congenial one, and perhaps it will have one result which, so far as my knowledge goes, his long ringing career has not yet produced—he may now feel disposed to call a peal. It is a funny thing that some men, keen as mustard on ringing and able exponents of the art, never care to act as conductors of a peal. Nearly everybody likes to have "a shot" at it at some time or other, and while many never reach a stage higher than that which entitles them to be designated "bob callers," where should we be if we were all like that juvenile veteran who has now gone to Bishop Ryder's. You ought not to be nervous at your time of life you know, James, even though you are—as General Booth once described himself—sixty-two years young. Some day, perhaps, you will oblige with a "composed and conducted" peal, such as many a Birmingham worthy of the past has done. I wish you all success at Bishop Ryder's. But what are they going to do at St. Martin's?

PEAL RINGING HUSBANDS AND WIVES.

It wasn't long, was it, before the example set at Leicester, was followed elsewhere, and two ringers were united in matrimony—the money which, unlike the sovereign, is difficult to change! But Mr. and Mrs. Hairs set up an entirely new record. To ring a handbell peal together on their wedding day was a unique achievement. Though, since more ladies have taken to ringing, there are now numerous instances of husband and wife being interested in the art, very few couples have rung peals together. The first to do so were Mr. and Mrs. George Williams, at that time residing at Brighton. By that performance, which, I believe, went to the credit of the Salisbury Guild, Mrs. Williams achieved the distinction of being the first lady to ring a peal. What advances have been made since then in the number of ladies joining the ranks of ringers! I am not sure, as I am speaking from memory, but I believe the only other case of man and wife ringing peals together is that of Mr. and Mrs. Whittington, of Cranleigh, Surrey, who are now well known in many parts of the country, whither their peregrinations on that celebrated tandem cycle have taken them.

CLERGY WHO THINK OF THE BELLS.

It has often been said that it is a blessing that all men do not think alike, but that, to my mind, depends upon whose point of view they would adopt. If, for instance, they would all think with me on the subject of bells, what a time there would be in store for ringers, and what a blessing it would be for the bell founders — when they've finished making munitions to settle the Kaiser and his hordes. But, unhappily shall I say? even all clergy do not think on the subject as I would have them do. Everything connected with the church seems, with some of them, to come before the bells. They will have a new vestry, or a new organ, or a new pulpit, or even a new clock before they will have new bells or renovate the old ones. Would to goodness there were more about like the late Archdeacon Campbell, of Feltwell, whose death members of the Norwich Association will much deplore. Here was a parson who never lost sight of the bells of his churches, and in three of the parishes in which he lived he carried out renovations and augmentations. He increased Thornham Magna to six and Street and Worlingworth to eight, adding altogether six new bells to these three peals. He was a true friend to ringers and one who, though not a ringer himself, the Exercise could ill-spare. It is no more than a truism to say that the clergy who look after the bells, never neglect the rest of the church. 'Tis a pity we cannot also say that those who look after the rest of the church never neglect the bells.

A LANCASHIRE STORY.

Another good story has reached me concerning the ideas of the uninitiated as to bell ringing, which only goes further to prove what curious notions there are abroad. The incident happened at Ashton-under-Lyne, where at St. Peter's Church, as we have all learned, there are quite a number of ladies who are not only doing their best "to keep the home fires burning," but the church bells ringing as well. At this church, as at nearly all the rest throughout the country on January 2nd, the bells were rung muffled, and while the ringing was in progress, two gentlemen (well known to the ringers, I am informed) passed the church. "I wonder how they muffle the bells?" remarked one. Said the other, "Nay, they're not muffled. They've got lady ringers here, so they'll not be strikin' as hard as men does. That's what mak's 'em sound soft."

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.
CHEW DEANERY'S ROLL OF HONOUR.

The annual meeting of the Chew Deanery Branch was held at Wraxall on Saturday, and was splendidly attended, over 60 members being present from Barrow Gurney, Clevedon, Clapton, Easton-in-Gordano, Long Ashton, Nailsea, Portbury, Portishead, Wraxall, Tickenham, Yatton, Bristol, and Newport. Ringing commenced on the fine peal of bells soon after three o'clock, and later in the afternoon divine service was held in the Parish Church, when a most helpful address was given by Preb. Vaughan from Corinthians xii, 2. The members then adjourned to the Battle Axes tea rooms, where, by the kind invitation of Preb. Vaughan, a most excellent meat tea had been provided.

Subsequently the business meeting was held, presided over by Preb. Vaughan. The officers were re-elected for the ensuing year, and nine new members were elected, including four lady ringers from Tickenham tower.—Barrow Gurney was chosen for the place of the next quarterly meeting.

Preb. Vaughan suggested that a list of names of members in the Deanery who were serving their King and country should be procured. He offered to get them printed on a suitable card, and said he would send one to each tower in the Deanery.—This suggestion was approved by acclamation.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed, and carried amid applause, to Preb. Vaughan for his kindly welcome and hospitality, and the meeting closed with the National Anthem.

ILCHESTER DEANERY.

The annual meeting of the Ilchester and Merston Deaneries Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held at Martock on Saturday week. Ringing was indulged in during the afternoon, and a service was held in the Parish Church, conducted by the President of the Branch (Preb. G. G. Monck, Vicar of Stoke-under-Ham). An impressive address was given by the Rev. C. W. Chastel de Boinville, Vicar of Martock. Owing to a death at the Church House a room at the Vicarage was kindly lent by the Vicar and Mrs. de Boinville for the tea and meeting.

The President occupied the chair at the meeting, and was supported by the Vicar of Martock, the Rev. J. H. Burn, of Merriott; Mr. F. Farrant, hon. secretary, and ringers from Ilminster, Martock, Stoke-under-Ham, Norton-sub-Hamdon and Langport.

A report of the year's work and a statement of accounts was read and adopted. The report showed that the usual four meetings had been held and fairly well attended, with the exception of the last one at Langport, and it was much to be regretted that there never had been a well attended meeting there, especially as Langport was the most progressive band in the branch, they having mastered several methods in a comparatively short space of time.

The officers were re-elected, with many thanks for their past services. Touches of Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob, and Kent Treble Bob Minor were rung during the afternoon and evening, Mr. J. H. Shepherd, of Swindon, taking part in the ringing before the service.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.

MAYOR OF TENTERDEN PRESIDES AT ANNUAL MEETING.

The Romney Marsh and District Guild was founded some fourteen or fifteen years ago at a little gathering of ringers at Appledore, Kent, and it has always been the custom to have the annual meeting in the parish of its birthplace. It was intended to hold the 1916 festival there Saturday week, but a case of serious illness caused the arrangements to be cancelled, and Mr. C. Tribe kindly secured permission for the meeting to take place at Tenterden. Mr. Tribe also invited the Mayor of Tenterden (Councillor Harry Judge) to preside, and His Worship graciously accepted the invitation. Mr. Allen (Tenterden) occupied the vice-chair, and ringers sitting around the festive board at the Temperance Hotel included representatives from Appledore, Ashford, Benenden, Biddenden, Fairfield, Hawkhurst, Rolvenden, Salehurst, Stone-in-Oxney, Tenterden and Woodchurch.

PRESENTATION TO HON. SECRETARY.

After tea, the Master (Mr. G. Billenness) said it gave him great pleasure to testify to the excellent work done by one who had recently relinquished the offices of hon. secretary and treasurer of their society. He referred to Mr. G. F. Youngs. People sometimes severed their connection with associations owing to differences of opinion, or through friction arising, but their hon. secretary always had their fullest confidence and support. He placed his resignation in their hands when he knew he could not carry out his duties so well as he had been accustomed to (due to his removal from Rye to Ashford). They all deeply regretted his retirement. Efficiency was his motto, for everything he was asked to do, he carried through strictly to the letter, and to the entire satisfaction of every member of the Guild. They as Churchmen confessed in the Church service that "they had left undone those things that they ought to have done, and done those things they ought not to have done." But they could not say this of Gilbert Youngs' work for the R.M. and D.G. What they could say was that he "left nothing undone that he should have done, and did nothing that he should not have done." As secretary he attended to the correspondence at the proper time, never getting behind, and arranged the meetings in perfect accordance with the members' wishes. As treasurer he studied economy, and used tact in collecting the subscriptions. They would sorely miss his valuable services, but were glad to know he would still remain a member and attend the meetings when convenient. They felt a desire to show their appreciation of his services and labours, and twenty-seven members had subscribed towards an illuminated address and silver bell-shaped inkstand, and he (the speaker) had pleasure in asking the Mayor to hand the gifts to Mr. Youngs on their behalf.

The Mayor read the address, which was worded as follows: "Presented to Gilbert J. Youngs, together with a bell-shaped inkstand, by the following members of the R.M. and D.G. as a token of their thankfulness and gratitude to him for the efficient manner in which he executed the duties of honorary secretary and treasurer. They deeply regretted his retirement, he having greatly increased the membership and placed the Guild in a sound financial position by his untiring energies, during the period he fulfilled the two onerous offices."—Then followed the list of subscribers.

In a few well-chosen sentences, his Worship said people, as a rule, died before they were fully appreciated, but he was one of those who appreciated a man while he was here, and let him know it during his lifetime. He was sure Mr. Youngs was an exceptionally good man, and he congratulated him on his work, and the Guild on having been able to have a man of the type described by the previous speaker. He considered it a great privilege to present the beautiful testimonial. It was something in keeping with Mr. Youngs' splendid work. In handing the gifts to the recipient his Worship said: "It is with the greatest possible pleasure, and I consider it a great privilege to present to you something that we all consider you very worthy of. I hope you will live many years to thoroughly enjoy looking at the illuminated address and using the inkwell." (loud applause).

Mr. Youngs acknowledged the presents by saying they had taken him quite aback. He thanked them very much for their great kindness. It had been a pleasure to him to work with his brother ringers, but he did not deserve all the credit, for he believed it was the heartiest wishes of them all to pull together and flourish. He hoped the Guild would go on as it had done in the past, and he would do his level best to attend the meetings. He again thanked them for their great kindness, and he appreciated the presents very much.

The inkstand was supplied by Mr. J. Comber, of Woking.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The Master read a letter from the President (the Rev. A. O. Scutt), Vicar of Appledore. The reverend gentleman expressed his regret at not being able to be with them. He would have liked to make the presentation, and enclosed a donation towards the gifts, also his annual subscription. He added that he would be pleased to be president again if they desired.

On the proposition of Mr. T. Ashenden, seconded by Mr. A. Blackman, the reverend gentleman was re-elected, and Mr. Billenness again accepted the mastership, being proposed by Mr. Youngs, and seconded by Mr. Tribe.—Mr. Youngs moved that Mr. H. J. Balcombe be ap-

pointed hon. secretary and treasurer, which proposal was seconded by Mr. Player, and received the whole company's approval.—Mr. Balcombe said that as it was the wish of them all, he would try the work for twelve months and see what he could do.

Messrs. L. Honess (Biddenden), W. H. Perry (Salehurst) and W. Savage (Tenterden) were elected members, and the following were chosen as committeemen: Messrs. G. B. Anderson, A. Blackman, C. Tribe, G. J. Youngs, G. W. Player and G. Johnson.

The Mayor expressed his desire to become an honorary member, and was elected with loud applause, and consented to come vice-president of the society.

In response, His Worship remarked that he supposed no one was more fond of the bells than the Mayoress and himself, and he referred to the visit they paid to the Tenterden belfry. He appreciated the music of bells, and it was one of the greatest treats to hear them ringing so beautifully as they did at Tenterden. He wished the Guild the best possible success, and sincerely hoped they would be ringing in Peace before the end of the year.

The balance sheet for 1915, showing £3 3s. 5½d. in hand, was adopted.

VOTES OF THANKS.

Mr. Youngs moved a vote of thanks to the Vicar (Rev. Mr. Balinton) for the use of the bells, and Mr. Tribe for making the arrangements.—Mr. Kay seconded, and Mr. Tribe suitably acknowledged the compliment. He also said he would like to voice the feelings of them all by proposing a hearty vote of thanks to the Mayor for coming amongst them that evening. When invited, his Worship expressed it a pleasure to come to their meeting, and they heartily thanked him for his presence, especially as he had become a member of the Guild.

Mr. G. Johnson seconded, and the resolution was proclaimed with loud applause.

The Mayor, in reply, said that in his official capacity, generally speaking, he was expected to support everything worthy of support. He had enjoyed coming there that evening, and sincerely thanked them for asking him. He felt the Guild worthy of support, and wished it every success. He hoped the membership would keep increasing, and that their members who had gone to the war would return safely, and join them again. He believed a good many people thoroughly enjoyed the bells, and were greatly indebted and very much obliged to the ringers for their services.

Subsequently the tower was visited, and touches of Grandsire Triples and Stedman Triples rung. The next meeting is to take place at High Halden next month, and will be arranged so as not to clash with the Kent county meetings at Staplehurst and Ashford.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

BUSINESS GATHERING AT NOTTINGHAM.

A quarterly meeting of the Midland Counties Association was held in Nottingham on Saturday last, when representatives were present from Burton, Beeston, Cotgrave, Chesterfield, Derby, Duffield, Hinckley, Ilkeston, Leicester, Long Eaton, Loughborough, Sandiacre and Sawley, in addition to a few local men.

The retiring auditors (Messrs. E. Dennison Taylor and Charles Draper) were unanimously re-elected. After some discussion it was agreed not to publish a report for 1915, owing to the increase cost which would be entailed, the small number of peals rung, and various other difficulties, the hon. secretary (Mr. W. E. White) promising to keep full particulars in manuscript with a view to printing the same at some future date.

About 24 new members were admitted, including several honorary members. The vice-president (Mr. J. W. Taylor), who occupied the chair, announced that 21 peals had been rung during the past year, including the Association's first peal of Little Bob Royal by the Chesterfield band. Most of the peals had been rung half-muffled to the memory of the soldiers and sailors who have fallen in the war, or for festivals of the church.

The secretary was asked to collect the names as far as possible of all members who had joined or who do join H.M. forces, with a view to embodying them in a "roll of honour," and those present were asked to do all they could to assist in carrying out this suggestion.

A vote of thanks, accorded for the use of the office and to the chairman for presiding, brought the meeting to a close.

THE USE OF CHIMING APPARATUS.

To the Editor

Sir,—If Mr. W. Davies will refer to my letter in your issue of December 24th last, he will notice that I do not deny that damage to bells has occurred in several instances through chiming apparatus being left in gear, or the cords being pulled while the bells are being rung. A manual unprotected and fixed in the basement of a tower, where the ringing floor is above (as at Exeter), is particularly risky. But with a manual enclosed in a lock-up case, and furnished with such a contrivance as I suggested in my former letter, an accident is well-nigh impossible. Your correspondent will also see that I stated most emphatically that no apparatus could in any way be considered as a substitute for ringing; but that at the same time it is useful for chiming large numbers of heavy bells without resorting to the objectionable practice of clocking with clapper-ropes.—Yours, etc.,

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SERGT. W. R. WASHBROOK.

Sergt. W. R. Washbrook, of the 5th North Staffordshire Regiment, second son of that eminent ringer, Mr. James W. Washbrook, whose death we briefly reported last week, was killed at the Battle of Loos. The deceased had been recommended for the D.C.M. "If ever a soldier deserved that honour it was Sergt. Washbrook," were the words of a comrade, who witnessed the act of gallantry. "He was always the first to take on any risks or extra duties. No wonder he was respected by all, from the Colonel to his comrades in the ranks. He was a true British soldier."



The deceased early in life achieved distinction in the Exercise, for at the age of ten years he rang his first peal. This was at Arklow, Ireland. When he was 16 he left Arklow, with his older brother, now Corpl. J. W. Washbrook, to come to the Potteries, where, through the influence of a gentleman, who though not a ringer, is a lover of the art, they secured good positions. Sgt. Washbrook had rung in all about 30 peals, from Grandsire to Superlative, for the Irish, Stoke, and Lancashire Associations. Naturally good ringers and strikers, the brothers Washbrook are sorely missed at Tunstall, where they were members of a promising band of ringers.

In addition to the deceased sergeant, Mr. J. W. Washbrook has three other sons serving their King and country, and Corpl. J. W. Washbrook is now in hospital. The sympathy of all ringers will go out to the bereaved family in their loss.

LLANDAFF ASSOCIATION.

A meeting was held at St. Martin's, Caerphilly, on Saturday last to afford facilities of practice for those who are now unable to obtain it at their own towers owing to depletions in membership through the war. The new Master of the Association, Mr. Wm. Biss, was present, together with members from the following towers: Llandaff Cathedral, St. John's, Cardiff; All Saints' and St. Woolos', Newport; Whitechurch, Penarth, Pontypridd, and the local band. The methods rung were: Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Treble Bob, including a 640 of Kent conducted by a young ringer from the Cathedral. The twenty members present wish to thank the Vicar, through these columns, for the use of the bells, they having spent a most useful and instructive three hours in practice.

HORLEY RINGERS' SUPPER.

Through the kindness of a number of Horley (Surrey) tradesmen the local ringers and other parishioners were entertained to supper at the Six Bells Inn on Monday evening of last week. A capital repast was placed on the table by Host Huey, the founders of the feast being Messrs. Branch, Wadham, Scott and Son, Noble, E. J. Flint and Mrs. Palmer. The bell ringers have for many years held their annual supper at the Six Bells Inn, but this year were invited by the church officials to attend a joint supper with the Parish Church choir, held at the Chequers' Hotel. This they did, but were afterwards asked to pay for their dinners, which was not very satisfactory. Gifts for a supper at the Six Bells having been forthcoming, it was decided to do something in a nature of perpetuating what for many years has been an annual event. The Vicar (the Rev. H. T. Lewis) was in the chair, and the curate (the Rev. F. E. Watson, M.A.) and assistant organist were present. A number of toasts were honoured, and touches on handbell and a good musical entertainment, comprising some capital old songs and glees, were rendered, and an enjoyable evening was spent.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION. ANNUAL MEETING AT LEATHERHEAD.

It is the custom to hold the annual meeting of the Surrey Association at a ten-bell tower in each district in turn, and this year the Central District, with Leatherhead for the venue, was fortunate in the matter of weather which favoured the gathering on Saturday last. Many cycles were seen at the church, and, in a sense, one almost fancied it was a summer-time meeting instead of a winter one. From 3.30 till 5 several touches were brought round, after which a special service was held, at which the Vicar officiated, and also gave an address. The organist also gave his assistance, and the result was a really enjoyable service.

Afterwards a meat tea was served in the Church Institute, to which about 40 members sat down. The business meeting followed, the Master (Mr. J. D. Drewitt) taking the chair. An admirable report of the year's work was presented by the Master, which was listened to with great interest. Only one peal on tower bells and one on handbells had been rung, showing how loyal the members had been since the outbreak of war, while the list of members serving with the colours added further proof of the patriotism the members have displayed.

Reigate was selected for the next annual meeting.

A motion by the assistant hon. secretary (Mr. C. Reading) asking that ringers serving in the forces might be retained on the books as members without payment for the duration of the war, was carried with acclamation.

The question of a new block and design for certificates was discussed, and it was decided to have a new design, the matter to be left in the hands of a small committee.

Several new members were elected, and the whole of the officers were re-elected for the year.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and his address, to the organist for his services, and the steeplekeeper, was proposed by the Master, and carried unanimously, and this concluded the business.

Ringings on the ten bells was afterwards resumed, and when "good-night" time came, and ringers from several London towers, Croydon, Dorking, Reigate, Mitcham, Burstow, Epsom, Ashted, Hersharn, Streatham and Wimbledon bade farewell to local strings, no one could honestly lay claim to have spent a dull time during the afternoon and evening.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT STAMFORD.

The annual meeting of the Southern Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held at Stamford on Saturday, members being present from Grantham, Bourne, Colsterworth, Orston, Market Deeping, West Deeping, Peterborough, and the local bands. St. Martin's bells were utilised during the afternoon, several good touches being brought round in various methods. When the belfry became over-crowded with visitors some of the members made their way to All Saints'. This fine church has a grand peal of six bells (tenor 17½ cwt.), but they are, unfortunately, badly in need of the bell hanger's attention.

After tea, at the Crown Hotel, at which about 20 members were present, the usual business meeting was held. Unfortunately the Branch President (the Rev. E. W. Carpenter) was unable to attend. Mr. J. J. Jutson was, therefore, voted to the chair.

The balance sheet for 1915 showed that the amount in hand had been increased by just over £2, which was considered very satisfactory. The officers for 1916 were elected as follows: President, Rev. E. W. Carpenter; Master, Mr. J. Lake; treasurer, Mr. A. Holmes; Guild representative and honorary auditor, Mr. A. O. Markwell; Messrs. S. Proctor and Wm. G. Thorpe were elected secretary and assistant secretary respectively. There were various changes and additions to the committee, upon which four new towers are now represented.—The Assistant Secretary made an appeal for the next meeting (in July) to be held at Hough-on-the-Hill, and this was agreed to.—Six new members were enrolled, being from Market Deeping, West Deeping, Peterborough St. John's, and Colsterworth.

After the assistant secretary had made several remarks referring to rules and the balance sheet, the Chairman proposed a vote of condolence with the parents of Mr. Lawrence E. Mears, 6th Lincolnshire Regiment, who was killed in action at the Dardanelles; also to the widow of the late Mr. Wm. Cawton, one of the Guild's oldest members, both members having been attached to St. Wulfram's, Grantham.—The motion was agreed to, by the members standing.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicars of St. Martin's, All Saints' and St. Michael's for placing the bells of their churches at the disposal of the Guild.

A move was then made for St. Martin's, where the bells were kept going in various touches. The members wish to take this opportunity of thanking the steeplekeepers for the trouble they took to make the Guild's visit to Stamford a success.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGAN.—At St. Illtyd's Church, on January 16th, for morning service, 672 Grandsire Triples: R. Evans 1, T. J. Evans 2, A. J. Stanley 3, J. Evans 4, C. H. Perry (conductor) 5, H. Jenkins 6, Sapper D. R. James, R.E., 7, B. Toby 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: J. Evans 1, T. J. Evans 2, A. J. Stanley 3, R. Evans 4, C. H. Perry (first quarter-peal as conductor) 5, H. Jenkins 6, Sapper D. R. James, R.E., 7, B. Toby 8.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION. SOUTHERN BRANCH AT EVESHAM.

On Saturday last a quarterly meeting of the Southern Branch took place at Evesham, when members were present from Pershore, Fladbury, Hampton, Bengeworth, Bretforton, Overbury, Toddington, etc. Service was held in All Saints' Church, and was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Walker, who gave an excellent address from the words: "Remember me, O Lord," Psalms cvi, 4. The organist and choir boys were present, and the way the boys rendered the musical parts of the service was much appreciated.

The ringers were the guests of the All Saints' and St. Laurence Guild at tea, which was served in the Parish Hall, about 40 sitting down, including the Rev. Dr. Walker, the Rev. W. D. Fitzmaurice (Vicar of Hampton), Mr. G. T. Lombardini (churchwarden of All Saints'), Mr. W. S. Ancill (churchwarden of Overbury), Mr. H. E. Hopkins (sidesman at Overbury), and Mr. G. E. Rind, secretary of the All Saints' and St. Laurence Guild.

A business meeting followed, at which Dr. Walker presided. Several new members were elected, and Dr. Walker sanctioned the quarterly peal being rung at Evesham tower with the bells half-muffled, Mr. H. Middleton being chosen as conductor.

It was resolved to hold the summer meeting at Feckenham, which lies at the extreme north of the Southern Branch, it being the desire of the members to keep in touch as much as possible with the outlying towers.

The Secretary announced that the Rev. W. A. Warner, of Toddington, had gone as chaplain to H.M. Forces, and that L. Lively, of Toddington, and J. Hampton, of Bengeworth, had enlisted, and it was resolved that their names be entered in the minute book under the roll of honour.

The usual votes of thanks were accorded, to which the Chairman replied, and brief speeches followed from the Rev. W. D. Fitzmaurice, Mr. G. T. Lombardini, Mr. W. S. Ancill, Mr. H. E. Hopkins, and Mr. G. E. Rind, and thus closed a most successful and enjoyable meeting.

The fine peal of ten bells were rung half-muffled, at the express wish of Dr. Walker, to commemorate the anniversary of the death of Charles I.

WESTERN BRANCH MEET AT DROITWICH.

A quarterly meeting of the Western Branch was held at Droitwich on Saturday, January 29th. The weather being good for cycling, brought a capital attendance, nearly every tower being represented, while in addition there were present the Ringing Master of the Northern Branch (Mr. S. Grove), Mr. E. Boylin, and others, of Selly Oak, and Mr. G. Popnel, of Clent. There was ringing at St. Andrew's during the afternoon, and service was held in the Lady Chapel. The tea, which was kindly given by the Rector, was partaken of in the Parish Room, and much appreciated.

At the meeting, which followed, the Rev. F. D. Richardson presided, and four new performing members were elected, including one lady.—The quarterly peal is to be attempted at Droitwich, with Mr. R. G. Knowles as conductor.

The next meeting is to be held at Crowle, on June 24th.—After the usual votes of thanks, a move was again made to the tower, while some went to Dodderhill, where Canon Price had given permission to ring. The ringing at St. Andrew's included Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Double Norwich Major, and at Dodderhill, Treble Bob, Double Oxford and Oxford Bob Minor. The meetings was considered a very satisfactory and enjoyable one.

KENT RINGERS VISIT MIDDLESEX TOWERS.

Fair weather always adds to the enjoyment of an outing, and the "two men of Kent" who visited Middlesex on Sunday, Jan. 23rd, were favoured in that respect. Starting at St. Mary's, Acton, in the morning, several touches were rung, amongst them were 336 Grandsire and 252 Stedman Triples, conducted by R. Holloway and W. Lawrence respectively: F. M. Mitchell (Gravesend) 1, W. Phillips 2, J. Fruin 3, V. Holloway 4, F. Hayes (Gravesend) 5, R. Holloway 6, W. Lawrence 7, A. Elliott 8. Everyone was pleased to see Corpl. Percy Clark (R.M.L.I.), who introduced his friends from Gravesend, and who rang the tenor to some of the touches.

In the afternoon the octave at St. Stephen's, West Ealing, was set going to 504 Grandsire Triples, and when, at the conclusion of it, one of the visitors said that "it was not half long enough," he paid a tribute alike to both the band and the bells: A. Smith 1, R. H. Boddington 2, C. Edwards 3, F. M. Mitchell 4, F. Hayes 5, R. Holloway 6, W. Lawrence (conductor) 7, A. Elliott 8.

After the ringing at St. Stephen's, the visitors, together with Corpl. Clark and A. Harding, were entertained to tea at Wimborne Gardens, where a time was spent in seeing various curios, and interest was shown in the working of a carillon containing nine bells, which will play several tunes automatically.

Next a breezy journey by tram-car, and Hillingdon was reached, where at St. John's the fine ring of ten rolled out a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1278 changes): G. Harbour 1, J. J. Pratt (conductor) 2, F. M. Mitchell 3, F. Hayes 4, C. Mayne 5, W. Lawrence 6, E. Hancox 7, A. Harding 8, H. H. Chandler 9, W. Honor 10. This quarter-peal was the first on ten bells by F. M. Mitchell and F. Hayes, and at its conclusion they expressed their thanks to everyone who had done his best to ensure their enjoyment throughout the day.

PEAL BOARDS UNVEILED AT READING.

A SILVER WEDDING PRESENTATION.

Saturday last was a red-letter day in the annals of St. Mary's Society, Reading, when ringers assembled from the neighbouring towers of St. Laurence and St. Giles', and from Caversham, Binfield and Aborfield, for the unveiling of tablets recording four peals, viz., Stedman Triples, Double Norwich Court Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major and Superlative Surprise Major. The ceremony was performed by the Vicar (the Rev. R. W. Wickham Legg), and afterwards Mr. A. E. Reeves, secretary of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, in a neat speech, asked the Vicar, on behalf of the Society, to present to Mr. John Swain, the esteemed foreman of the belfry, a silver inkstand in the shape of a bell, in commemoration of his silver wedding. The speaker said that Mr. Swain had been foreman of the tower all through his married life, and had always been courteous to the members, and ready to give visitors a cordial welcome.

The Vicar, in handing the present to Mr. Swain, said he felt it a great privilege and pleasure to be asked to make such a presentation. Ever since he had been the Vicar of St. Mary's he had always found the ringers what they should be, and he thought in some way it was due to the genial manner of Mr. Swain, and to Mrs. Swain, for allowing him to be so regular in attendances.

Mr. Swain, in receiving the inkstand, thanked his brother ringers very much for the gift, which had come as a very pleasant surprise, and he felt sure, if Mrs. Swain had been present, she would have done the same.

The bells were then set going to the tune of Stedman Triples, Grandsire Triples, Double Norwich, Cambridge and Kent Treble Bob.

Among the company, besides St. Mary's ringers, were Mr. Tom Hibbert and his son, Mr. A. W. Pike, Mr. W. Newell, Mr. A. W. Osborne and his son, Mr. H. Bungay (Binfield), Pte L. G. Reeves, R.A.M.C. staff (Bristol), Miss Goodship, and the Misses Hopgood.

The presentation inkstand was supplied by Mr. J. Comber, of Woking.

HAWKHURST RINGERS' ANNUAL MEETING.

The Hawkhurst branch of the Kent Association held their annual meeting on Tuesday in last week, the Vicar (Rev. F. W. Walbrand-Evans) presiding.—The Hon. Secretary (Mr. T. Ashenden) presented a brief resume of the past year's doings, which showed that five quarter-peals of Grandsire Triples had been rung at Hawkhurst, and one each at Benenden, Rye, Salehurst and Tenterden, the bands at these places comprising mostly Hawkhurst men.—The collectors (Messrs. A. H. Wellard and T. Ashenden) reported that residents of the parish had showed their appreciation of the ringers' labours by subscribing about the same amount as in former years.—On the proposition of Mr. J. Blake, seconded by Mr. Wellard, a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the donors.—Messrs. F. Chapman (captain), G. Billenness (conductor) and T. Ashenden (hon. secretary) were re-appointed to their respective offices, and the company agreed to admit Master R. Kemp as a member of the band.

Among other points discussed was the question of ringing after darkness has set in. No ringing except on two occasions had been done for some time at night, according to the vicar's order.—The reverend gentleman gave a full explanation of his reason for forbidding the ringing. Our destroyers, he said, were fitted with instruments to record when submarines were about. The destroyers' engines made a great noise, and yet, by means of using the instrument, if a submarine was near, it could at once be heard, even if the destroyer's engines were in motion. With regard to Zeppelins, they knew these airships were elaborately furnished, and while he did not know, yet he should imagine some such sort of instrument was fitted in them, so that the aviators could detect any noise beneath them without shutting off their engines. In the circumstances he thought it unwise that any ringing should take place after darkness had set in.

The meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

A PATRIOTIC COMPANY.

The ringers of St. Stephen's, Fylingdales, Yorks, on January 23rd rang a farewell touch in the afternoon to Mervyn Duck and Reuben Sellars, who were leaving to join the army under Lord Derby's scheme a few days later. Three other members of the company, G. Wellburn, jun., F. Townsend and G. F. Alexander have also attested, being in later groups. The following ringers, who were connected with this tower, are already serving in the ranks: J. W. Lowther, Yorkshire Regiment; R. Duck, Royal Engineers; H. Cooper, R.A.M.C., are all in France; M. Cooper, Army Service Corps; C. Rickinson, R.A.M.C.; L. Parnaby is serving in the Royal Navy as a wireless operator; and Stanley Wellburn is joining the Navy in March, when he attains the age required. Two other probationers, who had taken up ringing at the time, joined the Army at the commencement of the war, and have been serving in France for some months, are M. Collinson, Yorkshire Regiment, and J. D'Houg, Yorkshire Regiment. The brothers Wellburn are sons of Mr. G. Wellburn, of Hook House, Robin Hood's Bay, who holds the office of Vicar's warden at this church. An old member of this company, Albert Newton, who a few years since emigrated to Canada, came over with the first Canadian contingent as a member of the R.A.M.C. attached to that force. He was wounded at Neuve Chapelle, but is now convalescent, and will shortly return to the front to take up his duties again.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

A monthly meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at St. Mary's Church, Potterne, on Saturday last, and was attended by 16 ringers from Devizes St. John's; Holt, Southbroom, Potterne and Swindon. After ringing had been enjoyed the Guild service, authorised by the Bishop, was held in the church, at which the Vicar gave a very impressive and instructive address. Mrs. Kewley very kindly presided at the organ, and the singing was well sustained.

Tea was provided in the Parish Room and much enjoyed. A short business meeting followed, the chair being kindly taken by the Vicar (the Rev. W. H. Kewley), supported by Mr. H. Brownlee West, hon. branch secretary.—Two new ringing members, one from Westbury and one from Potterne, were elected, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells and the Parish Room, and to Mrs. Kewley for so kindly presiding at the organ. Ringing was again indulged in until nearly eight o'clock, bringing to a close a very pleasant and successful meeting.

AFTERNOON PRACTICES.

The first practice which has been held at Ipswich for some months, owing to all ringing after dark being forbidden by the military authorities, took place at St. Mary-le-Tower on Saturday afternoon, when, among other touches, was one of five course of Stedman Cinques, by: W. L. Catchpole 1, R. H. Brundle 2, R. H. Hayward 3, C. J. Sedgley 4, W. P. Garrett 5, W. Motts 6, J. Rose 7, H. C. Gillingham 8, E. Reeve 9, J. Motts (conductor) 10, E. Evans 11, C. Crampnell 12. The ringing for Sunday morning service is being kept up.

An afternoon practice at St. Peter's, Bournemouth, recently caused a good many inquiries as to the reason for the merry ringing of the bells, and the "Bournemouth Echo" gave the explanation next day, by stating: "The fact of the matter is that the bell ringers were merely practising and, at the same time, calling the people to the evening service. The provisions of the Defence of the Realm Act have put a stop to bell-ringing in the evening, which is when the practice takes place in normal times. When the peal of bells commenced yesterday afternoon, Earl Rosslyn was in the middle of a recitation in St. Peter's Hall, at the 'Edith Cavell' entertainment. The joy-peal, however, did not, in the least, disconcert the noble reciter."

EASTON NESTON'S VICAR DEAD.

On Saturday last, in the peaceful churchyard at Easton Neston, the late Rev. R. C. Collins was laid to rest within sound of the bells he loved so well. For the 54 years he had been Vicar, his earnest and enthusiastic manner made him beloved by all who knew him. He was ordained in 1851, and appointed curate of Towcester. After a time he became curate of Easton Neston, and, at the death of the previous Vicar, he was offered and accepted the living, and continued to conduct the services till December last. This must be nearly a record for a clergyman to spend the whole of his clerical career, 65 years, at only two churches, and these but one mile apart. He had reached the great age of 88 years.

For the service on Sunday the following touches were rung with the bells half-muffled: 420 and 504 Stedman Triples, 336 Grandsire Triples, and two or three shorter lengths, the following taking part: J. Sharke, W. Sharp, F. Hopper, F. Wilford, W. Allen, T. Harris, J. Hensman, J. Dean, W. Parker, W. Rogers and T. Law.

LEYTONSTONE'S 720's.

The following 67 720's were rung by the St. John-the-Baptist's (Leytonstone) company and visiting friends during 1915: Plain Bob 9, Kent Treble Bob 6, Oxford Treble Bob 5; Surprise Methods: London 11, Cambridge 7, York 7, Wells 3, Lincoln 3, Durham 3, Chelsea 2, Alnwick 1, Beverley 1, Carlisle 1, Chester 1, Canterbury 1, Ipswich 2, Mundon 1, Morpeth 1, Newcastle 1, Surfleet 1. Ringers: W. Miller 67, W. Theobald 61, H. Torble 40, A. Prior 34, J. Moule 33, W. Riches 30, G. Dawson 29, W. Doran 17, G. Hayden 16, A. Fiddis 15, H. Saffell 10, R. Sanders 8, F. G. Newman 7, E. Smith 6, G. T. Clayton 5, A. G. Scambler 4, G. A. Black 3, W. Alcock 3, W. Keeble 2, E. Pearson 2, F. Doran 2, W. Pye 1, A. E. Lebbon 1, H. Gowers 1, H. Chaffy 1, B. Marks 1, W. H. Dymett 1, T. Scarlett 1, J. Waghorn 1. Conductors: W. Miller 41, J. Moule 10, H. Torble 4, G. Dawson 4, W. Theobald 3, W. Keeble 2, G. A. Black 1, F. G. Newman 1, A. Prior 1.

MESSAGE FROM SALONICA.

We have received a letter dated December 20th, from Pte Percy Webb, of Ickleton, Cambs, district secretary of the Ely Diocesan Association, who is now serving with the I.B. Section, 29th Labour Company of the Army Service Corps at Salonica, and his ringing friends will be glad to know he is well. After three weeks at Aldershot Pte Webb was drafted to Salonica, where he landed, after a 14 days' voyage, on November 28th, in a snowstorm. The weather was so cold that the water froze in the men's water bottles. "My thoughts," adds Pte Webb, "are with my brother ringers in the old country this Christmas, as I always took an active part in ringing. I hope before long the bells in every tower will be ringing for our great victory, for which so many of our brother ringers are 'doing their bit.' I hope those who are still at home will keep up the ringing, and will also teach others the art so as to fill up the ranks with recruits, for many of our brave comrades from the belfry will fall before the end of this terrible struggle. I wish you and all brother ringers a happy and prosperous New Year."

MUFFLED RINGING FOR DEAD HEROES

The following were among the muffled touches rung for those who have fallen in the war:—

FARNHAM, SURREY.—On Sunday, January 2nd, for evening service, with the bells half-muffled, 532 Oxford Bob Triples: A. Prior 1, A. J. Le Clercq 2, Corpl. A. W. Coles (M.F.P.) 3, C. Edwards (conductor) 4, T. Upshall 5, E. Clapshaw 6, E. Newell 7, A. King 8.

BELBROUGHTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Jan. 2nd, for morning service, with the bells half-muffled, 720 Bob Minor: G. Hubble 1, H. Martin, junr., 2, J. Parton 3, W. Short 4, G. Popnall 5, H. Martin, senr. (conductor) 6.—A 720 for evening service was lost at the fifth part, and was lost through the "casting" of the 3rd rope.

BERKHAMSTED, HERTS.—At St. Peter's Church, on Saturday, Jan. 15th, with the bells muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, 7-6-8 covering: F. Morriss 1, F. Blunt, senr., 2, O. Bayes 3, Pte. H. F. Cooper (5th Essex Regiment) conductor, 4, W. H. Newell 5, F. Blunt, junr., 6, W. Lawrence 7, P. Paveley 8. A peal of Triples had been arranged, but three of the band had to wire off at the last moment, and the above was rung instead.

LONG STANTON, CAMBS.—At All Saints', on Sunday, Jan. 2nd, the bells were rung, muffled, for all the services, as a tribute to the fallen brave. The following were among those who took part in the ringing: C. W. Cook (conductor), A. Cook, L. Cook, Rev. H. B. Woolley, Walter Neal, Geo. Crisp, Miss Rose Seymour, Miss Louisa Few, Miss Gertrude Crisp, J. B. Woolley and Herbert Cole.

CROYDON.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, at St. Peter's Church, Croydon, with the bells half-muffled, 432 Grandsire Triples: H. E. Wills 1, D. Wright 2, F. Gammon 3, H. Garforth (conductor) 4, G. Burt 5, C. Dean 6, C. Kitchen 7, F. Hermon 8.

LUTON.—Bedfordshire Association.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, for the Intercession services, when the Mayor and Corporation, in state, attended, with bells half-muffled, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples: J. Rookwood 1, W. Payne 2, B. Wilson 3, Pte. H. Walker 4, F. Hunt 5, T. Kendall 6, A. King (conductor) 7, H. Shaw 8. For evening service, 1120 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 45 mins.: F. Hunt 1, J. Rookwood 2, T. Kendall 3, Pte. H. Walker 4, B. Wilson 5, C. Wing 6, W. Payne 7, A. King (conductor) 8.—On January 8th, in memory of the fallen heroes in the great war, with bells half-muffled, a peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted, and after ringing 1680 changes in one hour and five minutes, a shift course took place: J. Rookwood 1, F. Hunt 2, B. Wilson 3, B. Jarman 4, W. Payne 5, T. Kendall 6, A. King (conductor) 7, H. Shaw 8.

THANET, KENT.—At St. Lawrence's Church, on Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, several 168's of Grandsire Triples.

ACTON, MIDDLESEX.—On Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, touches of Grandsire Triples after evening service.

COCKINGTON, TORQUAY.—Recently, 720 Grandsire Doubles was rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute to those who have fallen: W. Blight 1, A. W. Brighton, London (conductor) 2, J. Olding 3, J. Browning 4, A. W. Bowers 5, S. Piper 6.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—At St. Bartholomew's Church on Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, for morning service, 720 Killamarsh Surprise: W. Wibberley 1, J. Walker 2, J. E. Wheeldon 3, W. C. Laurence (conductor) 4, G. E. Laurence 5, J. F. Ryles 6. For evensong, 720 Cambridge Surprise: J. Walker 1, G. E. Laurence 2, J. E. Wheeldon 3, W. C. Laurence 4, F. T. Dawson 5, J. F. Ryles 6.

STOCKTON-ON-TEES.—At the Parish Church, on Jan. 2nd, when the Mayor and Corporation attended the morning service, 576 Grandsire Caters: W. Newton 1, W. H. Stephenson 2, J. Clarkson (Middleham) 3, R. Alcock 4, H. Parrish (Middleham), first touch of Caters, 5, J. Waller 6, J. G. Hall 7, —, Miller (Hull) 8, T. Stephenson (conductor) 9, F. P. Howcroft (West Hartlepool) 10. The bells were also rung half-muffled for the Intercession service at 3 p.m.

NUNEATON.—On Jan. 2nd, for morning and evening services, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major and Double Norwich, and also a touch after evening service, the bells being half-muffled. Those taking part were: H. Argyle, D. H. Argyle, J. Ballard, T. W. Chapman, J. F. Clarke, senr., J. F. Clarke, junr., J. Greasley, W. Martin, R. Pollard and W. Orton.

ASHFORD, KENT.—On Sunday afternoon, on Jan. 2nd, with the bells half-muffled, 720 Bob Minor, with 6-8 covering: G. Swaffer 1, G. Paine 2, A. C. Kay 3, G. J. Youngs 4, W. Everett (conductor) 5, R. Goldup 6, T. Tabrett 7, W. Heritage 8.

KING'S NORTON, BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, for divine service, with the bells half-muffled, a 405 Grandsire Triples: F. Ruston 1, A. Pritchett 2, J. Vaughan 3, C. Webb 4, J. S. Pritchett 5, T. Pritchett 6, W. Palmer (conductor) 7, T. Lilley 8.

BURSTOW, SURREY.—On Saturday, Jan. 8th, 720 Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor: A. Wisdom 1, J. Sherlock 2, C. Varo 3, Rev. E. J. Teesdale 4, J. Death 5, A. Harmon (conductor) 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute to the memory of those who have fallen in the war.

NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members to vote on financial matters, should be paid during the present month. Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on February 10th and 24th, and for general business on the 15th and 29th; all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Staplehurst on Saturday, February 5th. Tower open at 3. Committee meeting at 4. Service in Church at 5. Tea at the Bell Hotel at 5.45, followed by General Meeting.—W. Latter, Hon. District Secretary, 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting of this society will be held at Ranmoor on Saturday, February 5th. Bells open from 3 to 9 p.m. Service in church at 5.30 p.m., followed by tea. — Sam Thomas, Secretary, 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Christ Church, Wanstead, on Saturday, February 5th. Bells available from 3 o'clock, short service at 4 o'clock, after which bells again available till 6.30. All ringers and friends invited. — H. Rumens, Honorary District Secretary, 32, Verulam Avenue, Walthamstow, N.E.

AN UNOFFICIAL MEETING will be held at Dulverton on Saturday, February 5th. Bells (8) available at 3. Service at 4.30. Tea (9d.) in the Parish Room at 5.—Rev. E. V. Cox, Bampton, Devon.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION. — Quarterly meeting will be held at Worksop on Saturday, February 5th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. to 8.30. Tea at the Waverley Hotel at 5.15 p.m. to members at 9d. per head, 1s. 3d. to others.—H. Haigh, Honorary Secretary.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meetings will be held at Desborough, February 5th; Finedon, February 12th; Twywell, February 19th; and Kingsthorpe, February 26th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock. Will members let district secretaries know not later than the Wednesday previous to meetings if they require tea.—Fred Wilford, General Secretary, 149, Ashburnham Road, Northampton.

GLOS. AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held on February 5th at Stapleton. Bells (6) open from 3 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.30. Visitors heartily welcomed. Kindly notify by February 1st to A. W. Seviour, 5, Brunswich Street, City Road, Bristol.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Burham on Saturday, February 5th. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5.15 at the Clarence Hotel, meeting to follow. Bells available from 2 p.m.—J. Harris, Hon. Local Sec., Burham.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Annual general meeting at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields on Saturday, February 12th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5.30 in the Vestry Hall at 9d. per head to those who notify me not later than February 8th.—H. J. Bradley, Parish Church, Shoreditch.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting of the South and West District will be held at Isleworth on Saturday, February 12th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea, by kind invitation of Mrs. McGill, in the Hartland Road Mission Hall at 5. Those members who have not already paid their subscriptions are earnestly requested to do so by the date of the meeting. — H. C. Chandler, Honorary Secretary, Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks & South Bucks Branch. — The annual meeting will be held at Slough on Saturday, February 12th, 1916. Service in the Parish Church 4.30 p.m.; preacher, Rev. F. G. A. Phillips, Rector of Taplow. Tea in Church Institute 5.15 p.m., business meeting to follow. The bells will be available from 2.30 until 9 p.m. Names of members intending to be present must reach me not later than Monday, February 7th.—G. Martin, 21, Powney Road, Maidenhead.—United practice will be held at Gt. Missenden on January 29th, at 7 p.m.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Miles Platting on Saturday, February 12th. Bells ready at 4.30. Meeting at 7.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Woolton on Saturday, February 12th. Bells ready at 4 o'clock. — Walter Hughes, Branch Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Salmesbury on Saturday, February 12th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock.—A. E. Woodhouse, Honorary Secretary.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Alresford on Saturday, February 12th. The bells of both Old and New Alresford will be available from 2.30 p.m. Tea in Parish Room, New Alresford, at 5.15. Members who intend to be present at the tea will oblige by letting me know by Wednesday, February 9th. — Jas. W. Elkins, District Secretary, 20, Culver Road, Winchester.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Ashford, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. E. H. Sopwith), on Saturday, February 19th. Bells available from 3 till 6. Service in the church at 6 o'clock. Arrangements will be made for tea after the service (for those who wish it) by notifying me of same not later than Tuesday, February 15th. As we have not been privileged to hold a meeting at Ashford for several years it is hoped members will turn up in force to show their appreciation of same.—C. Tribe, British School Villas, Tenterden.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A district meeting will be held at Halstead on Saturday, February 19th, 1916. See notice in "Ringing World" next week.—B. Redgwell, District Secretary, Rayne.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — The next quarterly meeting and 8-bell contest will be held at St. Matthew's Church, Northowram, on Saturday, Feb. 19, 1916. Draw for order of ringing to take place in the school at 3 p.m. Tea will be provided for all who send in their names to me not later than Monday, February 14th.—F. Salmons, Secretary, 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM. — The bells at this church are rung on Sundays for service at the following times: 10.15 a.m. to 11 a.m., from 5.45 to 6.30 p.m. All ringers will be welcomed. — James George, Ringing Master, 125, Victoria Road, Aston.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

STANSTED, ESSEX.—On December 13th, at the Parish Church, 720 Plain Bob Minor: W. W. Watts 1, G. Gray 2, R. Law 3, F. Bird 4, T. J. Watts 5, W. Watts (conductor) 6, H. W. Watts 7.—On Christmas morning, for 7 a.m. service, 360 Grandsire Doubles: W. W. Watts 1, R. Law 2, G. Gray 3, T. J. Watts 4, W. Watts (conductor) 5, H. W. Watts 6.—On Sunday, December 26th, 360 Bob Minor: W. W. Watts 1, G. Gray 2, R. Law 3, W. E. Carr 4, T. J. Watts 5, W. Watts (conductor) 6, H. W. Watts 7.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Dec. 19th, at St. Peter's Church, for morning service, 1280 Bob Major: W. R. Parker 1, W. H. Austin 2, T. Law 3, J. W. Sharp 4, A. J. Mawby 5, J. C. Dean 6, F. Hopper 7, W. J. Allen (conductor) 8.—On Christmas Day, for evening service, 1280 Superlative Surprise Major: W. Farey 1, A. P. Hensman 2, F. Wilford 3, J. C. Dean 4, H. Rainbow 5, H. Blundell 6, J. T. Hensman 7, W. J. Allen (conductor) 8.—On December 26th, for morning service, 1260 Stedman Triples: H. Blundell 1, A. P. Hensman 2, S. J. Lawrence 3, W. J. Allen 4, J. T. Hensman 5, H. Rainbow 6, W. Farey (conductor) 7, J. C. Dean 8.

ACTON, MIDDLESEX.—On December 19th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, for morning service: A. E. Smith 1, R. H. Boddington 2, A. W. Davis 3, W. Lawrence 4, J. W. Fruin 5, Robt. Holloway (conductor) 6, J. H. Payne 7, A. Elliott 8. For the usual third Sunday afternoon ringing, a quarter-peal of Bob Major: W. Lawrence 1, H. Stevens 2, J. W. Fruin 3, G. Hes 4, C. Hunt 5, B. Brewer 6, A. Harding 7, A. Hubbard (conductor) 8.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.—At St. Mary's Church, on Dec. 21st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 minutes: J. Goodsell 1, F. Morgan 2, W. Hoad 3, H. Edwards 4, W. Cramp 5, W. H. Perry 6, T. Booth (conductor) 7, E. Mills 8.

CHESTERFIELD. — On Christmas Day, for evening service, 1259 Grandsire Caters, in 47 mins.: D. Farthing 1, T. W. Gore 2, G. Hollis (conductor) 3, G. Davies 4, B. A. Knights 5, F. Stubbs 6, A. Knights 7, G. A. Thompson 8, W. T. Peglar (Bangor) 9, W. Allwood 10. Rung for the Christmas festival, and also to commemorate the 69th birthday of Mr. D. Farthing.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.—At St. Mary's Church, on Christmas Day, 504 Stedman Triples: A. Crane 1, W. Sear 2, H. Sear 3, H. Morris 4, L. Meager 5, E. Marks 6, E. Reader (conductor) 7, V. Sear 8.—On Dec. 26th, for morning service, 336 Stedman Triples: H. Sear 1, W. Mead 2, W. Pether 3, H. Morris 4, W. Sear 5, F. Stenton 6, E. Reader (conductor) 7, V. Sear 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (by James George, Birmingham): H. Sear 1, W. Mead 2, W. Sear 3, H. Morris 4, L. Meager 5, G. F. Hoad 6, E. Reader (conductor) 7, F. Stenton 8. E. Reader hails from Loughborough, and G. F. Hoad from Reigate, Surrey.

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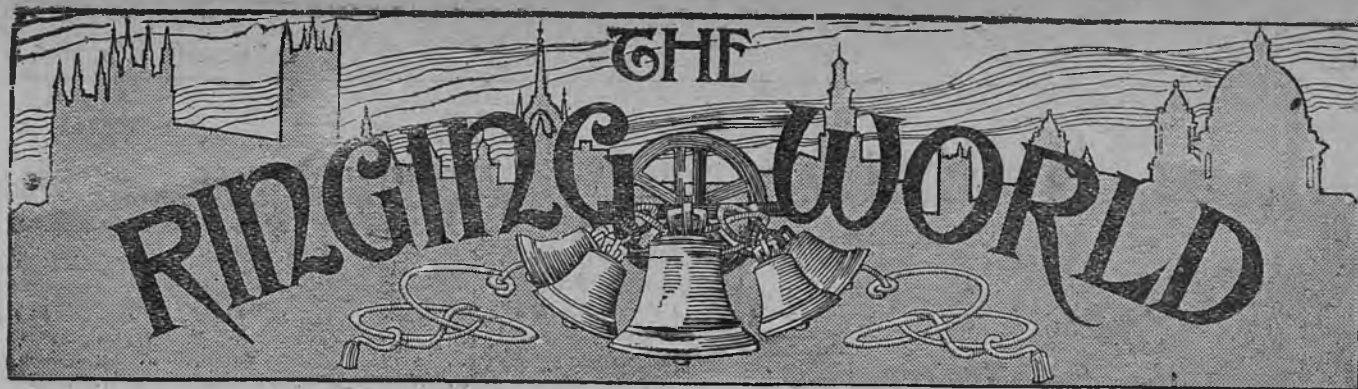


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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11th, 1916.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



**St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.**
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

POINTS FROM A SERMON.

The ringers' service, which usually, in these days, accompanies an association meeting is a testimony to the closer relationship which exists between the ringers and the church, compared with the state of affairs a few decades ago. No ringing meeting now is complete without a service, which ringers feel it a privilege to be allowed to hold and which gives recognition to their office as a part of the church organisation. But very varied are the types of address to which ringers are called upon to listen at these pleasant little services. Not infrequently it consists of an historic survey of bells, hashed up usually from the "Encyclopædia Britannica" or some other ponderous tome, but providing the ringers with nothing which they had not already heard or read times out of number. Sometimes it is a homily on the shortcomings of ringers, based largely upon the isolated and unfortunate experience of the preacher, who has had little or no opportunity of realising the change which is spreading over the country. Far be it from us to suggest that sermons on these lines are out of place. It is well that we should sometimes be reminded, not only of the historic associations of the noble instruments which we use, but of our duties. But there are other lines of address which appeal to ringers, and these are those which are developed when a ringer talks from the pulpit to a congregation from the belfry.

Archdeacon Harvey, himself a ringer, addressing the members of the Yorkshire Association at their annual meeting at Wakefield, gave his congregation food for thought in an address full of sound sense and high inspiration. It was an exhortation to raise the ringers' calling by making it a noble one, but the venerable preacher did not leave it entirely to his hearers to find the means. He had some practical advice to give, with which, we think, the majority of ringers will agree. In regard to the ringing itself, he urged them to widen their knowledge and always to give of their best. Too often ringers are to be found content with what they already know, instead of being eager to strike out into new and more enticing regions of the art, and it is this class of men who, as a rule, are indifferent as to the efficient discharge of their duties in the belfry. The man eager to advance is the man who renders the best service. Another point upon which Archdeacon Harvey laid emphasis was that things would not be satisfactory until there were no paid ringers or choir-men, except reimbursement for lost time, and, in the case of the steeplekeeper, for his labour. There is much truth behind this contention, for, from the point of view of progress alone, it is recognised that where the service is voluntary the advance is greatest.

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We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HORWICH, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 26, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

DAY'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| WILLIAM THORNBY Treble | ROBERT BARLOW 5 |
| ROBERT ALLRED 2 | JOHN STUBBS 6 |
| RICHARD HEALD 3 | P.C. PETER CROOK 7 |
| WILLIAM PENNINGTON 4 | JOSEPH DERBYSHIRE... .. Tenor |

Conducted by P.C. PETER CROOK.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. Joseph Howarth, of Wallsuches, who had been interred that day at the above church. He was for many years churchwarden and a great supporter of all connected with the church.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1916, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 0 qrs. 26 lbs. in G.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ERNEST DUMPER Treble | GEORGE WILLIAMS 5 |
| PTE. OWEN H. GILES, A.S.C. 2 | PTE. A. A. JONES, A.S.C. 6 |
| CHARLES J. FRAY 3 | WILLIAM H. GEORGE 7 |
| ALBERT MARKS... .. 4 | WILLIAM T. TUCKER Tenor |

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD, and
Conducted by W. T. TUCKER.

This peal was arranged for the ringer of the 2nd, who was home on leave from France. It was also the conductor's 60th peal in this tower, 64 peals having been rung here, the first on the bells, Bob Minor, on Feb. 15th, 1905.

In the peal at Aston, published last week, the ringer of the 7th was William Webb and not Wells. It was not Mr. Popnell's first peal with a bob bell. All his peals but two have been rung on inside bells.

The handbell peal at Arklow on Jan. 15 was conducted by Richard Kearon.

5,056 BOB MAJOR.

By J. A. TROLLOPE.

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------|---|---|---|---|-------|---|---|---|
| 23456 | W | B | M | R | 23564 | W | M | R |
| 53462 | — | 1 | — | — | 45236 | — | — | — |
| 24365 | — | — | — | — | 24536 | — | — | — |
| 34562 | — | — | — | — | 52436 | — | — | — |
| 25463 | — | — | — | — | 43256 | S | — | — |
| 42563 | — | — | — | — | 25436 | — | — | — |
| 54263 | — | — | — | — | 42536 | — | — | — |
| 32465 | — | — | — | — | 54236 | — | — | — |
| 43265 | — | — | — | — | 34256 | S | — | — |
| 52364 | — | — | — | — | 25346 | — | — | — |
| 35264 | — | — | — | — | 32546 | — | — | — |
| 32564 | — | — | S | — | 53246 | — | — | — |
| 53264 | — | — | — | — | 24356 | S | — | — |
| 25364 | — | — | — | — | 35246 | — | — | — |
| 43562 | — | — | — | — | 23546 | — | — | — |
| 54362 | — | — | — | — | 52346 | — | — | — |
| 23465 | — | — | — | — | 42356 | S | — | — |
| 42365 | — | — | — | — | | | | |
| 34265 | — | — | — | — | | | | |
| 52463 | — | — | — | — | | | | |
| 45263 | — | — | — | — | | | | |
| 23564 | — | S | — | — | | | | |

The last eight courses repeated.
Rung at Southall on Jan. 16th, 1916, conducted by the composer.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

A monthly meeting of the Bristol Branch was held at Stapleton on Saturday. The bells were kept going during the afternoon to various methods, and divine service was held, at which the Rector officiated.—Tea was then partaken of, the attendance being very poor, for such a fine afternoon, there being but 14 members present.—At the business meeting, St. James' was selected for the next gathering, to be held if possible on March 11th. Other matters were quickly settled, and the bells were then resorted to for the remainder of the evening.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING AT WAKEFIELD.

The annual general meeting of the Yorkshire Association was held at Wakefield on Saturday week, and the attendance in this time of war was distinctly good, nearly 150 members, representing 39 towers, being present. Ringing, of course, was a secondary consideration, but it is gratifying to note that the bells of four churches were placed at the visitors' disposal, namely: The Cathedral (12), Horbury (8), Sandal (6) and the new ring of six at Crofton. Divine service, conducted by the Vicar of Wakefield, the Rev. Canon Welch, was held in the Cathedral at 4 o'clock. The address was given by a ringing member of the Association, the Ven. R. C. M. Harvey, Archdeacon of Huddersfield, who spoke from the text, II Samuel, xxiv., 24: "I will not offer burnt offerings unto the Lord my God of that which doth cost me nothing." The 24 years, said the preacher, since the Association last held its annual meeting at Wakefield, had seen very great improvements in the way in which change ringing was carried on. The association of ringing and the public-house was in a large degree a thing of the past, and the clergy had come to recognise that ringers were part of the regular churchworkers of the parish. Those who rang and walked out of church when the service began were not so common now, but they had not altogether gone! Ringing was not arduous work, unless the bells needed re-hanging or a man overpulled his bell every time. He (the speaker) had often rung a quarter-peal, and then taken a full service. Were there not also ladies who rang? Coming to the words of the text, the preacher said they should ask themselves if the service they were doing was really costing them something. He felt that things would not be satisfactory until there was not a paid ringer or choirman in the country, except, of course, for time lost for ringing for weddings, etc., and the steeplekeeper, who ought to be paid. They should resolve to give their service by ringing on Sundays. Ringing also cost them a great deal of patience in many ways; bringing on young bands, bearing with those who strike badly, and those who brought the touch or peal to grief. It must also cost them a little to be frank and free in acknowledging their mistakes. Let them strive to give of their best, both in manner and matter. They should never be content until the striking was like clockwork, with the handstroke lead clear, which was not always the case. Let them not rest content with one or two methods, but widen their knowledge and give of their best. Let them make the ringers calling always a noble one, and never forget that they had change ringing as a national gift and asset. Nowhere else did it exist, except in places abroad, where Englishmen had settled. Let them offer to the Lord that which cost them something into which they really threw their whole heart; then they would be recognised as men who had grasped the spirit that lay beneath their service. Archdeacon Harvey concluded by quoting the motto which he chose for the Winchester Guild.

"Who rings this bell, let him look well
To hand, and head, and heart;
The hand for work, the head for wit,
The heart for worship's part."

A MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MR. W. SNOWDON.

After the service a substantial meat tea was served in the Cathedral Schools, and the business meeting followed, with the President, the Rev. C. C. Marshall, in the chair. Speaking in feeling terms of the late Mr. Wm. Snowdon, the Chairman said that the General Committee had already placed on record their deep sense of the loss which the Association and the Exercise in general had sustained by the death of Mr. Snowdon, who was President of the Association from February, 1886, to March, 1911, and had also conveyed their sincere sympathy to Mrs. Snowdon and Miss Snowdon in their loss. The committee's action was endorsed by all present in silence, all standing. The Chairman also announced that the committee had undertaken, on behalf of the members, to erect a memorial tablet, and that Mrs. Snowdon, who had replied most appreciatively to the vote of condolence, had expressed a wish for the tablet to be erected in Ilkley Parish Church. This was approved unanimously, and it was resolved that the scheme be put in hand, and arrangements made to have the tablet installed near to the Jasper Snowdon Memorial window.

The Chairman then spoke of the second great loss which the Association had sustained by the death of Mr. C. H. Hattersley, which occurred within a few weeks of Mr. Snowdon's decease. Mr. G. Bolland said that he had been associated with Mr. Hattersley as a member and official for nearly 40 years, and moved "That this meeting desires to record the great loss which the Association has experienced by the death of Mr. C. H. Hattersley, and to express its deep sympathy with his widow and family. The Association owes much to his work and example, and the Exercise in general owes as much for his work as a ringer and composer."—The motion was seconded by Mr. J. Broadley, whose friendship with Mr. Hattersley extended back more than 30 years, and was carried by all rising and standing in silence.

THE REPORT.

In presenting the committee's report, the President said that more and more we were realising the strength and determination of the German nation arrayed against us. Our nation must receive from its citizens the fullest service which could be given. The report, an extract from which is appended, was adopted unanimously.

The fortieth annual report stated that the year had been a clouded

one in many ways. As a nation we found ourselves engaged in the greatest and most terrible war which the world had ever seen, and in the life of the Association the year had been saddened by the passing away of two of their oldest members, whose names would always be cherished and honoured among them. On Sept. 17th, 1915, William Snowdon, who was, for 25 years, president of the Association, was called to his rest, and, but a few short weeks later, on October 21st, 1915, Charles Henry Hattersley, so long associated with him as vice-president, laid down his work. "It is," continued the report, "difficult to state all that we owe to these two great names, but we are conscious of our debt, and we can only express the hope that the work of the Association will always be maintained on the lines and in the spirit which they have inaugurated. We desire to express our deep sympathy with the relatives who mourn their loss, and our real sense of thankfulness for all that we ourselves have received in guidance and wise counsel and skill from those who have been our leaders in the past, and to whom the ringers of Yorkshire and of the whole country owe more than we can express."

Turning to ringing matters the report went on to say that the smallness of the total of 20 peals rung during this year of war, comprising 15 on tower bells and five on handbells, needed no justification, nor would it have done so had the number been smaller still. Several hundred peals had been rung as a tribute to the glorious memory of soldier members who had, alas! fallen in action for their country's cause. No new methods or noteworthy records had been achieved, as was, of course, to be expected, Yorkshire ringers being behind none in taking up sterner tasks now demanded in the fight for the causes of liberty and justice. The peals rung on tower bells were: Kent Treble Bob Maximus 1, Grandsire Cinques 1, Oxford Treble Bob Major 1, Double Norwich Major 2, Kent Treble Bob Major 5, Bob Major 2, Grandsire Triples 1, seven Surprise Minor Methods 1, seven Treble Bob 1; on handbells: Bob Royal 1, Grandsire Caters 4. During the year four honorary and 39 new ringing members had been elected. Against these 18 ringing members had been lost by death, three of these having laid down their lives on the battlefield for their country's cause. Forty-four members had lapsed, owing to non-payment of subscriptions, and there were now seven patrons, 43 honorary and 1,454 ringing members, making a total of 1,504 names on the books. Against last year's total this was a decrease of 19. Considering the number of young men who had responded to their country's call by enlistment, and those engaged on war work, the small number of new members was only to be expected. Satisfactory reports were received from the various districts, but it was a matter for regret that in the Northern District the vice-presidency and committee seats had become vacant owing to no meeting having been held for the election of the necessary officers. It was somewhat disappointing to find that only 149 copies of the report had been sold to life members, against 342 in the previous year. It was hoped to have better support in this respect with the present and future reports, as only by this means could they hope to keep in a sound financial position and allow for an increasing expenditure in furthering the advancement of the art, which was one of the great objects they set out to attain by the division of the county into districts.

The treasurer's balance sheet was duly passed, on the motion of the auditors, Messrs. T. R. Hensher and J. T. Eason.

No fresh nomination having been received, the retiring hon. treasurer, Mr. J. Cotterell, was re-elected by acclamation.

Mr. T. R. Hensher, of Wakefield, who has been recently elected by the Southern district as vice-president in succession to the late Mr. Hattersley, was welcomed to his seat on the committee, and also appointed as Central Council representative.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicar of Wakefield, the Rev. Canon Welch, for the service, and for the use of the bells and schools, also to the Ven. Archdeacon Harvey for his sermon, and to the Cathedral organist.—A message regretting his inability to be present at the meeting was received from the Rev. Canon Welch.—Thanks were also accorded to the incumbents of Horbury, Sandal and Crofton for the use of the bells there.

Great credit is due to the local branch and their secretary, Mr. J. W. Moorhouse, for their arrangements for and work during the day, and a most hearty vote of thanks was accorded to them and to the lady helpers at the tea tables.—This was responded to by Mr. T. R. Hensher, who mentioned the interesting fact that this year is the centenary of the installation of the back ten bells.

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the meeting closed with the singing of the National Anthem.

HENLEY-ON-THAMES.—On Sunday evening, Jan. 23rd, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins., as a compliment to Mr. W. Little, prior to his leaving Henley to join His Majesty's Forces. It is now some few years since the Henley ringers attempted method ringing, but the quarter-peal was executed in capital style: G. E. White 1, C. P. Oliver 2, R. Bushnell 3, W. Little 4, E. Nash 5, H. Hatto 6, L. Stilwell (conductor) 7, W. Appleby 8.

GUILDFORD.—On Sunday, Jan. 23rd, for evensong, at Holy Trinity Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins.: B. Chorley 1, Pte C. Burdock (Civil Service Rifles) 2, H. Hutton 3, Pte H. Burdock (Civil Service Rifles) 4, C. Hazelden 5, Staff-Sergt. W. C. Wakley (26th North Staffs Regt.), conductor, 6, A. H. Pulling 7, J. T. Lee 8.

RALLYING THE FORCES.

ACTIVITY OF AN OXFORD GUILD BRANCH.

Each church will ope its door,
Pervyse, Ypres, and Nieuport,
And with strong clanging bell
Thunder the Germans' knell.

Emile Cammaerts.

AN APOLOGY FOR RINGING.

The month of January witnessed a determined attempt to rally the diminishing forces of the East Berks and South Bucks branch of the Oxford Guild by sundry gatherings for mutual practice by young hands and old ones, or rather, I should say, the "ineligibles." Heavy calls for men for the Army and Navy have already been met in Berks and Bucks by voluntary effort, far in excess of those of many of the more populated counties, and now Lord Derby's scheme of "grouping" is quickly absorbing the remainder of our able manhood. It is, therefore, not surprising to find that so many of our belfries are short-handed, for the change ringer is generally found to be most patriotic, and this in itself is sufficient reason for those who can do so to meet occasionally not only to help a beginner, but to bring fresh lambs into the fold of bell ringing.

The church bells of homeland must be kept going for the sake of the old folks at home and the children; more particularly "on Sundays"—and this entails a certain amount of inter-parochial practice during the week. In more counties than I have mentioned here, there are farseeing ringers, who, in a civilian capacity, are voluntarily giving their services to various committees and war organisations, whilst preparing at the same time for an important "National event" which the clergy and churchwardens throughout England will expect to be announced by the ringing of bells. The urgent question now, however, should be—"Where are the ringers?" Like Kitchener's Army they need training, for the message of peace cannot be "tolled" from the tower, neither can victory be "chimed" o'er sea and land, therefore we must prepare.

However poetical such "press terms" may read, when the actual occasion arises for the expression of a nation's joy or sorrow, nothing but "ringing" will satisfy the British public.

A resume of the gatherings I have referred to had better take the form of a ringing diary. I was present at some of them, others were reported to me, but the value of the work done lies in the fact that all were spontaneous musters.

RINGING PRACTICES.

Thursday, Jan. 20th, Bray.—Eleven present, including three friends from Maidenhead and two local striplings. The touches of Doubles and Minor served as a farewell to the foreman, Mr. E. Saunders, who has joined the Army Veterinary Corps. A 60 Bob Minor well struck, with E. Saunders 1, was conducted by George Martin. A spell of "rounds" for three young hands.

Saturday, Jan. 22nd, Burnham.—Fourteen present, London and Superlative rung, a touch of the latter conducted by Geo. Alder. Mr. Welling and two "colts" from Old Windsor came, also a group of local lads, who watched the dancing sallies with boyish wonder. Our host of the Five Bells lay seriously ill, opposite the church, but neither he nor his wife would hear of the church bells being silent. I have since heard that he died on the following Monday, in his 48th year, after a wonderful experience of life at sea. As a steward on board ship, under the "Orient" and P. and O. Companies, he made 42 journeys to Australia and back. Just think of this awhile, and calculate the mileage. He made many friends in Sydney and Melbourne—perhaps a ringer among them. I know he did on this side of the world, for he was a capital landlord to us ringers, never failing with the supply of bread and cheese and safe storage of cycles, essentials needed by our long distance cyclists, who met at this tower. Walter Watson spent 25 years at sea, his first voyage being on the "British India," and amongst his effects is an excellent testimonial from the Bishop of St. Albans. Crossing the boundless ocean for half a lifetime he has come home to Mother England to sleep beneath one of those quiet old "green" churchyards, which the Bishop of Oxford told us at the festival in 1912 was so sadly missed—like the bells—in most of the parishes in our colonies.

Tuesday, Jan. 25th, Stoke Poges.—Fifteen present. Minor and Doubles rung, conducted by J. J. Parker, who brought over three of his new hands from Farnham Royal, Messrs. Ward, Eason and Metcalf. Mr. G. Gutteridge, of Fulmer, with the Misses Dancer, Messrs. T. Smith, P. Jones, from Slough; Mr. W. Bateman, foreman, and three local men.

Thursday, Jan. 27th, Beaconsfield.—Fifteen members attended London, Superlative, Double Norwich and Stedman rung, with Messrs. Evans, Welling and Buckland, as conductors. A good meeting—with an extension for handbell work from 9 to 10, when courses, double-handed, were rung by Messrs. Buckland, Horne, Mayne (2), Welling and Fussell in each of the old or plain standard methods.

Saturday, Jan. 29th, Farnham Royal.—Nineteen present, the following towers being represented at this excellent two hours' practice: Stoke, Fulmer, Burnham, Slough, Beaconsfield and Old Windsor. Standard methods rung and rounds for the youngsters, with Zeppelin blinds adjusted for the first time—as "Hun Surprise" was decidedly off.

This anti-aircraft precaution, I may mention, has been very well carried out in this district, owing to recent German raiding visits to the London area.

Monday, 31st, High Wycombe.—A good combined practice. Caters and Cinques "rung on Stedman's principle," with new blood; a repetition of similar successful gatherings of late. Conductors: Messrs. Wilkins, Hayes and Evans.

A RINGER'S WEDDING.

Saturday, January 29th, Old Windsor.—Afternoon practice, 3 to 5 p.m., has been in vogue here of late, but a variation occurred this week, when the Vicar (the Rev. Russell Napier) came to the belfry, accompanied by fellow ringers and ringing friends, to present Mr. A. W. Blake with a case of carvers and a clock as a wedding compliment. The ceremony alluded to took place at St. Peter's, South Kensington, on January 15th, when Miss Ada J. Kite changed her maiden name.—The Vicar, in making the presentation, on behalf of the subscribers, wished Mr. and Mrs. Blake every happiness. This was acknowledged by the recipient with as much joyousness as the original little bit of ringing in the chancel brought forth. The tower bells were requisitioned, those taking part in these matrimonial touches including Messrs. Jos. Gutteridge (foreman), T. Smith, P. Jones, Tindall, Osborne, G. Gutteridge, W. Burden, H. Cutts, Miss Welling, and other friends. It will be noticed that the date of this wedding coincided with another in London, in which the bridegroom was a well-known ringer "Haironaut," whilst in the present instance the bridegroom was an adept in flying his kite. Well, if aerial science is to continue development, as it has done during the last few years "The Ringing World" will shortly be called upon to chronicle the first peal in the air.

BELLS AND THE STAGE.

Saturday, January 29th.—The Shaftesbury Theatre London. — A stirring poem by the Belgian author, Emile Cammaerts, was given for the first time to a crowded audience, the above verse which forms my headlines was taken from the poem, which has been set to music by Sir Edward Elgar. I have referred to it here because I think many readers would like to see and hear this new operatic setting. A sad story of war's havoc in the small strip of territory still left to Belgium is told very effectively, according to the critics; another verse, which offers a terrible contrast to our own happy and peaceful surroundings runs:—

"Not a cry, not a sound, not a life, not a mouse,
Only the stillness of the great graveyards,
Only the crosses, the crooked wooden crosses—
On the wide lonely plain."

A RINGING OUTING.

Saturday, January 29th, Great Missenden.—Still another circuit on the same date, in which I was favoured by an invitation to take part. A 15-mile cross-country journey, with heavy roads, and an altitude of 600ft. above sea-level to surmount, followed by a heavy-going peal of six heavy bells, were all duly negotiated safely. Missenden was the keynote sounded by the Stentorian Horne, and its sounds brought the pack together at the Parish Church at the opportune hour. The Vale of Aylesbury has been noted for its hunting meetings in the past, but this time we were afoot hunting something other than deer or buck, but just as elusive at times. "Go—Treble Bob" was called, and a 720 was well completed in 31 minutes, the second occasion that the extent had been rung on these bells. About 14 years ago Messrs. Mears and Stainbank rehung this peal with new frame. Unfortunately the churchwardens unwisely retained the old timber beams for a foundation, for so-called reasons of economy. The tenor is inscribed: "Thos. Mears, fecit 1814," weighs 26 cwt. 3 qrs. 0 lbs., is D natural in note, and, like the 5th bell, it requires much exertion to ring true. I think she may very well be named "Gransby," after the man who first put her through it (I mustn't trespass on "Grandisson" down Devon way, at 72 cwt). Our tenor man, like his predecessor, did justice to the art of striking, for local critics speak highly of both peals. Could the Venerable Adam Bede have seen our perspiring heads and have heard the ringing, I feel sure he would have quickly taken us to the Abbey Rectory for a flagon of ale. Mr. Barnes kindly made arrangements, and met us in company with Messrs. G. Woolford and T. Hants, of Great Missenden; Messrs. Elburn and Starr, of Amersham; and Mr. Evans, Hughendon, all having a pull.

RINGING NOTES.

I recollect asking a Herefordshire ringer once how his bells went, and was told like a "waggon and horses"—literally correct, but he omitted to add "over a rough road," as I found to my cost afterwards by the bumping and rattling overhead. We, the Missenden party adjourned to a house of that name, and we required some drawing out at 9 o'clock, the local hour of closing, as this district now comes under Army orders.

The organist joined us in a pleasant hour's rest and chat—Mr. Gilbert Cross, F.R.C.O., late of St. Peter's, Belgrave, Leicester. He also waived organ practice to oblige us. This gentleman has a predilection for ringers' company, and is well known in Leicester, "Great Paul" (Taylor's 17½ tons) having been stored in the yard of his father's house there, on its journey by road to London. His early recollections included an attempt to ring a bell with bumptious results, which delayed his organ rehearsals for a time.

We were able to tell a story against his profession how the Squire of Missenden, Mr. Carrington, the parson's son, Mr. Wilson, and Mr. John Evans, as instructor, went to this church for ringing lessons some 20 years ago. They found the church open, and the organist playing at the time, and the latter, on leaving, carefully locked up the church as usual. At the end of the ringing lesson our three brother strings couldn't by any means get out. It was not until they thought of calling the attention of someone passing by, from the top of the tower, that the keys were procured from the sexton to release them.

The present Vicar has been in residence about two months, and is a nephew of the late Rev. F. E. Robinson. Our thanks are due to him for permission to ring and for other more serious interest he is taking in these bells. I understand the elder son of the late Vicar—Mr. Wilson—has the important editing of the responsible work now being published, "The Great War."

Some of the "We" I write of did not reach home till 1.30 a.m. on the Sunday morning, but this did not prevent them doing their belfry duty for the morning services. The last three hours of an eventful Saturday were spent at Grange Farm, Hughendon, a snug little upland homestead, difficult to reach by a stranger, with a history of something near three centuries. A roof principal of one of the modern barns has the date 1726 carved upon it. Our refreshments reminded one of those enjoyable little parochial ringers' annual suppers held at Christmas time, and was much appreciated. A sweet-toned set of old handbells were brought out by Mrs. Evans, and all the four young members of the Evans' family joined in the touches. Bill Horne was the wit of the party in his dry way, and we broke up at midnight, well fortified within, thanks to the kind hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Churchwarden Evans. W. H. F.

SALOP GUILD.

The members of the Salop Guild held their annual meeting on Saturday week at Shrewsbury, 34 members attending from most of the churches in Shrewsbury, and also from Coalbrookdale, Malines Lee, Wellington and Wolverhampton.

Ringling took place at St. Chad's during the afternoon, and tea was afterwards served in St. Chad's Parish Room.

Subsequently the business meeting was held, presided over by the Archdeacon of Salop. The members present included the Rev. Dr. Greenwood, the Rev. C. B. Crowe, the Rev. F. Tennison and Major E. R. Trevor Corbet.

The Rev. F. Tennison (who had been acting as temporary hon. secretary) read a report which covered the two years 1914 and 1915, and which had been prepared by the Rev. H. B. Beckwith, who had resigned his position as hon. secretary to the Guild, owing to his removal from the district. The report was considered very satisfactory, and stated that a sum of £20 had been invested in the War Loan, leaving a small working balance in the hands of the treasurer.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. H. B. Beckwith for the very able way in which he carried on the work of the Guild during the time that he acted as hon. secretary. The members unanimously appointed the Rev. F. Tennison, Vicar of St. Alkmund's, Shrewsbury, to the post of hon. secretary, which he accepted, and assured the members that he would do his best for the Guild.

After the usual votes of thanks to the Archdeacon for presiding, and the Rev. Dr. Greenwood for his address and the use of the bells, the tower of St. Chad's was again visited, when touches of Grandsire Cinques, Kent Treble Bob Major, Stedman Triples and a Plain Course of Bob Maximus were rung. St. Alkmund's tower was also visited during the evening.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the North Western Division of the Essex Association was held at Stansted on Saturday week, when about 20 members were present from Stansted, Saffron Walden, Romford, Leytonstone, Walthamstow, Royston, Stapleford, Barley and Cambridge.—The business meeting was held in the tower, the Vicar (the Rev. E. Goodchild) presiding, supported by the District Master (Mr. F. Pitstow), the hon. secretary (Mr. W. Watts), and Mr. E. J. Butler (Master of the South Western Division).—Four new members were elected, viz., Mr. J. B. Williamson, of Cambridge; Mr. A. E. Austin, of Stapleford, both non-resident ringing members; Mr. F. Dench, of Saffron Walden, and Master A. V. Watts, of Stansted.—After several places had been suggested it was resolved to hold the next meeting at Matching, a six-bell tower.

The Master proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for presiding over the meeting. Mr. Pitstow said he was always pleased to see the Vicar present at these meetings, as he thought it helped to keep the clergy in touch with the ringers.—The Vicar, in replying, said he was most pleased to be with them. He was a new-comer to Stansted, and it gave him a good opportunity of getting to know his own ringers. He could see, by looking round the tower, that Stansted had been a noted place for ringing.

The bells were available from 4 till 9 p.m., and some good touches were rung in the following methods: London Surprise and Double Norwich Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, the conducting being shared by Messrs. F. Dench, W. Watts and F. Pitstow, junr. Later in the evening a pleasant hour was spent together, when some good touches were brought round on the handbells.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

"RECRUITING" IN WEST DORSET BRANCH.

The area allotted to the West Dorset branch of the Salisbury Guild is one in which members must steel themselves to face the ups and downs of the roads (often only so-called) and lanes if the seeds of change ringing are to be more widely sown and a greater interest in the work of the Guild established. In such country pedestrianism is by no means a lost art and, in these days of mechanical transport, has some surprising records! Here and there, however, a tower may be found in a village which the railway has deemed worthy of recognition, though it be only to identify a wayside station by the name of some haven of rest, hid far in a dip beyond the hills. Facilities of this nature went some way towards enabling a few members and friends to pay an informal visit to Evershot and Yetminster on Saturday week. The party, numbering ten, was drawn from Bradpole, Beaminster, Symondsburry, and Ilminster, and at Yetminster two ringers from Yeovil were included. In glorious weather Evershot was reached, after half-an-hour's pleasant walk from the station, and here the Rector, the Rev. W. G. Cobbett, met the visitors, and provided a surprise packet in the form of a very welcome impromptu meal before conducting them to the tower. The light ring of six (tenor 9 cwt.) was soon peeling out Grandsire Doubles and Minor and Plain Bob Doubles, and also, with the assistance of one or two of the local ringers, some call changes were added. In the intervals between touches many words of advice and encouragement were spoken to the local men, and the benefits of becoming members of the Guild talked over. The party dispersed by various routes about 3 p.m., to meet again at Yetminster about 4, and, proceeding straight to the tower, found the Vicar, the Rev. M. J. Morgan, and the local ringers ready to introduce their ring of five, with tenor weighing close upon a ton, and new ropes and a long draught. A six-score of Grandsire was brought round, and then the whole company adjourned to tea at the Vicarage. This meal was not allowed to come to an end without the very hearty thanks of all being expressed to the Vicar by the Rev. C. F. Langford for his kindness and attention. He urged the Yetminster ringers to take up change ringing, and, if possible, affiliate themselves with the Guild. The Rev. C. C. Cox and Mr. T. H. Beams also each added a word in support.—The Vicar, in reply, signified the pleasure it gave him to entertain visiting ringers, and promised consideration of the subject of the affiliation of his ringers. Further touches were indulged in afterwards, and a six-score of Grandsire was rung on handbells, the local men carrying on the ringing when the time came for the visitors to wend their way homewards.

The West Dorset Branch hopes, as the outcome of this very enjoyable visit, to be able to count these two towers as persevering additions to its list at no distant date, and the visiting ringers, through the medium of "The Ringing World," desire to convey their appreciation of the permission given them to ring, and the kind hospitality extended to them. C. C. C.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LEWISHAM DISTRICT MEETING.

The quarterly meeting of the Lewisham District was held at St. Luke's, Bromley Common. Ringing commenced just before 4 p.m., and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich and Superlative Surprise Major were brought round. At 5 p.m. the Vicar (the Rev. C. C. Gosselin) came up to the belfry and gave the members a hearty welcome to St. Luke's, and unveiled a peal board, recording the first peal on the bells (a peal of Grandsire Triples), six of the band that took part in it being present. Afterwards the members attended service, which was brightened by the help of the organist and choir-boys. The Vicar delivered a very impressive address, basing his remarks on Psalm cviii, 13: "Through God we shall do great acts."

At the conclusion of the service, an adjournment was made to St. Luke's Institute, where 31 sat down to tea, the Vicar and churchwarden (Mr. D. C. Simpson) very kindly waiting on the company.

The business meeting followed, the Vicar presiding.—Six new members were elected.—Mr. W. J. Jeffries (as district representative) then gave a very lucid report of the committee's procedure and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him. Woolwich, St. Mary Cray and Christ Church, Erith, were proposed as places for the next quarterly meeting, the last-named being carried by a good majority, the meeting to be held on the last Saturday in April.—The District Secretary announced, amid applause, that Churchwarden Simpson had that evening become an honorary member.—A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, his address, and for presiding, and to the organist and choir-boys for their services, concluded the business, and the tower was again visited till 9 p.m.

WORKSHOP.—North Notts Association.—On Sunday evening, Dec. 26th, for Divine service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: S. Walker, aged 15 (first quarter-peal) 1, E. Clark (first on an inside bell) 2, C. Hudson 3, H. H. Cartwright 4, H. Haigh (conductor) 5, T. Bartholomew 6, J. T. Wilson 7, G. Hardwick (first quarter-peal) 8. On December 28th, to commemorate the 58th birthday of His Grace the Duke of Portland, 1260 Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins.: S. Walker 1, E. Clark 2, Pte. T. Anderson, 1/8th Sherwood Foresters (first quarter-peal on an inside bell) 3, T. Bartholomew (conductor) 4, H. Haigh 5, A. Johnson 6, J. T. Wilson 7, G. Hardwick 8.

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"MISSING."

Pte Thomas Wall, 10th Gloucesters, has been reported missing since October 6th. He was formerly a member of the St. Peter's band, Staunton-on-Arrow, and he belonged to the Hereford Guild. Always a very regular attendant, both at the practices and services, he was also a member of the choir up to the time he left the village. Whenever he came home he was sure to put in an appearance at the tower,



Private THOMAS WALL.

where his presence was greatly welcomed. He joined the Army in October, 1914, and was home on leave and helped to ring the old year out and the new year in, and again at Easter, when he helped to ring for three services. Much sympathy is felt with the relatives in their present anxiety.

We much regret to announce the death of Setgt. W. Grunwell, of the R.E. Transport Section, who passed away on January 10th, at the Base Hospital, Rouen, after a few days' illness, from pneumonia. The deceased was for several years a ringer at St. Mark's Church, Worsley, Lancs, and joined the Lancashire Association in 1908. He was a member of the C.E.M.S., and took part, in April, 1914, in the first peal in Lancashire rung by members of that Society.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

The February meeting of the Sheffield District and Old East Derbyshire Amalgamated Society was held at Ranmoor on Saturday afternoon, and proved very successful. The weather conditions being ideal and in sharp contrast to the previous two or three meetings held there, as well as to the last two meetings of the Society, quite a good muster of ringers put in an appearance from All Saints', Sheffield; Bolsover, Bolsterstone, Chesterfield, Doncaster, Eckington, North Wingfield, Norton, Penistone, Ranmoor, Rotherham, Sheffield Cathedral, and Surfleet. Ringing commenced at 3.30, and continued until 5.30, when Evening Prayer, including the special intercessory prayers for the war, was said by the Vicar (the Rev. J. R. Lea Nicholls). Mr. L. Charlesworth presided at the harmonium. Tea, kindly provided by the Ranmoor Society, was partaken of and greatly enjoyed in the Parish Room, after which a short business meeting was held, the Vicar presiding, when two new members were elected. The customary votes of thanks duly carried and responded to, after which the bells were soon pealing out various touches, including Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Double Norwich, Superlative Surprise, Forward and Original Major, until 9 o'clock, the time appointed for the closure, and another enjoyable meeting was added to the credit of the Society.

AN INVITATION.

Mr. H. G. Rowe, of 160, High Street, Cheshunt, writes to say that if there are any ringers working in the district the Cheshunt Society, which meets on the 1st and 3rd Sundays in each month at 10 o'clock, will be pleased to arrange for any ringing. Communications should be sent to Mr. Rowe.

HENLEY-ON-THAMES.—On Sunday evening, Feb. 6th, after divine service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins.: G. E. White 1, W. Appleby 2, R. Bushnell 3, L. Stilwell 4, E. Nash 5, H. Hatto 6, W. Welling, Old Windsor (conductor) 7, F. G. King (first quarter) 8. Rung after meeting short for Stedman Triples.

"STANDARD METHODS."

The new edition of "Standard Methods" has now come from the press, and is a great improvement upon the old, inasmuch as methods with irregular lead-ends have been excluded and also those Minor methods which produce 6-5's at backstroke. Correct examples have been substituted for those expunged and the work is, therefore, now issued in a form which represents the modern view. There is a great advance in the Minor methods that are included, for they comprise seven genuine Surprise methods, viz.: Cambridge, London, York, Beverley, Carlisle, Chester and Canterbury, as well as 17 others, from Plain Bob to Delights. Of Doubles seven examples are given, including Carter's principle. Plain Bob, Grandsire and Stedman cover the Triples section, and the Major methods dealt with are: Plain Bob, Duffield, Double Norwich, Double Oxford, Oxford, Kent and Albion Treble Bob, and Superlative, Cambridge and London Surprise. The letterpress portion, explaining the methods, contains a calling of each, and the figures section also provides the now familiar diagrams in colours. The revision of the work was one of the last things undertaken by the late Mr. William Snowdon, and it bears the impress of his painstaking zeal. The complete work is published at 2s. 6d., letterpress or diagrams alone being 1s. 6d., and can be obtained from Mrs. Laura Snowdon, Cartmel, Lancashire.

A MEETING IN THE STAG-HUNTING COUNTRY.

The bells of All Saints' Church, Dulverton, were kept going merrily from 3 p.m. onwards last Saturday, on the occasion of a gathering which had been arranged for the encouragement of change ringing in the immediate neighbourhood. Thirty-seven ringers assembled from Bampton, Bishop's Hull, Brushford, Chipstable, Cutcombe, Dulverton, Exeter Cathedral, Ilminster, Milverton, Morebath, Oakford, Swindon and Taunton St. James'. Several touches of Grandsire Doubles and Triples, Stedman Triples and Bob Major, as well as a few call changes, were brought round, and many were the opportunities afforded to learners to master the art of change ringing more completely.

A short service was held in the church at 4.30, when the Vicar (the Rev. H. J. Green) gave an address, and Mr. Paul (Chipstable) kindly played the organ. Subsequently, tea was served in the Parish Room, at which both the Vicar and one of the churchwardens, Dr. Sydenham, were present. The Vicar was thanked for so kindly allowing the meeting to be held, and for all he had done towards its success.—On the proposition of Mr. J. Maddock, a vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. E. V. Cox for having arranged the meeting, and the hope was expressed that he would continue to fix up gatherings of a similar nature from time to time. The ringers present unanimously agreed to defray the out-of-pocket expenses connected with these unofficial meetings.

BEQUEST FOR RINGERS' SUPPER.

A gathering of a unique kind took place at Wembdon, Somerset, the other day, when ringers and other churchworkers sat down to supper in the Parish Room. It was the first of a series of annual gatherings in connection with a special fund bequeathed, as a legacy, by the late Mr. J. C. Hosier, of Wembdon, for the benefit of the church ringers. The suggestion contained in the will of the deceased gentleman was that with the proceeds of the fund in question (vested in the Vicar and churchwardens) the church ringers be given every year a dinner at Christmastide. The sum of £100 having been invested in the Government war loan, bearing interest at 4½ per cent., the interest accruing therefrom proved sufficient to enable the ringers to extend their hospitality to the members of the choir and other church officials, to whom invitations were extended, the company numbering nearly thirty. A capital spread was provided with the aid of several ladies, who kindly officiated as waitresses.

Short speeches were delivered at the conclusion of the repast.—The Vicar (Canon Lester), who presided, having explained the origin of the fund, and expressed the gratification he experienced that so much unity prevailed among the church workers generally, Mr. J. Shute, on behalf of the ringers, heartily welcomed the guests who had responded to their invitation, and on the proposition of Mr. E. Bond (the Vicar's warden) a toast to the memory of the donor of the feast (the late Mr. Hosier) was honoured in solemn silence, the company standing. The toast of "The Churchwardens" was acknowledged by Mr. Shepherd (the parish warden); that of "The Sidesmen" by Mr. J. T. Dunsford; "The Parish Free Will Offering Organisation" by Mr. Shenton (secretary); "The Wembdon Branch of the Church of England Men's Society" by Mr. King (treasurer); "The Choir" by Mr. E. Humphreys; "The Diocesan Association of Change Ringers" by Mr. Coles; and "The Wembdon Ringers" by Mr. A. E. Moulton. After the retirement of the Vicar, the chair was occupied by Mr. Bond (his warden), and some time was devoted to harmony, songs being rendered by Messrs. Shenton, Shute, E. Humphreys, Spearing, T. Pugsley (who was stated to have been one of the bell ringers for the extended period of 46 years), and J. T. Dunsford, and a recitation by Miss Wadmore. Before separating the company heartily joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne" and the National Anthem.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Christmas morning, at St. Thomas's Church, 630 Grandsire Triples: R. Davies 1, C. Groves 2, F. Burnett (conductor) 3, C. Aitken 4, Second-Lieut. Goodship 5, H. Fairall 6, J. Harris 7, G. Conduit 8.

BELLRINGER AND SONG SINGER.

DEATH OF MR. HENRY BURSTOW, OF HORSHAM.

A picturesque and, indeed, in North-West Sussex, a celebrated figure has been removed by the death, which took place on Sunday week, of Mr. Henry Burstow, of Horsham, who, after being in failing health for some time, passed away at the advanced age of 89 years.

He was truly a wonderful old man was Harry Burstow. Born in a lowly sphere, reared in the school of hard experience, faced all his long life by the shadow of poverty, he nevertheless possessed a marvellous buoyancy of spirit, a cheery optimism and a high-souled character. He was endowed with an extraordinary memory, and not only retained to the end of his days vivid pictures of the surroundings and events of his early life, but had acquired by heart no fewer than 420 old folk-songs and ballads, some of them running to 150 verses each, which he could sing from beginning to end. It will be remembered that in 1911 his reminiscences were published in book form in order to help the old man in his declining years, for with neither son nor daughter, and but few friends able to help him he was in indigent circumstances.

Henry Burstow was born and died in Horsham, where he lived without a break all his 89 years. He was the son of a clay-pipe maker, and his grandfather, also a Horsham man, fought at the Battle of Fontenay in 1745. He, too, was a pipe-maker by trade, and was born in 1721. Thus the lives of three generations of the family covered very nearly two whole centuries. Henry Burstow was one of a family of nine children, and it is interesting to note the conditions under which he was born and reared. Wheat was sometimes £45 per load in Horsham Market, and labourers' families were reduced at times to stealing turnips from the field, by night, to sustain life. Butcher's meat they rarely tasted, whilst the prohibitive price of tea—6s. to 10s. per lb.—made them feel grateful when they could get tea leaves second hand. Common rushes, got from ponds, dried and dipped in coarse grease, and held in a pair of pincers mounted on a block of wood, were their only means of light; as faggots and cordwood were their only means of heat, and the tinder-box their only means of ignition. Henry Burstow's life lay in that path that rewarded constant hard work with but poor pay. He pursued this path working early and late, at his trade of a shoemaker, maintaining himself, and later his wife, and getting in return for his labour but a mere subsistence wage; sometimes barely sufficient to provide food, clothes and house rent week by week. Concurrently, we are told in the preface to his "Recollections," he indulged his hobbies: Church bell ringing, which, whilst touching the sentiment of thousands who love the fabric, and perhaps the doctrines of the Church, and making him famous near and far, added but little to his income; and song singing, which, whilst enlivening many a jolly evening, preserving many good folk-songs, and adding to his fame, was still less useful to him as a source of profit. He also found time, in a lesser degree, to indulge in bird fancying and water-colour painting.

HIS RINGING CAREER.

Mr. Burstow joined the Horsham ringers in 1841, but at that date the glory of the old band, who were evidently a leading company in the country between 1766 and 1798, had departed, the old skilful ringers were dead and, Mr. Burstow has told us, "Ichabod" was written over the belfry door. It is interesting to note, however, that Holt's Original was rung at Horsham by the local band in 1766. That they were ahead of most of their contemporaries is proved by the fact that they received at least one visit from London Cumberlands, with whom they were affiliated, for in 1776 George Gross, Samuel Wood and Francis Wood (grandfather of the late Mr. Matt-Wood, of Bethnal Green), and Samuel Muggeridge (who in the next year rang the tenor to the 10,000 and 11,080 Treble Bob Royal at Shoreditch for the College Youths) visited the town and took part in the first peal of Bob Major on the bells, with two Horsham men and one from Cuckfield and one from Bolney—Sussex towers which lie some miles away. For many years after Mr. Burstow joined the ringers, however, no change ringing was done at Horsham, and he used to trudge miles to neighbouring towers to learn the art. The Newdigate ringers, over the Surrey border, enjoyed a great reputation at this time, and every Saturday evening Mr. Burstow walked to this village, a distance of eight miles. They used to ring from 7 o'clock till ten, then adjourn to the Six Bells for a jollification. Mr. Burstow was in great demand on account of the large number of songs he knew, and after midnight he had to walk home. Mr. Burstow afterwards did a great deal of teaching in the belfries in his district, there being some 15 or 16 towers altogether, which had the benefit of his instruction. There appears to be no record of the exact number of peals he rang, but the following are among some of the noteworthy performances in which he took part: A peal by eight shoemakers on his own wedding day, he being the conductor, the bells being rung continually all day long on that occasion; on March 1st, 1889, 13,440 Canterbury Pleasure Major in 7 hrs. 45 mins., at Warnham; on December 11th, 1891, 6720 Bob Major, at Horsham. The greatest number of changes he rang in one week was 19,300, and his last 5040 was on June 9th, 1907, at Billingshurst, he being at that time 80 years old. For 65 years in succession he rang the old year out and the new year in on Horsham bells. On January 24th, 1885, Mr. Burstow was one of the company who gathered in the belfry of St. Peter's Church, Brighton, when the Sussex County Association was formed and the first active members were elected. Considerable interest was shown at the time as to where the first peal for the association would be rung. That distinction was gained by a Brighton band on Cuckfield bells, but the second was a peal of Oxford Bob Triples at

St. Mary's, Horsham, rung by a combined Horsham and Warnham band, and conducted by Henry Burstow. By his death the Sussex Association thus loses not only its oldest member in point of years, but also one of its foundation members, of whom there can be but few in the ranks of the county ringers to-day.

QUALITIES THAT COMMANDED RESPECT.

And now this long life of patient, almost ceaseless toil is ended, and Henry Burstow rests in peace beneath the soil, still within the borders of his own beloved Horsham, and as we leave him we cannot do better than quote from the preface of his "Recollections," written by a friend, and which was as true to the last as it was on the day it was penned: "Perhaps it was his humble occupation and the enjoyment of his hobbies, together with his excellent spirits, that provided a suitable environment for the cultivation and preservation of those qualities that have commanded the respect of his fellow townsmen and continue to radiate in so charming a manner from his old age; his cheerful temperament, generous disposition, delight in thinking and doing good without hope of reward, firmness in shunning evil without the pressure of fear of punishment, enjoyment of life to the last, fearlessness of death whenever it may come. A peace and truth loving Humanitarian, an honest and bold Freethinker, he maintained through life a disposition that never earned him an enemy; a cheery optimism that has warmed the hearts of all who have come in contact with him, and a character that would have adorned many a highly placed dignitary did he possess it."

The funeral took place on Friday last, the first part of the burial service being said in St. Mary's Church, where the bells were rung fully muffled as the body and mourners approached, and also after the funeral. The interment took place at Hills Cemetery. The following ringers were among those who attended to pay their last respect to the famous old bell ringer and song singer: Messrs. L. Paice, E. Waller, W. Blackman, R. Dale, J. Brown, E. Sturt and H. Wood, Horsham; Mr. and Mrs. Whittington, Cranleigh; Mr. W. Short, Warnham; Mr. C. Edwards, Slinfold; Messrs. R. Wood and J. Burdfield, Billingshurst.

BENJAMIN ANNABLE.

The 1st of February was the 160th anniversary of the death of Benjamin Annable who, in his day, was "judged to understand ringing as well as, if not better than, any man in the world." He died in 1756 between 60 and 70 years of age. That Annable was a clever man is beyond dispute, but he gave little encouragement to his contemporary, John Holt. He did not approve of the latter's peals, and owing to his disapproval, it is thought, Holt's compositions were not generally accepted by some of the London and Norwich ringers. The writers of "The Clavis" remark with regard to Annable: "The honour of the invention of changes, or regular peals, is said to belong to Mr. Benjamin Annable, who first divided them into all their regular parts and proportions with that taste and judgment which surprised the practitioners of his time. What improvement he made in five and six-bell peals is unimportant; but on seven bells there is every reason to believe that he was the first to produce 5040 changes, which was the peal of Plain Bob Triples with two singles—i.e., one at the end of each half. This was looked upon as a great acquisition, as undoubtedly it was, until Mr. Holt's peal without a single appeared. But notwithstanding, Mr. Holt deserves every eulogium, it must be admitted that he was greatly indebted to Mr. Annable for laying so correct and firm a foundation. Mr. Annable's next effort was at Grandsire Triples, and though unsuccessful he did not entirely fail; for if he did not obtain the whole peal complete, yet he went much further than his predecessors, and his peal was in most esteem until that of Mr. Holt made its appearance. In Bob Major he found considerable room for improvement. He saw no necessity for parting the tenors in a peal of either five or six thousand. He made the sixth perform her proper revolution in five-courses, and five-six to come home together every fifteen; this was undoubtedly a very great addition to Bob Major; for those who did not admire the music of it before now confessed that it was considerably improved. Caters and Cinques, which he found in a rude and jumbled state, he threw into the harmonious titums, where they still continue and will most likely ever remain."

Mr. Jaspar Snowdon, commenting upon this, points out that a statement was already made in "The Clavis" that all peals of Grandsire Triples, composed previously to Holt's peals, were false, and it is, therefore, rather difficult to understand what was meant by Annable's peal being in most esteem until Holt's made its appearance. His (Mr. Snowdon's) own opinion was that the authors of "The Clavis" knew as little about Annable's compositions as they did about the spelling of his name. With the exception of the well-known peal of Bob Major, which was always ascribed to Annable, there was not a single composition known to be his given in their book.

AN HEROIC ACT.

In our last issue, in the notice of Sergt. W. R. Washbrook's death, we mentioned that he had been recommended for the D.C.M. We are informed that the act for which this honour was recommended was one of great bravery. A German mine exploded, and buried two of Sergt. Washbrook's colleagues under sandbags and earth. Sergt. Washbrook and another dug them out while exposed to terrific fire. The deceased had not given the details himself, but a member of his regiment, home from the front, who had seen the incident, has spoken of the heroism displayed. Sergt. Washbrook was 21 years of age.

MUFFLED RINGING FOR DEAD HEROES

The following were among the muffled touches rung for those who have fallen in the war:—

STEBBING.—Essex Association.—At St. Mary's Church, on Intercession Sunday, with the bells half-muffled for each service, touches of Plain Bob Minor, Double Court and Oxford Treble Bob, in which the following too part: A. Barker, E. Hynds, C. G. P. Schlueter, J. T. Barker, E. Claydon, H. P. Emery and H. C. Young, conducted by E. Claydon. After the evening service, 720 Bob Minor was also rung: A. Barker 1, E. Hynds 2, C. G. P. Schlueter 3, J. T. Barker 4, E. Claydon (conductor) 5, H. C. Young 6.—On Saturday, January 8th, with the bells half-muffled, a 720 Plain Bob and 240 Oxford Treble Bob, and also some Plain Doubles: A. Barker 1, E. Hynds 2, J. T. Barker 3, H. P. Emery 4, E. Claydon (conductor) 5, H. C. Young 6.

BRISTOL.—On Saturday, Jan. 8th, the bells of St. Nicholas were rung muffled in memory of our sailors and soldiers who have lost their lives during the war, the following taking part: W. Werrett 1, P. Williams 2, F. G. May 3, F. W. Wade 4, W. Probert 5, W. Lansdown 6, I. Long 7, A. Maggs 8, G. Willshire 9, N. Braven 10. A touch of 1349 Grandsire Caters was brought round.

UTTOXETER, STAFFS.—On Saturday, Jan. 8th, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): *J. Buxton 1, *Pte F. Oliver 2, S. Kynnersley 3, P. Cope 4, G. Lewis 5, C. Smith (conductor) 6, H. Willisford 7, E. Green 8. * First quarter-peal.

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—At St. Leonard's Church, on Saturday, Jan. 8th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, with the bells half-muffled: E. Marsh 1, A. White 2, W. White 3, G. Steel 4, F. Steel 5, R. Stredwick (conductor) 6.

BIRCH-IN-RUSHOLME, WINCHESTER.—On Saturday, Jan. 8th, at St. James' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled: W. Ryder 1, J. Idle 2, W. Holbrook 3, R. Davies 4, A. Frost 5, J. Collier 6, W. H. Idle (conductor) 7, G. Whiteley 8.

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.—It had been arranged to ring a peal of Bob Major, with the bells half-muffled, on Saturday, Jan. 8th, but not meeting in time to finish before dark, 1008 Grandsire Triples was rung instead: W. Welham 1, W. Souter (conductor) 2, C. Alderton 3, S. Sparrow 4, F. Allard 5, A. Grimwood 6, E. E. Diaper 7, H. Copeland 8. Also several touches of Oxford Treble Bob and Bob Major.

WEST EALING.—On Sunday, Jan. 9th, for the evening service, at St. Stephen's Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1248 changes), in 50 mins.: J. Hunnisett 1, R. Holloway 2, A. W. Davis 3, Geo. Harbour 4, J. A. Trollope (conductor) 5, B. Brewer 6, W. Lawrence 7, A. Harding 8. This quarter-peal was rung on the above date with the bells half-muffled, as special circumstances intervened to prevent it from being rung on Intercession Day.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.—On Sunday, Jan. 9th, after evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 52 mins., with the bells muffled: H. Wingrove 1, W. H. Fussell 2, J. H. Batting 3, W. Horne 4, J. Blackmore 5, C. C. Mayne 6, R. Buckland (conductor) 7, C. A. Bennett 8.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—At St. Michael's Parish Church, on Jan. 10th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: S. Wood (conductor) 1, H. Stansfield 2, C. Bower 3, J. Broadbent 4, T. Jakeman 5, C. Broadbent 6, A. Adams 7, J. Mellor 8.—On Saturday, Jan. 15th, a half-peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal: C. Bower 1, S. Wood 2, T. Jakeman 3, W. Wolstencroft 4, J. Broadbent 5, C. Broadbent 6, J. Harrison 7, A. Adams 8, B. Gill 9, B. Thorp (conductor) 10. Rung in connection with the National Intercession.

Among other churches where muffled or half-muffled ringing took place were: The Parish Church, Peterborough; Pirbright, Surrey; Barthomley, Cheshire; Kingston Magna, Dorset; Shiplake, Oxon; Seaford, Sussex; Godstone, Surrey.

PRACTICE AT CHISWICK.

An enjoyable evening's practice was obtained on a recent Monday at St. Nicholas' Parish Church, Chiswick. The bells were raised at 7 p.m., and soon off to Grandsire Triples; then followed three courses of Bob Major, and a very musical touch of Stedman Triples, conducted by Mr. J. W. Kelley, as an inducement to one of the clergy who has expressed a wish to take up the art. Kent Treble Bob Major was indulged in, and ringing concluded with 168 Grandsire Triples, in which three of the Chiswick ringers took part—Mr. J. W. Kelley, Mr. Kelley, and Mr. Haig.—The bells were lowered in peal at 8.45. Those present were: Messrs. Lawrence and Burrige (West Ealing), Robt. Holloway, J. Fruin, R. H. Boddington, A. E. Smith, A. Elliott (Acton), W. E. Garrard, W. A. Garrard, J. H. Payne, A. W. Davis (of Kensington), also Mr. P. H. Smith.

On Sunday, January 16th, for the usual afternoon ringing, at St. Mary's, Acton, 1008 Stedman Triples: J. W. Kelley 1, E. J. Walsom 2, G. Iles 3, P. H. Smith 4, C. Hunt 5, A. Harding 6, Q.-M.-S. Mackman (conductor) 7, W. Lawrence 8. Afterwards 336 Bob Major, conducted by Robt. Holloway, with J. W. Fruin standing in. In addition to the third Sunday afternoon ringing, the bells of St. Mary's, Acton, are available any Sunday afternoon by arrangement with Mr. Robt. Holloway, 10, Summerlands Avenue, Acton, London, W.

CHURCHWARDENS AND STEEPLEKEEPER.

The annual meeting of the Bolney, Sussex, Society was held in the vestry on the evening of Wednesday, Feb. 3rd, presided over by the Rev. H. Harbord, who has kindly taken charge of the parish during the absence of the Vicar (the Rev. E. W. Michell, C.F.), who is at present with the British Expeditionary Force in France in the capacity of chaplain. The Vicar's warden, Capt. W. W. Otter, who is on military duties, and Mr. W. J. Brown, people's warden, and an ardent supporter of the ringers, were unfortunately both unavoidably absent.

The Secretary (Mr. G. Walder) reported that the occasions during which the bells were rung in 1915 (55) was considerably less than in former years, the reason being that the weekly practice and all peal attempts had been discontinued since the commencement of the war; and the only ringing done was for divine service. Their numbers were now for practical purposes reduced to eight, their oldest member, John King, having of necessity removed too far away to admit of his attending and two of their number were now in the army, with the probability that others would soon follow. He submitted a statement of accounts for 1915, and a scheme for the distribution of the balance of funds in accordance with the society's rules, which were unanimously passed. He also reported that the annual summer outing was dropped last year on account of the war, and the £5 given by the churchwardens to assist towards that object had been retained in hand. He had received a further £5 from the churchwardens, conditionally on the amounts not being divided at present, but kept to provide an outing or for some similar object when the war is over.—It was resolved to accept the conditions of the churchwardens with the best thanks of the ringers, and to deposit the £10 in the Post Office Savings Bank, the hope being expressed that the happy time might soon arrive when it could be withdrawn.

The officers were re-elected, and Wm. Wheeler re-appointed steeple-keeper, the Secretary explaining to the chairman that for several years the ringers gave a small annual honorarium to that official, but for the past few years the churchwardens had taken over the responsibility of providing the honorarium, while the ringers were allowed to appoint one of their number—in the words of a churchwarden at the time the alteration was made: "The ringers retained the right to do the swearing while the churchwardens did the paying only."

A vote of thanks was unanimously passed to Mr. E. Huth for his kindness in again providing an excellent supper and enjoyable social evening on New Year's Eve.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens, the subscribers, and to the Rev. H. Harbord for presiding, were passed.—Mr. Harbord expressed the pleasure it had given him to be present, and his wish to be of any possible use in the parish.

ANNIVERSARY AND WEDDING PEAL AT LEYLAND.

At St. Andrew's Church, Leyland, Lancs, on Saturday week, the marriage took place of Mr. E. Berry and Miss A. Banister, daughter of Mr. E. Banister, the oldest ringer of this church. A peal of Stedman Triples, as recorded in our last issue, was rung to celebrate the event, and also to celebrate the thirty-first anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. S. Watkinson.

After the peal the band were entertained to tea at the bride's home. A pleasant evening was spent, and Mr. J. Ridyard proposed a hearty vote of thanks, on behalf of the ringers, to Mr. and Mrs. E. Banister for the excellent way in which they had been entertained, and to this Mr. Banister suitably responded. Mr. S. Watkinson kindly entertained the band till train time, which came only too soon.

It is twelve years since a peal was rung on the bells at Leyland, and a rather singular incident occurred. On the following morning the clapper of the third bell dropped out, and the treble rope broke whilst ringing for the afternoon service, so that the band was very lucky to have scored the peal.

BEDFORD'S 1915 RECORD.

During the year 1915 84 720's in 59 methods were rung at St. Peter's Church, Bedford, by the local ringers and visiting friends. Surprise methods: 6 of London, 4 of Cambridge, 4 720's of three different Lincolns, two each of Wells, Lancashire, Stamford and Ipswich, and one each of York, Chester, Beverley, Canterbury, Carlisle, Durham, Newcastle, Lightfoot, Wearmouth, Norwich, St. Peter's, Westminster, Annable's London, Primrose, Warkworth, Berwick, Neatherseal, Norfolk, Munden, Alnwick, Allandale, Morpeth, Surfleet, Hexham, and Superlative; third-place Delights, one each of No. 8, No. 9, No. 10, No. 11, No. 12, No. 14, Kentish Delight, Kent Delight, Chelsea, Fenlake, Cardington; Treble Bob: 5 of Oxford, 3 of Woodbine, 1 each of College Exercise, Violet, London Scholars, Chichester, Worcester, Kent; plain methods: 4 each of Double Court and Plain Bob, and 1 each of Double Stedman, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob, Canterbury pleasure; total, 84. The ringers taking part were: W. Stapleton 80, C. A. Robinson 73, C. W. Clarke 73, Miss D. Steel 71, Miss E. Steel 61, H. L. Harlow 39, W. Finedon 39, H. Tysoe 16, W. Stanford 11, H. Sharp 10, J. Bates 9, J. P. Cooke 6, E. P. Duffield 4, F. Smith 3, C. Chasty 2, T. Harpin 1, P. H. Stafford 1, G. L. Stafford 1, H. Stapleton 1, J. Garbett 1, A. Waller 1, A. E. Morgan 1. Conductors: W. Stapleton 68, C. W. Clarke 11, H. L. Harlow 3, W. Stanford 1, C. Chasty 1. Most of these 720's were rung for Sunday services, as practice night ringing has been done away with.

NOTICES.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. — Established 1755. — The Annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at Ye Old Royal Hotel, Temple Row, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 4th, at 6 o'clock. Chair will be taken by Canon J. W. Willink, Rector of Birmingham. Tickets free to all fully qualified members, to other members and friends 2s. 6d. each. The bells of St. Martin's (12) and Bishop Ryder's (8) will be available from 3.30 p.m. — A. Paddon Smith, Honorary Secretary, 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — Established 1637. — The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members to vote on financial matters, should be paid during the present month. Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on February 24th, and for general business on the 15th and 29th; all at 8 p.m. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. — Annual general meeting at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields on Saturday, February 12th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5.30 in the Vestry Hall. — H. J. Bradley, Parish Church, Shoreditch.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual meeting of the South and West District will be held at Isleworth on Saturday, February 12th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea, by kind invitation of Mrs. McGill, in the Hartland Road Mission Hall at 5. Those members who have not already paid their subscriptions are earnestly requested to do so by the date of the meeting. — H. C. Chandler, Honorary Secretary, Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — East Berks & South Bucks Branch. — The annual meeting will be held at Slough on Saturday, February 12th, 1916. Service in the Parish Church 4.30 p.m.; preacher. Rev. F. G. A. Phillips, Rector of Taplow. Tea in Church Institute 5.15 p.m., business meeting to follow. The bells will be available from 2.30 until 9 p.m. — G. Martin, 21, Powney Road, Maidenhead.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Miles Platting on Saturday, February 12th. Bells ready at 4.30. Meeting at 7. — W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Liverpool Branch. — A meeting will be held at Woolton on Saturday February 12th. Bells ready at 4 o'clock. — Walter Hughes, Branch Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Preston Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Salmesbury on Saturday, February 12th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. — A. E. Woodhouse, Honorary Secretary.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Winchester District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Alresford on Saturday, February 12th. The bells of both Old and New Alresford will be available from 2.30 p.m. Tea in Parish Room, New Alresford, at 5.15. — Jas. W. Elkins, District Secretary, 20, Culver Road, Winchester.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Ashford District. — A meeting of the above will be held at Ashford, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. E. H. Sopwith), on Saturday, February 19th. Bells available from 3 till 6. Service in the church at 6 o'clock. Arrangements will be made for tea after the service (for those who wish it) by notifying me of same not later than Tuesday, February 15th. As we have not been privileged to hold a meeting at Ashford for several years it is hoped members will turn up in force to show their appreciation of same. — C. Tribe, British School Villas, Tenterden.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — The next quarterly meeting and 8-bell contest will be held at St. Matthew's Church, Northowram, on Saturday, Feb. 19, 1916. Draw for order of ringing to take place in the school at 3 p.m. Tea will be provided for all who send in their names to me not later than Monday, February 14th. — F. Salmons, Secretary, 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — North-Eastern Division. — A district meeting will be held at Halstead, Saturday, Feb. 19th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. Short service, with address, 4.30. Tea, 10d. each, at White Horse 5.30. Members intending to be present must inform me not later than Wednesday next (first post). Subscriptions for 1916 are now due. — B. Redgwell, District Sec., The Street, Rayne.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Rochdale Branch. — The next monthly meeting will be held at Balderstone on Saturday, February 26th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock, meeting at 6.50. — T. K. Driver, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District. — The next meeting of the Eastern District of the above association will be held at York on Saturday, February 26th, 1916. Bells: Minster (12) 1.30 to 4.30 p.m., St. Philip and St. James (6) 1.30 to 6 p.m., St. Mary's (6) 1.30 to 7 p.m. Tea, 1s. each, to all who advise Mr. Horner, 16, Clifton Green, York, on or before Tuesday, February 22nd, 1916.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Wotton-under-Edge and District Branch. — The monthly meeting will be held at Slimbridge (6 bells) on Saturday, February 19th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea, by invitation, at 5.30. Short service 6 p.m. Will those intending to be present please notify not later than Wednesday, February 16th, to W. A. Lewis, Branch Hon. Secretary, Ham, Berkeley, Glos.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Guildford District. — A meeting will be held at Godalming, on Saturday, February 19th. Bells (8) available 3.30 till 9. Tea at 5 p.m. at the Co-operative Assembly Room, Bridge Street. Chairman, His Worship the Mayor of Godalming. Service of 6.30 p.m. Preacher, The Vicar of Godalming. — John J. Jones, Hon. Secretary, North Street, Guildford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Rossendale Branch. — The next branch meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Bacup, on Saturday, February 19th. Bells ready at 5 o'clock, meeting at 7 p.m. Reports are now ready. Subscriptions are due. — J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary.

BARNSELEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, February 26th. Bells available 4 p.m. to 7.30 p.m., and after 8 p.m. Meeting at 7.30. — C. D. Potter, 119, Doncaster Road, Barnsley.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting of the above Guild will be held at Dudley on Saturday, February 26th. The bells will be available for ringing at 3 o'clock up till time for service only. Service in church at 4.30, to be conducted by the President, the Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland (Vicar). A free tea will be provided for those who notify me not later than Tuesday, February 22nd. Business meeting afterwards. All outstanding contributions should be paid at this meeting.—Herbert Sheppard, Honorary Secretary, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM.—The bells at this church are rung on Sundays for service at the following times: 10.15 a.m. to 11 a.m., from 5.45 to 6.30 p.m. All ringers will be welcomed.—James George, Ringing Master, 125, Victoria Road, Aston.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—F. E. Dawe has removed from Woking to "Church Cottage," Bramley, near Guildford.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BARCOMBE, SUSSEX.—On Christmas Day, for Matins, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), in 42 mins.: P. J. Brooks 1, L. Verrall 2, A. E. Edwards (conductor) 3, J. Cox 4, Tpr. J. Morley 5, A. Martin 6. Arranged for Trooper J. Morley, of Sussex Yeomanry (vice captain of the local band), who was home on leave prior to leaving for duties overseas.

SLOUGH.—On December 26th, at St. Mary's Church, 1260 Grandsire Triples: W. Bedford 1, T. Smith 2, A. Leader 3, R. Flaxman 4, L. Stilwell (conductor) 5, G. T. Leader 6, W. Henley 7, J. Cropley 8. Kindly arranged for the conductor, whose son and heir was christened at Windsor, where the bells at present are not allowed to be rung.

GREAT WYMONDLEY, HERTS.—On December 27th, at St. Mary's Church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: E. W. Day (first in method) 1, G. Croft 2, John Hare 3, G. Wolfe 4, H. E. Day (first in method) 5, W. J. Croft (conductor) 6. 288 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: J. Hare 1, E. W. Day (first touch with an inside bell) 2, W. J. Croft (conductor) 3, H. E. Day 4, G. Wolfe 5, G. Croft 6. 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor: W. J. Croft 1, E. W. Day (first touch in method with an inside bell) 2, John Hare 3, H. E. Day 4, G. Wolfe 5, G. Croft (conductor) 6; and 312 Woodbine: E. W. Day (first touch in method) 1, G. Croft 2, John Hare 3, G. Wolfe 4, W. J. Croft (conductor) 5, H. E. Day (first touch in method) 6. Also 240 College Single: G. Croft 1, E. W. Day (first in method) 2, John Hare 3, H. E. Day (first in method) 4, W. J. Croft (conductor) 5, G. Wolfe 6; and 120 Oxford Bob Minor in the same order as above.

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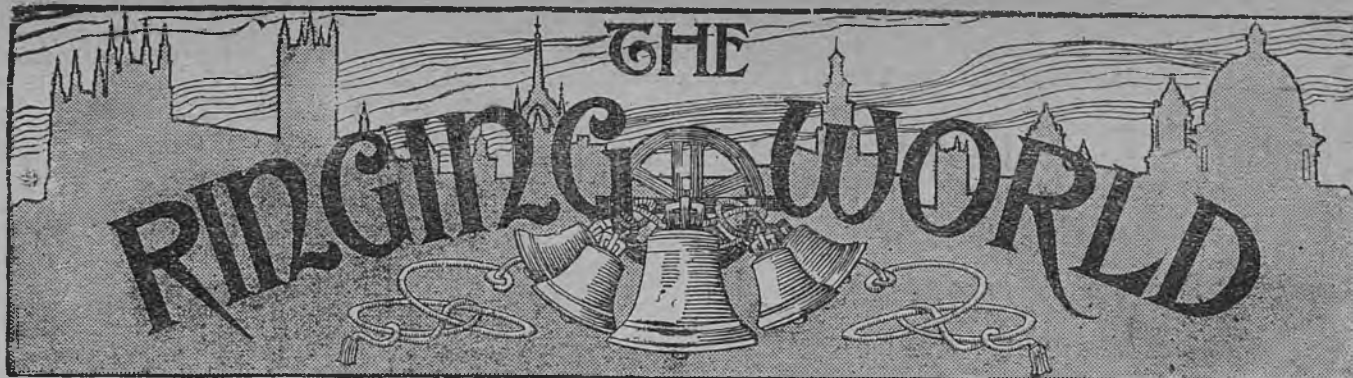


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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 18th, 1916.

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Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

One of the ringing organisations about which we hear very little, but which is quietly doing a very good work, is the Truro Diocesan Guild, which, covering a county where change ringing was late in taking root, has for the past seventeen or eighteen years been exerting its influence for the furtherance of change ringing as well as promoting belfry reform and "a reverent feeling among church bell-ringers for their sacred office." Cornwall was a county where prize ringing once used to flourish, but the efforts of the Guild to extinguish this form of competition has practically put an end to it. On the other hand, to promote genuine effort in acquiring the art of change ringing, the Guild offers the encouragement of certificates of merit and silver medals to those members who reach a certain standard of proficiency, and while there are still many affiliated towers where change ringing is not yet regularly practised, there are a considerable number of members who have qualified for and hold the medal.

There is one thing which the Truro Guild does which few, if any, of the other similar organisations do, and that is to issue certificates to hang up in the belfry of each affiliated tower. This is a matter which might well commend itself to other associations, many of whom, while giving a certificate of membership to an individual, do nothing to give a tower similar official recognition. In some cases, of course, towers are not recognised as units, although the whole of the members may be affiliated, but there are others where the band, as representing the tower, are taken in for a lump sum, and for these, at any rate, there would be no difficulty in bestowing on the tower a recognition something on the lines which Friendly Societies give to their branches.

The annual report of the Truro Guild, which has just been issued, shows that despite the war and the absence of many ringers on war service, the bells, in nearly all the towers, have been kept going for their primary purpose—the calling of the people to worship—the places of those who have joined the colours having been filled by the older boys, and, in one case, ladies. The Guild is a strong one, for it boasts of nearly 600 members, and is steadily improving its position. During the year it has lost its Hon. Secretary (Canon J. A. Kempe) who has been at the helm since the foundation of the Guild, but who has now left the diocese after a 33 years' sojourn there. His place has been taken by another who has displayed the keenest interest in the work, Canon Mills, of St. Stephen-in-Brannell, and, with Dr. J. Symons, of Penzance, still as Master, there is no reason to doubt that the future will see the Guild still more firmly established.

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EIGHT BELL PEAL.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes.

At THE BELL FOUNDRY TOWER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 6½ cwt.

| | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| ERNEST MORRIS 1 | ERNEST LESLIE 5 |
| HORACE STUBBS 2 | FREDERICK H. DEXTER ... 6 |
| JOHN SMITH 3 | EDWARD READER 7 |
| JAMES HUTCHBY 4 | WILLIAM THORLEY Tenor |

Composed by G. LINDOFF, and
Conducted by E. READER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Cpl. R. Lane, who was killed in France. He was the eldest son of Mr. R. Lane, the respected Master of the All Saints' Society, Loughborough, and was employed at the bell foundry before he enlisted in the army at the outbreak of the war.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, February 12, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes.

At THE TAMWORTH ARMS HOTEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5009 CHANCES;

Tenor, 17 size in B flat.

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| GEORGE F. SWANN 1-2 | JAMES E. GROVES 5-6 |
| THOMAS MILLER 3-4 | ALBERT WALKER 7-8 |
| JAMES GEORGE 9-10 | |

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Referee: MR. GEORGE GARRISON.

Witness: MR. T. RUSSAM.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Russam and Mrs. A. Walker.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, February 14, 1916, in Two Hours and Thirty-three Minutes.

At 32, EDGELEY ROAD, CLAPHAM, S.W.,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| CHALLIS F. WINNEY 1-2 | HERBERT LANGDON 5-6 |
| WILLIAM T. COCKERELL ... 3-4 | JOHN N. OXBORROW 7-8 |

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

Umpires: EDWIN HORREX and EDWIN GIBBS.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following ringers are serving in H.M. Forces:—

Farrier J. C. Hanson, of Ormesby, A.S.C., now at Clipston Camp, Mansfield.
Pte L. H. Moore, junr., of Easton-in-Gordano, 9th Battalion Somerset Light Infantry, now at Blandford, Dorset.
Pte H. Austin, of Stoke-on-Trent, R.A.M.C., now in London.
Pte Wm. H. Corbett, junr., of St. Giles', Ashted, Surrey, Royal Marine Artillery, now at Eastney, Portsmouth.

FROM COLDSTREAMS TO FLYING CORPS.

Pte R. N. Runham has been transferred from the Coldstream Guards to the Royal Flying Corps, to work at his trade, as fitter and turner, and has been promoted to be corporal. He is now attached to B Squadron, R.F.C., and his address is Hut 36, Rath Camp, Curragh, Ireland.

Pte C. Austin, son of Mr. J. Austin, of Gloucester, is working in the same capacity at a mobile workshop "somewhere in France." Both these ringers were formerly employed by Messrs. Warner and Sons, at their Spitalfields Bell Foundry.

GREENWICH RINGERS' LOSS. SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. W. FOREMAN.

The ringers of the Parish Church of St. Alfege, Greenwich, have sustained a severe loss by the death, on Monday of last week, of Mr. William Foreman, which occurred at his residence, 92, Royal Hill, Greenwich. He had been in poor health for some time, but was nevertheless fairly regular in belfry attendance, and his demise came somewhat unexpectedly. Only a few hours before the end he was engaged in counting the number of peals in which he had taken part (and which he had carefully recorded), and after perusing the late Rev. F. E. Robinson's work, "Among the Bells," seated himself at the piano and commenced singing the beautiful hymn, "There is a blessed home beyond this vale of woe." With those words upon his lips, God called him.

William Foreman was born in Greenwich in 1847, and made his first appearance in St. Alfege's belfry in 1868. With the exception of an annual visit by members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, for a peal, change ringing was not permitted at Greenwich. Indeed, long after the writer's entry into the ringing chamber in 1878, it was a veritable "stone" stronghold, and the mere suggestion of "half-pull" practice always met with angry rebuke. The brothers Isaac G. and Henry J. Shade, with their father, were always in a hopeless minority. Consequently the opportunities of William Foreman, and other younger aspirants, were marvellously few. How times have changed, even at Greenwich! However, in 1880 the deceased rang the tenor to a peal of Grandsire Triples, at Bromley, Kent, conducted by Isaac Shade. It was not until Christmas, 1893, that he obtained a chance to prove his ability, and he then successfully piloted the treble through Holt's Ten-part, at Greenwich, conducted by the writer, who well remembers the remark made by Mr. Foreman at the conclusion of the peal. "At last! After sawing away at the tenor all these years, you are the first to give me the chance I longed for." This performance stimulated him to further effort, and the writer has had the pleasure of assisting in many of the 88 peals which stand to William Foreman's credit. He was steady and reliable, quiet and unobtrusive. His presence and help will be greatly missed by the St. Alfege company. He was a member of the Kent, Middlesex and Essex Associations, the Ancient Society of College Youths and St. James' Society.

The interment took place on Saturday last, at Greenwich Cemetery, Shooter's Hill, Kent, the first portion of the burial service being read at St. Alfege's Church by the Rev. G. M. Youngman, M.A. A large number of sympathisers assembled within and without the church. A profusion of beautiful floral tributes from the family and friends included one in the shape of a bell from the Greenwich band, who were represented at the graveside by their secretary, Mr. H. Hoskins. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung before and after the service at St. Alfege's, by Isaac G. Shade, John J. Lamb, Arthur S. Beer, William Rawlings, George Rawlings, William Berry, Joseph Law (St. John's, Deptford), Fredrick H. Gooch and Frederick W. Thornton.

The late Mr. Foreman's 88 peals were made up as follows: Grandsire Triples, 18; Grandsire Caters, 1; Stedman Triples, 21; Stedman Caters, 16; Oxford Bob Triples, 1; Darlaston Bob Triples, 1; Kent Treble Bob Major, 15; Kent Treble Bob Royal, 2; Oxford Treble Bob Major, 1; Oxford Treble Bob Royal, 1; Double Norwich Major, 4; Superlative Surprise Major, 3; New Cambridge Surprise Major, 2; Bristol Surprise Major, 1; London Surprise Major, 1; total, 88. The Surprise peals were all rung on the treble. F. W. T.

ST. STEPHEN'S-IN-BRAUNELL, CORNWALL.—On Oct. 15th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), from Holts' Original, in 47 mins.: F. Cawse 1, Dr. J. Symons (Penance) 2, H. M. Smeath 3, B. Knight 4, E. Freund 5, W. Trestrain 6, A. W. Brighton (London), conductor, 7, J. T. Gulley 8. The ringers of 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8 from Kenwyn, Truro. The band wish to express their thanks to the Rector (the Rev. H. Mills) for kindly entertaining them to tea. Miss Eileen Symons took part in an attempt for a quarter-peal, conducted by her father, Dr. J. Symons, but unfortunately two bells changed course towards the end.

LONDON.—On November 28th, for evening service, at St. George-the-Martyr's Church, Southwark, 1092 Stedman Triples: T. Walker 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, C. H. Hughes 3, H. T. Gowllett 4, W. G. Matthews 5, W. H. Taffender 6, H. T. Hibbert 7, W. T. Walden 8. Rang with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to Sergt. Arthur Hines, of the Essex Regiment, and a member of the local company, who was killed in Flanders on October 28th. At the commencement of the war he joined the Royal West Surrey Regiment, and on promotion was transferred to the Essex Regiment.

WRITTE.—Essex Association.—On Christmas Eve, 168 Grandsire and 408 Stedman Triples: R. Wood 1, F. W. Edwards 2, G. W. Sorrell 3, F. G. Radley 4, T. Lincoln 5, A. Head 6, W. Lincoln 7, F. Edwards 8.—On New Year's Eve, half-muffled, 168 Stedman as above; 336 Grandsire Triples, Sergt. Head ringing the 6th, and J. Poole treble, at midnight, with the bells open; 144 Stedman Triples, and a short touch of Grandsire. Sergt. Head was home from France for a few days' leave. The ringers were afterwards invited to the officers' mess for refreshments by officers of the Warwick Artillery, stationed in the village.

CENTRAL NORTANTS ASSOCIATION.

By kind permission of the Rev. F. R. A. Harpley, Vicar, a quarterly meeting of the Kettering Branch of the Central Northants Association was held at Desborough on Saturday week, when 36 members were present from Burton Latimer, Barton, Cransley, Isham, Geddington, Northampton, Orlingbury, Stoke Albany, Kettering, Wellingborough, and the local tower. A short service was held in the church, conducted by the Rev. F. R. A. Harpley, and tea was served in the schools.

At the meeting which followed, the Rev. F. R. A. Harpley presided, there being also present the Rev. R. Copeman, vice-president (Stoke Albany), Rev. J. A. Morley (Rothwell), Mr. F. Wilford, Northampton (gen. secretary of the Association), and Mr. J. C. Shatford (late branch secretary).—Gretton was chosen for the next meeting.—The Rev. A. C. Brickstock was elected an hon. member, and Messrs. C. Willis and S. Roe (Rothwell), H. Liner (Desborough), S. Johnson (Orlingbury), D. Mallet (Isham) and F. Capps (Burton), ringing members.—The General Secretary drew the members' attention to rules 12 and 21, and hoped that they would be strictly enforced.

The next business was of a pleasing nature, the Vice-President, in a few well-chosen words, presenting Mr. J. C. Shatford with a barometer on his retirement from the post of district secretary, an office which he had held from 1905 to 1915.—Mr. Shatford, in acknowledging the gift, said what he had done for the branch had given him the greatest pleasure, and he wished it every success.

The General Secretary read a letter from Lieut. E. M. Atkins, who is wounded and in hospital at Boulogne, wishing the meeting every success, and one from Pte F. Kilborn, of Desborough, of the 7th Northants Regiment, in France, who was looking forward to the time when he would be with his ringing friends again. He expected all the "old school" would be at that meeting. The letters were received with applause.—The Secretary reported that Pte. Inns, of Kettering, who belonged to the 6th Northants Regiment, was a prisoner of war, and wished him a speedy return.

The Rev. J. A. Morley, on behalf of the meeting, proposed a vote of sympathy with the vice-president on the sad loss of his son, who was killed in action.

Mr. F. Wilford proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. F. R. A. Harpley for the use of the bells, and to the local ringers and ladies for providing tea.—Mr. M. Hobbs seconded, and the Vicar, in replying, said he was pleased to welcome the Association to Desborough.

The bells were kept going all the afternoon and evening in the following methods: Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Double Oxford, and Bob Minor and Grandsire Doubles.

MARRIAGE OF MR. A. B. PECK.

Many ringers in London and the Provinces will be interested in the announcement of the wedding of Mr. Alfred B. Peck, who was married on Sunday, January 30th, to Miss Emma Frances Willment, at the Church of St. Gabriel, Pimlico. The bridegroom derived considerable benefit from his stay at the seaside, during the period of convalescence, and few would have known that he had just recovered from a very serious illness. Unfortunately the bells were not available for the wedding, which was rather disappointing, as there were a good number of ringers present. The bride, who was charmingly attired, was given away by her uncle, Mr. Francis Willment, and attended by Miss Donegan, the bridegroom being supported by Mr. H. Langdon as best man.

Many relations and friends of the happy couple witnessed the ceremony, at which the Rev. W. Norman officiated. Among the guests were the following: Mrs. Willment, Mr. and Mrs. Peck (Bedford), Mr. and Mrs. Longland (Bedford), Mr. and Mrs. F. Willment, Mr. W. Willment, Mr. E. Willment, Mr. and Mrs. Cosford, Miss Cosford, Miss Donegan (bridesmaid), Miss Donegan, Miss Alexander, Miss Butler, Miss Waller, Mr. H. Langdon (best man), Mr. H. R. Newton, Mr. J. N. Oxborrow, Mr. W. H. Pasmore, Mr. H. R. Pasmore, Mr. E. Ewer, Mr. Young.

The wedding breakfast was preceded by a touch of Stedman Caters on the handbells, and the principal toast, that of "The Bride and Bridegroom," was proposed by Mr. H. R. Newton, who referred in sympathetic terms to the long and serious illness of Mr. Peck, reminding the company of the many anxious moments experienced last summer and autumn. He congratulated the bridegroom on his recovery, and expressed sincere wishes for a happy and prosperous future for the happy couple.—This was acknowledged by the bridegroom, who thanked the company for their presence.

A very pleasant time was spent after the breakfast, the company including some talented musicians, and the ringers, not to be outdone, rang a touch of Stedman Cinques, the bridegroom taking part. One or two well-known ringers, not famous hitherto as pianists, took advantage of a mechanical contrivance, to render quite classical music, and during the interlude the company had an opportunity of admiring the large number of presents.

The bridal couple left by the evening train for Brighton, amidst expressions from all present for a happy future.

Mr. Peck's many ringing friends will be glad to hear that he has almost completely recovered his health, but naturally he is still weak from such a long and severe illness. His brother ringers at St. Paul's Cathedral will be glad to see him in his accustomed place once more.

In addition to those mentioned above Messrs. Winney, Ellis and Elphick were at the church.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.**VARIATION OF LATES' FOUR-PART PEAL.**

By GEORGE T. CLAYTON.

123456 2 S H L Q

| | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|
| 146253 | x | | x | |
| 421563 | x | x | | x |
| 241536 | | x | | |
| 256431 | x | | x | |
| 542361 | x | x | | x |
| 452316 | | x | | |
| 436512 | x | | x | |
| 354162 | x | x | | x |
| 534126 | | x | | |
| 516324 | x | | x | |
| 135264 | x | x | | x |
| 145326 | S | | x | |
| 136425 | x | | x | |
| 341265 | x | x | | x |
| 431256 | | x | | |

Repeat three times.

The single is made by the bells in first's, fourth's, and seventh's places lying still at the parting of the sixes, thus:—1234567

1324657

In this variation the number of four-bob sets is reduced to a minimum. Considered as a twenty-part peal, 6—7 are brought home at every part end, and as a four-part, 5—6—7 are similarly brought home. If these qualities are obtainable on any other plan, they have never, so far as I know, been obtained. My object in sending the variation to the Press is to direct attention to a man whose worth the Exercise has never been able to appreciate.

THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SINGLES.

The whole thing hinges upon the single. In Triples it is not necessary to turn the course of the bells, but no one has ever succeeded in obtaining a peal of Stedman without singles. Now, singles are for ringers, not ringers for singles, and so long as a single serving a useful purpose does not break the hunting cycle, interfere with the dodging, or degrade Triples to Singles, no reasonable objection can be laid against it, but singles which do these things are abominations. In the matter of singles, the Central Council had signally failed to discriminate between the good and the bad. Two singles are allowed in Grandsire, one of which, the Holt, is a thoroughly bad call, and the other cannot be said to be a good one, while Mr. Thompson's single, which is undoubtedly a good one, has never to my knowledge been recognised. I may point out here that Shipway's fifth-place bob, which, not degrading Triples at all, is incomparably the best second call, has never received any commendation commensurate with its merits. In Stedman, the Holt single is very properly disallowed, as, in fact, is every other single good and bad alike saving only the ordinary single, which, while fulfilling the essential conditions and serving the purpose in Doubles, Major, and the higher numbers, is by no means the most serviceable single in Triples. But I am not quite correct. Another single is allowed, or, at all events, not condemned, in Doubles which, interfering with the dodging, is an execrable call; and after rightly rejecting Union Triples as an approved method because it does not produce the Grandsire, i.e., the hunting-cycle lead ends, four pages of reading matter out of a total of 12 (vide Report on Calls) and words which are not usually to be found in learned treatises, are devoted to the consideration of the single proper to that method.

Singles, like other things for which there can be no standard measure, must be judged by comparing them with one another. In order to compare the ordinary single with the Lates' single a comparison will be made between Lates' peal and Thurstans' masterpiece, which by general consent is the finest peal of Stedman Triples. In Thurstans' peal, as in all approved twin-bob peals, singles necessarily disturb the observation bell. By analogy as well as in equity this is a most serious fault, and without more ado it may be taken as conclusive evidence; firstly, that the ordinary single is not the proper single for Stedman Triples; and, secondly, that Thurstans and his successors followed the wrong track. Furthermore, the two singles require to be supplemented by "extras and omits" which are virtually a third kind of call, and it is not a four-part peal in the most proper of all senses—that all the parts are called exactly alike—but very much otherwise. It is also much the more difficult peal to call of the two, unless the conductor has thoroughly mastered the "Investigations" in Snowdon's "Stedman," which is about the stiffest bit of reading that any ordinary man is likely to come across in the course of his natural life. I think the comparison is a fair one, and I have no hesitation in saying that Lates' peal ought to supplant Thurstans' masterpiece as the finest peal of Stedman Triples hitherto obtained.

A COMPARISON.

It is now necessary to consider the ordinary single in direct comparison with the Lates' single. The Lates' single moves the four-front bells or the bells unaffected by bobs, and it may, therefore, be said to be the true complement of the bob. This may be thought to be a fanciful recommendation, but I am satisfied that, if not a sufficient recommendation, it is a strong one. On the other hand, the

Lates' single is more difficult to make, which, however, has nothing to do with the scientific question, and it necessitates a bell striking three consecutive blows in one place. This is undoubtedly a blemish, but it is a blemish that the assenters to the Grandsire single, and the Kent bob cannot in equity urge as an objection, and it is a blemish which, as I think I have already shown, cannot be avoided without falling out of the frying-pan into the fire.

Should this reasoning not be deemed conclusive, a further argument remains to be adduced. It is most important to observe, as I pointed out in "The Ringing World" for December 4th, 1914, that the proper single in Doubles and Major entails precisely the same blemish. This is highly suggestive. Now, thinking it strange that Triples should be passed over, and perceiving that what is probably the best peal of Stedman Triples obtainable with the ordinary single is anything but the superb peal it is reputed to be, I came to the conclusion that if an improved peal is to be obtained it must be obtained by a single which causes a bell to strike three consecutive blows in one place. To cut a long story short, I solved the problem only to find that I had been forestalled by Lates', though neither he nor anyone else ever knew that he had done it. Two of the authors of the "Investigations" are still alive, and perhaps they will be good enough to favour the Exercise with their remarks. The Birmingham men also may be able to throw some further light upon Lates' peal, which though given in Snowdon's "Stedman," in the original and transposed forms, is not otherwise noticed. Premising that Stedman only runs to Minor in the form of Double Stedman, in which the imperfection is of a different kind, I will repeat what I said in "The Ringing World" for December 4th, 1914, with only a slight alteration. It is remarkable that Stedman, the only method that attains to the pre-eminence of the triple crown by doubling the length of the divisions, having as many divisions to the course as there are bells, and keeping the hunting cycle intact, should be imperfect in the two lowest numbers both odd and even.

I believe this is the first time that a peal of Stedman Triples has been arranged to go off from rounds. I have previously (vide "The Ringing World" for July 23rd, 1915) called attention to the reprehensible and silly practice of going off from the second row of a quick six. This practice will inevitably be discontinued sooner or later, and the sooner it is made to cease the better.

Although it is a matter quite outside the scope of this communication, having mentioned Holt's name I should like to point out that in the way which seems to be characteristic of ringers, who generally manage, either to boom the wrong man or the right man for the wrong thing, Holt has been appraised beyond his worth. Holt was an able man and a clever composer, but it must be borne in mind that the greatest men have not been the cleverest men. Holt was quite unable to discriminate between the good and the bad, and he never produced anything that will last for all time, though "Holt's Original" may survive a little longer as the blarney stone of the Exercise.

DOUBLE NORWICH MAJOR.

TWO PEALS BY EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

| 5184 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 5056 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------|---|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| 23456 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 23456 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 42635 | | | | | 65324 | | | | |
| 26435 | | | | | 54326 | | | | |
| 62534 | | | | | 46325 | | | | |
| 25463 | S | S | | | 23645 | | | | |
| 52364 | | | | | 62534 | | | | |
| 23564 | | | | | 35264 | | | | |
| 32456 | | | | | 34256 | | | | |
| 24365 | | | | | 36245 | | | | |
| 42563 | | | | | 23564 | | | | |
| 25364 | S | | | | 36524 | | | | |
| 52463 | | | | | 25634 | | | | |
| 24563 | | | | | 43526 | | | | |
| 42365 | | | | | 32546 | | | | |
| 23465 | | | | | Three times repeated singles for bob in 2nd and 4th parts. | | | | |
| 32564 | | | | | | | | | |
| 25634 | S | | | | | | | | |
| 24365 | | | | | | | | | |
| 24536 | | | | | | | | | |
| 52643 | | | | | This is supposed to be the first 5056 in the method in 4 equal parts with only 4th, 5th, 6th in 6th place. | | | | |
| 26543 | | | | | | | | | |
| 62345 | | | | | | | | | |
| 23645 | | | | | | | | | |
| 32546 | | | | * | | | | | |
| 25346 | | | | | Four times repeat the last six courses, calling single for bob mark * in 2nd and 5th parts. | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |

Four times repeat the last six courses, calling single for bob mark * in 2nd and 5th parts.

This is the first peal ever composed in the method with the 2nd her full extent in 2—3 alternately. Reduced to 5040 by calling the 3rd course—bobs at 4—5, and omit next course.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

The first quarterly meeting held in the Winchester district for nearly two years, took place at Alresford on Saturday. By the kind permission of the Rectors, the towers of both Old and New Alresford were open during the afternoon and evening, and the bells were kept going in various methods till the time came to catch the last train. Tea was provided in the Parish Room, the Rector of Old Alresford (the Rev. G. H. Preston) presiding. There were also present the Rev. E. Banks James, Mr. and Mrs. G. Williams, Messrs. J. B. Williamson, W. H. George, J. H. Shepherd (Swindon), and members from Bishopstoke, Winchester, North Stoneham, Hursley, Alresford, Upham and Titchfield.—The District Secretary (Mr. J. W. Elkins) apologised for the absence of the Rev. F. G. G. Jellicoe (Rector of New Alresford), Rev. Canon Braithwaite (chairman of the district), and Mr. Wilfred Andrews.

A very hearty welcome was accorded to Mr. James Sait, who is in his 85th year, and who has "rung out the Old and in the New" Year on the New Alresford bells for 58 consecutive years; also to Pte G. Pullinger, of the Upham band, who, we regret to say, has been invalided home from the front, having lost his right arm. Mr. Pullinger is, however, hopefully looking forward to the time when he will be able to take his place in the belfry again.

A framed record of a peal of Grandsire Triples rung on the Alresford bells in 1824, having recently come into the possession of Mr. Wilfred Andrews, it was, on his behalf, offered to the local ringers, and gratefully accepted by them.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Rev. G. H. Preston for the use of Old Alresford bells, and for presiding at the tea, and to the Rev. F. G. G. Jellicoe for the use of the Parish Room and bells. Mr. Preston said he was very pleased to meet so many ringers from different parishes in the diocese, and regretted that just now he was very short of ringers in his own parish, and thought it might be necessary to employ ladies in the belfry. His remark that his daughter was learning to ring a bell was heartily applauded.

After tea there was some handbell ringing, Mrs. Williams ringing 1-2 in some Grandsire Triples. Mr. J. H. Shepherd joined the Guild as a compounding member, and seven new members were admitted as probationers.—The members were sorry to hear that a recent accident was the cause of their old friend, Mr. Edwards, of Farnham, being absent from the meeting, and they trust he will soon be well again.

The next meeting is to be held at Twyford in May.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

The third quarterly meeting of the North Notts Association was held at Worksop on Saturday week, when there was a representative gathering of members from various parts of the county, including Anston, Harthill, Shireoaks, Norton Cuckney, East and West Retford, Ordsall and Worksop. The bells of the Parish Church were placed at the disposal of ringers from 2.30 p.m. to 9 by the Vicar (the Rev. G. J. A. d'Arcy), who, unfortunately was unable to attend the meeting, but sent a suitable apology, and gave the members a hearty welcome to Worksop.

The weather was as pleasant as could be desired, and by 3 p.m. there was quite a good number present, who had come into the town by cycle and rail. During the afternoon and evening several of the ringers were asked what the bells were ringing for. One local was replied that they were ringing in order to take away feelings of melancholy and raise the spirit of cheerfulness in the hearts of the people of Worksop, as well as to drive away all wicked spirits in the shape of the inhuman monster the Devil, who had been so busy in our midst just recently. Tea was served at the Waverley Hotel, where Hostess Edwards had provided an admirably served repast, to which 35 members and friends sat down.

The business meeting followed, at which the chair was occupied by Mr. Hy. Warburton, of Retford, supported by the hon. secretary (Mr. H. Haigh) and others. Eighteen new members were enrolled, including eight from Shireoaks, four from Tuxford, three from East Retford, two from Harthill, and Mr. J. W. Hawkins, 1st Northumberland Divisional Engineers (of Hull), as non-resident life member.—Mr. Arnold Beck was appointed assistant secretary until the annual meeting, to be held at Retford in May.

A vote of thanks was accorded the chairman, and congratulations expressed to him on his election to the chairmanship of the Retford Tradesmen's Association, to which Mr. Warburton briefly and suitably replied. He expressed his pleasure in seeing so good an attendance at the meeting, and his gladness at being once again amidst old scenes and associations, connected with which were very many old friends of almost 30 years' standing. He remarked that so long as he could he would always do his best to help forward the best interests of the Association.

The ringers next adjourned to the tower, when ringing was kept up until time for separation arrived, and terminated a very pleasant and in every way enjoyable meeting.

During the afternoon and evening a considerable amount of good ringing was done, and no less than nine completed touches and 720's were brought round, in the methods of Plain Bob, Killamarsh Treble Bob, City Delight, Cambridge Surprise, Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major. Some of the best ringing performed by mixed companies from Anston, Shireoaks, Worksop and Retford, the Shireoaks and Anston companies, combined, ringing a splendidly struck 720 of Killamarsh Treble Bob.

DEATH OF THE REV. CANON ELLACOMBE.**REMARKABLE FAMILY RECORD.**

On Monday, February 7th, at Bitton Vicarage, Gloucestershire, there passed to his rest, Henry Nicholson Ellacombe, within eleven days of his 94th birthday. Though not himself a ringer, like his father, the Rev. Henry Thomas Ellacombe, he took a great interest in bells, both from an antiquarian point of view, and as musical instruments of God's House, and was always ready to give sound, practical advice as to their care or restoration. The Rev. H. T. Ellacombe became curate-in-charge of Bitton, residing at the Vicarage, in July, 1817, and Vicar of the parish in 1835. In September, 1850, he was succeeded by his son, the Rev. H. N. Ellacombe, and went to the family living of Clyst St. George, where he ended his day at the good old age of 95. Thus the parish of Bitton has been in charge of father and son for ninety-eight and a half years. It would be difficult to estimate the number of ringers who, during that period, have visited the tower of St. Mary's Church and enjoyed a pull on its fine-toned ring of six, with a walk round the beautiful Vicarage garden, which, for at any rate the last fifty years has been one of the most wonderful in England.

A RINGER'S DISAPPEARANCE.**RAWTENSTALL MAN MISSING FROM HOME.**

Many ringing friends and acquaintances of Mr. George Edward Rollerson, of 23, Railway Terrace, Rawtenstall, Lancs, will regret to hear that he is missing from home, and that his wife and relatives are anxious as to his whereabouts.

Mr. Rollerson, who is 43 years of age, has been in the employ of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company for about 25 years, and held the position of relief pointsman. He was last seen by his wife about one o'clock noon, on Friday, January 28th, when he left the house. He went home to dinner on that day about 12.30, and was apparently in his usual health and spirits. He was to have returned to duty at four o'clock in the afternoon, but failed to do so, and was last seen going in the direction of the railway station.

His disappearance has been reported to the police, and many inquiries have been made by the family, but so far without result.

When he left home, Mr. Rollerson was dressed in his railway uniform, including a blue serge jacket, sleeved waistcoat and cap. He is about 5ft. 4in. in height, fresh complexion, with dark brown hair, turning slightly grey, and moustache.

He is believed to have wandered away during a period of absent-mindedness, or temporary loss of memory. Any information as to his whereabouts will be thankfully received by his wife and family.

Mr. Rollerson was a ringer at St. Mary's Church, Rawtenstall. It is now thought probable he may have got work in another town, and, in time, may enter some tower to renew his acquaintance with the bells. He can ring Grandsire, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Stedman Triples. Being the treble ringer, he would probably ring at the light end, but he can ring an inside bell in either method, if required.

The family would esteem it a favour, should a strange ringer answering to the above description, enter any tower, if the secretary or chief ringer of that tower would write and inform the relatives at the earliest opportunity.

THE BEST SIDE OF LIFE.

(With apologies to an old "Cumberland Youth.")

By G. F. MARGETSON.

"You are old, Father William," the young ringer said,
"With the end of life's journey in view,
And yet you regret not the days that are fled,
It seems always fair weather with you."

"Young man," replied William, "the days of my youth
Were not of a radiant glow;
I was born in the 'hungry forties,' forsooth,
When starvation followed the plough."

"I judge by your speech," said the youth in reply,
"Like the mouse, you left country for town;
You have found better fare 'neath a happier sky—
Abandoned the crook and the gown."

"Quite true," answered William, "to London I came,
Heard the grand bells of Bow and Shoreditch;
But never could reach Dick Whittington's fame—
'Twas not my good luck to get rich."

"I rang many peals, and in those early days
Met Haley, John Cox, and Mat. Wood;
They have gone to their rest, long since in their graves,
May we meet in the great Brotherhood."

"If my age you would know, I am just on a year
The best side of three score and ten;
My birth in the old family Bible appears;
We required no certificates then."

"The best side of three score and ten," said the youth,
"Make you still in the Sixties, not Seven";

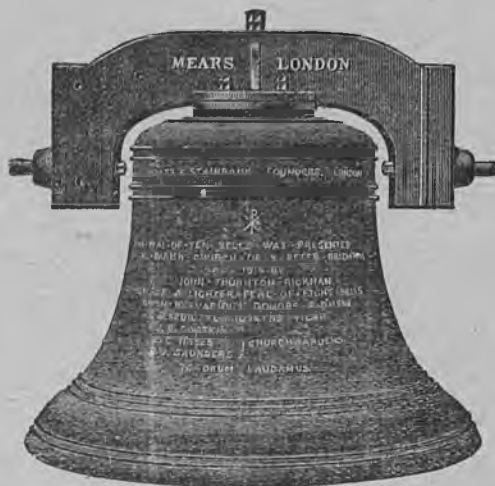
"Why no!" exclaimed William, "Seventy-one is the truth—
I am just on a year nearer heaven."

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SEC.-LIEUT. F. J. L. MITCHELL.

Sec.-Lieut. Francis J. L. Mitchell, R.G.A., who was born on April 29, 1896, is the eldest son of Mr. John C. Mitchell, F.C.I.S., of West Norwood. He has been educated at Dulwich College, and at the outbreak of war had entered Clare College, Cambridge. In March, 1915, however, he offered his services to the War Office and was given a commission in the Royal Garrison Artillery. His training took place at Portland, and he has since seen service at Weymouth Harbour, and is now stationed at Valetta Harbour.

He had not much opportunity for ringing, but showed considerable promise, and had rung several quarter peals



SEC.-LIEUT. MITCHELL.

of Stedman and Grandsire, at St. Leonard's, Streatham, where practically all his ringing has been done. On going to Cambridge he got an introduction to the Rev. A. H. Boughey, and took up handbell ringing with him. Mr. Boughey writes of him: "He had only two terms with us before he went off soldiering, but showed that he was a good ringer and very keen about ringing."

Lieut. Mitchell's father was himself a ringer, who "did his bit" in other days. The older generation will remember him as one of the band who rang the "Silent" Holt's Original on handbells on March 11th, 1887, Mr. Mitchell ringing 1—2.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.—On Jan. 9th, for morning service, 672 Grandsire Triples: W. W. Bailey 1, J. G. Rumsey 2, G. Wilson 3, A. Keeble 4, E. S. Bailey 5, C. F. Bailey (conductor) 6, J. M. Bailey 7, J. Titterton 8.—On Sunday, January 23rd, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): G. Wilson 1, E. S. Bailey 2, E. H. Bailey 3, A. Keeble 4, J. G. Rumsey 5, C. F. Bailey (conductor) 6, J. M. Bailey 7, J. Titterton 8.—On Saturday afternoon, Feb. 12th, 1008 Double Norwich: W. W. Bailey 1, G. Wilson 2, J. M. Bailey 3, A. Keeble 4, C. F. Bailey (conductor) 5, Sergt. F. W. Bailey (9th Batt. Suffolk Regiment) 6, J. G. Rumsey 7, E. S. Bailey 8.—On Sunday, Feb. 13th, 1024 Superlative Surprise Major: A. Keeble 1, J. M. Bailey 2, G. Wilson 3, C. F. Bailey (conductor) 4, Sergt. F. W. Bailey 5, J. G. Rumsey 6, C. Sampson 7, E. S. Bailey 8. The last two touches were rung to oblige Sergt. F. W. Bailey, who was on leave from the trenches in Flanders.

THE CHURCH BELLS OF LANCASHIRE.

A NEW VOLUME.

To the steadily growing list of county histories of Church bells has now to be added another: "The Church Bells of Lancashire." The new book, to be strictly correct, is only the first instalment of what one hopes may be the completed volume, for the author, Mr. F. H. Cheetham, deals with the bells of the hundreds of West Derby and Leyland. But even so, the book is a substantial one of over 160 pages. It is a reprint from the "Transactions" of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, and we are promised, if all's well, that this publication shall be followed by others covering the hundred of Salford, the hundreds of Blackburn and Amounderness, and the hundred of Lonsdale in successive years.

Bell lovers who take a delight in the historic side of bells, will welcome this new volume, not only because it covers another area that has been made the systematic hunting ground of one of that small, but enthusiastic band of antiquarian bell experts, but because it contains a wealth of information which adds to the interest associated with our art. The volume is splendidly turned out, and has an added value from the various insets, giving facsimiles of the inscriptions and decorations on some of the oldest of the bells. The notes upon the two "hundreds" which have been dealt with, should be taken, says the author, as an "annotated scheme," rather than an exhaustive treatise, for, as he points out, until the whole county has been covered, it would obviously be unwise to attempt to give anything like a summary of results. What should have been under ordinary circumstances an introductory chapter, is, therefore, held over to the end, for, later on, the author hopes to analyse the results of his researches, when the list of bells in each hundred has been completed, and to give a short account of the founders whose work occurs in the county.

ARRESTED AS A SPY.

An extract from the author's "Foreword" is worth reproducing, as showing the unexpected surprises that await the antiquarian in prosecuting his researches. "It is," he remarks, "scarcely necessary to say that work of this nature (examining the bells to note their sizes and inscriptions) demands time and patience, a fairly good constitution, old clothes, good humour, and sometimes muscular agility. It is, however, full of interest and excitement of a certain kind. Discoveries are sometimes made which more than compensate for numberless disappointments, and surprises, pleasant and unpleasant, often await the bell hunter in other directions Where so many have made the way pleasant and smooth it would be invidious to single out anyone, but the recollection of much kindly hospitality and interest in my work will long be a pleasant memory. Only in one instance has the uniform courtesy extended to me been broken and access to the belfry been refused. Visiting Lowton (St. Luke's) on August 24th, 1914, three weeks after the outbreak of war, the Rector, despite a letter asking for permission to see the bells and stating the reason of my request, summarily refused to allow me to ascend the tower, and, not satisfied with my bona fides, caused me to be arrested as a spy, and to be marched off in charge of two plain-clothes police sergeants to the county police station at Leigh, about three miles away. Afterwards, when I had established my identity and presumably had satisfied the Rector as to the pacific nature of my business, I proffered a second request, but was again refused. Subsequently, however, one of the churchwardens kindly went to some trouble on my behalf and sent me the information required. The bells at Lowton are, however, the only ones in the lists that follow that I have not personally examined."

A few copies of Mr. Cheetham's volume are for sale (price 3s. 6d.), on application to the author, 53, Walnut Street, Southport.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

A monthly meeting of the Devises Branch was held on Saturday, at the fine old Church of All Saints', Westbury, Wilts, and the day being beautifully fine, the gathering was well attended. Ringing commenced soon after 3 o'clock, and at 4 p.m. the authorised Guild service was held in the church, conducted by the Rev. W. H. McCann Clarke, Vicar, assisted by the Rev. H. C. Brooks, curate. The service was choral, and the singing was well sustained by the ringers present. The Vicar gave a very practical and excellent address, founded on 1 Cor., xii, 27.

Tea was afterwards partaken of in the Parish Room, and a very pleasant party of 24 thoroughly enjoyed the repast, ringing members from Trowbridge, Holt, Devizes, Westbury, Southbroom, Edmonton, Bromham and Edington being present.

A short business meeting was held, presided over by the new chairman, Mr. Sidney Hillier, of Devizes, who expressed the thanks of the Guild to the Vicar for the use of the bells and parish room, and also for the beautiful service given in the church.

Five new names were proposed and duly elected members of the Guild, four being from Southbroom and one from Devizes. More ringing in the tower was then enjoyed, and a very pleasant and successful meeting was brought to a close.

BRIERLY HILL RINGER KILLED.

Jacob Williams, a ringer at St. Michael's Church, Brierley Hill, has been killed in action, and, as a last token of respect, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung with half-muffled bells on Sunday week by: C. W. Cooper 1, J. Bass 2, V. Allen 3, R. Matthews (conductor) 4, A. W. Whatmore 5, J. W. Newnan 6, C. E. Perkins 7, A. W. Dodd 8.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. GLASTONBURY BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Glastonbury Deanery Branch was held at Glastonbury on Saturday last, when 35 members attended from St. John's (Glastonbury), Street, Dinder, Baltonsborough, Meare, Castle Cary, Burnham, Ilminster, Bridgwater and Taunton. The bells of St. Benignus' Church were set going at 3 o'clock to Grandsire Doubles, conducted by Miss R. Coles, of Bridgwater, and at 4 o'clock a service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. T. J. Williams), who gave a very able address on the duty of ringers to the Church.

Subsequently, after a substantial tea, a business meeting was held, the Rev. W. M. K. Warren (President of the Branch) being in the chair, supported by the Rev. T. J. Williams and the Rev. H. Davis.—On the proposition of the Rev. H. Davis, seconded by Mr. H. J. Trim, the Rev. W. M. K. Warren was again elected to the chair for another year.—The meeting was then called upon to elect an hon. secretary, in place of Mr. W. Farley, who is serving in the N.S. Yeomanry.—Mr. H. Lee proposed, and the President seconded, that Mr. H. J. Trim be elected hon. secretary and representative on the general committee, and this was agreed to.—One honorary member and 15 performing were elected, including five ladies of St. John's, Glastonbury.—West Pennard was selected for the next meeting in June.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar of St. Benignus for arranging the service and use of his bells, also to the Rev. H. Davis for the use of the bells of St. John's; the organist and choir were also included in the vote.—The Rev. T. J. Williams said it gave him much pleasure to meet such a body of ringers, and he hoped it would not be the last time he would do so.—The Rev. Davis also responded.—A vote of thanks to the visitors was proposed by the Rev. W. M. Warren, and responded to by Mr. Taylor, of Ilminster.

A move was then made to St. John's tower, and some very good touches of Grandsire Triples were brought round, the conducting being shared by Miss R. Coles, Mr. Taylor and Mr. Burgess.

AXBRIDGE DEANERY SECRETARY RETIRES.

The annual meeting of the Axbridge Deanery Branch was held at Burnham on Saturday week, some 36 members being present representing Burnham, Berrow, Badgworth, Bridgwater, Bristol, East Brent, Mark, Huntspill, Weave, Weston-super-Mare, and others. Service was held in the Parish Church, and a splendid address given by the Rev. H. Tritton (curate.) Tea was partaken at the Clarence Hotel, and was followed by the meeting, the President (the Rev. Hayes Robinson) presiding.

Four new members were elected, and the Hon. Secretary (Mr. J. Harris) presented the balance sheet, which was accepted.

The Rev. R. Hayes Robinson was re-elected President for the ensuing year, and Mr. G. H. Pruen was re-elected Vice-President. The secretary tendered his resignation, and Mr. G. Chamberlain was elected to the vacancy thus caused, and was also re-elected representative for the ensuing year.

The Secretary's report showed that the branch had had a fairly successful year, taking into consideration the number of its members serving with the colours, four hon. and thirty performing members having been elected.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for use of the bells and arranging the service, and to the Rev. H. Tritton for his very able address, the latter suitably responding.—A vote of thanks was accorded the organist for his kindness in presiding at the organ, and a similar compliment was accorded to the retiring hon. secretary for past services, to which he suitably responded.

During the afternoon and evening the bells were kept going to Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major.

A PRISONER OF WAR.

KETTERING RINGER WOUNDED AND IN GERMAN HANDS.

Pte Philip Inns, a well-known Kettering ringer, who joined the 6th Batt. Northants Regiment, is a prisoner of war in Germany. Writing to his mother a few days ago, he stated that a party of his company were taken prisoners on December 29th. Unfortunately he was wounded in the head by a piece of a bomb that struck him over the eye, with the result that he has for the present lost his sight. He was taken to Cologne and placed in hospital. The doctors, he says, are very kind to him, and tell him that he will recover his sight.

DEATH OF MRS. F. PITSTOW.

Ringers the country over will deeply sympathise with Mr. Fred Pitstow, of Saffron Walden, in the loss he has sustained by the death of his wife, the sad event occurring on Saturday. Although Mrs. Pitstow, who was 63 years of age, did not take up the Art, it was always a pleasure to her to welcome and provide for the comfort of her husband's many ringing friends, and a great many members of the Exercise have brought with them from Saffron Walden pleasant recollections of the hospitality extended by the deceased lady, who as the wife and mother of ringers, took a lively interest in their doings. The funeral took place at Saffron Walden Cemetery yesterday (Thursday).

INTERESTING RECORDS FROM THE PAST. HENRY HALEY'S BIRTHDAY.

To-morrow is the anniversary of the birth of Henry Haley, one of the greatest of the College Youths, who first saw the light at Bethnal Green on February 19th, 1819. At the age of 23 he composed and conducted his first peal on tower bells—Stedman Cinques—but prior to this, with a band of youths, he "lapped" sixteen peals in a variety of methods, including Stedman Cinques. During a life of 66 years, in which much ringing history was made, Henry Haley in 1850 went with four others on a handbell tune ringing tour in the United States, and while there succeeded in finding three other ringers with whom at Philadelphia they rang the first peal (Holt's ten-part) ever rung outside the British Isles. Altogether Henry Haley rang 182 peals, of which he conducted 155 and composed 105, his long lengths including 8580 Stedman Cinques, at Cornhill in 1861; 15,840 Treble Bob, at Bethnal Green, and 8448 Treble Bob at Christ Church, Spitalfields. He died on January 29th, 1886, and was buried at Ilford.

Among the memorable ringing performances, of which the anniversary falls in this week, may be mentioned a peal of 7018 Grandsire Cinques, rung at Cornhill on February 14th, 1731, and conducted by Benjamin Annable; 9999 Grandsire Major at Oldham on Feb. 15th, 1825; 8448 Stedman Cinques at Painswick on Feb. 16th, 1858, the first peal of Stedman Major, at Birmingham on Feb. 17th, 1856; 10,000 Oxford Treble Bob Royal, at Shoreditch on Feb. 18th, 1777, and 5112 Grandsire Caters at St. Martin's-in-the Fields, on Feb. 19th, 1751.

It was on February 17th, 1836, that Christ Church, Spitalfields, was destroyed by fire, and London lost one of its rings of twelve bells. The old peal, with a tenor reputed to be 44 cwt., was replaced by one of eight with a tenor of 33 cwt.

An interesting record has come to light of a long peal of Minor, rung at Bingley, Yorks, on February 7th, 1826. It was made up of 246 in each of 36 methods. The record is in the hands of one of the present ringers, and reads as follows:—

"Change Ringing at Bingley.—On Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 7th, 1826, the Society of Change Ringers, Bingley, Yorkshire, met in the tower of the Parish Church and rang without a single breakdown or a false change, the extraordinary number of 36 twelve-scores, in all 8640, on the following various methods, viz.: Oxford, Violet, New London Pleasure, Duke of York, Kent, College Pleasure, College Treble, City Delight, Tulip, Primrose, Oxford Reverse, London Scholars Pleasure, Morning Exercise, Cambridge, Morning Star, Evening Star, Coventry, Ely, Rochester, Treble Bob Reverse, Morning Pleasure, Symphony, Cheapside, College Delight, Royal Bob, Worcester, Chichester, Durham, York, Bristol, Lichfield, London, Wells, College Exercise, London Delight, Evening Exercise. The ringers were stationed as follows, viz.: John Briggs treble, David Bailey 2nd, Hezekiah Briggs 3rd, James Lilly 4th, Henry Dickinson 5th, Isaac Rhodes tenor. Weight of tenor, 1 cwt. 3 qrs. Time occupied in ringing, 5 hrs. and 11 minutes.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the South-Western Division was held at Christ Church, Wanstead, on Saturday week. The bells were available from 3 to 6.50 o'clock, and there was an interval for a short service, at which the Rector (the Rev. Canon Corbett) gave an address, in which he welcomed the Association to Wanstead, and said he was glad that the duties of the bell ringers were being carried on, although a large number of their members had joined the colours. He expressed the hope that ere long the bells would be ringing to celebrate the termination of hostilities.

The ringers were entertained to tea in the Infants' School Room by the Rector and Mr. Hill (one of the churchwardens), who were most heartily thanked for their hospitality, and votes of thanks were also accorded to Mr. E. A. Lebbon for making arrangements for the meeting, and to the ladies who attended at the tea table.

It was announced that Mr. E. J. Butler (District Master) would take over the duties of the hon. secretary, who will be joining the army under Lord Derby's scheme at the end of the month.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last a well-attended meeting of the Manchester branch was held at Miles Platting. Members were present from Manchester, Oldham, Ashton, Hyde, Worsley, Didsbury, Pendleton, Pendlebury, Reddish, Prestwick, etc. Mr. Ridyard (vice-president) presided over the business meeting, and gave a hearty welcome to the ladies and gentlemen who had turned up in such good numbers. He especially desired members to be a little earlier at ringing meetings so that each and all could have a pull in the various methods rung; the more so now that ringing was restricted during the evening owing to the air raids.

A vote of condolence was passed to the widow and family of Mr. Grunwell, of St. Mark's, Worsley, who had died of pneumonia in France.

Pendlebury was chosen as the next meeting place. Ringing was indulged in in various methods on the bells of the parish church during the afternoon and evening.

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT MEETING.

When the members of the Association meet at Isleworth they always have a good time. About forty ringers attended on Saturday last from Acton, Barnes, Ealing, Hammersmith, Heston, Hornsey, Isleworth, Norwood Green, Putney, Staines, Walthamstow, Willesden and West Ealing. After ringing at the tower the whole party adjourned to Hartland Road, where they were entertained to tea by the Rev. J. H. C. McGill and Mrs. McGill.

At the business meeting, which followed, the officers were re-elected "en bloc."—Two new members were proposed, Mr. A. Elliott (Acton) and Mr. W. J. Dickens (Isleworth).—The choice fell on Feltham as the next place of meeting, but Mr. W. Parker, in a humorous little speech, thought the Association should go to Staines, as they wanted "bucking up" there.

The President (Mr. A. T. King) sent a kind message, and everyone was pleased to hear that he may be with the members at the annual meeting on April 29th.

Both the Hon. Secretaries pointed out the desirability of an improvement in the payment of subscriptions, for only four new members joined last year, and many were away serving their country, and the state of the finance was not encouraging. There was just a little note of sadness when Mr. H. C. Chandler intimated that owing to a difference between the Heston band and their Vicar, their connection with the Heston tower had been severed; but Mr. C. T. Coles suggested that for the present, at least, the name of the tower should be retained as affiliated to the Association, in the hope that the day might not be far off when differences should give place to mutual respect and goodwill, and he thought that every effort should be made to attain that end.

The Master (Mr. T. Beadle) proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar and Mrs. McGill for their kind hospitality, and Mr. McGill replied at some length, concluding by saying that he (Mr. Beadle) was always ready and willing at all times to meet his views in every respect, and to get a band together whenever required.

Ringing was afterwards resumed, with many touches in the usual methods to suit everyone. Perhaps one of the best was that of Double Norwich, conducted by Mr. C. T. Coles, in which there was some fine striking.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

GULVAL, PENZANCE.—On Oct. 12th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, from Holts' Original (1260 changes), in 49 mins.: Miss Bileen Symons (first quarter-peal) 1, A. W. Brighton (London) conductor, 2, J. Wood 3, Dr. J. Symons 4, F. Jelbert 5, A. Triggs 6, P. Hichens 7, J. Cockell 8.

SHREWSBURY.—Salop Guild and St. Chad's Society.—On December 3rd, for Confirmation service, at St. Chad's, 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor, with tenor behind: G. Scarratt 1, J. Tudor 2, W. Brooks 3, W. J. Taylor 4, E. V. Rodenhurst 5, H. Fullick 6, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 7; after service, 144 Bob Major.—On Dec. 5th, 448 Kent Treble Bob Major: G. Scarratt 1, J. Tudor 2, W. Brooks 3, Pte T. M. Belton 4, W. Stockdale 5, G. Jones 6, A. Fullick 7, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 8; 162 Grandsire Caters: R. F. Turner 2, and H. Jones tenor.—On December 12th, 503 Grandsire Caters: C. R. Lilley (conductor) 1, J. Tudor 2, W. Stockdale 3, W. Brooks 4, G. Scarratt 5, Pte T. M. Belton 6, J. Claybourne 7, G. Jones 8, A. Fullick 9, H. Jones 10. Also 72 Grandsire Caters, 288 Kent Treble Bob Major.—On December 19th, 288 Kent, 160 Bob Major, 84 Stedman, 11 Grandsire Triples.—On Dec. 25th, 360 of Bob Minor on back six: J. Tudor 1, W. Brooks 2, W. Stockdale 3, G. Jones 4, A. Fullick 5, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 6. Tenor 39 cwt. 2 qrs. 7 lbs.—On December 26th, 504 Stedman Triples: W. Brooks 1, J. Tudor 2, G. Scarratt 3, G. Jones 4, W. Stockdale 5, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 6, A. Fullick 7, H. Jones 8.—On Dec. 31st, with bells half-muffled, to ring the old year out, 360 Bob Minor on the back six, and 168 Stedman Triples. To welcome new year, 252 Stedman Triples, with the bells open.

LONDON.—On Sunday, December 12th, at Cubitt Town, E., for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 42 mins.: H. Springall 1, E. Gibbs 2, W. G. Matthews 3, C. Lee 4, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 5, C. H. Pullen 6, R. Sanders 7, C. H. Hughes 8.

BENFIELDSDALE.—On December 12th, for service, 720 Durham Surprise: December 19th, 720 Canterbury Surprise: Jan. 16th, 720 Chester Surprise: J. K. Fisher 1, J. W. Forster 2, Jno. Marshall 3, T. H. Surtees 4, A. Charlton 5, F. Barron (conductor) 6. These are the first in the methods by the ringer of the treble, and first on an inside bell by the ringer of the 2nd.

PORTSEA, HANTS.—At the Parish Church, on Dec. 12th, 545 Grandsire Triples: E. Reynolds 1, G. Groves 2, G. Holloway 3, Pte Hoptrough 4, J. Symonds 5, J. Harris 6, Pte Burrow (conductor) 7, J. Harding 8.—On January 23rd, 336 Grandsire Triples, conducted by J. Harris, and 504 Stedman Triples: Pte Hoptrough 1, C. Groves 2, E. Reynolds 3, J. Symonds 4, J. Harris (conductor) 5, W. Wheeler 6, J. Harding 7, G. Holloway 8.

CREWE.—On Nov. 28th, 468 of Grandsire Caters: Chief Engineer Artificer A. Middleton, R.N., 1, W. T. Holding 2, W. F. Hartshorne 3, Gnr. J. H. Riding, R.G.A., 4, R. D. Langford 5, A. Crawley 6, G. H. Crawley 7, C. J. B. Cooke, M.Inst.C.E., 8, R. T. Holding (conductor) 9, J. Dentith 10. Arranged and rung for the ringer of the treble, who was on a short visit to his home.

DUNSTABLE, BEDS.—At midnight, on Christmas Eve, 336 and 504 Bob Triples: E. Franklin, junr., 1, E. Franklin, senr., 2, J. Baldock 3, C. King, junr. (longest touch in any method) 4, Canon W. W. C. Baker 5, G. Heley 6, A. E. Sharman (conductor) 7, O. King 8.

WORCESTER.—On Christmas Day, at the early morning ringing, at 5 a.m., at St. John's Church, Mrs. Wilkins took the treble in some Grandsire Doubles, and for the 11 a.m. service, at All Saints', Miss C. Page assisted, ringing the treble to Grandsire Doubles. This is believed to be the first time ladies have assisted at service ringing in Worcester.

EARL'S COLNE.—Essex Association.—On Christmas Day, for 7 o'clock service, 144 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, and 336 Bob Major for 8 o'clock service: 336 Woodbine Treble Bob Minor for 11 o'clock service; 336 Double Norwich Major, and 120 Bob Doubles.—On Sunday, December 26th, for 11 o'clock service; 1120 Kent Treble Bob Major for 3 o'clock service: 560 Double Norwich Major; those taking part were: H. Fairhead, F. Claydon, J. Turner, R. Fleuty, J. Fleuty, W. Scillitoe, W. Burst, J. French, W. Arnold and S. Fleuty, W. Scillitoe and J. French being the conductors.

LUTON.—Beds Association.—On Christmas Day, for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins., with tenor covering: C. Wing 1, J. Rookwood 2, B. Wilson 4, A. King (conductor) 5, T. Kendall 6, W. Payne 7, H. Shaw 8.—On Sunday, December 27th, 504 Stedman Triples: J. Rookwood 1, A. King 2, B. Wilson 3, T. Kendall 4, F. Hunt 5, C. Wing 6, W. Payne (conductor) 7, Pto A. Rookwood 8.

TYLDESLEY, LANCASHIRE.—At the Parish Church, on Christmas morning, 840 Grandsire Triples: H. Watts 1, B. Allred 2, Jas. Allred 3, John T. Allred 4, W. Hindley 5, R. Allred (conductor) 6, H. Allred 7, J. Watts 8.—On Sunday morning, Dec. 26th, 720 Bob Major: H. Watts 1, B. Allred 2, James Allred 3, Harry Allred 4, W. Hindley 5, John T. Allred 6, Herbert Allred 7, R. Allred (conductor) 8.

LANGPORT.—Bath and Wells Association.—On Dec. 26th, 720 Bob Minor: G. Locke 1, W. White (first 720) 2, T. J. Lloyd (conductor) 3, W. Tout 4, C. Sandford 5, T. W. Creed 6. Also 240 Kent Treble Bob: F. Locke 1, W. Tout 2, T. J. Lloyd 3, T. W. Creed 4, C. Sandford 5, G. Locke 6.

MILVERTON, SOMERSET.—On December 26th, at St. Michael's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: C. Norman 1, Wm. Andrews, junr., 2, R. Scott (conductor) 3, Pte. H. Norman 4, Wm. Chapman 5, A. Tout 6, Fred Norman 7, Fred Chapman 8. First quarter by C. Norman on the treble, also first quarter by Fred Chapman.

PETERBOROUGH.—On Sunday, December 26th, at the Parish Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: R. Gamble 1, F. Dainty 2, T. Vaughan 3, F. Davis 4, W. T. Cross 5, J. W. Jarvis 6, F. Cooke (conductor) 7, T. Howling 8.

CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.—At the Cathedral, on Sunday, December 26th, for evening service, 630 Grandsire Triples: Pte H. F. Cooper (5th Essex Regt.), conductor, 1, Pte Pipe (Oxford and Bucks) 2, A. Whight 3, A. Speller 4, A. E. Acfield 5, H. Allen 6, H. Richell 7, W. Pease 8.

GUILDFORD.—At St. Nicolas' Church, on Sunday, December 26th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: T. W. Radford 1, E. Etheridge 2, Pte H. Tomsett 3, W. Loader 4, G. Petter 5, G. Tomsett (conductor) 6, S. G. Steer 7, E. G. Heath 8. Arranged for the Brothers Tomsett, who hail from Lindfield, Sussex.

EDGWARE.—On December 28th, at the Parish Church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: A. French 1, G. Kilby 2, R. Kilby 3, C. H. Horton (conductor) 4, F. Barratt 5, H. Kilby 6. Also 240 Bob Minor and four six-scores of Stedman Doubles. On handbells, four six-scores of Stedman and one of Grandsire Doubles, and a short touch of Stedman Triples.

HAWKHURST.—Kent County Association.—On New Year's Day, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins., by: T. Ashenden 1, J. H. Durrant 2, A. H. Wellard 3, J. Blake 4, G. J. Kemp 5, C. Tribe 6, G. Billenness 7, G. Maskell 8.

HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.—On Saturday afternoon, January 1st, for a special service at St. John's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1299 changes): J. J. Pratt (conductor) 1, G. Guttridge 2, A. W. Davis 3, W. H. Hollier 4, W. Henley 5, P. Jones 6, E. Hancox 7, Wm. Lawrence 8, H. H. Chandler 9, W. Honor 10.

ISHAM.—Central Northants Association.—On Sunday, Jan. 2nd, for Matins, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob; for Intercessional evensong, 720 Cambridge Surprise; afterwards, with the bells muffled, 720 Plain Bob.—On Monday, Jan. 3rd, 720 Primrose Surprise Minor. The above were rung during Mr. E. M. Atkins' leave from the trenches, the other ringers taking part being G. A. Blaxley, W. T. Wilson, W. C. Lewis, D. Mallett, A. E. Fourn, F. H. Talbutt and T. Garley.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. — Established 1755. — The Annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at Ye Old Royal Hotel, Temple Row, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 4th, at 6 o'clock. Chair will be taken by Canon J. W. Willink, Rector of Birmingham. Tickets free to all fully qualified members, to other members and friends 2s. 6d. each. The bells of St. Martin's (12) and Bishop Ryder's (8) will be available from 3.30 p.m. — A. Paddon Smith, Honorary Secretary, 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — Established 1637. — The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members to vote on financial matters, should be paid during the present month. Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on February 24th, and for general business on the 29th; all at 8 p.m. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Ashford District. — A meeting of the above will be held at Ashford, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. E. H. Sopwith), on Saturday, February 19th. Bells available from 3 till 6. Service in the church at 6 o'clock. As we have not been privileged to hold a meeting at Ashford for several years it is hoped members will turn up in force to show their appreciation of the same. — C. Tribe, British School Villas, Tenterden.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — The next quarterly meeting and 8-bell contest will be held at St. Matthew's Church, Northowram, on Saturday, Feb. 19, 1916. Draw for order of ringing to take place in the school at 3 p.m. — F. Salmons, Secretary, 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — North-Eastern Division. — A district meeting will be held at Halstead, Saturday, Feb. 19th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. Short service, with address, 4.30. Tea, 10d. each, at White Horse 5.30. Subscriptions for 1916 are now due. — B. Redgwell, District Sec., The Street, Rayne.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Wotton-under-Edge and District Branch. — The monthly meeting will be held at Slimbridge (6 bells) on Saturday, February 19th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea, by invitation, at 5.30. Short service 6 p.m. Will those intending to be present please notify not later than Wednesday, February 16th, to W. A. Lewis, Branch Hon. Secretary, Ham, Berkeley, Glos.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Quarterly Meetings will be held at Twywell, February 19th; and Kingsthorpe, February 26th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock. Will members let district secretaries know not later than the Wednesday previous to meetings if they require tea. — Fred Wilford, General Secretary, 149, Ashburnham Road, Northampton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Rochdale Branch. — The next monthly meeting will be held at Balderstone

on Saturday, February 26th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock, meeting at 6.50. — T. K. Driver, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District. — The next meeting of the Eastern District of the above association will be held at York on Saturday, February 26th, 1916. Bells: Minster (12) 1.30 to 4.30 p.m., St. Philip and St. James (6) 1.30 to 6 p.m., St. Mary's (6) 1.30 to 7 p.m. Tea, 1s. each, to all who advise Mr. Horner, 16, Clifton Green, York, on or before Tuesday, February 22nd, 1916.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Rossendale Branch. — The next branch meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Bacup, on Saturday, February 19th. Bells ready at 5 o'clock, meeting at 7 p.m. Reports are now ready. Subscriptions are due. — J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, February 26th. Bells available 4 p.m. to 7.30 p.m., and after 8 p.m. Meeting at 7.30. — C. D. Potter, 119, Doncaster Road, Barnsley.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD. — The annual meeting of the above Guild will be held at Dudley on Saturday, February 26th. The bells will be available for ringing at 3 o'clock up till time for service only. Service in church at 4.30, to be conducted by the President, the Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland (Vicar). A free tea will be provided for those who notify me not later than Tuesday, February 22nd. Business meeting afterwards. All outstanding contributions should be paid at this meeting. — Herbert Sheppard, Honorary Secretary, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

WINCHESTER GUILD. — Yorktown District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Hersham on Saturday, March 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea and business meeting in the Church House at 5.30. — G. Miles, Hon. Secretary, Owlsmoor, Camberley.

BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM. — The bells at this church are rung on Sundays for service at the following times: 10.15 a.m. to 11 a.m., from 5.45 to 6.30 p.m. All ringers will be welcomed. — James George, Ringing Master, 125, Victoria Road, Aston.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Canterbury District). — A meeting will be held at Lyminge on Saturday, March 4th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Service at 5. Tea at Rectory (by kind invitation of Rev. A. F. Rutty) for those who let me know by March 2nd. Business after tea. Subscriptions are now due and should be paid to me either before or at the meeting. — Fred J. O. Helmore, Hon. Sec.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO THE LATE WILLIAM SNOWDON. — The Members of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers propose to erect a Memorial to the late William Snowdon in the form of a Brass Tablet in Ilkley Parish Church, near to the Ringers' Window already erected to the memory of his brother, Jasper Whitfield Snowdon. Will any person wishing to be associated with this movement kindly communicate with the Treasurer to the Fund, Mr. H. Williams, New Worthy Cemetery, Leeds, Yorks.

PEAL BOOKS. — Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application. — J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

SITUATION VACANT.

CLERK wanted in Government office, starting wage 28s. per week, hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Write stating age and previous experience to "Military," "Ringing World" Office, Woking. Only men ineligible for the Army need apply.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

VERSES FROM THE TRENCHES.**OUR SOLDIERS THINK OF CHRISTMAS BELLS.**

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Appended is a copy of some striking verses, written by a Leicester soldier whilst spending Christmas in the trenches. It shows wonderfully how our brave lads missed the sounds of the bells, and of the other signs of this great, festive season, the only reminder they had of Christmas being the pudding they received from the dear Homeland. The bells referred to are those of the fine peal of eight at the Church of the Holy Saviour, Leicester, which he says he used to hear on Christmas morning, but which he missed so much this Yuletide, hearing instead of them, the deep booming of the heavy guns.—Yours truly,

Leicester.

ERNEST MORRIS.

CHRISTMAS BELLS.

Christmas bells once more are ringing
In the land we love so well;
Children's voices gaily singing,
Eagerly their joy to tell.

Log fires burning, turkey cooking,
Presents on the table lay;
Mother, father, sister looking,
For the boy who's far away.

Guns are booming, mines exploding,
Comrades falling in the fray;
Limbs are breaking, hearts are bleeding,
Tumult though 'tis Christmas Day.

Minds are troubled, tears are many,
Loved ones grieved with what may be;
Lads are thinking more if any
Of their homes across the sea.

Why all this tumult and sorrow?
What an insult to our God,
He sent Peace—a grand To-morrow
Through His Son—and not the Rod.

Christmas bells, you seem half-hearted,
This is twice you've rung so slack;
Are you thinking the brave-hearted
In disgust have turned their back?

Ring! oh ring! we are so lonely,
Wasting here on this grand morn;
You can tell us—and you only,
This is Christmas! Christ is born!

GUNNER CHEETHAM.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

MINEHEAD, SOMERSET.—On January 8th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: C. Strawbridge 1, J. Reed 2, W. Hoyle 3, J. Hunt 4, J. Pugsley 5, G. Atkins (conductor) 6, S. Mason 7, J. R. Passmore 8.

ACTON.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday morning, January 9th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: J. R. Sims 1, R. H. Boddington 2, W. Garrard 3, W. Phillips 4, J. W. Fruin 5, Robt. Holloway (conductor) 6, J. H. Payne 7, A. Elliott 8.

ASHBOCKING, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday afternoon, Jan. 9th, for divine service, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: W. Burgess 1, G. Bennett 2, G. Pryke 3, Sergt. J. Bennett (R.M.L.I., H.M.S. "Phaeton") 4, A. Fleming 5, G. Farnish (conductor) 6. Rung to oblige the ringer of the 4th.

WORKSOP.—On January 9th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: S. Walker 1, H. H. Cartwright 2, T. Bartholomew 3, H. Haigh (conductor) 4, W. Roberts 5, A. Johnson 6, J. T. Wilson 7, Sapper J. W. Hawkins (Hull) 8.

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GILLETT & JOHNSTON
CROYDON

BY GILLETT & JOHNSTON

FOR THE BROTHER SAMUEL BENNETT
HENRY BAGLEY MADE ME
ALL YOU THAT HEAR MY MOORING CALL
WAKE BEFORE YOU LYE IN DREAMS
SERVE THE LORD WHILE YOU HAVE THE
TIMES NO REPENTANCE AFTER DEATH

MODERN WORK.

Hitherto, we have endeavoured, as space has permitted, to oblige all who have sent in their touches for publication. Those of merit we have welcomed; with the others we have shown forbearance. Now that the question has been raised from outside, we are glad to have the opportunity of expressing our view on the subject. We do not want to have to lay down any rule upon the matter. We would much rather leave it to the good sense of the ringers, and we do so now with confidence. Those performances which have about them something which marks a novelty, or progress, or which have a distinct interest about them from the occasion or other circumstances, will find a place in these columns as readily as ever, be they only a six-score of Doubles or a course of Treble Bob. But there ought to be a limit, and for the moment we leave the fixing of that limit to the ringers.

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MODERN WORK.**

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Chelmsford.

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We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

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LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 15, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
At 49, WOOD STREET, WALTHAMSTOW,

A PEAL OF STEBMAN CATERS, 505 CHANCES;

| | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| GEORGE R. PYE... .. 1-2 | JAMES HUNT... .. 5-6 |
| WILLIAM PYE... .. 3-4 | ALFRED W. GRIMES... .. 7-8 |
| *CHARLES T. COLES... .. 9-10 | |

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and
Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

* First peal of Caters on handbells.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 19, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

At THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANCES;

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| WILLIAM T. POWELL... .. 1-2 | EDGAR WIGHTMAN... .. 5-6 |
| JOHN D. MATTHEWS... .. 3-4 | FRANK SMITH... .. 7-8 |
| WILLIAM J. NUDDS... .. 9-10 | |

Composed by EDGAR WIGHTMAN, and
Conducted by JOHN D. MATTHEWS.

Umpire: JAMES HUNT.

This peal was arranged by the Spitalfields Bell Foundry Guild to oblige Mr. J. D. Matthews, Master of the Royal Cumberlands.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BERKHAMSTED, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| *HUBERT H. EALEY... .. Treble | OWEN BAYES... .. 5 |
| *FREDERICK REEVES... .. 2 | PTE. HENRY F. COOPER... .. 6 |
| BEN. JARMAN... .. 3 | ALFRED KING... .. 7 |
| HENRY GOLDING... .. 4 | FRED. NORRIS... .. Tenor |

Conducted by PTE. H. F. COOPER (5th Essex Regt.).

* First peal. The ringer of the 3rd hails from Harpenden, 4th from Hemel Hempstead, 6th from Chelmsford, 7th from Luton. The ringers of 1, 2, 5 and 8 are members of the local band. Arranged for the conductor, who is stationed at Halton Camp, Tring, and rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. F. Reeves, captain of the Tring Band. Messrs. Golding and Cooper were elected members of the Association previous to starting the peal.

ORMESBY, YORKS.

THE CLEVELAND & NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1916, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| GEORGE H. ATKINSON... .. Treble | WILLIAM A. BRECKON... .. 3 |
| JOHN G. HALL... .. 2 | THOMAS METCALFE... .. 6 |
| PTE. WILLIAM T. HOLMES... .. 3 | WILLIAM J. JACKSON... .. 7 |
| GEORGE WINDSOR... .. 4 | GEORGE JACKSON... .. Tenor |

Composed by the REV. C. D. P. DAVIS, and
Conducted by JOHN G. HALL.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. Hugh Mosman, a native of Edinburgh, but for the last twenty years estate agent to Mr. J. W. Pennymann, of The Hall, Ormesby. He took a great interest in the church and especially the bells and ringers. He joined His Majesty's forces some few months ago, and his death occurred suddenly, under somewhat tragic circumstances, from heart failure on Saturday, Feb. 12th, 1916.

ESTABLISHED 1760.

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SIX BELL PEALS.

BARCOMBE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

*On Friday, February 18, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 42 six-scores with 10 different callings.

Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 9 lbs.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------|-------------------------|
| JAMES H. COX | Treble | ALBERT E. EDWARDS ... 4 |
| LUKE VERRALL | 2 | JAMES A. HART ... 5 |
| HENRY JONES | 3 | HARRY FUNNELL |
| Conducted by JAMES A. HART. | | |

Rung with bells deeply muffled, except tenor at backstroke, as a token of respect to, and in loving memory of, the late Pte. W. H. Banks, of the 8th Royal Sussex (Pioneer) Regt., who was killed in France on the 7th February in his 32nd year. He was hon. sec. and an active member of the Barcombe ringers since the opening of the bells in April, 1912, a member of the Parish Church choir from boyhood, and was greatly loved and respected by all who knew him. Messrs. Hart and Jones hail from Uckfield and Ringmer respectively.

ACCRINGTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 19, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being three 720's of Oxford and four of Kent, each called differently.

| | | |
|--------------------------|--------|--------------------------|
| JOHN WATSON | Treble | EDWIN OGDEN 4 |
| TOM REDMAN | 2 | W. MARSHALL 5 |
| JOE BRACEWELL | 3 | WILLIAM MALLINSON |
| Conducted by TOM REDMAN. | | |

Rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. Abraham Scholes, who was for 40 years conductor of the Accrington band. The ringers of the treble hails from Blackburn, 2nd and 5th from Burnley, 4th from Mossley, tenor from Colne. J. Bracewell belongs to the local band.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers serving with the colours:-

From St. Edmund's, Mansfield Woodhouse:-

Pte H. Rogers, A.O.C.

Pte A. Dennett, K.R.R.

From Holy Trinity, Ossett:-

Pte Frank Sykes, 4th K.O.Y.L.I.

Signaller Geo. Bennett, 4th K.O.Y.L.I.

Sapper Clifford Ekert, Royal Engineers.

From Irthlingborough, Northants:-

Pte S. Wade, 3/4th Territorials, now at Tring.

Pte C. Plumley, 3rd Norfolk, now at Felixstowe.

Pte J. Ward, Surrey Regiment, now at Colchester.

From All Saints, West Bromwich:-

Lance-Corpl. Water Reynolds, 23rd Middlesex, now at Aldersham.

Pte Archie Caddick, 2/5th South Staffs, now at St. Albans.

Trooper Herbert Pagett, 16th Lancers, now at Curragh Camp, Ireland.

From Goole Parish Church (making eight in all):-

Pte Percy Ingley, Royal Naval Air Service.

Sapper A. Rowson, 40th Signalling Comp., R.E., now at Farnborough, Hants.

Pte T. Smith, K.O.Y.L.I., clerk in Recruiting Depot at Goole.

From St. Stephen's, Eastwood, Rotherham:

Wilfred Lloyd, King's Royal Rifles.

Albert Charles, 3rd York and Lanes Regiment.

5040 BOB ROYAL.

By EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

23456 W M H

42356 —

34256 —

26345 — S —

32645 —

63245 —

46235 —

23465 —

Three times repeated, calling single for bob half-way and end.

Rung for the first time on handbells at Spitalfields Bell Foundry on
February 19th, 1916. Conducted by J. D. Matthews.

BARCOMBE RINGER KILLED IN FRANCE.

The sad news of the death of Pte William Henry Banks, of the 8th Royal Sussex Pioneer Regiment, who was killed in France on the 7th February, in his 32nd year, reached Barcombe on the 12th inst., and the news caused very great regret throughout the whole village, in which Mr. Banks was very popular. Pte Banks was greatly loved and respected by all who knew him. He was a member of the church choir from boyhood, and at all social gatherings in the village he was in great demand. He was hon. secretary of the Barcombe ringers from the opening of the bells in 1912 until he joined H.M. forces in September, 1914. He was one of the first to learn to ring when the bells of Barcombe were opened, in April, 1912, and he rang his first peal in November of the same year, when Mr. A. E. Edwards piloted five through their first 5040. The deceased was a careful ringer and good striker, and although he never got beyond Grandsire Doubles and a touch of Bob Minor, his heart was with his bells. He had rung nine peals of Grandsire Doubles, all on inside bells, and on all the four inside bells of Barcombe.

On Sunday, the 13th inst., the bells of St. Mary's Church were deeply muffled, except tenor at back stroke, in memory of Pte Banks, and the usual whole pull and stand was rung before Matins, followed by 360 Grandsire Doubles, by: P. J. Brooks 1, L. Verrall 2, J. H. Cox 3, P. Verrall (first 360) 4, A. E. Edwards (conductor) 5, A. Martin 6. A muffled peal will be found recorded in another column.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths once again met at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, with which church they have for so long been connected, for their annual meeting on Saturday week. With the exception of the 1915 "annual," which was held at Shoreditch, it is questionable whether the oldest members can remember the event being held anywhere else than at the historic tower, which, with Nelson's Column, stands sentinel over Trafalgar Square. Shortly before three the bells were set going to Grandsire and Stedman Caters, for the benefit of those ringers who have, as yet, hardly aspired to the heights of twelve-bell ringing, followed by touches of Stedman Cinques and Treble Twelve.

In the parish room some forty members sat down to tea, after which the Vicar (the Rev. H. R. L. Sheppard) visited the company and addressed a few words of hearty welcome, hoping that he would have the pleasure of entertaining the society to tea for their annual meeting for many years to come.

The accounts, which showed a decreased balance in hand—in common with many other societies, ringing and otherwise, at the present juncture—came in for some discussion, the result of which was that, failing some improvement during the coming year, the matter is to receive serious consideration at the next annual meeting.

The officers were elected as follows: Master, Mr. J. D. Matthews; secretary, Mr. H. J. Bradley; treasurer, Mr. H. Dains; senior steward, Mr. A. N. Hardy; junior steward, Mr. E. Wightman.

The Master made reference to the illness of Mr. Dains, whose absence through indisposition was felt by all, and hopes were expressed for his speedy recovery.

When the payment of accounts came on the board, members were found to be in a generous mood, which took some of the "sting" out of the previously discussed balance sheet. Mr. Robert Warner volunteered to pay the Central Council fees, Mr. W. G. Matthews took upon himself the responsibility of paying the peal booking fees for 1915, and, on a roll of honour being decided on for those members who have donned khaki at their country's call, Mr. J. Hunt undertook to frame the same.

The Rev. H. R. L. Sheppard was made a honorary life member of the society, and Mr. William Richies an ordinary member.

Mr. J. Hunt and the Master made suitable reference to the marriage of two of their members, which had already been described in these columns as a "hironautical" affair, the former expressing the hope that when one called a "bob" the other would not forget to make it.—Mrs. Hairs thanked the company for their good wishes. Unfortunately, the bridegroom was unable to be present.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for his kindness in providing the tea, to the waiters, and to the officers for past services, brought the meeting to a close.

During the evening the handbells were brought into use, Bob Royal (with three lady members taking part), Kent Treble Bob Royal, Stedman Caters and Stedman Cinques being rung.

The secretary will be pleased to receive the names and particulars of any country or overseas members for the roll of honour; address: H. J. Bradley, 25, Winchester Avenue, Brondesbury Park, London, N.W.

GOOLE GUILD.

The Goole Parish Church Guild held their annual meeting in the vestry on Saturday last, with the Vicar and churchwardens present, when the usual business was transacted, and officers for the ensuing year were elected, as follows: Conductor and secretary, Mr. Mark Tate; treasurer, Mr. C. W. King; steeple keeper, Mr. J. Drake.—The Vicar alluded to the members of the Guild doing so nobly in the tower under the present trying circumstances, no fewer than eight of the former ringers having joined H.M. forces since the commencement of the war.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

By "BOB MAJOR."

There has been quite an amicable ending to the protests which were raised in connection with my comments on the long peal at Elland in 1831, and, if the relations were considered strained, we have quite "made it up," which, being a man of peace, is much to my liking. Since my last notes, giving my authority for the statement I made, the following letter has come to hand: "Dear Bob Major,—Although I sincerely accept your apology for the few remarks made re the long peal at Elland in 1831, the report still remains a surprise to many old 'Yellanders.' However, we will let the matter rest, for, as mentioned by you, we can hardly dispute such an authority as Jasper Snowdon, whose name all ringers still respect, and whose researches into matters connected with change ringing are only too well known. With the present Elland ringers kind regards, yours, G. H. Simon." Thus my reputation is saved, and we have shaken hands, although I'm sorry that the effect of the shock should remain. But there, we all of us get shocks at times.

HOLT TO TAKE A BACK SEAT.

I received one last Friday, when I read my "Ringing World." We ringers get all sorts of pretty notions into our heads, grafted there in a kind of hereditary way. For generations we cherish our ideals, behind which we fortify ourselves, and then suddenly someone comes along and explodes a mine which wrecks our entrenchments, as it were, or, at any rate, gives our earthworks a nasty shaking. Here have we and our fathers, for a hundred and fifty years, been metaphorically decorating old John Holt with laurels—his memory is almost hidden behind the profusion of foliage, which in this long time has been placed about him—and now a gentleman comes along and tells us that Holt has been appraised beyond his worth; that he has never produced anything that will last for all time, though the "Original" may survive a little longer as the blarney stone of the Exercise. This really made me gasp, and I have been wondering what is the matter with the Original. It has lasted for 170 years and it isn't worn threadbare yet, and I fancy it will outlast many a newer thing either in composition or method building. If, for example, Walthamstow Stedman is rung as much in the year 2086 as Holt's Original is to-day it will be surprising, though you and I, my readers, will not be here to see it. But this I'll warrant, that if Grandsire Triples is rung in the latter half of the next century, Holt's Original will still be a composition which conductors will call. Experts may quibble about the niceties of this or that single, but I don't believe anything they may say will break the common or garden ringer's faith in old Johnny Holt. Like Johnny Walker, he is still going strong.

OVERRATED.

Poor old John Holt, although no dolt,
Was a man much overrated.
Before we praised him to skies,
We are told, we should have waited.

We all confess'd John Holt possess'd
A master's skill we could admire,
But now the truth, we find, is that
He knew but little of Grandsire.

His work of old, out in the cold
Is soon like to be the fate on
Which we'll ponder in days to come,
When it's finished with by Clayton.

ANOTHER STAGGERER!

Then here's another staggerer to our preconceived ideas. Thurstans' four-part should no longer stand pre-eminent in the realm of Stedman compositions. It would have been enough to make the dear "old reverend's" hair curl had he still been with us. Seven hundred and odd times did the late Master of the Oxford Guild call that peal because he believed it was the best—and perhaps the easiest—and now we are told it's neither the one nor the other. Another Birmingham man, Lates, is to have the palm, and Thurstans must come down from his pedestal. In life there was always a rivalry between these two "Brum" composers, and now we have statements that may well lead to another argument concerning them. Thurstans and Lates were the first men to obtain peals of Stedman Triples on the twin-bob principle, and there was great excitement in those days in Birmingham to know whose should be rung first. Thurstans' won by a short head. Lates' peal quite slipped into the background, and Thurstans' has held the field ever since. It is difficult to say what makes a peal or a method popular. Take Surprise ringing, for instance. The old methods of London, Cambridge and Superlative held undisputed sway for years. Various others were produced, but few peals were rung in any of them till Bristol came upon the scene. Like the rest, it had a precarious start, but it suddenly took root, and now is one of the methods that most Surprise ringers aspire to. Its musical qualities are, of course, considerable, but so also have been those of some of the others which now lie buried in the files of the ringing journals; Bristol, also, requires "some" ringing, but not more than others that could be named. No, it's curious how the practice of one will flourish and the rest be relegated to the limbo of forgotten things.

In view of its popularity, I was surprised to read that Bristol was not among the "surprises" included in the new edition of "Standard Methods." From a ringing point of view, it has claimed more attention than Albion Treble Bob, which, apparently, finds a place in the book.

ANOTHER MUFFLING STORY.

Those stories of the queer ideas as to muffling bells which prevail among some non-ringers, has brought me an amusing one from Yorkshire, where at a certain little village, which I think ought to be nameless, the sexton, who apparently knew more about digging graves than muffling bells, betrayed his ignorance in a very convincing style. A well-known Sheffield ringer was, at the time, instructing some local men, in preparation for the coming of a new peal of bells which were shortly to be installed. One odd bell—round about 2 cwt. or so—was in the tower, and as it was equipped with a wheel and stay, the "Man fra' Sheffield" thought it would be a good plan to utilise it to teach the budding ringers how to handle a rope. The bell was overhauled, and permission to use it was given by the parson, who added: "Of course, you'll have it muffled." The sexton heard of this, and wishing to do all he could to help things along, took the muffling into his own hands. When the instructor arrived to put the rope on, he found the whole bell draped with sacks secured by twine. It was the sexton's idea of how the thing should be done, but by the light of a candle the bell looked like a cow with the measles, and that sexton hasn't yet forgiven the instructor for the way he laughed.

MEMORY'S TRICK.

It is astonishing how one's memory will play them tricks. Many a man has thought he has called a bob in a peal when in reality he has missed it—a good many more than have ever owned up to it. And now my memory has tricked me. Our old friend formerly of Rugby, now of Birmingham, sends along a note calling me to order. I was not correct when I suggested he had done no peal conducting, for he provides chapter and verse for 17 of them, one of Bob Major being a "composed and conducted" affair. Well, I know J. G. will forgive my lapse of memory, for his is the most unruddable of tempers. But no doubt we shall hear more of him now he's in charge of Bishop Ryders.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD OF RINGERS.

GUILDFORD DISTRICT MEETING.

A meeting of the Guildford District of the Winchester Diocesan Guild of Change Ringers was held at Godalming on Saturday. Tea was served at the Co-operative Assembly Rooms, and was attended by about 40 members.—Ald E. Bridger, who presided, apologised for the absence of the Mayor, and was supported by the Vicar (the Rev. G. C. Fanshawe), and Mr. W. Enticknap, churchwarden.—At the business meeting, the Secretary (Mr. J. J. Jones) reported a balance in hand of £15 4s. 6d., which was slightly larger than in the preceding year, owing to a smaller attendance at the meetings, and consequently less expenses.—Mr. F. E. Dawe, of Bramley, proposing a comprehensive vote of thanks to the chairman, the Vicar, and the churchwardens, expressed his pleasure at seeing the determination of the district to keep the meetings going during the war. He thought it was the right thing to do, although the attendances at the meetings were necessarily much smaller owing to the large number of ringers serving with the colours.—In response, the Vicar said he thought there were no more loyal body of men in the kingdom than ringers, and mentioned that four of the Godalming band were serving with the colours, the others being over military age. He hoped the time would soon come when peace would be declared, and they would be able to join in hearty thanksgiving.—Seven new members were elected, and the members then adjourned to the Parish Church for service, a very practical address being given by the Vicar, who expressed his pleasure at meeting the Guild there for the third time, and assured them that a hearty welcome always awaited them at Godalming.

DOUBLE NORWICH COMPOSITION.

Mr. Ernest Morris, of Leicester, writes to say that the peal of Double Norwich, composed by Mr. E. Wightman and published last week, is not, as claimed, the first with the 2nd its full extent alternately in 2—3. Mr. Morris composed and published a 5056 on these lines in October, 1912.

We might, perhaps, point out that, while Mr. Wightman's peal has the 2nd in 2—3 throughout, Mr. Morris's composition, with a considerable number of short courses, has the 2nd four courses in 4th's place at the start.

EASTON NESTON.—On the occasion of the funeral of the Rev. R. C. Collins, for 54 years Vicar of Easton Neston, a vice-president of the Towcester and District Association, the bells at Easton Neston were rung muffled, and on the following Sunday touches of 420 Stedman Triples, conducted by F. Wilford; 336 Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Sharp; and 504 Stedman Triples, conducted by W. Allen, were brought round, the ringers taking part being: J. Clarke (Easton Neston), T. Harris (Towcester), W. Allen, J. Hensman and J. Dean (All Saints', Northampton), F. Hopper and W. Parker (St. Peter's), W. Rogers (St. Giles'), W. Sharp (St. Edmund's), T. Law (Weston Favel), and F. Wilford (general secretary of the Central Northants Association).

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

By GEORGE BAKER.

In his article last week, Mr. Clayton suggests that it is quite time we started compositions in the above method from the fundamental row. This suggestion has my hearty approval, but I am prepared to go a step further still, and would like to suggest that we ring the method from the round block that is perfect in construction, and which has no additional false course-end—with the 6th fixed—beyond the two natural false course-ends.

The false course-ends of the method with the 6th fixed of the round block which we ring at present are:—

231456
312456
145236

In the following round block we have the first two only, and it would be possible to call bobs at every 12th change without altering the bells in 1—2 or 6—7, i.e., fifth's place instead of 3rd's; at a single the bells in 3—4—5 would lie still and there would be no three blows in one place, which is an abomination. Whether peals would be possible on these lines I am not in a position to say, but failing this we have still all the calling positions of the present round block to fall back upon.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

The 4th is the pivot bell. One false row the division end 3614725 when proved by reciprocal proof.

1234567
1325476
3124567
1342657
1436275
4132657
4312675
3412657
3142675
1364725
3167452
3614725
6317452

In principles where every bell does the same work, we may just as well use the round block with the least number of false course-ends, and there is a possibility that this may lead to fresh discoveries.

STEDMAN ON SIX BELLS.

Sir,—In the course of his article on Stedman last week, Mr. Clayton said that "Stedman only runs to Minor in the form of Double Stedman." This statement is, I believe, incorrect. The essence of Stedman on odd numbers is that there are alternate forward and backward hunting courses on the front three bells (i.e., the smallest possible number), while the bells in the positions above dodge during each hunting course. By analogy, in Stedman on even numbers, there should be alternate forward and backward hunting courses on the front four bells (also the smallest possible number), while the bells in the positions above should dodge during each hunting course. To put this rule into practice, write down beneath one another a forward and a backward hunting course on the front four bells of six.

123456
214365
241356
423165
432156
341265
314256
132465
123456
132465
314256
341265
432156
423165
241356
214365

It will immediately be seen that it is impossible for these to follow one another without some connecting link, and a moment's investigation will show that the only possible link, if the bells in 5—6 are to change and no bell is to lie three consecutive blows in the same place, is 3rd's place across the parting of the divisions. Obviously, there must be the same link between backward and forward hunting courses. This gives the following Principle:—

| | |
|--------|--------|
| 123456 | 251643 |
| 213546 | 521463 |
| 231564 | 512436 |
| 325146 | 154263 |
| 352164 | 145236 |
| 531246 | 412563 |
| 513264 | 421536 |
| 152346 | 245163 |
| 125364 | 254136 |
| 215634 | 524316 |
| 126543 | 253461 |

| | |
|--------|--------|
| 162534 | 235416 |
| 615243 | 324561 |
| 651234 | 342516 |
| 562143 | 435261 |
| 526134 | 453216 |
| 251643 | 542361 |

etc.

Is this Stedman? The way to find out is to subject it to an exhaustive series of tests, and, as far as I now, it will answer to any and ever test you like to apply. The following list is fairly conclusive.

STEDMAN DOUBLES.

1. Alternate quick and slow sixes, i.e., alternate forward and backward hunting courses on smallest possible number of bells in front.

2. Double dodging (6 rows) during each hunting course in front.

3. Twice as many sixes to a course as bells.

4. Quick work:—Bell hunts straight down from 4—5, leads whole pull, hunts straight back to 4—5.

5. Slow work takes 2 (3)—1 sixes.

THE ABOVE PRINCIPLE.

Alternate quick and slow eights, i.e., alternate forward and backward hunting courses on smallest possible number of bells in front.

Triple dodging (8 rows) during each hunting course in front.

Twice as many eights to a course as bells.

Quick Work:—Bell hunts straight down from 5—6, leads whole pull, hunts straight back to 5—6.

Slow work takes 2 (4)—1 eights, and is precisely the same, between the two additions necessitated by the extra bell in front.

The differences can all be shown to be due to the different nature of the number.

1. The question of whole pulls right or wrong is a mere question of arrangement, and this principle can be arranged so that the quick bell leads right.

123456

214365

241356

423165

432156

341265

314256

132465

312645

etc.

The division end is here
between handstroke and
backstroke rows.

2. The bells in 1—2 in the slow eight-end are the same as in the preceding quick eight-end, whereas in Stedman Doubles the bells in 1—2 in the quick six-end are the same as in the preceding slow six-end, because on even numbers the hunting course is symmetrical about a vertical line between the two middle bells, and, therefore, the same bell must lead in the first and last changes in a quick eight instead of a slow eight.

By this means the given Principle is proved to be Stedman Minor.*

—Yours truly,

H. W. FRIGHT.

* I do not know whether it is or is not Shipway's Principle. The fact of its having a correct extension does not, of course, affect the question of the legitimacy of Stedman.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

The following is recorded in the old peal book of St. Martin's Guild: February 28th, 1816, a compleat peal of 5040 Oxford Triple Bob Royal was rung at St. Philip's, Birmingham, by the Society of St. Martin's Youths, in three hours and 37 minutes: James Jarvis treble, James Penn 2, Alexr. Sanders 3, Henry Cooper 4, Thomas Worrall 5, Wm. Penn 6, Thos. Chapman 7, Wm. Newman 8, Wm. Hassall 9, Thos. Thurstans tenor. Composed and called by Thomas Thurstans.

It seems a pity that the bells of St. Philip's (which is now, of course, the pro-cathedral) have been allowed to get into such a state of disrepair that a centenary peal is quite out of the question. Indeed we understand the bells are all but unringable. Would it not be a splendid idea if the Cathedral authorities were to have them rehung so that they could be rung to celebrate peace, when it comes? Surely in such an exceedingly prosperous place as Birmingham is to-day, there would be no difficulty in raising the few hundred pounds required!

It is interesting to note that the above peal was rung on the birthday of Henry Johnson, who, at that time, was seven years of age.

OTHER ANNIVERSARIES.

February 28th is also the anniversary of a 9238 Stedman Cinques, rung at Birmingham in 1881, and was the longest peal in the method at that time. It was rung to celebrate the 72nd birthday of Henry Johnson, and was composed by him. The band comprised Amos Cresser 1, Job Jovnes 2, H. Johnson, junr., 3, C. H. Hattersley 4, Samuel Reeves 5, H. Johnson, senr., 6, John Dunn 7, John Buffery 8, John James 9, Francis H. James 10, W. Hallsworth (conductor) 11, T. Reynolds 12.

On March 1st, 1734, the Painswick Youths rang a peal of 8064 of Grandsire Caters, and on the same day in the following year a 10,080 in the same method.

We should esteem it a favour if ringers having access to old records could supply us with particulars of same.

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STEDMAN. 2s. 6d.; 276 pages, by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, M.A., with an appendix by Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., etc., etc.

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THE NURSERY OF THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

By J. R. JERRAM.

St. Michael, Paternoster Royal, may be looked upon as the nursery of the College Youths. Here, upon College Hill, Sir Richard Whittington founded a college and almshouses towards the end of the fourteenth century, near the church of St. Martin-in-the-Vintry. Stow, in his "Survey of London" (1603) has the following remarks thereon: "Then is the fair parish church of St. Michael called Paternoster church in the Royall. This church was new built, and made a college of St. Spirit and St. Mary, founded by Richard Whittington, mercer, four times mayor, for a master, four fellows—masters of arts, clerks, conducts, chorists, etc., and an almshouse called God's house, or hospital, for thirteen poor men, one of them to



ST. MICHAEL'S, PATERNOSTER ROYAL.

be tutor, and to have sixteen pence the week; the other twelve, each of them to have fourteen pence the week for ever, with other necessary provisions, a hutch with three locks, a common seal, &c."

I may here call attention to the fact, mentioned above by Stow, that Sir Richard Whittington held the office of Lord Mayor of London four times (viz.: in 1396, 1397, 1406, and 1419), not thrice only, as is commonly reported.

The old church of St. Michael possessed a peal of six bells, of which I have not been able to procure any particulars, and the young gentlemen of the neighbourhood used to amuse themselves by chiming them in rounds. I quote the following from the rule book of the Ancient Society of College Youths:—"On the 5th of November, 1637, Lord Brereton, Sir Cliff Clifton, Marquis of Salis-

bury, Lord Dacre, some of the City Aldermen, and many of the gentlemen in the vicinity of the college, founded the Society of College Youths, for the purpose of practising and promoting the art of ringing. For some time after the formation of the Company rounds and call-changes were rung, but at length the society achieved 120 changes of Bob Doubles on five bells; and it is supposed to be about 1642 when changes were first rung. Little progress was made till about 1677, when Mr. Fabian Stedman, a printer, and a native of Cambridge, and who may be called the father of change-ringing, published his 'Campanologia,' dedicating it to the Society of College Youths, of which he was one of the most honoured members. About this time Stedman's method was first rung at St. Benet's, Cambridge, by the College Youths, who paid a visit to that town."

The rule book also notices several more early performances of the society.

Before much progress had been made the church of St. Michael, with its tower and bells, perished in the Great Fire of 1666. It was rebuilt from Wren's designs, and was finished in 1694; but the lantern and turret, which surmount the tower, were not added until 1713.

One would have thought that a peal of eight at least would have been placed in the new tower, considering the associations of the old tower and bells with the early history of ringing. But instead of this only a single bell was hung therein. This was cast by John Hodson, and was inscribed: PETER WANDEPOT THOMAS WATER IAMES SEDGLEY IOHN ROBINSON CHVRCH-WARDENS. I. H. MADE ME 1674.

This bell was only 23 inches in diameter. Being cracked about 25 years ago, it was replaced by the present one, 21½ inches diameter, inscribed: Mears & Stainbank, Whitechapel Foundry, London. Cast 1674—Recast 1892.

With regard to the church, the steeple surmounts the south-west corner, the remainder of the space at the west end being occupied by the vestibule and gallery stairs. The extreme internal dimensions, including the space occupied by the base of the tower and vestibule, are about 80 feet by 46 feet; the north wall being slightly shorter than the south one. The ceiling is carved, and is one of the largest in London unsupported by any column. The reredos is a fine carving attributed to Grinling Gibbons. The font is modern, and was given in memory of Alderman and Sheriff Conder, who died in 1865. On the north wall is a picture by Hilton representing our Lord and Mary Magdalene in the house of Simon the Pharisee, given by the directors of the British Institute in 1820. There are four painted windows in memory of (1) George Darling, physician; (2) Dean Lyall of Canterbury; (3) Mary Cooper and Jane Richards, schoolmistresses; (4) Sir Richard Whittington. The latter was buried in the old church; and at the time of dissolution of the college one Thomas Mountain, who held the rectory at that time, moved by avarice and hope of gain, opened the monument, injuring it considerably, and finding the body enclosed in lead, he stripped this off and sold it. The famous Lord Mayor had again to be buried, not all his good deeds and charitable bequests serving to preserve his body from insult in that sacrilegious age.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.—On Jan. 16th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: A. Speller 1, W. Rice (Great Baddow) 2, B. Runter 3, H. Dawson (Great Baddow) 4, R. W. Everard 5, A. Tarbun, junr., 6, G. Green (Great Baddow), conductor, 7, A. Tarbun, senr., 8.

THE OXFORD GUILD.

EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the East Berks and South Bucks branch of the Oxford Guild was held at Slough on Saturday week, and proved a very successful gathering, there being a large attendance from all parts of the district, as well as ringers from other places outside. Among those present were: Miss Chillingworth, of Bradfield (who has been deputed to visit France to study agricultural pursuits for women), Miss Goodship and Miss Neighbour, of Reading, and the Misses Dancer, of Fulmer, Rev. F. G. Phillips (Taplow), Mr. W. Newell, the father of the Reading ringers; Mr. Penifer, of Chalvey, who is in his 93rd year, and who rang Eton College bell on all important occasions from the Accession of Queen Victoria to the death of King Edward VII.; Lieut. H. Lawford Dale, R.N.A.S., of Chiswick; Sergt. Mallard, R.E. (Eastbourne), and Sapper Apps (Cuckfield), who are stationed at Marlow; Messrs. A. Hughes (of the Whitechapel Foundry), E. F. Cole (Brook Green), F. W. Richardson and E. F. Pike (Brockley), C. H. Hughes (Southwark), W. Hewitt (Camberwell), W. H. Lawrence (Ealing), R. Holloway (Acton), A. E. Reeves (general secretary of the Guild), G. Martin (branch secretary), G. Alder, W. Carter and F. Cox (Burnham), G. T. Leader, R. Flaxman, W. Bedford, P. Jones, T. S. Smith, G. Beeby, E. T. Hooper and W. Wilder (Slough), H. Collins, L. E. Collins, J. C. Truss, W. Reeves, C. Horne, R. Atkins and E. Green (Marlow), J. Gutteridge, W. Welling, G. Cutts and H. Burden (Old Windsor), W. Bateman (Stoke Poges), J. J. Parker, W. Henley, E. Elderfield, J. Eastwell, W. Ward and W. H. Fussell (Farnham Royal), R. Buckland, J. Blackmore, W. C. Mayne, C. Mayne, J. Batting and H. Wingrove (Beaconsfield), John Evans, F. Borch, Jos. Evans, P. Evans and R. H. Evans (Hughenden), H. Bungay (Binfield), J. Barnes (Missenden), G. Gutteridge, E. Harding and J. Daley (Fulmer), E. Elburn and F. Starr (Amersham), A. Martin, C. Smith, W. Garraway and H. Chisman (Maidenhead), J. Rance (Easthampstead), W. Fuller (Wargrave), J. Brant, E. Brant (Winkfield), W. Simmonds, B. Simmonds, G. Simmonds, F. Howse and G. Mitchell (Braywood), W. Webb and C. Giles (Reading), etc.

The ringing during the afternoon included touches of Grandsire Triples, Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob and Bob Major, and the first course of London Surprise on the bells. The special service was conducted by Canon Eliot, R.D. (Rector of Slough), the lesson being read by the Rev. E. A. Steer. The address was given by the Rev. F. G. Phillips, of Taplow, whose discourse was based upon the words: "And He said unto him, 'Follow Me.'"

After the service, tea was served in St. Mary's Institute, and was followed by the business meeting, at which Canon Eliot presided, in the absence, through a cold, of Canon Drummond, who has been president of the branch since its formation.

The Hon. Secretary reported that the balance in hand had fallen from £7 14s. 5d. last year to £5 19s. 10½d. this year, but they had 239 members, against 228. There were 11 hon. members as against 14 twelve months ago.

The report, and balance sheet were adopted.

AN ENCOURAGING ASSEMBLY.

Canon Eliot expressed the regret they all felt at the absence of Canon Drummond, who had been for many long years an enthusiast with regard to the Guild. Continuing, he said, it was an immense pleasure to the Slough ringers and himself to welcome the Guild. "We have been," he said, "rather privileged of late years, and instead of the old tower and the cracked old symbols which we used to possess, and of which some of you have knowledge, we now have a peal which, I believe, most people feel it a privilege to have a touch upon (hear, hear, and applause). I think that gatherings of this description do an infinite amount of good, especially when people have a common aim and a common object like those who are here, who are determined to make their bell ringing the very best it is possible to produce. As you are all animated with that very laudable idea, it is very useful to come together from time to time, to meet as friends, and discuss the proceedings which have been going on during the past year. I suppose that this, like the majority of organisations, has suffered considerably during the past year. Many who have taken a share in bell ringing in the towers of this neighbourhood are doing their duty to King and country, and I felt that we could not do otherwise than remember them in church this afternoon (hear, hear). Remembering so many are away, one feels that this assembly is one to encourage us. I think our secretary can be congratulated on the number he has gathered in here, and how very pleased I am to see that ladies are with us. He would be a very poor man who would venture to say that the ladies have not stepped into the breach during the last twelve months in all sorts of ways and vocations. I think they have done remarkably well, and I believe they are not going to fall short in bell ringing. They have a nicety of touch which we men do not always possess, and I am sure that will show itself in the art of bell ringing. Nevertheless, it is a pleasure to us to see them and a pleasure to be associated with them in the noble art of bell ringing."

The Chairman added that he wished the Guild every success in the coming year. If they could not increase their numbers, if they could not increase their quantity, he was sure they were all desirous of increasing in quality. If they only knew to the full the immense amount of pleasure they gave to so many of their neighbours in their respective parishes they would not feel that the time they spent in practising or actual ringing was wasted. At the present time the people missed the bells tremendously. He hoped the day was not very far

distant when they would hear the bells ringing for the one great purpose of proclaiming peace (applause).

Canon Drummond was re-elected president. The re-election of Mr. G. Martin as branch secretary was proposed, but he said he could not undertake the duties again. He only stepped into the breach when Mr. Levy was appointed chaplain to the forces.—Mr. W. H. Fussell was elected to fill the vacancy, and Mr. Martin thanked for his services.—Messrs. G. Alder, R. Buckland, J. Evans, G. T. Leader, J. C. Truss, W. Welling and G. White were re-elected to the Guild Committee, and Mr. G. Martin added in place of Mr. R. H. Biggs (retired).

VOTES OF THANKS.

Mr. Reeves moved a vote of thanks to the Rector of Slough for the service in the church, the Rector of Taplow for his splendid address, and the organist (Mr. Alfred Blanchet) for playing. — Mr. Parker seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

The Rector of Slough, in acknowledging the compliment, said he felt that he was rather sailing under false colours because any work which had been called forth in connection with that meeting had fallen upon the shoulders of their excellent friend, Mr. Leader, and to him should be the praise.

The Rector of Taplow, in responding, said he used to do a certain amount of bell ringing, and it interested him very much. He was once in a parish with eight bells, and there came a time when the relations between the Rector and the bell ringers became rather strained, and it ended in the Rector, churchwardens, and sidesmen ringing the bells. They did it for a very long time, and were very proud of themselves. He thanked those present for allowing him to come amongst them. To have the pleasure of speaking to them in church was a very great privilege, and it was additionally nice because they were met together in that very beautiful church which was such a landmark in the district and a credit to the Rector of Slough and the band of workers round about him.

Mr. Reeves said the worthy Master (the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn) was right up at the front, and he desired him to wish them all a Happy New Year (applause). He (Mr. Reeves) was well on with the annual report of the Guild. Last year they had a roll of honour on the front page, but the number had increased so much that the committee proposed to get out a roll of honour in book form when peace is declared, and present it to every member of the Guild. He hoped that the foremen of the various towers would send in the names of all men who had gone from their belfries. He was very pleased to see that the East Berks and South Bucks branch was keeping up very well, and he hoped that towers which had got members in arrears would try and induce them to wipe them off (applause).

The ringers then returned to the tower, and touches of Stedman, Cambridge and Treble Bob were rung. Afterwards those waiting for their homeward trains were entertained at "The Grapes" Inn, where a peal of twelve handbells were fully appreciated by a numerous company.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Ashford District was held at Ashford on Saturday last, and, judged both from a ringing and business point of view, was an unqualified success. About 40 members attended, representing the following towers: Brabourne, Brookland, Folkestone, Headcorn, Hythe, Mersham, Rolvenden, New Romney, Stone-in-Oxney, Tenterden, Willesborough, and Woodchurch. The visitors from other districts included Messrs. W. Haigh, Chatham; F. W. Richardson, Deptford; G. Billenness, Hawkhurst; D. Hodgkin, Marden; W. H. Lambert, Benenden; W. H. Pitman, Mus.Bac., Lyminge; Messrs. Andrews and Brett, of Canterbury, and others. During the afternoon touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Bob Major and Kent and Oxford Treble Bob were brought round.

The members attended evensong in the church, and the hymn for absent friends was feelingly sung.

Tea was partaken of at Passmore's Temperance Hotel, the Vicar (the Rev. E. K. Sopwith) presiding.—The business meeting followed, at which eight new members for the Ashford tower were duly elected, these with four other members making a total of twelve members of the Ashford tower now affiliated. Two new members for Headcorn were also elected.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. C. Tribe) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for permission to hold the meeting, for the service, and for presiding at the tea and meeting.—This was seconded by Mr. C. W. Player, and carried with acclamation.—The Vicar, in reply, gave the visitors a hearty welcome to Ashford, and said he was pleased to have such a strong band of his own ringers affiliated with the Association. He hoped that such meetings would be of more frequent occurrence at Ashford in future than they had been in the past.—The organist was duly thanked for playing at the service, and Mr. C. W. Everett, the local captain, for making the necessary arrangements.—The meeting was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

"STANDARD METHODS."

Our notice of the issue of a revised "Standard Methods" was a little premature, the reason being that we were unaware that we had been favoured with what was really an advance copy. The complete supply has not yet come from the printers, and Mrs. Snowdon, who has been inundated with orders—so eager were ringers to secure the new publication—asks us to say that while she hopes the delay in forwarding the copies will only be short, it may still be a month before present demands can be met.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I think all ringers will agree with me when I say that the miscellaneous performances recorded each week are, with some exceptions, interesting, and also serve a very good purpose. All will readily see the advantages of recording these performances without me wasting space in stating them, and I am sure that many, like myself, do not like to see this privilege abused.

With apologies to those concerned, may I take the recorded performances at Shrewsbury for an example. In this week's issue we get no less than 16 touches recorded, the longest length being a 504, while in issues of December 10th, Sept. 3rd, and others, similar and even longer lists will be found.

I ask the reader, "Do you wish to know of all these short touches rung at Shrewsbury?" I should also like to ask the Editor what he would do if the ringers at every tower sent in similar records of their doings.

It is a great pleasure to read touches rung for worthy occasions or touches which show the advancement of a band in the art of change ringing, but surely the records such as those mentioned serve no good purpose, and I, one of many no doubt, would like to see the space put to better use. Why not let "Bob Major" use it?—Yours truly,
February 19th. MIDLANDER.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

CONTEST AT NORTHWRAM.

The quarterly meeting and eight-bell contest of the Halifax and District Association was held at St. Matthew's Church, Northwram, on Saturday last, when the bells and the schools were kindly placed at the disposal of the members by the Vicar (the Rev. G. Watkinson). Six companies entered for the contest, each set having to ring 800 changes of Kent Treble Bob, preceded by three leads for practice. The judges were Mr. Symonds, of Elland, and Mr. Lawson, of Lightcliffe.

During the afternoon a splendid tea was served to about 120 ringers and friends, who did ample justice to the good things provided.

The general meeting was held in the Schoolroom, at the conclusion of the ringing, the President (Mr. Cotterell) being in the chair, supported by the Vicar and the society's officers.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the local company, and the ladies for the way they had catered for the visitors.

The judges' decision was announced as follows: Shipley, 207 faults; Lindley, rung out; Bradford Parish, 392 faults; Earlsheaton, 114 faults; Birstal, 106 faults; Halifax, 192 faults. Birstal were, therefore, declared the winners of the cup.

A cordial vote of thanks was given to the Vicar for his presence and the use of his bells, and the Rev. G. Watkinson, in reply, said it gave him great pleasure to have the ringers at his church and hear the bells rung as they had been that day. He hoped it would not be long before they were ringing them for a great and honourable peace. In conclusion he presented the cup to the conductor of the Birstal team.

Mr. Stainthorpe replied for the winners, and proposed a vote of thanks to the judges, which was carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the President brought a very successful meeting to a close.

CENTRAL NORTANTS ASSOCIATION.

The February meeting of the Wellingborough District was held at Finedon on Saturday week, and proved very successful, the weather conditions being ideal. The ringers made an early appearance, about 50 members representing Irthlingborough, Wellingborough, Northampton, Higham Ferrers, Isham, Earl's Barton, Burton Latimer, Ringstead, Thrapston, and Rothwell, being present. Ringing commenced at three o'clock, and continued until 4.30, when a short service, with intercessory prayers, was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. J. Greaves).

Tea was served at the Star Hall, and was greatly enjoyed, after which the business meeting was held. In the absence of the Vicar, the chair was taken by Mr. F. Wilford (general secretary). Amongst those present were Miss Steele, of Bedford; Mr. J. Slarke, of Towcester, and Mr. W. Perkins, district secretary.—Three new members were elected from Earl's Barton, and it was resolved to hold the next meeting at Doddington.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells.

The methods rung during the day were Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Double Norwich Major. Unfortunately no ringing could be done after tea, owing to military restrictions, but the ringers adjourned to the Mulso Arms, where handbell ringing and songs passed the remainder of a pleasant evening.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.

The Guild assembled at High Halden, where there is a peal of six bells, for the February meeting. Ringers attended from Ashford, Hawkhurst, Tenterden, Biddenden, Stone-in-Oxney, Fairfield, Benenden and Woodchurch.—The Rector (the Rev. B. W. Gilpin) cordially welcomed the party. Some capital ringing took place, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor being rung.

At the business meeting two new members were elected, and Rolvenen was chosen for the March meeting, which will be convened for the second Saturday in the month.—A hearty vote of thanks to the Rector of High Halden for the use of the bells concluded the proceedings.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BELBROUGHTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Jan. 12th, 720 Bob Minor: G. Hubble 1, H. Martin, junr., 2, W. Short 3, J. Norton 4, G. Poppell 5, H. Martin (conductor) 6.

MIDSOMER NORTON.—At St. John-the-Baptist's Church, for evensong, on January 9th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins., by the local band: P. Speed 1, E. Chivers 2, I. B. Holmyard 3, F. Speed (conductor) 4, F. Chivers 5, A. Speed 6, J. Hambleton 7, W. Keevil 8. For evensong, on January 16th, in 48 mins., a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: W. Keevil 1, S. Freke 2, I. B. Holmyard 3, E. Chivers (first as conductor) 4, A. Speed 5, J. Hambleton 6, F. Speed 7, W. Crocker 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor, and as a farewell touch to S. Freke, who was leaving the town.

OLDHAM.—Lancs Association and Oldham Society.—At the Parish Church, on Jan. 9th, for men's service, at which Dean Weldon, of Manchester, was the preacher, a date touch of 1916 Grandsire Triples (composed by C. Jackson, of Hull), in 1 hr. 14 mins.: F. Wilde 1, E. B. Shaw 2, J. Ogden 3, S. Stott (conductor) 4, S. M. Butterworth 5, C. H. Marsland 6, H. Barlow 7, J. Garlick 8.

TENBY, SOUTH WALES.—On Jan. 13th, 504 Grandsire Triples: T. Johns 1, T. Griffiths 2, J. Evans 3, W. Jenkins 4, L. Jenkins 5, Lieut. E. V. Rodenhurst 6, R. Jenkins 7, A. W. Brighton (conductor) 8.—On Sunday, Jan. 16th, for morning service, 700 Grandsire Triples: T. Johns 1, T. Griffiths 2, A. W. Brighton (conductor) 3, W. Jenkins 4, L. Jenkins 5, Lieut. E. V. Rodenhurst 6, R. Jenkins 7, A. Richards 8. For evening service the same band rang 1302 Grandsire Triples, in 52 mins. Lieut. E. V. Rodenhurst hails from St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, and A. W. Brighton (conductor) from London.

SHIPLEY, YORKS.—On Jan. 13th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: J. Joyce 1, E. Simpson 2, A. Gill 3, W. Joyce 4, E. Murgatroyd 5, B. Howe 6, T. B. Kendall (conductor) 7, J. Broadley 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. G. A. Nettleton, who could not ring in the touch owing to business.

WITNEY.—Oxford Diocesan Guild.—On Sunday, Jan. 16th, for morning service, 350 Grandsire Triples: Pte F. Caple (A.S.C.) 1, A. Brooks 2, Sapper C. R. Walker R.E. (T.) 3, T. Bull 4, G. Brooks 5, Sergt. Rice (A.S.C.) 6, J. Monk (conductor) 7, H. Baston 8. For evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples: Pte F. Caple (A.S.C.) 1, A. Brooks 2, T. Bull 3, J. Monk 4, Sapper C. R. Walker, R.E. (T.) 5, J. Brooks 6, Sergt. Rice 7, G. Brooks 8.—On Monday, Jan. 17th, 504 Grandsire Triples: H. Baston 1, A. Brooks 2, T. Bull 3, Sergt. Rice (A.S.C.) 4, J. Monk 5, Sapper C. R. Walker, R.E. (T.), conductor, 6, J. Brooks 7, G. Brooks 8. Also two plain courses of Stedman Triples.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—At St. Bartholomew's Church, on January 16th, for evensong, 720 Cambridge Surprise: W. Wibberley 1, G. E. Laurence 2, J. E. Wheelton 3, W. C. Laurence (conductor) 4, J. F. Ryles 5, W. P. Deane 6.—On January 23rd, for morning service, 720, comprising 240 each of Violet, Woodbine and Oxford Treble Bob: W. Wibberley 1, J. E. Wheelton 2, S. B. Bailey 3, W. C. Laurence 4, G. E. Laurence 5, J. F. Ryles (conductor) 6.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.—At St. Mary's Church, on January 16th, for morning service, 546 Grandsire Triples: R. Walker 1, W. H. Newell 2, F. Walker 3, H. Golding (conductor) 4, J. Floyd 5, W. Shepherd 6, W. Floyd 7, W. Charge 8.

BRADFELD, BERKS.—On Jan. 16th, 720 Bob Minor: C. Woolridge 1, J. Abery 2, T. Hillier 3, M. Bowley 4, S. Chapman (conductor) 5, G. Abery 6.

CREWE.—At Christ Church, on Jan. 22nd, on the occasion of the annual branch meeting, 828 Grandsire Caters: W. Sutton 1, H. Overton 2, R. Langford 3, H. Yarwood 4, A. H. Booth 5, Jas. Ashmole 6, A. Crawley 7, C. J. B. Cooke 8, R. T. Holding (conductor) 9, W. Edge 10.

PRESTON ST. MARY'S, SUFFOLK.—On Jan. 22nd, 720 Bob Minor: C. Poulson (first 720 on tower bells) 1, H. Crick 2, A. Hollocks 3, A. Symonds (conductor) 4, W. Head (Little Walsingham) 5, T. Hollocks 6. Rung to celebrate the birthday of H. Poulson, who is with the 1st Suffolks at Salonica, the band wishing him many happy returns of the day, and a safe and speedy return to the homeland.

WITNEY.—Oxford Diocesan Guild.—On January 23rd, for morning service, 350 Grandsire Triples: H. Baston 1, A. Brooks 2, T. Bull 3, J. Monk 4, G. Brooks 5, Sergt. G. C. Rice (conductor) 6, J. Brooks 7, H. Bull 8. For evening service, 350 in the same method, conducted by J. Monk.—On Jan. 2nd, 238 Grandsire Triples: Pte F. T. C. Caple 1, A. Brooks (conductor) 2, E. Brown 3, A. Kinchin 4, J. Monk 5, Sergt. G. C. Rice 6, J. Brooks 7, G. Brooks 8. Also 420, conducted by Sergt. G. C. Rice.

UPTON-ON-SEVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Jan. 23rd, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Major (1280 changes): H. Chance 1, R. G. Knowles 2, E. Barber 3, E. Gibbs 4, F. Bryan 5, C. Camm 6, W. Ranford 7, W. Page (composer and conductor) 8. Also two short touches of Grandsire Triples, C. Young, of Castlemorton, ringing the 6th, and a short touch of Stedman Triples, conducted by R. Knowles.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. — Established 1755. — The Annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at Ye Old Royal Hotel, Temple Row, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 4th, at 6 o'clock. Chair will be taken by Canon J. W. Willink, Rector of Birmingham. Tickets free to all fully qualified members, to other members and friends 2s. 6d. each. The bells of St. Martin's (12) and Bishop Ryder's (8) will be available from 3.30 p.m. — A. Paddon Smith, Honorary Secretary, 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — Established 1637. — The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members to vote on financial matters, should be paid during the present month. Meeting at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on the 29th February at 8 p.m. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Quarterly Meeting will be held at Kingsthorpe, February 26th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock. — Fred Wilford, General Secretary, 149, Ashburnham Road, Northampton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Rochdale Branch. — The next monthly meeting will be held at Balderstone on Saturday, February 26th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock, meeting at 6.50. — T. K. Driver, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District. — The next meeting of the Eastern District of the above association will be held at York on Saturday, February 26th, 1916. Bells: Minster (12) 1.30 to 4.30 p.m., St. Philip and St. James (6) 1.30 to 6 p.m., St. Mary's (6) 1.30 to 7 p.m.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Rossendale Branch. — The next branch meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Bacup, on Saturday, February 19th. Bells ready at 5 o'clock, meeting at 7 p.m. Reports are now ready. Subscriptions are due. — J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary.

BARNSELEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, February 26th. Bells available 4 p.m. to 7.30 p.m., and after 8 p.m. Meeting at 7.30. — C. D. Potter, 119, Doncaster Road, Barnsley.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD. — The annual meeting of the above Guild will be held at Dudley on Saturday, February 26th. The bells will be available for ringing at 3 o'clock up till time for service only. Service in church at 4.30, to be conducted by the President, the Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland (Vicar). Business meeting after tea. All outstanding contributions should be paid at this meeting. — Herbert Sheppard, Honorary Secretary, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION. — The pre-Lent meeting for 1916 will be held at Wylam-on-Tyne on Wednesday, March 1st. The bells of S. Oswin's (6, tenor 22 cwt.) available 1.30 to 5.30. Committee meeting at Bird Inn 5.30. Tea same place 6 p.m. Tickets 9d. to members, 1/6 to non-members. — George T. Potter, 13, Park Parade, Whitley Bay, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Stockport Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Marple on Saturday, March 4th. — A. T. Beeston, Honorary Branch Secretary, New Mills.

WINCHESTER GUILD. — Yorktown District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Hersham on Saturday, March 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea and business meeting in the Church House at 5.30. — G. Miles, Hon. Secretary, Owlsmoor, Camberley.

BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM. — The bells at this church are rung on Sundays for service at the following times: 10.15 a.m. to 11 a.m., from 5.45 to 6.30 p.m. All ringers will be welcomed. — James George, Ringing Master, 125, Victoria Road, Aston.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Canterbury District). — A meeting will be held at Lyminge on Saturday, March 4th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Service at 5. Tea at Rectory (by kind invitation of Rev. A. F. Ratty) for those who let me know by March 2nd. Business after tea. Subscriptions are now due and should be paid to me either before or at the meeting. — Fred J. O. Helmore, Hon. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Western Division. — A quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Shipley on March 4th. Bells available from 2 p.m., tea at 5.30. Will those intending to be present please notify me not later than Wednesday, March 1st. Subscriptions for 1916 are now due. — A. W. Groves, Honorary Secretary, 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY. — The general meeting of the above society will be held at Pudsey on Saturday, March 4th, 1916. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Business meeting at 7.30 p.m., in the White Cross Hotel, at which the election of officers will take place. — Wm. Barton, Secretary, 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Southern District. — The annual meeting of the Southern District will be held at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (12) available 3 to 7 p.m. Business meeting 7.15 p.m. in Wolstenholme Hall. — Leonard Brightman, District Secretary pro. tem., 45, St. Stephen's Road, Rotherham.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting of the Western District will be held at Liversedge on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., 1s. per head to all giving notice to Mr. W. Knott, Listing Lane, Liversedge, not later than March 7th. Subscriptions received and reports issued at this meeting. All ringers welcome. — P. L. Cooper, District Secretary.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS. — Please note that all correspondence should be addressed to Mr. Mark Tate, 22, Manuel Street, Goole, in connection with the Goole Branch, in place of Mr. G. W. King, resigned.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO THE LATE WILLIAM SNOWDON.—The Members of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers propose to erect a Memorial to the late William Snowdon in the form of a Brass Tablet in Ilkley Parish Church, near to the Ringers' Window already erected to the memory of his brother, Jasper Whitfield Snowdon. Will any person wishing to be associated with this movement kindly communicate with the Treasurer to the Fund, Mr. H. Williams, New Worthy Cemetery, Leeds, Yorks.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

5056 TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By A. CRAVEN.

| 2345678 | M | In | Out | 5ths | W H |
|---------|---|----|------|------|-----|
| 3527648 | | — | | | |
| 5237648 | | — | — | | |
| 2357648 | | — | — | | |
| 3752648 | — | | — | | |
| 7532648 | | — | — | | |
| 5372648 | | — | — | | |
| 3275648 | — | | — | | |
| 2735648 | | — | — | | |
| 7325648 | | — | — | | |
| 2573648 | — | | 4ths | — | |
| 5723648 | | — | — | | |
| 7253648 | | — | — | | |
| 3726548 | | | — | | 2 |
| 7526348 | 1 | | | | 2 |
| 6452378 | 2 | — | — | | |
| 26435 | | | — | | 2 |
| 35642 | 2 | | — | | 2 |
| 23456 | | | — | 2 | 2 |

This peal contains the twelve 6-4-8 course ends, and is the first peal composed and rung in the method on this plan.

Rung at Staveley, Derbyshire, on December 27th, 1915. Conducted by B. A. Knights.

STREATHAM.—On Jan. 23rd, at St. Leonard's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: G. W. Smith 1, G. Barrington 2, J. O. Mitchell 3, J. W. Chapman (conductor) 4, C. Lewry 5, J. Walton 6, L. Attwater 7, J. Lee 8.

HANLEY.—Stoke-on-Trent Association.—At the Parish Church, on Jan. 23rd, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: W. Wedgwood 1, *P. Dale 2, H. Alcock 3, S. Sargeant (first as conductor) 4, W. Degg 5, G. Jones 6, *J. Prophet 7, A. Lyons (first quarter-peal) 8. *First quarter-peal with an inside bell. Rung on the eve of the retirement of Mr. H. Hughes, for 21 years organist. First quarter-peal for many years by a local band at this church.

BARNES.—On January 23rd, at St. Mary's Church, for service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: M. Jacobs 1, H. Barratt 2, C. Hunt 3, R. Mackrill 4, H. Cook 5, P. H. Smith 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, P. C. Brooks 8.

TENBY.—On January 23rd, for evening service, 350 Grandsire Triples: T. John 1, T. Griffiths 2, J. Evans 3, W. Jenkins 4, L. Jenkins 5, Second-Lieut. E. V. Rodenhurst (conductor) 6, R. Jenkins 7, A. Rickards 8.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.—On Jan. 23rd, for evensong, at Holy Trinity Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins.: Wm. Boden 1, J. Hanley 2, L. Hewitt (first quarter-peal in the method) 3, Sgt. A. H. Garbett, R.A.M.C., 4, J. York 5, W. Lago 6, Wm. Saunders (conductor) 7, J. Aston 8. Specially arranged for Joe Hanley, who was joining H.M. forces on Wednesday, Jan. 26th, under the Derby scheme. Sergt. A. H. Garbett was at home on leave from Aylesford Military Hospital.

NUTFIELD, SURREY.—On January 25th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Minor in six Treble Bob methods, viz., London Scholars, Violet, College Exercise, Woodbine, Oxford, Kent, in 42 mins.: Luke Killick 1, J. Tassell 2, W. Cheesman 3, A. Webb 4, E. Snelling 5, F. Hawkins (conductor) 6.

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Musical Handbells, in any size and number,
for Tune or Change-ringing, in Guaranteed
Quality.

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MAKERS OF CLOCKS AND
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Beverley Minster, Selby Abbey, Truro
Cathedral, Thurles Cathedral, Trinity College, Cam-
bridge, Belfast Assembly Hall, Magdalen College, Oxford,
and many others to Lord Grimthorpe's designs. In 1897,
writing to the Vicar of Minchinhampton, Lord Grimthorpe said:—"Smith
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Established 1820.

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Church Bell Rope,

CLOCK AND CHIMING ROPE MANUFACTURER,

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Maker of Ropes for the World's Record Peal.

NEW FLEXIBLE ENDS SPLICED TO OLD ROPES.

J. P. has had many years' experience in making Bell
ropes, and makes them only of the best quality.

PRICE LIST ON APPLICATION.

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Church Bell Hangers,

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RINGS OF BELLS, to any number, hung on the
most approved principles, and Bell Frames made and fixed
in Iron or in Oak.

**The Ellacombe Chime Hammers Fixed.
Bell Ropes Supplied.**

HARRY STOKES & SON, having had a considerable number of years' ex-
perience in Church Bell Hanging, with confidence solicit the patronage of the
Clergy, Churchwardens, and Ringers generally.

ALFRED BOWELL,

**CHURCH BELL FOUNDER,
IPSWICH.**

**THOMAS DOBLE & SON, Church Bell-
Hangers, TAUNTON.**—Bells Hung on the
most approved principles. Old Bells Re-cast,
New Bells supplied, Ropes of the best make.
Ellacombe's Chiming Apparatus fixed, Hand-
bells in sets, Chromatic or Diatonic.

THE BADGE OF THE CRAFT

A Beautifully Executed

RINGERS' PENDANT

in Gold, Silver or Bronze.
Specially Suitable for Gifts.

Prices, Gold (9 carat) 21/-, Silver 4/6
Bronze 2/6 (post free).

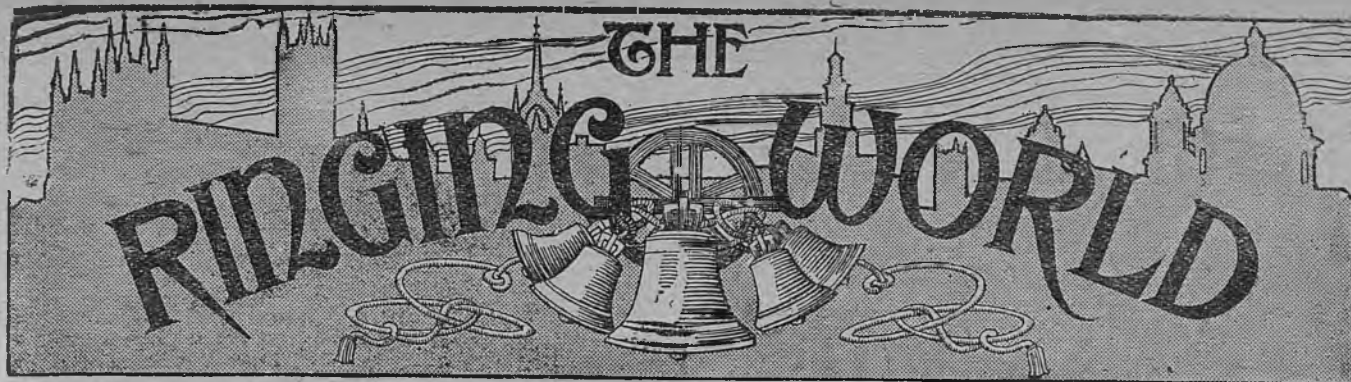


J. COMBER, Goldsmith and Jeweller,

TELEPHONE: 171 WOKING.

WOKING

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FRIDAY, MARCH 3rd, 1916.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 1d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

THE ROLL OF HONOUR.

A very large number of ringers are now serving with the colours and the rapid calling up of the Derby groups is bringing into the ranks a great many more men associated with our belfries. The Exercise is delighted to honour those who are thus responding to the call of King and country, and practically all the associations are taking steps to place on record the names of those of their members who have undertaken the patriotic and stern task of upholding their country's honour. For the present these records are only to be found in the various annual reports, and in many cases they are far from complete. It is, of course, a difficult matter, when, one after the other, the men join up, to get these records together, for those who are entitled to be placed upon the lists are being added to every day. Secretaries, generally, are anxious to keep their roll up to date, and those ringers who are left behind ought to do their best to make the task as simple as possible.

Lately there have been suggestions put forward in one or two quarters for extending the scope of this roll beyond merely local limits. At one meeting, if we have understood the suggestion aright, the idea thrown out was that a complete list of all the ringers who have joined the services should be published in book form, and at Halstead it was suggested to a meeting of Essex ringers that a permanent memorial to the patriotism of the county ringers might some day be set up. There will be, of course, plenty of time when the war is over to consider suggestions like the latter, and it is unlikely that any decision on a point of this kind will be dealt with till we are through with the immediate business on hand. It would, of course, be very nice to have some permanent memorial, but there are likely to be difficulties in the way of carrying out such a proposal.

As to the suggestion of the publication of a comprehensive list of ringers who have served with the colours, would this serve any useful purpose beyond satisfying a passing curiosity when the list was published? Printed matter of this kind is seldom valued, particularly when, in the case of lists of names, there can be little to interest the individual. We should imagine that a better and more practicable scheme would be for each association when it prints its final roll of honour in its annual report, either to have some reprints of the list made in separate book form for issue to each belfry and circulation among its members, or else have the lists printed on cards for framing and hanging in each affiliated tower. There are, of course, many ways in which the roll of honour may be handed down, but there is no doubt the financial aspect, even of this, will have to be taken into consideration.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs. C. CARR, LTD.,
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract,—we may be able to assist you.

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PEALS AUGMENTED,
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Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough,
Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester
and Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

PUDSEY, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 26, 1916, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| PRATT CORDINGLEY Treble | JAMES WM. BAXENDALE ... 5 |
| * WILLIAM BARTON 2 | J. WILLIAM CORDINGLEY 6 |
| J. CECIL BOOTH 3 | J. ERNEST PROCTER ... 7 |
| SAMUEL WARD 4 | HARRY WARD Tenor |

Composed by W. H. INGLESANT.

Conducted by HARRY WARD.

* First peal. First peal in the method on the bells and by all the ringers. This composition has the 6th nine courses at home, and the 2nd never in 6th's place at a course end.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, February 18, 1916, in One Hour and Fifty-eight Minutes,

IN THE TOWER OF THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's each called differently.

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------|
| STEDMAN H. SYMONDS ... 1-2 | CHARLES POULSON ... 4 |
| LAWRENCE POULSON ... 3 | ARTHUR SYMONDS ... 5-6 |

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

Rung to celebrate the birthday of Pte. Thomas Pryke, 8th Suffolk Regt., now in France; also to oblige Pte. L. Poulson, 6th Suffolk Regt. (Cyclists), who was home on leave. This was his first peal.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Sunday, February 20, 1916, in One Hour and Fifty Minutes,

IN THE TOWER OF THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's each called differently; three of Oxford Treble Bob and four of Plain Bob.

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| MISS BELL SYMONDS ... 1 | MAURICE SYMONDS ... 4 |
| ARTHUR SYMONDS ... 2-3 | STEDMAN H. SYMONDS ... 5-6 |

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

Rung to celebrate the 13th birthday of M. Symonds, and is supposed to be a record, the peal having been rung by daughter, father, grandson and son respectively.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 26, 1916, in Two Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,

AT 130, CLONMORE STREET, SOUTHFIELDS, S.W.,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| FRANK SMITH 1-2 | EDGAR WIGHTMAN ... 5-6 |
| JOHN D. MATTHEWS ... 3-4 | MISS ELSIE MATTHEWS 7-8 |

Composed by FRANK BENNETT, and

Conducted by JOHN D. MATTHEWS.

Witness: EDGAR G. MATTHEWS.

The ringers of the treble and second, in the peal at Berkhamsted published last week, are members of the Tring band, and not of the local company as stated.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following have joined H.M. Forces from Litton, Somerset:—

G. Tyte, R.N.V.R.
C. Bartlett, R.N., Anti-Air Craft Section.
E. Sage, 4th K.O. Somerset Light Infantry.
F. W. Lambert, 4th K.O. Somerset Light Infantry.

Pte F. W. Elliott, of the King's Royal Rifles, a member of the Little Munden Society, has been wounded in action.

DOUBLE NORWICH COMPOSITIONS.*To the Editor.*

Sir,—Mr. Morris will see by the under-mentioned facts that he is several years late. The peal published in your last issue was rung by eight members of the Kent County Association (as a 5040), in 3 hrs. and 6 mins., on Thursday, March 13th, 1903, at St. John the Baptist, Erith, Kent, conducted by its composer. The figures may be found in the Kent County Annual Report for that year.—Yours truly,

EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

Sir,—Regarding the claims of Messrs. Wightman and Morris to be the composer of the first peal of Double Norwich, with the second alternate courses in 2-3, both gentlemen have overlooked previously published peals. In the "Bell News" of December 29th, 1906, there appeared two peals, a two-part and a six-part. Both contain the 48 course-ends with the 2nd in 2-3 only, and that bell alternately in those places. They have but six short courses each, and I believe the minimum number of singles on the plan.—Yours faithfully,

JOSEPH W. PARKER.

Gunner G. F. Williams, 146th Heavy Battery, R.G.A., also writes to say that two peals containing the 2nd alternately in 2-3 were composed by him prior to 1912, one of them being rung at Hughenden on April 17th of that year.

We think it would be only fair to other composers if, when a claim to first composition is made, and the claim dates back a number of years, that this fact should be stated when the peal is sent for publication, and should not be left until someone disputes the point.—Ed. 'R.W.'

A NEW SURPRISE METHOD.

By T. LAW, Weston Favell, Northants.

12345678

21436587

12435678

21345768

23147586

32415768

23145678

32416587

23461857

24368175

42631857

46238175

64328715

46237851

42638715

24367851

42637581

24365718

23467581

32645718

23465178

24361587

42635178

46231587

64213857

46128375

64218735

46127853

41628735

14268375

41263857

14628375

Plain 14263857

Bob 16423857

SPRINGFIELD, ESSEX. — On Sunday, Feb. 5th, at All Saints' Church, 720 Bob Minor: F. Ward 1, D. Dawson 2, W. Hawkes 3, W. Sharphington 4, P. Timson 5, H. Sharphington (conductor) 6. Rung on the birthday of the ringer of the 4th.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the Northampton District was held at Kingsthorpe on Saturday last, when 17 members were present from St. Peter's, St. Edmund's, All Saints' and St. Giles', Northampton; Easton Mandit, Weston Favell, Easton Neston, Harpole, and the local band. The party sat down to tea in the school, and the usual business meeting was afterwards held, at which the vice-president (Mr. J. Clarke) presided.

Brixworth was chosen for the next quarterly meeting; it was also decided to hold special meetings at those towers which do not belong to the Association, Wootton being chosen for the first of these meetings.—Five new members were elected, and in reply to a question from one of the members, the District Secretary stated he had only four names on his books of members who had not paid their contributions for 1915, and two of these were serving their King and country.

The General Secretary (Mr. F. Wilford) referred to a resolution, which was carried at the Wellingborough district meeting, affecting the whole Association, but it was decided to pass on to the next business, as it was considered that the resolution was entirely out of order.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and the Vicar, in reply, said how pleased he was to welcome the Association, and hoped they should soon meet under happier circumstances.

A cordial vote was also accorded the local ringers and their wives for the excellent tea they had provided.

The following methods were rung during the afternoon: Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, and Plain Bob Minor, Stedman and Grandsire Doubles.

No ringing took place after tea owing to military restrictions.

THRAPSTON DISTRICT.

A successful quarterly meeting of the Thrapston District of the Central Northants Association was held at Twywell on Saturday week, when about 20 members were present from Raunds, Thrapston, Ringstead, Islip, Woodford, Cranford, Isham, Barton Seagrave, and Geddington, together with the local ringers. Stedman, Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles were rung on the light ring of five during the afternoon.

A short service was held in the church, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. J. Lang). Tea was served in the Parish Room, and at the business meeting, which followed, the Rector presided, and was supported by Mr. F. Wilford (general secretary of the Association), Mr. F. Stubbs (district secretary), etc.—It was resolved to hold the next meeting at Great Addington, and also to hold special meetings between the quarterly meetings for practice and social intercourse.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector for the use of the bells, to the ladies who had provided tea, and to everyone concerned who had helped to make the meeting such a success.—The Rev. J. Lang suitably replied.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Tonbridge district was held at Staplehurst, and was attended by members from Headcorn, Hawkhurst, Horsmonden, Penshurst, Seal Chart, Westerham, Marden, Tunbridge Wells, Lamberhurst, and Kilndown. Mr. C. Tribe (hon. secretary Ashford district), Mr. S. Hazzelden (hon. secretary Maidstone district), Mr. T. Mannering (Maidstone), etc., were also present.

At the committee meeting five new members were elected, and it was decided that (subject to the approval of the members at the general meeting) two meetings only should be held during the year, at Marden in the summer, and the annual district meeting at Penshurst.—A special service was held, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. C. W. Bourne), assisted by the Rev. E. W. P. Jackson (curate).

After service the members adjourned to the Parish Room for tea, which was followed by the general meeting, at which the Rector presided, supported by the curate and churchwardens.

The District Secretary explained that the reason the meeting was held at Staplehurst instead of at Marden, as intended, was owing to the very serious illness of the Vicar's wife. The Vicar had, therefore, been unable to make any arrangements, but he hoped the members would visit Marden shortly.

The District Secretary then read his annual report, in which he reported the loss, by death, of Mr. W. S. J. Crosbie Hill (Sevenoaks), who had been an hon. member for many years, and also Mr. J. Tapp, of Lamberhurst. He also reported a falling off in the number of hon. members, which he attributed to the many calls upon the public owing to the war, and hoped the time was not far distant when they would be ringing their bells for the declaration of peace, and that they would then find new friends to support them. At the time that the Association report was issued (Whitsun), 27 members of the district had joined the colours, and he knew that number had largely increased since.

The District Secretary and District Representative were unanimously re-elected to their respective offices.

It was decided that the committees' recommendation to have only two meetings for the year be adopted, power being given to the district secretary to arrange other meetings should occasion arise.

The meeting closed with the usual votes of thanks.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Whatever Mr. Baker's method may be it is not Stedman for the sufficient reasons that the hunting cycle is broken, and it has not as many divisions to the course as there are bells. In my studies I carefully read Mr. Baker's writings, and came to the conclusion that there is nothing in them helpful to me in the slightest degree. I hope Mr. Baker will not put stronger words in my mouth than I have used. I neither speak nor think ill of his work, which may be, and to some men should be, most useful. I cannot agree with Mr. Baker that it is an abomination for a bell to strike three consecutive blows in one place, else, where shall a stronger word be found for four consecutive blows? For my part I would rather use a milder expression and say that it is an undesirable feature, as is also the making of three adjoining places which the ordinary single entails. In Lates' peal there are no adjoining places at all. Furthermore, it is obvious that the calling of no round block can be made to run four times by a single which merely reverses the bells in 5-6, whereas by the Lates' single the calling of every twin-bob, five-part quarter peal can be made to run four times. Which, then, may I ask, is the best single for peals on Hudson's twin-bob principle, the soundness of which I believe it is impossible to shake, and which, may I also ask, is, after Hudson, the greater man of the two, the much-boomed Thurstans or the inquisitive Lates?

While writing, I should like to mention that it has been pointed out to me that Thurstans obtained a genuine four-part peal having the same qualities on precisely the same plan. This is true, but the singles are made by the bell in fourth's place lying still at the second row of a slow six, and as this single violates the dodging principle it is objectionable in the highest degree. I refrained from referring to this peal, which is given in full detail at page 149 of Snowden's "Stedman," because it seemed to be viewed by the authors of that book without any very pronounced disfavour, and I thought it ungracious to find fault with a book which is full of sound and original learning, and is withal most charmingly written. I have read thousands of books, good, bad, and indifferent—mostly bad and indifferent—and Snowden's "Stedman" is one of the best.

In regard to Stedman on six bells, Mr. Fright is quite correct, for the method he gives is Shipway's Principle, which is undoubtedly Stedman. But Shipway's Principle is Stedman spoiled, and if Mr. Fright will kindly refer to "The Ringing World" for February 12th, 1915, he will find arguments in support of this statement, the force of which I think no one can resist. Moreover, the plain course is not an aliquot part of 720, and Shipway himself was glad to let the thing drop in Minor. To make Stedman go on even numbers, the hunting bells must be inside, which, with six bells, is impossible. I see Mr. Fright is still of opinion that Stedman is an illegitimate method. Well, so am I, but I am also of opinion that it ought to be legitimate.

I am afraid that our esteemed friend "Bob Major," who I am glad to see has joined the ranks of ringer-poets (I once tried my hand at composing poems, and was told that my poetry and 2d. would get me a half of bitter in any public-house from Limehouse Church to the Marble Arch) has not understood me aright. Although I never so much as had a rope in my hand, and knew no more about ringing than a pig does about Sunday until about five years ago, when a fine ringer, whom I afterwards knew as Dick Deal, gave me my first pull at St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney, being fond of bells and delighting to hear ringers talk from my earliest youth. I came into the Exercise with the beliefs that Stedman is a wonderful method, and that no one can be said to be a conductor until he has called Holt's Original. In regard to Stedman, I can say with the Queen of Sheba that the half of it was not told me, but in regard to the other belief, I quickly found that a man may be an excellent conductor without having, to use a figure of speech, kissed the blarney stone. I have no fault to find with Holt's Original excepting that peals divided into parts are better than peals not so divided. There are now so many peals free from this fault that it is a waste of energy and a misuse of ability for any conductor to learn, either Holt's Original or the better peal by Mr. Penning. However, to go on with my story, I expect Dick, whom I have not seen since his return from Australia to joint H.M. forces, has long since forgotten the incident, but I remember it well. Being in Hackney one night and hearing the bells going, I went up into the ringing room, as I had done so many times in towers all over the country, and when I had answered the usual question "Are you a ringer?" in the negative, I ventured to say I should like to be. "Oh," said Dick, "we will soon make a ringer of you; catch hold of this rope." But Dick for once in his life did not know whom he was talking about, for my greatest achievement is ringing a 720 of Bob Minor on an inside bell. I am getting afraid that I have missed my vocation, and am thinking about going in for poetry again.

GEORGE T. CLAYTON.

HAWKSHEAD. — Lincs. Association.—On Wednesday, Feb. 23rd, 1916, in 1 hr. 5 mins., at St. Michael's Church, a date touch of Bob Minor (1916 changes): Charles E. Webb (conductor) 1, William D. Heales 2, Frederick W. Coward 3, Thomas Bradley 4, Thomas Townsend 5, Joseph Ellwood 6.

OXFORD GUILD.

READING BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Reading Branch of the Oxford Guild was held at Reading on Saturday week. Previous to the service, which was held at St. Giles' Church, some capital touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent and Double Norwich Major was rung. The Rev. G. F. Naylor conducted the service, and gave a very interesting address.

The tea and business meeting were held at the Rising Sun Coffee Rooms, and members attended from Shiplake, Henley-on-Thames, Caversham, and the three towers of Reading. Mr. H. Bungay, of Binfield, and Miss M. Chillingworth, of Bradfield, were the only visitors.—Mr. G. J. Wright, in the absence, through illness, of the President (Mr. W. P. Routh) kindly consented to occupy the chair.—Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from the Rev. G. F. Coleridge, Rev. R. H. Hart Davis, Rev. R. P. Newhouse, Mr. W. P. Routh, and last, but not least, from the worthy Master, the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, now in France serving as chaplain to His Majesty's Forces.

The balance sheet was adopted, and was considered very satisfactory.—Mr. A. E. Reeves proposed, and Mr. W. Newell seconded the re-election of Mr. W. P. Routh as President for the ensuing year, and this was carried with acclamation.—On the motion of Mr. A. Watmore, seconded by Mr. C. P. Oliver, Mr. A. W. Osborne was re-elected as hon. secretary and treasurer.—Mr. Osborne, in thanking the members once again for the confidence they placed in him, thought a change would be beneficial, and give him a rest. This the members would not hear of, so that there was no alternative but for him to again accept office.

Mr. G. J. Wright proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. G. F. Naylor, the organist and choir-boys for their attendance at the service, which was much appreciated by all.—The Rev. G. F. Naylor responding, said he was quite a stranger to most of them, but was only too pleased to be of any service to the bell ringers. He would have much pleasure in conveying to the choir boys and organist their thanks.

Mr. A. E. Reeves, the Guild secretary, gave some details of the work and finance of the Guild, stating there was a balance of £34 odd in hand, which was very satisfactory when they considered the hard times they are now passing through.

It was proposed by Mr. A. Cullum that the secretary convey the fraternal greetings of the meeting to the Master, wishing him the best of health and a speedy return to his labours among them once again.—This was carried unanimously.

Mr. F. W. Hopgood made a few remarks on the doings of the Central Council, on which he is one of the four representatives of the Oxford Guild. After some discussion, Mr. A. Cullum moved that the question of representatives to the Central Council be considered at the next general meeting of the Guild.

Mr. Wright proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the officers of the Reading branch, which was carried.

Mr. W. Newell, the "Father of Change Ringers" in Reading, came in for some very flattering remarks on his work among his pupils.—Mr. Newell, responding, stated he was never happier than when he was teaching young men or their sisters, if needs be, the art of change ringing, some 500 having passed through his hands in Reading and district during the 34 years he had been a bell ringer.

The musical part of the evening was much enlivened by the Shiplake band with their musical handbells, under their worthy conductor, Mr. O. Porter. The tunes being up-to-date, were very much appreciated. Concertina solos were played by Mr. W. Newell, and songs sung by Miss Dora Hopgood, Mr. R. T. Hibbert, Mr. W. Newell and Mr. C. Higgs. An exhibition of lapping the handbells was given by Mr. F. W. Hopgood and his two daughters, and a course of Grandsire Caters and Bob Major were rung by Messrs. C. Giles, R. T. Hibbert, A. W. Webb, F. W. Hopgood and A. W. Osborne. The singing of Auld Lang Syne brought to a close another and most successful meeting of the branch.

SHREWSBURY.—Salop Guild.—On Jan. 29th, at St. Chad's Church, 264 Bob Maximus: G. Scarratt 1, A. Darnell 2, G. Byolin 3, W. Brooks 4, W. Weatherby 5, G. Jones 6, E. R. T. Corbett 7, T. W. Belton 8, W. Stockdale 9, W. Saunders (1st on 12) 10, A. Fullick 11, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 12; and 528 Grandsire Cinques: W. Hughes 1, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 2, A. Darnell 3, G. Byolin 4, W. Weatherby 5, G. Jones 6, E. R. T. Corbett 7, T. W. Belton 8, W. Stockdale 9, W. Saunders 10, A. Fullick 11, H. Jones 12; also 180 Bob Royal, and a course of Kent Treble Bob Major.—On Jan. 30th, for morning service, 640 Kent Treble Bob Major: G. Scarratt 1, J. Tudor 2, W. Brooks 3, T. W. Belton 4, W. Stockdale 5, A. Darnell 6, A. Fullick 7, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 8; for evensong, 288 Kent, 70 Bob Major, 84 Stedman, 42 Grandsire.—On Feb. 6th, 168 Stedman Triples.—On Jan. 29th, at St. Alkmund's, 168 Stedman Triples and 112 Bob Major: W. Hughes 1, G. Byolin 2, T. W. Belton 3, E. R. T. Corbett 4, G. Jones 5, W. Weatherby 6, A. Fullick 7, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 8.

HAMMERSMITH.—At St. Paul's Church, on Sunday, Feb. 27th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 44 mins.: Pte S. Meadows (A.S.C.) 1, H. Barrett 2, P. H. Smith 3, M. Jacobs 4, R. Mackrill 5, C. Hunt 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, H. Cook 8.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT HALSTEAD.

The North Eastern Division of the Essex Association held a meeting at Halstead on Saturday week, when members were present from Braintree, Bocking, Earl's Colne, Great Totham, Sible Hedingham, Gestingthorpe, Great Yeldham, Greenstead Green and Halstead. Touches in various methods were rung on the bells of St. Andrew's Church, and the ringers attended a special service at which the singing was led by the choir and organ. The Vicar, the Rev. T. H. Curling, preached from the text, "Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest." In the course of his address he said: In the earlier history of the Church there were Guilds or Brotherhoods of men who carried out most of the work connected with it. This was not only the case in regard to its more spiritual work—the care and the shepherding of human souls—but also in regard to the designing and building of churches and the making of various things needed for furnishing them, such as stained glass windows, mural decorations, iron and brasswork, wood carving and so on. Now whenever you come across the work of these Guilds you find something in it, which is almost entirely wanting in our modern work of the same character. As you look at it you feel that it was executed by consecrated men—men who did their work not for the sake of what they could get out of it, but of what they could put into it, of the very best of what they were capable for the glory of God. And so there is about it all a freedom, a spontaneousness, a vigour, which is sadly missing in the things provided by ecclesiastical workshops to-day. The man is able thus to express his spirit through the work of his hands, and show us how necessary it is that we should aim at trying to find holy men for holy things. It is that thought that I want to leave with you this afternoon as members of the Essex Association of Change Ringers. Up in the belfries of your churches you are engaged Sunday after Sunday in delivering the sweet-tongued message of the bells. As the bells peal out the summons to morning or evening prayer they are a call to men and women from the Master Himself. Now just as the music and singing comes with far deeper meaning from the fingers and lips of men and boys who play and sing for the glory of God, so too the message of the bells will have a fuller significance if we know that the men at the ropes have heard and are trying in their lives to obey it.

Subsequently the visitors sat down to tea at the White Horse.

THE ROLL OF HONOUR

The Rev. T. H. Curling presided over the gathering, being supported by Mr. O. H. Howard, of Braintree, Master of the Association; the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, of Great Totham, the general secretary; Mr. G. H. Pannell, the District Master, who is a sapper in the Royal Engineers, and appeared in khaki; and Mr. B. Ridgewell, the district secretary. The Castle Hedingham ringers were elected members of the Association, and a course of Grandsire Caters was rung on the handbells by: S. Hald (Sible Hedingham) 1—2, C. H. Howard (Braintree) 3—4, H. Cooper (Great Yeldham) 5—6, L. Wiseman (Sible Hedingham) 7—8, A. Saunders (Greenstead Green) 9—10.

Mr. C. H. Howard proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and choir (including Mr. F. A. Vaizey, J.P., Vicar's warden) and the organist and those who had taken part in the arrangements for their reception. He proceeded to refer to those ringers who had responded to the country's call to duty, and suggested that a complete Roll of Honour of Church Bell Ringers should be prepared.

Mr. W. Root remarked that nine ringers had gone from the Halstead locality.

A voice: There is not a ringer left in Colne Engaine.

The Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, in seconding the vote of thanks, eulogised the work of the Rev. T. H. Curling on behalf of the church, which, he said, he had watched ever since the latter came into Essex. That work had already been recognised in high places, and Halstead was always regarded as a stepping-stone to the important positions in the church (applause). Personally he would like to thank Mr. Curling for the beautiful service at the church and the helpful address.

KEEP THE CHURCH BELLS RINGING.

In putting the vote of thanks to the meeting Mr. Howard said that whenever the ringers came to Halstead they always had a warm welcome from Mr. Curling. The clergy generally had always taken great interest in the Association, and when they attended their gatherings in the same way as Mr. Curling had that evening they were rendering a great service, which was much appreciated. Their presence gave the ringers much pleasure and encouragement. In making a humorous allusion to the ringers' jug of olden times, the speaker said they had lost their jug at Braintree, as a former vicar thought Colchester Museum the best place for it. He was very sorry to see that because he was very much interested in these ancient relics of the past. He did not wish to see the jug used for the purpose some people thought it was used in former days, but these links with the past ought to be preserved in the belfry towers. Bellingringers were moving in the right direction; their associations were now recognised as a part of the Church's work. When he first joined the Association bell ringing was regarded as a hobby, but now it was recognised as a branch of

parochial Church work. He urged them to continue with energy and enthusiasm in that direction. They had lost a lot of their members through the war, and unfortunately some of them had fallen, and it behoved those who were left to keep the church bells ringing so that when their fellow-members returned from the war they might have the gratification of knowing that the good work which they had helped to maintain when they were at home had not been allowed to lapse. Nothing would give their heroes greater pleasure than to find that the bells had been kept ringing. All their own boys at the front now were anxious to know how the work was going on, and to see the Association maintained at its old standard. If they could not get men for the ringing of the bells they must introduce ladies. He had had the pleasure of ringing with ladies and found that they rang very gracefully. There was no reason why they should not introduce ladies to fill the gaps in villages where they could not get men. They must make every effort to keep the church bells going because if ever there was a day when they would give pleasure to everyone throughout the land it would be when peace was proclaimed, and their brave boys came home to take part in the rejoicings. If they did not keep bell ringing up so that they could be rung on the expected day it would be a poor compliment to the ringers of the past. At Colne Engaine, for instance, they had heard that there were no ringers left, and he would respectfully suggest that the Halstead ringers might lend a helping hand in such a place.

The vote of thanks having been carried with acclamation,

The Rev. T. H. Curling, in response, suggested that the roll of honour alluded to by Mr. Howard should find a place in their own cathedral at Chelmsford.

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

The monthly meeting of the Wotton-under-Edge and District Branch was held at Slimbridge on Saturday week, when 22 members, representing twelve towers, attended, including the Rev. T. A. Garnett (President of the Branch), Mr. J. Austin (secretary of the Gloucester Branch) and Mr. J. W. Jones (secretary of the Llandaff Association). The bells were placed at the disposal of the ringers during the afternoon and evening by the Rector (the Rev. J. O. H. Carter), who, unfortunately, was unable to attend until the evening, but sent an apology and gave the members a hearty welcome to Slimbridge, by providing an excellent tea in the Old Schoolroom.

The Master (Mr. F. K. Howell) occupied the chair at the business meeting, at which one new member was elected, and Tytherington was selected as the next place for meeting, on March 18th.

The Chairman stated that one of the local ringers (Mr. Harold Hobbs) had been married that morning, and had sent some wedding cake for the members.—While this was being handed round, Mr. J. W. Jones moved a vote of congratulation to the bride and bridegroom, which was carried with enthusiasm.

Mr. H. W. Fussell proposed that a hearty vote of thanks be sent to the Rector for allowing the use of the bells, and for the kind way he had entertained them that afternoon.

A touch on the handbells concluded the meeting, after which the ringers adjourned to the tower and brought round touches of Grandsire Doubles, Stedman, Bob Minor, and Kent Treble Bob.

WELCOME AND FAREWELL.

On Sunday week, at Bradpole Parish Church, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung in 44 mins., by: R. Langford 1, Rev. C. F. Langford 2, J. Lathey 3, T. Hervey Beams (conductor) 4, H. Haines 5, H. Way 6, P. H. Beams 7, A. Hile 8. It was rung to welcome the ringer of the Treble, who has lately returned home, his ship, the "Helmsmuir," while on Government service, having been torpedoed and shelled by an enemy submarine in the Mediterranean. The crew were picked up and landed on the coast of Tripoli, from whence they were transferred to Port Said. The touch was also rung as a farewell to the ringer of the 7th, who is leaving for Egypt, and to the ringer of the 5th, who is about to join the forces under the group system. In the evening a 336 of Grandsire Triples was rung by: B. Elsworth 1, C. Lathey 2, J. Lathey 3, Rev. C. F. Langford 4, H. Haines 5, H. Way 6, T. Hervey Beams 7, A. Hile 8.

At Allesley, Coventry, on Sunday, Feb. 20th, for evening service, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: F. Brassington 1, Alfred Wilson 2, H. Kettle 3, J. Taylor 4, W. Cox 5, F. Andrew (conductor) 6. This was rung as a farewell to Mr. F. Andrew, a respected member of the Stoke, Coventry, band, who together with several other brother strings from Stoke, have been untiring in their efforts to instruct the local members in the art of change-ringing. It was originally arranged to include Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, but as practice in those methods has not for some time been available they had to be dropped.

SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX.—On Tuesday, Jan. 4th, at the residence of Mr. F. J. Pitstow, on handbells, 952 Grandsire Triples, and 560 Bob Major: F. J. Pitstow 1—2, A. E. Pitstow 3—4, F. Pitstow (conductor) 5—6, F. Dench 7—8.—On Jan. 6th, 378 and 252 Grandsire Caters: H. N. Pitstow 1—2, A. E. Pitstow 3—4, F. Pitstow (conductor) 5—6, F. J. Pitstow 7—8, F. Dench 9—10.

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LIEUT. J. HOWARD FREEBORN.

his first peal of Stedman Triples with the late Rev. F. E. Robinson. Afterwards he shared in the melancholy task of ringing the muffled funeral peal of Stedman Triples at Wokingham, when the late Master of the Oxford Guild was buried.

At Cambridge, Mr. Freeborn took an active part in the operations of the University Guild, and he has in all rung about 50 peals, all on tower bells, including Cambridge, Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob, seven minor methods, Stedman Caters and Triples and Grandsire Caters and Triples. He has rung in over 200 towers in England, and, in addition to belonging to the Cambridge University Guild, is a member of the Oxford Guild, in which most of his ringing has been done, the Oxford Society, St. Peter's Society, Caversham, the College Youths, the Worcestershire Association, the Warwickshire Guild, the Gloucester and Bristol Association, the Bath and Wells Association, the Devonshire Guild, the Winchester Guild, the Kent Association, the Surrey Association and the Ely Diocesan Guild.

Mr. Freeborn joined the 4th York and Lancaster Regt. in July last, the fact that he has lost the sight of one eye having prevented him from doing so earlier. But while making efforts to get into the Army he did some splendid work in the Sutton V.T.C., the members of which presented him with a sword on his receiving his commission.

WAS HOLT A "PIRATE"?

DID HE MAKE FAME ON ANNABLE'S INVESTIGATIONS?

By M. BANKES JAMES.

The name of John Holt, as brought before us in "Bob Major's" excellent notes last week, is one which I never hear uttered but it brings up in my mind the name of one greater than he, and makes me wonder whether perchance the laurel wreath of Grandsire Triples is not, even now, resting upon the wrong brow—whether the compositions of the "poor unlettered youth," so fulsomely belauded in the "Clavis," ought not with more propriety to be ascribed to the great master mind of Benjamin Annable?

The history of the period, and the events that then took place in the metropolis, are so involved, even after the evidence has been so carefully sifted by our great ringing historian in his "Grandsire," that it is very difficult to form an estimate of their true value, and the opinion to which I have been approaching for many years is one which has been built up on much hearsay evidence and tradition, gathered from I know not where, and for which I should find it impossible to give an authority.

But there may be others among the Exercise who will be able either to refute or verify my facts, and it is in the hope that more light may, if possible, be thrown upon the matter that I am penning this short article.

Let me put down the facts as best I can recall them.

Benjamin Annable was the leader of the College Youths; a man of very great ability, to whom we owe the very first attempts to bring our peals up to a high musical standard. He it was who invented "Tittum Grandsire Caters," the finest ringing music that has ever been framed; he it was who first taught the Exercise the value of keeping the tenors together, and his three-part peal of Bob Major is still a model of what symmetry in composition can be. This man had one great ambition. No reason had then been given to the Exercise why a peal of Grandsire Triples should not be produced without a single, and it was his desire to produce such a composition.

John Holt and he at first were friends, nay, Holt would seem to have been almost a pupil of the other. He must have known of Annable's work, and probably was conversant with all the long lengths that Annable had produced in his attempts.

Then comes a change. Holt produces the "Original" and his other peals, and, I think, I have heard that the quarrel was so great between them that they never spoke again. At all events the feeling was so strong that the College Youths, to a man, refused to have any hand in the publication of Holt's broad sheet of peals.

I used to think that Annable was a very narrow-minded man to show so much rancour against his former friend for merely calling a peal of Grandsire Triples with two singles in it. Then came the thought, what if there were some stronger reason behind it all?

Annable must have produced some long lengths in his investigations. Where are they? What if John Holt's peals were produced by taking Annable's touches and splicing them together with singles? What if it were Benjamin Annable who produced those two half-peals—the finest work in Grandsire composition of that or any other age—and John Holt spliced them together in the worst possible way that it could be done and issued them to the world as his own peal? Should we not then see reason for "That ingenious ringer, Mr. Annable's not encour-

aging of it," and for the feelings of ill-will that he bore to Holt.

Just one more consideration which gives strength to my suspicions. After publishing his three peals, why did Holt stop? The mind that produced the ten-part and the six-part held the key to the situation, and could easily have put together the whole gamut of peals that have since appeared in this method. But if it were Annable who supplied the bobs, while Holt only added the singles, it is easy to see why the supply of compositions ran short so soon after the great secret had first been tapped.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

Owing to the curtailment of postal facilities, correspondents are requested to forward their communications as promptly as possible. We cannot guarantee to insert anything which does not reach us by first post on Tuesdays.

FAMOUS PEALS OF THE PAST.

In the progress of record making, Monday next, March 6th, marks the anniversary of the longest length of Treble Bob Maximus rung up to the time the Painswick men scored their 10,224 in 6 hrs. 50 mins., on December 29th, 1833, for on March 6th, 1832, the Oldham men rang 7,392 in the method in 5 hrs. 14 mins. 32 secs. The band comprised: Jos. Newton (conductor) 1, Jno. Jackson 2, Jno. Newton 3, Jas. Mills 4, Jas. Jackson 5, Thos. Nicholson 6, Wm. Rigby 7, Jno. Brierley 8, Ed. Taylor 9, Jno. Whitehead 10, Thos. Chadderton 11, Abram. Jackson 12. The tenor at Oldham was 34 cwt.

The number of changes in this peal was not so very much in advance of the length rung nearly 50 years before at Southwark, where on March 10th, 1784, the College Youths scored a 7008 in the Oxford variation, in 5 hrs. 48 mins., the ringers being: W. Richardson 1, W. Hatt, senr., 2, W. Hatt, junr., 3, J. Povey 4, J. Darquitt 5, G. Scarbrook 6, J. Worster 7, Wm. Lyford 8, J. Monk 9, H. Holdsworth 10, E. Sylvester 11, S. Muggeridge 12. The peal was conducted by J. Povey.

The anniversary of a very noteworthy performance will be reached on Wednesday next, for it was on March 8th, 1737—nearly 180 years ago—that a peal of 12,603 Grandsire Caters was rung at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich. In the year before that two trebles had been added to the old eight at St. Peter's, and the Norwich men, then among the foremost exponents of the art in the country, went in for ten-bell ringing with great enthusiasm. Their wonderful performance is thus chronicled upon a tablet in the belfry:—

On March the 8th, 1737, was rung a peal of Grandsire Caters, which for excellency of its ringing, Harmonious changes and ye number of them, was certainly superior to anything of its kind ever done in the World; and to Remove all doubt of the truth of the performance several ingenious Ringers were abroad the whole time with proper rules to prove the certainty of ye same. Thus was this great peal perfectly completed to the entire satisfaction, surprise and amazement, of thousand of hearers in the space of 8 hrs. 15 mins. The number of changes were 12,603 rung by nine men of the company then belonging to the company. The tenor singly, by a young ringer 8,000, then a second ringer rung her to the end of the peal. The persons names and the bells they rung as follows:—

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Tho. Melchior .. 1 | Tho. Barrett .. 4 | Tho. Blofield .. 7 |
| Wm. Pettingall .. 2 | Robert Crane .. 5 | Edwd. Crane .. 8 |
| John Gardiner .. 3 | Wm. Porter .. 6 | Christr. Booty .. 9 |
| James Jerom, Robt. Liddamon .. Tenor | | |

The same day, March 8th, is the anniversary of a peal of 10,047 Stedman Caters which was rung at Aston by the St. Martin's Society, in the year 1859. The time occupied was 6 hrs. 16 mins., and the ringers were: John Perks 1, Amos Cresser 2, Wm. Haywood 3, John Bannister 4, Chas. Shaw 5, Thos. Macdonald 6, Wm. Chattell 7, Robt. Wright 8, Joseph Spencer 9, Jesse Cutler 10. "The above peal," says the record, "was rung single-handed, and what eminently combines to enrich this performance is, it was rung at the first attempt, and is the greatest number of changes ever completed in this intricate system. Composed for this occasion by Henry Johnson, and ably conducted by John Perks."

DEPTFORD, KENT.—On Sunday, Feb. 20th, for evening service, at St. John's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins.: G. R. Simmonds 1, A. G. Bennington 2, E. J. Pannett 3, J. Law 4, E. B. Crowder 5, A. G. Mason 6, W. J. Jeffries (con.) 7, J. Crowder 8.

NORTH MYMMS.—Hertfordshire Association.—On Jan. 2nd, for morning service, with the bells half-muffled, 720 Plain Bob Minor: F. Bennett 1, J. Day 2, G. Spencer 3, C. Nash 4, W. Nash 5, A. Lawrence (conductor) 6.—On Jan. 22nd, 720 Plain Bob Minor: Rev. C. G. Ward 1, F. Bennett 2, W. Nash 3, C. Nash 4, H. Reeves (conductor) 5, E. Whitbread 6.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BRADFIELD, BERKS.—On Jan. 6th, 720 Bob Minor: H. Perry (1st 720) 1, C. Wooldridge (1st inside) 2, T. Hillier 3, M. Bowley 4, M. E. Chillingworth 5, A. E. Reeves (conductor) 6.

REIGATE.—On Saturday, Jan. 8th, with the bells muffled, 1623 Grandsire Triples, from Holt's Original: W. Pooley 1, E. Dewey 2, H. Jordan 3, H. Ewins 4, G. Hoad (conductor) 5, W. Claydon 6, Pte Cook (Ashtead) 7, H. Hoad 8.—On January 30th, for evening service, 467 Grandsire Caters: W. Pooley 1, H. Ewins 2, E. Dewey 3, W. Claydon 4, H. Jordan 5, F. Rice 6, G. Hoad (conductor) 7, T. Sparks 8, H. Card 9, H. Hoad 10.—On Feb. 17th, as a farewell to W. Smith, a member of the above society, who was leaving the district for the army, the following touches were rung; also 449 Grandsire Caters: E. Dewey 1, H. Card 2, W. Claydon 3, H. Ewins 4, F. Rice 5, H. Jordan 6, G. Hoad (conductor) 7, T. Sparks 8, H. Hoad 9, W. Pooley 10; and 288 Kent Treble Bob Major and 138 Stedman Triples.

BENFIELDSIDE.—Durham and Newcastle Association. — At St. Cuthbert's Church, for morning service, on January 23rd, 1080 Newcastle Surprise (first in the method by ringer of the treble); for evening service, 960 Canterbury Surprise; on Jan. 30th, 1080 Canterbury; Feb. 13th, for morning service, 840 Newcastle; for evening service, 720 Canterbury; Feb. 20th, 360 London Surprise: J. K. Fisher 1, J. W. Forster 2, J. Marshall 3, T. H. Surtees 4, A. Charlton 5, F. Barrow (conductor) 6.

GUILDFORD.—At St. Nicolas' Church, on Sunday, Jan. 23rd, for evening service, 518 Grandsire Triples: S. Radford (conductor) 1, E. Etheridge 2, Pte F. E. Smith 3, Pte H. Tomsett 4, W. Loader 5, T. W. Radford 6, S. G. Steer 7, E. Heather 8.—On Sunday, Jan. 30th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: G. Petter 1, E. Etheridge 2, T. W. Radford 3, W. Loader 4, Pte F. E. Smith 5, S. G. Steer 6, S. Radford (conductor) 7, E. Heather 8. Arranged for Pte Frederick E. Smith, A.S.C., now stationed at Aldershot, and a member of St. Mary's, All Saints', Chesterfield.

ABERAVON, SOUTH WALES.—On Saturday, Jan. 29th, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. Stitch 1, A. Pitman 2, W. Nulton 3, D. Frankcom 4, H. Perry 5, A. Perry 6, J. Cox (conductor) 7, J. Withersby 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the memory of the late Mr. E. Clarke, who for several years was a devoted and faithful ringer in St. Mary's Church.—On Saturday, Feb. 12th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. Stitch 1, J. Cox 2, W. Nulton 3, D. Frankcom 4, H. Perry 5, A. Perry 6, A. Pitman (conductor) 7, J. Withersby 8.

MISSENDEN, BUCKS.—On Saturday, Jan. 29th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 31 mins.: Wm. Horne 1, W. H. Fassell 2, John Evans 3, W. Henley 4, J. Blackmore 5, R. Buckland (first in the method as conductor) 6. First 720 in method on the bells. Touches of Bob Minor, with W. Evans, F. Starr and E. Elburn; and Stedman and Grandsire Doubles, with Mr. Barnes and others.

KING'S CLIFFE.—On January 29th, 120 Grandsire Doubles: H. Bailey 1, Miss Orlebar 2, J. T. Blake (conductor) 3, E. Adams 4, P. Roberts 5. This is the first time for many years the King's Cliffe ringers have completed 120, the ten only having been rung.

HAMMERSMITH.—On January 30th, at St. Paul's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins.: M. Jacobs 1, M. H. Stevens 2, H. Barrett 3, P. H. Smith 4, R. Mackrill 5, H. Cook 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, P. C. Brooks 8.

WEST EALING.—On Sunday, Jan. 30th, for evening service, at St. Stephen's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins.: C. Edwards 1, A. W. Davis 2, H. Holifield (Abingdon) 3, G. Harboure 4, H. H. Chandler 5, A. Harding 6, J. A. Trollope (conductor) 7, Corpl. P. Clark 8. For evening service, on Feb. 13th, 588 Grandsire Triples: C. Edwards 1, R. Holloway 2, Miss E. Jones 3, J. Hunnisett 4, J. H. Payne 5, J. A. Trollope 6, A. Harding 7, W. Lawrence 8.

MANSFIELD, WOODHOUSE.—On Sunday, Jan. 30th, for divine service, at St. Edmund's Church, 1080 London Surprise (including 720), in 42 mins.: Arthur Munks 1, Robert Sheppard 2, Charles Rogers 3, Signaller G. Bennett 4, John Radford 5, Alfred Munks (conductor) 6. First Surprise extent by all the band, and first on the bells.

BROMLEY, KENT.—On Jan. 30th, for morning service, at SS. Peter and Paul's Church, 462 Grandsire Triples: C. Austin 1, H. J. Blackwell 2, G. Durling 3, P. J. Spice 4, G. Huxley 5, Gnr. G. Dowling, of Hull, 6, I. Emery (conductor) 7, S. Miles 8; and 504 of Stedman Triples: G. Huxley 1, H. J. Blackwell 2, G. Durling 3, P. J. Spice 4, Gnr. G. Dowling (R.G.A.) 5, E. F. Pike 6, I. Emery (conductor) 7, C. Austin 8.

MIDSOMER NORTON.—At St. John the Baptist's Church, on Septuagesima Sunday, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: *W. Cornelius 1, I. B. Holmyard 2, S. Freke 3, F. Speed (conductor) 4, F. Chivers 5, J. Hambleton 6, W. Keevill 7, *T. Griffin 8. *First quarter-peal. W. Cornelius is a member of the Chewton Mendip band, and T. Griffin of the Radstock band. All the rest are members of the local company.

HATFIELD.—Hertfordshire Association.—On Sunday, Jan. 30th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1280 changes), in 50 mins., by the Hatfield College Youths: F. Cull 1, J. J. Powers 2, W. J. Rumney 3, J. Shepherd 4, H. S. Reeves 5, J. T. Kentish (conductor) 6, W. Nash 7, A. Lawrence 8.

LINDLEY.—At St. Stephen's Church, on Sunday evening, Jan. 30th, a date touch (1916 changes), of Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hr. 12 mins.: J. Craven 1, H. Armitage 2, J. Rollinson 3, J. H. Steele 4, G. T. Turner 5, A. Crossland 6, C. H. Craven 7, C. Craven 8. Arranged and conducted by C. H. Craven.

CRANLEIGH, SURREY.—On February 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: Gilbert, Charman 1, Mrs. R. Whittington (first quarter of Triples on an inside bell) 2, Harry Tidy 3, Alwyn Charman 4, Robert Whittington 5, John Knight 6, William Charman (conductor) 7, Thomas Worsfold 8. First quarter-peal by the ringer of treble, to whom credit is due, as he has been ringing only a few months.

NEWTON LONGVILLE, BUCKS.—On Feb. 5th, on the occasion of the opening of a mission to this parish by the Bishop of Buckingham, for the opening service, 504 Grandsire Triples: R. Nichols 1, W. Sear 2, L. Meager 3, W. Pether 4, H. Sear (conductor) 5, W. Smith 6, H. Taylor (Royal Engineers) 7, T. Best 8. 504 Stedman Triples: R. Nichols 1, H. Sear (conductor) 2, L. Meager 3, W. Pether 4, T. Best 5, E. Marks 6, W. Sear 7, V. Sear 8. 336 Stedman Triples: R. Nichols 1, W. Smith 2, L. Meager 3, W. Pether 4, T. Best 5, H. Sear 6, W. Sear (conductor) 7, H. Taylor 8. The ringing was half-muffled, in memory of the Bishop's two sons who have lost their lives in the war, and was much appreciated by the Bishop, who entered the belfry and thanked the ringers for their excellent ringing.

WALTHAMSTOW.—Middlesex Association and the St. Mary's, Walthamstow, Society.—On Sunday, Feb. 6th, for evensong, at St. Mary's Church, 1277 Stedman Caters, in 49 mins.: H. T. Scarlett 1, F. Rumens 2, H. J. Maynard 3, C. T. Coles (conductor) 4, R. Maynard, junr., 5, J. C. Adams 6, R. Maynard, senr., 7, H. J. Wilkins 8, C. Maynard 9, A. Chapman 10.

STANSTED.—Essex Association.—On Feb. 6th, at the Parish Church, for morning service, 360 Plain Bob Minor, conducted by W. Watts; and on Feb. 7th, 360 Plain Bob Minor: W. W. Watts 1, W. Watts 2, R. Law 3, G. Gray 4, A. Jordan 5, T. J. Watts (conductor) 6, H. W. Watts 8.

BARNES.—At St. Mary's Church, for divine service, on Feb. 6th, and as a compliment to Mr. H. Barrett's mother, on her 71st birthday, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 43 mins.: M. Jacobs 1, C. Hunt 2, H. Barrett 3, R. Mackrill 4, H. Cook 5, P. H. Smith 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, J. Wilmott 8.

MALVERN LINK.—Worcestershire Association.—On Feb. 6th, for evening service, at the Parish Church, 1008 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, in 39 mins.: H. Chance 1, W. Niblett 2, E. E. Barber 3, F. Stanton 4, F. Bryan 5, A. W. Brighton (of London), conductor, 6, C. Camm 7, R. G. Knowles 8.—On Feb. 9th, the same band rang the following touches as a birthday compliment to the conductor, 448 Double Norwich, 288 Kent Treble Bob Major, 224 Bob Major, 252 Stedman Triples, and 210 Grandsire Triples, conducted by A. W. Brighton.

SOUTHGATE.—Middlesex Association.—On Sunday, Feb. 6th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bristol Surprise Major (1280 changes), in 48 mins.: A. R. Glasscock 1, E. G. Tomlinson 2, G. W. Fletcher 3, S. Wade 4, N. A. Tomlinson 5, H. Miller (first quarter of Bristol) 6, J. Armstrong (conductor) 7, F. G. Tegg 8. Arranged so that a quarter of Bristol might be attempted previous to the ringers of 2, 5, and tenor joining the army in their groups. The ringers of 2 and 8 are in Group 9 and the other in Group 12.

CHESHUNT.—Hertfordshire Association.—On Sunday, Feb. 6th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (from Thurstan's four-part), 1260 changes: *G. Andrews 1, *G. Maxim 2, S. Proctor 3, F. Jelf 4, *H. Simmons 5, W. Saban 6, G. Radley (conductor) 7, C. Diley 8. * First quarter-peal in the method.

STREATHAM.—On Sunday evening, Feb. 6th, at St. Leonard's Church, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1280 changes), in 45 mins.: E. Horrex 1, E. Gibbs 2, A. J. Perkins (composer and conductor) 3, L. Attwater 4, C. Dean 5, J. Lee 6, C. F. Winney 7, H. Langdon 8. Has calls at every position of the tenor, in four courses, with 6-4 and 6-5 in 5-6, full bobs at "home," the 6th at "home" two courses. This was rung on the occasion of the conductor's 64th birthday.

WOKINGHAM, BERKS.—Oxford Guild.—On Feb. 6th, for evening service, at All Saints' Church, in honour of the birthday of the Rector (the Rev. B. Long), a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: E. Wittingham 1, F. Lush 2, W. Jeynes 3, A. Loader (first quarter-peal) 4, S. Paice 5, W. Brooks 6, A. Price (conductor) 7, G. Green 8.

CARDIFF.—Llandaff Association.—At St. John's Church, on Feb. 7th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mrs. Hammet (wife of the churchwarden of St. John's), whose funeral took place during the day: E. Coles 1, H. Day 2, D. Thomas 3, T. Rodman 4, W. Bolton 5, F. Edwards 6, S. Dawe (conductor) 7, S. Barker 8.

CLUN, SHROPSHIRE.—Hereford Diocesan Guild.—On Sunday, Feb. 13th, for evening service, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), in 50 mins.: F. A. Watkins 1, R. Morris 3, C. Minton (conductor) 4, W. Roberts 5, W. Mead 6, G. Griffiths 7, J. Davies 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Mrs. Townsend, wife of Mr. G. Townsend, C.C., churchwarden of Clun, and Lieut. D. Neil G. Buchanan; also other fallen heroes from the parish.

TRING, HERTS.—On Sunday, Feb. 13th, at SS. Peter and Paul's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: F. Pitkin 1, F. Reeves 2, H. Lovell 3, A. Tomkins 4, Pte H. F. Cooper (5th Essex Regt.), conductor, 5, O. Bayes 6, H. Ealey 7, W. Redman 8.

BURNLEY, LANCs.—On Sunday, Feb. 13th, for evening service, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins.: T. Lord (conductor) 1, H. Tomlinson 2, D. Campbell 3, N. Townend 4, W. Hunter 5, W. Marshall 6, R. Haworth 7, J. W. Heys 8. Rung in honour of W. Hunter, who is expected to be called to the colours shortly.

SOUTHAM.—Warwickshire Guild.—On Sunday, Feb. 13th, for morning service, 600 Grandsire Doubles: A. Atkins 1, W. King 2, E. Berry 3, J. H. White 4, J. King (conductor) 5, W. Pratt 6. For evening service, 480 Grandsire Doubles: A. Atkins 1, J. H. White (conductor) 2, F. King 3, J. King 4, E. Berry 5, W. Pratt 6, W. King 7. Rung with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to Miss L. Hart Davies, the elder daughter of the Rev. J. Hart Davies, Rector of Southam, who died February 8th, and was interred in the churchyard on Feb. 11th.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.—On Feb. 13th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 47 mins.: A. Crane (first-quarter of Stedman) 1, W. Mead 2, J. Mead 3, H. Morris 4, H. Sear 5, W. Sear 6, F. Stenton (first-quarter as conductor) 7, T. Best 8. Rung as a compliment to Mr. Valentine Sear, whose birthday falls on the 14th.

LONDON.—London County Association.—On Sunday, Feb. 14th, for evening service, at St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: F. Davis 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, F. A. Smith 3, C. H. Hughes 4, C. S. Burden 5, W. Ayres 6, T. Walker 7, W. T. Walden 8.

STOURBRIDGE.—On Sunday, Feb. 14th, for evening service, at St. Thomas' Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1280 changes), in 55 mins.: C. Wm. Cooper 1, J. Bass 2, W. A. Pugh 3, W. Potter 4, C. E. Perkins 5, G. Popnell 6, R. Matthews (conductor) 7, A. W. Dodd 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Mrs. Fiddian, wife of Mr. W. Fiddian, churchwarden at the above church.

CAMBRIDGE.—On Feb. 17th, at Great St. Mary's Church, Cambridge, on Seage's Dumb Practice Apparatus, 360 Bob Minor: J. Taylor 1, Rev. H. B. Woolley 2, Rev. A. H. F. Boughiey 3, B. F. Sheppard 4, J. B. Williamson (conductor) 5, Lieut. E. V. Rodenhurst 6. Also at Long Stanton, on Feb. 20th, after Matins, 360 Bob Minor: W. Neal 1, Geo. Crisp 2, Rev. H. B. Woolley 3, B. F. Sheppard 4, C. W. Cook (con.) 5, Lieut. E. V. Rodenhurst 6.

LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.—On Feb. 20th, for morning service, 360 Bob Minor: W. H. Lawrence 1-2, S. Game 3, Trooper B. Carter (9th Lancers, home from the trenches) 4, A. Phillips 5, E. A. Overall (conductor) 6. For afternoon service, 720 Oxford Bob, standing as before.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.—On Sunday, Feb. 20th, for services, 336 Grandsire Triples and 504 Grandsire Triples: E. Leonard 1, H. Sear 2, H. Morris 3, A. Crane 4, L. Meager 5, W. Mead 6, W. Sear (conductor) 7, V. Sear 8. First 504 by E. Leonard.

NEWMARKET, CAMBS.—On Sunday, Feb. 20th, at All Saints' Church, 224 Bob Major, 139 Grandsire Triples and a course of Kent Treble Major: S. Forwood 1, A. Macro 2, P. Pindar 3, P. Fordham 4, R. Sharp 5, G. Noble 6, T. Fitzjohn 7, Corpl. J. W. Barker (conductor) 8. Messrs. Fitzjohn and Macro hail from Retford; Fordham from Mildenhall; Corpl. Barker from Bedford. The rest are local men.

SELBY.—On Feb. 20th, at the Abbey Church, for morning service, 673 Grandsire Triples: J. Jackson 1, G. W. P. Fenton 2, E. Storr 3, T. Morgan 4, W. A. Hall 5, W. Hinton 6, H. Fairlam (conductor) 7, G. Rippon 8.

HILLINGDON (WEST).—On Sunday evening, Feb. 27th, for service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: J. Peddle 1, W. Lawrence 2, T. Smith 3, W. Honor 4, H. H. Chandler 5, E. Hancox (conductor) 6, R. Carter 7, E. Hughes 8.

ACTON, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday, Feb. 27th, for morning service (after meeting short for Stedman Triples), 720 Bob Minor: J. Fruin 1, R. Holloway 2, W. Lawrence (conductor) 3, G. Iles 4, W. H. Hollier 5, J. A. Trollope 6.

A LEAD WANTED.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Through your valuable medium I should like to make a suggestion, viz., a permanent adoption of half-muffled ringing "for the duration of the war." This, if carried out throughout the universe, would meet with approval by at least nine-tenths of the ringing community, and would be appreciated also by the authorities and public alike.

We are labouring in solemn times, and each one of us will not resist the effort by way of a compliment, and a token of respect to each and all who have given us their lives to enable us to carry on the objects of our existence.

The ringing of half-muffled bells does not give one a despondent feeling—rather the reverse, to an enthusiast, at least. That is my experience, and I don't presume to enjoy an isolated opinion. Half-muffled ringing is not so mournful as deeply muffled bells. Further, the public regard a half-muffled peal with some interest, more so, than when the bells are fully open, which is understood only by those taking part. Anyway, the application of half muffles will serve their purpose in these distressful times whether for Sunday ringing, meetings or practices, and it would synchronise with the sentiment that is more or less within us all.

Reading through our Press one invariably discovers a peal or touch rung half-muffled for some departed hero, whether connected with the Church or not. Practically every church would point to a one-time associate who has lost his life in this foul-begotten war. Ringers should enter more heartily into this matter, and bring pressure upon those in charge. They would then not only help themselves materially, but be doing honour to those in and outside the Church, and to their fallen ringing colleagues. Undoubtedly also laymen will look up to us with some admiration for our tact. Practices would not be so restricted, and could be utilised for a two-fold purpose. Bands are very much depleted in these days, and if the foregoing were brought into operation it would give opportunities for would-be ringers to be "brought on" without a question from those without the Church.

H.

NOTICE TO READERS.

Terms as to advertisement spaces, etc., can be had upon application.

"The Ringing World" will be on sale every Friday morning, and is obtainable through any newsagent. Should any difficulty be found in securing the paper punctually, information should at once be sent to the office.

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ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. — Established 1755. — The Annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at Ye Old Royal Hotel, Temple Row, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 4th, at 6 o'clock. Chair will be taken by Canon J. W. Willink, Rector of Birmingham. Tickets free to all fully qualified members, to other members and friends 2s. 6d. each. The bells of St. Martin's (12) and Bishop Ryder's (8) will be available from 3.30 p.m. — A. Paddon Smith, Honorary Secretary, 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Marple on Saturday, March 4th.—A. T. Beeston, Honorary Branch Secretary, New Mills.

WINCHESTER GUILD.—Yorktown District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hersham on Saturday, March 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea and business meeting in the Church House at 5.30.—G. Miles, Hon. Secretary, Owlsmoor, Camberley.

BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM. — The bells at this church are rung on Sundays for service at the following times: 10.15 a.m. to 11 a.m., from 5.45 to 6.30 p.m. All ringers will be welcomed. — James George, Ringing Master, 125, Victoria Road, Aston.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Canterbury District).—A meeting will be held at Lyminge on Saturday, March 4th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Service at 5. Tea at Rectory (by kind invitation of Rev. A. F. Ruddy). Business after tea. Subscriptions are now due and should be paid to me either before or at the meeting.—Fred J. O. Helmore, Hon. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Shipley on March 4th. Bells available from 2 p.m., tea at 5.30. Subscriptions for 1916 are now due. — A. W. Groves, Honorary Secretary, 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The general meeting of the above society will be held at Pudsey on Saturday, March 4th, 1916. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Business meeting at 7.30 p.m., in the White Cross Hotel, at which the election of officers will take place.—Wm. Barton, Secretary, 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The annual meeting of the Southern District will be held at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (12) available 3 to 7 p.m. Business meeting 7.15 p.m. in Wolstenholme Hall. — Leonard Brightman, District Secretary pro. tem., 45, St. Stephen's Road, Rotherham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Pendlebury on Saturday, March 11th. Bells ready at 4, till dusk. Meeting to follow. Subscriptions due. Reports can be had on application; to life members 6d. each.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Western District will be held at Liversedge on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., 1s. per head to all giving notice to Mr. W. Knott, Listing Lane, Liversedge, not later than March 7th. Subscriptions received and reports issued at this meeting. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, District Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Higher Walton on Saturday, March 11th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 5.30.—A. E. Woodhouse, Branch Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at the Holy Trinity Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, March 18th, 1916. Bells ready at 3 o'clock.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Wedford on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available 3 o'clock till 7. Service 5 o'clock. Tea provided for those who notify me before the 15th. Subscriptions for 1916 are now due.—F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Hornsey, on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Further particulars next week.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 49, Wood Street, Walthamstow.

SUTTON COLDFIELD.—In consequence of re-arrangements in the management of the Sutton Coldfield Parish Church tower, all communications with reference to ringing matters should, in the first instance, be made to Mr. F. Dickens, Walmley Road, Reddick Heath, Sutton Coldfield.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—P.C. A. E. Edwards, of Barcombe, Sussex, has been transferred to Robertsbridge Police Station.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO THE LATE WILLIAM SNOWDON.—The Members of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers propose to erect a Memorial to the late William Snowdon in the form of a Brass Tablet in Ilkley Parish Church, near to the Ringers' Window already erected to the memory of his brother, Jasper Whitfield Snowdon. Will any person wishing to be associated with this movement kindly communicate with the Treasurer to the Fund, Mr. H. Williams, New Worthy Cemetery, Leeds, Yorks.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

STANSTED.—Essex Association.—On Feb. 14th, at the Parish Church, 720 Bob Minor: W. W. Watts 1, G. Gray 2, R. Law 3, F. Bird 4, H. W. Watts 5, W. Watts (conductor) 6, T. J. Watts 8.—On Feb. 21st, 504 Grandsire Triples: W. W. Watts 1, G. Gray 2, T. J. Watts 3, R. Law 4, F. Bird 5, A. Jordan 6, W. Watts (conductor) 7, H. W. Watts 8.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 10th, 1916.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
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St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK.

RINGERS AND THEIR JOURNALS.

With this issue we complete the fifth year of publication, and at such a period one is inclined to do a little "stocktaking." That, however, is not our purpose today. Without being egotistical, we think "The Ringing World" has fulfilled a useful roll in promoting the interests of the Exercise, and its sole aim in the future will be to further the art to the fullest possible degree. But the occasion is not inappropriate to comment upon the relations between ringers and the ringing Press. All who have studied the question must, we think, frankly admit that the progress which has been made in the past three or four decades has been due, in no small measure, to the stimulus given to ringing by the various journals which have from time to time existed to assist in promoting the art. But for the position which the ringing Press has occupied by being, as it were, the centre of information, and, to some extent, the driving force which has given ringing organisations their impetus, the Exercise would not have reached its present standard of efficiency.

The measure of support which has been accorded the ringing journals of the past has been evidenced in the length of their lives, although it has not always reflected their respective merits. "The Ringing World" is now alone in the field, and is doing its utmost to maintain, in remarkably difficult times for journalism generally and for papers of this character in particular, the interests of the Exercise. On the other side of the account there is something due from the ringers. If they realise what they owe to ringing journals there would not be any need for the criticism justly levelled in the course of a speech at the Johnson Commemoration Dinner at Birmingham last Saturday. The principle which is followed at many towers of having just one copy of the paper for the belfry, without the individual members giving the journal their support, is one which must be condemned. If ringers want, as they do, to have a paper devoted to their own interests it is up to them, as it is to the bell founders and hangers who thrive on the popularity of ringing, to give it all the support they can.

Before we are completely through the present war crisis it may be necessary to curtail the present size of this journal. The difficulties in regard to paper supply alone, to say nothing of handicaps in other directions, may make this imperative, but it should be realised that the wider the support which is accorded us, the better we shall be able, not only in these strenuous times, but in the days to come, when, with peace, ringing will boom again, to provide for the Exercise a journal which shall continue to be a credit to it.

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MODERN WORK.**

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Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

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TEN BELL PEAL.

DUBLIN.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1916, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,
At St. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANCES;

Tenor 45 cwt. in C.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ROBERT S. F. MURPHY ... Treble | RICHARD LYNCH 6 |
| EDWARD LUTMAN 2 | JAMES A. TOWNLEY 7 |
| PTE. ROBERT TAIT, R.A.M.C. ... 3 | CHRISTOPHER MURRAY 8 |
| GABRIEL LINDOFF 4 | THOMAS GRANT 9 |
| PTE. GEO. F. WILMOT, R.A.M.C. ... 5 | JAMES W. TOWNLEY ... Tenor |

Composed and Conducted by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

The bells were rung muffled as a token of respect to the late Vicountess Iveagh, the wife of the donor of the bells.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

KILDWICK, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, March 4, 1916, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
At THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qrs. 18 lbs. in F.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| CHRISTOPHER BROWN ... Treble | HARRY WILCOX 5 |
| TOM ROGERS 2 | WILFRED WHITAKER 6 |
| HARRY ROE 3 | CHARLES LAW 7 |
| STANLEY S. DUFFILL 4 | JOHN HILL Tenor |

Composed by JAMES NICHOLS, and
Conducted by JOHN HILL.

First peal of Major by the ringers of the treble, 7th and tenor, and first peal by all the rest. Rung to celebrate the birthdays of Mr. John W. Ackroyd, the donor of the new tenor, and Mr. William Laws, an old ringer of the above Church, on completing his 74th year. First peal on the bells since they were recast and a new treble and tenor added.

SIX BELL PEAL.

OSWALDTWISTLE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

On Sunday, February 27, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF IMMANUEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Each 720 being called differently.

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| JAMES TOMLINSON ... Treble | JOHN BARNES 4 |
| THOMAS HOWARTH 2 | JAMES HOULDSWORTH 5 |
| JOSEPH RANCLIFFE 3 | WILLIAM WHEWELL ... Tenor |

The Conducting was done by

T. HOWARTH, J. RANCLIFFE and J. HOULDSWORTH.

Rung as a farewell to J. Barnes, who is leaving to join the colours, and it was his first peal.

HANDBELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Wednesday, March 1, 1916, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
In ST. CHAD'S SCHOOLS, SHADWELL STREET,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5021 CHANCES;

Tenor, 17 size in B flat.

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| GEORGE F. SWANN 1—2 | JAMES E. GROVES 5—6 |
| THOMAS MILLER 3—4 | JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 7—8 |
| JAMES GEORGE 9—10 | |

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Witness: WALTER GOSSAGE.

Mr. J. D. Johnson's first peal of Stedman. Rung on the 79th birthday anniversary of Mr. R. Faux, a Vice-President of this Guild.

CLUN CHURCH BELLS. HELPING THE RESTORATION SCHEME.

Just before war broke out a very pretty ceremony, it will be remembered, took place at Clun, Salop, where the bells, having been recast and augmented to eight were given a picturesque welcome on their return from the foundry. This incident is typical of the interest which the good people of Clun have manifested in the restoration of their bells. Various schemes had to be resorted to to raise the necessary funds for carrying out the work, and Mr. W. Mead, who is Churchwarden of Clun, and hon. secretary of the local ringers' society, has now added to the methods adopted, by writing a most interesting booklet on the history of Clun bells. It is capably written, and contains illustrations of the church and of the reception of the bells referred to above. The letterpress includes the story of the old bells, and their founders, extracts relating to the bells, taken from the ancient parish books, some mention of old parochial ringing customs and the old ringers, as well as the story of the new bells, and their welcome and dedication. There is a prefatory note by the Ven. A. L. Oldham (late Archdeacon of Ludlow), which very aptly introduces the succeeding chapters.

Clun Church tower was one of the very first in that part of Shropshire to be possessed of a set of bells, for in the Middle Ages it was allowed four at a time when only three, at most, were to be found in rural districts. The steeple with its four large bells was utterly destroyed by fire in the Civil War, and after it was rebuilt, John Martin, of Quaker's Yard, Worcester, cast five bells for the tower in 1668, and the treble was added by Thomas Roberts, of Shrewsbury, in 1681. The old bells had quaint inscriptions. In addition to the names or initials of the churchwardens, they bore the inscriptions as follow:—
"Treble: Pearte of this is the gift of Ioseph Iactson. 2nd: All Praise and Glory be to God for ever. 3rd: Iesvs bee our good speede. 4th: Sing wee merily. Peace bee to Clvn. 5th: Soli Deo gloria pax hominibvs. Tenor: God save the King."

Mr. Mead has gone to much pains to sift the history of the bells, and doubtless the parishioners will welcome the little book. Ringers who desire to assist in the good cause of helping to defray the cost of Clun's new 2nd bell can do so by purchasing a copy of the book, which is published at 6d., and can be obtained from Mr. Mead, the Market Place, Clun.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The account of the meeting of the Essex Association, held at Halstead, and reported in "The Ringing World" last week, needs a slight correction, respecting my remarks concerning the Roll of Honour. I was not alluding to ringers generally, but to members of our own Association, of which we have already printed a list, and I urged members to assist by sending names to the secretary, in order that our next record could be as complete and up to date as possible.

The Vicar of Halstead was also incorrectly reported, his suggestion was that the names of those ringers fallen in the war should find a place in our own Cathedral at Chelmsford.

I might add that a representative of a local paper (not a ringer) asked permission to attend the meeting, and it was he who wrote the report, which will, I think, easily explain how the error occurred.—Yours faithfully,
Baintree.

CHAS. H. HOWARD.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. DEVIZES BRANCH MEETING.

A quarterly meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at St. John's Church, Devizes, on Saturday last, and was well attended by ringers from Trowbridge, Melksham, Holt, Westbury, Southbroom, Potterne, Bromham, Swindon and Devizes (St. John's and St. Mary's). After ringing at St. John's and St. Mary's Churches the authorised Guild service was held in St. John's Church, the Rector (the Rev. A. H. T. Clarke) kindly officiating, and Mr. H. H. Baker, the organist, willingly giving his services. The lesson was read by Mr. C. D. Heginbotham, the tower master of the church.—The Rector gave an instructive and interesting address based upon the text, taken from Zachariah, xiv., 20.

Tea was partaken of at Barter's Restaurant, in the Market Place, at which 28 sat down, the Rector occupying the post of honour at the head of the table.—A short business meeting followed, presided over by the Chairman of the Branch (Mr. Sidney Hillier), supported by Mr. H. Brownlee West, hon. secretary.

Two new honorary members were elected, one of whom was the Rev. A. H. T. Clarke, Rector of Devizes.—Three new ringing members were also elected (two from St. John's and one from Chirton). The places for the next three meetings were then discussed, and decided upon as follows: May 6th, Erehfont; June 3rd, Bradford; July 8th, Upavon.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector for the use of the bells, and for the service in church, and to the organist for his services.

The ringers then dispersed to the two towers, where some good touches of Stedman, Grandsire Doubles, Bob Doubles, Bob Minor and Kent Treble Bob were rung, and brought to a close a very pleasant and successful meeting.

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL GUILD AT YORK

The district meeting of the Yorkshire Association at York on Saturday week was attended by twelve members of the Newcastle Guild. The journey between the Northern cities was enlivened by a dissertation on the splendid qualities of Scotsmen as soldiers by an army instructor, who had seen "some" service in his time. Though not a Scotsman himself he declared himself devoted to porridge, bagpipes, and "Scotch," and the time passed pleasantly listening to the account of his varied experiences.

That well-known sportsman and ringer, George Breed, extended a hearty welcome to the visitors at York, and provided a good meal at his hostel on their arrival. The ringing chamber of the famous Minster was eventually reached, and the Guild were honoured by the Yorkshiremen in being allowed to open the proceedings. Stedman failed to "go," but a touch of Erin Cinques was successfully brought round to the delight of all concerned. This proved to be the only touch brought round during the day, and is believed to be the first Erin on the bells.

For the service touch, with a mixed band, Billy Barber turned the tenor in to Kent Maximus, but the course was not completed, after going well for some time, much to the disappointment of all. Meanwhile several of the party visited the six-bell tower of Bishopgate, where a 720 was scored. The entrance to the ringing chamber here is rather curious, one having to bend double and go in backwards down two steps, and then straighten out very carefully to avoid damaging the masonry. The bells are by Pack and Chapman, and are well on to their 200th birthday.

The Lantern Tower Restaurant next claimed the attention of all, and thorough justice was done to an excellent tea, after which Mr. Routledge (President of the Durham and Newcastle Association, and Ringing Master of the Guild) thanked the Yorkshire Association for their hospitality and the warm welcome they had extended. He hoped that the visit would be returned, and said that a good reception would await them at Newcastle.

The rest of the evening was spent in social intercourse and handbell ringing at the hostel of George Breed, who revelled in treble-ten, and recollections of bygone days. The 9.13 train all too soon claimed the attention of the Newcastle men, and a number of Yorkshire friends gave them a hearty send-off at the station.

A RINGER'S BEREAVEMENT.

On Sunday last, before ringing commenced for morning service, at St. George's Church, Stockport, sympathetic reference was made by Mr. J. W. Bayley to the great loss sustained by Mr. James Booth, the secretary of the company, by the death of his wife, which occurred on the 28th February from pneumonia, after a short illness. Mr. Bayley paid a tribute to the character of the late Mrs. Booth, observing that she was ever ready to offer her services in any enterprise having for its object the promotion of the interests of ringers, and her loss would be keenly felt by all. A vote of sincere condolence was passed by the ringers rising in their places.

RINGING AT NEWCASTLE.

Sunday evening service ringing, at 5.30 p.m., has been resumed at Newcastle Cathedral. On Sunday a touch of Grandsire Cinques was rung by a band of local men, with the exception of Ptes. D. Pratt and E. Vallance, of Newcastle.

BURBAGE.—On Feb. 10th, at Christ Church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: J. W. Hampson 1, Syd. Kirk 2, Lce.-Cpl. W. J. Smith (R.E.) 3, Wm. Moss 4, Henry Kirk (conductor) 5, J. R. Backhouse 6. Rung as a farewell to Lce.-Corpl. Smith, who hails from Bridgend, on his leaving the same evening for France.

BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, Feb. 27th, after morning service, at the Church of Bishop Ryder, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: S. Coley 1, W. F. Webb (St. John's, Deritend) 2, J. Porter 3, A. T. Scrivens (conductor) 4, J. D. Johnson (Hinton, Evesham) 5, J. George (composer) 6, J. B. Collett 7, W. E. Stratford 8. Rung as a farewell to W. E. Stratford, who has joined His Majesty's Forces under Lord Derby's scheme.

BURSTOW.—Recently, for morning services and practices, 720 each of Oxford, Woodbine and College Exercise: A. Wisdon 1, C. Varo 2, J. Sherlock 3, Rev. E. J. Teesdale 4, W. H. D'eith 5, A. Harman (conductor) 6.

ACTON.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday morning, Feb. 20th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A. W. Davis 1, W. Phillips 2, C. Edwards 3, J. W. Fruin 4, J. H. Payne 5, Robt. Holloway (conductor) 6, W. Lawrence 7, J. R. Sims 8. First quarter on inside bell by ringer of the 3rd, and for whom the quarter was specially arranged.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

By "BOB MAJOR."

I suppose I ought to begin my notes this week by lifting my hat (if I may be pardoned what appears to be very much like an Irishism), for the implied compliment in "Midlander's" letter the other day. After declaiming against the publication of lots of small and, except to the ringers, uninteresting touches, which occupy much valuable space in "The Ringing World," he asks "Why not let Bob Major use it?" We all like to think that our own special contributions are appreciated—I expect that is why some correspondents send up so many insignificant touches—and when I read that letter I began to think that, at any rate, somebody thinks well of my chatter. I have set down here, gentle reader, what I think I ought to say in the circumstances. But second thoughts, which, despite what the copy-book maxims may tell us, are not always best, have somewhat subdued me. "Midlander" may, after all, only have been "pulling my leg," for it may be that of two evils he would choose the lesser, and that of two inflictions he would rather suffer that of "Bob Major" than the records of courses of Grandsire or Stedman rung at—well, "somewhere in England." But there, I must not allow my second thoughts to lead me away, even though they are sometimes best—as my friend, Mr. George Clayton, apparently thinks when he contemplates giving up the construction of methods for the construction of verse.

A GREAT TRIO.

Despite the fact that we live in times of war, I have no doubt the Johnson dinner at Birmingham last Saturday went off with all its usual success. Years ago I had the pleasure of attending one of these functions, and I was never among a more genial party. I should go again if I could only raise the railway fare, but since that one visit I have had to content myself with reading the report and imagining the rest. If only the St. Martin's Guild, out of their great wealth, would include travelling expenses in their charge of half a crown, we would all go. Perhaps they will consider the matter at their next meeting. Henry Johnson, whose memory is kept green by this annual reunion, was unquestionably one of the marvels of his age; one of those men who could do in his head, what some of us would require reams of paper to work out. In his day there was a great triumvirate—Johnson, Haley and Cox—and on the virtues of these three men our old friend, Frank Dawe, is ever ready to dilate. I have heard it said that the Exercise has never had in its ranks at any other one time three such great men as these. About that, however, I have no doubts, but that does not detract from the fact that they were a wonderful trio.

THE TRIUMVIRATE.

The highest ambition of many a man
Is shattered on difficult rocks,
When he tries to follow such eminent men
As Johnson, and Haley, and Cox.
There are Lindoff and Knights, and Carter as well,
And Trollope and Dains and lots
I could, I think, mention, but where are the men
Like Johnson, and Haley, and Cox?
We have gone a long way since Annable's day—
Our peals would have given him shocks—
And much of the progress is due, without doubt,
To Johnson, and Haley, and Cox.
With this wonderful trio few can compare,
Their knowledge much mystery unlocks,
And just for this reason we'll join in the praise
Of Johnson, and Haley, and Cox.

LAPPING.

No doubt many of you were interested, as I was, the other day to read of the fact that Haley in his youth "lapped" a considerable number of peals. There was much more "lapping"—of both kinds—done in the old days than now among ringers, and, for the on-looker, who knows nothing of the scientific side of ringing, the lapping of handbells makes a very effective display. I have tried lapping, and my experience is that when you get off the simple methods it wants a bit of doing. For instance, Double Norwich is by no means so simple as it looks, and in Stedman the ringer concerned with the two front bells has to be very wide awake. So while peals that are lapped don't count, they are by no means easy performances. I have not read in recent years of peals being lapped, but particulars have been passed on to me of a peal of Grandsire (Holt's ten-part) which was completed by this method in 1899. The band was a tune-ringing company, made up of Messrs. Wm. Lawrence, Willie Hickman (since dead), Jack Durham and Harry Osman, the three last-named knowing nothing of change ringing proper. They, however, lapped this peal of Grandsire, in two hours and a half and in the presence of an umpire, as clean as could be (I mean the peal was clean, as well as the umpire). The band tried many times before they were successful, and on several occasions got near the end, when "something went wrong with the works"—it doesn't take much to cause that, by the way, and a mistake can seldom be put right—so, as may be imagined, the band were rather proud of their performance.

THE PANCAKE BELL.

How many of you heard the Pancake bell rung on Tuesday? Most of you enjoyed your pancakes, I'll warrant, but few heard the survival of that ancient Shrove Tuesday custom, the ringing of the Pancake bell. At one time its use was more or less general, for it originated, we are told, as a summons to confession on the day before Lent. Later, however, it became the signal for all sorts of feasting—including the eating of the pancake. In some places, I believe, it is known as the "Batter bell," being rung in the morning to tell the housewives to commence the making of batter for pancakes. Among the places where the pancake bell is rung is Morpeth, where the bells are chimed for morning and evening service at least a mile from the church. The Watch Tower, where the bells are situated is famous, and an old couplet runs:—
"Did'st ever hear the Morpeth wonder
Church and steeple a mile asunder."

The bells at Morpeth, being in the market tower, are under the care of the Town Council. The Angelus survives there, but I am afraid few give a thought to its original purpose. It is now only an intimation to workmen to cease work. There are also the fire bell and the market bell, as well as the Pancake bell.

IRISH QUITE.

When opening these notes with an Irishism, I was reminded of a very good story in connection with the building of a belfry over in Erin's isle. Its truth I cannot actually vouch for, but it was given to me as gospel, and there is some circumstantial evidence to bear out the tale. The church is a well-known one, with a more than passable peal of bells. There is a stately tower of considerable height rising above the roof of the main building, and when it was completed and while the internal scaffolding was still in position the bells were hung. A ringing floor was put in, and, when all was finished aloft, the scaffolding was removed. Then it was discovered that the staircase had been forgotten! The difficulty was eventually overcome by providing an iron spiral staircase, which still stands as the evidence above referred to. And of this staircase, by-the-way, one gentleman not unknown in Birmingham has vivid recollections. I am told that if he had to climb the rigging of a schooner in a gale he could hardly have been more nervous.

AN EARTHQUAKE.

It seems to me that I let poor old John Holt in for something when I innocently took up the cudgels for him in my last notes, for here comes the Rev. E. Bankes James, who, by-the-way, knows as much about Grandsire as most people, not to shake our trenches with a puny mine, but to engulf us with a veritable earthquake. Was Holt a "peal pirate"? If the reverend gentleman could prove his insinuation, with what a crash would our idol fall! In Holt's day there was no "Ringing World" in which he and Annable could hammer out their grievances, and yet, it seems to me that, if there was anything to substantiate the idea, there would most likely have been something to be found either in the old records or in the tradition which has been handed down, to throw discredit upon Holt's peals. Still it is strange, when you come to think of it, that Holt only produced three peals. Any proof of Holt's piracy is out of the question now, unless—ah! unless any of the present generation of ringers are interested in spiritualism and can get into touch with Annable in the spirit world! What an article that would make for our only ringing paper!

JOHN WAS IN THE OTHER PLACE.

Have you heard that little story about the lady who once attended a seance in the hope of being able to speak to her departed husband?—I don't think he could have been a ringer. It was some time before the medium was able to get on to the right telephone number, so to speak, and when the old man had been rung up, he could only be got to answer in monosyllables—I suppose it's difficult to do more than that by rapping the table. One knock was for "No" and two knocks for "Yes." "Is that you, John?" asked the lady. "Yes," replied John, by knocking twice. "Are you happy?" inquired she. "Yes," came back the answer. "But wouldn't you like me to be in heaven, too?" queried the widow. "Yes," was the reply once more. Then, as if a doubt crossed her mind, the lady asked, "I suppose you are in heaven, John." But John only knocked once and then rang off.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A NEW DISTRICT SECRETARY.

A meeting of the Canterbury district was held at Lyminge on Saturday last. The attendance was decidedly poor, only eleven members being present from Brabourne, Canterbury, Chatham, Elham, Lyminge, Wickhambreaux and Hendon (Middlesex). Before the service, which was conducted by the hon. secretary (the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore), a little ringing was done, but nothing to call for remark.—The Rector (the Rev. A. F. Rutty) kindly entertained the members to tea.

By way of business, one new member was admitted, and the Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe, of Elham, was elected to the office of district secretary, which has been vacant since last May.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector for his kind hospitality.

ST. MARTIN'S, BIRMINGHAM.

CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY MEMORIAL TABLET.

On Saturday afternoon, in the presence of numerous visitors who had come to Birmingham to attend the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner, the Rector of Birmingham (Canon J. W. Willink, M.A.) formally unveiled a marble tablet erected in St. Martin's belfry to record a muffled peal of Stedman Cinques rung on November 9th, 1915, as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Charles Henry Hattersley.

The Guild's Presiding Ringing Master, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., B.C.L., J.P., gave a brief resume of Mr. Hattersley's career, and remarked on the singular coincidence of the deceased ringing his first and last peals of Stedman Cinques in that tower, on May 23rd, 1878, and November 22nd, 1910, respectively, the latter being also conducted by him. Mr. Hattersley was a frequent visitor to Birmingham, and had rung and conducted peals in almost all the local towers. He had often been heard to say that although he was a Sheffield man, he had rung more twelve-bell peals in Birmingham than out of it. He had been a ringing member of the St. Martin's Guild for over forty years.

The Rector said that he had listened with deep interest to Mr. Pritchett's words, and singularly enough, while he had been talking, his, (the Rector's) eyes had alighted on Mr. Hattersley's name on the stone tablet opposite, on which is recorded the 9238 of Stedman Cinques rung on Feb. 28th, 1881, which was then the longest length. He was glad to be there that day to perform the solemn duty of unveiling the tablet in a belfry which was already embellished with tablets beyond any other he knew, and thought it was quite right and proper that the memory of one who had been so loved should be perpetuated in this manner.

Canon Willink then uncovered the tablet and read the inscription, afterwards offering up a prayer appropriate to the occasion.

Mr. Wm. Rock Small said a few words, recalling how the deceased and himself had been almost life-long friends.

The tablet, which is of heavy plate glass, with incised gilt lettering at the back, on a black ground, reads as follows:—

"St. Martin's Guild of Church Bell Ringers for the Diocese of Birmingham (Established 1755).—On Tuesday, November 9th, 1915, as a tribute of respect to the memory of Charles Henry Hattersley, for over 40 years a member of this Guild, who died on October 21st, 1915, a peal of Stedman Cinques (5007 changes) was rung in this tower with bells half-muffled, and in the inverted tittums and hand-stroke home positions, in 3 hrs. and 47 mins.: Thomas Russam treble, Charles Dickens 2, James L. Wells 3, Thomas H. Reeves 4, Albert Walker 5, A. Paddon Smith 6, Thomas Miller 7, John Carter 8, Ernest Mansell 9, James George 10, James E. Groves 11, John Neal tenor. Composed and conducted by John Carter, was also generously defrayed the cost of this tablet. Rev. Canon J. W. Willink, M.A., Rector. J. J. Kendall and F. W. Blake, Churchwardens."

It will be seen from the inscription that it is the gift of Mr. John Carter, and the members of the Guild are indebted to him for a very handsome addition to the old belfry.

IMPRESSIONS OF THE JOHNSON DINNER.

I have attended one or two Johnson Dinners in years gone by; they have been both impressive and bright. The one held last Saturday, if I may be allowed to form an opinion, almost surpassed its predecessors.

The memory of the late Henry Johnson strikingly lives, and the holding of these dinners truly cements the good fellowship and unity of purpose among ringers. It should be borne in mind that the object of holding these anniversary dinners is not merely to revive the sentiments of the time in which our late respected brother lived, but to promote a stronger brotherhood amongst the living, who are left to carry on the work into which he partially initiated us.

The atmosphere in Birmingham, especially in the elements of ringing, is always decidedly entertaining; it is without question as good ringing as well as a good "striking" neighbourhood to any who are disposed to pay their respects, and they are at the same time heartily welcome. There is a solid determination in the inner circle not to despoil the good reputation which has been handed down from generation to generation.

THE GUILD'S OWN RECTOR.

An acquisition of the first water to St. Martin's Guild is worthy of special note. I refer to the Rev. Canon Willink, the Rector of Birmingham, a man whom the ringers adore. They may well be proud of their head. Being an old associate of St. Martin's, I can assure the reverend gentleman that he has really good "boys" under his jurisdiction. He has nothing to fear by way of insubordination; the "boys" will be most loyal.

And now for a "some" dinner. It is common to all to experience a feeling of joy in renewing old acquaintances. One hundred and twenty-one of us sat down to partake of the good things that were put in front of us. Being accustomed to but one plateful in my daily routine of life, I had perforce to "settle to" with several, and survived the ordeal with some degree of comfort—you see I was not down on the programme, therefore I hadn't to consider a reserve vacuum. You

perhaps, dear reader (if you have had to inflict a song on your company) have experienced the pain in standing erect, giving voice to a song all the while the pianist is pressing the double pedal with the remark that "You are out of puff."

Reverting to the number present, viz., 121, a pleasant little episode appeared on the scene, which I should like to quote. The chairman—or someone—I forget exactly who—put the suggestion that all those should stand up, who were acquainted with Henry Johnson. It was strange that these should total 21, showing that there were 100 present, to say nothing of the hundreds without, who would gladly have been present if circumstances permitted, who were paying tribute to a man they did not know in the flesh, and it was evidence of the significance of the object. Regrets for absence were numerous, which further presses home the magnificent interest in the event.

THE SPEAKERS.

In toasting to "The Church and State," Dr. Malins made a very bold and effective speech. Did space permit, I should like to have dealt with some of his points, but I must pass these by, merely emphasising the fact that the impression made is scarcely likely to be eradicated from the mind. We had an ideal chairman in the Rev. Canon Willink, the Guild's own Rector—"One of themselves," as it was roundly expressed. If not a bell ringer he is a valuable adjunct in the belfry. "We could not do without him," was the opinion voiced. If all of us could experience rectors gifted with such enthusiasm towards ringers, the rally towards incumbents would be stupendous. Ringers, as a branch of Church workers, are less troublesome to the authorities than any other, although the clergy don't seem to realise it in many instances. The Rector on Saturday was a worthy man in a worthy position.

In Alderman J. S. Pritchett, the Presiding Ringing Master, St. Martin's Guild has an exceptional leader, whose fitness could rarely be equalled. He is sincerely appreciated among the members, for they realise that his civic and legal work claims much of his time, and they are honoured by having him at their head. His speech on the doings of the Guild and its more prominent members during the year was in his usual happy vein. Mr. W. H. Godden, a pillar of the Exercise in the Midlands, is, despite his age, as enthusiastic as ever when speaking on ringing subjects, and in toasting kindred ringing societies he spoke with much earnestness. Mr. Alf. Paddon Smith, whose enthusiasm and energy in the service of the Guild are unbounded, struck an important note in proposing "The Ringing World." He urged ringers to give their only journal the fullest support, and I should like to echo his sentiments when he took to task those numerous towers throughout the country, which had one copy of the paper among the whole band. Now, "brother strings," let us get into action, and change this state of affairs.

No Johnson dinner would be complete without Mr. Harry Withers, the mysterious and incomparable, and his equally famous dulcimer. We were all delighted with his patriotic selection, and I was specially interested in listening to his course of Erin Caters. I have noticed that he has no understudy, but if he is looking for one I am prepared to lend myself for the purpose. I envy this accomplishment. I called him "mysterious" because his genius is weird, and he is incomparable because he stands alone. No one else seems to have reached his stage of perfection. To be able to listen to Stedman Cinques rung on hand-bells as I heard it at Birmingham is a great joy, and the performers also rendered tunes in brilliant style for the good ear of the company present. The last and least on the programme was the writer, as foretold, but self-contained. H.

RINGER'S LECTURE ON CHURCH ARCHITECTURE.

COLLEGE YOUTHS' INTERESTING EVENING.

On Tuesday week, at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on the occasion of the fortnightly meeting of the College Youths, the members present were entertained by one of their number, Mr. E. A. Young, F.R.I.B.A., to a most interesting and instructive lantern lecture on a subject which should be of natural interest to all Church bell ringers, i.e., "English Church Architecture." A splendid collection of slides was thrown on the sheet, illustrating the four styles of Gothic Architecture (Norman, Early English, Decorated and Perpendicular) at our principal Cathedrals. The development of one style from another, and the progressing knowledge of the early architects from age to age on the laws of stresses and strains, was very clearly explained.

The lecture lasted an hour and a quarter, and the amount of ground covered in the space of time was surprising. It was a pity that it could not have been given to a much larger audience, as the subject is of more than ordinary interest to ringers.

With just a little knowledge on the subject, as gained by this lecture, it is wonderful what a great amount of historical information can be unearthed when visiting Parish Churches, Abbeys, and Cathedrals in our vocation as ringers.

Mr. Young was heartily thanked for his lecture.

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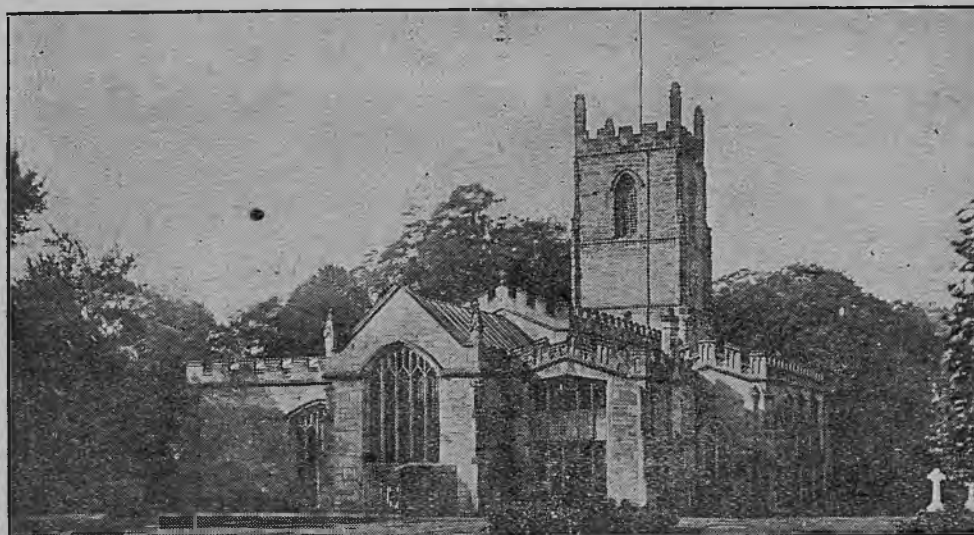
BELLS OF ENGLISH CHURCHES.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

By ERNEST MORRIS.

In 6 Edward VI (1553) the church of St. Helen, Ashby-de-la-Zouch contained "fyve belles and a hande belle." Very little is known of the early history of the ring, but the ancient tenor bell, dated 1571, weighed 14 cwt. 3 qrs. 2 lbs., while the present one, recast in 1849, weighs 17 cwts. 3 qrs. The present eight bells are inscribed :—

new iron A frame by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and were rededicated by Bishop Mitchinson on October 28th of that year. The first peal after rehangng was on January 1st, 1887, being 5040 Stedman Triples by the Burton-on-Trent Society, and conducted by J. Griffin. At this time the Ashby Society was formed, with Mr. J. Jaggar as instructor, and in 1888 he called their first peal—Holt's 10-part—on April 30th, and, on November 29th, 1888, Holt's Original was rung, these being the first peals by all except the conductor. On February 6th, 1889, the Rev. F. E. Robinson rang his 200th peal at this church,



THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN, ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH.

Treble and Second.

"The two treble bells were given, by voluntary subscription in commemoration of the peace of 1814. John Briant, Hertford. Fecit, 1814."

Third.

"Gloria Deo Soli. T. Eayre. The gift of the inhabitants of Ashby, 1741." [Glory to God alone.]

Fourth.

"J. Briant, Hertford. Fecit, 1817."

Fifth.

"God save His Chvch. John Dickinson, Warden, 1698."

Sixth.

"† I. H. C. Nazarenus Rex Iudeorum" [Jesus of Nazareth, King of the Jews.] This bell was cast by Newcombe of Leicester.

Seventh.

"The Rev. Wm. MacDouall, Vicar: J. Tompson and Wm. Devenport, C. W. J. Briant, Hertford. Fecit, 1822."

Tenor.

"† Sonoro: Meo: Sono: Resono: Deo:
Jo. Taylor and Son, Bellfounders, Loughbo. in the year of our
Salvation 1849."

[With my sonorous sound I sound to God.]

In 1816 the Leicester change-ringers rang on April 26th a peal of 5040 Grandsire Triples in 3 hours 20 minutes, viz. :—

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--------|------------------------|-------|
| Thomas Stringer | Treble | Lawrence Staynes | 5 |
| Thomas Clark | 2 | William Reeves | 6 |
| John Clark | 3 | Thomas Sibson | 7 |
| James Gill | 4 | John Maslin | Tenor |

Conducted by Thomas Sibson.

In 1886 the bells were tuned, turned, and rehung in a

5024 Superlative Surprise Major, conducted by W. Wakley, this being the first in this method in the county.

On February 19th, 1889, the Ashby Society rang the first peal of Bob Major on the bells, conducted by J. Jaggar, whilst the next week they rang the first peal by an entirely local band—Holt's 10-part, called by W. Canner. Since then about 30 peals have been rung, mostly Grandsire and Stedman Triples, including one conducted by Miss Edith K. Parker.

In 1912 the bells were all taken out and thoroughly cleaned and the iron work painted, and the tower repointed.

There is a tradition relating to Ashby bells which says that a former inhabitant of this place, having lost his way, was, after wandering about the whole night, and when nearly exhausted, enabled to find his way home by hearing the sound of the clock of St. Helen's Church. To mark his gratitude for this deliverance, he conveyed to the trustees to the Grammar School certain property, since called the "Day-bell Houses" upon trust, among other things, that they should cause one of the church bells to be rung for a quarter of an hour at four o'clock every morning. This direction was carried out, and the "four o'clock bell" was heard regularly every morning until the year 1807, when, upon the authority of a Decree of the Court of Chancery, this custom, "useless and annoying" to the inhabitants, was discontinued. Instead of this early bell, one is now rung daily at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. for the purpose of assembling the boys in the Grammar School, for which the masters pay the church authorities a certain sum annually.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

By GEORGE BAKER.

After the discoveries made during the past three years arguments are superfluous, consequently I have no intention of arguing with Mr. Clayton, or anyone; the figures of the round block of Stedman Triples that I gave a fortnight ago—if examined—will verify what I have written.

By the use of Reciprocal Proof we can now find out whether any Method or Principle is perfect in construction. By Equivalent Proof, using the pivot bell as the guide, we can find the false course-ends of any Method or Principle.

An easier way of proving seven-bell principles, provided that the seventh is a fixed bell, is by proving each division head by the natural false course-ends of the principle. Below I give the proof of the round block of Stedman Triples that is perfect in construction, and which has only the two natural false course-ends when 6-7 are fixed bells.

| | | |
|---------|---------|---------|
| 1234567 | 6317452 | 5162743 |
| 3124567 | 1637452 | 6512743 |
| 2314567 | 3167452 | 1652743 |
| 5264137 | 4357612 | 7142563 |
| 6524137 | 5437612 | 4712563 |
| 2654137 | 3547612 | 1472563 |
| 4653271 | 7541326 | 2476135 |
| 5463271 | 4751326 | 7246135 |
| 6543271 | 5471326 | 4726135 |
| 2673451 | 3521746 | 1436275 |
| 7263451 | 2351746 | 3146275 |
| 6723451 | 5231746 | 4316275 |
| | | 3725614 |
| | | 2375614 |
| | | 7235614 |
| | | 6715324 |
| | | 1675324 |
| | | 7165324 |

The only way of finding out the total number of false course-ends against the plain course is by transposition, but if we dissect the above proof—as below—by placing the seventh in each position in separate blocks, we shall be able to see at a glance that the sixth is never in a position which will produce any extra false course-ends with 6-7 fixed.

| | | |
|---------|---------|---------|
| 1234567 | 6317452 | 5162743 |
| 3124567 | 1637452 | 6512743 |
| 2314567 | 3167452 | 1652743 |
| 5264137 | 4357612 | 3521746 |
| 6524137 | 5437612 | 2351746 |
| 2654137 | 3547612 | 5231746 |
| 4653271 | 7541326 | 2476135 |
| 5463271 | 7142563 | 1472563 |
| 6543271 | 7263451 | 2673451 |
| 1436275 | 7246135 | 5471326 |
| 3146275 | 7235614 | 2375614 |
| 4316275 | 7165324 | 1675324 |
| | | 6715324 |

If it is possible to obtain peals of Stedman Triples with one bob only to the division of twelve changes, the fresh round block is much more likely to achieve that result for several reasons, the chief of these being as follows:—

- (1) There is one less false course-end to the course with the 6th bell fixed.
- (2) The pivot bell is not interfered with by bob or single until the work incidental to a pivot bell has been completed.
- (3) The bells in 6-7 are not interfered with by bobs or singles, consequently no fresh false course-ends are introduced in any division.

Following is the table of course-ends—bobs only—with the seventh a fixed bell.

| 123456 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 7 | Will run |
|--------|---|---|---|---|-----------|
| 135426 | — | — | — | — | 3 Courses |
| 431526 | — | — | — | — | 5 " |
| 165432 | — | — | — | — | 2 " |
| 132546 | — | — | — | — | 2 " |
| 461532 | — | — | — | — | 4 " |
| 432156 | — | — | — | — | 2 " |
| 163542 | — | — | — | — | 2 " |
| 463152 | — | — | — | — | 2 " |
| 421356 | — | — | — | — | 3 " |
| 461325 | — | — | — | — | 3 " |
| 425136 | — | — | — | — | 2 " |
| 462135 | — | — | — | — | 4 " |
| 163425 | — | — | — | — | 3 " |
| 162345 | — | — | — | — | 5 " |
| 125346 | — | — | — | — | 3 " |

Singles can be made at five division-ends, i.e., 3-4-5-6-7, without altering the seventh as a fixed bell. At a single the bells in 4-5 lie still, the bell making the 3rd's place link between the two divisions is unaltered by a single.

A STEDMAN METHOD ON EVEN NUMBERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I send you particulars of a method I have worked out in the hope that it may be considered of some slight interest, even if not very original. It is based on the Stedman principle, but is for an even, instead of an odd, number of bells. Instead of being divided into sixes, with three-bell changes going on in front, it is made up of eights, with four-bell changes in front. There are "slow" eights and "quick" eights alternately, corresponding to the slow and quick sixes in Stedman. These are illustrated below:—

| Slow Eight. | Quick Eight. |
|-------------|--------------|
| 12345678 | 12345678 |
| 21354768 | 21354768 |
| 2315 | 1253 |
| 3251 | 1523 |
| 3521 | 5132 |
| 5312 | 5312 |
| 5132 | 3521 |
| 1523 | 3251 |
| 12537486 | 23157486 |

The bells behind make triple dodges in 5—6, 7—8, etc., up and down, instead of the double dodges in 4—5, 6—7, etc., in Stedman.

It will be seen the slow work in front is symmetrical, and is similar to Stedman (except that fourth's places are made instead of third's) with certain additional work before the "first whole turn" and after the "last whole turn."

Bobs are made in the same way as in Stedman, but, of course, one place later, that is, by the 5—6 up bell in Major, the 7—8 bell in Royal, and so on. The other bells behind continue dodging an extra eight for each bob called. A single is also made as in Stedman but again one place later.

Saltburn.

G. A. PECK.

CELEBRATED PERFORMANCES OF THE PAST.

THE FIRST PEAL OF TREBLE TWELVE.

To-morrow is the anniversary of the first peal of Treble Bob Maximus ever rung, a 5040 in the method being accomplished by the College Youths at St. Saviour's, Southwark, on March 12th, 1758. The tablet recording the peal runs thus: "The Society of College Youths rung in this steeple on March 12th, 1758, a compleat peal of 5040 Treble Bob, 12 in, in 4 hrs. 12 mins., being the greatest peal ever done before on twelve bells: John Underwood treble, John Coxon 2, Robert Butterworth 3, George Meakins 4, James Darquitt 5, Thomas Bennett 6, William Lovell 7, Stephen Pickhaver 8, William Moss 9, Robert Bly 10, Robert Mortimer 11, Joseph Monk tenor. The peal was call'd by Mr. G. Meakins."

Twenty years afterwards, on March 16th, 1778, a peal of 6240 in the same method, was rung at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, and placed to the credit of the Cumberland Youths. It is recorded in the latter's peal book as follows: St. Peter's, Mancroft, Norwich.—Monday, March 16th, 1778. The society rang a peal of 6240 changes of Treble Bob Maximus in 5 hrs. and 22 mins., being the greatest performance ever done by any society: Thomas Barton 1, Jno. Peak 2, Jno. Havers 3, Wm. Warner 4, Jno. Read 5, Chris. Lindsay 6, Jno. Dixon 7, Jas. Watling 8, Simon Watling 9, Jno. Dye 10, Jas. Vines 11, Jno. Frowse and Jas. Frowse 12. Composed and conducted by Mr. Thos. Barton.

On March 13th, 1733, one of the earliest peals of Grandsire Triples was rung. This was at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, and is recorded as a peal of "5040 Grandsire Tribbles," in the peal book of the Eastern Scholars, now in the British Museum.

The first peal rung on the twelve bells at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields was performed on March 14th, 1727, a 6006 Grandsire Cinques. On the following day, March 15th, 1727, a peal of 6314 Grandsire Cinques was rung in the same tower by the College Youths. This latter was called by Benjamin Annable.

An interesting record from Great Baddow, Essex, has been sent us by Mr. C. H. Howard, Master of the Essex Association. It was copied by him from a print pasted in the belfry, but the original, he fears, was probably lost at the time of the restoration of the tower: "March 7th, 1819. Great Baddow, was rung in this tower a quarter-peal of Bob Major, 10,080 changes, in 5 hrs. 50 mins., by the following: John Reeves 1, Joseph Howard 2, John Baker 3, James Carter 4, Robert Thornback 5, Robert Low 6, James Rowland 8. Joseph Howard called the bobs." It will be noticed that the peal is described as a "quarter," the view taken by the ringers evidently being that a whole peal of Major was 40,320.

LLANFAFF ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday week a meeting of the Llandaff Association was arranged for practice at Bouvillstone Parish Church, where there is a ring of six bells. A party left Cardiff by brake, and were met on arrival by the Vicar (the Rev. D. F. Thomas), who tendered a hearty welcome to all the visitors. Standard methods were rung, young hands were given great help by the innovation, and all spent a useful time in trying to fill up the gaps caused by the trying times we are passing through. Cardiff, Newport, Llandaff Cathedral and Peterson were represented by members, and the Master of the Llandaff Association (Mr. William Biss) and the hon. sec. (Mr. J. W. Jones) were also present,

A NEW DOUBLE METHOD.

By GABRIEL LINDOFF.

12345678
21435768
24137586
42315768
24351786
42537168
24357618
23456781
32547681
35246718
53426178
35241687
53214678
35126487
31524678
13254768
13527486
Bob
12357486
Single
13257486

Any peal of Bob Major runs true to this method.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

PRESENTATION AT A YORKTOWN DISTRICT MEETING.

The quarterly meeting of the Yorktown District of the Winchester Guild took place in Hersham on Saturday. Some good touches were brought round, of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Kent and Double Norwich Major, and members were present from Greenwich, Deptford, Camberwell, Chertsey, Guildford, Ewhurst, Isleworth, Richmond, Bromley and Yorktown were represented, as well as eleven of the local band.

Tea was held at the Church House, the Vicar presiding. He was supported by Mr. W. A. Wigram (hon. member), the Rev. J. C. Tratter, who is taking an active interest in the practical part of bell ringing, and Mr. Miles (the newly-elected secretary of the Yorktown district).

At the meeting, the Ringing Master (Mr. W. Shepherd) read his report, and four lady ringers were made members of the Guild.

After the general business was concluded a pleasing ceremony was performed by Mr. Wigram, who on behalf of the district presented a small brief bag and war bonds to the late secretary, Mr. George Edser, as a token of the members' respect and admiration for the devoted attention he had given to the work of the district in bringing it to the present state of efficiency, both as regards numbers and finance. In making the presentation, Mr. Wigram, knowing the difficulties of secretarial work, expressed the regret of the district in losing so apt a worker.—Mr. J. J. Jones, secretary of the Guildford district, said that he and Mr. Whittington had been appointed delegates at the Winchester meeting held on Wednesday, March 1st, to express the high esteem and respect in which Mr. Edser was held by the whole of the Guild.—Mr. Edser, in thanking the members for their gift, said that as he was living in London and could not attend the meetings in the diocese, he felt he could not do justice to the work, but was sure the new secretary would carry it on ably and well.

Two touches were afterwards rung on the handbells, and ringing in the tower continued until 8.30 p.m.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the Western Division was held at Shipley on Saturday last, and was attended by members from Brighton, Pulborough, Billingshurst, Steyning, Worthing, and the local band. Touches of Stedman Doubles, Kent, Oxford, Violet, London Scholars Pleasure, Cambridge, Carlisle and London Surprise Minor were rung.—At the business meeting, after tea, owing to the absence of the Rector, Mr. P. Doick was voted to the chair.—One new member was elected, viz., Pte. Jacques, stationed at Brighton. Owing to the number of members who have joined the colours, and to the fact that ringing is not allowed after sundown, it was suggested that members should meet on Saturday afternoons for combined practice at different towers, to be arranged by the secretary.

The members wish, through "The Ringing World," to thank the Rev. A. G. Baker for granting the use of the bells, and Mr. R. Bowell for making all arrangements.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

ANNUAL GATHERING AT DUDLEY.

The annual meeting of this Guild was held at Dudley on Saturday week. With snow about twelve inches deep on the ground, and still falling, it was not surprising to find so few turn up. The bells (ten) were only available from three o'clock until service time at 4.30, all ringing after sunset having been suspended since the air raid.

The service was conducted by the Rev. Dr. A. Gray Maitland, Vicar of Dudley, and President of the Guild, and a very interesting address was given by the Rev. Wilson P. De Vine, M.A., R.D., Vicar of the Parish Church, Tipton, from Micah vii., 3, "With both hands earnestly." In the course of his remarks, he applied these words to the patriotism, zeal, and endurance of our sailors and soldiers who are engaged in the defence of this country and empire, doing their duty with both hands earnestly. He also appealed to his hearers to do their duty diligently and cheerfully, always remembering their sacred position as church workers and using that privilege to God's glory with both hands earnestly.

At the close of the service, which was made bright and cheerful through the kindness of Mr. B. H. Cutler (assistant organist) an adjournment was made to the Schoolroom, where tea was in readiness, which on such a cold, miserable day was much appreciated and enjoyed. Mrs. A. Gray Maitland, Mrs. J. P. Bill and Mrs. Wilkes (wife of Councillor H. Wilkes) presided at the urns. Among those present were Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland, Messrs. J. M. Tait (people's warden), J. P. Bill (ex-warden), and Councillor H. Wilkes. Apologies were received from the Rev. S. J. Marriott, Mr. Harry Mason, Mr. F. R. McDowell (Vicar's warden), and Mr. T. Cooper. About 40 members sat down to tea, representing Brierley Hill, Blakenhall, Coseley, Clent, Dudley, Old Hill, Sedgley, Tipton, West Bromwich, Wolverhampton, etc.

Before commencing the business meeting, the Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland, who was in the chair, referred in very feeling terms to the loss the Dudley band had sustained through the death of Mr. John William Mills, who for upwards of 50 years had been a regular attendant to his duties as a bell ringer and a devout worshipper at the services in the church. He felt sure he was voicing the feelings of that meeting when he said their sympathy went out towards Miss Woodall in the loss she had sustained by the death of her uncle. He also wished to mention the name of Mr. Jacob Williams, of the Brierley Hill band, who had lost his life fighting for his King and country.—These names were received in silence, the members standing.

The officers were elected as follows: President, the Rev. Dr. A. Gray Maitland, Vicar of Dudley; vice-presidents, Col. Sir Arthur G. Boscawen, M.P., Rev. S. J. Marriott, M.A., R.D. (Vicar of Netherton), Rev. J. A. Price (Vicar of Coseley), and Mr. Harry Mason (Old Hill), and on the proposition of the chairman, seconded by the Ringing Master (Mr. S. Spittle), the Rev. W. T. De Vine was added to the list; Ringing Master, Mr. S. Spittle; hon. secretary, Mr. Herbert Sheppard (Dudley); hon. treasurer, Mr. William Rock Small (Tipton); hon. auditors, Mr. B. Gough (Coseley), and Mr. John Smith (Tipton).

The Secretary then read his annual report, which, with the balance sheet, was passed and ordered to be printed.

Wolverhampton (St. Peter's) was the place selected for holding the next quarterly meeting.

At the close of the meeting hearty votes of thanks were passed to all the officers for their services during the past year, to the president for conducting the service in church, and for the use of the Schoolroom, and especially to the Rev. W. T. De Vine for his great kindness in coming on such an inclement day to address the members, to the assistant organist, to the donors of the tea, the ladies who presided at the tables, and those who prepared and served the tea and looked after the wants and comforts of the members, and to all who in any way had assisted in making the meeting a happy and enjoyable one.

SHREWSBURY.—Salop Archidiaconal Guild and St. Chad's Society. On Sunday, Feb. 19th, at St. Chad's, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 51 mins.: W. J. Taylor 1, W. C. Brooks 2, G. Jones 3, Private T. W. Belton 4, W. R. Stockdale 5, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 6, A. E. Fullick 7, H. Jones 8.—On Feb. 26th, 207 Stedman Cateters: Second-Lieut. F. White (Oxhey, Herts) 1, G. Scarratt 2, J. Tudor 3, W. Brooks 4, W. Stockdale 5, G. Jones 6, C. R. Lilley 7, W. Weatherby 8, A. E. Fullick 9, H. Jones 10. Also two courses of Stedman Triples, conducted by Mr. G. Byolin.

WHITCHURCH, CARDIFF.—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—At St. Mary's Church, for evening service, on Sunday, Feb. 27th, 720 Bob Minor: T. Middleton 1, W. Biss (conductor) 2, L. Wright 3, T. Wood 4, B. Chew (first 720 on an inside bell) 5, F. J. Bailey 6.

TYLDESLEY, LANCASHIRE.—At the Parish Church, for evening service, on Feb. 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: Herbert Allred 1, J. Allred 2, B. Allred 3, Harry Allred 4, W. Hindley 5, R. Allred (conductor) 6, P.C. Peter Crook 7, J. Watts 8.

TWO PEALS OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

IN SIX PARTS WITH 210 CALLS.

By A. J. PITMAN, PORT TALBOT.

| | | | |
|------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| 234567 | Continued | 234567 | Continued |
| 672453 2 | 234576 2 | 672453 2 | S 352764 1 |
| 536247 2 | 652734 1 | 256734 3 | 473652 1 |
| 475623 2 | S 256734 4 | 472356 1 | 264573 1 |
| 364275 1 | 472356 1 | 564237 2 | S 532764 1 |
| 753426 2 | S 364572 1 | 725364 1 | S 745632 1 |
| 267345 2 | 253764 1 | 257364 4 | 267345 1 |
| 672345 4 | 472653 1 | 432657 1 | 672345 4 |
| 536472 1 | S 634572 1 | S 754263 2 | 456237 2 |
| 365472 4 | S 526734 1 | 327654 1 | 374625 2 |
| 243765 1 | 475326 1 | 463527 1 | 563274 1 |
| S 562374 2 | 264537 2 | S 574263 1 | 745326 2 |
| 435762 1 | 752364 1 | 325674 1 | 267534 2 |
| 274635 1 | 267543 3 | 743562 2 | 672534 4 |
| S 652374 1 | 432756 2 | 257643 1 | S 436257 2 |
| S 346752 1 | 674532 1 | 432765 2 | 724536 1 |
| 523674 2 | *S 236457 2 | 574632 1 | 367452 2 |
| 465723 1 | 742536 1 | S 475632 4 | *S 423567 1 |
| | 367254 2 | 264375 1 | |
| P L | 342567 2 | | |

* Bob for Single in 3rd and 6th parts.

* Bob 3rd and 6th parts.

It will be noticed that this peal is reverse to the first and contains the 24-67's at back stroke.

MUFFLED RINGING.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir, — The letter signed "H" in this week's "Ringing World" is the last drop which fills the cup to overflowing, and I can keep silence no longer.

The Book of Common Prayer declares that every Sunday is to be kept as a feast day, and this is in keeping with the universal custom of the whole Catholic Church of Christ, and could not be altered even by a general Council, and to ring muffled bells on a Sunday is secretly striking at some established doctrine (to wit, the Resurrection of Our Lord), or laudable practice of the Church of England, or indeed of the whole Catholic Church of Christ.

The sickly sentimentalism of the whole movement is bad enough, but the desecration of the 2nd Sunday after Christmas was far worse and enough to make one wonder if there was any real Christian Faith left in England at all.

Surfleet Vicarage, March 4th.

H. LAW JAMES.

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NOTICES.

Terms as to advertisement spaces, etc., can be had upon application.

"The Ringing World" will be on sale every Friday morning, and is obtainable through any newsagent. Should any difficulty be found in securing the paper punctually, information should at once be sent to the office.

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| | |
|---------------|-----|
| For 12 months | 6/6 |
| " 6 " | 3/3 |
| " 3 " | 1/8 |

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The annual meeting of the Southern District will be held at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (12) available 3 to 7 p.m. Business meeting 7.15 p.m. in Wolstenholme Hall. — Leonard Brightman, District Secretary pro. tem., 45, St. Stephen's Road, Rotherham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Pendlebury on Saturday, March 11th. Bells ready at 4, till dusk. Meeting to follow. Subscriptions due. Reports can be had on application; to life members 6d. each.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Western District will be held at Liversedge on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Subscriptions received and reports issued at this meeting. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, District Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Higher Walton on Saturday, March 11th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 5.30.—A. E. Woodhouse, Branch Secretary.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on March 14th and 28th for business and on the 23rd for handbell practice.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge and District Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Tytherington on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at 6 p.m. Will those requiring tea please notify not later than Wednesday, March 15th, to W. A. Lewis, Branch Hon. Secretary, Ham, Berkeley, Glos.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at the Holy Trinity Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, March 18th, 1916. Bells ready at 3 o'clock.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Wedford on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available 3 o'clock till 7. Service 5 o'clock. Tea provided for those who notify me before the 15th. Subscriptions for 1916 are now due.—F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Hornsey, on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Short service at 5 o'clock. Tea in St. Mary's Hall, Brook Road, at 5.30, 6d. to members who advise me by Wednesday, the 15th inst. No ringing after 8 p.m. Members are reminded that subscriptions for 1916 are now due.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Secretary, 19, Wood Street, Walthamstow.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Newington, on Saturday, March 25th, 1916. Bells available from 3 p.m. Half rail fares allowed up to 2s. Subscriptions for 1916 should be paid on or before that date.—Edward A. G. Allen, Hon. District Secretary.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — South-Western Division.—Will members and friends kindly note, that during the absence of the Hon. District Secretary (Mr. H. Rumens) on Military Service, the secretarial duties will be undertaken by the undersigned, to whom all subscriptions and communications should be sent. — Ernest J. Butler, 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

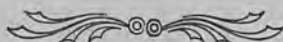
SUTTON COLDFIELD. — In consequence of re-arrangements in the management of the Sutton Coldfield Parish Church tower, all communications with reference to ringing matters should, in the first instance, be made to Mr. F. Dickens, Walmley Road, Reddicap Heath, Sutton Coldfield.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO THE LATE WILLIAM SNOWDON.—The Members of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers propose to erect a Memorial to the late William Snowdon in the form of a Brass Tablet in Ilkley Parish Church, near to the Ringers' Window already erected to the memory of his brother, Jasper Whitfield Snowdon. Will any person wishing to be associated with this movement kindly communicate with the Treasurer to the Fund, Mr. H. Williams, New Worthy Cemetery, Leeds, Yorks.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.



IMPORTANT NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

Owing to the curtailment of postal facilities, correspondents are requested to forward their communications as promptly as possible. We cannot guarantee to insert anything which does not reach us by first post on Tuesdays.

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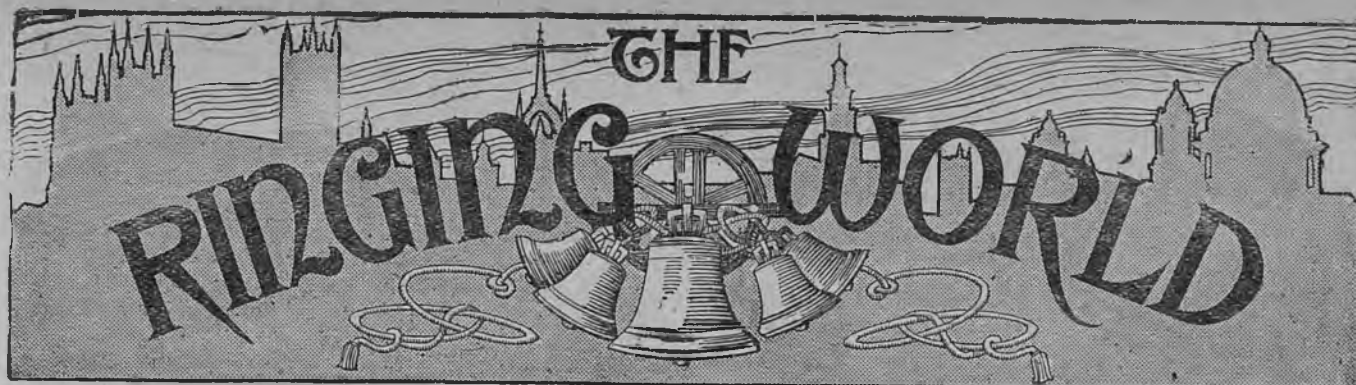


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FRIDAY, MARCH 17th, 1916.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
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Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

While war time has interfered with many ringing organisations, it has in no way affected that popular institution — the Johnson Commemoration Dinner. The "impressions" which we published last week showed that the gathering this year was as successful as any in the past, and the fuller report of the proceedings in this issue fully confirms the view. The attendance was even larger than on some previous occasions, and the characteristic spirit of conviviality which marks these reunions showed no diminution. There are many things which go to the making of the success of these parties, and the chief factor is the good fellowship which pervades the ringing ranks in Birmingham and district. Several societies overlap in this area and yet there is no heartburning between them. Friendly rivalry there may be, but it is only that spirit of competition which makes for healthy progress and general advancement.

St. Martin's Guild, of course, occupies a somewhat unique position among ringers in that portion of the Midlands. Like the College Youths and the Cumberlands, its foundations were laid in the distant past. Long before it blossomed into a Diocesan organisation it played an important part in the development of our art, and made Birmingham the important centre for ringing which it has been for generations. The many societies which have sprung up around it are but as juveniles compared with the society whose history and traditions centre round St. Martin's, and it is, no doubt, because of the venerable position which it holds that the Guild continues to retain its place in the affections of those whose allegiance is also given to other societies in neighbouring districts.

But age alone will not maintain the popularity of an organisation any more than of an individual. Energy and good management are essential. The records show that St. Martin's Guild has never lacked in energy. Except when the bells have been under repair, they have never failed in their Sabbath duty, while, even to the non-ringing public of Birmingham, the Tuesday evening practice or peal had become quite an institution, and, prior to the war, nothing but sickness in the neighbourhood of the church would silence them on this one evening of the week. The good management of the Guild is manifest in the manner the members rally to the support of those in office, and, in recent years, those responsible for maintaining its efficiency have had the wholehearted support of a Rector whose popularity among all classes is unbounded, and who, above all, is a real leader of men, an example to all who are proud to serve under him. The support of such a Rector is an incalculable asset in the prosperity of a ringers' society.

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We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

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(Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway).

Late 188, Keeton's Road, Bermondsey.

Maker to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester and Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

WEM, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

(THE ST. CHAD'S SOCIETY, SHREWSBURY.)

On Saturday, March 11, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

H. W. WILDE'S TRANSCRIPTION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt., in G.

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------|
| CHARLES R. LILLEY ... Treble | LIEUT. FREDERICK WHITE 5 |
| *JOHN TUDOR ... 2 | *GEORGE JONES ... 6 |
| *WILLIAM C. BROOKS ... 3 | ALFRED E. FULLOCK ... 7 |
| *WILLIAM R. STOCKDALE 4 | HERBERT JONES ... Tenor |

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal of Stedman Triples; also first on the bells and first peal of Stedman Triples by the St. Chad's Society. Lieut. F. White, of Oxhey, Herts, was elected a member of the above Society, and the peal was arranged for him. The band desire to thank the Rector for the use of the bells, and Mr. F. Gready for having them ready.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers who have joined H.M. Forces:—

Tpr. Geo. Vaughan, of Wrexham, Dragoon Guards, now at Aldershot.

Gnr. Kirk, of Burbage, Derbyshire, R.F.A., now at Newcastle.

Pte. Archie George, and

Pte. Ernest Parry, of St. Mary's, Eardisland, 3rd Batt. Herefordshire Regiment.

Pte. V. Holloway, and

Pte. H. Holloway, of St. Mary's, Acton, Royal Flying Corps, now at Farnborough.

Pte. J. Bacon (late P.O. Essex County Constabulary), of Springfield, Essex, Machine Gun Corps, now at Grantham, Lincolnshire.

Pte. E. Lanaway, of Horley, Surrey, 5th Royal Fusiliers, now at Dover.

From Christ Church, Southgate:—

Pte. E. G. Tomlinson, 14th Royal Fusiliers, now at Shoreham.

Pte. N. A. Tomlinson, 4/7th Middlesex Regiment (T.F.), now at Purfleet.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

The general meeting of the Leeds and District Amalgamated Society was held at Pudsey on Saturday week, and was well attended, the following towers being represented: Armley, Bramley, Calverley, Guiseley, Holbeck, Headingley (St. Michael's and St. Chad's), Ilkley, Leeds Parish Church, Pudsey, Rothwell, and Tong. The bells were rung during the day to touches of Superlative Surprise, Kent Treble Bob and Bob Major, Duke of York, Treble Bob Minor, and Bob Minor.

The ringers were entertained to a repast at the White Cross Hotel, at the kind invitation of Mr. Pratt Cordingley (conductor of the Pudsey company).

The business meeting followed, with the President (Mr. Peacock) in the chair. The following officers were elected: President, Mr. J. Peacock; vice-presidents, Mr. G. B. Bolland and Mr. E. Mann; treasurer, Mr. H. Williams; secretary, Mr. W. Barton. Mr. H. Williams was elected a trustee.

The balance sheet for the year was adopted, and Mr. H. Blythe, Mr. H. Hopton, and Mr. S. Wilkinson, of Rothwell, were elected as new members of the society.

A vote of thanks to the vicar and churchwardens of Pudsey for the use of the bells, and to the local company for their kind arrangements was carried on the proposition by Mr. H. Williams, seconded by Mr. G. Bolland.—Mr. J. Baxendale responded on behalf of the local company.

Handbell ringing in the following methods then brought a pleasant meeting to a close: Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, Oxford Treble Bob Minor, and Plain Bob Minor.

RINGING IN AMERICA.

On Tuesday, February 22nd, the following members of the Boston (America) Guild of Change Ringers rang a 545 of Grandsire Triples at Groton, Massachusetts: A. Matthews 1, P. J. Allfrey 2, W. S. Sturgis 3, E. E. Randall (conductor) 4, J. Goodhead 5, H. Petts 6, R. Newton 7, J. F. Laker 8. This is the longest length the ringer of the 3rd has yet rung.

On Sunday, February 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted at the Church of the Advent, Boston, but came to grief after 35 minutes' ringing. Mr. H. Petts, who is leaving Boston for Port Arthur, Canada, was conducting, and for this reason the ringers regret the loss of this quarter.

THE JOHNSON DINNER.

GREAT SUCCESS OF ANNUAL REUNION.

The annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner was held at Ye Olde Royal Hotel, Birmingham, on Saturday week, and once again was a great success. Favoured with a fine day, many visitors arrived in the Midland Metropolis for the affair, and quite a few stayed over the week-end.

In addition to the real reason for the dinner—the perpetuation of the memory of one of the greatest exponents of the art of change ringing—there was also the great and growing attraction of the personality of the chairman, Canon Willink. In the few years he has been in Birmingham Canon Willink has built up a big reputation as a preacher, and has also proved himself to be a real staunch friend of the St. Martin's Guild. For the first time, too, in the history of the dinner ladies appeared at the chairman's table, in the persons of Mrs. and Miss Willink, and but for the fact that she had unfortunately contracted a cold, the Rector's second daughter, Miss Dorothy, would also have been there. The company would then have had the pleasure of listening to the two young ladies in a duet, but it is hoped the pleasure is only deferred.

One hundred and twenty-one sat down to dine, and curiously enough the odd figures (21) represent the number of persons present who had actually known Henry Johnson in the flesh. Prior to the dinner there was ringing at St. Martin's and Bishop Ryder's Church, and in the former belfry an interesting unveiling ceremony took place, witnessed by a large number of ringers, as described in last week's issue.

The Chairman was supported by the following, in addition to his wife and daughter: Alderman J. S. Pritchett, Messrs. J. J. Kendall (Warden of St. Martin's), J. W. Taylor, J. W. Tilley, W. R. Heaton, W. Tunstall, — Pitt, A. E. Parsons, H. Mason, W. H. Godden, Dr. Malins (Warden of St. Philip's), and the hon. secretary (Mr. A. Paddon Smith). Among those present were also Messrs. R. Faux and W. R. Small, veterans of 79 and 75 respectively, John Carter, William Kent, J. E. Groves, B. Gough and W. Fisher (Coseley), W. Gallimore (Lichfield), G. Chaplin (Tamworth), W. Rogers (Northampton), R. Holding (Crewe), W. Weatherby (Market Drayton), W. Perkins and H. Horn (Irthlingboro'), W. C. Hunt (Beeston), etc.

During the evening a song, "Sound Philosophy," was rendered by Miss Willink, her mother accompanying her on the piano, while at other times Mrs. Davies officiated as pianist. Tunes were played on the handbells by Messrs. Walker, Miller and Hunt, accompanied on the dulcimer by the redoubtable Mr. Harry Withers, who also "rang" a touch of Erin Caters on his instrument in perfect style, as well as giving a "Patriotic Selection," including all the Allies' National Anthems. A splendid course of Stedman Cinques was rung in hand by Messrs. Walker, Miller, Russam, Groves, Swann and George, and everyone was delighted by a recitation, "The Charge of the Light Brigade," given on a gramophone owned and operated by Mr. Frank Banks (tower-keeper at St. Martin's). This was also kept going during the dinner, some magnificent band records being given, also a record entitled "Change Ringing on the Bells O'Bournville," this being apparently a record of a course of Grandsire Caters tapped on the bells, which has been standardised, and is now on the market. A song was also given by Mr. W. C. Hunt.

Altogether a most enjoyable evening was spent, and everyone agreed that the second "Johnson" Dinner held in "Nineteen hundred and war time" had been a good success.

PATRIOTIC PRIDE.

The Chairman, in proposing "The King," said: May I first express the immense pleasure with which I meet you once more. After a year of far-reaching events, we are here once more to-night, as brothers in the art and exercise of bell ringing, and I venture to include myself among them. I have never rung a peal, though I have done my duty, and have gone through the process of pulling. They say no man can ride a horse until he has been thrown three times, and no one can claim to be a bell ringer until he has been dragged up to the ceiling. I have been up, and came down with a thump. I venture, therefore, to claim that I am one of yourselves, at any rate one of yourselves in interests and sympathies, and in love for our art, and in undying love for the bells.

Proceeding, Canon Willink said: I suppose if one thing distinguishes us at the present time more than another, it is our devotion to our King and country. The strain and stress of this awful war, which lies like a cloud over everyone, at the present time, has done this at any rate, it has brought out all that is true and best in our patriotism, and I suppose there is no King enshrined more warmly or more truly in the inmost hearts of his subjects than is King George the Fifth at the present moment (applause). We feel a thrill of patriotic pride as we realise that he is our king, and we are his subjects. We wish well to the king from hearts full of sympathy for him in his trouble. We sympathise more than we can put into words. We have only to look at his careworn face, marked with lines of anguish, as when he appeared in Birmingham not long ago, to understand what the war means to him. We are following him with our sympathy, and we rejoice to have an opportunity to wish God-speed to the greatest King now ruling over the greatest Empire in the world. We are looking forward, added Canon Willink, to that day which please God is going to come soon, that great day of victory, when those dark clouds will roll away, when the sunshine of peace and brotherly love is going to

flood the world again (applause). And, in praying for the prosperity of the King, we pray for ourselves, that each one of us may rise to the glory of God, may respond to the call of service and sacrifice, may rightly play the man, and do our part in one of the greatest crisis of the world.

The company joined earnestly in singing the National Anthem.

Apologies were received from Bishop Hamilton Baynes, Rector of St. Philip's; Rev. G. E. Badger, Vicar of Bishop Ryder's; Messrs. G. W. Baldwin, W. Painter and J. S. Goldsmith.

During the dinner a telegram was received from Mr. John Jaggar, wishing the company an enjoyable evening, and a wire was sent to Sir A. P. Heywood wishing him kind regards from the assembly.

CHRISTIANITY'S CALL.

Dr. Malins then submitted the toast of "Church and State." As far as the Church is concerned, said the speaker, we have not had so much criticism in recent times, because people's mind have been engaged with more troublesome things, but we have had criticism of a kind, and assaults on our Church in gallant little Wales. The attack has failed, or rather it is in abeyance for the time being. We remember how it was engineered and how it was fostered, and the astuteness and cunning with which they were attacking the position of the Welsh Church. The Government wanted to take away its possessions, and did not want to say anything about endowments. That attack was not successful, but a great victory for the Church. The Church is not dependent on the State for any of its funds. Not one farthing of the Church's funds are derived from the State or national taxes. It is all provided by the Ecclesiastical authorities. The Church is very closely connected with the State, and in no period of its history has it been divorced from the State. We have had a great deal of critical hostility to the Church. If you apply criticism to any institution you must substitute something to replace what you pull down. We have, however, heard of nothing to fill the blanks, and lessen our admiration of the organisation of the Church. We are living in an age of criticism and difficulties and perplexities of every kind. We are living in an age of materialism that is settled in its effects. Many and far-reaching are its effects on the German mind, and in the present day many military people believe that science will take the place of Christianity, and that the teachings of past times are incompatible with science and scientific attainments. They believe in the domination of a certain party, and in the attributes of science for the purpose of the destruction of fellow creatures rather than for the advancement of things spiritual. I do not believe this for a moment. The history of our great men and country shows that they have been men of the highest genius, and people who have not forgotten that they were Christians (applause). What is the outcome upon the German mind and spirit? A ghastly and a terrible war, that has been carried on with an utter disregard of humanity, worse than the most savage in ancient times, with gross violation of all private property, and women and children, and a spirit of spoliation and destruction and misery which is incredible, and such as has never happened in past history. This outcome of materialism and this spirit in which the war is being waged is in opposition to all international law. We are out for the defence of the smaller nations. We are out for the defence of the homeless; we are out for the driving away for all time of this barbarous materialism, and we are out for justice and right between man and man (applause). We are out for the highest principles and the deepest instincts that still actuate us in this world.

Right is right, for God is God,

And right the day must win,

To hesitate would be to doubt,

To falter would be sin

—(applause). We must win. We look forward to the time of calm and peace, that the Rector spoke of just now. In our homes and lives we look forward to the time when the bell ringers here will be called out, not for the sad tolling for departed souls, but for praise, and thanksgiving and exultation of God, and so strengthen the bond which binds man to man (loud applause).

Canon Willink, who responded, said: The world will never again need to be reminded of what culture means apart from God, and we are learning as we never thought to learn that Christianity divorced from our daily life is the most disastrous thing for nations as well as for individuals. Long may Church and State go hand in hand together (applause). Long may God be our recognised ruler and leader in things political and social, and in things individual. May He be to us what He has been to our forefathers, our Father and our God, and may we go forward as men to whom our country is dearer than life itself, with a firm trust in the purpose of God, and a firm determination to bring home not only to our own nation, but to all nations of the world, the everlasting gospel of Jesus Christ.

GREAT GENIUS.

Mr. A. E. Parsons then submitted the toast of "The memory of the late Henry Johnson." He said they had heard in that room on previous occasions many able speakers bear personal testimony to the splendid gifts and virtues with which Henry Johnson was endowed. It had been his privilege to hear Sir A. Heywood, Charles H. Hattersley, Alderman Pritchett and Mr. Godden, bear witness to his worth and character, in words of which he (the speaker) was incapable. He could not say it was his privilege to know Mr. Johnson, but they were able to rely on the testimony of those gentlemen whose names he had mentioned. Ringing history testified to his capabilities, and as a

composer in standard methods, especially, perhaps, in the method of Stedman, with which his name and consequently the name of Birmingham were so closely associated. His wonderful grasp of figures enabled him to see at a glance the truth or falseness of a composition. Henry Johnson was, as they knew, a man of humble birth and surroundings, and yet he was sought out by men in infinitely higher positions, willing to learn what he was ever ready to impart in his own plain way. There were lessons for them all to learn from his life: traits in his character they would do well to try to copy. Although, as he had said, Henry Johnson was a man of humble birth, he wielded a quiet and powerful influence for good, and he firmly believed that the result of that influence was felt in Birmingham to this day. His energetic and unostentatious life, his honesty and steadfast purpose in promoting the advancement of the art, was such as they would do well to emulate. The very fact that they met year after year to keep green his memory was a testimony to the good he did during his life. He asked them to rise and honour in silence the memory of Henry Johnson.

ALDERMAN'S ANNUAL ACCOUNT.

Alderman J. S. Pritchett next submitted the toast of "Continued Prosperity to St. Martin's Guild," and referred first to the losses which the Guild had sustained during the past year. First of all, he said, the war has claimed its victim from amongst our ranks in Lieut. James, who was killed in the Battle of Loos on September 25th last. I wrote on behalf of the Guild to his father, who sent back a pathetic reply, stating that since he had received my letter, he had had news of the death of a second son. We rang a peal in his memory, and I think, when the war is over, that peal and his memory may be commemorated by another tablet in St. Martin's Church. Secondly, we have had to mourn, and all ringers in England have had to mourn, the loss of one of the best known members of our Exercise, Mr. C. H. Hattersley. Although a Sheffield man he was well known in Birmingham. He was present at this meeting many times, and when he took the chair we heard him propose the toast of Mr. Henry Johnson in a manner quite inimitable, and in a manner we shall never listen to again. He rang his first peal of Stedman Cinques in May, 1878, at St. Martin's Church. He took part in the record peal in 1881, and by a singular chance his last peal of Stedman Cinques was rung in our belfry on November 22nd, 1910. He was a link with the past. He was over 70 years of age when he died. His memory was full of old matters, and it was a pleasure to any ringer to have conversation with him. We doubly regret his loss; we shall never see his like again. We have also to lament Mr. J. Saunders, many years tower keeper at Erdington. His memory is commemorated in our belfry by his having taken part in the jubilee peal of Grandsire Cinques in 1887. Beyond these three there have not been any gaps in our ranks. Now from these we go to the invalids. Mr. Painter was visited by a member a few days ago. He is confined to his room with little probability of getting outside his house again. Our old friend, Jimmy Jones, out of whom I have had many a joke in days past, happily is in a fairly comfortable state of health and strength, and we hope he will be with us for a long time to come yet. Mr. Baldwin continues much the same. He is the oldest member of the Guild, having joined in June, 1868, and has accordingly been a member for no less than 48 years (applause). I do not know whether it is possible for him to come here again, but we should all be delighted to see him.

PLEASANTRIES AND PATRIOTISM.

Now to pleasanter matters. I should like to congratulate Mr. Vice-President Faux upon having attained his 79th birthday last Wednesday (applause). He is with us to-night, and we hope he will live to enjoy many more good dinners with us. We have one or two ringers of special note among us. We have a son of Mr. Henry Johnson with us, Mr. Joseph Johnson. It must be a pleasure to him to see the way in which his father's memory is respected and commemorated by this gathering. Mr. John Carter is once more with us as active as ever; long may he continue so. We have also in the room Small and Short. I hope Mr. Frank Banks does not think I am making a personal allusion to him (laughter). By-the-bye, we are very much obliged to Mr. Banks for the use of the gramophone and his thoughtfulness. I do not think I shall be doing my duty, or that it would be right for me to proceed further at present by omitting to mention Mr. James George. He has now rung 571 peals. He has rung more peals during the past year than any other man in England, namely, 23. Of course, there have not been so many opportunities as usual, still he has made the most of them. We hope he will live to ring many more. He has lately accepted the important position as Ringing Master at Bishop Ryder's, greatly to the addition of that church, and he desires me to say, as he says in the columns of the "Ringing World," he will be pleased to see any ringers on Sunday or any time convenient. We are delighted to have Mr. J. W. Taylor with us to-night. Mr. Taylor, you will see, is in khaki. He is doing his little bit. Not only is he doing his little bit, but he has got four sons doing their little bit (applause), and he has got a daughter doing her little bit (applause). She has been out in France for five months as a Red Cross nurse (hear, hear). We hope his sons will all be restored to him safe and sound at the end of the war. One man in the room whom I should like to mention, is my old friend William Palmer. He has rung in King's Norton belfry for 50 years, and his aged father, Frank Palmer, who taught me to ring, is still alive, and recently celebrated his 87th

birthday. I mentioned the two muffled peals, one for Lieut. James, and one for Mr. Hattersley. There is a third muffled peal I should like to mention, that for Miss Horton, who for over 72 years was a worshipper in St. Martin's Church.

BETTERING THE BELFRY.

During the past year the belfry at St. Martin's has been thoroughly renovated, the floor covered with linoleum, the walls painted and white-washed, and an anonymous ringer has completed the frame work for peal tablets there, with the injunction not to mention his name. Mr. Baldwin, when he was visited by Mr. Smith a day or two ago, was good enough to send 5s. towards an octagonal oak table that the ringers, with the permission of the churchwardens, propose to place in the ringing chamber. A few other sums of 5s. have been contributed, and I think Mr. Smith is going to ask for donations to-night to get a table really worthy of the edifice, which will cost anything from £5 to £10, but we want a good one while we are about it, which will last as long as the church. Those who are doing overtime at pay and a half, will you kindly give what you think you can reasonably afford towards this excellent object.

During the past year the Guild has resumed the practice of ringing handbells. Three peals of Stedman Caters have been rung, and one is remarkable for the fact that another Joseph Johnson, not a son of Henry Johnson, a youth not yet seventeen, rang 7-8 (applause). We offer him our most hearty congratulations, and we look forward to many wonderful reports in the future. If I may be egotistical enough I should like to say one word about myself. I had not rung in a peal for more than a year—I think nearly two years—but I had the pleasure of conducting a peal at King's Norton in November last on a melancholy occasion, and I am very glad that I have the health and vigour to ring and conduct a peal still (applause). I hope that, provided I have my health and vigour, I may take part in one of the innumerable joy peals, which will be rung on the proclamation of peace. In conclusion, Mr. Pritchett proposed "Prosperity to the Guild." It is pleasing, he said, in these depressing times that our numbers and members are maintained. I really believe we are being taught to take a more serious view of life, and its responsibilities and the way in which we can be of use to the nation, and that when the war is over we may be more devoted servants of the Church. There will be a great revival of ringing after the war, and God grant that it may be soon. In the meantime we hope that the Guild will prosper, and, therefore, I ask you to drink to it, and with it the health of our worthy secretary, Mr. Paddon Smith (applause).

RECTOR'S RECORD.

Mr. A. Paddon Smith replied to the toast. He said he had only done the best that was in him for the good of the Guild, and if he had succeeded in pleasing them at all, it was because he had had the help and loyal co-operation of every member of the Guild. As a Guild they had been particularly fortunate in many things, but in none so much as in having as their presiding ringing master such a capable man of affairs as Alderman Pritchett. When they remembered the calls his civic duties must make on his time, they ought to be, and he was sure they all were, grateful to him for coming amongst them so often. Proceeding, Mr. Smith called attention to the fact that the Rector had created another record. He was the first Rector to attend four consecutive dinners, and was the first Rector of Birmingham to take the chair at all. He was also the first man, either clergyman or layman, to take the chair three years in succession. To say that Canon Willink was popular would be to repeat what was obviously a truism. He could say without hesitation that he was the finest clergyman he (the speaker) had ever met, and the most popular Rector Birmingham had ever had. While they had such a Rector and such a presiding ringing master, it was a real pleasure to be the Guild's secretary (applause).

Mr. W. H. Godden proposed "Kindred Ringing Societies." The toast, he said, hardly needed any commendation of his, so far as he could gauge the spirit of St. Martin's Guild, for he knew they had always appreciated the work of "kindred ringing societies," and if ever St. Martin's Guild had found some other Guild doing better than themselves, the spirit had been one of emulation, without any envy at all (applause). In connection with the toast he would like to mention the name of one who was with them that night, who was well known throughout the country, not only as a bell founder, but as vice-president of the Midland Counties Association, he meant Mr. J. W. Taylor. It was many years ago since he (the speaker) first met Mr. Taylor, and he knew his father. Mr. Taylor was a gentleman with whom one could meet with the greatest respect and sympathy. At one time he held the record for conducting more peals than any one man in the kingdom. That said a lot for a business man who had so many cares on his shoulder.

A LOUGHBOROUGH LEAD.

Mr. J. W. Taylor, who responded to the toast, said although his father never had the opportunity of taking at all a prominent part in ringing matters—it was not till the later years of his life, after he (the speaker) had begun to ring and conduct, that he began to ring—there was no one who had the interest of ringing and ringers more

at heart than he. His happiness was to work very hard, and he had not much time to give to ringing, but his interest never flagged for a moment. To the very end of his days he used to say to him, "keep up your interest in ringing and ringers, there is nothing you will enjoy more, and nothing which will keep you more lively." Mr. Pritchett had mentioned what his (Mr. Taylor's) children were doing. Scarcely had war been declared, than his two sons gave in their names, and before a week elapsed went over to Leicester to join the Motor Cyclists' Corps. In September they enlisted in the Public Schools' Battalion, and a year ago they were given commissions. One was in the 9th Leicesters, and was at the front; another was in charge of a machine gun crew. Two, who were in Canada, wrote home to say they had enlisted, and his daughter took up nursing. One, of course, felt anxious for them, but he was very glad to know that they were all right up to now, and that the example they had set had led to a good number of men following them. Out of their own small place they had sent fourteen to the front, so that it showed it did a great deal of good in bringing young men out to help us in this crisis. Mr. Taylor added, that they would need a lot of push and go to bring on young ringers to fill the ringing ranks. It would be a long time before things could go on as they used to, but he looked forward to the time when the bells would be ringing again. Life would look better and brighter after going through a time of crisis like this.

PRESS, PEALS AND PEACE.

Mr. A. Paddon Smith proposed "The Ringing World." The toast, he said, was old, and yet new. If they would refer to the toast list they would see it was "The Ringing World" not "The Ringing Papers," as in former years. They had now only one ringing paper, the "Bell News" having ceased publication with the last issue for 1915. He did not want to kick a dead dog, but the "Bell News" had its chance, and the proprietors did not grasp their opportunity. The "Bell News" was most unpunctual in its appearance, and from the point of view of the provincial ringer it had also another bad fault. It gave great preference to peals rung in the Metropolis. It did not matter very much, perhaps, but it had happened that a peal rung in London had been published a few days afterwards, whereas peals rung in the provinces had not been published for weeks afterwards. They wanted news while it was news, not when it had become history. "The Ringing World" had now got the field to itself, and would no doubt make the best use of its opportunity. Continuing, Mr. Smith deprecated the practice of taking in one copy for the whole belfry. He hoped everyone in the room would be a regular subscriber, as in these difficult times, the paper would want all the support it could get. He was sorry Mr. Goldsmith was not present to reply to this toast, but he asked them to drink to "The Ringing World" and its editor.

After the toast, Mr. Smith continued: With the permission of our chairman, I just want to say one or two more words. Our old friend Dr. Malins, who is churchwarden at St. Philip's, mentioned just now the joy it would be to listen to the peals, which would be rung when peace comes. I want to give him notice here and now that unless he raises money for rehanging the bells they will get very little ringing at St. Philip's. I don't want to miss this opportunity of reminding Dr. Malins that it would only take a few hundred pounds to restore them and make them ringable, and, in view of the prosperous times in Birmingham, it should not be very difficult to raise the money. I give this tip to Dr. Malins free of all charge, and I hope he will talk over the matter with the Rector of St. Philip's, and his co-warden (applause).

CHAIRMAN CHEERED.

Ald. J. S. Pritchett gave "The Health of the Chairman." He said they all looked up to Canon Willink, and revered him not only on account of the important position he held in the city, but because of his personal character. Mr. Smith had told them what a record the Rector had established in connection with that meeting. They did not want to tax his good nature more than they ought, but however often he condescended to honour them at that dinner, so long they would give him the most cordial welcome imaginable.

He had put them under an additional obligation that night, by inducing his wife, Mrs. Willink, and his daughter to be present. He (the speaker) hoped they had enjoyed themselves. Certainly it must have been a novel experience for them, and he hoped to have the pleasure of seeing them again on some future occasion.

The toast was acclaimed with the singing of "For he's a jolly good fellow," and three cheers were given for the Rector and one each for Mrs. Willink and Miss Willink.

Canon Willink, who replied, said it was a very great privilege to be near them and to be greeted by them so warmly, and to feel they liked him to be with them. So often as they would have him, and health and strength allowed, so often it would be his privilege to come there (loud and continued applause). On behalf of his wife and daughter, he added it had been a novel experience for them, as they had never before been to a bell ringers' annual dinner. He was glad they had been able to come with him, and he much regretted that his other daughter had not been able to come with them.

This concluded the speech-making, and the proceedings, which, as already stated, had been interspersed with music and handbell ringing, closed with the National Anthem.

YORKSHIRE MEETING AT LIVERSEDGE.

The annual meeting of the Western District of the Yorkshire Association was held at Liversedge last Saturday, when, despite the unfavourable day, over 50 members attended, representing 21 towers. During the afternoon and evening the fine peal of bells (recently rehung) were kept going in a variety of methods, and a short service was held, conducted by the Vicar, who gave an interesting address. Subsequently the members and friends sat down to a substantial tea in the Schools.

The business meeting followed, the President (Mr. G. B. Bolland) being in the chair, supported by the Rev. H. R. Evers (Vicar of Liversedge), Messrs. Armitage and Brook, churchwardens, and officers of the Association.—The Rev. H. R. Evers was made a life honorary member of the Association. Owing to no invitations being forthcoming for the June meeting, it was left in the hands of the committee to select a place.

Mr. P. J. Johnson was re-elected Ringing Master for the next three years by a small majority.

The following members were elected to serve for the next twelve months on the committee: Messrs. H. Peel (Birstall), T. Bancroft (Keighley), Herbert Drausfield (Earlsheaton), J. Lawson (Lightcliffe), J. Broadley (Shipley), J. Hardcastle (Bradford), H. Williams (Headingley St. Michael's), J. McKell (Gargrave) and F. W. Dixon (Guiseley). Of these Messrs. Peel and Broadley were appointed to serve on the Central Committee.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells was accorded on the motion of Mr. G. B. Bolland, seconded by Mr. Lawson.—Mr. Armitage, the Vicar's warden, replied, and gave a very encouraging reception to the members, and added that whenever they wanted a place for a meeting they should come to Liversedge, where the Association would always be welcome.—The Vicar also replied, remarking that he was pleased to say that his own ringers and himself worked admirably together, and he was very much honoured to have been made a life honorary member of the Association.

A vote of thanks to the local company, and to the ladies who helped at the tea-tables was passed, Mr. Brook (people's warden) replying.

Handbell ringing was afterwards indulged in, and brought an enjoyable meeting to a close.

DEATH OF REV. BERNARD JEALOUS.

We regret to announce the death of the Rev. Bernard Jealous, of Newcastle, who passed away on the 2nd inst. in Devonshire, whither he had gone for the benefit of his health. The deceased gentleman had been in the Northern diocese for about eleven years, and was connected with the Durham and Newcastle Association, with whom he had rung six peals.

LADIES' PROGRESS.

Three of the ladies of the St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, Society, took part in a touch of 168 Grandsire Triples for service on Sunday morning: Mrs. A. Wolstencroft 1, Miss S. Holt 2, J. W. Holme 3, H. Holme (3rd Writer, R.N.) 4, Miss A. Horricks 5, H. Palmer 6, W. Wolstencroft (conductor) 7, J. Rolls 8. H. Holme was on leave from H.M.S. "Victory," Portsmouth.

FOR SAPPER R. F. DEAL.

Will Sapper R. F. Deal, or any friend who may know his whereabouts, kindly send us his address. We have a letter for him, from someone on active service, which we are requested to forward.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

ISLEWORTH.—On Sunday evening, March 12th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins.: E. Webb 1, T. Beadle 2, H. W. Liddbetter 3, C. Dell 4, E. Newell, Farnham, 5, A. Beckensale 6, G. Spencer (cond.) 7, W. Howlett 8. Rung as a farewell to C. Dell, who was about to join up with his group under the Derby scheme.

CAMBRIDGE.—On Tuesday, March 7th, at the rooms of the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, at Trinity College, a touch of 350 Grandsire Triples, on the handbells: B. F. Sheppard 1—2, Rev. A. H. F. Boughey 3—4, J. B. Williamson 5—6, Second-Lieut. E. V. Rodenhurst, conductor, 7—8.

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.—On Sunday, March 5th, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples: E. Kendall 1, L. Wiseman (conductor) 2, Pte R. Rayner 3, S. Hale 4, F. Wiseman 5, E. Barker 6, W. Ruffle 7, W. Cross 8. For afternoon service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1264 changes, in 51 minutes): E. Kendall 1, L. Wiseman (conductor) 2, Pte R. Rayner 3, H. Cooper 4, F. Wiseman 5, E. Barker 6, S. Hale 7, W. Ruffle 8. This was arranged for Pte R. Rayner, who was home on a few days' leave.—On March 6th, on handbells, 720 Bob Minor: N. Vagg (first 720) 1, B. Pettitt 2, L. Wiseman 3—4, S. Hale 5—6.

BRIGHTON.—Sussex County Association.—On Sunday, March 5th, for evening service, at St. Peter's Church, 1280 London Surprise Major, in 51 mins.: E. C. Merritt 1, A. W. Gravett 2, R. Stredwick 3, J. Capp 4, F. Bennett (conductor) 5, Pte J. Jacques, R.A.M.C., 6, K. Hart 7, A. D. Stone 8.

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OFFICE, WOKING

LONDON CITY CHURCHES.

ST. STEPHEN, COLEMAN STREET.

By J. R. JERRAM.

St. Stephen, Coleman Street, in the City of London, although possessing a peal of eight bells, seems to be a church which is very little known among ringers.

The original church was built as early as the twelfth century; but perished in the Great Fire of 1666, and was rebuilt from Wren's designs in 1676. The plan is most irregular—there is not a square corner in the whole edifice. The approximate external dimensions are as follows: North side 106 feet, south side 96 feet, east end 40 feet, west end 52 feet. The steeple is built over the north-west corner, and is a rhomboid in plan, the acute angles being the N.W. and S.E. corners, and is surmounted by a small lead-covered lantern.



The exterior of the east end of the church is thus described by Hatton: "A circular pediment between two pine apples, and under the pediment a figure of a cock carved with a handsome compartment between two festoons, and two windows environed with enrichments." This has now been replaced by a plain wall with the east window in the centre, which is of stained glass, representing the "Descent from the Cross," after Rubens. The organ is a fine one by Avery in 1775, and was enlarged by Gray and Davison in 1853. Over the gateway into the churchyard is a carving representing "The Last Judgment." The original is now preserved in the vestry, the present one over the gateway being a reproduction.

The steeple contains a peal of eight bells, tenor 43 inches in diameter, weight about 14 cwt. There is also a clock-bell. The original peal was by James Bartlet, of the Whitechapel foundry, in 1693; but several of the bells have since been recast. The inscriptions are:

Treble, Second, Third, Fifth and Sixth.

THOMAS RYMILL IAMES FRENCH CHVRCH WARDENS 1693. I.B. ○ [Whitechapel mark 3 bells enclosed in a wreath.]

Fourth.

GEO: BRAY BEN: DAWES, CHVRCH WARDENS 1772. I. W: FECT: [by John Waylett.]

Seventh

THOS. MITCHELL, WM. HOPKINS GEO: CLARKE THO: DENNY OVERSECRS [sic] 1721. I x W x FECIT x [by John Waylett.]

Tenor.

T. MEARS OF LONDON FECIT, 1833.

Clock-Bell.

JOHN ABBOTT JOHN PAYNE CHVRCH WARDENS 1672. ○ [3 bells enclosed in a wreath.]

A tablet in the belfry records the following peal:—

"SOCIETY OF S. JAMES' YOUTHS. On Monday, April 2nd, 1827, was rung in this Steeple by the above company a true and complete Peal of GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, consisting of 5040 Changes, in 3 hours and 11 minutes; being the first peal ever rung in this tower for 80 years. Performed by

| | | | |
|--------------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------|
| Jas. Platt | <i>Treble</i> | Thos. Tolladay | <i>Fifth</i> |
| Josh. Ladley | <i>Second</i> | Geo. Smith | <i>Sixth</i> |
| Geo. Potter | <i>Third</i> | Wm. R. White | <i>Seventh</i> |
| Wm. Atherton | <i>Fourth</i> | Wm. Holworthy | <i>Tenor</i> |

Conducted by the above Wm. Atherton.
Josh. Smith, Wm. Good, Churchwardens.

On the leads of the roof is incised: "Laurence Kimpton, steeplekeeper 1761;" and near to this, "Tuesday --- 12---1741, was rung in this steeple by the Society of Eastern Scholars a compleat peal of 5040 Bob Major. P. Mainwaring treble, R. Butterworth 2, J. Newell 3, W. Goodman 4, T. Bennett 5, W. Lovell 6, Jm. Bradshaw 7, W. S. --- Tenor. Completed in 3 hours and 10 minutes." Several words are obliterated by repairs to the leads. Close by someone has written: "This is a lye as sure as ever the performers lived." Whether the peal was really ever rung or not I cannot say.

A SOUTHGATE CEREMONY.

On Saturday last the consecration took place of the completed portion of St. Andrew's Church, Chase Side, a daughter church of Christ Church. The building is complete except for the tower, and has cost £6,200.

The Bishop of London performed the ceremony, which was well attended, despite the cheerless climatic conditions. The Bishop also performed another ceremony, viz., the baptising of the infant daughter of the curate-in-charge of St. Andrew's Church. That this should take place on the same date as the consecration of the building is unique.

The bells of Christ Church were kept going practically all the afternoon, and some very good ringing was accomplished. The following touches were rung during the afternoon: 168 Grandsire Triples, 576 London Surprise, 224 Bob Major, 224 Superlative, 224 Bristol Surprise, 224 Cambridge Surprise, 192 Stedman Triples and 192 Double Norwich. The following ringers took part: Messrs. J. E. Miller, H. Miller, W. Pickworth, G. Bester, G. W. Fletcher, F. G. Tegg and J. Armstrong (of the local band), A. J. Trappitt, H. Burlingham and C. Dale (Barnet), C. T. Coles (Walthamstow), J. R. Sharman (Hornsey) and G. M. Kilby (Willesden). The conducting was shared by Messrs. J. E. Miller, J. Armstrong and C. T. Coles.

STEDMAN CATERS AT WORCESTER.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The peal of Stedman Caters rung at All Saints', Worcester, on August 3rd, 1915, was not the first in the method on the bells, as was stated at the time. I have just found that a previous one had been rung on September 23rd, 1867, by the St. Martin's Youths, Birmingham.

S. GROVE.

HINTS ON CONDUCTING.

HELP FOR THE BEGINNER.

After a break in my articles much longer than was ever anticipated, but which has been, I am told, unavoidable, I am now hoping to resume my hints on conducting for beginners, and to be able to maintain the notes with more or less regularity. The point where we finished, on page 221 of the last volume, had taken us to an explanation of the positions at which the bobs are called in Grandsire Triples. I now want to go on to an important matter in connection with conducting—the coursing order of bells.

For those who are not quite sure of the meaning of this term, I would say that it means the order in which the bells follow one another through the method. In Grandsire Triples it is the order in which the bells travel up and down, and, as a matter of fact, the order in which they lead. The importance of a conductor being able to follow this coursing order lies in the fact that from it he is able, not only to know whether the bells are right, but to correct any trips that occur, for it must not be supposed that any man, by glancing at the fall of the ropes at any moment chosen haphazard in a peal, can tell when the bells are right. He can do so at certain stated intervals, but at other times, if he had merely to rely upon this method of verifying the correctness of the ringing, he would be utterly at sea. It is only by concentrating his mind upon the coursing order, and mentally transposing it as the ringing proceeds, that he is able to check the accuracy of what is being done and to put right any error.

Now this ability to “course the bells,” as it is called, comes largely by practice, and the ringer, from the beginning, should always note the order in which, while hunting up and down, he meets the other bells. As tyros in change ringing we are generally taught, when hunting the treble for the first time, that we are to take the bells back in the same order as we take them out. That is the principle upon which the coursing order in Grandsire is based, and it applies to the other bells besides the treble, with certain small variations.

Let us look at the plain course, and let us suppose the conductor is ringing the 7th. After dodging with the 6th, and lying the whole pull behind, the order in which the bells are met is 5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6. Then the 7th leads and, hunting up, once more meets the bells 5, 1, 2, 3 (with which the 7th dodges in 4-5), 4, 6. Going down again the 7th meets 1, 2, 5, 3, 4, 6 and, after leading, meets once more 1 and 2. Then 3rd's place is made, and after returning over 1 and 2 to lead, the 7th meets the bells in the following order in hunting up: 5, 3, 4, 6, 1, 2, and in hunting down: 5, 3, 4 (with which the 7th dodges in 4-5 down), 1, 2, 6. In hunting up it is again 5, 3, 4, 1, 2, 6 and, in returning 5 (with which the 7th dodges in 6-7 down) 3, 1, 2, 4, 6. Once more hunting up it is 5, 3, 1, 2, 4, 6, and this brings the bells round. Tabulated, and omitting the dodging, the order for the course is:

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Down: 5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 | Up: 5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 |
| 1, 2, 5, 3, 4, 6 | 1, 2, |
| 1, 2, | 5, 3, 4, 6, 1, 2 |
| 5, 3, 4, 1, 2, 6 | 5, 3, 4, 1, 2, 6 |
| 5, 3, 1, 2, 4, 6 | 5, 3, 1, 2, 4, 6 |

Examine these figures and you will find that 5, 3, 4, 6 are always met in the same order in the plain course, 1, 2

intervening in a different place in each lead. What really happens to cause 1-2 to course after different bells is that the bell which in one lead comes down immediately in front of 1, 2, courses in the next lead immediately after these two bells, having been turned round by the 3rd's place.

Now, for conducting purposes, it is well for the ringer to detach himself, as it were, from his own bell and, instead of merely coursing the rest, to course all the bells, including his own. This acts as a check upon himself, for even conductors can err and may “shift course.” The simplest way now to put the coursing order of the bells is to give the order in which they will lead, for that, after all, is their real order of running. These figures, too, show accurately the transpositions that are made and how the order of the working bells is retained:—

| |
|---------------------|
| 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 5 |
| 1, 2, 5, 3, 4, 6, 7 |
| 1, 2, 7, 5, 3, 4, 6 |
| 1, 2, 6, 7, 5, 3, 4 |
| 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 5, 3 |

To carry out mentally, therefore, what is here set down on paper, the young conductor will observe that he has to take the bell that was in front of the treble in one lead and put it after the bell in the hunt (the 2nd in the plain course) in the next lead, keeping the remainder of the bells in the same order.

When a bob is called it further effects the transposition, but with a little practice this can be done “in the head” with just as much facility as at a plain lead. A bob, of course, puts a new bell into the hunt, and this bell has to be substituted after the treble for the bell that goes out. There is also the transposition caused by the ordinary 3rd's place. This means that, instead of the bell hunting down before the treble in one lead being (as in the plain course) placed after the bell in the hunt in the next lead, the two bells hunting down in front of the treble in one lead have (at a bob) to be placed between the treble and the bell that was in the hunt. The figures of a short touch illustrate this:—

| Lead ends. | Coursing order. |
|------------|-----------------|
| 234567 | 1234675 |
| 253746 | 1253467 |
| — 672453 | 1672534 |
| 647325 | 1647253 |
| — 536247 | 1536472 |
| 523764 | 1523647 |
| — 475623 | 1475236 |
| 467352 | 1467523 |
| — 234567 | 1234675 |

At the outset, probably, the beginner will be unable to see, as he rings, little further than from bell to bell, but with practice he will be able to transpose ahead of his position, and thus not only be able to say whether the bells, as he meets them, are in their right order, but to see some distance in front and know which bells to expect a lead or even more before he reaches them. The more he can apply this principle the more successful he will be in his conducting.

CONDUCTOR.

PRESENTATION AT DEPTFORD.

In the tower of St. John's Church, Deptford, Kent, the captain of the ringers, Mr. W. J. Jeffries, was recently presented with an illuminated address, a gold bell medal, and a fountain pen, subscribed by the Vicar, churchwardens and ringers, to commemorate his 25 years' ringing at this church (1890—1915), and for his great help in keeping the band together and making the ringing chamber so comfortable.

RINGER GAINS D.C.M.**KILLED THE DAY AFTER RECEIVING THE HONOUR.**

A Northampton and Warwickshire ringer, Corpl. Robert W. Jesson, son of Mr. and Mrs. James Jesson, of East Langton, Market Harborough, has, we regret to say, been killed in action in France, and his death is the more to be regretted inasmuch as only the day before he fell to a chance shot by a sniper, he received the notification that he had been awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal.

The deceased was in the 14th South Midland Howitzer Brigade, R.F.A. Prior to the war he was employed at the B.T.H. Works at Rugby. He was a popular young fellow, and the news of his death was received with feelings of very sincere sorrow. The greatest sympathy is felt with Mr. and Mrs. Jesson and family in their great loss. The sad news was conveyed to the parents in a letter from Major Nickalls, in which he says:—

"It is my very sad duty to have to tell you that your gallant son, Corpl. R. W. Jesson, was killed by a stray bullet at 7 a.m. to-day. He was shot through the temple on his way back from roll call to his billet—his death was instantaneous. I hope you will accept the deepest sympathy of all the officers, N.C.O.'s, and men of the battery in your great bereavement. Your son, whom I had the honour of congratulating only yesterday on parade before the officers, N.C.O.'s and men on gaining the Distinguished Conduct Medal, was universally loved and respected, not only in his own battery, but throughout the brigade.

"Speaking personally as his battery commander, I can only say that I have lost one who had endeared himself to me by all those qualifications which stamp a man as a man—upright, brave, generous, and chivalrous. He was in charge of the telephone system of the battery—his duty called for much very hard work—he was always ready at any hour of the day or night to go out cheerfully at great risk to attend to any defect or breakage of the telephone wires, and his fearless devotion to duty set a grand example to all ranks.

"Knowing him so intimately as I did, I feel sure that he is proud to have given his life for his country, and in the words of Rupert Brooke, his epitaph fittingly should be:—

"If I should die, think only this of me,
That there's some corner of a foreign field
That is for ever England."

"Your son was buried by Captain the Rev. B. McNulty, in the presence of the officers, N.C.O.'s and men of the battery."

Mr. and Mrs. Jesson have also received a letter from Corpl. F. Shepherd, who said, "Corpl. Bob Jesson was my greatest chum and friend." He adds:—"I was so delighted, as was everyone, when the news arrived on Tuesday that he had been awarded the D.C.M. I was extremely pleased because I knew how he deserved it. Then when the awful news came yesterday morning that he was killed it seemed really too bad to be true, but I found out later in the day, much to my great sorrow, that it was all too true.

"We buried him yesterday afternoon at about 4.30 in a little cemetery not far behind the firing line, and quite close to where he fell. Bob had none but friends in the whole brigade, everyone loved him, he was so cheerful and kind-hearted. I expect the Major would tell you how it happened, but in case he did not, it was like this. He was walking through a small orchard close to the billet when a stray bullet entered his head—it is practically certain he died instantly. The bullet must have been quite a chance shot from the sniper's rifle, as the enemy cannot observe anyone walking past the spot where the dead boy met his death. I shall visit his grave frequently. It seems so hard that in the hour of his great honour and distinction he has been taken from us.

"Please accept my very deepest sympathy. By his friendship I know what his death means to you. He was one of the finest types of British man and soldier."

The deceased corporal learnt ringing at his native village of East Langton, and took the greatest interest in the art. On going to Rugby he joined the Parish Church company, and rang his first peal (on the tenor) on November 24th, 1913—a peal of Stedman Triples, in celebration of Mr. James George's 60th birthday.

On the Sunday after the announcement of his death had been received, the bells of Langton Parish Church were rung, muffled, to his memory.

LIGHTNING METHODS.

How about this for an "apt pupil!"

"At Trinity College, Cambridge, on March 3rd, a plain course of Grandsire Triples: C. M. Girdlestone 1—2, J. B. Williamson 3—4, Rev. A. H. F. Boughey 5—6, B. F. Sheppard 7—8. This touch is noteworthy owing to the fact that an hour before it was rung the ringer of the trebles knew nothing whatever about ringing, and had never seen a handbell. It was well struck by him, no 'conducting' being necessary."

This, we think, our readers will agree, is a truly astonishing performance. Cambridge methods of teaching double-handed ringing must be as remarkable as Mr. Girdlestone's receptive mental faculties.

On the same occasion 720 Bob Minor was rung by J. B. Williamson (conductor) 1—2, Rev. A. H. F. Boughey 3—4, B. F. Sheppard (first 720) 5—6. The ringers are members of the Cambridge University Guild.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last the annual meeting of the Southern District was held at Sheffield. About 30 members attended from Doncaster, Rotherham (Parish Church and Eastwood), Sheffield (All Saints' and Rannmoor), Bolsterstoke, Adwick, Nottingham, Staveley, etc. The Cathedral bells were well utilised from 3 to 6 p.m., and the business meeting was afterwards held in the Wolstenholme Hall, the new vice-president (Mr. T. R. Hensher) presiding. Letters regretting inability to be present were read from Mr. J. T. Rew, Mr. F. Willey and Mr. G. Hawksworth, all of whom sent their best wishes for a successful meeting.

On the proposition of Mr. C. Glenn, seconded by Mr. L. Brightman, the retiring Ringing Master (Mr. G. Hawksworth) was unanimously re-elected. The committee were re-elected en bloc, with the addition of Mr. J. W. Moorhouse, of Wakefield, who was voted to the seat vacated by Mr. T. R. Hensher (now vice-president). Mr. J. T. Rew and Mr. D. Brearley were re-elected to serve on the General Committee.

The Chairman moved a very hearty vote of thanks to the clergy and wardens of the Cathedral for the use of the bells and to the local company for carrying out all arrangements so excellently.

Mr. F. Newsome (of Adwicke-le-Street) and Mr. A. T. Baker (of Sheffield) were elected new members of the Association.—It was decided that the secretary should endeavour to arrange the next meeting at Whiston, near Rotherham, Mr. C. Glenn pointing out that it was a new ring of eight, and it would be an encouragement to the band who were learning there for the Association to hold a meeting.

A vote of thanks was accorded the Chairman, who suitably responded.

EASTERN DISTRICT MEET AT YORK.

The annual meeting of the Eastern District of the Yorkshire Association was held in the city of York. About sixty members and friends were present, and, in spite of the wretched weather, a most enjoyable day was spent. By permission of the Dean (the Rev. A. P. Purey-Cust) the bells of the Minster were placed at the disposal of the ringers during the afternoon, and touches were rung by the various bands. The bells of the Churches of St. Philip's and St. James', Clifton, and St. Mary's, Bishopshill, were also lent by the respective Vicars, the Rev. C. T. Alexander and the Rev. B. Wood, the kindness being much appreciated, and touches rung at both towers.

An excellent tea was provided at the Lantern Cafe, where the business meeting was subsequently held.—The Hon. Secretary explained that he had received a letter from Mr. Pearson (the Ringing Master), which stated that owing to ill-health he should be obliged to refrain from attending the meetings, and Mr. T. Barker, of Pontefract, was elected Ringing Master for the next term of three years.

The members of the committee were re-elected en bloc, with Mr. Cutsforth, of Hull, and Mr. Imeson, of York, as representatives of the Eastern Division on the General Committee.

The Secretary (Mr. Thomas Smith) moved a vote of thanks to the Dean of York for placing at the disposal of the society the Minster bells; to the Rev. C. T. Alexander, and also to the Rev. B. Wood for the use of the bell towers of their churches (applause). He thought they had been specially privileged in securing the use of the Minster bells, for he understood it was some considerable time since they had been placed at the disposal of any Association. They had only recently been rehung. Previous to that they had not been in a fit condition to ring for some time. He coupled with the vote of thanks the names of Mr. G. Horner, secretary of the Minster Society, and Mr. T. F. Earnshaw, the local President, for the excellent arrangements they had made for the visit of the Association to York.—The vote of thanks was carried unanimously, and the Rev. R. Harrington Johnson (Vicar Choral) replied on behalf of the Dean of York. He said he knew it had given the latter great pleasure to extend the hospitality of the Minster tower to the members of the Association, many of whom had come such a long distance to show their keenness for bell ringing (applause).

The Rev. C. T. Alexander thanked the members on behalf of himself and the Rev. B. Wood, and Mr. Horner, on behalf of the Minster ringers, said the latter were amply repaid if their visitors had enjoyed themselves (applause).

Mr. C. L. Routledge expressed thanks to the members for the hospitality extended to the visitors who were present from the Durham and Newcastle Association, and hoped that the latter would be able to repay the compliment in the future (applause).

Mr. T. F. Earnshaw, on behalf of the York ringers, said it had given them great pleasure to have the Durham and Newcastle men among them that day.

Five new members of the Association were elected.

After the meeting the majority of the ringers adjourned for handbell ringing, feeling that the meeting had been one of the most successful ones held in the Eastern District.

RINGING IN PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT.

Mr. E. J. Harding, district secretary of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, having communicated with the Provost Marshal (Col. Lindsay), has been informed that there is now no objection to the church bells in the Portsmouth district being rung for service up to 6.30 p.m.

RINGER'S EXPERIENCES AT THE FRONT.

PTE. KILBORN'S NARROW ESCAPE.

An interesting letter has reached us from Pte. Fred Kilborn, of Desborough, a well-known member of the Central Northants Association, who is serving with the 7th Northamptonshire Regiment in France, and who at the time of writing was at the 24th Infantry Base Depot. In the course of his letter he says:—

"To hear a peal of bells after a lapse of over six months, and after the life we have lived would be almost sufficient to make one weep for joy. Certainly we do hear bells occasionally in France, but I've not yet heard of 'peal' of more than two. Generally speaking, I think, they have but one bell only. It would interest me very much to visit one of these belfries when ringing is in progress. They sort of get the bells half-way up and 'keep 'em there.' First you hear 1-2—then, of course, 2-1, but the 'variety of clipping' between the 'change' is about the limit! This they do for, perhaps, five or ten minutes—then 'drop 'em' (for a few minutes rest, I suppose); then begin the performance again. It sounds—to us—very funny, really, but it's their way, I suppose. I wonder what they would think—and say—if they were to hear a touch of Triples or Major on one of our peals—such as Rothwell, for instance?"

I was extremely sorry to see recently that young Jesson, of East Langton, has been killed in action. He had only just been awarded the D.C.M. He was a fine lad and only quite young. I believe he was making splendid headway with his ringing at the time the war broke out. He went to Rugby, and if I remember rightly, scored his first peal with the ringers there. It is, of course, one of the many sad cases of this terrible conflict. It's a shocking thing altogether—wicked indeed—but it must be done. We none of us know who may be the next to fall. Our regiment, I'm afraid like many more, caught it pretty stiff up at ——— last September. Many were killed, wounded and captured, and many missing; some of whom (Corpl. Faulkner, of the Easton Neston band, for one) not a word has been heard of to the present day.

"I myself had rather a narrow escape from at least a serious wound on the Sunday morning (Sept. 26th). I had my water bottle smashed by a piece of shrapnel. As a matter of fact it's part of the shell case. It's an ugly piece—between three and four inches long. I eventually lost the bottle, but I'm still hanging on to the shrapnel. The following day I got my touch of gas—not badly—but I felt it more as the time passed on. After being in hospital a few weeks I went back to the trenches for about a month, but it gave me trouble again—consequently I was sent back to hospital. From there I was sent to a convalescent camp for a few weeks' rest, but I had only been at the C.C. a short time when I was carried back into hospital (once more) doubled up with pain. I think I am rid of it now, and I was marked 'active' only on Saturday last, so I expect to be sent back up the line any time when a draft is to proceed. In the meantime I am working in the orderly room, and may quite possibly be kept here several weeks yet. We never know! Now that I feel better, however, I don't mind in the least going up again.

"Life here—as you may imagine—is a 'wee bit' on the rough side, but the boys go through everything with a wonderfully broad smile. Some of the boys one meets here are 'proper lads' and can always keep one smiling. I only hope, before this year ebbs away, they will be coming home a proud and victorious army."

Pte. Kilborn sends his kindest remembrances and best wishes to his many ringing friends, and adds that he hopes he may have the luck to be spared to see them all again soon—during the year, any way.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last a very successful and well-attended meeting of the Manchester Branch took place at Pendlebury. Ringers were present from Manchester, Prestwich, Pendleton, Ashton, Hyde, Deane, Bolton, Didsbury, Miles Platting, Radcliffe, etc.

The newly-appointed Vicar (the Rev. A. Jones Philips) presided over the meeting, and gave a hearty welcome to the ringers. He dwelt upon the important position the ringers held in church life, urging upon all the necessity of giving of their best.

The Rev. A. Jones Philips and Messrs. W. Grundy and W. Oakes, of Worsley, were elected members of the Association. Radcliffe was chosen as the next meeting place.

Sympathetic reference was made to the death of Mr. James Gratorex, of Strangeways, Manchester, and to the illness of Mr. James Booth of Ashton-under-Lyne, who has been in a precarious state of health for many years. Votes of condolence were passed with Mr. Booth and the relatives of Mr. Gratorex.

The ringing included touches of Plain Bob, Grandsire, Double Norwich and Superlative.

IS IT A RECORD ?

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—An old friend of mine, at the age of 73 years and nine months, rang an inside bell in a peal of London Surprise. I shall be obliged if you or any readers can kindly inform me if this is a record.—Yours faithfully,

Bishop's Stortford.

HENRY DEW.

NOTICES.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge and District Branch. — The monthly meeting will be held at Tytherington on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at 6 p.m. Will those requiring tea please notify not later than Wednesday, March 15th, to W. A. Lewis, Branch Hon. Secretary, Ham, Berkeley, Glos.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —A branch meeting will be held at the Holy Trinity Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, March 18th, 1916. Bells ready at 3 o'clock.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division. —A meeting will be held at Wedford on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available 3 o'clock till 7. Service 5 o'clock. Tea provided for those who notify me before the 15th. Subscriptions for 1916 are now due.—F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District. —A meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Hornsey, on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Short service at 5 o'clock. Tea in St. Mary's Hall, Brook Road at 5.30. No ringing after 8 p.m. Members are reminded that subscriptions for 1916 are now due.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Secretary, 19, Wood Street, Walthamstow.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District. —The half-yearly meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Newington, on Saturday, March 25th, 1916. Bells available from 3 p.m. Half rail fares allowed up to 2s. Subscriptions for 1916 should be paid on or before that date.—Edward A. G. Allen, Hon. District Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch. —The next branch meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, on Saturday, March 25th, 1916. Bells ready from 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30. Reports are ready. Tea will be provided in the Schoolroom at 8d. each for those sending in to Mr. J. Rollerson, 70, Schofield Road, Rawtenstall, not later than 23rd.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District. —A meeting will be held at Feltham on Saturday, March 25th. Bells available from 4 o'clock. Tea provided at a small charge at 6. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on March 28th, for business and on the 23rd for handbell practice.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting of this Society will be held at Bolsover on Saturday, April 1st. Bells available from 3.30 to 7.30 p.m. The members of the Committee are requested to meet in the Church Institute at 4.30.—Sam Thomas, Secretary, 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. The next meeting will be held on April 1st at Oldham Parish Church. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Business meeting at 6.30. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — South-Western Division. — Will members and friends kindly note, that during the absence of the Hon. District Secretary (Mr. H. Rumens) on Military Service, the secretarial duties will be undertaken by the undersigned, to whom all subscriptions and communications should be sent. — Ernest J. Butler, 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO THE LATE WILLIAM SNOWDON. — The Members of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers propose to erect a Memorial to the late William Snowdon in the form of a Brass Tablet in Ilkley Parish Church, near to the Ringers' Window already erected to the memory of his brother, Jasper Whitfield Snowdon. Will any person wishing to be associated with this movement kindly communicate with the Treasurer to the Fund, Mr. H. Williams, New Worthy Cemetery, Leeds, Yorks.

PEAL BOOKS. — Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application. — J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.



IMPORTANT NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

Owing to the curtailment of postal facilities, correspondents are requested to forward their communications as promptly as possible. We cannot guarantee to insert anything which does not reach us by first post on Tuesdays.

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FRIDAY, MARCH 24th, 1916.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
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CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

It is not surprising to learn that the Central Council meeting, which was to have been held at Plymouth, has been abandoned for this year. The step was taken by the Standing Committee on the ground that: "In the present pressure of the war and its accompanying burdens, the likelihood of the attendance of a reasonable number of members at so distant a place as Plymouth is very remote." The action of the Standing Committee is certain to find endorsement among the members, to many of whom the sterner calls of duty at the present time would prove an effectual bar to a trip to Plymouth. Moreover, with the more serious work on hand, the affairs of the Council are unlikely to suffer by postponement, and, as at present proposed, the arrangements for meeting in the western town will stand for next year.

The advisability of going so far afield as Plymouth at a time when the war claims almost undivided attention and travelling facilities are much curtailed, was discussed in London last year. Some nearer venue was suggested, but it was considered that it was Plymouth's turn, and so Plymouth had it. Had the advocates of Bath, or some other town more easily accessible, been successful in their appeal, the possibility is that there would not have been need for postponement, but there is no need to quarrel with the decision that was then come to or to regret that there is to be no meeting this year. As a matter of fact, the various committees can have had time for very little work, and, as Mr. E. H. Lewis mentions in a letter elsewhere in this issue, the proposed new publications, which have been in contemplation for the last year or two, are held up in consequence of present conditions. When the war is over, as everyone fervently hopes it may be before next year's Council meeting is due to be held, and when we have passed through victory to peace, the Council can return with renewed interest to its affairs. Nothing will be lost by this interregnum, while the expense saved to the associations in sending representatives will not be unwelcome, at a time when finances are none too flourishing, and many organisations can hardly make ends meet.

The abandonment of this year's meeting is the first break in the annual deliberations of the Council, which was established 26 years ago to draw together the various ringing organisations throughout the country, and to watch over the welfare of the Exercise. During its existence the Council has done a great deal to raise the standard of ringing, and it has also been the object of much criticism. Its utility has more than once been questioned by ringers who feel that its deliberations lead nowhere, but, with all its faults, its purpose is an important one, even though the results of some of its meetings have hardly shown its usefulness.

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**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

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Kindly ask us to Inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract, — we may be able to assist you.

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TWELVE BELL PEAL.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD
On Saturday, March 18, 1916, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,
At Christ Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt., in E flat.

| | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| THOMAS H. REEVES Treble | JAMES L. WELLS 7 |
| CHARLES DICKENS 2 | FRANK W. PERRENS 8 |
| JAMES E. GROVES 3 | HERBERT KNIGHT 9 |
| FREDERICK DICKENS 4 | JESSE SCREEN 10 |
| ALBERT WALKER 5 | JAMES GEORGE 11 |
| A. PADDON SMITH 6 | *GEORGE YENDALL Tenor |

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and
Conducted by THOMAS H. REEVES.

* Proposed a member previous to starting. Rung with the bells half-muffled and in the inverted titlums and handstroke home positions, as a last tribute of respect to the memory of Alderman T. Underhill, aged 92, "Father of the Town Council," and for 45 years a worshipper at this church.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

CHORLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
At the Church of St. Lawrence,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART REVERSED. Tenor 12½ cwt., in G.

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| JOHN MARSDEN Treble | JOHN H. GARTSIDE 5 |
| BENJAMIN ALLRED 2 | PETER CROOK 6 |
| HERBERT ALLRED 3 | FRED RIGBY 7 |
| TOM LOFTHOUSE 4 | *JAMES HOPWOOD Tenor |

Conducted by PETER CROOK.

* First peal. The ringers of the 2nd and 3rd hail from Tyldesley, the 6th from Bolton, and the rest belong to local band.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Monday, March 13, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

At the Residence of Mr. A. WALKER,
81, BAKER STREET, SPARKHILL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5009 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 size in B flat.

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| GEORGE F. SWANN 1-2 | JAMES E. GROVES 5-6 |
| THOMAS RUSSAM 3-4 | ALBERT WALKER 7-8 |
| JAMES GEORGE 9-10 | |

Composed by JAMES E. GROVES, and
Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

Witness: MRS. WALKER.

Rung to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Mr. T. Russam's first peal and also as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. E. Groves. First peal of Caters "in hand" as conductor.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS
AND THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY GUILD.

On Wednesday, March 15, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,
At the SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| JAMES HUNT 1-2 | EDGAR WIGHTMAN 5-6 |
| FRANK SMITH 3-4 | WILLIAM J. POWELL 7-8 |
| WILLIAM J. NUDDS 9-10 | |

Composed and Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

Witness: W. A. GREENING.

First peal of Treble Ten "in hand" by all. It is believed to be the first peal of Treble Bob "in hand" by Royal Cumberlands. The peal was rung at the third attempt.

SHEFFIELD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 15, 1916, in Two Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT 11, FISHER ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| WILLIAM J. THYNG... .. 1—2 | ALBERT C. FEARNLEY ... 5—6 |
| CLEMENT GLENN 3—4 | R. WILFRED COLLIER ... 7—8 |

Composed by J. W. MOORHOUSE, and
Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 18, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. H. CHECKETTS,
59, WINDSOR ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| MISS ELLEN M. JOHNSON 1—2 | FREDERICK J. JOHNSON... 5—6 |
| JOSEPH D. JOHNSON ... 3—4 | HARRY MIDDLETON ... 7—8 |
| JAMES HEMMING 9—10 | |

Composed by FRED G. MAY, and
Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

Witness: HARRY CHECKETTS.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor. The composition contains the 6th its extent behind the 9th and 8th in the tittums and handstroke home positions.

NATIONAL RELIEF FUND.

| | | | |
|------------------------------------|------|----|----|
| | £ | s. | d. |
| Amount already acknowledged | 123 | 6 | 5 |
| Mr. R. Newton, Boston, Mass | 0 | 15 | 0 |
| | £124 | 1 | 5 |

A CONTRIBUTION FROM AMERICA.

Dear Sir,—Please accept the enclosed cheque for 15s. as my individual donation to the National Relief Fund. My reason in sending it is this: Had I been home in Manchester, the above would just about be the amount it would cost me for the peal attempt at the Town Hall on "Dick Newton's Birthday," February 14th. It comes with a feeling that our fortunes in the war are about to take a great change, and although we are not amongst the fighters in the trenches, we are doing useful work here, raising money for the war relief fund. Three of us ringers are on Relief and Entertainment Committees, the profits of all concerts, balls, etc., going to the fund. I am pleased to say I am in the best of health, and hope this finds you and all my ringing friends the same.—Yours very sincerely,

RICHARD NEWTON.

54, Copeland Street, Roxbury, Boston, Mass.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers serving with the Forces:—

Pte. H. E. Tomkins, of All Saints', Calverton, 9th Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, now at Bovington Camp, Wool.

Pte. W. J. Grove, of Tring, Northamptonshire Regiment, now at Chatham.

From St. Mary's, Chiddingfold:—

Pte. G. E. Wheatley, R.M.L.I., H.M.S. "Canada."

Pte. A. G. Fitchett, 3/5th Queen's, R.W.S. (T.F.).

Pte. T. Spirit, 9th Reserve, Queen's, R.W.S.

F. W. Hill, Inns of Court O.T.C.

LEWISHAM, KENT.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, March 19th, 1916, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins.: W. Seeley, A.S.C. (of Bushey) 1, H. Warnett 2, J. Crowder 3, E. J. Pannett 4, C. H. Walker 5, H. Walker 6, W. W. Fox (conductor) 7, H. G. Goodwin 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. W. W. Fox.

TWO NOTABLE PEALS OF THE PAST.

Next Monday is the anniversary of two noteworthy peals. The first is the 12,000 of Treble Bob at Shoreditch, which terminated the long rivalry for the record length between the College Youths and the Cumberlands. It is recorded in the belfry as follows:—

"Saturday, March 27th, 1784, the Society of Cumberland Youths rang in this steeple a complete peal consisting of 12,000 changes of Treble Bob Royal, with 60 courses, and was performed in 9 hrs. and 5 mins. The length of time and the masterly manner in which it was rung, will remain a surviving honour to the performers. It is allowed by all competent judges in the noble art to be the greatest performance ever done on ten bells. The performers were: Geo. Gross 1, James Barnard 2, Francis Nay 3, Thos. Reeves 4, Isaiah Bray 5, James Patrick 6, William East 7, Abraham Smith 8, Malachi Cannon 9, Allen Grant 10. Composed and called by George Gross, senr."

John Tichborne, a prominent Cumberland of the time, wrote the following lines upon the performance:—

"Come, ringers all, and view this church, within the steeple door
Twelve thousand Oxford Treble Bob was rung in eighty-four,
In hours nine and minutes five, the Cumberlands did complete,
And on the twenty-seventh day of March, the College Youths they beat.

Success unto the Cumberlands wherever they do go

That they may always have success to beat their haughty foe!"

This peal was not beaten until two or three years ago, when 14,000 Treble Ten was rung at Ashton-under-Lyne.

The other noteworthy peal, of which March 27th is the anniversary, was a 10,080 Grandsire Caters rung at New College, Oxford, in 1815. This occupied 6 hrs. 42 mins., and was rung by the Junior Society of Cumberland Youths.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.

The Durham and Newcastle Association has decided not to issue this year the customary annual report, but a short statement has been circulated to the members. In deciding to defer the printing of the report, it is stated that the items of interest which could be inserted were very meagre, and that as the cost of printing would be much greater than usual and subscriptions in many cases were in abeyance on account of the war, the Association was not justified in incurring heavy expense at the present unfortunate time. By next year, it is hoped, the national anxiety and trouble will be over, and an account for the two years would then be issued together. During the year ended on September 30th, 1915, six peals were rung; two on tower bells (Stedman), and four on handbells. Of the former, one was rung at Whitley Bay, the other at Sunderland, with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute to the memory of the late Lieut. C. O. Sayer, 7th Durham Light Infantry. The handbell peals were rung at Whitley Bay, viz., three of Bob Major and one of Stedman Caters. Only 16 belfry returns were sent in in connection with Ferry's list. In accordance with the resolution at the annual festival in 1914, the six-bell towers were put into a section by themselves, and the eight, ten and 12-bell towers into another, and two certificates only awarded in each class. The results are:—

Six-bell Towers: 1st, Benfieldside, St. Cuthbert's, 1030.48 points; 2nd, Darlington, Holy Trinity, 212.27 points.

Eight, Ten and 12-Bell Towers: 1st, Sunderland, St. Ignatius, 1423.41 points; 2nd, Whitley Bay, St. Paul's, 898.34 points.

The balance sheet showed that the balance in hand with which the financial year was commenced was £4 1s. 2d., but the expenditure exceeded income by £5 3s. 9d., leaving a balance due to treasurer of £1 2s. 7d.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the North and East district of the above Association was held at Hornsey on Saturday last, and was attended by about 36 members and friends. There was a short service at 5 o'clock, with an address by the Rector (the Rev. B. Spink), who spoke of the duties of a ringer as a Churchman.

Tea was served in the Parish Hall, followed by the business meeting. The Rector presided, and was supported by the Revs. E. F. Blenkin and R. Ridge (curates), Mr. A. T. King, I.S.O. (president), Mr. F. A. Milne (hon. treasurer), Mr. J. Armstrong (Master), Mr. C. T. Coles (hon. secretary), Mr. J. R. Sharman, etc.

Four new members were elected, and a statement was made by the Hon. Secretary on the arrangements being made for the forthcoming annual general meeting, which is to be held at St. Stephen's, West Ealing, on April 29th.

The President proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector of Hornsey for his address at the service, and for the use of the bells, and also to the good ladies who had so well provided tea.—The Rev. B. Spink replied, welcoming the Association to Hornsey, and thanking the president and the members for their vote of thanks.

Afterwards another visit was paid to the belfry until 8 o'clock. During the day touches were rung in many methods, including Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Stedman, Cambridge and London Surprise Minor.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

BY "BOB MAJOR."

I seem to be coming in for shock after shock. First I learn that old John Holt was by no means the man we have thought him to be, and that his "Original" is not likely long to occupy the position it now holds as the blarney stone of the Exercise. Then came an eminent authority to cast suspicion on the actual bona fides of Holt. I had hardly recovered my breath after this second shock, when I got a letter from a correspondent who signs himself "Grandsire," and who writes "Dear Bob Major—Here's another 'staggerer.' We have been taught to believe that good old Fabian Stedman was the inventor of Change Ringing, but in an interesting article on 'Bells and Bell Ringing' in the 'Millgate Monthly,' for April, 1915, the writer mentions that Pythagoras, a Greek scholar, writing about 500 B.C., says: 'Change ringing is the science of numbers,' which goes to show that our art is by no means so modern as we have been led to believe, but that it had reached an advanced stage of perfection, even at that early date. Poor old Fabian Stedman!"

DIGGING UP HISTORY.

Yes, indeed, poor old Fabian Stedman! This puts him absolutely out of the running for the honours. As I sat in my arm-chair and pondered upon this letter, I wondered whether, in that dim and distant past, when Pythagoras, athlete, poet, philosopher, musician and mathematician, flourished, the ancients had not done some peal ringing, and had anticipated us modern mortals by some thousands of years. Thus musing, I betook myself to the British Museum, and to my unbounded delight, came, in my search, upon a record, engraved on a big brick, which was, I suppose, the ancient form of peal book.

YE ANCIENT RECORD.

The egmatice inscription was translated for me by a hoary looking old fossil. The date seemed a bit obscure, but apparently it was in the 62nd or 63rd Olympiad (about 526 B.C.), and what the ancient tablet recorded was this:—

Know All Men By These Presents.

That I, Pythagoras, whose knowledge of that mysterious art known as change ringing is far beyond the conception of any other man, called together all those skilled in the ringing of bells and here in this tower did perform, with the assistance of those whose names are mentioned below, the most marvellous peal known to the wit of man. It was composed by me, none other could have done it, and the bobs were called by me. The changes numbered 9999. I gave the order to begin at noon, and the sun was low in the western sky ere the peal was finished. I place on record my recognition of the services of the two first mentioned whose great age might well have excused them from taking part in so great a performance.

| | |
|---|--------|
| Simonides (of Cos) | Treble |
| Xonophanes (of Athens) | 2 |
| Anacreon (of Teos) | 3 |
| Thespis (itinerant actor) | 4 |
| Polycrates (of Samos) | 5 |
| Hipparchus (of Athens) | 6 |
| Miltiades (of Athens) | 7 |
| Pythagoras (who composed and conducted this peal) | Tenor |

THE AWAKENING.

When this ancient record had been read to me by my venerable looking guide, I stood and wondered. Why was it this ancient brick, bearing the names of men more famous than any who have adorned modern ringing history had not been made known to us before? What was Jasper Snowdon thinking about to overlook this extraordinary and unique thing? I turned to my guide, but he had slipped away, and a voice said, "If you want to sleep why don't you go to bed." I had been dreaming!

THAT MUFFLED RINGING.

I am not surprised that someone should take to task the writer who suggested that "during the war" we should ring our bells muffled every Sunday. That would, unquestionably, be carrying the thing to an absurd extreme, but there will be few of my readers who will agree with the Rev. H. Law James that the universal muffled ringing on January 2nd was a desecration of the Sabbath. I am not going to enter upon any argument on the subject, it was sufficient for me, as it was to thousands of other ringers, that an opportunity presented itself of honouring the memory of those who have fought and died for the country, for me and for the Rev. H. Law James. There was no sickly sentimentalism about that, and, so far as I was concerned, the sanction of two Archbishops and over a score of other prelates was sufficient guarantee that we were doing nothing to desecrate the spirit of Sunday. But, of course, we ought to have consulted Mr. James.

COLEMAN STREET.

The history of Coleman Street bells in last week's "Ringing World" recalled to my mind two performances which were accomplished there—at least, I believe they were. The anniversary of one was on St. Patrick's Day, for it was on that day, about a dozen years ago, that the first peal by the Irish Association rung out of Ireland was scored at St. Stephen's, Coleman Street. Some few years before that, history was made in the tower by the ringing of the first peal of London Surprise in the City of London. This was put to the credit of St. Peter's Society, Brighton, then at the zenith of their fame. They possessed at that time more than half a band of Georges, for there were five of them: George Attree, George Baker, George King, George Smart, and, last but not least, George Williams. What changes time works. The band at St. Peter's reached absolutely the top of the tree, but dispersal put an end to an almost unchecked career of progress. I am told, however, that after the war we shall hear more of St. Peter's Society, for, although there is "nothing doing" in the peal ringing line at present, the band are not letting the grass grow under their feet. More power to their elbows!

C.B.

It is astonishing what some people will do for a bit of ringing. In the old days it was nothing for a man to walk a dozen or fifteen miles to practise Grandsire Triples, and now that bicycles, to say nothing of railway trains and the greater luxury of motor-cars, extend the radius of action, why, a ringer will think nothing of a thirty or forty mile evening journey for a bit of his favourite method. And some men will also risk the ruffling of the waters of the domestic mill pond for "just one more touch," which will delay his arrival home at the appointed hour. But the latest incident which has come to my notice is the penalty which befel a well-known Essex ringer, who, while on week-end leave with orders to report on Sunday night, found a quarter-peal arranged for him for Sunday evening service. He could not resist. The quarter was rung, the train was lost, and there was a man missing at roll call. He arrived at his quarters on Monday morning. Result: 7 days' C.B. But, he said, the quarter-peal was worth it.

NEW MAJOR METHODS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The "New Double Method," published by you last week, was inserted in the C.C. Collection during the early summer of 1914. It was subsequently published by Mr. Trollope in "Bell News" of June 13th, 1914, under the name of Mancroft. It has been provisionally selected for printing as "Double Mancroft Bob," together with the single variation.

I feel confident that there are no new plain Major Methods, having regular lead-ends, and having no seventh's places except under the treble, other than the 828 methods, which are in the C.C. Manuscript Collection. The methods selected for printing would have been in type many months ago if it had not been for far more useful work which requires to be done in these times.—I am, yours, etc.,

EDWIN H. LEWIS.

Waygateshaw, Carlisle, Scotland.
March 15th, 1916.

SINGLE MANCROFT BOB.

12345678
21435768
24137586
42315768
43251786
34527168
35472618
53746281
57364821
75638412
76583142
67851324
68715342
86173524
81675342
18765432
18674523
Bob
17864523
Single
18764523

| | | | | | |
|----------------|---------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Single | | Norwich | | | |
| (22) | (23) | (24) | (25) | (26) | (27) |
| 997113. | 957111. | 957313. | 977153. | 979335. | 959311. |
| Double Norwich | | College Single | | | |
| (29) | (30) | (31) | (32) | | |
| 997 | 999333 | 999155 | 959355 | | |

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RINGERS WITH COMMISSIONS.

A PRISONER OF WAR.

Lieut. John Grant Stilwell, of the 4th Batt. Hampshire Regt., whose photograph we give this week, was a most promising young ringer, who received his introduction to the Art at Yately, Hants. He is the eldest son of Lieut.-Col. G. H. Stilwell, V.D., late commanding the 4th Batt. Hampshire Regt., and grandson of Mr. J. P. Stilwell, J.P., of Yately. The latter is the esteemed President of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, and Col. Stilwell is a life member. Lieut. Stilwell, who is an excellent musician, took a keen interest in ringing, and was making rapid progress when war broke out. He is a member of the Yately band and a life member of the Winchester Guild. He was born at Windsor in 1895, and educated at Hillside School, Godalming, and the Rev. F. P. David's House at Winchester, where he took a keen



LIEUT. J. G. STILWELL.

interest in the O.T.C., in which he formed one of the winning team for the House Drill Cup in 1911. In October, 1913, he proceeded to Magdalen College at Oxford, and rowed on the river in the College 2nd eight which made three bumps in the "Eights week" races in May, 1914. In July he rowed in his College four at Henley for the Wyfold and Visitors Challenge Cup. On the 17th July, 1913, he was gazetted as Second-Lieutenant in the 4th Batt. Hampshire Regiment, and at his first training at Blandford he distinguished himself by coming in 11th out of 240 starters for the Marathon race for the Mayor's Cup. On the outbreak of the war he was promoted to Lieutenant, and proceeded with his battalion to India and the Persian Gulf. He took part in the trying march to Awaz and was invalided to India suffering from blood poisoning and heatstroke, and returned to rejoin his battalion at Amara just in time to take part in the fighting, in which he was wounded and left a prisoner in the hands of the Turks.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

THIS YEAR'S MEETING ABANDONED.

The Standing Committee of the Central Council has decided to abandon the annual meeting of the Council this year, and the following letter has been sent to the members:—

Fretherne, Stonehouse, Glos.,
18th March, 1916.

Dear Sir,

At the instance of the President, the Standing Committee has been consulted as to the advisability of holding the usual annual meeting this year. In their replies the members of the committee are unanimous in their opinion that it will be best not to hold it, on the ground that under the present pressure of the war and its accompanying burdens, the likelihood of the attendance of a reasonable number of members at so distant a place as Plymouth is very remote. The meeting for this year is, therefore, abandoned.

Hoping, however, as we most earnestly do, that a brighter prospect is in store for us in 1917, members of Council, hon. secretaries of affiliated associations, and all whom it may concern, are asked to be kind enough to accept the present intimation as notice of the next meeting to be held (D.V.) at Plymouth, on Whitsun Tuesday, 29th May, 1917. Notices of motion, reports of committees, and other official matter should reach me not later than Saturday, 28th April, 1917. Full notice of the meeting, with list of Agenda and any other necessary particulars, will be sent to you on or before 15th May, 1917. As the notices usually sent out in January will not be sent in January next, you are particularly requested to keep this for reference until you receive the list of agenda, etc., in May next year.

All affiliation fees paid for 1916 are valid till 31st December, 1917.—I am, dear Sir, yours very truly,

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

Hon. Secretary.

MUFFLED RINGING.

A VOICE FROM THE TRENCHES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I notice in your issue of the 3rd inst. a letter suggesting the permanent adoption of half-muffled ringing for the duration of the war. Now, I do not know whether "H" is voicing the opinion of ringers generally with his suggestion or not. If he is, then I am very sorry, for you must be getting very down-hearted in old England. I feel sure that ringers over here would strongly oppose such a suggestion. We are certainly labouring in solemn times, and this war is an awful business, suffering and death being everywhere rampant, but do we not believe that the cause is a worthy one, that we are fighting and dying to crush militarism, and that out of this horrible chaos will come a glorious and lasting peace?

No, to muffle the bells (except for special occasions) would, I think, be a great mistake. Then again, what would be the feelings of a fellow coming home for a short furlough, after months of this hazardous work, if he heard his favourite bells muffled? I cannot conceive it.

Blackburn, Lanes, now "Somewhere in France."

A. T.

BELL RESTORATION AT HEVERSHAM, WESTMORLAND.

The ring of six bells in Heversham Parish Church, Westmorland, have been undergoing restoration, and have now been completed to the greatest satisfaction of all concerned. The bells have been rehung and the whole of the framework has been strengthened by Messrs. John Warner and Sons, Ltd., of the Spitalfields Bell Foundry, London, who have fitted them with their patent self-aligning, self-lubricating, oil ring bearings, under the supervision of the firm's representative, Mr. Frank Smith, the well known change ringer. The weight of the tenor is 14½ cwt., in F, and after ringing 720 Plain Bob Minor the ringers expressed their views, and all were delighted in the change which had taken place for the better with regard to the "go" of the bells. The 720 was rung by: H. Varley 1, R. Sisson 2, W. G. Wilson 3, W. Thompson 4, P. Birkett 5, F. Smith 6. In addition to these, the following ringers from Milnthorpe also took part: W. Scott, C. E. Mashiter, G. Wilson, W. Garnett and J. Moss. The bells, which were given by the late Margaret and Mary Woods, of Elm Lawn, Heversham, in 1870, bear the following inscriptions:—

"Treble: Let him that is athirst come; 2nd: Whosoever will let him take of the water of life freely; 3rd: Jesus Christ the same yesterday, to-day, and for ever; 4th: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ; 5th: Praise the Lord O my soul and forget not all his benefits; 6th: Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord.

BELLS OF MANCHESTER TOWN HALL.

BY ERNEST MORRIS.

Manchester possesses some magnificent public buildings, but the most important is the Town Hall, completed in 1877 at a cost of £1,053,264. It covers an area of about 8,648 square yards, and has more than 250 apartments. The principal tower is 286 feet high, and contains a splendid carillon of 21 bells, probably the heaviest set of its kind in the world. They were cast in 1877, and each bears the founders' name on the waist:—"John Taylor and Co., Founders, Loughborough, MDCCC LXXVII." On the opposite side are the initials of members of the Corporation at that time as follows:—

| | | Weight | | | Note. |
|-----|----------|--------|------|------|---------|
| | | cwt. | qrs. | lbs. | |
| 1. | "J.G.L." | 6 | 3 | 14 | F sharp |
| 2. | "J.K." | 7 | 1 | 5 | F |
| 3. | "B.N." | *7 | 2 | 7 | E |
| 4. | "P.F.W." | 7 | 3 | 14 | D sharp |
| 5. | "J.M.B." | *8 | 2 | 9 | D |
| 6. | "W.B." | 8 | 3 | 0 | C sharp |
| 7. | "J.G." | *9 | 3 | 14 | C |
| 8. | "J.B." | *10 | 0 | 14 | B |
| 9. | "J.J.H." | *14 | 1 | 3 | A |
| 10. | "J.T." | 16 | 0 | 6 | G sharp |
| 11. | "G.B." | *17 | 1 | 7 | G |
| 12. | "J.W." | 21 | 1 | 7 | F sharp |
| 13. | "J.A." | *23 | 0 | 11 | F |
| 14. | "J.C." | *27 | 0 | 4 | E |
| 15. | "C.S." | 31 | 2 | 0 | D sharp |
| 16. | "J.M." | *39 | 0 | 0 | D |
| 17. | "J.L." | 43 | 2 | 0 | C sharp |
| 18. | "J.H." | *52 | 0 | 0 | C |
| 19. | "W.H.T." | 71 | 0 | 0 | B |
| 20. | "M.C." | 100 | 2 | 0 | A |
| 21. | "A.H." | 162 | 3 | 0 | G |

Total 686 . 1 . 3

Those marked * are hung for change-ringing, and used to be rung twice weekly, on Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoons, by members of the Police Force, who constituted the official band, but, owing to the war, this practice is now discontinued. Besides bearing the above initials and founders' name on their waists, the bells have round the shoulder, lines from the late poet laureate, Lord Tennyson's "Ring out Wild Bells," as follows:—

- (1) Ring in the Christ that is to be.
- (2) Ring out the darkness of the land.
- (3) The larger heart the kindlier hand.
- (4) Ring in the valiant Man and free.
- (5) Ring in the thousand years of peace.
- (6) Ring out the thousand wars of old.
- (7) Ring out the narrowing lust of gold.
- (8) Ring out old shapes of foul disease.
- (9) Ring in the common love of good.
- (10) Ring in the love of truth and right.
- (11) The civic slander and the spite.
- (12) Ring out false pride in place and blood.
- (13) With sweeter manners, purer laws.
- (14) Ring in the nobler modes of life.
- (15) And ancient forms of party strife.
- (16) Ring out a slowly dying cause.
- (17) Ring in redress to all mankind.
- (18) Ring out the feud of rich and poor.

- (19) For those that here we see no more.
- (20) Ring out the grief that saps the mind.
- (21) Ring out the false ring in the true.

In 1882 the tenor was recast, the previous bell being 6 tons 9 cwt., while the present one is 8 tons 2 cwt. 3 qrs., and is in height 6 feet, with a diameter of 7 ft. 7½ ins. Up to the present time twelve peals have been rung on the bells, viz.:—Grandsire Triples 1, Caters 7, Stedman Triples 1, Caters 1, Kent Treble Bob Royal 2.

The first peal was on January 14th, 1888, being 5169 Grandsire Caters in 3 hours 35 minutes, composed by H. Hubbard, and conducted by Samuel Wood, who also called the first of Royal on the bells on May 20th, 1899. The only peal of Stedman Caters rung here was on September 13th, 1905, in 3 hours 45 minutes, composed by Gabriel Lindoff and conducted by William Pye. The last peal was Thurstans' four-part of Stedman Triples, on April 27th, 1912, in 3 hours 40 minutes, and is the heaviest peal of Triples yet rung single-handed. It was conducted by B. A. Knights.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN MULLIGAN.

We regret to have to record the death of Mr. John Mulligan, a well-known Sheffield ringer, who passed away on Wednesday, March 8th, at the age of 60 years. Deceased had been in indifferent health for a considerable time, but had only been off work about four weeks, consumption being the cause.

His ringing career commenced at Norfolk Row, on the old peal of steel bells in 1874. He joined the company when the present peal were hung in 1875, and it was here that he conducted his first peal. He afterwards became a member of the Ranmoor company, where he called several peals of Grandsire Triples, and of late years was a member of the Sheffield Cathedral Society, resigning a few years ago on account of his health.

The funeral took place at Intake Cemetery on Monday, the 13th, in the presence of a large number of his fellow ringers, a course of Grandsire Triples being rung over the open grave by Messrs. Bugar, Holmes, Thorpe and Thomas.

Mr. Mulligan had placed some 60 peals to his credit, the majority of them being rung with the Yorkshire Association (of which he was a life member), his last being one of Kent Treble Bob Major at Norton on the 30th September, 1907. R.I.P.

5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By J. W. MOORHOUSE, WAKEFIELD.

234567 H M B W R

324576 2
254376 1
256347 — — — —
354267 — — — —
543267 — — — —

453276 2
523476 1
352476 — — — —
532467 — — — —
342567 — — — —

653247 3 — — — —
534276 — — — —
345276 — — — —

563427 3 — — — —
325674 — — — —
425376 — — — —
435627 — — — — 8

345627 1 — — — — 8

4 times repeated.

"H" indicates in and out of Hunt at number of leads specified.

First rung at Sheffield on March 15th, 1916, on handbells, conducted by Clement Glenn.

THORNE, YORKS.—On Sunday, March 12th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor: A. Firth 1, W. Clark 2, T. Hepworth (1st 720) 3, G. Williamson 4, C. H. Thorley 5, J. Clarke (conductor) 6, Gunner H. Taylor 8 (covering).

THE OLDEST BELL RINGER.**DEATH OF A SOMERSET WORTHY.**

Death has just removed one who was probably England's oldest bell-ringer, in the person of Mr. Thomas Hawkins, of Street, Somerset. Born at Street on November 22nd, 1822, he had passed his 93rd birthday, and during the whole of his long life he had never permanently resided away from his native village. He began ringing at the age of 17 years, and celebrated his 90th birthday by taking part in a few rounds on the bells of his parish church. He was married in 1843, and resided until his death in the same house that he moved into at that time.

Mr. Hawkins had rung in most of the towers in the neighbourhood, tolled the bell at West Pennard, where he happened to be working, at the time of the death of the Duke of Wellington. He once climbed to the top of the pinnacle of the tower of St. John's, Glastonbury, to remove the weather-cock, and he refixed it again after it had been regilded. He also helped to fix the tenor at this church after it had been recast. Once, while working at Windsor, he had the privilege of talking with Prince Albert, Queen Victoria's Consort, although at the time he was unaware of his identity.

Mr. Hawkins had enjoyed very good health until a few years ago, but latterly he had suffered from severe bronchial colds. He was medically attended about a fortnight ago, but was well enough on Friday week to be able to walk to the Post Office to draw his old-age pension. On the following morning, about 6.30, however, he was seen by a passer-by on the pavement outside his front door in his night attire, and his daughters, Mrs. Dowden and Mrs. Grant, who live near by, having been promptly fetched, he was put to bed, where he expired shortly afterwards.

The funeral took place at Street Churchyard on Wednesday week, the Rev. R. M. Gibbons (assistant curate) officiating in the unavoidable absence of the Rector. Four of Mr. Hawkins' old comrades of the belfry—Messrs. Harry Griffin, George Richards, Hugh Marsh and Fred Marsh—acted as bearers; and after the interment muffled ringing took place on the bells of the parish church.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

A very successful meeting of the Gainsborough district of the Northern Branch was held at Brigg on Saturday, and was well attended by ringers from Gainsborough, Scotter, Bigby and Scunthorpe, in addition to some of the local company. The bells were available during the afternoon and early part of the evening, and kept going to the methods of Grandsire, Plain Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Tea was provided by Miss Spencer, and was followed by the business meeting, at which the Rev. H. T. Parry (Rector of Bigby) presided. The Chairman made touching and sympathetic reference to the recent death of the Rev. W. F. W. Westbrooke (Vicar of Caistor), who for several years was a honorary member of the Northern Branch, and a vote of condolence with Mrs. Westbrooke and others who were left to mourn their loss was unanimously passed by all present standing in silence.—The usual votes of thanks concluded the meeting.

During the proceedings the Vicar of Brigg (Canon Claye, D.D.), who had been previously detained, entered the room and gave a hearty welcome to the visitors, expressing pleasure at seeing such a good number present.

THE LATE MR. JAMES GRATRUX.**PRESTWICK LOSES AN OLD RINGER.**

On Tuesday, March 7th, was laid to rest in Prestwick Churchyard, all that was mortal of the late Mr. James Gratrix. He joined the Lancashire Association in 1887, and was an eager peal ringer, in those days when peals were worth having, being always willing, when his duties as warden in H.M. Prisons allowed him to take a rope. He rang altogether 45 peals, in Kent Major and Royal, Bob Major and Royal and Grandsire Triples and Cateters.

Only a few ringers attended the funeral, chiefly owing to short notice, and to the fact in these days it is difficult to be excused work. Among those who gathered round the grave were four members of the family in khaki. Touches of Grandsire Triples were rung with the bells deeply muffled, both before the service and after returning from the grave, two ladies and two wounded soldiers taking part. The deceased was 76 years of age, and had been in receipt of a pension for 22 years. Letters and telegrams of sympathy were sent to the family from friends who could not attend, and there was also a large number of wreaths.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.—On Sunday, January 2nd, on the occasion of the visit of the Mayor and Corporation to the church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: H. Argent 1, H. Holden 2, G. Jones 3, G. Morrad 4, F. Hayes 5, F. Mitchell (conductor) 6.—On Sunday, January 9th, 720 Kent Treble Bob: H. Argent 1, F. Hayes 2, G. Jones 3, G. Morrad 4, H. Holden 5, J. Mitchell (conductor) 6.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BROOMFIELD.—Essex Association.—On Sunday, January 9th, at St. Mary's Church, for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: G. Clark 1, C. Parsons 2, G. Parsons 3, Pte. F. Smith (Oxford and Bucks L.I.) 4, H. Bradley 5, Q.-M.-S. Hedges (Oxford and Bucks L.I.), conductor, 6.

LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE.—Midland Counties Association.—On January 9th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1280 changes): *E. Wallace 1, N. H. Widdowson 2, R. A. Hickton 3, R. Drage 4, R. Hickton 5, H. Green 6, *T. Hutchinson 7, J. Bailey (conductor) 8. * First quarter-peal in the method.

HIGHAM, KENT.—On Sunday morning, January 9th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob, and 720 Canterbury Pleasure, and touches of Plain Bob and Grandsire: J. Avis, H. Holden, G. Jones, G. Morrad, F. Hayes, F. Mitchell (conductor). First 720 in both methods on the bells, the old five having recently been rehung and a new treble added by A. Bowell, Ipswich.

MIDDLETON, LANCASHIRE.—On January 24th, a date touch of Bob Major (1916 changes), in 1 hour and 13 mins.: J. Hollows 1, W. Berry (composer and conductor) 2, J. Jacques 3, J. Arrowsmith, senr., 4, W. Hardman 5, T. Ogden 6, T. K. Driver 7, S. Holt 8.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, Feb. 27th, for morning service, 1008 Double Norwich: W. W. Bailey 1, J. G. Rumsey 2, G. Wilson 3, A. Keeble 4, C. F. Bailey (conductor) 5, E. S. Bailey 6, C. Sampson 7, J. M. Bailey 8.—On March 5th, 1008 Bob Major, and on March 12th, 1056 Bob Major: W. W. Bailey 1, C. F. Bailey (conductor) 2, E. H. Bailey 3, A. Keeble 4, E. S. Bailey 5, G. Wilson 6, J. M. Button 7, J. G. Rumsey. Great credit is due to Mr. J. M. Button, who will be 78 years of age next month.

NUNEATON.—On Feb. 27th, for morning service, at the Parish Church, two courses of Cambridge Surprise Major, and for evening service, 704 of Cambridge Surprise: W. Martin 1, R. Pollard 2, H. Argyle 3, W. Horton 4, D. H. Argyle 5, J. F. Clarke 6, J. F. Clarke, senr., 7, W. Chapman 8.

NORTHAMPTON.—Recently, for evening service, at St. Giles' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Cateters (1259 changes): C. Millward 1, W. Sharpe 2, F. Wilford (conductor) 3, S. J. Lawrence 4, R. W. Rogers 5, H. Key 6, Pte. O. Sippetts 7, W. Rogers 8, G. Flavell 9, E. James 10. Specially arranged for Pte. Sippetts, of the Royal Sussex, who is billeted in Northampton.

STANSTED.—Essex Association. — On March 3rd, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): *W. W. Watts 1, G. Gray 2, T. J. Watts 3, *R. Law 4, F. Bird 5, A. Jordan 6, W. Watts (conductor) 7, *H. W. Watts 8. * First quarter-peal. On Sunday, March 5th, for morning service, 720 Plain Bob Minor: W. W. Watts 1, G. Gray 2, R. Law 3, T. J. Watts 4, H. W. Watts 5, W. Watts (conductor) 6, A. Jordan 8. This makes the conductor's 2,450th 720.

WORSLEY, LANCS.—On Saturday, March 4th, at St. Mark's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 47 minutes: J. H. Ridyard 1, J. Ridyard 2, W. Jones 3, W. Oakes (age 18) 4, F. Grundy 5, J. Lowe (conductor) 6, P. H. Derbyshire 7, W. Grundy (age 17) 8. Rung immediately after Confirmation service, at which the Lord Bishop of Manchester officiated.

SWANSEA.—On Sunday, March 5th, for evening service, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 47 mins.: E. Brooks 1, B. Clarke 2, L. H. Page 3, F. B. Stedman 4, A. Prince (conductor) 5, G. Alder 6, J. Eldridge 7, S. Cotterill 8. B. Clarke and L. H. Page are from Winchester Guild; G. Alder and J. Eldridge from Oxford Guild.

MIDSOMER NORTON.—At St. John the Baptist's Church, before evensong, on Sunday, March 5th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples by members of the local band except the tenor man, who hails from Radstock: Percy Speed (aged 13 years) 1, S. Freke 2, F. Chivers 3, I. B. Holmyard (first quarter-peal as conductor) 4, J. Hambleton 5, F. Speed 6, W. Keevil 7, T. Griffin 8.

HAWKHURST.—On Sunday evening, March 5th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: T. Ashenden 1, J. H. Durrant 2, W. Billenness 3, J. Blake 4, G. J. Kemp 5, O. Waghorn 6, G. Billenness 7, F. Chapman 8.—On Sunday evening, March 19th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: T. Ashenden 1, J. H. Durrant 2, A. H. Wellard 3, J. Blake 4, G. J. Kemp 5, O. Waghorn 6, G. Billenness 7, F. Chapman 8.

LEWISHAM, KENT.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, March 12th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: W. W. Fox 1, J. Crowder 2, C. H. Walker 3, G. R. Simmonds 4, E. J. Pannett 5, H. Walker 6, H. Warnett, senr. (conductor) 7, H. G. Goodwin 8. Rung as birthday compliment to Mr. H. Warnett, senr., also to Mrs. G. R. Simmonds and her son.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

KELSALE, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday afternoon, March 12th, for Confirmation service, 288 Kent Treble Bob, 504 Stedman Triples, and 356 Double Norwich, the following taking part: F. Thompson, G. Hardy, W. Drew, J. Aviss, Lieut. J. C. G. Haggard (6th Batt. Suffolk Cyclists), A. Keeble, G. Wilson, E. S. Bailey, C. F. Bailey, J. G. Rumsey, J. Titterton. Conducted by C. F. Bailey and G. Wilson.

BARNES.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, March 12th, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 45 mins.: J. Wilmott 1, F. Skevington 2, M. Jacobs 3, H. Barrett 4, H. Cook 5, R. Mackrill 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, G. Hunt 8.

LONDON.—On Sunday morning, March 12th, at 405, Kingsland Road, Dalston, a 504 Stedman Triples, on handbells: T. Langdon 1-2, J. Hunt 3-4, A. W. Grimes (conductor) 5-6, R. W. Green 7-8. In the evening, on handbells, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, 504 Stedman Triples: T. Langdon 1-2, Mrs. F. I. Hairs 3-4, A. W. Grimes (conductor) 5-6, W. Hewitt 7-8. Both touches were rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. W. Grimes, mother of the conductor.

CHIDDINGFOLD, SURREY.—On Monday, 13th Mar., 1916, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 43 mins.: C. Remnant 1, H. Mullard 2, T. Luff 3, G. Luff 4, T. Attwell 5, W. G. Brockhurst 6, A. J. Bartlett (conductor) 7, Pte. A. G. Fitchett 8. Rung as a farewell to Pte. Fitchett, who was home on his final leave.

STREATHAM.—On March 19th, at St. Leonard's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins.: G. Barrington 1, J. C. Mitchell 2, H. Pates 3, J. Lee 4, C. Lewry 5, F. A. Smith (conductor) 6, A. Walton 7, B. Smith 8. First quarter as conductor.

BRAINTREE.—Essex Association. — On Sunday, March 19th, for evensong, at the Parish Church, 768 Kent Treble Bob and 168 Grandsire Triples: H. E. Hammond 1, C. H. Howard (conductor) 2, G. Lindridge 3, W. H. Hammond 4, W. H. Dyson 5, E. J. Butler (Romford) 6, E. F. Slade 7, H. J. Collins 8.

HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday, March 19th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1248 changes), rung after meeting short for Stedman Caters: A. W. Davis 1, J. A. Trollope (conductor) 2, J. J. Pratt 3, E. Hancox 4, W. Horne 5, W. Lawrence 6, A. Harding 7, H. H. Chandler 8.

UCKFIELD, SUSSEX.—On Saturday, March 18th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins.: A. Tester 1, J. Hart 2, W. Booth 3, G. Ades 4, H. Butcher 5, Sergt. W. Farley (N.S.Y.) 6, H. Statham (conductor) 7, G. Sharman 8. Rung after meeting late for a peal.

ALMONDBURY, YORKS.—On Sunday, March 19th, for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: J. Robertson 1, A. Walker 2, F. Blakeborough 3, H. Nutton 4, J. E. Carter (conductor) 5, J. E. Sykes 6.

TENBY, SOUTH WALES.—On Sunday, March 19th, after evening service, 1064 Grandsire Triples: T. John 1, T. Griffiths 2, J. Evans 3, W. Jenkins 4, L. Jenkins 5, A. Richards 6, R. Jenkins (conductor) 7, Second-Lieut. E. V. Rodenhurst 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mrs. Knowling.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, March 19th, for evening service, 1260 of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: J. Floyd 1, C. Golding 2, F. Walker 3, H. Golding (conductor) 4, J. Floyd, senr., 5, W. Shepherd 6, W. Floyd 7, G. Sells 8. Arranged for G. Sells and C. Golding.

PULBOROUGH.—On Sunday afternoon, March 19th, on the occasion of the visit of the Bishop of Chichester to hold a Confirmation service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: C. Greenfield 1, S. Stone 2, R. Wood 3, J. Burdfield 4, G. H. Lee 5, S. W. Corden 6, A. Greenfield (conductor) 7, H. J. Doick 8.

A GOOD TOUCH OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I wonder if these are the figures for the 1280 Kent Treble Bob Major rung at Streatham, on Feb. 6th, and published in "The Ringing World" for March 3rd? If so I was lucky in pricking them out "on the first time of asking." The qualifications given are, calls at every position of tenor, in four courses, with 6-4 and 6-5 in 5-6 full bobs at "home" and the 6th at "home" two courses.

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|-------|---|------------|---|---|
| 23456 | M | B | W | H |
| 52364 | | — | | 2 |
| 24365 | 1 | | | 2 |
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| 23456 | | In & 5th's | 1 | 2 |

NOTICES.

Terms as to advertisement spaces, etc., can be had upon application.

"The Ringing World" will be on sale every Friday morning, and is obtainable through any newsagent. Should any difficulty be found in securing the paper punctually, information should at once be sent to the office.

"The Ringing World" will be forwarded post free on the following terms (remittance must accompany order):—

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| For 12 months | | 6/6 |
| " 6 " | | 3/3 |
| " 3 " | | 1/8 |

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Newington, on Saturday, March 25th, 1916. Bells available from 3 p.m. Half rail fares allowed up to 2s. Subscriptions for 1916 should be paid on or before that date.—Edward A. G. Allen, Hon. District Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, on Saturday, March 25th, 1916. Bells ready from 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30. Reports are ready. Tea will be provided in the Schoolroom at 8d. each for those sending in to Mr. J. Rollerson, 70, Schofield Road, Rawtenstall, not later than 23rd.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Feltham on Saturday, March 25th. Bells available from 4 o'clock. Tea provided at a small charge at 6. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—A meeting will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on March 28th, for business. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting of this Society will be held at Bolsover on Saturday, April 1st. Bells available from 3.30 to 7.30 p.m. The members of the Committee are requested to meet in the Church Institute at 4.30.—Sam Thomas, Secretary, 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. The next meeting will be held on April 1st at Oldham Parish Church. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Business meeting at 6.30. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Tyldesley on Saturday, April 1st. Bells available from 3 p.m. to dusk. Business meeting 7 p.m.—G. Pincott, Branch Sec.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next monthly meeting of the society will be held at Idle on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (new peal of 8, tenor 16 cwt., by Taylor) available from 3 p.m. Business meeting at 7.30 p.m., in the White Bear Hotel. — Wm. Barton, Honorary Secretary, 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Walton on Saturday, April 1st. Bells ready at 4. Meeting at 7.—Walter Hughes, Hon. Branch Secretary.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — South-Western Division.—Will members and friends kindly note, that during the absence of the Hon. District Secretary (Mr. H. Rumens) on Military Service, the secretarial duties will be undertaken by the undersigned, to whom all subscriptions and communications should be sent. — Ernest J. Butler, 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO THE LATE WILLIAM SNOWDON.—The Members of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers propose to erect a Memorial to the late William Snowdon in the form of a Brass Tablet in Ilkley Parish Church, near to the Ringers' Window already erected to the memory of his brother, Jasper Whitfield Snowdon. Will any person wishing to be associated with this movement kindly communicate with the Treasurer to the Fund, Mr. H. Williams, New Worthy Cemetery, Leeds, Yorks.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.



IMPORTANT NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS

Owing to the curtailment of postal facilities, correspondents are requested to forward their communications as promptly as possible. We cannot guarantee to insert anything which does not reach us by first post on Tuesdays.

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Expense.

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for Tune or Change-ringing, in Guaranteed
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Cathedral, Thurles Cathedral, Trinity College, Cam-
bridge, Belfast Assembly Hall, Magdalen College, Oxford,
and many others to Lord Grimthorpe's designs. In 1897,
writing to the Vicar of Minchinhampton, Lord Grimthorpe said:—"Smith
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in Iron or in Oak.

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Bell Ropes Supplied.**

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Clergy, Churchwardens, and Ringers generally.

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New Bells supplied, Ropes of the best make.
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No. 268. Vol. X.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON
CROYDON, Surrey.
BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



**St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.**

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLET and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912
Gentlemen.

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The letter which appears in our columns to-day, from Mr. J. A. Trollope, upon the shortcomings of the Central Council doubtless reflects the views of a great many members of the Exercise. The criticism is trenchant, but it puts into words what many ringers have long felt, and it is a plain, straight talk, without the detriment of anonymity which often, in the past, has detracted from the weight of other writers. To be perfectly honest, the indictment, coming from a member who has done as much of the "donkey work" of the Council as anyone, and who is in an exceptional position to appraise the Council's influence, both from inside and outside, is a serious one and cannot be lightly waived aside. Of the Council, Mr. Trollope says: "The average ringer pays not the slightest regard to its decisions and opinions, it has no influence in the Exercise, and if it lapsed entirely . . . very few would regret it. The reason is that it does not represent ringers or stand for the Exercise. What qualifications some of its members have are not easy to see."

It is, we are afraid, only too true that some associations elect their members not from the most competent in their ranks, but from those whom they prefer to honour. In an assembly which ought to govern, or, if that is too strong a term, direct the Exercise there is no place for those who are not in constant touch with the men of the belfries. There may, perhaps, be justification in placing a man in a post of honour in an association, without considering his competency as a ringer, but where representation upon a central body, which should lead the way in practical matters as well as discuss more abstruse problems which the average ringer finds it difficult to grapple with, is in question honours ought not to be considered.

To place the Council on the basis which it is really intended to occupy is a practical matter which the associations themselves can do something to accomplish. In the first place they must, all of them, leave personal considerations out of the question, and elect the representatives most qualified for the work, and who have courage enough to say what they think. Then, having elected these men, they should strengthen their hands so that the power could no longer remain with that small circle of which Mr. Trollope complains. The whole point seems to us to come back, therefore, to what we have often advocated before, a more lively interest by the various associations, as organisations, in the doings of the Council. It is seldom indeed that matters for future consideration by the Council or subjects already discussed by them, ever come before the various societies who send representatives. If they were brought up for debate at association meetings, a far wider interest in the Council would be awakened, and the result would be that the sterility of the Council would be changed to useful activity.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs C. CARR, LTD.,
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to Inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract,—we may be able to assist you.

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BIRMINGHAM**

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BEST BELL ROPES.
REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.

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and report on Bells and Towers.

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HANDBELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS
AND THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY GUILD.

On Tuesday, March 21, 1916, in Two Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,
AT THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|-------------------|-----|-----|
| JAMES HUNT | ... | ... | 1-2 | EDGAR WIGHTMAN | ... | 5-6 |
| FRANK SMITH | ... | ... | 3-4 | WILLIAM T. POWELL | ... | 7-8 |

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and
Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN,
Umpire: WILLIAM J. NUDDS.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS
AND THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY GUILD.

On Thursday, March 23, 1916, in Two Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

| | | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|-----|-----|------------------|-----|-----|
| JAMES HUNT | ... | ... | 1-2 | EDGAR WIGHTMAN | ... | 5-6 |
| FRANK SMITH | ... | ... | 3-4 | WILLIAM J. NUDDS | ... | 7-8 |

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and
Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN.
Umpire: WILLIAM J. POWELL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, March 27, 1916, in Two Hours and Thirty-three Minutes,

AT 32, EDGELEY ROAD, CLAPHAM, S.W.,

A PEAL OF CRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----|-----|------------------|-----|-----|
| WILLIAM T. COCKERILL | ... | ... | 1-2 | HERBERT LANGDON | ... | 5-6 |
| CHALLIS F. WINNEY | ... | ... | 3-4 | JOHN N. OXBORROW | ... | 7-8 |

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

Umpires: EDWIN HORREX and EDWIN GIBBS.

VANCOUVER NEWS.

The war has affected ringing in far off Vancouver, just as it has in old England. The men have gone off to the war, and, writing to Second Corporal A. R. Macdonald, who, by the way, is now at Mont Dore Military Hospital, Bournemouth (Ward 104, E Division), Mr. A. C. Limpus says "sometimes we muster eight in the tower but not often. We have a few new men, but not all change ringers." Speaking of the individual ringers, Mr. Limpus says of the former band at Vancouver, two are in England, Lieut. Bressey is "somewhere in France," Taylor went with the North Vancouver Engineers, and Sergt. Saddler Judd has also been to the front and been wounded in action. It may be mentioned that Mr. Limpus was put into touch with his former Vancouver belfry colleague through this journal, and he begins his letter: "Great institution, that Ringing World." Well, we are glad to be of service to ringers at any time, and in any way we are able.

"RINGING WORLD" AT SALONIKA.

His numerous friends in the Ely Diocesan Association will be pleased to learn that Pte P. Webb, of Ickleton, who is at Salonika, is well. Writing on Mar. 12th, he says he is attached to the 245th Motor Transport Co., and is serving as guard on a lorry. He says "There are some fine Greek Churches here, but I have not had a chance to look inside one yet. I have not heard any bells, except single ones tolling for service."

He adds: "I get my 'Ringing World' out here, although it is a few weeks old when it arrives, but it is ever welcome as an old friend, and I seem nearer home when I am reading it. I pass it along to my mates in our tent, and they are very interested in it, although they had never seen a copy before. I was very sorry to read about Mr. E. Pye's death, as I knew him personally. I remember once when I was in London for a day's outing with our Ickleton men, we got to St. Giles', Cripplegate, in time to hear the last part of a peal in which Mr. Pye was taking part. Afterwards he very kindly went with us to St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, as we were short-handed, although all we could ring was Grandsire Triples and Bob Minor. Many a ringer, too, has lost a dear, kind friend, by the death of Mrs. F. Pitstow, of Saffron Walden. I shall be glad," concludes Pte Webb. "when the war is over, and I get back again to old England and hear the bells ringing once more."

PRACTICE SUSPENDED AT BROMLEY.

Owing to police regulations, the practices at SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Bromley, Kent, are suspended until further notice.

ESTABLISHED 1780.

JOHN NICOLL,

**Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope
Manufacturer,**

40, QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.

(Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway).

Late 155, Keeton's Road, Bermondsey.

Maker to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester and Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc.

HINTS ON CONDUCTING.

HELP FOR BEGINNERS.

In my last article I mentioned two of the points which make a knowledge of coursing order valuable; indeed, essential to the successful conductor. One was that it helps him to know if the bells are right and the other to correct any trips that occur. But the value of being able to follow the coursing order of bells does not end here. In a method like Grandsire it is extremely useful as an aid to calling the bobs. A good many touches, to say nothing of peals like Holt's ten-part or the Original can be better called by knowing the bells "before" at the bobs, than in any other way. If one learns the calling from the observation bell merely, one's limitations are only too obvious, and while it is sometimes wise that the conductor, especially when he is a beginner, should ring the observation bell, it is much better that he should be able to ring any bell, and a knowledge of coursing order enables him to do this.

Now, having learnt to course the bells with accuracy while ringing, let us see how this is a guide to knowing which of the bells is coming "before" at a bob. It is hardly necessary, perhaps, for me to point out that the bell which is called "before," in Grandsire is the one which makes the ordinary 3rd's place, and is unaffected in its work by the bob. As the veriest tyro will know, the bell that makes 3rd's place is the one that the treble takes off the lead. And not only that, it is the one which the treble turns from behind and which it follows down in hunting back to lead, or in other words it is the treble's course bell. Now this bell is picked up by the treble when, after the previous lead, it reaches 3rd's place going up and the other bell has just completed its dodge in 4-5. At any time, therefore, between this point and when the treble next leads, a bell passing this pair can see them coursing in proximity, and the conductor calls the bob as the first of the two bells leads.

After he has called one bob the conductor can watch the bell that he has next to call before gradually working into position. As each lead passes this bell will be seen one place nearer the treble, or, in other words, with one bell less between it and the treble, until at length the treble is coursing immediately behind it. It is possible, of course, to have a full five leads between two bobs—this brings the same bell "before" at two successive calls. Let us take such an example and see how the changing coursing order gradually brings the bell into position. Let us begin from rounds, with the object of calling a bob when the 3rd comes "before." At starting the 3rd courses up after the bell in the hunt, and we have the bells running 3, 4, 6, 7, 5, 1, 2. The next lead the 5th makes 3rd's, and the order becomes 5, 3, 4, 6, 7, 1, 2. Then the 7th makes 3rd's and the order is 7, 5, 3, 4, 6, 1, 2. Notice how the bells between the 3rd and the treble are being removed. After the 6th has made 3rd's, the order will be 6, 7, 5, 3, 4, 1, 2; and then when the 4th has made the place, 4, 6, 7, 5, 3, 1, 2. Here, then, after five leads, is the 3rd again in front of the treble and the bob must be called. If the conductor has got to call his own bell "before" he needs to be specially on the alert. He ought, of course, to be well aware when he is going to make the 3rd's place himself, but if he should be uncertain and waited till he met the treble after leading, the bob would be late. To avoid this he should look out to see when the treble turns him from behind.

Incidentally I may mention that when a bell is called "before" and another bob follows at the next lead it is sometimes termed calling a bell "before with a double." This method has its advantages; among them it avoids learning quite so many different bells, and it tells the conductor when there are consecutive bob leads.

I have been asked to supply a correspondent with a lead of Union Triples and a division of Erin. I am always glad to give any help I can in any direction to beginners, if they will only write to me. Here are the figures which are now sought for:

Union Triples.

1234567
2135476
2314567
3241657
3426175
4362715
4637251
6473521
6745312
7654132
7561423
5716243
5172634
1527643
1256734

Erin Triples.

1234567
2143657
1246375
1423657
4126375
4213657
2416375

Bobs and Singles
as in Stedman.

Bob as in Grandsire.

It should be borne in mind that in the light of modern rulings Union is not a "legitimate" (or, to adopt another term, "regular" method), but it is a very musical one, and there are some instructions as to calls and a number of excellent peals in the Central Council's Collection (Section 1). Union is one of the oldest of the odd bell methods. It was practised in Holt's time, and Shipway publishes peals both by him and Reeves. Erin is, of course, one of the newest odd bell methods, and some peals of it appeared in "The Ringing World" on May 19th, 1911.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the South Eastern Division of the Essex Association was held at Widford on Saturday week, members attending from Boreham, Rettendon, Springfield, Writtle, Braintree and Romford. The methods rung included Treble Bob Major, Stedman Triples and Double Norwich Major.

The service, which was brightened by the organ, at which Mr. Saunders presided, was conducted by the Rev. Thurlow, the Rector, who gave an excellent address, taking his text from the Psalm xlii: "When shall I come to appear before the presence of God."

At the close the members adjourned to the Rectory for tea, which was provided by the Rector and Mrs. Thurlow.

After tea the business meeting was held, presided over by the District Master (Mr. W. Lincoln).—One new member and one probationer were elected, and Brentwood was selected as the place for the next meeting, which is to be held in July.

On the proposition of Mr. C. H. Howard (Master of the Association), seconded by Mr. A. Edwards, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector and Mrs. Thurlow for their hospitality in providing the tea, to the Rector for his very helpful address, and to Mr. Saunders for presiding at the organ.

The members then adjourned to the belfry for further ringing till 7 p.m., after which hour the bells have to be silent owing to the restrictions in force.

NEW METHODS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It is quite true that I published the Method in question and named it in the Bell News, but I made it quite clear that I had not the slightest intention of claiming any Method as "mine," even though it was quite indisputable that it had never previously been written out. This one was used to illustrate a law of Method construction that I was then explaining. As a matter of fact it was printed many years ago by Mr. Banks James, and must, I think, be much older still.—Yours truly,

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

Enfield Town, March 25th, 1916.

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Foundry
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A.D. 1570.

Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road,

LONDON, E.



Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

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usical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest, held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

TRENCHANT CRITICISM.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The majority of your readers will, I believe, fully agree with your remarks last week. The Central Council did good work in past years, but has long since become quite sterile. The average ringer pays not the slightest regard to its decisions and opinions, it has no influence in the Exercise, and if it lapsed entirely, which, under certain circumstances, is not altogether improbable, very few would really regret it.

The reason is that it does not represent ringers or stand for the Exercise. What qualifications some of its members have are not easy to see. Others are really representative men, but have no weight or influence in the Council. The power is entirely in the hands of a small circle of men, who are not in touch with ordinary ringers either in the Council or in their own districts. Admission to this circle goes neither by seniority nor by merit, but by personal favour, and the fact that they are individually all good fellows, and for the most part have done good work in the past, only aggravates the case. If the Council is to do any good in the future it must be made to represent the Exercise in fact and not merely in name, and the first essential step to take is to pass a rule that no man shall hold the office of president for more than three consecutive years.—Yours faithfully,
Ealing, March 26th, 1916. J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers who have joined H.M. Forces:—

Albert Harman, of Burstow, Surrey.

J. C. Dean, of Northampton.

From Duffield:—

Pte Albert Cottrell, A.S.C., Base Transport Depot, France.

Pte G. Sandy, 3rd Sherwood Foresters, now at South Shields.

Pte E. A. Jenkins, 3/6th Sherwood Foresters, now at Grantham.

KILLED IN ACTION.

BRISTOL RINGER'S DEATH.

The Bristol ringers deeply regret having lost one of their members, Sapper A. E. Abrahams, who was killed in France on Monday, March 6th, through the exploding of a mine.

This ringer enlisted in "Bristol's Own," but transferred to the Royal Engineers for the dangerous work of mining, which ultimately cost him his life. He had been a member of the St. Thomas' Guild for the last ten years, and was also a member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. He had taken part in several peals. Little did the members think when the Guild gave him a farewell "sing-song" and a few presents that it would be the last time they would see his genial and smiling face. They feel that if ever a soldier died doing his duty for his country Sapper Abrahams did. The sergeant-major, writing home to the deceased's wife, says he was always "cheerful under the most trying conditions." The deceased leaves a widow and two children, the youngest being only one month old, and to them and the other members of his family the ringers of St. Thomas' Guild tender their sympathy. Pte. Abrahams is the first Bristol ringer to be killed in the war. His father (Mr. Sidney Abrahams) and brother (Mr. W. Abrahams) are members of St. Thomas' Guild and the Gloucester and Bristol Association.

On Saturday week the Guild rang a muffled quarter-peal of Grand-sire Triples to the memory of the deceased, and on the following day, as a mark of the esteem in which he was held at the church, the Dead March was played at the close of the service.

OXFORD GUILD MEMBER FALLS IN ACTION.

Another ringer to fall in his country's cause is Pte C. C. Norcott, a member of the Farnham Royal band and of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, who was serving in the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, and was killed in action while with a machine gun party in France on February 11th. He was a keen and smart young soldier, and, although only 17 years of age, had been at the front about six months. As a member of St. Mary's belfry he had shown the promise of a good ringer, and had rung the treble to six-scores of Grand-sire Doubles and touches of Triples, but gave up the rope for the rifle twelve months ago.

TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Your nameless correspondent is not very happy with his figures of the quarter-peal of Treble Bob he gives in your last issue, and, of course, I may say they were not the figures used by me. His figures are hopelessly wrong, being false in several places and in different positions, "false course-ends" even staring one in the face—unprotected. If your correspondent will send me his name and address I will write and show him where the repetitions occur, and also send him the actual figures of the 1280 rung at Streatham.

A. J. PERKINS.

3, Mellows Road, South Beddington, Surrey.

BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM.

Our readers will remember that a few weeks ago the announcement was made in our columns of the appointment of Mr. James George as Ringing Master and tower-keeper at Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham. Mr. George requires no introduction, his name is known to every ringer in the land, and Bishop Ryder's is to be congratulated on having such a well known and universally respected ringer placed in charge.

It speaks much for the attractions of Birmingham (or the Birmingham ringers!) that when Mr. George retired



BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM.

from the service of the L. and N.W. Railway Company, and could have gone to reside in any part of the country he pleased, he chose to settle in the Midland Metropolis, where he has become quite at home, and where he has been heartily welcomed by the St. Martin's Guild, of which he is a staunch supporter.

Mr. George has rung 573 peals, 77 of which are twelve-bell peals, the latter having been rung in no fewer than 19 towers. No other ringer, we believe, has rung peals in so many twelve-bell towers as this. These 19 towers are the following: Ashton-under-Lyne (2 peals of Grandsire

Cinques and 3 of Treble Box Maximus, including the record length of 12,240 in 8 hrs. 39 mins.), 5 peals; Birmingham (25 Stedman Cinques, 2 Treble Bob Maximus, 1 Forward Maximus, 1 Grandsire Maximus), 29; Birching-ton (including 3 in less than 24 hours), 6; Bow, Cheapside, 1; Bristol, 1; Cornhill, 6; Cripplegate, 6; Halifax, 1; Norwich (2 Treble Bob Maximus), 2; Ipswich (1 Stedman Cinques, 2 Treble Bob Maximus), 3; Oxford, 1; Painswick, 1; Sheffield, 3; Shoreditch, 1; Shrewsbury (1 Stedman Cinques, 1 Grandsire Cinques), 2; Southwark, 2; West Bromwich, 4; Wolverhampton, 2; Worcester, 1. Except where stated, all the peals have been Stedman Cinques.

Bishop Ryder's Church, in Gem Street, Birmingham, was named in remembrance of the Hon. Henry Ryder, Bishop of Lichfield (1824-36). It was erected in 1838, and consecrated December 24th in that year. It is a structure of red brick and stone, in a simple Gothic style, with a tower of three stages, rising to a height of 95 feet, surmounted by slender pinnacles at the angles, and an octagonal battlemented lantern. The church was restored in 1874, and in 1894 a new chancel was built and a reredos erected by Sir John C. Holder, Bart., and several stained glass windows were also added in the same year. The living is a vicarage, and has been held since 1900 by the Rev. G. E. Badger, M.A.

Originally the tower contained only one bell, but in 1869 a ring of eight was put in, the money being raised by public subscription. The bells, a nice handy peal with a tenor about 12 cwt. in G, were cast and hung by Messrs. Blews, of Birmingham, and are quite a lively, musical lot to listen to. They were formally opened by a mixed company from St. Martin's and St. Philip's belfries.

Bishop Ryder's soon became a recognised place of meeting for the Birmingham ringers of that day, and many famous men were to be seen there on Saturday nights, among them being Henry Johnson, sen. and jun., known respectively as "Old Harry" and "Young Harry," Wm. Chattell (Old Baker), John Day, Amos and Ned Cresser, John Banister (Woolwich John), W. Heywood, Job Joynes, Sam Jarman and others. Then came younger men, some of whom made names for themselves, such as Harry Bastable, John Carter, Wm. Kent, Harry Avery, John Buffery, and these again were joined or followed by Tom Miller, Walter Bryant, Tom Russam and many others.

After tower ringing was over it was the custom to adjourn to "another place," where, in a room set apart for the ringers, the handbells were brought out, and one could see old and young brought together in the same touch or course. Alas! the old ones are now gone, and the youngsters are no longer young. Carter and Banister would ring Triples, "four in hand," and many other "stunts" would be attempted.

Many a Birmingham ringer of to-day owes his prowess to the lessons learnt among the "old 'uns" that used to meet here on the Saturday night, the meeting having been as regular an institution as the Tuesday evening at St. Martin's.

Since those days the ringing at Bishop Ryder's has slackened off somewhat, but a revival may confidently be expected under the able and energetic leadership of Mr. James George.

LANGPORT, SOMERSET.—On Sunday, March 26th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: G. Locke 1, F. Locke (age 13), first 720, 2, T. J. Lloyd (conductor) 3, C. Sandford 4, W. White (age 16) 5, T. W. Creed 6.

THE NOTATION OF METHODS.

BY H. W. FRIGHT.

On even numbers there must be either two places or none made in each row. Methods and Principles in which the sequence of the courses is unbroken have alternately two places and none, and, therefore, no symbol need be inserted into the formula to represent the rows with no places. The other abbreviations—half lead (or division), omission of compulsory places, writing recurring periods once only, and quarter lead for double methods, remain the same as on odd numbers. The place across the lead-end axis of symmetry must always be indicated, as explained last week, when there is only one bell in the hunt. It will be found that no difficulty arises from writing the places with no indication whether one or two are to be taken for a change—if you are writing a change with a compulsory place you only take one place from the formula, otherwise you take two. There is one additional abbreviation that can be made in Treble Bob Major Methods. If 5, 8 are made in any change when the treble is in 3—4, the 5 can be omitted, for, as it is the custom not to make 7th's except under the Treble, 5th's is the only possible place that could there go with 8th's. It will be found that space is economised, in the case of long formulæ, if they are divided into two (or on higher numbers even more) parts and the parts written below one another. I give below a few examples of eight-bell methods with unbroken sequence.

PLAIN METHODS.

COURT.

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------|--------|---------------------------|
| Single Norwich 41611. | Double Norwich 4361. | 61653. | 81613. | College Single 8(38)3. |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------|--------|---------------------------|

BOB.

| | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|--------|--------|---------------------------|
| Oxford 416112. | Double Oxford 4367. | 436132 | 636152 | St. Clements. 8(38)32. |
|-------------------|------------------------|--------|--------|---------------------------|

TREBLE BOB.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Oxford 34(1812)31. | Superlative 3648367. | Gloucester 344836. 125341. | Norfolk 56456361. |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|

Where the sequence of the courses is broken, every change must as a rule be represented in the formula, a O standing for no places in a change (e.g., C. C. C. 17 Plain Minor 3 4 6 0 1 0 3 2). In cases where it would be impossible to make the places following the O in the change represented by the O, the O can, however, be omitted. For instance, the first O in the formula above is superfluous, for a lead made in the third change of a plain Minor method would cause a bell to lie three blows at lead. This formula would, therefore, be written 3 4 6 1 0 3 2. Thus, when in writing a "broken sequence" method from a formula you come to an impossible place, you know that before that place is a "O" change. Places involved by others can also be omitted. For instance, if you make a 3rd's place in the fifth change of a plain Minor method, the only other place that can possibly be made in that change is obviously 4th's. This can, therefore, be omitted from the formula, and C. C. C. 23 Plain Minor, for example, written 3 4 6 1 3 1 2. This means that when, in writing a method from a formula, you come to a place that prohibits any other place but one from being made with it, you make that one and take the next place in the formula for the succeeding change. Below are a few Treble Bob Major Methods with broken sequence.

| | | | |
|----------|-------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| Bristol. | London. | New Cumberland. | (R.W., M'ch 3rd). |
| 05804. | (38)242384. | 56568. | 034840838. |
| 88361. | 145(16)275. | 056361. | 4145014052. |

It will be noticed that in the second and fourth examples above I have pushed the "omission of involved places" as far as it will go. For instance, in the ninth change of London 1, 4 are made, but as there is a 3rd's in the eighth change, no place other than lead can be made with 4th's without causing a bell to lie more than two blows in one place. I, therefore, write only 4 for the ninth change. This will be found a convenient means of shortening long formulæ.

I hope I have now explained the condensation completely. The underlying idea is to write down the places made in every change, and then omit every place you can. It would be very easy to write down a lead of a method from its formula, and I think, with a little practice, it would be possible to see a good bit of the work without transforming the formula. But these are secondary considerations. The main purpose is to save ink—and, therefore, money—and this the system would obviously do. As I have not illustrated many principles, I will conclude with a few on eight bells.

SEQUENCE UNBROKEN.

Leek.
361836.

SEQUENCE BROKEN.

| | |
|--------------|-----------|
| (G. Baker) | Barnsbury |
| 36180(3618)2 | 361836 |
| (360)2 | (36)20 |

NOTICES.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting of this Society will be held at Bolsover on Saturday, April 1st. Bells available from 3.30 to 7.30 p.m. The members of the Committee are requested to meet in the Church Institute at 4.30.—Sam Thomas, Secretary, 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. The next meeting will be held on April 1st at Oldham Parish Church. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Business meeting at 6.30. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Tyldesley on Saturday, April 1st. Bells available from 3 p.m. to dusk. Business meeting 7 p.m.—G. Pincott, Branch Sec.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next monthly meeting of the society will be held at Idle on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (new peal of 8, tenor 16 cwt., by Taylor) available from 3 p.m. Business meeting at 7.30 p.m., in the White Bear Hotel. — Wm. Barton, Honorary Secretary, 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Walton on Saturday, April 1st. Bells ready at 4. Meeting at 7.—Walter Hughes, Hon. Branch Secretary.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — United practice at St. Mary's Church, Farnham Royal, at 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 1st.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on April 6th and 20th for hand-bell practice, and on the 11th and 25th for business.—William T. Cockerill, Honorary Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Radcliffe on Saturday, April 8th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea will be provided for those sending their names to W. H. Baines, 15, Church Green, Radcliffe, not later than April 6th. Meeting will follow the tea.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—The next District meeting will be held at Romford on Saturday, April 15th. Bells available 3 to 8 p.m. Short service at 5. Tea at the Fox and Hounds 5.30, 8d. each. Business meeting to follow. All will be welcome. Will those requiring tea kindly notify the undersigned by first post Wednesday, April 12th, at the latest.—E. J. Butler (temporary Honorary Secretary), 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Alban's on Easter Monday, April 24th, 1916. Towers open for ringing from 1.30 to 5 p.m. Choral evensong in the Cathedral at 5 p.m., with address to ringers by the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake, Vicar of Thundridge. At 5.50 p.m. meat tea will be served at the Abbey Institute, for which a charge of 9d. each will be made to members. Annual business meeting to follow. The secretary earnestly asks secretaries of bands and unattached members, to advise him as early

as possible the probable number of members attending the meeting, so that satisfactory arrangements can be made for tea. Outstanding subscriptions should be paid at once.—G. W. Cartmel, Honorary Secretary, "Duffield," St. Albans.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Central Division).—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at South-over, Lewes, on Easter Monday. Tower open at 2. Tea, 5.15, in Church Hall, by kind invitation of the Rector to those who notify me by Tuesday, April 18th. Subscriptions for 1916 are now due.—A. D. Stone, 29, Ashton Street, Brighton.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — South-Western Division. —Will members and friends kindly note, that during the absence of the Hon. District Secretary (Mr. H. Rumens) on Military Service, the secretarial duties will be undertaken by the undersigned, to whom all subscriptions and communications should be sent. — Ernest J. Butler, 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO THE LATE WILLIAM SNOWDON.—The Members of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers propose to erect a Memorial to the late William Snowdon in the form of a Brass Tablet in Ilkley Parish Church, near to the Ringers' Window already erected to the memory of his brother, Jasper Whitfield Snowdon. Will any person wishing to be associated with this movement kindly communicate with the Treasurer to the Fund, Mr. H. Williams, New Worthy Cemetery, Leeds, Yorks.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A most successful meeting of the Rossendale Branch was held at St. Mary's Church, Rawtenstall, on Saturday last, when members were present from Newchurch, Haslingden, Bury, Ramsbottom, Helmshore, etc. The committee of the parent body also held a meeting, presided over by the president (the Rev. H. J. Elsee, of Bolton), representatives attending from Blackburn, Preston, Pendleton, Manchester, Worsley, Ashton, Bolton, Middleton, etc.

Arrangements were made to hold the half-yearly meeting of the Association at Wigan on May 27th, and the next committee meeting at Ormskirk on July 15th.—A vote of condolence was passed with the widow and family of the late Mr. J. Brogden Taylor, of Waterfoot, who had been a good working member of the Association since 1887, a branch secretary and committeeman for many years.

All the representatives had the same tale to tell—that they were short of ringers at their towers, owing to enlistments in His Majesty's Forces, the ringers being second to none in their patriotism for King and country.

Ringings commenced at 3 p.m. by various mixed bands, and was briskly carried on until time for tea, which was served in St. Mary's Schools. After tea and meeting, ringing was again indulged in, until close on 8 p.m., when the military restrictions of the district put a stop to the activities in the tower. Many short touches were rung in the following methods: Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Superlative and London Surprise—quite an assortment of methods to suit the most fastidious ringer, so that all present felt well satisfied with the meeting.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—Oxford Guild. At St. Mary's Parish Church, on Sunday, March 5th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 47 mins.: *G. Bedford 1, R. Flaxman 2, *A. Leader 3, *T. S. Smith 4, P. Jones 5, W. Henley 6, E. T. Hooper 7, A. Perryman 8. * First quarter in the method, and first as conductor by E. T. Hooper.

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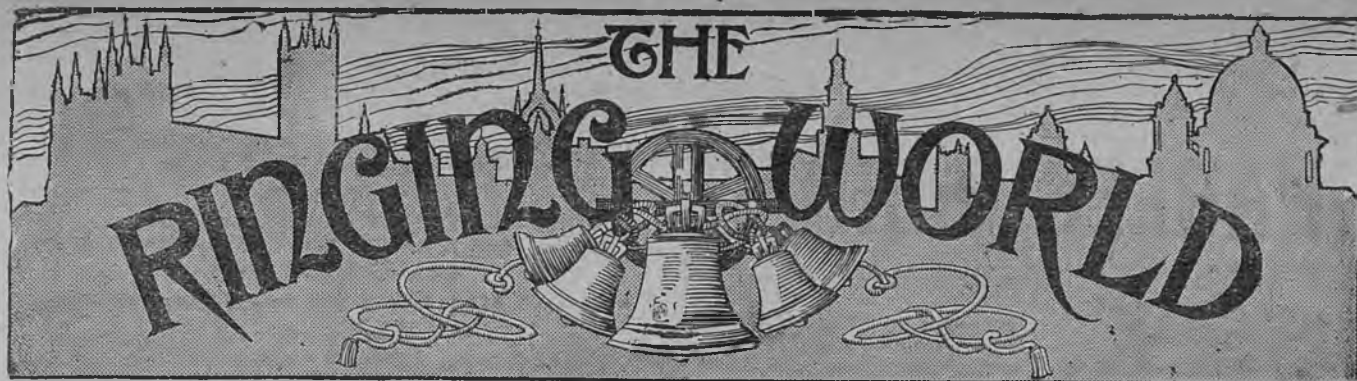


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FRIDAY, APRIL 7th, 1916.

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Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK

REMEDIES FOR THE COUNCIL.

The letter which we published last week from Mr. J. A. Trollope, with regard to the Central Council, has brought two weighty replies from other members, which will be read with interest. It will be observed that both Canon Papillon and Mr. A. T. King are in agreement that there is room for increasing the Council's usefulness, and that its discussions are not always as interesting and profitable as they might be. The latter, at any rate, is a point upon which, we believe, not only ringers outside but the members of the Council as a whole will agree. The important thing, of course, is to find the way to remedy the existing state of things, so that the Council may be re-galvanised. We have stated many times that it is in the interest of ringing and ringing associations that there should be some central body which can, to some extent, co-ordinate effort, set a standard of ringing, and sit, as it were, as a court of appeal to offer guidance where it is needed. Without such an organisation, the associations, although animated by a common desire, would be like a wheel without a hub, but the hub must fulfil its functions.

Canon Papillon's views fully support what we have time and again advocated, that the associations themselves should take more interest in the affairs of the Council. It is the very rarest occurrence to find an association discussing anything which the Council has done or proposes to do. The work of the Council could be made much more practical if those who are represented upon it provided it with subjects to debate. Instead, it is nearly always left to the members of the Council themselves, and unless a man is very keen there is a natural disinclination to introduce a subject for discussion in such an assembly. Let the associations provide the subjects, then the Council will be usefully employed.

One or two practical suggestions are made by Mr. King, which might be adopted with advantage. He rightly points out that many men, who could speak with authority, refrain from taking part in discussions for fear of being unable to clothe their thoughts in suitable words, or because they are unable to criticise a proposal on the spur of the moment. It is just these men whose views would be the most valuable and anything which can be done, as Mr. King suggests, to encourage them to speak should be done. Under existing conditions the value of their views is lost. If anything can be done to obviate this, it should certainly be the first duty of the Council to do it. The members will have a year to think it over, and it would not be a bad subject to place on the next agenda: "How best to increase the usefulness of the Council." There is no doubt that many good suggestions would be forthcoming and, at any rate it would enable the members to justify themselves.

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I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

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EIGHT BELL PEAL.

OVER, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 1, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,
At THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------|----------------|-----------|
| REV. A. T. BEESTON | ... Treble | WILLIAM BIBBY | 5 |
| EDWIN H. LEWIS | 2 | TOM WILDE | 6 |
| ALFRED BARNES | 3 | HENRY W. WILDE | 7 |
| HAROLD JACKSON | 4 | HARRY CHAPMAN | ... Tenor |

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and
Conducted by REV. A. T. BEESTON.

Rung on the occasion of the dedication of the bells after recasting of the old five and augmentation to eight.

HANDBELL PEAL.

WHITLEY BAY, NORTHUMBERLAND.

DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 27, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF ST. PAUL'S CHURCH;

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

| | | | |
|------------------|------------|---------------------|------------|
| ARTHUR PAYNE | 1-2 | COLIN GRESTY | 5-6 |
| JOSEPH A. GOFTON | 3-4 | *THOMAS R. PERCIVAL | 7-8 |

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and
Conducted by JOSEPH A. GOFTON.

* First peal on handbells.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

OLDSWINFORD, WORCS.—On Sunday, March 26th, for confirmation service, on the occasion of the visit of the Bishop, 640 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. Newnam 1, R. Moors 2, J. Smith 3, W. Short (conductor) 4, A. E. Whatmore 5, T. Heathcock 6, G. Poppell 7, J. Bass 8. Also 168 Stedman Triples: J. G. Orford 1, A. W. Dodd 8, the others as above. After service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 40 mins.: J. G. Orford 1, J. Smith 2, A. W. Whatmore 3, J. Bass 4, T. Heathcock 5, R. Moors 6, W. Short (conductor) 7, G. Poppell 8.

KENNINGTON.—At St. John-the-Divine's Church, on Sunday, March 26th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 47 mins.: J. Christopher Mitchell 1, J. Lee 2, F. Smith 3, L. Attwater 4, A. Walton 5, I. J. Attwater (conductor) 6, P.O. H. J. Walton, R.N.R.S., 7, F. J. Jerome 8.

BARNES.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, March 26th, for confirmation service, in the afternoon, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins.: J. Wilmott 1, H. Barrett 2, M. Jacobs 3, R. Mackrill 4, F. Skevington 5, H. Cook 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, G. Hunt 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples in 48 mins.: J. Wilmott 1, H. Barrett 2, M. Jacobs 3, R. Mackrill 4, H. Cook 5, F. Skevington 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, G. Hunt 8.

HORLEY, SURREY.—On Sunday, March 26th, at St. Bartholomew's Parish Church, on the occasion of a service of intercession for the soldiers and sailors belonging to the parish who have fallen in the war, 720 of Bob Minor, with the bells half-muffled: S. Lanaway 1, J. Kenward 2, A. Songhurst 3, F. Voice 4, P. Etheridge 5, G. Ilman (conductor) 6.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, March 26th, for morning service, 360 Plain Bob Minor: Miss E. M. Suart 1, J. Huddleston 2, Miss Gilchrist (first 360) 3, W. S. Forshaw 4, T. R. Jackson (conductor) 5, J. Burrows 6. For evening service, 360 Plain Bob Minor: Miss E. M. Suart 1, Miss Lindsay (first 360) 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, J. Huddleston 4, T. R. Jackson 5, J. Burrows (conductor) 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, covering.

LONDON.—Middlesex County Association.—At St. John of Jerusalem's Church, South Hackney, on Sunday, April 2nd, for evensong, 1216 Bristol Surprise Major: G. B. Lucas 1, C. Pullen 2, W. Hewett 3, I. G. Shade 4, C. T. Coles (conductor) 5, Air-Mechanic F. I. Hairs, R.N.A.S., 6, A. W. Grimes 7, R. Sanders 8. Rung on the occasion of the first visit of the Bishop of London to the above church.

LEICESTER.—On April 2nd, at St. Peter's, Belgrave, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), by: C. Hubbard 1, A. Ballard 2, E. Smith 3, A. J. Ballard 4, G. Walton 5, E. Morris (conductor) 6, B. Kirby 7, H. Reeves 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of the Rev. C. G. Thompson, M.A., of Wheat Hamstead, Herts, many years Vicar of Belgrave.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS.—On Sunday, April 2nd, for men's service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: J. Whatmore 1, — Whatmore 2, R. Moors 3, A. W. Whatmore 4, G. Poppell 5, C. E. Perkins (first 720 Kent as conductor) 6.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

MR. TROLLOPE'S CRITICISM.

To the Editor.

Sir,—If it be true that, as Mr. Trollope states, the Central Council "does not represent ringers, or stand for the Exercise," there must be something wrong; but surely the remedy lies with the ringers themselves who elect representatives to the Council. It is for them to take greater interest in the elections, and more care that the Council shall be, in Mr. Trollope's words, "made to represent the Exercise in fact and not merely in name."

Mr. Trollope asserts that power upon the Council "is entirely in the hands of a small circle of men," admission to which "goes neither by seniority nor by merit, but by personal favour." Such charges ought to be substantiated by proof, and certainly cannot be accepted on the mere word of any individual ringer, however eminent. There is, no doubt, a "Standing Committee," a body which performs certain necessary and useful functions in the preparation of business for the Council. If this be the "small circle of men" referred to, I am afraid that we cannot dispense with it.

There is something in the suggestion "that no man shall hold the office of president for more than three consecutive years"; but it is, I think, rather too drastic. I should prefer to enact that no person shall hold the office of president for more than two consecutive periods of three years, except by an unanimous vote of the Council. As things are, the president has to be re-elected every three years, and it is always open to any member of the Council to propose a change—not an easy thing, I grant, to do.

I hope that Mr. Trollope does not object to those members of the Council who, like myself, no longer sit as elected representatives of any ringing society. We may not be now "in touch with ordinary ringers," but we value the opportunity of taking part in matters in which we still feel great interest; and I don't think that we do any harm to the Council or to the Exercise.—I am, sir, yours faithfully,
St. Albans, March 31st. T. L. PAPILLON.

THE SILENT EXPERTS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am a staunch admirer of Mr. Trollope in most things; but when he ventures upon a criticism of the Central Council so ill-natured and so manifestly unfair as that published in your columns last week, it is time that something should be said on the other side.

In case I should be reminded that I am one of those whose qualifications are not easily discerned for being a representative member of the Council at all, I admit the soft impeachment, so far as my ringing abilities are concerned, to save trouble. Still, I know something of the composition and work of the Council, and I can honestly say that, with very few exceptions, the men chosen as representatives are well chosen, and are really representative. Let any man go through the names dispassionately, and he will find that they mostly possess abundant qualifications. It could hardly be expected that all should be equally equipped with scientific as well as practical knowledge of the art of ringing; but most names are familiar in their local connection, as thoroughly experienced ringers. With the results of some of our meetings, notwithstanding such a concentration of talent, I am as disappointed as Mr. Trollope; but it is not to be mended by altering the representation in the manner he indicates.

My own view is that the amendment must come from the ranks of the elected members themselves, who must simply take more trouble. There are gifted experts who know what they want to say, and say it so that the meanest intelligence can grasp it. There are also gifted experts, who are utterly unable to make themselves intelligible to any class of listener. But where the Council suffers most is from those gifted experts, who say nothing at all. Those who are well able to give their colleagues the benefit of their accumulated experience are silent. Year after year "the oracles are dumb." It is difficult to say why it should be so, but the fact remains. Among the silent members may be noted the very cream of the Exercise; and in most cases this may well be due to a natural hesitation, a vague fear (quite unfounded) that they cannot readily find language in which to clothe their observations. Now, these men must clearly be encouraged, and I would suggest that in future our agenda should consist of papers to be read by various members on various subjects, copies of which might be circulated among members generally some months before the meeting, in order to give them time to consider and prepare their observations.

It is not everyone who can criticise on the spur of the moment some of the abstruse questions which are now and then presented for solution: in fact, very few can do so. Still, so much light has been thrown in recent years by patient investigators on some of these vexed questions, that it ought not to be a very difficult matter, with due notice such as I have suggested, for all members to follow the trend of scientific subjects and sift them from their own point of view.

Then as to the rule suggested by Mr. Trollope, that no man shall hold the office of president for more than three years in succession. Why not? If the members like to insist on the same man, why debar them from having him? If we get good and faithful service, talents of a very high order, absolute impartiality, coupled with an intimate knowledge of the essentials which go to make up an expert ringer,

why should we limit his usefulness to a period of three years? I don't say that other gifted presidents might not emerge under such a system: but it is far more likely that chaos would reign supreme. With so many "cocksure" experts airing their pet schemes, we must have not only enlightened, but impartial, presidents; and, in my humble judgment, we shall have to travel very far to find them.

I know nothing of the power being in the hands of "a small circle of men, who are not in touch with ordinary ringers, either in the Council, or in their own districts." I have been a representative for quite a number of years, and I have no hesitation in saying that, with the few brilliant exceptions of co-opted men, the rest are elected representatives in entire touch with the rest of the Council, and with their own organisations. These men simply do the spade work which must always precede every important meeting, and, let me add, they are all honourable men. The sneer implied in Mr. Trollope's estimate of these men is unworthy of him.

Do let us have done with this ungenerous sort of criticism, and try to encourage our colleagues, at least the silent section, to take a more active part in our discussions.—Yours very faithfully,

ARTHUR T. KING.

Glegariff, Barnet Common, High Barnet.

NOTEWORTHY PEALS OF THE PAST.

Among the very early peals of Grandsire Triples was one rung at Wye, in Kent, on March 29th, 1736—just 180 years ago. The performers were naturally proud of the accomplishment, for it was apparently the first peal ever rung in Kent without outside assistance. It was recorded on a tablet in the belfry as follows:—

"On Monday, the 29th March, 1736, was rung in this belfry by the underwritten men, 5040 Grandsire Triples, in 3 hours and a half, being ye first set that ever rang it in the county, without the assistance of Londoners or others—Thos. Hudson, Chas. Baker, Thos. Jarman, Robt. Baker, Chas. Miller, Thos. Tabraham, Louis Austen, E. Pickenden and John Sharp."

A very early long length of Treble Bob was the one rung at St. Michael's, Coslany, Norwich, on April 1st, 1727. The tablet in the belfry records it as follows:—

"A remarkable peal was rung by the eight persons as under, called the Quarter-peal of Oxford Treble Bob, all eight in, or the Union Bob, consisting of 10,080 changes, which they rung in 6 hrs. 28 mins. on the 1st day of April, Anno 1727. There was no change alike or bell out of course. Performed by Richard Barnham 1, Thomas Melchior 2, John Harvey 3, John Webster 4, Thomas Gardiner 5, Thomas Barret 6, Edward Crane 7, Robert Crane tenor."

In his history of Treble Bob, Mr. Jasper Snowden expresses doubt as to whether the composition was a true one, "considering the very little knowledge then acquired concerning the proof requisite for such peals." Mr. Hubbard conjectured that the peal might have been the one having 6th's place bobs at the part ends, given in Shipway's work as the composition of J. Tebbs, of Leeds.

April 1st was also the anniversary of the first 6,000 of Treble Bob Maximus, which was rung at St. Saviour's, Southwark, by the College Youths in the year 1777, at the time when the rivalry in peals of Treble Ten at Shoreditch was at its height. Ten of the band who rang in the peal of Treble Twelve were the performers in the 10,000 of Oxford Treble Bob Royal on February 18th, and the 11,080 on May 19th. This peal of 6,000 was rung in 4 hrs. 58 mins. by Winstanley Richardson 1, John Povey 2, William Hatt 3, William Lyford 4, Thos. Bennett 5, Charles Purser (conductor) 6, William Scott 7, Jas Darquitt 8, Joseph Monk 9, Joseph Holdsworth 10, Samuel Muggeridge 11, Edward Sylvester and William Mills 12.

HANDBELL RINGERS CELEBRATE A BIRTHDAY.

The handbell ringing members of the Holy Trinity Society, Guildford, spent an enjoyable social evening together on Thursday—of last week, at St. Michael's, Joseph Road, the occasion being a celebration of the birthday of one of their number, Pte. C. H. Dobbie, A.S.C. The celebration was originally intended to take the form of a handbell peal attempt. This, however, had to be abandoned and the gathering postponed for domestic reasons. The postponement, however, proved an ultimate advantage, for in the interval, Pte. Dobbie arrived in England on leave, and was himself able to take part in his birthday celebration. Those present, in addition to Pte. Dobbie, included Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Pulling, Mr. and Mrs. C. Hazelden, Mr. M. Smither, Miss Hood and Mdle. Yvonne Eloie. During the evening the first quarter-peal of Holt's Original was rung upon a beautiful set of handbells (recently retuned by Messrs. Warner), by: C. Hazelden 1—2, A. H. Pulling (conductor) 3—4, M. Smither 5—6, Pte. C. H. Dobbie 7—8; and, later, 168 in the same method, with Mrs. Hazelden 7—8 and Pte. Dobbie 1—2. Pte. Dobbie's performance in these touches showed that he has lost none of his old powers, though for seventeen months he had been prevented from handling a pair of bells.

HAMMERSMITH.—At St. Paul's Church, on Tuesday evening, March 21st, for confirmation service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 44 mins.: M. Jacobs 1, W. Stevens 2, R. Mackrill 3, E. F. Cole 4, H. Cook 5, C. Hunt 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, P. C. Brooks 8.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

BY "BOB MAJOR."

Here's a pretty kettle of fish! A commotion among the councillors! Well, well—at least I hope it will be well. Hitherto we have had to be content to read the criticism of outsiders, now we have it straight from the shoulder from an insider. I have no doubt the editorial post-bag will produce something entertaining this week, and those of us who sit by in arm-chairs and revel in these "sparring matches" ought to have something to look forward to for the next issue or two. It's funny how we Englishmen delight in a row, if it's only a dog fight. Paddy has the reputation of being the best lover of a scrap, but did you ever know an Englishman who didn't take a delight in watching a fight? The best part of an Englishman's fighting spirit, however, is that he can fight and still be friends—unless he gets up against a Hun. But look at our Parliamentarians and our lawyers, how they quarrel and fight. You would think it was only the decorum of their surroundings that keeps them from actual fisticuffs, but, bless you, no. See them at lunch time and they are sharing their bread and cheese; or catch a glimpse of them on Saturday, and they are having a round of golf together. And it doesn't end with lawyers and M.P.'s. I have seen it among those who find fun in the ring. I remember seeing a particularly hard bout with the gloves at a military boxing tournament, which was finished by a "knock-out," and yet when that fellow came to, after about half a minute, he went up to his conqueror and kissed him. This is not a fairy tale, and it illustrates the spirit that generally animates Englishmen when they fight.

A PROGRAMME WANTED.

Now, I am not classing members of the Central Council with those who like to punch one another about inside a roped enclosure, nor would I class them even with lawyers or members of Parliament, but what I am sure of is that in the wordy conflict that is likely to arise on the letter of our good friend Trollope no bad blood is likely to show itself. Nobody, least of all an elective assembly, is any the worse for a little candid criticism, and I have no doubt both sides—and don't let us overlook the fact, whatever we think of the Council, that there are two sides to this matter as to all others—having said what they think of each other will continue to be the best of friends, and dine, or golf, or ring together, as is the Englishman's wont. They have got a "ginger" group in Parliament now, and I must say, from all I have read, that the Council could also do with a "ginger" group, to buck them up. Some of our daily "scarifiers" are shouting for a man, with a capital M. What the Council want is a programme with a capital P. I quite admit that I can't provide them with one, but then, as a critic of somebody else's policy always says, that's their business and not mine. I don't mind, however, making them a few suggestions.

SOME SUGGESTIONS.

They might begin with themselves, say, and discuss—it could not be done without discussion—whether they could not do away with the policy of 'one speech, one hour.' 'One man, one speech' is all right, but when that one speech goes on for one hour, it's time the standing order upon that point was turned into a sit down order from the president. Then, the Council might also consider whether, in future, when their expert committees cannot agree among themselves, they should not be removed to the clock tower, or the coal cellar, or some other fitting place, until they have come to some decision which will not distract the minds of the unlearned. Having settled these and other small domestic affairs they might draw up a penal code for the punishment of those who publish or circulate false compositions—editors acting bona-fide on the request of the composer to be immune from prosecution (I have put in this clause just to keep our editor quiet, otherwise he might apply the censorship). When this code was put into force, with what interest we should look forward to the trial of offenders. For a first offence they might be let off with a fine. But it ought to be the treadmill "without the option," for second and subsequent offences.

HELP FOR THE LAZY.

Among other things the Council might also do is to devise a means to enable of us who are thick-headed or lazy to grasp with ease the difficult methods—which I am told are very interesting when once you know them, although some of them are beyond me. I am advocating this from a personal point of view, because while I should like to be able to ring things like London Surprise, it is really too much for me to get such a long formula into my head. There are lots of other things I should like to suggest to the Council, but I must content myself with just one more. The Council have a committee of scientists who are considering strains and stresses on steeples, why can't they set them to work to invent a means to make little bells grow into big ones without recasting, and small peals into larger peals without calling in the services of the bell founder? But on second thoughts, perhaps this would be better left alone; it might result in the bell founders having to go out of business.

THE FIRST ROUND.

But whether the Council adopt my suggestions or not, we ought to see a bit of an awakening if friend Trollope's letter gets home. We ought to have some real good hitting in this match, and I must say that J. A. T. wasn't bad in the strength of his punch to lead off with.

ROUND 1.

A Council that needed awaking

Had a member who gave them a shaking.

He went off like a gun

In Round Number One.

In their shoes, it is said, they are quaking.

The record of subsequent rounds (if any) will be found in this column.

A PLEASANT AFTERNOON AT KIRBY MUXLOE.

On Saturday afternoon, at the Church of S. Bartholomew, Kirby Muxloe, Leicestershire, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1259 changes) was rung in 41 minutes, by: H. O. Over 1, H. Hollis 2, A. Ballard 3, F. J. Bowley 4, E. Morris (conductor) 5. This was rung especially to celebrate the seventh anniversary of the dedication of the two new trebles by the Bishop of Peterborough, and the 310th anniversary of the casting of the tenor. This bell was originally cast by Newcombe, of Leicester, in 1606, and was cracked at the Coronation of George III, and so remained until 1908, when it was recast by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. At the same time a new iron frame was erected for five bells, the two trebles being added the following year. The inscription on the old treble (the present 3rd) is peculiar, showing one of the founder's blunders common in this period. It is as follows:—

"✕ BE YT KNOWNE TO ALL THAT DOTH ME SEE

THAT NEWCOMBE OF 6091 EW EDVW HELSEJOIET "

After the ringing the visitors were entertained to tea by the tower-keeper, Mr. F. J. Bowley, and afterwards several courses of Grandsire Triples, etc., were rung on the handbells, thus terminating a very pleasant afternoon.

E. M.

NATIONAL RELIEF FUND.

| | £ | s. | d. |
|--------------------------------------|------|----|----|
| Amount already acknowledged ... | 124 | 1 | 5 |
| "Wanderer" (Jan., Feb. and Mar.) ... | 6 | 0 | |
| Total | £124 | 7 | 5 |

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers who have joined H.M. Forces:
 2nd Air-Mechanic Harry Dearden, of St. Thomas's Church, Newhey, Lanes, Royal Flying Corps, Farnborough.
 Pte. W. T. Whitehouse, and
 Pte. W. Toogood, of St. Mary's, Oldswinford, 5th Batt. Worcester-shire Regiment.
 Herbert Hale, of Royston (rejected unfit for army), British Red Cross Society, now in France.
 F. G. Griffin, of Royston (rejected unfit for army), Church Army Recreation Huts, with the army.
 Sapper J. Preece, R.E., St. Peter's Church, Staunton-on-Arrow, Hereford Guild, Royal Engineers, now at Chatham.

BURIED BY A "JACK JOHNSON."

A Sussex ringer, Pte Ernest Taylor, is now in a military hospital at Denmark Hill, London, suffering from the effects of a terrible experience at the front. Pte Taylor is a member of Uckfield branch of the Sussex Association and, being a reservist, was called up at the outbreak of war, when he rejoined the 2nd Batt. Royal Sussex Regiment, at that time stationed at Woking. Recently he was attached to the 7th Battalion as a bomber, and on March 3rd he and some companions were shelled by the Germans, and were buried in the debris caused by the explosion of a "Jack Johnson." After getting free, Pte Taylor and his comrades lay out all night and faced a fierce snowstorm. They were rescued next morning suffering severely from shock and exposure.

A FAMILY OF RINGERS.

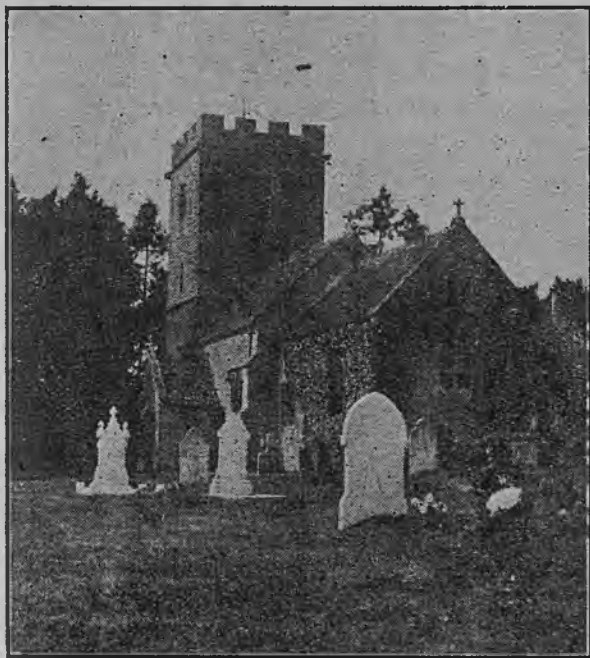
From the trenches in France comes a letter telling us of a family of ringers associated with the little village of East Markham, Notts. Father and four sons are ringers. The former has been a ringer for the past 40 years. Thomas, age 33, has rung several peals in Minor methods, William, age 29, rang his first peal on June 2nd, 1900, at the age of 11; Walter, age 25, also rang a peal at the age of 12, and conducted a peal the following year, and Sam, the youngest of the family, rang his first peal of Bob Minor at the age of 10, and was the youngest ringer in the North Notts Association to ring a peal. Pte W. Brett, of the 8th Battalion Lincolnshire Regiment, has been out on active service for twelve months.

BELLS OF THURLOXTON, SOMERSET.

By J. W. POWER.

It is a fact well known to all bell-hunters that bells of great age are to be found in small village towers far more frequently than in town churches and cathedrals. Indeed, it might almost be said that the smaller and more remote the village the greater is the likelihood of discovering mediæval bells in its church tower. The little ring of five at Thurloxtton, a small village at the foot of the Quantocks, in Somerset, would seem to bear this out, for, although the treble and second are comparatively modern bells, the lower three have a combined age of at least 1,400 years.

To take them in chronological order, we must begin with the third, which, besides being the oldest, is also, perhaps, the finest in tone of this interesting little company, though it has unfortunately been tuned by chipping the rim. The inscription is much worn away by time, but is still legible and runs "SCA MARIA ORA PRO NOBIS" in Gothic capitals. It is not possible to say within 50 years when this bell was cast, but the character of its inscription would lead us to suppose that the date is somewhere between 1300 and 1400—1350 would not probably be far out. Again, the name of the founder has not been handed down. No doubt he was a monk, for it was not until many years after 1350 that laymen



THURLOXTON PARISH CHURCH.

began seriously to rival the church in this branch of ecclesiastical art.

Next in point of age is the tenor with a mixed Gothic inscription, "Eft michi collatum ihc iftud nomen amatum," a Leonine verse which has been translated by the Rev. R. Grosvenor Bartelot in an interesting paper on Thurloxtton as

"That Name of Jesus ever dear
Is on my brow engraven here."

This is a common inscription in the West Country. Ella-combe, in his "Church Bells of Somerset," mentions

that there are 16 such "Jesus Bells," as they are called, in Somerset, and 46 in Devon. All were most probably cast by Robert Norton, who flourished at Exeter at the beginning of the 15th century.

The fourth is, perhaps, the most interesting and curious bell in the tower. The inscription, in distorted Roman capitals, runs "AOPB AMCI AGIPE ANE RS." There is little doubt that the initials RS stand for Roger Semson (c. 1550), of Aish Priors, near Taunton, but no one has yet been able to interpret the inscription. A bell at Challa-combe, Devon, bears a very similar jumble of letters, and was cast by the same founder, whose spelling may not have been his strong point, unless, perhaps, he intended to puzzle. At any rate, he was certainly a good workman, for the tenors of Bradford-on-Tone, Somerset and Talaton, Devon, are his and have the reputation of being the finest bells in their respective counties.

Prior to 1884 there were only four bells in the tower of Thurloxtton, and the treble (now the second) was cast in 1804 by John Kingston, of Bridgwater. This bell was cracked and hung useless for many years, but in 1884 it was recast by Llewellyns and James, of Bristol, who also added another treble in the same year.

The tower, being comparatively low, the bell ropes hang down to the ground floor, which serves as a ringing chamber. The bells themselves are reached by a circular stairway leading to a small intermediate storey, and from there ascent is by a ladder to the bell chamber. Unlike so many rings in country church towers, the Thurloxtton bells are well hung and in good ringing order. Until a short time ago little or no ringing has been done for many months, but now, thanks to the energy and keenness of Mr. Stone, the band has been got together again, and ringing has been resumed. A most welcome addition to the belfry, in the shape of a chiming apparatus, has lately been presented by Mr. Dunning, in memory of his son, who died gallantly in action last year.

The following list gives the dimensions, etc., of the ring:—

| | Diameter. | Height, Lip to Shoulder. | Thickness at Soundbow. | Note. | Weight. |
|--------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-------|-------------------|
| Treble | 25 $\frac{7}{8}$ ins. | 20 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins. | 2 $\frac{1}{8}$ ins. | F | |
| 2 | 26 ins. | 21 ins. | 2 ins. | Eb | |
| 3 | 26 ins. | 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins. | 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ ins. | D | |
| 4 | 29 $\frac{7}{8}$ ins. | 22 $\frac{3}{8}$ ins. | 2 $\frac{1}{8}$ ins. | C | |
| Tenor | 32 $\frac{3}{8}$ ins. | 23 $\frac{3}{8}$ ins. | 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ins. | Bb | 7 cwt. (about) |

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

DAGENHAM. Essex Association.—On March 4th, 720 Plain Bob Minor: D. Chaplin 1, Pte Moore (of the Somerset Light Infantry) 2, G. Playle 3, J. Baker 4, E. Butler (conductor) 5, F. Freestone 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob: F. Freestone 1, Pte Moore 2, E. Butler 3, J. Baker 4, G. Playle (conductor) 5, E. Hawkins 6.—On March 19th, with bells half-muffled for late Mr. J. Johnson, a ringer belonging to the local band, who was interred the day previous, 720 Plain Bob: D. Chaplin 1, Miss C. Playle 2, Pte Moore 3, J. Baker 4, G. Playle (conductor) 5, E. Hawkins 6.

BARKING, ESSEX.—On Sunday, March 12th, for morning service, A. J. Perkin's quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1280 changes), in 48 mins.: C. Fenn (conductor) 1, G. W. Faulkner 2, A. Warboys 3, E. Andrews 4, F. Newman 5, E. G. Fenn 6, T. Faulkner 7, A. C. Hardy 8.—On Sunday, March 19th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1280 changes), in 47 mins.: C. Fenn (conductor) 1, *W. Beard 2, *A. Warboys 3, *G. Joyce 4, E. Andrews 5, G. W. Faulkner 6, G. Cottis 7, A. C. Hardy 8. *First quarter-peal in the method.—On Sunday, April 2nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: C. Fenn 1, R. Fenn 2, A. Warboys 3, E. Andrews 4, F. Newman 5, J. Norris 6, A. Hardy 7, Lance-Corpl. H. Wagstaff (Royal Berks Regt.) 8. Lance-Corpl. Wagstaff was home on leave for a few days from the front.

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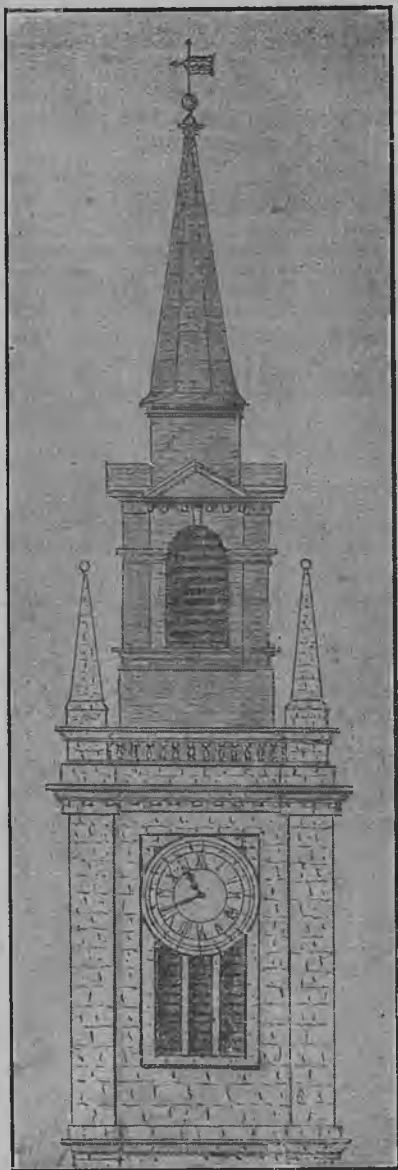
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LONDON CITY CHURCHES.

ST. LAWRENCE, JEWRY.

By J. R. JERRAM.

The present church of St. Lawrence, Jewry, built from Wren's designs, supersedes the old one destroyed by the Great Fire of 1666; the foundation stone being laid on April 12th, 1671. It is a large and spacious building, somewhat over 100 feet long by 70 feet wide, consisting of nave, north aisle, vestries, and steeple. Both the



ST. LAWRENCE, JEWRY.

vestibule and base of the tower open into the nave by arches filled with handsome doorways and screenwork. Each of the two pediments of these doorways is filled with the figure of an angel holding a palm branch, and between the two doorways is placed the organ in a gallery supported by Corinthian columns.

The organ case is richly carved, being the work of Grinling Gibbons. The vestry, at the west end of the north aisle, is lined with oak panelling handsomely carved.

The ceiling is of plaster with a large quatrefoil panel in the centre surrounded by a framework of foliage and fruit, in which is a painting by Sir John Thornhill, representing the apstheosis of St. Lawrence, while a picture above the chimneypiece represents his martyrdom. Between the two east windows is a mosaic representing the Ascension.

Externally the east end of the church, towards the Guildhall, has a colonnade of four Corinthian columns supporting an entablature terminated by a pediment, with a circular window in the attic story.

St. Lawrence is the Corporation church of the city of London.

The tower at the west end has four lofty pinnacles and a cornice and balustrade, and is surmounted by a turret and spire covered with lead. The weather vane at the top is in the form of a gridiron, the emblem of St. Lawrence, and instrument of his martyrdom. I regret that I have no copies of the tablets in the belfry.

There is a peal of eight bells, tenor 56½ inches in diameter. They are thus inscribed:—

Treble.

WM. HAMILTON JNO. PYKE & JNO ANDERSON
CHURCH WARDENS * PACK & CHAPMAN OF
LONDON FECIT * 1775.

Second.

MR. WILLM. PATTEN RICHD. AVERY INO.
WHITE CH: WARDENS. 1770. R: P: FECIT.

Third, Fourth, Fifth, Sixth and Seventh.

IAMES BARTLET MADE MEE 1679 ○ [Three
bells and crown enclosed by a wreath.—Whitechapel
mark.] S. IIII L

Tenor.

JOHN BEDELL WILLIAM PICK CH: WARDENS
IAMES BARTLET MADE MEE 1687 ○ [White-
chapel mark as on the last five bells.] S. IIII L.

The mark IIII between S and L represents a gridiron, "S. L." standing for "Saint Lawrence." The "S" is reversed.

Presumably the peal originally consisted of six heavy bells, two trebles being added by Richard Phelps in 1710, one of which was recast by Pack and Chapman in 1775.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

A very welcome change in the weather contributed in no small degree to make the meeting at Bolsover, on Saturday last, not only successful but very enjoyable. Some 30 ringers paid a visit to this rather remote corner of the Dukeries, the following towers being represented, viz.: Anston, Barlborough, Eckington, Norton, North Wingfield, Nottingham (Lenton), Mansfield, Rammoor, Sheffield Cathedral, Staveley, Worksop, and the local company. Some good practice was obtained. Although London Surprise wouldn't travel, Cambridge, Superlative, Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, etc., were tried with success.—The Vicar (the Rev. D. Ackrill Jones) visited the tower, and gave all a hearty welcome to Bolsover, and in reply to a vote of thanks, said he hoped the next time the association came to make their visit still more enjoyable.—Two new members were elected. Ringing continued until 7.30 without any interruption from the police (which was regarded as almost inevitable by the local ringers), when the bells were lowered, and the party made the best of their way home, thankful that the trains were not held up, although the cars had ceased running by the time some of the ringers reached Sheffield.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

At the meeting held at Feltham, on Saturday week, ringers attended—as will be seen in the subjoined list—from some considerable distance, and no less than twenty-nine sat down to tea. Among those present were that good old ringer from Reading, Mr. Wm. Newell, and Messrs. E. Newell, W. H. Fussell, W. Hewett, T. Smith and W. Welling. The towers represented were: Birstead (Hants), Caversham (Oxon), Camberwell, Ealing, Feltham, Heston, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Isleworth, Kensington, Reading, Slough, Sunbury, Windsor and West Ealing.—Two new members were elected, viz.: Mr. E. Newell and Mr. P. H. Smith.—St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, was suggested for the next meeting, subject to permission being obtained from the Vicar.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

By GEORGE BAKER.

In a short article in "The Ringing World" of February 25th I suggested that the fresh round block of Stedman Triples then published might lead to further discoveries, and I was not mistaken.

One discovery is the fact that Late's Single can be made in both round blocks without causing three blows in one place, and without interfering with the 7th as a fixed bell.

For this reason I have not hesitated in using these Singles in the following peal which, I believe, is the first peal of Stedman Triples ever produced with one call only in any division of twelve changes.

Excepting for the proving of the peal I do not claim any particular credit, because it will be evident to all that the idea of the construction is borrowed from Late's twin-bob peal.

This peal proves beyond doubt that construction in twelves is quite feasible, and one more theory, held by many of us, that it was impossible, is proved to be false.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES 5040 CHANGES

from the fresh round block.

Composed and proved by George Baker, 25th March, 1916.

| 123456 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 6 | 7 |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---|
| 163542 | | — | | — | — |
| 521364 | | | — | — | |
| 542136 | | | | — | — |
| 561243 | S | — | | — | — |
| 235164 | | | — | — | |
| 243516 | | | | — | — |
| 263154 | | — | | — | — |
| 142365 | | | — | — | |
| 154236 | | | | — | — |
| 164325 | | — | | — | — |
| 351462 | | | — | — | |
| 325146 | | | | — | — |
| 365412 | | — | | — | — |
| 423561 | | | — | — | |
| 412356 | | | | — | — |

Three times repeated.

The place I have chosen for making the Singles is when the 7th is leading her whole pull as a quick bell; see example below:

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| Second division head | 6317452 |
| | 6134725 |
| | 1637452 |
| | 6173542 |
| | 6715324 |
| Late's Single | 7613542 |
| | 7163452 |
| | 1764325 |
| | 1673452 |
| | 6137542 |
| | 1635724 |
| | 1367542 |
| | 3165724 |

This Single, made in the plain course, brings up the course-end 154236, and, consequently, when made in the fourth course of each part, 5-6-7 are not interfered with. It may be argued that the Singles are made in the middle of a division, while the bobs are made between the divisions, *i.e.*, between the 12th and 13th changes, but there

is something to be said in favour of this Single in the fact that the peal is obtained without adjoining places, and, in any case, a Single has a purpose of its own, apart from the use of bobs, so I see no valid reason why Late's Single in this form should be objected to. In Grandsire two forms of Single have been in use for all time, and what is sauce for Grandsire must be sauce for Stedman too.

While I am writing, if the Editor can give me space, I may as well submit for the consideration of the Exercise two round blocks of a Principle that I discovered some years ago, and which have never yet been published. It will be seen that the first round block has plain coursing order at every division head and end: to all intents and purposes the other round block appears not to have plain coursing order at division heads and ends. A skeleton diagram, however, will prove that they are one and the same method, but the proof with 6-7 fixed in the two round blocks is vastly different.

The round block with visible coursing order throughout has 10 false course-ends with 6-7 fixed; the round block that has not visible coursing order has only two, *i.e.*,

231456
312456

the same as in the fresh round block of Stedman Triples. Later on I hope to be able to say that I have obtained peals in one or both round blocks.

| | |
|---------|---------|
| 1234567 | 1234567 |
| 2143576 | 2135476 |
| 2415367 | 2314567 |
| 4251637 | 3241657 |
| 4526173 | 3426175 |
| 5421637 | 4362157 |
| 5246173 | 4631275 |
| 2541637 | 6413257 |
| 2456173 | 6142375 |
| 4265713 | 1624735 |
| 4627531 | 1267453 |
| 6472513 | 2164735 |
| 6745231 | 2617453 |

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

The monthly meeting of the Leeds and District Society was held at Idle on Saturday last, and was well attended by members from Armley, Calverley, Guiseley, Headingley St. Michael's, Tong, Pudsey, Mirfield, and the local tower. The bells were kept going during the day to touches of Kent Treble Bob Major, Duke of York, Oxford, Kent and Flain Bob Minor.

The business meeting was held at the White Bear Hotel, with the President (Mr. Peacock) in the chair. At the opening of the meeting, the President stated that owing to the enlistment of practically all of the Hunslet company, it had been impossible to hold the meeting there, as it would have been against the Vicar's wishes, and as Idle now possessed a peal of bells, and was in the district, the officers of the society had thought it best to hold the meeting at that tower in lieu of Hunslet, and to hold a meeting there annually, if it could be arranged.

Three members of the Idle company were made members of the society, *i.e.*, Messrs. W. Kendall, F. Kilshaw, and W. Feather.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens of Idle for the use of the bells, and to the local company for their kind arrangements, was carried, on the motion of Mr. Bolland, and seconded by Mr. Wheatley.

Handbell ringing in various methods then brought a very pleasant meeting to a close.

NEW EIGHT-BELL METHODS.

Mr. Gabriel Lindoff writes, with reference to Mr. Lewis's letter, pointing out that the method published by him had previously been published by Mr. Trollope, that he had not seen the figures before as, since the advent of "The Ringing World," he had not been a reader of "Bell News."

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

SPRINGFIELD.—Essex Association.—On Sunday, March 18th, at the Parish Church, on the occasion of an ordination by the Bishop of Chelmsford, 108, 216 and 360 of Plain Bob: F. Ward 1, D. Dawson 2, A. Speller (Widford) 3, W. Sharpington 4, M. Windley 5, H. Sharpington (conductor) 6.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Sunday, March 19th, for morning service, 1280 Superlative Surprise Major: T. Law 1, J. C. Dean 2, H. Blundell 3, J. S. White 4, J. T. Hensman 5, H. Rainbow 6, W. J. Allen 7, W. Farey (conductor) 8. Longest length in the method by T. Law, and rung as a farewell to J. C. Dean, who has joined His Majesty's Forces.

MITCHAM, SURREY.—At the Parish Church, SS. Peter and Paul's, for evening service, on Sunday, March 19th, a quarter-peal of London Surprise Major (1280 changes), in 45 mins.: J. A. Lambert 1, *A. Clayton 2, D. W. Drewett 3, L. Attwater 4, C. Dean 5, *A. Winch 6, C. W. R. Grimwood 7, W. S. Smith (conductor) 8. * First quarter-peal in the method.

HITCHEN, HERTS.—On Sunday, March 19th, at St. Mary's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (composed by A. J. Perkins), in 50 mins.: E. Newell 1, A. Squires 2, J. Hare (conductor) 3, F. R. Bacon 4, G. Wolfe 5, W. Croft 6, H. Day 7, H. Else (first quarter) 8.

HANDSWORTH, BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, March 19th, at the Parish Church, 1008 Grandsire Triples, in 37 mins.: S. Danby 1, T. Verry 2, F. Williams 3, B. Starkey 4, T. Westwood 5, C. Davies 6, C. Williams (conductor) 7, R. Speakman 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. R. Faux and F. Williams.

UXBRIDGE, MIDDLESEX.—At St. Margaret's Parish Church, on Sunday, March 19th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (from Thurstans'), in 44 mins.: T. S. Smith 1, G. Gutteridge 2, W. Henley 3, Percy Jones 4, W. H. Fussell 5, E. T. Hooper (first in the method) 6, W. Welling (conductor) 7, Percy Kedge (first quarter) 8. The tenor man is local steeplekeeper, and kindly rang for an "absentee," whose mate also failed to reach Hillingdon Church the same evening, where another quarter-peal was achieved.

WRENTHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, March 19th, for morning service, 360 Plain Bob and 192 Oxford Treble Bob. For afternoon service, 360 College Single, 360 Kent Treble Bob and 180 Oxford Bob, the following taking part: G. Bertram, A. J. Naunton, L. Naunton, E. Chatten, J. Spencer, Rifleman B. Prewett, F. Naunton, W. Legood. Conducted by B. Prewett and F. Naunton.—On Sunday, March 26th, for afternoon service, 240 Oxford Treble Bob, 216 Plain Bob and 180 Oxford Bob, the following taking part: Rifleman B. Prewett (L.R.B.), Pte. C. Ebberson (6th Norfolk), J. Spencer, J. Larter, E. Chatten, L. Naunton, F. Naunton, A. J. Naunton. Conducted by B. Prewett and F. Naunton.

NANTWICH.—Chester Guild. At the Parish Church, on Sunday, March 19th, for memorial service for those fallen in the war, with bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles: T. Stubbs 1, F. Boaks 2, W. T. Cookson 3, Albt. Stubbs 4, W. Sutton (conductor) 5, H. Stubbs 6.

SELBY, YORKS.—To celebrate the recovery, after a long and serious illness of James Jackson, a member of the local band of ringers, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung for evening service at Selby Abbey on Sunday, March 19th: J. Jackson 1, H. Fairlam 2, E. Storr 3, G. Fenton 4, A. Hall 5, W. Hinton 6, F. Cryer (conductor) 7, T. Strudwick 8.

SALEHURST.—Sussex Association.—On March 21st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins.: J. Goodsell 1, W. Thomas 2, H. Edwards 3, W. Franks (conductor) 4, W. Hoad 5, A. E. Edwards 6, W. H. Perry 7, T. Booth 8. This quarter-peal was arranged for A. E. Edwards, formerly of Barcombe, Sussex.

SLOUGH.—At St. Mary's Church, on March 23rd, special touches (arranged by the steeplekeeper, Mr. G. T. Leader) were rung for an evening "confirmation service," when the Bishop of Buckingham (the Rev. E. D. Shaw, M.A.) officiated, and 202 candidates were confirmed. Three courses of Stedman and three of Grandsire Triples were performed by the following members of the Oxford Guild: G. Bedford, R. Flaxman, W. H. Fussell, G. Gutteridge, F. S. Smith, G. Beeby, W. Welling, E. T. Hooper and A. Perryman.

MIDDLETON, LANCASHIRE.—On Saturday, March 25th, in 1 hr. 7 mins., a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1916 changes), composed by Charles Jackson, of Hull, and rung as a birthday complement to James Arrowsmith, an esteemed member of the band: T. Oldham 1, Wm. Berry (conductor) 2, J. Jacques 3, Jas. Arrowsmith 4, Wm. Hardman (longest length in method) 5, T. A. Ogden 6, S. Holt 7, T. Wellens 8.

ECTON, NORTHANTS.—On March 25th, 720 Grandsire Doubles: *H. Johnson 1, *A. Robinson 2, *R. Elson 3, F. Jones 4, T. Law (conductor) 5, *C. Tapp 6.—For divine service, on March 26th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), each six-score called differently, standing as above. * Longest lengths. Rung as a farewell to R. Elson, who has donned the King's uniform on attaining his 19th year.

NOTICES.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on April 6th and 20th for handbell practice, and on the 11th and 25th for business.—William T. Cockerill, Honorary Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Radcliffe on Saturday, April 8th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea will be provided for those sending their names to W. H. Baines, 15, Church Green, Radcliffe, not later than April 6th. Meeting will follow the tea.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—The next District meeting will be held at Romford on Saturday, April 15th. Bells available 3 to 8 p.m. Short service at 5. Tea at the Fox and Hounds 5.30, 8d. each. Business meeting to follow. All will be welcome. Will those requiring tea kindly notify the undersigned by first post Wednesday, April 12th, at the latest.—E. J. Butler (temporary Honorary Secretary), 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Central Division).—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Southover, Lewes, on Easter Monday. Tower open at 2. Tea, 5.15, in Church Hall, by kind invitation of the Rector to those who notify me by Tuesday, April 18th. Subscriptions for 1916 are now due.—A. D. Stone, 29, Ashton Street, Brighton.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Warwick on Easter Monday. Leamington bells will be available all day, except between 12.30 and 1, Emscote bells will be open all day, and those of St. Mary's from 6 p.m. All ringing to cease at dusk. H. Kettle, Rectory Cottage, Allesley, Coventry.

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 24th. Business meeting in Chapter House at 2.30; chairman, The Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., President. Service in Cathedral at 4.15 p.m. Address by the Rev. J. F. Hastings. Tea in College Hall at 5.15 for those who notify me by Wednesday, April 19th. At 12.45 p.m. the Dean of Worcester will unveil a peal-board in the Cathedral Tower, to record the peal of Stedman Cinques rung on those bells. Bells available: Cathedral (12) 1.0 to 2.0 p.m.; All Saints (10), Hallow (8), St. Nicholas (6), St. John-in-Bedwardine (6), and St. Swithin's (6) 10.0 to 11.0 and 5.0 to 6.0.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheepcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at South Wingfield on Easter Monday, April 24th. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea 1s. each at 5.30 p.m. Meeting after tea. The Rev. J. F. Morley, South Wingfield Vicarage, Alfreton, would be pleased to know on or before April 18th how many for tea.—Thos. Allebone, Secretary, North Wingfield, Chesterfield.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—The district quarterly meeting will be held at Soberton on Easter Monday, April 24th. Bells available 2 p.m. to dusk. Tea will be provided at the White Lion Hotel for those that let me know not later than April 18th. Subscriptions for 1916 are now due.—J. Harding, District Secretary.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting will be held at Nottingham on Easter Monday, April 24th, 1916, at the office of the British Equitable Assurance Co., 1, Greyhound Street, Long Row. Committee meeting at 3.15, followed by general meeting at four o'clock. Tea at cafe prices at Glover's Cafe, two doors away, after meeting.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Alban's on Easter Monday, April 24th, 1916. Towers open for ringing from 1.30 to 5 p.m. Choral evensong in the Cathedral at 5 p.m., with address to ringers by the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake, Vicar of Thundridge. At 5.50 p.m. meat tea will be served at the Abbey Institute, for which a charge of 9d. each will be made to members. Annual business meeting to follow. The secretary earnestly asks secretaries of bands, and unattached members, to advise him as early as possible the probable number of members attending the meeting, so that satisfactory arrangements can be made for tea. Outstanding subscriptions should be paid at once.—G. W. Cartmel, Honorary Secretary, "Duffield," St. Albans.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — South-Western Division. —Will members and friends kindly note, that during the absence of the Hon. District Secretary (Mr. H. Rumens) on Military Service, the secretarial duties will be undertaken by the undersigned, to whom all subscriptions and communications should be sent. — Ernest J. Butler, 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO THE LATE WILLIAM SNOWDON.—The Members of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers propose to erect a Memorial to the late William Snowdon in the form of a Brass Tablet in Ilkley Parish Church, near to the Ringers' Window already erected to the memory of his brother, Jasper Whitfield Snowdon. Will any person wishing to be associated with this movement kindly communicate with the Treasurer to the Fund, Mr. H. Williams, New Worthy Cemetery, Leeds, Yorks.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

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THE BADGE OF THE CRAFT



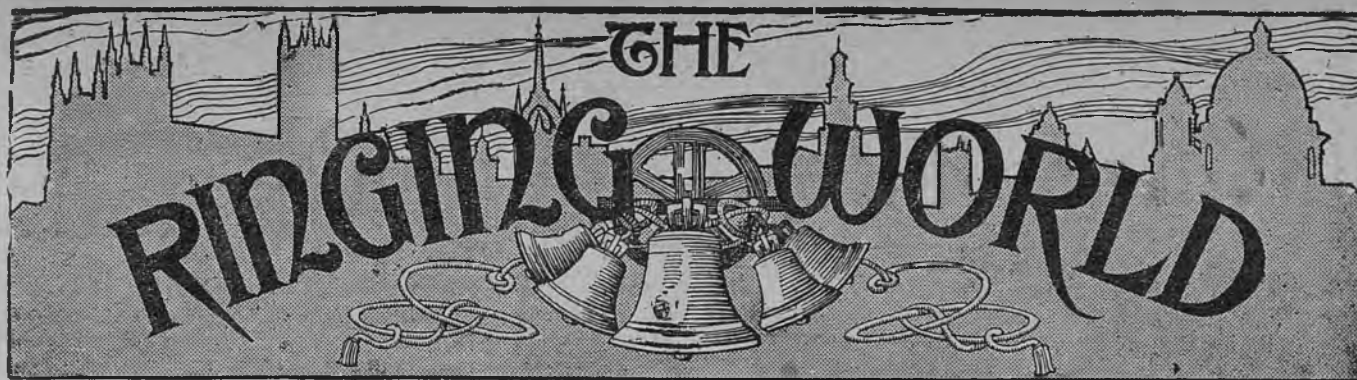
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FRIDAY, APRIL 14th, 1916.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 1d.

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CROYDON, Surrey.
BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFERN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

THE PASSING OF A MASTER.

One by one our old Masters disappear, and this week we record the death of another of those veterans to whose work the Exercise owes a great deal. Henry Dains has been gathered to his fathers, but he has left behind him innumerable treasures in the way of compositions, which will serve to stamp him as one of the most able composers of a period when many men of exceptional ability were applying their talents to furthering the Art. With Charles Henry Hattersley and Nathan Pitstow he formed the link between that earlier trio, Henry Johnson, John Cox and Henry Haley, and men of the later day. Others there were, of course, but Hattersley, Dains and Pitstow were contemporaries whose work, in a sense, marked a period, just as did that of the other trio mentioned. The inexorable hand of death has now claimed them all, but they have left the Exercise the richer for their labours.

The work of Mr. Dains was not confined merely to the composition of peals; he did a great deal in the way of construction of methods. We are not sure whether the experts agree that a man composes a method, or whether he merely discovers it, for there are some who argue that methods exist and that those who produce them are discoverers and not inventors. But be that as it may, there are several methods for the introduction of which to the Exercise Mr. Dains was responsible. The most novel, of course, was Alliance, Mr. Dains being the first to combine the plain and dodging hunts in one principle. It was he who gave the Exercise New Cumberland Surprise, and the last contribution of this kind which he evolved was Kensington Surprise.

Unlike many of those who seek to bring out new methods, and who go on from change to change, putting down whatever will come most conveniently next, inside certain broad principles, and trusting to luck to bring up a lead which will put the method within the four corners of the laws of ringing, Mr. Dains was one of those men who set out with a definite aim in view. As another eminent composer, writing on the subject of the proof of methods this week, aptly says, one needs, like the builder, to get the materials on the ground before commencing to build, and this advice and the example of the work of men like the late Mr. Dains ought to be taken to heart by those who would give us something new. In these days when there are good methods innumerable, nothing but the best is worth seeking after. Of Mr. Dains it may truly be said he sought always the best. Failure sometimes attended the effort, as it does the efforts of everyone of us, but it only served as a spur to him to renewed energy. Difficulties with him were obstacles existing only to be surmounted, and in this respect he was an example to others. He was a man whose work will long remain.

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MODERN WORK.**

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Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

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SIX BELL PEAL.

LAMBERHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, April 4, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob, College Single, Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob.

| | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| ALBERT RELFE Treble | GEORGE FULLER 4 |
| JAMES WAGHORN... .. 2 | JIM BEACH 5 |
| FREDK. BUTCHERS 3 | HARRY PRICE Tenor |

Conducted by A. RELFE.

Rung after a confirmation service held by the Bishop of Rochester in the above church, also as a compliment to the Vicar (Rev. Canon Boyd) on the completion of his first year's service, he having been inducted to the living of Lamberhurst on April 5th, 1915.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

On Saturday, April 8, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY, SPITALFIELDS, E.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANCES;

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| FRANK SMITH 1-2 | JOHN D. MATTHEWS 5-6 |
| EDGAR WIGHTMAN 3-4 | WILLIAM T. POWELL 7-8 |
| WILLIAM J. NUDDS 9-10. | |

Composed by the late HENRY DAINS.

Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

Witness: J. HUNT.

This peal was specially rung as a mark of respect to the late composer, whose obituary appears in another page.

HEADINGLEY, LEEDS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 8, 1916, in Two Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF ST. MICHAEL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5038 CHANCES;

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| *WILLIAM BARTON 1-2 | JAMES COTTERELL 5-6 |
| PERCY J. JOHNSON 3-4 | GEORGE W. ROBINSON 7-8 |

Composed by GEORGE CROSS, and

Conducted by PERCY J. JOHNSON.

Attested by GEORGE A. JOWETT.

* First handbell peal.

SALTASH BELLS.

The ring of bells at Saltash Church, Cornwall, have been out of ringing order for some time, but it has now been decided by the Mayor and Corporation to put the ring into good condition. Messrs. Aggett and Sons, of Chagford, Devon, well-known bell hangers through the West of England, have orders to do the work that will be required.

STEDMAN ON 'THE ISLAND.'

At St. Thomas' Parish Church, Newport, Isle of Wight, in spite of many obstacles in the nature of restricted practice, steady progress has been made during the winter months. In June last the band commenced to tackle Stedman, and the first touch ever accomplished by an island band was brought round on Sunday, 14th November, being 252 by Sergt. C. Blake (Royal Warwicks) 1, W. Chambers 2, W. Upton 3, W. Scott 4, A. Callaway 5, H. Phillips 6, H. Jennings (conductor) 7, J. Leal 8.—Sunday, 12th December, for evening service, 168 Stedman by the same band.—On Sunday, 23rd January, 1916, for morning service, a quarter-peal Grandsire Triples was rung by J. Simmonds 1, W. Chambers 2, W. Upton 3, Sergt. C. Blake 4, A. Callaway 5, H. Phillips 6, H. Jennings (conductor) 7, J. Leal 8.—On Sunday, 6th February, for morning service, 168 Stedman Triples.—On Sunday, 2nd April, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples, and 168 for evening service.

The ringers are deeply indebted to Mr. Henry Jennings for the pains he has taken in making a change ringing band out of "stone" ringers of many years' standing. He frequently has journeyed 28 miles on Sundays, and in all weathers to accomplish these touches in his favourite method, and such labour, self-imposed, is worthy of all credit.

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DEATH OF A HUDDERSFIELD WORTHY.**LAST OF AN HONOURED LINE OF RINGERS.**

We regret to record the death, which took place on March 20th, of a well-known Huddersfield ringer, Mr. Walter Lodge, of Almondbury. Born in the parish in the year 1850, he lived and died within two minutes' walk of the church where, for 52 years without a break, he was a ringer. He belonged to a line of ringers dating fully a century back, when the principal industry in Almondbury was handloom weaving, a trade which Mr. Lodge followed up to his last illness. His grandfather, Mr. John Lodge, was a famous ringer in his time, and his father had five brothers who, with one exception, were all noted for their fondness of the art. All of them, together with the father and the late Mr. Walter Lodge, were ringers at Almondbury Parish Church at one period or another. It was while the five brothers were in their best days that Walter showed signs of becoming what he proved to be, one of the best ringers throughout the county. His first contest was at Sandall, near Wakefield, in the month of April, 1865, before he was fifteen years of age. Perhaps one of his proudest days was in January, 1864, when he ran a six-score with his grandfather and father.

He had kept no record of how many peals he had taken part in, but he had rung peals on six, eight, and ten bells. As a tenor ringer he played an important part at contests. He was in the successful company for the Halifax Cup on three occasions, but, apart from these, he had taken part in forty contests, and had been in bands which had won thirty prizes, including the memorable contest at Batley in 1906. He was in at 10 first prizes, 7 second prizes, 7 third prizes, and 6 fourth prizes.

In June, 1913, the service ringers presented him with his portrait, and in the following August the ringers celebrated, by special ringing, the jubilee of their colleague.

Huddersfield ringers are all the poorer for his going, as he was one of those fast disappearing types of bluff Yorkshiremen, whom it was a pleasure to have known. As a ringer, and above all as a striker, he was justly famous in the West Riding, and to hear him turn a tenor in, even in his later years when he had not the vigour of youth, was a treat, and to be in his company was always entertaining, for his Yorkshire wit was as keen as his striking.

The funeral took place at Almondbury Cemetery. Prior to the service in the church the service ringers rang a muffled touch while the procession was on its way into the church. The procession was met at the gates by the Rev. Dr. Longford, Vicar, who took the service. Along the route blinds were drawn. After the lesson, the Vicar from the chancel steps, said they were laying to rest the remains of one of the last of an honoured line of ringers at that church. For over 50 years he had been a faithful servant. He had done his portion faithfully throughout a long and honourable career. The Vicar had not known him for long, but he had found him to be a fine type of Yorkshireman, honest, loving and staunch.

The bearers were all personal friends of the deceased from the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows. They were: Messrs. John Blakeborough, Joseph North, Joe Moorhouse, Willie Moorhouse, H. Sharp, and A. Wilson. The principal mourners were: Messrs. Joe Henry and Albert Eastwood, nephews; Mr. and Mrs. Lockwood, brother-in-law and sister; Mr. and Mrs. Roebuck, brother-in-law and sister; and other relatives. Considering the difficulty of leaving work the attendance of ringers from many parts of the borough and elsewhere was large, and a wreath was sent by the service ringers.

After the funeral 65 leads (indicating the age of the deceased), making 2,080 changes of Treble Bob, were rung by Albert Walker 1, Albert Armitage 2, Joe Boothroyd 3, H. Nutton 4, Herbert Pickering 5, W. Frith 6, J. W. Nutton 7, J. E. Carter (conductor) 8.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**RADCLIFFE BELL RESTORATION FUND.**

On Saturday last a very successful meeting of the Manchester Branch was held at Radcliffe, about 40 members from various towers accepting the kind invitation of the Radcliffe company to tea, as a farewell to two more of their company, Messrs. W. H. Baines and Emerson, who were about to go on active service in His Majesty's Forces. — The President of the Association (the Rev. H. J. Elsee) attended, and in a few chosen remarks, thanked the Radcliffe friends for their hospitality. He wished Messrs. Baines and Emerson "good luck and God-speed" in the duty they were about to undertake, and hoped for their safe return.

Owing to an accident to the treble bell the ringers had to be content with Minor method ringing.

At the business meeting, presided over by the Rector (the Rev. — Lavers-Kemp), a hearty welcome was given by the chairman to the ringers. He said he trusted 'ere long that the bells would be placed in a more fit condition for ringing. The fund for rehanging, etc., already stood at about £80.

Swinton was chosen as the next meeting place, on Saturday, May 6th.

Several courses on the handbells were rung, much to the delight of the ladies and friends present.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Radcliffe company for their hospitality, and to the Rector for the use of the bells, Mr. Fielding responding on behalf of the ringers.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.*To the Editor.*

Sir,—According to your issue of March 31st it appears that the C.C. is doomed, or at least the officials are to be deported or something. Would it be too much to ask you to allow me to say one word in the matter. I have been for a long time conscious of the growth of a party whose sole object seems to be the overthrow of something or somebody, their only credentials being, so far as I am a judge, their excessive literary ability. They appear to me to aspire to the rank of a Jasper Snowden, a Davies, a J. J. Parker, a Heywood, a Bulwer or a Thompson, all of whom have given us something of value in composition, discovery, the literature of the pursuit—I will call it—and in many other ways.

Has your correspondent who writes under those two words "trenchant criticism," or his collusionists, ever given us anything but words? Not at all! It is true they have taken us into the realms of geometry and many other terrible regions, to try to prove black is white, but never to my knowledge have they made any important discovery.

One would have thought your correspondent, who evidently has constituted himself the spokesman of the "party," would have come out into the open—so to speak—and, through the medium of your columns told the C.C. and the Exercise at large, who, after all elects the C.C., "in a few well chosen words" just what is the matter, what is their pet grievance and take their chance like sportsmen. But no! He must go out of his way to insult the C.C., and through them, the Exercise at large.—Yours, etc.,

Leicester.

G. CLEAL.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.*To the Editor.*

▲ Sir,—Mr. George Baker, in his astonishing discovery published in your issue of the 7th inst., overlooks or ignores a good deal. He has even failed to discover the utter falseness of his so-called peal. As a matter of fact it contains comparatively few true changes, and a glance at the published course-ends shows rounds three changes after 142365.

The proof of the impossibility of such a peal, which appeared in "Bell News" of October 3rd, 1914, whether the dividing line be the middle of a slow or quick six, still stands, notwithstanding Mr. Baker's "comic" notion that the shifting of rounds has some wonderful effect. Before we can have a peal of this kind, sixty true plain courses are necessary. If Mr. Baker can produce these it will be a "real" discovery.—Yours sincerely,

Sunderland. JOSEPH W. PARKER.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following former ringers have joined H.M. Forces:—

Pte. A. J. Hessian, of St. Andrew's, Rugby, 3/7th Royal Warwickshire Regiment, now at Clevedon, Somerset.

Pte. Wm. Smith, of Kidderminster, 3/8th Worcestershire Regiment (T.F.), now at Weston-super-Mare.

Pte. E. J. Brooks, of Kidderminster, Royal Berks Regiment, now at Worcester.

From Solihull, Warwickshire:—

Pte. Archer Bragg, 6th Royal Warwickshire Regiment.

Sapper Samuel Bragg, Royal Engineers.

DEATH OF A STOKE RINGER.

The St. Peter's band, Stoke-on-Trent, have lost a promising young member, by the death, after quite a short illness from pneumonia, of Mr. Harry Hulme. The deceased, who was only 18 years of age, was in his accustomed place in the belfry on Sunday week, but died on the following Wednesday. His sudden demise came as a great shock to all who knew him, and much sympathy is felt for his parents in their sad bereavement. He had been a ringer about three years, and although he had not rung a peal, he had taken part in a quarter, and was very regular in his attendance at the belfry.

The funeral took place on Saturday, at Hanley Cemetery, and was attended by eight of his brother ringers, four of whom acted as bearers, while a wreath in the shape of a bell was sent by members of the Stoke band.

On Sunday evening, as a mark of respect, a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Triples was rung at St. Peter's Church with the bells muffled, by: C. Coxon 1, G. Bloor 2, S. Churton (conductor) 3, C. Woodward 4, H. Page 5, E. Landon 6, C. H. Page 7, W. Ball 8.

LEICESTER.—On Sunday, April 9th, for morning service, at St. Margaret's, 489 Grandsire Triples: E. Smith 1, B. Kirby 2, A. Ballard 3, A. Peach 4, H. Hollis 5, E. Morris (conductor) 6, J. Morris 7, F. Sharman 8. The above two touches were rung as a farewell to Mr. Ernest Morris, the conductor, who left on April 10th to join the army under the group system.

EVESHAM.—On Sunday, April 2nd, for morning service, after meeting late for a quarter-peal, 1007 Grandsire Caters: H. Morton 1, R. G. Young 2, H. Middleton 3, H. Jordan 4, J. D. Johnson (composer and conductor) 5, F. J. Johnson 6, F. Jordan 7, H. J. Phipps 8, J. Hemming 9, F. Jinks 10.

PROOF AND COMPOSITION.

OF TREBLE BOB METHODS.

By GABRIEL LINDOFF.

In dealing with this subject it is my intention to confine myself to methods with what is usually called "Treble Bob Calling." At the same time the instructions which will be given for getting out a Proof Scale answers for both Treble Bob Calling methods, as well as Bob Major Calling methods.

One's first idea in turning to composition is usually to start to compose or put together a peal straight away, trusting to luck to avoid the many pitfalls, instead of finding out the pitfalls first, and, as a builder would do, get the material that he requires on the job before starting operations.

Having first selected the method, the next thing to do, if no proof scale is obtainable, is to prepare one. Our first duty in the preparation of a proof scale is to mark the changes of one lead showing whether they are in-course or out-of-course as the case may be. Now this operation is not so difficult as most people imagine. In and out of course is merely a question of how many pairs of bells have been turned over. This means in a strict change ringing sense,

as $\frac{1234}{2134}$ = one pair turned over

and not $\frac{1234}{3214}$ which is an illegitimate change of two bells.

This is a point which occurred to me in my early days, and I know will occur to many.

To decide which rows are in-course and which are out-of-course we start from rounds; the standard in-course row. Now, if we turn over an even number of pairs to produce the next row, that row, so produced, will remain the same as rounds, viz., in-course. But if we turn over an odd number of pairs that row would change its course and become an out-of-course row.

Examples. $\frac{12345678}{21436587}$ in, because four pairs have been turned over.
 $\frac{12345678}{21346587}$ out, because three pairs have been turned over.

Thus you will see we can follow down the various rows of a lead, counting how many pairs have been turned over in each. If an even number is turned over that row will remain the same as the previous one. But if an odd number of pairs is turned over the row changes its course, and becomes the opposite to the preceding one. Some will ask: "How could we determine the course of any row taken haphazard or any change that we might mention?" Well, the most simple way is to experiment in getting that change back to rounds by the use of call changes. Having done so, count up the number of pairs turned over in your operation. If an even number, that change is in-course. If an odd number of pairs have been turned over it is out-of-course. This will be quite true, no matter what round about way you may use.

Example. $\frac{13574286}{13547268}$ Pairs turned over. 2
 $\frac{13452768}{13452768}$ 2

$\frac{13425678}{13245678}{1}$
 $\frac{12345678}{12345678}{1}$
 8

As we turned over eight pairs to produce rounds 13574286 must, therefore, be in-course.

Let us now take a method and mark off the course of the various rows of one lead, which is quite sufficient for proof.

| Pairs turned | | Pairs turned | |
|--------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| | over. | | over. |
| 12345678 in | | 23465871 | |
| 21346587 out | 3 | 32648517 out | 4 |
| 12435678 out | 4 | 32465871 in | 3 |
| 21345687 in | 3 | 23648517 in | 4 |
| 23146578 out | 3 | 32468157 out | 3 |
| 32416587 in | 3 | 32641875 in | 3 |
| 23145678 in | 4 | 23468157 in | 4 |
| 32415768 out | 3 | 24361875 out | 3 |
| 23451786 in | 3 | 42316857 in | 3 |
| 24357168 out | 3 | 24136587 out | 3 |
| 42531786 out | 4 | 42315678 out | 4 |
| 42357168 in | 3 | 24135687 in | 3 |
| 24537618 out | 3 | 21436578 out | 3 |
| 42356781 out | 4 | 12346587 in | 3 |
| 42537618 in | 3 | 21435678 in | 4 |
| 24356781 in | 4 | 12436587 out | 3 |
| 23465871 out | 3 | 14263857 | |

You will note that row 14263857 must not be included, as we already have one lead head, viz., 12345678.

We will next sort these 32 rows out according to the position of the treble, as they will be more handy to deal with.

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1. 12345678 in A | 5. 23451786 in A |
| 12346587 in B | 32641875 in B |
| 12435678 out C | 42531786 out C |
| 12436587 out D | 24361875 out D |
| 2. 21345687 in A | 6. 42357168 in A |
| 21435678 in B | 23468157 in B |
| 21346587 out C | 24357168 out C |
| 21436578 out D | 32468157 out D |
| 3. 23145678 in A | 7. 42537618 in A |
| 24135687 in B | 23648517 in B |
| 23146578 out C | 24537618 out C |
| 24136587 out D | 32648517 out D |
| 4. 32416587 in A | 8. 24356781 in A |
| 42316857 in B | 32465871 in B |
| 32415768 out C | 42356781 out C |
| 42315678 out D | 23465871 out D |

You will notice that in each position of the treble we have four rows. And of each four two are in-course, and two are out-of-course.

Now it will take very little reasoning power to understand that a row of one section of four cannot repeat with a row of another section of four, as the treble would be in a different place. Any falseness must be within its own section.

Again an in-course row cannot repeat with an out-of-course row, neither can an out-of-course row repeat with an in-course row. Therefore an in-course row can only repeat with an in-course row of its own section; and likewise an out-of-course row can only repeat with an out-of-course row of its own section.

(To be Continued).

DEATH OF MR. HENRY DAINS.

A WELL-KNOWN COMPOSER AND RINGER.

We deeply regret to announce the death of a well-known member of the Royal Cumberland Youths—Mr. Henry Dains, who, at the age of 78 years, passed away at his residence, 47, Richmond Road, Barnsbury, on Thursday of last week. By his death the Exercise loses one who has left his mark on the progress of the art for all time. Henry Dains was among the foremost of modern composers, and, more than this, he was a pioneer to whom the Exercise owes a great deal. He rendered great service on the Central Council, of which he was a member from its foundation, and served on most of its committees. At the last meeting of that body he was re-elected on the Standing Committee, the Peal Collection Committee, the Legitimate Methods Committee and the Literature Committee, while he was formerly on the old Peal Points Committee, whose duties are now merged with those of the Analysis Committee. Thus his services to the Council have been as varied and useful as those of any man.

Mr. Dains was interested in ringing nearly all his long life. Indeed, he came of ringing stock, for his father was his first tutor on the peal of six at his native village of Tibenham, Norfolk, where he was born on October 29th, 1837. Mr. Dains first learnt to handle a bell while a choir-boy, and later took part in a 720 of Bob Minor at Banham, in which his father rang the treble, but before he took up the art ser-



THE LATE MR. HENRY DAINS.

iously, he mastered his trade, by studying at the Working Men's College, Great Ormond Street, London, and by working at his business. He delighted to term himself "an artificer in wood," and his skill at his trade was exceptional. During his life he occupied many responsible positions in charge of important works, but for some few years past he had been living in well-earned retirement.

FIRST PEALS.

In his early days in London, he practised ringing with the Waterloo, St. James's and Cumberland Societies, which he joined in the year 1872, and rang his first peal with the last-named on September 13th, 1873. This was conducted by George Newson, with whom Mr. Dains was afterwards associated in many a peal, among the most famous of which was a 13,440 at Romford. This, at the time, was the longest length of Double Norwich ever rung, and it was accomplished within a month after an unsuccessful attempt for the same length which came to grief after 8 hrs. 14 mins., through the treble rope breaking. This, however, was not Mr. Dains' only experience of disappointment in long lengths, for he once lost a peal of Stedman Caters after 6½ hours' ringing, and a peal of Treble Bob Major, after 6,000 changes had been rung. His first peal of Treble Bob was Harrison's celebrated 8864, rung on April 27th, 1876, and his first of Double Norwich was

rung in 1877, the first in the method in London for over 27 years. To Mr. Dains, we believe, belonged the honour of being the oldest ringer to ring a peal of London Surprise, for his last in the method was scored when he was nearly 74 years of age.

Mr. Dains had served in all the offices in the Royal Cumberland's Society, and for several years discharged the duties of secretary. During this time he raised, with the assistance of a committee, a testimonial for the then conductor of the Society, Mr. John Cox, by which a sum of £72 was got together. Subsequently a jubilee fund for the purpose of helping the veteran was started and produced over £40, but meanwhile the famous old ringer passed away. He was buried by the committee who placed a headstone over his grave, and handed the balance to the widow. Mr. Dains was also instrumental in raising the funds for a memorial to the late Mr. George Newson.

HIS COMPOSITIONS.

Composition was Mr. Dains' forte, and he has done a good deal for the Exercise, not only by way of peals, but also of methods, and at least one principle—Alliance—is the product of his fertile brain. His first idea of becoming a composer was stimulated by reading a tablet in the belfry of St. Clement Danes and, with the meagre assistance upon the false course-ends which he was able to obtain, he set to work upon Treble Bob. But all his efforts were unavailing until a copy of "The Clavis" came into his hands. This gave him a new start, and with the writings of the late Mr. Jasper Snowdon also to help him, he soon produced peals. He obtained his first in 1876, and he went on to improve upon his work. He produced altogether many excellent peals of Treble Bob, some of them being regarded as models in construction. He was the first to split up the 8-6's and the 8-6-7's, and by using them at a greater number of course-ends, extend the music over many additional courses.

In 1877 he turned his attention to Double Norwich. Up to that time the compositions had included the 6th at home only up to eleven course-ends, and Mr. Dains set out to obtain peals with all twelve. He solved the problem while on the sands at Southsea, during a holiday, and the result of his discovery was that subsequent compositions of Double Norwich were fashioned on these lines, with the addition of the 6th the extent in 5th's, and the improvement thus obtained in the musical qualities of compositions led to greater attention being paid to the practice of the method. Directing his energies to Superlative and London Surprise, he obtained several peals on new lines, such, for instance, as 5088 Superlative with the 4th and 5th their extent in 5-6; and 5088 London in three equal parts, with the 6th its extent in 5-6. Stedman Caters and afterwards Cambridge Royal also claimed his attention. Like others, Mr. Dains' career as a composer was not without its disappointing experiences, and the first edition of Snowdon's "Double Norwich" testified to the fact that there were pitfalls into which the most experienced may drop.

RESEARCH.

In addition to having brought out the Alliance principle and a number of new methods, including New Cumberland Surprise, it was Mr. Dains who dug out of Benjamin Annable's notebook, now in the British Museum, the method which to-day is called "Original"—consisting simply of the plain hunt—and who showed how peals of it could be obtained on either odd or even numbers. Mr. Dains, indeed, did a good deal of research work, and his study of Annable's notebook and Stedman's "Campanologia" (published 1686) and "Tintinnologia" (published 1677) led to some interesting discoveries, including "Imperial Bob," the first Treble Bob Major Method ever published, and Reading Doubles, the foundation of all Doubles except Stedman.

A member of fourteen societies, Mr. Dains had rung the following peals in 16 counties:—

| | | |
|-------------------------------|----|-------------------------------|
| Grandsire Triples | 18 | (including one on handbells). |
| Grandsire Caters | 15 | |
| Grandsire Cinques | 2 | |
| Stedman Triples | 15 | (including one on handbells). |
| Stedman Caters | 16 | |
| Stedman Cinques | 15 | |
| Kent Treble Bob Major | 38 | Conducted 3 |
| Kent Treble Bob Royal | 25 | |
| Kent Treble Bob Maximus .. | 7 | Conducted 1 |
| Double Norwich Major | 40 | Conducted 1 |
| Superlative Surprise Major .. | 24 | |
| Cambridge Surprise Major .. | 1 | |
| London Surprise Major | 4 | |

Total 220 Conducted 5

The deceased was buried at Finchley Cemetery on Wednesday.

GARGRAVE.—Yorkshire Association.—At St. Andrew's Church, on April 2nd, for morning service, 1288 Grandsire Triples: J. Beazeley 1, W. H. Birtwhistle 2, A. R. Jones (conductor) 3, W. Bradley 4, J. Langstroth 5, G. Wane 6, J. Wane 7, C. Langstroth 8. For evening service, 704 of Kent Treble Bob Major: J. Beazeley 1, W. H. Birtwhistle 2, C. Langstroth 3, W. Bradley 4, J. Langstroth 5, G. Wane 6, A. R. Jones (conductor) 7, H. Birtwhistle 8. The ringer of the 5th, a former member of the local branch, was on a visit from Lincoln.

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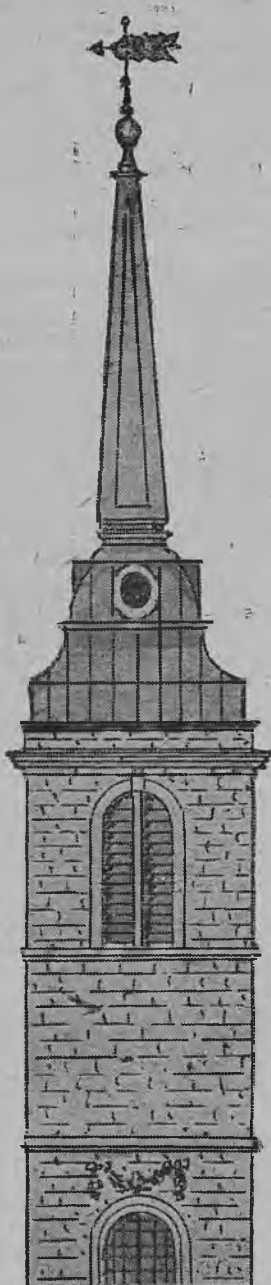
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LONDON CITY CHURCHES.

ST. MARGARET, LOTHBURY.

By J. R. JERRAM.

Although of not much account from a ringer's point of view, yet still, St. Margaret, Lothbury, is of great interest for other reasons: chiefly because it has been made a sort of museum for the flotsam and jetsam of other churches



ST. MARGARET'S, LOTHBURY.

which have been demolished during the last fifty years, which I shall notice in due course. To St. Margaret, Lothbury, are united the following parishes whose churches have disappeared: St. Christopher-le-Stocks, St. Bartholomew-by-the-Exchange, St. Mary, Colechurch, St. Martin, Pomeroy, St. Mildred Poultry, St. Olave, Old Jewry.

The original church was founded as early as the twelfth

century; but having perished in the fire of 1666, it was replaced by the present one, built from Wren's designs and finished in 1690. It is about 70 feet long by 60 feet wide, and consists of nave, south aisle separated therefrom by two pillars, and having a vestry at the east end, and a tower at the west end over the entrance on the south side. The church is lighted by a row of high windows, over which the wall is terminated by a balustrade. The tower is terminated by a plain cornice, over which is a dome supporting a slender spire. There are three bells, the largest being 35 inches in diameter. They are inscribed as follows:—

First.

THOMAS MEARS FOUNDER LONDON. 1841.

Second.

JAMES BARLET MADE MEE 1682 ○ [3 bells and crown enclosed in wreath.]

Tenor.

ANTH: HALET & INO MANDEVILLE CH:WARDENS 1749. THOS LESTER MADE ME [also incised Wt 9-1-22.]

In a covered passage at the west end of the church, along with a quantity of oak wainscoting and carving brought from other demolished churches, were deposited the clock and bells from St. Olave, Old Jewry, when it was pulled down in 1894. These bells are thus inscribed:—

First.

1823 [by Thomas Mears]

Second.

JAMES BARTLET MADE ME: :PRAYSE YE THE LORD 1675 ○ [3 bells and crown]

Tenor.

ANTHONY BARTLET MADE MEE FOR THE PARISH OF OLAVE JEWRY 1674 ○ [3 bells and crown]

The tenor is 40 inches in diameter.

But to return to St. Margaret's; the magnificent carved Flemish screen, originally given to All Hallows-the-Great by James Jacobsen, was brought here and erected when that church was demolished in 1893. This screen is surmounted by the royal arms of Charles II with a large carved eagle displayed over the central arch below, and two other coats of arms on either side.

The handsome carved oak pulpit and sounding-board from All Hallows has also been brought here and placed against the north wall, close to the pulpit properly belonging to St. Margaret's, which has lost its sounding-board. Here are also two painted wooden images of Moses and Aaron, which originally came from St. Christopher-le-Stocks. There are also numerous memorial tablets on the walls, which have been brought from other churches. The reredos is of oak, with the Decalogue, Lord's Prayer and Creed, and is surmounted by four urns or lamps. The south aisle is divided from the nave by an oak screen, and has a second altar, being used as a side chapel.

The font is of marble, and is ascribed to Grinling Gibbons. It has four panels representing (1) Adam and Eve in Eden, (2) The Ark and the Dove, (3) The Baptism of our Lord in Jordan, (4) St. Philip baptizing the Ethiopian Eunuch.

In this church were delivered the famous Tuesday morning "Golden Lectures" by Canon Melvill and others. The same were paid for by a golden guinea, the same coin doing duty over and over again, the lecturer afterwards receiving an equivalent in the current coin of the realm in exchange.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

"ATTACK ON PREJUDICES OF MANY GENERATIONS."

By GEORGE T. CLAYTON.

With reference to the peal (the variation of Lates'), which appeared in "The Ringing World" for Feb. 18th, in some sort of return for the benefits received and in imitation of the modern writers, who, commencing with Jasper Snowdon, have so freely given to the Exercise the fruit of their labours—what an arrant humbug was Shipway!—I will give some further account of the peal, together with directions, whereby anyone can obtain similar peals.

The calling of every twin-bob, five-part quarter-peal with, of course, 60 bobs; can be made to run four times by the Lates' single. To put this in another way; such quarter-peals may be considered as plain courses of 1260 changes, capable of being repeated three times without falseness occurring by singles working the four front or the four back bells. The single working the bells in 3, 4, 5, 6, will not do, and Thurstans' single working the four back bells is highly objectionable, so that the only single left is Lates'. These quarter-peals, whichever may be the observation or course bell, and whichever may be the sub-observation or part bell, all have this quality; the observation bell is in 6-7 exactly 15 times each way with every other bell. Odd-bob quarter-peals do not possess this quality, and they cannot, therefore, be extended as the authors of "The Clavis" were painfully aware, and twin-bob, three-part quarter-peals are also without this quality. Now, peals of Stedman Triples are naturally fourfold if it be natural to follow the line of least resistance, for the reason that quarter-peals are obtainable with greater facility than any other considerable length. Indeed, so much is this so that a man could soon fill his notebook with quarter-peals merely by tables of course-ends, and there is little doubt that many quarter-peals were known to Melchior and Crane. It is also reasonable to suppose that as soon as the twin-bob principle became known, every composer had much about the same stock of twin-bob quarter-peals. Scientifically one bell is as good as another for the observation bell, and one bell is as good as another for the sub-observation bell, but the modern preference is very rightly in favour of the 7th and 6th for the observation and sub-observation bells respectively.

There are four twin-bob, five-part quarter-peals having these qualities. They are given at page 235 of Snowdon's 'Stedman,' and for the present purpose they may be distinguished by the names of Thurstans, Haley, and Brooks. The fourth has a six-bob set in each part, and I do not think that anyone has ever claimed it. Of the three good ones, Thurstans' is the best, as it has only one four-bob set in each part, but Brooks' is easier to ring. They are all, however, equally amenable to treatment by the Lates' single, as are also the others with different observation and sub-observation bells by transposing the course-ends. The course-ends may now be given:—

COURSE ENDS.

| | | | | | |
|----|--------|----|--------|----|--------|
| 1 | 123456 | 21 | 213465 | 41 | 346521 |
| 2 | 2143 | 22 | 1243 | 42 | 43 12 |
| 3 | 3421 | 23 | 3412 | 43 | 21 43 |
| 4 | 4312 | 24 | 4321 | 44 | 12 34 |
| 5 | 315246 | 25 | 312564 | 45 | 526413 |
| 6 | 1325 | 26 | 1325 | 46 | 25 31 |
| 7 | 5213 | 27 | 2513 | 47 | 13 25 |
| 8 | 2531 | 28 | 5231 | 48 | 31 52 |
| 9 | 425136 | 29 | 245163 | 49 | 156342 |
| 10 | 2415 | 30 | 4215 | 50 | 51 24 |
| 11 | 5124 | 31 | 5142 | 51 | 42 51 |
| 12 | 1542 | 32 | 1524 | 52 | 24 15 |
| 13 | 351426 | 33 | 531462 | 53 | 416235 |
| 14 | 5341 | 34 | 3541 | 54 | 14 53 |
| 15 | 1453 | 35 | 1435 | 55 | 35 14 |
| 16 | 4135 | 36 | 4153 | 56 | 53 41 |
| 17 | 543216 | 37 | 453261 | 57 | 326145 |
| 18 | 4523 | 38 | 5423 | 58 | 23 54 |
| 19 | 3245 | 39 | 3254 | 59 | 45 23 |
| 20 | 2354 | 40 | 2345 | 60 | 54 32 |

Note.—The first two rows in each block are even, and the last two odd.

These course-ends first appeared in the peals by Lates and Thurstans, which are given at pages 127 and 149 respectively of Snowdon's 'Stedman.' According to the only evidence available, Lates' peal was the earlier one of the two, but the evidence can hardly be considered conclusive. At page 178 we are told definitely that Lates' peal was obtained in the year 1841, whereas it is merely said of Thurstans' peal that it was communicated to Henry Johnson in 1842. The point is an interesting one, though it is not one of very great importance, the essential thing being that Lates discovered the single by which alone can altogether satisfactory peals be obtained. These course-ends differ widely from Hudson's, which are all even, the Holt single, or double as it is generally called in Stedman, not having an inverting effect. It will be seen that the 6th is never below third's place, and it

is 20 times home, 20 times in fifth's, and the same number of times in third's place. For peals in which the courses are odd and even in equal moieties, these course-ends are immutable, and they are as probably the best possible set, as it is certain that Hudson's is the worst possible. I speak with reserve, as I have not looked narrowly into the question, but, as the rows in the plain course are odd and even in equal moieties, by analogy one may expect to reach the high-water mark of excellence when the courses themselves are odd and even in the same proportion. Certainly such peals as those given at pages 45, 46 and 47 of Snowdon's 'Stedman' in which the proportion of odd courses is small are very inferior as can be seen at a glance, and yet at page 56, reducing the number of odd courses to six in the whole peal is alleged to be an advantage. Another alleged advantage (see pages 64 and 66) is getting the whole of the 67's at back. Now, 7,6,8, is a cadence very pleasant to the ear, and it seems to me that with the tenor covering, the 6-7's cannot be better than when they are half and half as they are in the peal under review. Never having, however, been able to get beyond Doubles, I do not feel competent to speak with any great authority, but I do feel able to say that should it be an advantage to get all the 67's at back, the advantage is very dearly purchased in the two peals that have this quality.

A DIGRESSION.

If the indulgent reader will allow me, I should like to make a digression here. My Stedman Doubles were rung under the auspices of the well-known firm of William Miller and Co., Ltd., Leytonstone, to whose untiring efforts to teach me I owe most of my knowledge of ringing, and (this is an aside) I am going to stand them all a drink when the treating restrictions are withdrawn. What a splendid conductor is William Miller! and yet, as I only found out the other day, he has never kissed the blarney stone. Like his more celebrated relative, William Pye, he is always there when wanted. How the ringers of a bygone generation pulled my leg! though no one must suppose that I think any the less of my friend Fred Newman for having called more freak peals than any other man of my acquaintance. William Miller has another little trait in his character, which I think is not so widely known. Mind, this is a dead secret, and it must not go any further. He has the temper of a turtle dove, or I should have been chucked out of the company long since. But, as Fred Doran very justly observed after Sam Hayes had been grousing at me, a man that wants to learn ringing must be thick-skinned. I always had a warm corner in my heart for Sam, his grousing notwithstanding, and I was very sorry when I knew that he had had his last pull.

I have had my little say, and, to pick up the (twin-bob) thread again, the only undoubted advantage that any of the fancy peals possess is reducing the number of four-bob sets to less than 20. But none of the peals possessing this advantage comes anywhere near Thurstans' masterpiece, which, in turn, is out-distanced by the peals obtainable by the Lates' single in which there are no deviations whatever from the standard calling and only four equi-distant additions, all of which are exactly alike.

Most of the foregoing criticisms are made at random, and what I have in mind will perhaps be best conveyed to the reader by a semi-topical illustration. The engines on Sir Arthur Heywood's Duffield Bank railway are quite the most 'original,' 'ingenious,' 'clever,' etc., that I have ever seen, but they are so poorly adapted to ordinary requirements that if ordinary railways were equipped with such engines they would soon have to close down. I beg that no one will misunderstand me. In detailed design and construction the engines are equal to any first-class, main-line, express engines. I did not always know this, and on my first visit to the railway I went to scoff and stayed to praise. I should like to add that I was most courteously received by Sir Arthur's workmen. Every Stedman ringer from the greatest to the least is indebted to Sir Arthur Heywood, but I owe him a double debt.

Following the example of novelists who seem to like double-barrelled titles, what I have to say about composition might well be entitled:

STEDMAN TRIPLES, OR COMPOSITION MADE EASY.

Indeed, it is a romance, for it is the sequel to, or rather, the complement of the wonderful story told by Sir Arthur Heywood at page 181 of Snowdon's 'Stedman.' Always bearing in mind that I am referring to peals founded upon twin-bob, five-part quarter-peals with the 7th the observation and the 6th the sub-observation bell, the Lates' single may be made after any six-end in which these bells are above fourth's place excepting only those in which the 7th is home. If any one of the 30 odd course-ends is singled up, the other 29 must follow in its train, and 30 of the worst course-ends of Hudson's original set are at the same time thrown out. All this, as well as meeting the Q-set requirements is done automatically without either thought or skill being required of the composer, and what is more, the best possible results are obtained. To make this perfectly clear, the young practitioner, as Shipway was so fond of calling his dupes, is invited to take half a sheet of foolscap without being afraid that I am going to make a fool of him and prick the unclaimed quarter-peal previously referred to by the six-ends, going off from rounds to agree with the list of course-ends. This being done, it will be found by the help of the subjoined table of course-ends to afford the 20 peals set out be-

low. They will be different peals in the sense that there are 10 different 120's of Doubles, and if one be found true, the others will be true.

| Calling | | | Calling | | |
|---------|-----------|-------------|---------|-----------|-------------|
| Course | Position. | Course End. | Course | Position. | Course End. |
| 1 | 11 | 246315 | 9 | 2 | 324516 |
| 2 | 2 | 325461 | 9 | 14 | 253146 |
| 3 | 2 | 431256 | 10 | 11 | 316452 |
| 3 | 14 | 324516* | 11 | 2 | 432165 |
| 4 | 11 | 456123* | 12 | 2 | 145326* |
| 5 | 2 | 143562 | 12 | 14 | 431256 |
| 6 | 2 | 512436 | 13 | 11 | 126534 |
| 6 | 14 | 145326 | 14 | 2 | 514263 |
| 7 | 11 | 536241 | 15 | 2 | 253146 |
| 8 | 2 | 251364* | 15 | 14 | 512436 |

* In these peals, 5-6-7 are home at the part ends.

Having proved the peals or otherwise as may be thought necessary, Thurstans' quarter-peal may be treated in the same way and 20 other peals obtained, four of which will be starred. These will be the best peals that so far as I know it is possible to obtain, and only one of them has been claimed.

TABLE OF COURSE ENDS

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|----|---|----|--------|
| 2 | S | H | L | 11 | Q | 14 | 123456 |
| S | | | | | | | 613254 |
| | | | | S | | | 523164 |
| | | | | | | S | 512436 |
| | | x | | S | | | 126534 |
| S | x | x | | | | | 154236 |
| | x | x | | S | | | 356214 |
| | x | x | x | S | | | 246315 |
| S | x | x | | | x | | 126534 |
| | x | | x | S | | | 546132 |
| S | | x | | | | | 163245 |
| | | x | | S | | | 621435 |
| S | | x | x | | | | 423615 |
| | | x | x | S | | | 264135 |

I may now be permitted to review the whole situation. Every book on Stedman is founded upon the following prejudgments:—

- (1) In Doubles, a special single is necessary.
- (2) In Triples, the ordinary single only is approved.

Stedman himself is responsible for (1). The authors of "The Clavis" concurred, but they invented another single which violated the dodging principle as Stedman's single had violated the hunting principle. To this single Shipway assented, as also did the authors of Snowdon's 'Stedman.' I will quote the exact words of these gentlemen which are to be found at page 13.

"They (the singles) are made wholly in the dodging on passing from one six to another. They thus interfere with neither the front work, which would have been intolerable, nor with the integrity of the dodging throughout a six. This is a great gain as compared with the exigencies of the single in Doubles. For there, in order not to upset the front work, there is necessarily a partial sacrifice of the dodging."

The first part refers to the ordinary single in Triples about which what is said is perfectly true, and with a slight alteration it applies equally well to the Lates' single which, being made at the parting of the sixes, interferes with neither the hunting nor the dodging. But at the moment we are speaking of Doubles, and it is the last part to which I wish to direct attention. Now, will the reader kindly look at this.

| (a) | (b) |
|-------|-------|
| 12345 | 12345 |
| 21435 | 21435 |
| 124 | 241 |
| 142 | 421 |
| 412 | 412 |
| S 421 | S 142 |
| 24153 | 12453 |
| 42153 | 21453 |
| 412 | 124 |
| 142 | 142 |
| 124 | 412 |
| 214 | 421 |
| 24135 | 24135 |

In (a) the single is after slow, and it will be seen that the treble, having finished its work, instead of running out, strikes another blow in third's place and goes in again quick. In (b) the single is after quick, and it will be seen that the 4th, having finished its work, instead of running out, strikes two more blows in third's place, and goes in again slow. In neither case is the integrity of the hunting nor the dodging violated, and the effect is simply to cut out the dodging. No doubt it is an impropriety for a bell to strike three consecutive blows, but it must be borne in mind that from its very nature Stedman is not adapted to low numbers, and the impropriety cannot be avoided in a lower number than 9 except at a great sacrifice.

In regard to (2) I will again quote the words of Snowdon's "Stedman," which are to be found at page 42.

"With the publication of his (Thurstans') peal, all others containing special calls not unnaturally fell into disuse, leaving his, and the many kindred ones of which it is the basis, in undisputed possession of the field. It sounded the death-knell of special calls, and their resuscitation would now be an anachronism and a crime."

Considering the extreme simplicity and cleanness of the peals obtainable by the Lates' single, and the ridiculous ease with which they are obtained as compared with Thurstans' and others by the ordinary single, this is very like, after demonstrating by addition that 60 84's are 5040, saying that it would be an anachronism and a crime to perform the operation by multiplication.

It is not too much to say that had the substance of this paper been known to Melchior, no other than the Lates' single would ever have been used in Triples, and that the ordinary single would have taken its proper place in Doubles. Very singularly, the two prejudgments are correct when reversed. I am attacking the prejudices of many generations, and whether or no I shall succeed in getting home with my case, time alone can tell.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

WELLS, SOMERSET.—On the back eight, at the Cathedral, 350 and 168 Grandsire Triples, to ring out the Old Year, and 518 Grandsire Triples to welcome the New Year: E. Stiles 1, T. T. Hayward 2, F. Loxton 3, H. Fry 4, E. E. Lush 5, A. E. Mills 6, Sergt. W. Farley (N.S.Y.), conductor, 7, H. G. Farley 8, Leakey tenor (57½ cwt.).

LISCARD.—Cheshire Diocesan Guild.—On Feb. 26th, at St. Mary's Church, a half-peal of Bob Triples (2502 changes), in 1 hr. 31 mins.: J. Hughes 1, W. Hughes 2, P. Hayes 3, H. R. Rodgers 4, S. Morton 5, H. Williams 6, H. Ludkin 7, A. Woosnam 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute to the soldiers and sailors who have fallen during the war.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, Feb. 27th, for morning service, 288 Bristol Surprise, for evening service, 448 London: J. Woodberry 1, G. Davis 2, N. Davis 3, W. H. Smith 4, T. J. Salter (conductor) 5, E. J. Brooks 6, C. H. Woodberry 7, Wm. Smith 8.—On Sunday, March 26th, for evening service, 392 Grandsire Triples: A. Wright 1, G. Davis 2, E. J. Brooks (conductor) 3, W. li. Smith 4, R. Moy 5, J. Woodberry 6, J. Smith 7, J. Bennett 8. These were the last touches by Wm. Smith and E. J. Brooks previous to joining the forces.

LONDON.—On March 16th, at St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 42 mins.: A. E. Reeve 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, C. W. R. Grimwood 3, W. G. Matthews 4, C. Pullen 5, W. Essery 6, W. A. Martin 7, A. E. Young 8.—On March 30th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 44 mins.: W. A. Martin 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, C. W. R. Grimwood 3, W. Essery 4, A. E. Reeve 5, C. Pullen 6, T. Walker 7, H. Dyas 8.

LONDON.—St. Mary Abbot's Guild.—On Sunday, March 26th, at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, for morning service, 1260 Stedman Triples: A. W. Davis 1, W. E. Garrard (conductor) 2, A. Cutmore 3, P. Miles 4, J. H. Payne 5, C. Pullen 6, H. G. Miles 7, H. Dyas 8.

LEWISHAM, KENT.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, April 2nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: G. R. Simmonds 1, W. Seeley (A.S.C.), conductor, 2, C. H. Walker 3, H. Warnett 4, E. J. Pannett 5, H. Walker 6, W. W. Fox 7, H. G. Goodwin 8. This was rung as a farewell touch for W. Seeley, A.S.C., of Bushey, who has been stationed at Lewisham, and while there has made St. Mary's his 'ringing home.' He is now under orders for the front, and carries with him the best and sincere wishes of the Lewisham band.

ACTON.—Middlesex Association and St. Mary's Guild.—For morning service at St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, April 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: R. H. Boddington 1, W. Phillips 2, A. W. Davis 3, W. Lawrence 4, J. W. Fruin 5, Robt. Holloway (conductor) 6, B. Brewer 7, A. E. Smith 8.

HILLINGDON WEST, MIDDLESEX.—Oxford Guild.—At St. Andrew's Church, on Sunday, April 2nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 41 mins.: E. Hancox 1, W. Henley 2, W. H. Fussell 3, P. Jones 4, E. Hooper 5, H. H. Chandler 6, W. Welling (conductor) 7, T. Smith 8. Owing to a mysterious mishap to the latch of the belfry door a successful entrance was made by means of a long ladder, via the nave roof.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday, April 2nd, for evening service, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: P. Ince 1, P. Nuttall 2, Robt. Allred (Tyldesley), (conductor) 3, J. Makin 4, P.C. Peter Crook 5, J. Stubbs (Horwich) 6, W. Pennington 7, G. Pincott 8.

BECCLES, SUFFOLK.—At St. Michael's Church, on April 5th, 800 Bob Major: H. Reynolds 1-2, C. Parnell 3-4, H. Ling (conductor) 5-6, J. Spalding 7-8.

HAMMERSMITH.—At St. Paul's Church, on Sunday, April 9th, for evening service, 1280 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 48 mins.: W. Stevens 1, *H. Barrett 2, Pte. S. Meadows (A.S.C.) 3, *P. H. Smith 4, R. Mackrill 5, H. Cook 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, C. Hunt 8. * Longest length in the method.

NOTICES.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on April 20th for handbell practice, on the 25th for business. — William T. Cockerill, Honorary Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—The next District meeting will be held at Romford on Saturday, April 15th. Bells available 3 to 8 p.m. Short service at 5. Tea at the Fox and Hounds 5.30, 8d. each. Business meeting to follow. All will be welcome.—E. J. Butler (temporary Honorary Secretary), 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Hoghton to-morrow (Saturday), April 15th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. — A. E. Woodhouse, Branch Secretary.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Richmond on Easter Monday, April 24th, 1916. Bells available all day. Dinner will be provided at the Albany Hotel at one o'clock prompt. Members 1s. 6d., non-members 2s. 6d. Those intending to be present please notify the honorary secretary not later than first post Thursday, April 20th, 1916. — T. Metcalfe, Hon. Secretary, 26, High Street, North Ormesby.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Warwick on Easter Monday. Bells available: Leamington (8) 10 till dusk, except between 12.30 and 1; Emscote (8) all day, and St. Mary's (10) 6 p.m. till dusk. Committee meeting at Leamington 2.30. Tea at the Globe Hotel, Warwick, 4.30, to all who notify me by April 28th. Business meeting after tea.—H. Kettle, Rectory Cottage, Allesley, Coventry.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Central Division).—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Southover, Lewes, on Easter Monday. Tower open at 2. Tea, 5.15, in Church Hall, by kind invitation of the Rector to those who notify me by Tuesday, April 18th. Subscriptions for 1916 are now due.—A. D. Stone, 29, Ashton Street, Brighton.

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 24th. Business meeting in Chapter House at 2.30; chairman, The Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., President. Service in Cathedral at 4.15 p.m. Address by the Rev. J. F. Hastings. Tea in College Hall at 5.15 for those who notify me by Wednesday, April 19th. At 12.45 p.m. the Dean of Worcester will unveil a peal-board in the Cathedral Tower, to record the peal of Stedman Cinques rung on those bells. Bells available: Cathedral (12) 1.0 to 2.0 p.m.; All Saints (10), Hallow (8), St. Nicholas (6), St. John-in-Bedwardine (6), and St. Swithin's (6) 10.0 to 11.0 and 5.0 to 6.0.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheepcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at South Wingfield on Easter Monday, April 24th. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea 1s. each at 5.30 p.m. Meeting after tea. The Rev. J. F. Morley, South Wingfield Vicarage, Alfreton, would be pleased to know on or before April 18th how many for tea.—Thos. Allebone, Secretary, North Wingfield, Chesterfield.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held in Bedford on Easter Monday. Committee meeting at Church House at 11 a.m. Dinner at St. Mary's School Room at 1 p.m. Meeting after dinner.—A. Rust, Honorary Secretary.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—The district quarterly meeting will be held at Soberton on Easter Monday, April 24th. Bells available 2 p.m. to dusk. Tea will be provided at the White Lion Hotel for those that let me know not later than April 18th. Subscriptions for 1916 are now due.—J. Harding, District Secretary.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Nottingham on Easter Monday, April 24th, 1916, at the office of the British Equitable Assurance Co., 1, Greyhound Street, Long Row. Committee meeting at 3.15, followed by general meeting at four o'clock. Tea at cafe prices at Glover's Cafe, two doors away, after meeting.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Alban's on Easter Monday, April 24th, 1916. Towers open for ringing from 1.30 to 5 p.m. Choral evensong in the Cathedral at 5 p.m., with address to ringers by the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake, Vicar of Thundridge. At 5.50 p.m. meat tea will be served at the Abbey Institute, for which a charge of 9d. each will be made to members. Annual business meeting to follow. The secretary earnestly asks secretaries of bands, and unattached members, to advise him as early as possible the probable number of members attending the meeting, so that satisfactory arrangements can be made for tea. Outstanding subscriptions should be paid at once.—G. W. Cartmel, Honorary Secretary, "Duffield," St. Albans.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The Easter meeting of the Central District will be held at the Parish Church of All Saints', Carshalton, on Monday in Easter week, April 24th. Bells, 8, tenor 12½ cwt., available all afternoon until 7 p.m. Service at 5.30. Tea in Parish Hall at 6 (members 3d., visitors 9d.), followed by short business meeting. Please notify intention to be present to Ch. Reading, assistant honorary secretary, Union Bank Chambers, Croydon, before Saturday, the 22nd inst.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION, late the St. James' Society (Established 1824).—The annual general meeting will be held on the Saturday following Easter, April 29th, at the headquarters, "The Edinburgh," Milford Lane, Strand, W.C., at 6 p.m.—T. H. Taffender, Master, for hon. secretary, 10, Northlands Street, Camberwell, S.E.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Quarterly meeting at St. Saviour's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, May 6th, at 2.30. Tea at Nag's Head, 9d. per head, to those who notify me by May 2nd. Specially important meeting on Saturday, April 29th, at St. Martin's at 3 o'clock. — H. J. Bradley, 25, Winchester Avenue, Brondesbury, N.W.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Will members kindly note that the annual general meeting will be held on Saturday, May 13th, instead of April 29th, as originally fixed. Full particulars will be given in due course.—C. T. Coles, 49, Wood Street, Walthamstow, H. C. Chandler, Church Road, Heston, Honorary Secretary.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Weare, near Axbridge, on Saturday, April 29th. Bells from 2 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham, Somerset.

SALOP GUILD.—Quarterly meeting April 29th, 1916, at Newport, Salop. Ringing 3 o'clock. Belfry prayers 4 o'clock. Tea 5 o'clock. Meeting after tea. Please reply before April 26th to Rev. F. Tennison, St. Alkmund's Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO THE LATE WILLIAM SNOWDON.—The Members of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers propose to erect a Memorial to the late William Snowdon in the form of a Brass Tablet in Ilkley Parish Church, near to the Ringers' Window already erected to the memory of his brother, Jasper Whitfield Snowdon. Will any person wishing to be associated with this movement kindly communicate with the Treasurer to the Fund, Mr. H. Williams, New Worthy Cemetery, Leeds, Yorks.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

BUSINESS PREMISES TO LET.

To be LET at Michaelmas, 1916, an old-established Blacksmith's Shop and Dwelling House, situate at Meadwell, Kelly, Devon, the property of the Rev. Maitland, Kelly. Grass land is obtainable and preference would be given to an applicant who has a knowledge of plumbing and motor engineering. — Apply to Ward and Chown, Estate Agents, Burnville, Brentor, Tavistock.

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Owing to Good Friday falling in next week "The Ringing World" will be published on Thursday, and correspondents should note that all matter intended for publication should reach this office not later than Monday.

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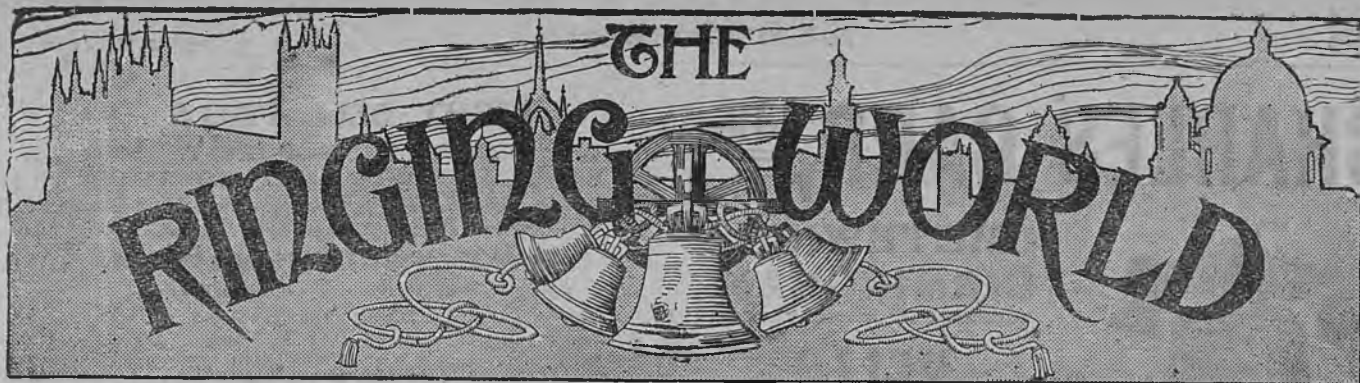
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Wolverhampton.**

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.
Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

PUBLICATION OF MR. DAINS' WORK.

It is good news to learn that the late Mr. Henry Dains, whose death is deeply regretted by the Exercise, took steps to secure that the result of his labours, extending over so long a period, should not be lost. As will be seen by what is stated in another column, Mr. Dains, in the declining years of his life, collated a mass of material and nominated a committee to undertake the work of publishing it. From what may be gathered, the collection of MSS. is not merely one of compositions, but also includes articles upon problems in the construction of methods. The publication of such material ought to be of value to the Exercise—at any rate it would have been a misfortune if it had been lost to the present and future generations. Happily, however, the results of Mr. Dains' work are to be saved to us. By his foresight arrangements seem to have been made to give the Exercise at large the full benefit of his work. But the committee, it seems, are in some doubt as to whether to undertake their task at once or, owing to the exceptional conditions now prevailing, to postpone it for a time. Upon this point they invite expressions of opinion. If we may venture to offer our view we would say that while, of course, the work of getting the materials into final order for publication might well proceed, there seem to be good reasons for delaying the actual issue of the matter—in whatever form it may take—to the Exercise.

In the first place, ringing, as a whole, is, like other things, in a seriously disturbed state. The war has called away from the belfries large numbers of men, who, while at home, would have been deeply interested in such a work as that proposed, but while they are engaged in more serious duties would have perforce to pass it by unnoticed. Thus the success of its publication would be jeopardised, for it must be remembered that the first demand for a work such as this would be, is always the greatest, and that which usually follows is small and uncertain. Thus it seems to us, there would be, from this point alone, much advantage to be gained by waiting for more settled times. Then, too, there is the question of cost. This, of course, may be a matter of no importance, but it may be worth considering at a time when war prices are prevailing. Whatever course may be adopted, however, we are glad to know that there is a definite prospect of the Exercise having the full advantage of the years of labour and ripe experience of one who has done so much to further the progress of the Art, both by patient investigation and a fertile imagination that lifted much of his work out of the common ruck. The committee, who have the handling of the matter, probably have an onerous task before them, in the discharge of which we wish them success.

MODERN WORK.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs. C. CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to Inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract,—we may be able to assist you.

**SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM**

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SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.**

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

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CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

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**ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON
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MALLEABLE IRON BRACKETS.
BEST BELL ROPES.
REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.

**BELLHANGERS sent to Inspect
and report on Bells and Towers.**

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HANLEY, STOKE-ON-TRENT.

THE STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 8, 1916, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 19 cwt.

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| *P. A. DALE Treble | *W. H. DEGG 5 |
| †S. SARGEANT 2 | *J. PROPHETT 6 |
| H. ALLCOCK 3 | *G. JONES 7 |
| H. CORDALL 4 | *A. LYONS Tenor |

Conducted by S. SARGEANT.

* First peal. † First peal as conductor. Rung as a wedding compliment to P. Dale, ringer of the treble. Also as a farewell to the "Derby" men who are about to be called to the colours. This is believed to be first peal by an all Hanley band, and was rung at the second attempt.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

On Saturday, April 15, 1916, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANNE, HIGHGATE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| ERNEST BINFIELD Treble | EDWARD F. COLE 5 |
| *CHARLES PRYOR 2 | ALBERT E. BRIGHTMAN ... 6 |
| WALTER G. MATTHEWS ... 3 | ERNEST YOUNG 7 |
| RICHARD BEVAN 4 | FRANK SMITH Tenor |

Composed by the late HENRY DAINS.

Conducted by FRANK SMITH.

*First peal of Kent. Rung half-muffled in memory of the composer, this being the tower in which he rang his first peal in the method.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers who have joined H.M. Forces:—

Pte. John Brassington, of Barthomley Parish Church, Lancs, Army Ordnance Corps, now at Didcott.
Pte. C. King, of Priory Church, Dunstable, 4th Battalion Essex Regiment.

DEATH OF MR. H. A. TURNER.

A WELL-KNOWN SUFFOLK RINGER.

His many friends will be sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Harry Alfred Turner, of Bury St. Edmunds, Suffolk, who died recently after a short illness.

Deceased was born at Hissett, Suffolk, on May 16th, 1868, and was thus in his 47th year. He was a member of the Ely Diocesan and Norwich Associations. He commenced his ringing career at his native village at an early age, and later his employment took him to Bury St. Edmunds, where he joined the St. James' Company at the Norman tower. With this band he was connected for upwards of 30 years. When he joined the belfry there was a company for Grandsire Triples, young and eager, and by his persuasion the other two ropes were brought down to the ringing chamber. Shortly afterwards the first six courses of Grandsire Caters were rung by a local band. Under Mr. Turner's tuition the company went on to Oxford, Kent, Double Norwich Major, and Stedman Caters, Kent Royal and Superlative Major, and it was practically by his efforts the two trebles were added at Horringer to complete the octave, thus giving the district a lighter peal of eight. A splendid tutor, who devoted almost every evening to teaching beginners starting from hunting and coursing, he used to say, "There lads, that will take you to twelve-bell ringing," and they all made double-handed ringers who stuck to it.

The funeral took place at Horringer Parish Church, the cortege being met at the churchyard gate by Canon R. F. Wilson (Vicar of the Cathedral Church of St. James'), who conducted the service, assisted by the Rev. Lord Manners Hervey (Rector of Horringer). There were present, besides the immediate relatives, members of St. James' Society, and St. Mary's Society, Bury St. Edmunds, Lavenham and the local ringers, while several other ringers who, from unavoidable causes, could not be present, sent expressions of regret for their absence.

He had no exact record of peals rung on tower and handbells, but it was upwards of 60, including Bob Major, Double Norwich, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Oxford, Kent, Superlative and Cambridge Surprise, Kent Royal and Grandsire Caters. The bells of Horringer were rung deeply muffled, both before and after service, and also at the Norman tower in the evening.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

BY "BOB MAJOR."

If it has done nothing else, the letter of friend Trollope about the Central Council's shortcomings has set ringers a-talking. Perhaps, too, it has set them a-thinking, and anything that will make them think, ought to result in good. At least, that is how I look at the matter. Somebody, I believe it was old Goethe, once said "everything that is worth thinking has already been thought before; we must only try to think it again." If that is true, it ought not to be too much for some of our wise heads to put some of that new life into the Council which even Canon Papillon and Mr. A. T. King agree would be for the Council's good. Although I was never very practical myself, I have an intense admiration for people who are practical, and for that reason I was very pleased to see Mr. King's suggestion that the "silent experts" should be encouraged to speak. It would be delightful to know what the candid opinion of some of them is about much of the stuff that is talked at Council meetings. I happened to meet one hard-headed business man, who comes from a Midland town, after the Council meeting in London last year, and he was very emphatic in his speech about the waste of time and money travelling up to the metropolis to attend a meeting, so barren of results, while another member of my acquaintance informed me that he had been bored stiff—only his language was rather stronger and more flowery than that. I only quote this to show that even among the members there is a desire for something more than they get now, but as I have said before, that's their business. If only the "silent" ones could be got to talk, it would be something, and no doubt we should get some gems of thought, even though some of the speakers were men of few words. But if everybody is to talk, some of the "windy" ones will have to shut off the gas quicker than they sometimes do now, or a week would not be sufficient time to get through the business—much less a single day.

THE FIGHT (CONTINUED).

In applying the match to the powder magazine, Mr. Trollope has brought, up to the present, three writers to the defence of the Council, and as I promised my readers I would record the subsequent rounds in this column, I must keep my word.

ROUND 2.

For the member who said what he knew,
There was trouble in Round Number Two,
For a King with a Can(n)on
Struck the bold little man on
The nose; and now, it is said, he is blue.

ROUND 3.

And next came a ringer named Cleal,
For the old state of things full of zeal,
Who, in Round Number Three,
Said "It's now up to me
The fate of this 'party' to seal."

HENRY DAINS.

The Cumberlands lose a fine old champion in Henry Dains. He was proud of his membership of that society, and was always eager to attach the title whenever he had something good to publish. He was always keen on discovering anything new, and there is no doubt the Exercise owes a good deal to men of his type. I have always admired the pluck of that band, of which Harry Dains was one, who after losing the long peal of Double Norwich by the breaking of the treble rope, when more than 13,000 out of the 13,440 changes had been rung, started again within a month, and rang the peal. I have not the record of that performance by me, but the band, from what I recollect, is gradually disappearing. George Newson, Arthur Jacob and Henry Dains, at any rate, have joined the great majority. How time flies! It must be over 20 years ago that that great failure and triumphant success occurred. I have heard an amusing story told about Mr. Dains, on an occasion when he was still striving after his first peal of London Surprise. It was at a Sussex tower, and the time was the period when a good deal of Surprise ringing was being done in the southern county. However, on this occasion, the peal came to grief at a bob. No one at first seemed to know exactly what had happened, but there had been one of those sudden collapses which seem to come when least expected. There was the usual argument, and after a bit Mr. Dains remarked in his quiet sort of way: "Well, George, when you called the bob I couldn't see anyone else there to make it, so I thought I'd better do it. Perhaps that's what caused the trouble." And it was.

AFTER HOLT, SHIPWAY!

Here's another of our idols gone! Mr. Clayton is again on the war-path seeking whom of the lions of the past he may destroy. He tells us he is attacking the prejudices of many generations, and in a really delicious aside he says: "What an arrant humbug was Shipway!" I'm not going to quarrel with Mr. Clayton on this point, for personally I never have thought much of Shipway. But that may be my prejudice. Shipway may have filled a gap in ringing literature, but I do not think he ever filled a place of much authority. But now he's settled out of hand.

An idol of our Exercise

Was Shipway, who was no "mug,"
But those who have believed in him
Now learn he was a humbug.

In days gone by we all were taught
That what he said still mattered,
But Clayton has come on the scene
And has our idol shattered.

THE LATE MR. HENRY DAINS.

FUNERAL AT HIGHGATE.

The funeral of the late Mr. Henry Dains, at Finchley Cemetery on Wednesday of last week, was entirely in keeping with the life of so worthy a man. Everything was carried out in the simple manner that he himself would have wished, and but for the fact that the interment took place at mid-day there would undoubtedly have been a much larger number of ringers present. The chief mourners included: Mrs. Dains (widow), Mrs. Perry (step-daughter), Mrs. Langbridge (sister, and only surviving member of his family), Mr. Langbridge (brother-in-law), Mr. Langbridge, junr. (nephew), Miss Langbridge (niece), and Mrs. Summerby. At the cemetery gates the cortege was met by several representative ringers, including Messrs. J. D. Matthews, J. Parker, E. Wightman, F. Smith, R. Warner, W. J. Nudds, B. Foskett, W. H. Fussell, F. Pitstow, H. J. Bradley, H. Dew (Royal Cumberland Youths), W. E. Garrard, H. Springall, and E. Gibbs (College Youths), etc. A short and impressive service was held in the cemetery chapel, and after the committal service, a course of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung over the grave by members of the Royal Cumberland Youths.

On Saturday last a peal of Stedman Cinques was attempted at Shoreditch in Mr. Dains's memory, but was unfortunately lost after 2½ hours' ringing. A muffled peal of Kent Treble Bob was, however, rung at St. Ann's, Highgate, where Mr. Dains rang his first peal in that method.

It will be interesting to the Exercise generally to know that Mr. Dains has left a mass of collated MSS. behind him, with a committee nominated by himself to consider the advisability of publishing the same in book form. One chapter on the construction of Surprise Methods should be particularly interesting, but the committee have rather an onerous task under present circumstances in deciding whether the publication should not be delayed. Any feeling in the matter that may be shown by ringers generally will, therefore, be appreciated.

It is a curious circumstance that Mr. Dains died almost exactly 20 years after his old friend, George Newson—the former on April 6th, 1916; the latter on April 7th, 1896.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am obliged to Mr. J. W. Parker for pointing out the peal of Stedman Triples from the fresh round block to be false. I apologise to you and your readers for the wasted space.

What I call the elementary proof of the peal was absolutely correct. My mistake is easily explainable: when bobs only are used there are ten false course-ends to each course against the bells in 6-7, but I know now what—had I been more careful—I might have known previously, i.e., there are ten additional false course-ends when singles are made use of, and I allowed only for six. This fact, the doubling of the number of false course-ends, makes me begin to wonder why we ever use singles at all in Triples. Shipway demonstrated the fact that peals of Grandsire Triples can be obtained without singles by the use of an alternative bob, and if this can be done in Grandsire it is more than probable it can be done in Stedman Triples also.

It was my first attempt at the composition of a peal of Stedman, and with all due deference to Mr. Parker's superior knowledge, I might point out that I know for a fact that the twenty course-ends of the so-called peal with the sixth at home produce twenty true courses; I am fairly certain that the twenty course-ends with the sixth in 2nd's place will also produce twenty true courses, but I have not had time to make certain of the latter. The falseness of the peal comes about when the sixth is in fifth's place.

I am not at all satisfied that Stedman Triples is unattainable in twelve, one time we were told there were only twenty true plain courses to be had, we now know there are forty, and he is a bold man to-day who will maintain that anything is impossible, even sixty true courses of Stedman.—Yours, etc.,

Brighton, April 16th, 1916.

GEORGE BAKER.

KINGS CLIFFE'S MISFORTUNE.

TENOR BELL CRACKS WHILE BEING RUNG.

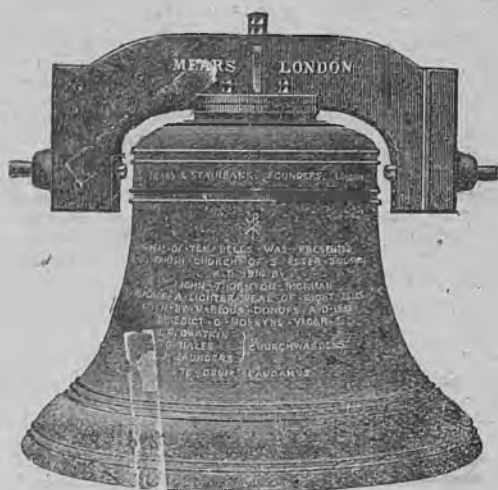
A most unfortunate thing happened at King's Cliffe, near Peterborough, the other day. While the ringers were having their usual Saturday afternoon practice, the tenor bell suddenly cracked. All the five bells were rehung and quarter-turned only 18 months ago, and now the parishioners have to raise £37 18s. for recasting. As the village has so lately contributed towards the rehanging, they will have to rely entirely upon outside help. Any readers of the "Ringing World" who would be good enough to help should send their contributions to the Rev. H. A. Orlebar, King's Cliffe Rectory, Peterborough.

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Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

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of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.**

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c

At the Handbell Contest, held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

FORTY YEARS OF PEAL RINGING.

THOMAS RUSSAM, OF BIRMINGHAM.

Mr. Thomas Russam, who recently celebrated the 40th anniversary of his first peal by ringing a peal of Stedman Caters on handbells, was born in Bishop Ryder's parish, Birmingham, 59 years ago. He was brought up almost under the shadow of the church tower, attended the school attached to the church, and has kept in touch with the place ever since. Naturally in this time he has seen many changes, some for better and some for worse, one of the latter, in his opinion, being the alteration to the church in the early seventies, which was disapproved by many of the congregation and caused a falling away of at least 50 per cent. of the regular worshippers. As a lad he used to climb, with others of his age, to the belfry and watch with wondering eyes the old man (called "Puffer" Malin, because he was also organ blower) pulling the rope for service. They became interested, and at last it was almost a fight as to who should have a pull. Tom Russam ("Tommy" to his intimates) was also in the choir, and a member of the brass band for some time, but the call of the bells was strongest, and when the peal was put in in 1869 the other interests went overboard, and he became a regular ringer.

He soon met the giants of that day, Johnson, Chattell, Perks, Hallsworth, Biddlestone, etc., and used to sit, so to speak, at the feet of the mighty, picking up knowledge from their conversation. There were no instruction books on ringing in those days, so the learner had no easy job. In this connection Mr. Russam is one of the few Birmingham ringers who had the privilege of going to "Billy" Chattell's bakery, where this worthy used to demonstrate the "slow work" in Stedman by a novel method of his own.

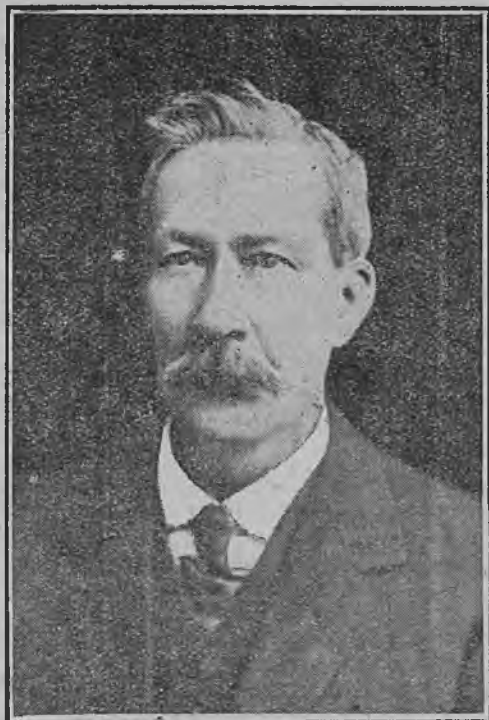
At that time J. Banister (of Woolwich) was tower-keeper at Bishop Ryder's, and it is to him Mr. Russam owes it that he had such a sound tuition in the Art. He always maintains that of all the ringers he has ever met, he has never seen Banister's equal in the graceful handling either of tower or handbells. It was always his ambition to try and imitate him, and we may say here that Mr. Russam has been very successful, for he is an exceedingly graceful ringer, particularly on handbells. In those days the Birmingham men were very keen on handbells, and the practices used to commence on the Monday and finish the following Sunday evening, usually at a place known as "Old Joe Nixon's."

Mr. Russam has spent a lot of time teaching both tune playing and tower-bell ringing, the last of the tune playing bands to go through his hands being Cadbury's Moseley Institute. He was expert adviser in connection with the purchase of 80 handbells from Barwell's for this band, and was instructor to them for two years. The last tower-bell band he instructed was at Erdington Parish Church.

Mr. Russam was tower-keeper at Bishop Ryder's for a time, and afterwards for many years at Aston, the day he left the latter place being apparently a black day for the St. Martin's Guild. As far back as he can remember, indeed as far back as the records go, Aston used to be a place where members of the Guild were ever welcome, and it was always open to them for peals, a state of things which he thought would continue after he relinquished office. However, it has not done so, and no one is more grieved that Aston has fallen away than the subject of our sketch.

A jeweller's engraver by trade, Mr. Russam is not blest with very robust health, and therefore confines his ringing to the lighter end. He has never been anxious to ring a lot of peals, one good one now and again satisfying him, so that although he has been peal-ringing now for forty years ("and it don't seem a day too much!") he has not a very large number to his credit.

The performance to which he gives pride of place was not a peal at all, but a touch of Stedman Cinques rung double-handed at a dinner given at the Colonnade Hotel, Birmingham, by Sir Arthur Heywood (then plain Mr.) to celebrate Henry Johnson's 80th birthday, in 1889. The guests were representative of all the ringers in England, and, as he says, "to the glory of St. Martin's company, the touch came off without a hitch, the striking being absolutely faultless." It was unique inasmuch as scores of excellent ringers in the room had never heard twelve-bell ringing on handbells before. Indeed, it was supposed to



MR. THOMAS RUSSAM.

be the first touch of Stedman Cinques ever rung publicly.

Mr. Russam was a member of the Birmingham and District Association, and the Birmingham Amalgamated Society from their formation until their decease. He was also a Holt Society man until that society was absorbed by the St. Martin's Guild, and for the latter he had the honour of calling the first peal. (Previous to the amalgamation it was the St. Martin's Society.) He is now a member of the St. Martin's Guild and the Staffordshire and Midland Counties Associations, and a regular Sunday service ringer at St. Martin's. He took a pair in the first peal of Grandsire Cinques on handbells, and the first double-handed peal of Stedman Cinques out of London, this being also the second ever rung. His handbell peals also include a 10,000 Grandsire Major. He rang in the only peal of Duffield Maximus ever rung, and was one of the band chosen to represent Birmingham at the opening of the ring of ten at Leominster in 1894.

He rang in the first peal of Stedman Cinques in which a

lady took part (conducted by Miss Parker, at St. Martin's), and has himself conducted a few peals of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major and Royal. Mr. Russam has not kept a record of all his peals, but as near as he can gather he has rung the following: On tower bells 102, the methods including Grandsire, Stedman, Plain and Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Cambridge, Duffield, Forward and Erin; everything from Triples to Maximus. On handbells 32, the methods being Grandsire, Stedman and Plain Bob, and including everything from Triples to Cinques in the two former methods. His first peal in a Surprise method was at Solihull, only a few years ago, when he rang a working bell to Cambridge Royal at the first attempt. Being blessed with a good memory, Mr. Russam can tell many good yarns of the Birmingham ringers he has known during the past 40 years, and their little peculiarities, and when he is in reminiscent mood, his listeners will be kept in a roaring laughter.

THE NEW PEAL AT OVER.

A CHESHIRE AUGMENTATION.

In our issue of April 7th we recorded a peal of Kent Treble Bob rung on the occasion of the dedication of the augmented peal at Over, Cheshire. The work of restoration was carried out by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and the parish church now possesses a beautiful peal of bells with a tenor of 13½ cwt. Formerly the tower contained a peal of five bells, the tenor being a Pre-Reformation bell cast about 1513 and recast in 1733, when apparently the other bells were added. For some years recently, however, four of the five were cracked, and the work of restoration was taken in hand by the Vicar (the Rev. W. H. Stables), and his churchwardens, enthusiastically backed by the parishioners. In addition to having the old bells recast and added to in weight, it was decided to add three new bells to make the octave. The treble was provided by the Vicar and the Sunday School, the two other new bells were family gifts. The whole ring have been tuned on the true-harmonic system, the result being an octave of pure and pleasing effect, in the key of F. The bells are hung with fittings of the latest and best design, containing all the most modern improvements, and swing in the ancient timber framework, which has been strengthened with heavy steel angle brackets and bolts, additional framework of massive English oak having been provided for the new bells. The diameters and weights of the bells are:—

| | Diameter. | | Weight. | | |
|--------|-----------|-----|---------|------|------|
| | ft. | in. | cwts. | qrs. | lbs. |
| Treble | 1 | 11½ | 2 | 3 | 20 |
| 2nd. | 2 | 0½ | 3 | 0 | 17 |
| 3rd. | 2 | 2½ | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| 4th. | 2 | 4½ | 4 | 1 | 9 |
| 5th. | 2 | 7½ | 5 | 3 | 1 |
| 6th. | 2 | 9½ | 7 | 0 | 6 |
| 7th. | 3 | 1½ | 9 | 2 | 3 |
| Tenor | 3 | 6 | 13 | 2 | 15 |

The inscriptions on the bells are as follow:—

- Treble.—The gift of the Vicar and Sunday School, 1915.
 2nd.—The gift of Mrs. George Hamlett and her sons Arthur and Edwin, 1915.
 3rd.—A mother's gift in memory of the Christening of Vera May Barton, 1914, and John Reginald Barton, 1915.
 4th.—Greater Love Hath . . . That a man lay down his life for his friends. Recast 1915.
 5th.—Joseph Lees, Vicar, 1733. Recast 1915.
 6th.—W. H. Stables, Vicar. R. G. Barton and L. Mellor, Ch. Wardens, 1915. Recast 1915.
 7th.—Charles Pickering and Thos. Robinson, Ch. Wardens, 1733. Recast 1915.
 Tenor.—The gift of Vicar Larden Circa, 1513. Recast 1733 and 1915.

BISHOP RYDER'S SOCIETY, BIRMINGHAM.

RINGING MASTER'S GIFT

A quarterly meeting of the Bishop Ryder's Society was held on Monday week in the belfry. The Vicar (the Rev. G. E. Badger, M.A.) presided, and made mention of the handsome clock, which has been placed in the belfry, the entire cost having been defrayed by the energetic new Ringing Master (Mr. James George). He thanked the donor for his generosity, and remarked that things seemed to be running very smoothly now, in connection with the ringing. He formally moved a resolution of thanks, and this was seconded by Mr. J. Collett, and supported by Mr. J. F. Smallwood.—Mr. George, in reply, said he was pleased to have the opportunity of doing something for the belfry, and assured those present that he would do anything he could do to help ringing in that tower. He also extended a hearty welcome to Mr. J. F. Smallwood, an old member of the society, who, after an absence of several years, had returned to Birmingham, and the Bishop Ryder's company.

NOTICES.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

—Established 1637.—A meeting will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on April 25th for business.—William T. Cockerill, Honorary Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Richmond on Easter Monday, April 24th, 1916. Bells available all day. Dinner will be provided at the Albany Hotel at one o'clock prompt. Members 1s. 6d., non-members 2s. 6d. Those intending to be present please notify the honorary secretary not later than first post Thursday, April 20th, 1916. — T. Metcalfe, Hon. Secretary, 26, High Street, North Ormesby.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Warwick on Easter Monday. Bells available: Leamington (8) 10 till dusk, except between 12.30 and 1; Emscote (8) all day, and St. Mary's (10) 6 p.m. till dusk. Committee meeting at Leamington 2.30. Tea at the Globe Hotel, Warwick, 4.30. Business meeting after tea.—K. Kettle, Rectory Cottage, Allesley, Coventry.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Central Division).—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Southover, Lewes, on Easter Monday. Tower open at 2. Tea, 5.15, in Church Hall, by kind invitation of the Rector. Subscriptions for 1916 are now due.—A. D. Stone, 29, Ashton Street, Brighton.

WORCESTERSHIRE & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 24th. Business meeting in Chapter House at 2.30; chairman, The Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., President. Service in Cathedral at 4.15 p.m. Address by the Rev. J. F. Hastings. Tea in College Hall at 5.15. At 12.45 p.m. the Dean of Worcester will unveil a peal board in the Cathedral Tower, to record the peal of Stedman Cinques rung on those bells. Bells available: Cathedral (12) 1.0 to 2.0 p.m.; All Saints (10), Hallow (8), St. Nicholas (6), St. John-in-Bedwardine (6), and St. Swithin's (6) 10.0 to 11.0 and 5.0 to 6.0.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheepcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at South Wingfield on Easter Monday, April 24th. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea 1s. each at 5.30 p.m. Meeting after tea. — Thos. Allebone, Secretary, North Wingfield, Chesterfield.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting will be held in Bedford on Easter Monday. Committee meeting at Church House at 11 a.m. Dinner at St. Mary's School Room at 1 p.m. Meeting after dinner. The bells of St. Paul's and St. Peter's will be available for ringing.—A. Rust, Honorary Secretary.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—The district quarterly meeting will be held at Soberton on Easter Monday, April 24th. Bells available 2 p.m. to dusk. Tea will be provided at the White Lion Hotel. Subscriptions for 1916 are now due.—J. Harding, District Secretary.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting will be held at Nottingham on Easter Monday, April 24th, 1916, at the office of the British Equitable Assurance Co., 1, Greyhound Street, Long Row. Committee meeting at 3.15, followed by general meeting at four o'clock. Tea at cafe prices at Glover's Cafe, two doors away, after meeting.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Alban's on Easter Monday, April 24th, 1916. Towers open for ringing from 1.30 to 5 p.m. Choral evensong in the Cathedral at 5 p.m., with address to ringers by the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake, Vicar of Thundridge. At 5.50 p.m. meat tea will be served at the Abbey Institute, for which a charge of 9d. each will be made to members. Annual business meeting to follow. The secretary earnestly asks secretaries of bands, and unattached members, to advise him as early as possible the probable number of members attending the meeting, so that satisfactory arrangements can be made for tea. Outstanding subscriptions should be paid at once.—G. W. Cartmel, Honorary Secretary, "Duffield," St. Albans.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Ely.—A district meeting will be held at Sawston (8 bells) on Easter Monday afternoon. Short service at five o'clock. Tea at the White Lion at 5.30.—A. E. Austin, 4, Hill View, Great Shelford, Cambs.

SURREY ASSOCIATION. — The Easter meeting of the Central District will be held at the Parish Church of All Saints', Carshalton, on Monday in Easter week, April 24th. Bells, 8, tenor 12½ cwt., available all afternoon until 7 p.m. Service at 5.30. Tea in Parish Hall at 6 (members 3d., visitors 9d.), followed by short business meeting. Please notify intention to be present to Ch. Reading, assistant honorary secretary, Union Bank Chambers, Croydon, before Saturday, the 22nd inst.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION, late the St. James' Society (Established 1824).—The annual general meeting will be held on the Saturday following Easter, April 29th, at the headquarters, "The Edinburgh," Milford Lane, Strand, W.C., at 6 p.m.—T. H. Taffender, Master, for hon. secretary, 10, Northlands Street, Camberwell, S.E.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Nicholas, Newchurch, on Saturday, April 29th. Bells ready at 4 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30. Subscriptions are due. J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary, 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Walkden on Saturday, April 29th. Bells available from 4 p.m. till dusk. Meeting 7.30.—G. Pincott, Branch Secretary.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. Bridgwater Deanery Branch.—The quarterly meeting of this branch will be held at Middlezoy on Saturday, April 29th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Meeting to follow.—A. E. Moulton, Hon. Secretary.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Quarterly meeting at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, May 6th, at 2.30. Tea at Nag's Head, 9d. per head, to those who notify me by May 2nd. Specially important meeting on Saturday, April 29th, at St. Martin's at 3 o'clock. — H. J. Bradley, 25, Winchester Avenue, Brondesbury, N.W.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Sedgley on Saturday May 6th. Bells available at 3. Service in church, with an address by the Vicar (Rev. T. G. Swindell, D.D.) at 5.15. Tea (1s.) in the Schoolroom at 6. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than Tuesday, May 2nd.—H. Knight, Honorary Secretary, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Maidstone District.—The annual meeting of the Maidstone district will be held at All Saints', Maidstone (10 bells) on Saturday, May 6th. Bells available for ringing at 3 p.m.; short service at 5 p.m. Tea at the Restaurant, Bank Street, at 5.45. Business meeting after. The secretary would like to know not later than May 1st of any members from other districts intending to be present, to whom he offers a hearty welcome.—Stephen Hayzelden, District Secretary, Lower Street, East Farleigh.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Will members kindly note that the annual general meeting will be held on Saturday, May 13th, instead of April 29th, as originally fixed. Full particulars will be given in due course.—C. T. Coles, 49, Wood Street, Walthamstow, H. C. Chandler, Church Road, Heston, Honorary Secretary.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Weare, near Axbridge, on Saturday, April 29th. Bells from 2 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham, Somerset.

SALOP GUILD.—Quarterly meeting April 29th, 1916, at Newport, Salop. Ringing 3 o'clock. Belfry prayers 4 o'clock. Tea 5 o'clock. Meeting after tea. Please reply before April 26th to Rev. F. Tennison, St. Alkmund's Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

BUSINESS PREMISES TO LET.

To be LET at Michaelmas, 1916, an old-established Blacksmith's Shop and Dwelling House, situate at Meadow, Kelly, Devon, the property of the Rev. Maitland, Kelly. Grass land is obtainable and preference would be given to an applicant who has a knowledge of plumbing and motor engineering. — Apply to Ward and Chown, Estate Agents, Burnville, Brentor, Tavistock.

LEWES RINGER'S DEATH.

NATIONAL RESERVIST'S MILITARY FUNERAL.

The Southover, Lewes, Guild have lost a much respected member by the death of Pte. David Turner, of the National Reserves, who died from pneumonia in Brighton Military Hospital. The deceased, who was 35 years of age, had been a member of the Guild for some years, and although he had not done much change ringing, he was a regular attendant at Sunday service ringing. He formerly belonged to the Lewes Co. of the Royal Garrison Artillery (T.F.), and joined the National Reserve in the early stages of the war. He leaves a widow and three young children, for whom much sympathy is felt in their loss.

The deceased, who was interred in the churchyard at Southover, beneath the sound of the bells he so often rung, was accorded a military funeral, the procession being headed by a firing party of the 2/5th Royal Sussex Regiment, whose band played Chopin's "Funeral March." The service was conducted by the Rev. A. S. Dendy (curate), and at the close three volleys were fired over the grave, and the "Last Post" was sounded. The bells were then rung muffled.

In addition to the family mourners, officers and men of the National Reserve attended the funeral, as well as many of the deceased fellow railway workmen, and members of the Ringers' Guild, the last-named being also among those who sent wreaths.

CUMBERLANDS' MEETING AT WALTHAMSTOW.

It should be noted that the meeting of Royal Cumberland Youths at Walthamstow, on May 6th, is to be at St. Mary's Church, and not St. Saviour's as advertised last week.

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| Price ... | 9/- | 13/6 | 17/6 | 22/6 | 27/6 | 35/- | 46/6 |

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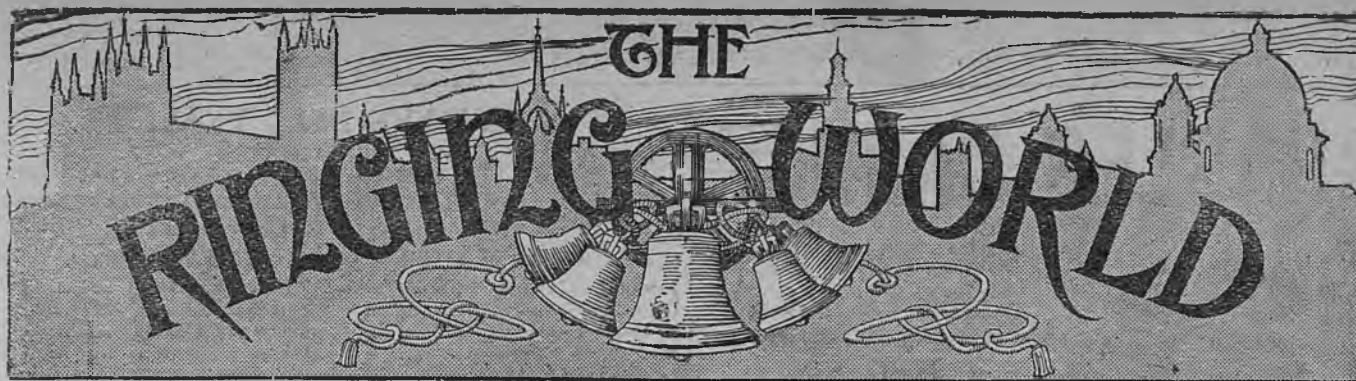
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FRIDAY, APRIL 28th, 1916.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
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Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BEOK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD'S DEATH.

Throughout the ringing Exercise the death of Sir Arthur Heywood will be deeply deplored, for his passing removes a dominating personality from the ranks of ringers and one who was held in the greatest respect. Few men, and certainly no other man of equal position, have done as much for bell ringing in all its phases as the deceased baronet, who, throughout a period of over thirty years, devoted much of his leisure time and his talents to the advancement of the art. He fostered its growth first and foremost as a Churchman—and the Church never had a more loyal or devoted son—and next for his love of the art. In later years Sir Arthur's activities were limited largely to that child of his creation, the Central Council; but two or three decades ago there was no one more active than he, for he devoted a great deal of attention not only to ringing itself but to the scientific investigation of some of the most abstruse problems connected with our art, as well as to the engineering questions upon which successful bell hanging is based, and upon which he was so eminently qualified to speak.

Except for his occasional appearances at some public function, and at the Central Council meetings, Sir Arthur has, however, in recent years, been more or less out of the eye of the Exercise, though his interest in it never waned. It may be that his partial detachment, by more or less giving up, owing to the many calls upon his time, his active participation in ringing, caused him to lose that intimate touch with the Exercise which he once enjoyed, but he nevertheless followed ringing affairs with close interest. To all matters affecting the Central Council he was keenly alive, and was always supremely anxious that its position and reputation should be maintained.

As the founder, he was naturally a determined champion of this organisation, and did his utmost to keep its work to the lines upon which it was set up, viz., as he himself once expressed it, to draw together the whole of the ringing associations throughout the country, giving decisions which, coming from a body which comprised many of the ablest ringers in England, would carry weight and would in time be adopted throughout the country, so that in the long run the Council would become the ruling body in the Exercise, not by any undue assertion of authority but by a common admission of their good sense and integrity. It was only natural that such a body should come in for no little criticism, in which, sometimes, the President was involved. But at the moment, when a great figure has been removed, we can only think of the extensive work which a master mind and an active life have done for the Exercise, which has contained in its ranks no more valued a member, no stouter a champion, and, in his time, no keener an enthusiast than Arthur Percival Heywood.

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Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with me in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

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TWELVE BELL PEAL.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD

On Saturday, April 15, 1916, in Three Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANCES;

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| JAMES E. GROVES Treble | SAMUEL GROVE 7 |
| GEORGE HUGHES... .. 2 | WILLIAM FISHER 8 |
| ALBERT WALKER... .. 3 | BENJAMIN GOUGH 9 |
| A. PADDON SMITH 4 | JAMES GEORGE... .. 10 |
| JAMES L. WELLS 5 | HERBERT KNIGHT 11 |
| THOMAS H. REEVES 6 | *THOMAS SMITH... .. Tenor |

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and
Conducted by HERBERT KNIGHT.

* First peal of Stedman.

TEN BELL PEALS.

WALSALL, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD

On Saturday, April 22, 1916, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANCES;

No. 481 on Broadsheet.

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| ALFRED ADAMS Treble | CHRISTOPHER HICK... .. 6 |
| WILLIAM FISHER... .. 2 | JOHN C. ADAMS 7 |
| HAROLD BANKS 3 | BENJAMIN GOUGH 8 |
| THOMAS HILL 4 | HERBERT KNIGHT 9 |
| EDGAR MARLOW 5 | THOMAS J. ELTON Tenor |

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and
Conducted by HERBERT KNIGHT.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of regard to Mr. George Smith (one of the local band), Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., and Mr. Wm. Painter, of Birmingham.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

On Monday, April 24, 1916, in Three Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD, SHOREDITCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANCES;

Tenor 28 cwt.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| JOHN D. MATTHEWS Treble | HUGH T. SCARLETT 6 |
| WILLIAM J. NUDDS 2 | FRED WILFORD 7 |
| BENJAMIN FOSKETT 3 | WILLIAM BERRY 8 |
| FRANK SMITH 4 | JAMES HUNT 9 |
| EDGAR WIGHTMAN 5 | *HENRY C. STUBBS Tenor |

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and
Conducted by JOHN D. MATTHEWS.

* First peal on ten, and first attempt. Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of Messrs. Henry Dains and G. Smith (Cumberland Youths), and Sir Arthur P. Heywood (College Youths); also to mark the first anniversary of the death from wounds received in action of Mr. Andrew Warner (Cumberland Youths). Rung after meeting short for Cinques. First peal of Stedman Caters on the bells since the re-hanging.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, April 21, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 11 cwt., in G.

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| GEORGE F. SWANN Treble | SAMUEL GROVE 5 |
| J. FRANK SMALLWOOD 2 | ALF PADDON SMITH 6 |
| MORRIS J. MORRIS 3 | JAMES E. GROVES 7 |
| JAMES GEORGE 4 | JOHN B. COLLETT Tenor |

Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Sir Arthur Percival Heywood, Bart., Mr. George W. Baldwin and Ex-Chief Detective-Inspector William Painter. The two latter were Vice-Presidents of the Guild, Mr. Baldwin being the oldest member, having joined the St. Martin's Society in 1868.

STAVELEY, DERBYSHIRE. THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 24, 1916, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5216 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt.

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS ... Treble | WILLIAM J. THYNG ... | 5 |
| GEORGE HOLLIS 2 | WILLIAM T. PALMER ... | 6 |
| ALFRED E. PARSONS 3 | WALTER ALLWOOD ... | 7 |
| ARTHUR CRAVEN 4 | ARTHUR KNIGHTS ... Tenor | |

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Sir Arthur P. Heywood, Bart.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers who have joined H.M. Forces:—

- Pte J. Mitcham, of Chislehurst, 2/7th City of London Territorials, now at Ipswich.
- Pte R. G. Black, of Geddington, Northants, Royal Engineers, now at Chatham.
- Pte. Percy J. Langston, of All Saints', Feering, Essex Regiment, now at Grantham.
- From St. Margaret's, Leicester:—
- Pte Ernest Morris, Leicestershire Regiment, stationed at Langwith, Derbyshire.
- Gnr. T. H. Hardy, R.G.A., now at Weymouth, Dorset.

KELVEDON RINGER KILLED.

Another ringer has fallen in the service of his country. Pte. H. Rogers, of Kelvedon, who at the outbreak of war joined the 9th Essex Regiment, was killed while bomb throwing in France on March 30th. Had he lived another week he would have reached his 28th birthday. He had rung one peal (Bob Major), and was greatly respected by all who knew him. During his service with the colours he had once been invalided home, through sickness.

On Sunday afternoon, before the service at St. Mary's Church, Kelvedon, 720 Bob Minor was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the gallant soldier, the ringers being: W. Sadler 1, E. Newman 2, D. Elliott 3, W. Keeble (conductor) 4, E. W. Beckwith 5, G. Keeble 6. A touch was also rung in which Sergt. H. Farley, North Somerset Yeomany, and W. Elliott took part. After service another 720 was rung by: W. Cranmer 1, G. Rogers 2, D. Elliott 3, W. Keeble (conductor) 4, E. W. Beckwith 5, G. Keeble 6.

PROMOTION FOR THE REV. C. E. MATTHEWS.

The following notice has appeared in the "London Gazette":—
Chaplain's Department of the Territorial Force: Rev. Charles E. Matthews, 3rd Class Chaplain, to be 2nd Class Chaplain (Mar. 16th).

The Rev. C. E. Matthews, who is the popular Master of the Winchester Diocesan Guild and Vicar of Titchfield, Hants, has been senior chaplain to the 7th Division, 13th corps, since October, 1915, and will complete a year's service with the troops at the front on the 30th inst. When serving at home he is Chaplain to the 5th Hants Regiment, whose headquarters are at Southampton. Ringers will join in congratulating the Winchester Guild Master upon this further promotion.

RINGER-SOLDIERS' VISIT TO LUDGERSHALL

A very pleasant evening was spent in the belfry of St. James' Church, Ludgershall, on April 10th, when out of a company of ten, five were ringers belonging to the Royal Flying Corps, stationed at Perham Downs, about two miles distant. The local band, now much shortened owing to the war, gave the visitors a hearty welcome, and when the bells, a very nice ring of six, tenor 10 cwt., had been raised in peal, the party were joined by the Rector (the Rev. H. C. W. Byrde) himself a ringer. Method ringing was very limited, and, after several attempts, a plain course of Grandsire Doubles was accomplished, it being the first for one or two of the local men. One of the features of the evening was the manner in which the Rector rang, and the hearty way in which he joined in the proceedings.

One of the soldiers thanked the Rector for the use of the bells, saying that those present would remember the pleasant evening for a very long time. To this the Rector replied that it was one of his greatest pleasures to welcome ringers to his tower, and that the bells were available almost every evening. The ringing was brought to an end by an excellent "fall," which was enjoyed very much, both by those taking part, and several who went outside to listen. Amongst those present were: P. Harrison, St. Martin's, Leicester (Midland Counties Association); A. R. Elkin, St. Andrew's, Farnham (Winchester Diocesan Guild); J. P. Jones, St. Mary's, Chester (Chester Diocesan Guild).

The bells are a very nice ring of six. Several are old ones, but in 1908 restoration was taken in hand, and the original peal of five tuned and a new treble added in a modern steel and iron frame. The "go" of the ring is very good, and visitors to Ludgershall should not miss having a pull on them.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. MEETING AT ROMFORD.

A successful meeting of the South Western Division was held at St. Edward's, Romford, on Saturday week, twenty members and friends putting in an appearance, including Mr. J. H. Shepherd, of Swindon, and Corpl. G. R. Gale, of Easton-in-Gordano. A short service was held, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. G. M. Bell), who gave an excellent address taken from Psalm xix, 3-4, in the course of which he made a touching reference to the late Mr. E. Pye, who was for so many years a member of the St. Edward's Guild.

Tea was afterwards partaken of at the Fox and Hounds, and was followed by the business meeting, presided over by the Vicar.

This being the first meeting of the Division since the passing of Mr. E. Pye, it was proposed by Mr. C. T. Coles, and seconded by the Vicar, that a sincere vote of condolence be extended to his relatives and friends in the great loss they had sustained, and placing on record the members' appreciation of his great work for the Essex Association since becoming a member of that body.—This was carried in silence, the members rising in their places.

Mr. R. Vyse, of the Romford Band, was re-elected a member of the Association.

Owing to the hon. secretary of the division, Mr. H. Rumens, having joined the army, it was necessary to elect a successor, and a proposition that the District Master (Mr. E. Butler) carry out the duties till the end of the year was carried. It was also unanimously resolved that a very hearty vote of thanks be accorded to Mr. Rumens for the efficient and painstaking manner in which he has carried out the duties of hon. secretary during the past four years.

The question of the advisability of carrying on the monthly practices was discussed, and it was unanimously agreed that this be done seeing those already held had been a great success. Three towers were proposed for the August meeting, viz., West Ham, Loughton and Horns church, and on being put to the vote Hornchurch was carried by a large majority.—A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for granting the use of the bells and presiding at the meeting, to the organist, organ blower, and to Mr. H. Dawkins, secretary of the St. Edward's Guild, for making all arrangements for the meeting, was unanimously carried, the Vicar thanking the members on behalf of all concerned, saying how pleased he was to welcome ringers at Romford, and hoping the time was not far distant when he would have that pleasure again.

All present then joined in the first verse of the National Anthem, after which the tower was again visited, and further touches brought round. The following towers were represented: Leytonstone, Orsett, Romford, Walthamstow (St. Saviour's) and West Ham, and touches of London Surprise, Stedman, Double Norwich, etc., were brought round during the afternoon and evening.

ST. STEPHEN'S, WEST EALING.

The modern church at West Ealing dedicated to St. Stephen, standing upon an eminence that once was open country affording an extensive view southwards of the Great Western main railway and Old Ealing, and towards the north, the Hill of Harrow and the nearer Perrivale, is now quite enclosed by well-grown avenues and good roads entirely built upon with a superior class of detached-suburban private houses. The church is well placed on an oval island site connecting the inter-section of four main roads in the direction of the Cardinal points, a wise piece of planning by those who developed this district in the days when the nearest station was named "Castle Hill," since changed for the more fashionable one of West Ealing. For many years the edifice stood patiently like a sentinel awaiting the growth of its congregation and the coming of its peal of bells, but now both essentials are well in evidence, and the little difficulty hitherto has been how best to still the human tongue when loosened by the sounds of its wrought-iron companion.

On Sunday, April 9th, a simple yet beautiful little ceremony was undertaken by the Bishop of Kensington, when during the evening service a chancel screen was solemnly dedicated, the arrangements having been made by the Vicar (the Rev. W. H. Thompson, M.A.). The screen itself is a clever piece of handiwork in solid oak, richly carved, and is one more embellishment to a well-planned church, and will add to the war-time traditions of the Church of England in this parish. It was the thoughtful gift of Mr. F. H. Danger in memory of his wife. It was only natural that the churchwardens should wish to welcome the Bishop, to cheer the donor, and to summon the faithful by the special pealing of the bells, and this was arranged by Mr. William Lawrence, the tower warden, who assembled a team of members of the Middlesex County Association to do honour to the occasion, assisted by Mrs. Lawrence, who had prepared a previous cup in the Wimborne tea gardens.

A capital quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 47 mins., by: W. H. Lawrence 1, A. W. Davis (Kensington) 2, J. J. Parker (conductor) 3, W. H. Fussell 4, J. J. Pratt 5, H. H. Chandler 6, A. Harding 7, J. A. Trollope 8.

PENTRE RHONDDA.—Landaff Association.—On Monday, April 3rd, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1280 changes), in 50 mins.: H. Page (conductor) 1, F. Lasbury 2, F. Wines 3, G. Cross 4, W. Page 5, G. Wines 6, J. Cross 7, T. Page 8.—On Thursday, April 6th, 1008 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: F. Lasbury 1, F. Wines 2, B. Davies 3, H. Page 4, J. Cross 5, G. Wines 6, W. Page 7, T. Page (conductor) 8.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MONDAY'S ANNUAL MEETING.

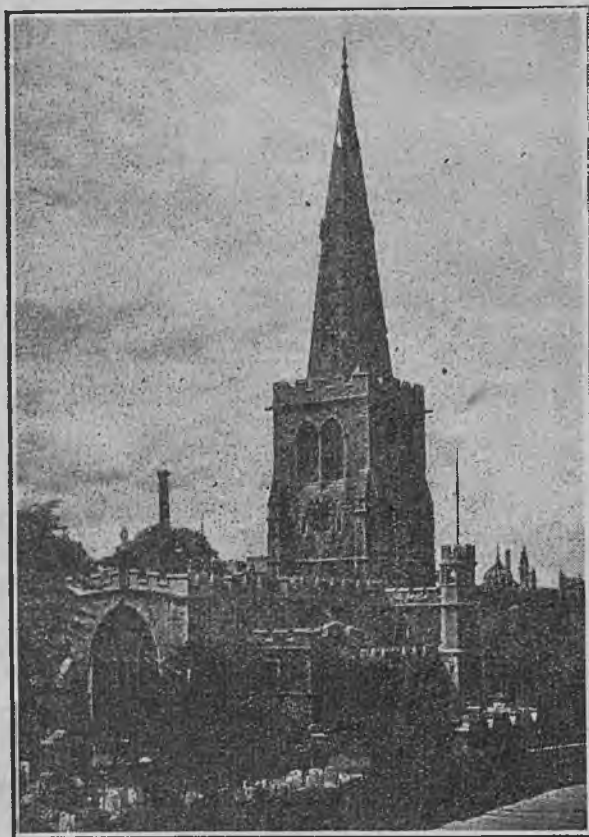
The thirty-third annual meeting of the Bedfordshire Association was held at Bedford on Monday, but, owing to the war having made heavy demands upon the members, it was not attended by such a large number as usual. However, those who were present made the most of the facilities which had been secured for them, and spent an enjoyable day. During the morning and afternoon the bells of St. Paul's Church a fine peal of ten by Taylor, were available, and in the afternoon the six at St. Peter's, also by Taylor, were at the disposal of members. At St. Paul's Church, Double Norwich and Superlative Surprise Major, Grandsire and Stedman Caters and Treble Ten were rung, and at St. Peter's courses were rung in a variety of Surprise Minor Methods.

The annual dinner took place at St. Mary's School, the President (Canon W. W. C. Baker) being in the chair, and being supported by Mr. Edwin Ransom and Miss E. Steel (vice-presidents). Rev. A. Rust (hon. secretary and treasurer), Miss D. Steel, etc. After a substantial repast had been enjoyed the business meeting was held.

The Hon. Secretary presented the annual report, in which it was stated that the association still continued in its good work, although, owing to the war and to the fact so many of the members had joined

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, BEDFORD.

This fine church, with its splendid peal of ten bells, is the pride of the town of Bedford, and was the rendezvous of those ringers who visited the county town for the annual meeting of the Bedfordshire



Association on Monday. A band of Cumberland Youths opened the original peal of eight in the year 1761, their expenses on that occasion being defrayed out of the public purse. The present peal are by Taylor.

the ranks of the army, it had been quite impossible to hold many meetings, and ringing in general had, of course, suffered, while the frequent visits of hostile airships had caused the authorities to put a stop to all ringing after sunset. During the year 1915, five peals had been rung, viz., one of Stedman Triples, one of Grandsire and three of Minor, and at St. Peter's Church eighty-four 720's in 59 different methods had been rung (applause). The report also placed on record the association's regret at the death of the Rev. Bernard Jealous,

formerly an active member of the association.—The report was adopted on the motion of Mr. E. Herbert, seconded by Mr. Lane.

The statement of accounts showed that the year was begun with a balance in hand of £21 3s. 9d. The receipts amounted to £8 18s. 11d., including subscriptions from eight honorary, 86 performing, and two non-resident members. The expenditure was £8 3s. 2d., leaving a balance in hand of £21 19s. 6d.—The accounts were adopted subject to audit.

DIFFICULT TIMES.

On the motion of the Hon. Secretary, seconded by Mr. E. Ransom, Canon Baker, who was one of the founders of the society, and who has filled all its offices, was re-elected President. In acknowledging his re-appointment, Canon Baker said he had seen the association grow from the very beginning, and he esteemed it a very high honour to be placed again in that position as president. He only regretted that owing to the circumstances of the time their endeavours to promote ringing were so very much circumscribed. The report had already alluded to the restrictions placed on ringing by the authorities, but even if that order were not in force, people were not in the mood just now to care for very much bell ringing. There was too much sorrow abroad, for people to want to hear bells rung. They must hope that brighter times would not be long in coming, and that they would soon be able to ring to their heart's content in celebration of peace (applause). As things were, he was sure they would do their best to keep ringing alive in their various centres. They knew it was not easy, for, he supposed, they were all in the same boat—men going off to serve their country. Their best wishes went with them for their safety and their happy return. In the meantime it limited their numbers, even on the few occasions they had for ringing, but they must do their best, and make possible a great revival in ringing in the country when better times came (applause).

The re-election of the vice-presidents, Mr. Charles Herbert, Mr. E. Ransom and Miss E. Steel was agreed to, and was acknowledged by Mr. Ransom.

The President proposed the re-election of the hon. secretary and treasurer, and referred to the excellent work which Mr. Rust had done. He had discharged his duties to the great benefit of the association, and to the satisfaction of them all.—The Rev. A. Rust was unanimously re-elected, with thanks for his past services.

Mr. N. F. Tanqueray, of Woburn, who conducted the first 720 ever rung for the association, was re-appointed auditor, the President remarking that it was pleasing to keep his name in touch with the association as a reminder of a performance which was more thought of at that time than even a peal would be to-day.

A resolution of sympathy with the widow and family of Sir Arthur Heywood was passed, and the President's tribute will be found in another column.

The election of three members in towers was confirmed, and three new members were also elected.

Woburn was chosen as the place for the summer festival, at the end of June or the beginning of July, and failing Woburn, Aspley Guise and Husborne Crawley.

THE PRESIDENT'S LOSS.

Mr. Ransom made sympathetic reference to the loss which Canon and Mrs. Baker had sustained by the death of their son, Capt. Baker, who was killed in action. They had borne their share of the sacrifice which had been made in so many homes both high and low, but he was sure the members of that association would not like to part without turning their thoughts to Dunstable Rectory and the sacrifice of those who lived there.

The Hon. Secretary also voiced the feeling of the members, whose sympathy went out to their President in the grievous loss he had sustained. He (the speaker) personally knew Capt. Baker from the time he was a small boy, and he was touched not long ago when speaking to a young fellow from his own village who was in the same regiment as Capt. Baker. This young soldier spoke of the splendid way Capt. Baker discharged his duties at the time he made the great sacrifice of his life. All the members of that association felt most deeply with Canon Baker in his loss, but it must be some little consolation to him to know that on the word of a private soldier he was certainly the most popular, and, probably, the most efficient officer in the regiment (hear, hear).

Canon Baker said he was deeply touched by the feeling expressions of sympathy which had just been made. It was a terrible blow and loss both to Mrs. Baker and himself. It also had been a great consolation to know that their son died doing his duty, and that, from the letters that had been received from his Brigadier and his Colonel, he always did his best. One felt there were so many other homes in the country that had given their dearest and best, and that his own was but one of a great multitude. Nevertheless he thanked the members very much for their kind sympathy.

It was decided not to print the annual report of the association in its usual form this year, but only to circulate among the towers the copy of the report and balance sheet presented by the hon. secretary and treasurer.

The President proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector of St. Mary's for the use of the room, and to the Vicar of St. Paul's and the Rector of St. Peter's for the use of the bells at their respective churches.—This was seconded by the hon. secretary, and carried, and concluded the business.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I have read with interest the correspondence on the above subject, and trust that something good may come out of it all. The real question seems to be, does the Central Council really represent the general body of ringers, or, to come nearer to the point, is the Central Council any good? On the one hand there are a number of ringers—quite a large number I am afraid—who are of the opinion that the work of the Council does not justify its existence. On the other hand, members of the Council complain that the general body of ringers do not take sufficient interest in the doings of the Council.

There is a good deal to be said from both points of view, and may I, as one of the rank and file have a word or two? One fact stands out very clearly, we hardly ever hear Central Council matters discussed at an association meeting. I remember attending a large association meeting a few years back, and suggesting that the representatives should bring back a personal report, but was met with a rather hostile reception on the ground that the report in the Press was sufficient. I now throw out a suggestion that the agenda should be sent out as soon as possible, and that associations should hold a general meeting immediately before the Central Council meeting, so that the agenda could be gone through. This might give the representatives some idea as to the best way they could look after the interests of their own associations.

One more point; we are not all experts, so let the Council give us something we can talk about. For example, at the last meeting there was down for discussion the rising and falling of bells in peal. I don't think anything has such a beautiful effect as the ceasing of a peal of bells when carried out in an efficient manner, yet this subject was squeezed out by matter which, I venture to think, was not read through by 75 per cent. of the Exercise. No, if the Central Council desire more interest to be taken in their work, then they will have to give a little more of their time to those things which we of the rank and file can read, mark, learn and inwardly digest. Yours faithfully,

HERBERT LUDKIN.

Birkenhead.

CELEBRATED PEALS OF THE PAST.

To-day is the anniversary of one of the earliest long length Treble Bob Major. for it was on April 28th, 1800, that the Cumberland Youths scored a 10,112 in the Oxford variation, and the performance is recorded in the following terms in the society's peal book.

"Unrivalled in the annals of Campanistanean fame, to the honour of Mr. George Gross, whose merit cannot too much be said for composing and calling a complete peal of 10,112 changes of Oxford Treble Bob, which was rung by this society on Monday, April 28th, 1800, in 6 hrs. and 29 mins., at All Saint's, Edmonton, by: George Gross 1, George Gross, jun., 2, James Nash 3, Thomas Reeves 4, John Hints 5, James Barnard 6, Samuel Cowling 7, William Stephens 8."

Yesterday, the 27th, was the anniversary of three interesting performances, the foremost of which was the celebrated 15,840 of Kent Treble Bob Major rung by College Youths at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, in 9 hrs. 12 mins., in the year 1868. One veteran of that band alone survives, Mr. Ted Horrex, who, despite his years, is still able to follow the art to which he has so long been devoted. We are now approaching the jubilee of that performance, and we trust Mr. Horrex will be spared to take part in a fitting celebration of the event.

Another anniversary which falls on this date is that of the 8896 Treble Bob Major (then the longest length with the tenors together), rung in 1876 in St. Ann's, Highgate, by the Cumberland Youths, and in which peal the late Mr. Dains took part, and the sole survivor of which band, we believe, is now Mr. E. Gibbs.

It was on April 27th also, in the year 1861, that the College Youths rang a peal of 8580 Stedman Cinques at Cornhill. It was the first peal in the method on the bells, and the longest in the method at that time. The late Mr. Matt. Wood was, we believe, the last of that famous band.

THE PEAL AT WOLVERHAMPTON.

Special permission having been granted, the peal of Stedman Cinques recorded elsewhere in this issue, was arranged and rung to celebrate the silver-wedding of Mr. and Mrs. A. Little, who kindly invited the band to tea, at the Lamb Hotel, at the conclusion of the performance. After tea, songs were ably rendered by Mrs. A. Walker and Mr. S. Grove, accompanied on the piano by Mr. A. Walker. Touches of Stedman Caters and Triples were rung on the handbells—a touch in the latter being composed and conducted by the custodian of Bishop Ryder's.—Mr. Jas. George, in moving a vote of thanks to the donors, expressed the feelings of the assembly when he said he hoped that Mr. Little would soon be restored to health, and be able to ring many more peals (a Voice: "One of 20,000, which the Master of the Warwickshire Guild is trying to arrange"), and that he and Mrs. Little would live to celebrate their golden wedding.—Mr. J. E. Groves seconded the motion, which was carried with acclamation.—In his brief reply Mr. Little thanked the company for their presence.

MALVERN LINK.—Worcestershire Association.—At St. Matthias Church, on Sunday, April 9th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans): F. Bryan 1, E. Gibbs 2, F. Stanton 3, E. E. Barber 4, H. Chance 5, C. Camm 6, R. G. Knowles (conductor) 7, A. Richings 8.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

HORBURY, YORKS. — At SS. Peter and Leonard's Church, on Saturday, April 8th, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1248 changes), also 756 Stedman Triples: W. H. Mitchell 1, G. F. Pickles 2, G. Hunt 3, T. R. Hensher 4, G. Barstow 5, H. Rowley (conductor) 6, J. Smith 7, R. Thickett 8. Rung with bells deeply muffled as a last token of loving regard to the late Rev. J. G. W. Love, M.A., Vicar of the parish, who died suddenly on April 5th, and was interred on the above date.

QUORNDON.—St. Margaret's, Leicester, Society. — On Saturday, April 8th, at St. Bartholomew's Church, Thurstans' 1008 Grandsire Triples: E. Smith 1, E. E. Smith 2, A. Ballard 3, E. Morris (conductor) 4, B. Kirby 5, A. Peach 6, J. Morris 7, F. Sharman 8.

PETERBOROUGH.—At St. John's Parish Church, for evening service, April 9th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: H. Coles 1, V. Batley 2, S. Wright 3, F. Davies 4, S. Vaughan 5, F. Dainty 6, F. Cooke (conductor) 7, R. Gamble 8.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, March 26th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): C. Sampson 1, E. S. Bailey 2, G. Wilson 3, A. Keeble 4, J. G. Rumsey 5, C. F. Bailey (conductor) 6, E. H. Bailey 7, J. Titterton 8.—On April 2nd, for morning service, 1024 Superlative Surprise; for evening service, 672 Cambridge Surprise Major: A. Keeble 1, J. G. Rumsey 2, C. F. Bailey 3, G. Wilson 4, J. M. Bailey 5, E. S. Bailey 6, C. Sampson 7, E. H. Bailey 8.—On Sunday, April 16th, 1152 Double Norwich Major: W. W. Bailey 1, C. F. Bailey (conductor) 2, G. Wilson 3, A. Keeble 4, E. S. Bailey 5, J. G. Rumsey 6, C. Sampson 7, E. H. Bailey 8. For evening service, 576 Cambridge Surprise Major.

DUNSTABLE.—At the Priory Church, for evensong, on April 9th, 672 Bob Triples: E. Franklin, junr., 1, E. Franklin, senr., 2, Canon W. W. C. Baker 3, C. King, junr., 4, F. Baldock 5, G. Heley 6, A. E. Sharman (conductor) 7, C. King, senr., 8. Rung as a farewell to C. King, who joined His Majesty's Forces on April 12th, under the group system, and who has been drafted into the 4th Essex Regiment.

LONDON.—On April 16th, at St. Dunstan's Church, Stepney, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1251 changes), in 50 mins.: W. Truss 1, W. Hewitt 2, R. W. Green 3, A. W. Grimes (conductor) 4, A. Neale 5, I. Emery 6, E. Andrews 7, R. Sanders 8, A. C. Hardy 9, G. Barrell 10.

HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.—At St. John's Church, on April 16th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1323 changes), composed by James George. Rung on the 35th anniversary of the birthday of the conductor, Mr. E. Hancox: W. H. Fussell 1, Geo. H. Guttridge 2, J. J. Pratt 3, W. Henley 4, P. Jones 5, W. Welling 6, E. Hancox 7, W. Lawrence 8, J. A. Trollope 9, A. Harding 10.

PETERBOROUGH.—On Sunday, April 9th, at St. John's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: H. Coles 1, V. Butler 2, S. Wright 3, F. Davis 4, T. Vaughan 5, F. Dainty 6, F. Cooke (conductor) 7, R. Gamble 8.

ASTON, BIRMINGHAM.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, April 9th, for evening service, in 48 mins., Johnson's quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. Jones 1, W. H. Jones 2, W. Seaton 3, J. Hopkin 4, A. Cartwright 5, M. J. Morris 6, W. G. Ellis (conductor) 7, C. Allen 8.

NEWCHURCH, LANCs.—On Sunday evening, April 9th, at St. Nicolas' Church, Newchurch, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: J. Taylor 1, E. Taylor (Haslingden) 2, S. Lord 3, O. Castwood 4, J. Kay (Haslingden) 5, W. Taylor (conductor) 6, J. T. Wright 7, J. W. Ormerod 8.

BIRMINGHAM.—At Bishop Ryder's Church, on Sunday, April 9th, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples: W. F. Webb 1, J. F. Smallwood 2, J. Porter 3, J. George (conductor) 4, G. Chaplin (Tamworth) 5, W. H. George 6, J. B. Collett 7, G. Taylor 8. For evening service, 448 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: J. B. Collett 1, J. E. Groves (conductor) 2, A. Walker 3, S. Grove 4, J. Wells 5, J. F. Smallwood 6, W. H. George 7, J. George 8. Mr. W. H. George, of Eastleigh, brother of Mr. James George, was on a visit to Birmingham.

TRING, HERTS. — On Sunday evening, April 2nd, for service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: F. Fitkin 1, F. Reeve 2, H. Lovell 3, A. Tomkins 4, H. Heley 5, Pte. R. Kendall (5th Bedford Regiment) 6, Pte. H. F. Cooper (5th Essex Regiment), conductor, 7, W. Redman 8.—On Sunday, April 9th, for evening service, 504 and 168 Grandsire Triples: F. Fitkin 1, F. Reeve 2, H. Lovell 3, A. Tomkins 4, J. Bull 5, Pte. H. F. Cooper (5th Essex Regiment), conductor, 6, H. Heley 7, W. Redman 8. Rung as a farewell to Pte. H. F. Cooper, who was leaving the district the following day.

THE LATE MR. HENRY DAINS.

Mrs. Dains desires to express her sincere thanks to the numerous friends who have extended their sympathy to her in the loss of her husband.

On Monday a half-muffled peal of Stedman Caters was rung in Mr. Dains' memory at St. Leonard's Church, Shoreditch.

In our memoir of Mr. Dains we attributed New Cumberland Surprise to him. This was an error. The method was produced by the late Rev. H. Earle Bulwer.

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DEATH OF SIR A. P. HEYWOOD.

CLOSE OF A STRENUOUS AND NOBLE LIFE.

HIS GREAT SERVICES TO RINGING.

Sir Arthur Percival Heywood, Bart., passed peacefully away at his residence, Duffield Bank, Derby, on Wednesday of last week, at the age of 66 years.

This intimation will come as a shock to the Exercise, throughout which the deepest regret will be felt at the loss of one who has done so much good work for the art of change ringing, and who for so long has occupied the foremost position in its councils.

His interest in bells extended from childhood, and in the early eighties he seriously took up ringing. He applied himself to the art with the assiduity characteristic of all he undertook, and very soon he became one of the leading experts in the theory and technicalities of ringing, and all things appertaining to bells. His services in connection with the engineering problems of bell hanging have been invaluable, his scientific and practical knowledge having been placed without reserve at the disposal of authorities, and his services in this direction were brought, as it were, to a culminating point, when less than two years ago he published an important treatise, principally as an appeal to architects, on the subject of "Bell Towers and Bell Hanging."

The older members of the Exercise will remember him as an eminent ringer and conductor, while as an investigator and composer his name will ever remain associated with the art. His researches in regard to Stedman were exhaustive, and form a valuable part of the appendix to the only important work on the method which we have, the volume published in the Snowdon series.

Several other methods also received his attention, notably Double Norwich, and what we at present know as New Cambridge Surprise, while he it was who gave us "Duffield"—a method originally intended for ten and twelve bells, but which he applied also to eight. He was the author of numerous peals in a variety of methods and his connection with this side of ringing was not the least important part of the work which he did for the Exercise. His name, however, will probably be longest associated with his notable transposition of Thurstans' famous peal of Stedman, although he was the first to produce a ten-part peal in the method. This was in 1890, and a few days after achieving this important success, which was the result of many months of labour, obtained three, four and six-part peals. His work in this method was done in conjunction with the late Rev. H. Earle Bulwer (the first hon. secretary of the Central Council), and Mr. W. H. Thompson, and the volume of which this now forms a part is the standard authority upon a deeply engrossing if difficult subject.

PRESIDENT OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

Few except those who were acquainted at the time with Sir Arthur's labours realise what he did for the art in those days when progress was showing itself to the most marked degree; when associations were springing up all over the country, and when men of intellect were striving to settle many of the problems that had for generations only been realised in a vague sort of way by ringers and composers. Sir Arthur, or Mr. Heywood as he then was, was a great enthusiast and a great worker, and the Exercise owes him a debt which few, to-day, really appreciate, because in recent years, owing to the other claims upon his time he did not associate himself so actively with ringing matters as at one time he did.

To the present generation, of course, he is best known for his association with the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers. He founded this body in 1890, and was its first and only president. At every triennial period he was re-elected without opposition, the confidence thus displayed by the members being highly valued by him. For a period of over a quarter of a century he has thus directed the energies of this body which he had created and which, though oft criticised, has during its life rendered useful service to ringing in very many ways. Sir Arthur was elected to the office last year for the ninth time, and it is somewhat pathetic to recall what he said on taking the chair. "I confess," he said, "that I feel it a very great honour to be elected President again, but at the same time I feel I am getting considerably older and I keep looking round to see who, by-and-bye, before I become incapable, there will be to take my place, because when you get, as I am, nearer 70 than 60 you begin to think the time is not very far off when, if you are to retire from your work with honour, there may, perhaps, not be many more years before you in office." Sir Arthur has died in harness, and his term of office has, we think, ended in the way he himself would have wished. It is rather a curious coincidence that it had been decided that the Council should not meet this year, but when it does there will be a difficult task before the members to fill a vacancy which has been held so long by such a masterful personality.

HIS CONNECTION WITH OTHER RINGING ORGANISATIONS.

Sir Arthur Heywood's association with change ringing really began in 1883, and in 1884 he was elected a member of the Midland Counties Association, of which he became President. This position he occupied

for many years up to the time of his death, and it was with this association that Sir Arthur did the greater amount of his peal ringing, no fewer than 135 of his peals being with the M.C.A. Of this number 104 were rung in Duffield belfry, and 88 of these were conducted by him. Sir Arthur was also a member of the College Youths, at whose gatherings he was always a welcome guest, as he was also at the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner at Birmingham, over which he several times presided. Indeed it was out of Sir Arthur's generous initiative in giving a dinner in honour of the Birmingham veteran's 80th birthday that this annual event grew until it forms to-day the principal social event of the year among provincial ringers. On another occasion, also, Sir Arthur drew round the social board a gathering of the lights of the Exercise, when, in celebration of the late Rev. F. E. Robinson's one thousandth peal, he entertained a large company in London. The last public function connected with ringing which Sir Arthur attended was the annual meeting of the Lancashire Association last year, when he made the presentation on the behalf of the members to the Rev. H. J. Elsee on the completion of his 25 years of office as President of the Association. Sir Arthur was an old member of this society, as well as of the Yorkshire Association, and among the other organisations to which he belonged were the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham, the Oxford Diocesan Guild and the London County Association (formerly the St. James' Society).

Sir Arthur Heywood was one of the band of ringers selected as representative of the whole Exercise, that opened the peal of ten bells at the Imperial Institute in 1893. It was a touch of 50 changes of Stedman Caters, arranged by Sir Arthur, and rung by: C. H. Hattersley 1, G. Newson 2, G. F. Winney 3, A. P. Heywood 4, H. Baker 5, J. W. Washbrook 6, W. L. Catchpole 7, G. F. Coleridge 8, J. W. Taylor 9, F. G. Newman 10.

AT DUFFIELD.

MUNIFICENT GIFTS TO THE CHURCH.

The name of Arthur Percival Heywood will long be held in honoured and affectionate remembrance in the village of Duffield. Duffield Bank was the home he chose on his marriage, and here 44 years ago he brought his young bride. During this long period he has been in the fore-front of every good work for the welfare of the village and district. Of his wider activities in many directions—as a member of the Representative House of Laymen; on behalf of the Derby Royal Infirmary, and other charitable institutions; as a magistrate who entered thoroughly into the public work of the county; as an eminent engineer and a pioneer in demonstrating the usefulness of light railways—much will be written.

In Duffield, where his life of usefulness has just closed, he will be best remembered as a Christian gentleman of high character and sense of duty, a devout and earnest Churchman, a kind and genial friend, always accessible, ever-ready and willing to help with wise counsel and generous gifts.

From the first he showed his interest in campanology, and took his place as a regular ringer in the belfry of Duffield Church. In the year 1884 the six bells were recast, and a full peal of eight hung, mainly through Sir Arthur (then Mr.) Heywood's exertions and generosity. Three years later, as a jubilee offering, he presented two additional bells, making a ring of ten in all, which are justly admired for their sweet and well-balanced tone. The records of peals hanging in the belfry testify to his skill as a ringer; and his lasting interest in the Duffield company of change ringers is shown by the fact that he endowed the belfry with a sufficient sum to pay the salary of the ringers, and to provide for keeping the bells and ringing chamber in order for all time without any drain on the churchwardens' funds.

The munificence of Sir Arthur and Lady Heywood has also left a lasting memorial in the beautifully restored interior of Duffield Church. For many years there had been a growing feeling that the internal fittings of the church were not only altogether too poor for an edifice of much architectural beauty and interest, but also inadequate to the dignified performance of divine service. In the year 1896 Sir Arthur Heywood, who had been for some time the Vicar's warden, obtained the services of an eminent architect, Mr. J. Oldrid Scott, who prepared plans for the restoration of the interior of the church necessitating an expenditure of over £4,000. This seemed to many a most formidable sum for a village to raise, but when Sir Arthur announced that he and Lady Heywood were prepared to defray one-half of the total cost, such an impetus was given to the project that enabled the whole of the work to be carried out without any curtailment of the plans, and eighteen months afterwards the restored and beautified church was re-opened to the delight of the parishioners who had ably and freely supported the generous lead given by Sir Arthur and Lady Heywood.

During recent years Sir Arthur Heywood has resided chiefly at his Staffordshire seat, Doveleys.

This year, as usual, he came intending to spend Easter at Duffield Bank, and only three Sundays since he was in his accustomed place in church, though acting on the advice of his physician he abstained from his old habit of ringing for service. It was known that his health was not good, but few thought that in so short a time he would pass away from his earthly activities in the home of his early manhood and within sight and sound of the church he loved so well. Requiescat in pace!

J. B.

A LIFE OF GREAT ACTIVITY.

THE DEAD BARONET'S SERVICES TO HIS COUNTY.

Sir Arthur Percival Heywood, Bart., was the son of the second baronet, Sir Thomas Percival Heywood, and was born in the year 1849. He was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge, and gained his B.A. in 1871, and his M.A. in 1875. In 1872 Sir Arthur was married to Margaret Effie, eldest daughter of the Right Rev. George Hy. Sumner, formerly Bishop of Guildford, and grand-daughter of Bishop Sumner, so long Bishop of Winchester, now generally spoken of as "the last Prince Bishop" of the English Church. The late Sir Arthur had always been keenly interested in religious and philanthropic movements. For many years he took an active and generous interest in the splendid work of the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary. He was a member of the Weekly Board, and had continued his association with it uninterruptedly, giving valuable advice and assistance to his colleagues on various matters concerning the administration and welfare of the institution. He was deputy-chairman of the Board, as well as chairman of the Special Appeal Committee. He also served as President of the institution in 1895.

Sir Arthur qualified as a magistrate for the county of Derby at the January Sessions in 1872, and frequently attended the Quarter Sessions prior to county business being handed over to the County Council. In 1899 he was Sheriff of Derbyshire. He was also a J.P. and Deputy Lieutenant for Staffordshire.

A PIONEER OF LIGHT RAILWAYS.

He showed much energy in his endeavour to improve the position of agriculturists by the development of light railways, a much admired system of which he constructed in his grounds at Duffield Bank, whilst he also constructed a light railway four miles in length for the late Duke of Westminster at Eaton Hall, Chester. Duffield Bank, which is beautifully situated on the hills overlooking the valley through which the river Derwent runs at Duffield, was his Derbyshire residence, Doveleys was his Staffordshire seat, and his other residence was Claremont, Manchester, whilst his clubs were the Athenæum and Royal Societies. The light railway which Sir Arthur Heywood constructed at Duffield Bank, and which many ringers to Duffield have inspected with interest, was entirely made in his own workshop, engines, carriages, signalling apparatus, etc., all being produced on the spot, as it were. The construction of this novel line was commenced in 1874, and in 1881, when the Royal Agricultural Society was held at Derby, visitors were invited to run over to Duffield and see for themselves the line working. Since then, Sir Arthur has frequently thrown the line open for inspection. The railway is of fifteen inch gauge, but this is by no means the smallest that Sir Arthur put down, one constructed for some friends being only a nine inch gauge. In an excellent little pamphlet upon the construction of the Duffield Bank line, Sir Arthur wrote that feeling convinced of the eventual recognition of the utility of small lines, he took some pains to become acquainted with what had been already achieved in this direction, with the result that, excepting only the Festiniog Railway, where every detail was ably worked out by the late Mr. Spooner, he found generally both road and rolling stock as constructed were toy imitations of the standard gauge, and showing a want of apprehension of the totally different conditions to be satisfied. To endeavour to solve the various problems involved in the successful design of the engines, carriages and roadway of narrow gauge was, therefore, the main object of his little railway. The chief ends in view could be divided into two sections, first the application of such lines to agricultural and commercial purposes, and next to the requirements of military transport in countries devoid of roads, the latter a matter which some years ago engaged the attention of the Royal Engineers, with whom he had at that time frequent intercourse on the subject. A further aim he had in view was to learn something more of certain problems concerning adhesion and friction on light railways.

GIFTS OF BELLS.

Duffield Parish Church owes much to the late Sir Arthur's beneficence, and as an ardent bell ringer he was the means of the church being supplied with a fine peal of bells, of which the village is justly proud.

In addition to his gift of bells at Duffield, Sir Arthur, who used with pride to call himself a Lancashire man, was the generous donor of the present peal of eight at St. John's Church, Miles Platting, Manchester. In 1872 a peal of six was put into the tower, but the structure shook so badly that, in 1912, it had to be repaired and strengthened. While this work was being done, Sir Arthur generously offered to have the bells recast and increased to eight, and rehung in a new iron frame. The work was carried out by Messrs. Taylor and Co., the tenor being just over 12 cwt.

He was for many years a churchwarden and sidesman of Duffield Parish Church. Among other offices which he held were that of chairman of the Standing Joint Committee of the County, which has entire control of the police and the management of the county buildings. He was also a member of the House of Laymen for the Province of Canterbury, representing the diocese of Southwell for many years. Furthermore, he was always associated with every object for the public good, and his hearty sympathy and genial personality endeared him to all classes of the community, and he will be greatly missed in

the parish. Sir Arthur has left a numerous family, and his heir, born in 1878, is Major Graham P. Heywood, barrister-at-law, who is serving with the Staffordshire Yeomanry, and was wounded early in the war.

Sir Arthur Heywood's father, the late Sir Percival Heywood, was one of the little band of earnest churchmen who helped to found the Denstone College. He gave the site, and his portrait painted by Herkomer, hangs in the hall. The family trace their descent back to John Heywood, who in the 16th century lived at Bolton, in Lancashire, and belonged to a younger branch of the Heywoods of Heywood, to whom, in the 12th century, Adam de Bungo granted lands in Heywood. As bankers in Manchester the family acquired both wealth and distinction.

SIR ARTHUR'S NOBLE EXAMPLE.

SPECIAL MEMOIR BY THE REV. C. D. P. DAVIES.

Having been asked to write a short "appreciation" of Sir Arthur Heywood, I need not say with what a full heart I try to do so. In one respect there is no difficulty in the task. The material is abundant. Indeed, in speaking of a character of such power, with interests so varied, the difficulty is not to find something to say, but where to stop. Whether we think of him as a man of deep earnestness in religion, a faithful and devoted son of the Church, or as an exceedingly able engineer or architect, or as a devotee of the science of ringing, or as a practical conductor and ringer, or again as taking a leading part in the general business of the county and neighbourhood in which he lived, we find the same sense of duty, the same thoroughness, the same grasp of details, the same sane and sound judgment—all these we find as invariable features of his treatment of every question which he handled.

His religion was real and deep, both at home and elsewhere. There was that in the tone and atmosphere of family prayers at Duffield or Doveleys—he was always, as should be, the priest in his own house—that made one feel the reality of it. It was no mere conformity to a rule of respectability, but was meant by him to be a spiritual act of united household worship. As a parishioner his principle was the same. A regular worshipper, a regular communicant, he was a strong pillar of the Church. A clergyman can but seldom be away from home on a Sunday, but I remember spending a Sunday many years ago at Duffield, and being deeply impressed by the spirit of true loyalty to his parish church and parish priest, pervading Sir Arthur (then Mr.) Heywood, and by his attention and devotion, which were a sermon in themselves. It was, too, as part of his religion that he regarded his Sunday ringing. Since his father's death, when the burden of position and its accompanying duties and responsibilities, coupled also with the management of the property, fell on his shoulders, he had practically given up peal ringing, but none of these things was ever allowed to interfere with ringing for service on Sunday, which, as I was told by one of the Duffield band on Saturday last, he kept up till the end. It was amusing, said my informant, to see him occasionally running into the churchyard at the last moment, for if he were late they promptly fined him 2d.! It is needless to add that his churchmanship was far from being of that petty and insular type that confines itself to its own parish or to some other equally narrow horizon. On the Diocesan Conference, and in the House of Laymen his presence will be missed. His death is a distinct loss to the whole Church.

SECULAR ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

Coming to speak of his secular tastes and accomplishments, he was perhaps most widely known as an engineer. Possessed of ample means, he erected extensive shops as an annexe to his house at Duffield Bank. In these were made the engines and rolling stock, and, so at least I think, the rails and other requisites for the narrow-gauge railway which he constructed in the wood on the side of the hill behind the house. The width of the gauge was, if I remember aright 15 inches, and the whole must have cost thousands of pounds. But do not let anyone for a moment suppose that all this expenditure of time and money was for mere selfish amusement. Certainly it afforded him the keenest interest and pleasure. But its primary object was that of the investigation of the capabilities and limitations of light railways, and it is in no small measure due to him and to the invaluable knowledge and experience which he thereby gained, that light railways occupy the position which they now hold. He built a light railway at Eaton for the late Duke of Westminster, which to this day, so far as I know, is still doing good work on the estate. Several months ago he wrote to me from Duffield saying that he was engaged in getting things in trim there with a view to closing the shops and parting with the house, and as it was there that he died, I presume that he had gone thither for some later stage of the same business. In connection with the Duffield Bank Railway, one of his pleasures was to invite parties of employees of the Midland Railway Company from Derby and the district to spend an afternoon in his breezy woods with their beautiful outlook, and to inspect his railway and make a practical trial of it.

But he was not only an engineer. He was also, at least to a great extent, his own architect. Admiring the dining-room at Doveleys, I asked who had been the architect, and was interested, though not much surprised, to learn that he himself had designed it. It need not be added that all the admirable plans and arrangements of the

house, workshops and offices there were his own. The whole of the premises there are a lesson in tidiness, method, and efficiency.

HIS SERVICES TO RINGING.

It might be expected that in writing, as I am, to a ringing paper I should dwell with special emphasis and fulness on the notable and eminent services which Sir Arthur Heywood has rendered to our favourite science. But that is precisely what I do not propose to do for the very simple reason that my readers know them already, and that I have not such a poor estimate of their feelings of gratitude as to suppose that they need to be reminded of them. Suffice it, therefore, for the present to name his valuable contributions to our knowledge of Stedman, and in particular to the conditions underlying the composition of twin-bob peals of Triples in that method.

The great advancement with which his name will ever be connected will, it almost goes without saying, be that of the inception and inauguration of the Central Council. Some correspondents of the ringing papers of those days had suggested the formation of a National Association, but his clear judgment at once saw the impracticability of such a scheme, and he suggested the formation of a Central Council, of which, as we all know, he was the President to the day of his death. To the Council his loss is incalculable. For myself I feel like a ship without an anchor. With that sound judgment and grasp of the situation, of which I have already spoken, he has guided the deliberations and work of the Council with unfailing skill, and has preserved it from many a pitfall into which it has been invited to trip by well-meaning but, as I firmly hold, mistaken people.

I could go on writing for a good while longer, but I suddenly find that post time is much nearer than I thought. I must, therefore, conclude almost immediately. But this I cannot do without expressing the deep grief which I, and I am sure many hundreds of other ringers feel at the loss of such a friend. Not only by his position and influence and the power of his personal character did he win for ringing in the eyes of ecclesiastical and other authorities a position which, in all human probability, it would not otherwise have obtained, but he has left behind him a sheaf of memories full of happiness, of kind-hearted actions innumerable, and above all a noble example of fulfillment of the injunction: "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might."

CANON PAPILLON'S RECOLLECTIONS.

Asked to pen a few lines concerning Sir Arthur, Canon T. L. Papillon, writes:—

My acquaintance with him has been limited to our intercourse at meetings of the Central Council, and, latterly, at the Athenæum Club in London. I never saw him at his Derbyshire home, nor did I know much of his life as county gentleman and magistrate. But his genial hospitality to myself and others at Council meetings in London, Manchester and elsewhere, remains a pleasant memory. A wealthy man, without "side" or patronising display; a keen and loyal Churchman, free from bigotry and narrowness; a competent chairman, liking (as most competent chairmen do) to have his own way, but tolerant of divergent opinions, and almost too lenient to irrelevance and loquacity; obviously animated by a single-hearted zeal for the interests of the ringing Exercise, in which he was himself so distinguished an expert; a genial companion, a staunch ally, and a man of stainless honour—such are my impressions of personal acquaintance, all too slight, with our late president. Of what he has been to the cause of change ringing and to the Central Council, of which he was the original founder, and "guide, philosopher and friend," others can speak better than I can. If any members have really wanted a change of president, their wish can now be gratified. But every one, I think, will feel that not the Council alone, but the whole Exercise, is the poorer for Sir Arthur Heywood's departure. Multis ille bonis flebilis occidit ("To many good men his death brings sorrow").

THE FUNERAL.

A SIMPLE SERVICE.

The interment took place on Saturday afternoon at Denston, the parish in which Sir Arthur's seat at Doveleys, was situated. The last rites, which were conducted by the Bishop of Derby (Canon Abraham), were of a most simple character, and the service in the church of very short duration, the Bishop giving no address. Sir Arthur was a devout Churchman, and he chose as his last resting place a quiet spot in Denstone Churchyard, which adjoins the highway and which is a particularly well-kept and well-ordered enclosure. Brightened up by the April sunshine in between the inevitable showers, the churchyard looked a very peaceful place.

The cortege left Doveleys, which is situated a mile and a half from the church, about 2 o'clock, and was met at the gates of the drive by a large number of Home Guards under the command of Mr. A. R. Wood. One of the last generous acts of Sir Arthur was to present the Home Guards with 50 rifles. The police also figured largely at the funeral, as was natural from the fact that Sir Arthur held the important office for a number of years of chairman of the Derbyshire Standing Joint Committee. Capt. Holland (Chief Constable of the county) was absent through illness, and Supt. Davies (Ashbourne) walked at the head of the procession, representing the Derbyshire police, along with Supt. Hodgkinson, of the Staffordshire force. Be-

hind the police and Home Guards came the coffin hidden by a mountain of wreaths and floral tokens, being testimony to the widespread esteem and respect in which the deceased baronet was held. The thought struck one that Sir Arthur will be a much missed man. Last of all came one carriage, which was sufficient for the immediate mourners attending from Doveleys.

At the graveside were gathered mourners drawn from a wide area, residents of Duffield being well represented. The clergy present, beside the Bishop of Derby, were: Hon. and Rev. Canon Grimston, Revs. C. D. Rae, R.D., of Leigh, Provost Talbot (Denstone), F. J. Rottesley (Vicar of Denstone), F. W. Eddison (Duffield), E. H. Birley (Ellastone), C. F. L. Barnwell (Stramshall), A. Bodington, and H. J. Elsee, Vicar of St. George's, Bolton, and President of the Lancashire Association of Change Ringers, the Revs. Provost Talbot, C. D. Rae, F. W. Eddison and F. J. Rottesley, assisted the bishop in the ceremony.

Sir Arthur's connection with ringing was emphasised at his funeral by the presence of other campanologists and the receipt of several wreaths from those interested in the science, who counted the deceased baronet as a friend. Numerous lay mourners who were brother churchmen of the deceased baronet were among those in attendance. There were at the church Major-General Jeudwine and Mrs. Jeudwine, Mrs. B. P. C. Heywood, Mr. A. F. Dawson, the Hon. Mrs. Dawson, Colonel J. Cavendish, Major A. C. Duncan (Calwich Abbey), Major J. J. Meynell, Mr. G. Wheeler (representing the Hon. Mrs. Bourke, Wootton Hall), Dr. Covey (Ellastone), Dr. Morrison (Duffield), Mr. J. W. Taylor, Mr. E. Denison Taylor (Loughborough), Mr. H. Boden (Denstone), Mr. W. H. Mason (member of the Woodard School Corporation), Mr. J. M. Bond, J.P. (chairman of the Ashbourne magistrates), Mr. W. H. Oldham, J.P., Mr. Arthur Cox, Mr. F. Wright, Mr. W. Bould, Mr. S. Wright, and Mr. J. Bland (Duffield). The Derbyshire Royal Infirmary was represented by Mr. Collier Green and the secretary (Mr. E. Forster).

As indicated, the service in church was of a brief character, the hymns used being: "Thine for ever, God of Love," and "On the resurrection morning." The procession was re-formed and the body committed to the grave, which was close to the church porch, being lined with flowers and foliage. The plain oak coffin, with brass mountings, bore the inscription on the breast plate: "Arthur Percival Heywood, third baronet; born December 25th, 1849; died April 19th, 1916."

Wreaths and floral emblems were received from the following: The sons and daughters, Aunt Sophie and Eileen Gerald and May, Betty and Cissy, Mrs. Bertram C. P. Heywood, Mr. Chas. J. Heywood, Mr. and Mrs. G. Herbert Strutt, Mrs. Hugh and Miss Margaret Jeudwine, Mrs. Bertram Arkwright, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Arkwright, Isabel M. Lyth, Colonel and Miss Rixlawson, Colonel and Miss Buchanan, Robert and Gertrude Grimston, Herbert O. Moore and Florence Devenish Moores, Mr. and Mrs. John Edwardes (Denstone College), Mrs. Campbell, Rev. F. W. and Mrs. Eddison (Duffield), Rev. H. and Mrs. H. I. Rees-Mogg, Dr. and Mrs. Covey (Ellastone), Miss E. Levett, Mr. and Mrs. Wright and family (Duffield), Messrs. E. Denison Taylor and John W. Taylor (Loughborough), Messrs. Thos. Brindley and F. B. Waltho, Mr. and Mrs. Rumsey (London), Mr. and Mrs. R. Abell (Duffield), Mr. Reginald Gurney (The Close, Winchester), Weekly Board of the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, matron and nurses Derbyshire Royal Infirmary, widow and family of the late Mr. William Midgley (for 30 years engineer to Sir Arthur Heywood), Midland Counties Association of Change Ringers, Duffield Change Ringers, parishioners of Denstone, parishioners of Duffield, the Belgian Refugees, Light Oaks, La Colonie d'Oakwood, household at Claremont, indoor and outdoor employes, Duffield Bank, the outdoor staff, farm and laundry at Doveleys.

A memorial service was held at the Derbyshire Royal Infirmary simultaneously with the interment at Denstone. There were present the members of the Board and the medical staff, the matron, sisters and nurses, and residents of the hospital. The Rev. A. T. Humphreys (Vicar of St. John's), chaplain, conducted the service, assisted by the Rev. Canon Hamilton and Rev. J. Howell, a former chaplain. An earnest and impressive address was given by the Rev. Canon Hamilton.

Muffled peals to the memory of the deceased baronet have been rung at Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham; Walsall, Staveley, and St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, and the records of these will be found in another column.

BEDS ASSOCIATION'S SYMPATHY.

At the annual meeting of the Bedfordshire Association on Monday, the President (Canon Baker) said they had seen with the greatest regret the announcement of the death of Sir Arthur Heywood, who had been president of the Central Council since its commencement. He did not think anyone who had not been a member of the Council could know the debt which the church bell ringers of England owed to Sir Arthur. He (Canon Baker) could speak not only as a member of the Council from the beginning, but as a personal friend of the president. When he was a young curate at Nottingham, Sir Arthur was exceedingly kind to him, and that kindness had been continued throughout the years that had passed since then. It was with the greatest grief that he saw the announcement of his death. But beyond the personal loss, there was the loss which the Exercise at large had sustained. This loss was a very grievous one, because Sir Arthur Heywood was

(Continued on page 195).

NOTICES.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Weare, near Axbridge, on Saturday, April 29th. Bells from 2 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham, Somerset.

SALOP GUILD.—Quarterly meeting April 29th, 1916, at Newport, Salop. Ringing 3 o'clock. Belfry prayers 4 o'clock. Tea 5 o'clock. Meeting after tea. Please reply before April 26th to Rev. F. Tennison, St. Alkmund's Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION, late the St. James' Society (Established 1824).—The annual general meeting will be held on the Saturday following Easter, April 29th, at the headquarters, "The Edinburgh," Milford Lane, Strand, W.C., at 6 p.m.—T. H. Taffender, Master, for hon. secretary, 10, Northlands Street, Camberwell, S.E.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Nicholas, Newchurch, on Saturday, April 29th. Bells ready at 4 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30. Subscriptions are due. J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary, 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Walkden on Saturday, April 29th. Bells available from 4 p.m. till dusk. Meeting 7.30.—G. Pincott, Branch Secretary.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Crofton to-morrow, Saturday, April 29th. Tower open 4.0 p.m. to dusk. Will members kindly note and attend in full numbers.—C. D. Potter, Rhodes Villa, Doncaster Road, Barnsley.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on May 4th and 18th for handbell practice, and on the 9th and 23rd for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham.

LEEDS & DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next monthly meeting of the above Society will be held at Guiseley on Saturday, May 6th, 1916. Bells available from 5.0 p.m., business meeting at 7.0 p.m.—William Barton, Secretary, 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Swinton on Saturday, May 6th. Bells available from 3.0 p.m. till dusk, meeting to follow.—W. W. Wolstencroft, 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Quarterly meeting at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, May 6th, at 2.30. Tea at Nag's Head, 9d. per head, to those who notify me by May 2nd. Specially important meeting on Saturday, April 29th, at St. Martin's at 3 o'clock.—H. J. Bradley, 25, Winchester Avenue, Brondesbury, N.W.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Sedgley on Saturday May 6th. Bells available at 3. Service in church, with an address by the Vicar (Rev. T. G. Swindell, D.D.) at 5.15. Tea (1s.) in the Schoolroom at 6. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than Tuesday, May 2nd.—H. Knight, Honorary Secretary, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The annual meeting of the Maidstone district will be held at All Saints', Maidstone (10 bells) on Saturday, May 6th. Bells available for ringing at 3 p.m.; short service at 5 p.m. Tea at the Restaurant, Bank Street, at 5.45. Business meeting after. The secretary would like to know not later than May 1st of any members from other districts intending to be present, to whom he offers a hearty welcome.—Stephen Hayzelden, District Secretary, Lower Street, East Farleigh.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting of the Kettering District will be held at Gretton on May 6th. Bells (5) open 3 o'clock.—R. F. Turner, District Sec., 160, St. Peter's Avenue, Kettering.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held on May 13th at Leesfield. Bells ready at 3 o'clock, meeting at 6.30.—T. K. Driver, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Rev. E. Basil Spurgin (Vicar), at St. John's, Sidcup (three minutes from 'bus terminus) on Saturday, May 13th. Tower open 3.30 p.m. Service and address by the Vicar at 5.0 p.m. Tea (9d. per head) and business meeting in St. John's Hall, to follow the service. It is particularly requested that those who require tea send their names to me not later than Tuesday, May 9th.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The 18th annual general meeting will be held at St. Stephen's, West Ealing, on Saturday, May 13th. Service at 6 p.m., with an address by the Vicar (Rev. Dr. W. Halliday Thompson, B.A.) Tea in the Parish Hall at 6.30 by the kind invitation of the Vicar and churchwardens. *This invitation is only to be extended to those who inform Mr. W. Lawrence, 24, Wimborne Gardens, West Ealing, by Wednesday, May 10th, of their intention to be present, and to prevent disappointment members should send in their acceptance of the invitation by post as soon as possible.* The following towers will be open for ringing:—St. Stephen's, West Ealing, from 4 to 6 p.m.; St. Mary's, Ealing, from 3 to 5.30 p.m. Nearest stations, Ealing Broadway (District) and West Ealing (G.W.) Middlesex Council car to Northfield Road (for St. Stephen's Church). Buses from the City to Ealing Broadway.—C. T. Coles, 49, Wood Street, Walthamstow, H. C. Chandler, Church Road, Heston, Hon. Secretaries.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Brighton on Saturday, May 13th. Meat tea at The Criterion, West Street, at 4 o'clock. Tickets 1s. 9d. (to members, 9d.) Service at St. Nicholas at 6. Preacher, Rev. H. H. Horden, Rector. Bells of St. Peter's open from 2—4, and again after service. Members (resident in the county) attending will be allowed half railway fares. These, as also others intending being present, should notify same to me not later than Tuesday, May 9th.—G. Watson (Gen. Sec.), Vale Road, St. Leonard's.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bridgewater on Saturday, May 6th, in the Parish Church at 4 p.m. Tea and Meeting at Taylor's Restaurant at 5 p.m. Bells available at 2 p.m.—E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

BUSINESS PREMISES TO LET.

To be LET at Michaelmas, 1916, an old-established Blacksmith's Shop and Dwelling House, situate at Meadwell, Kelly, Devon, the property of the Rev. Maitland, Kelly. Grass land is obtainable and preference would be given to an applicant who has a knowledge of plumbing and motor engineering. — Apply to Ward and Chown, Estate Agents, Burnville, Brentor, Tavistock.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

LEWISHAM, KENT.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, April 9th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: W. Seeley, A.S.C. (Bushey) 1, W. R. Thrift (Boreham) 2, R. C. Thrift, A.S.C. (Boreham) 3, C. H. Walker (conductor) 4, F. W. Edwards (Writtle) 5, H. Walker 6, H. Warnett, senr., 7, H. G. Goodwin 8. This was rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Walker on the 18th anniversary of their wedding day.

NEW SHOREHAM, SUSSEX.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday April 16th, 336 Stedman Triples: W. Baker 1, B. Challen 2, R. Noakes 3, E. Marsh 4, J. E. Gofton, (R.A.M.C.) 5, H. Stalham (conductor) 6, W. Allfrey 7, F. Cripps 8. A course of Plain Bob, W. Brown and T. Burtenshaw, senr., taking part.

BARNES.—At St. Mary's Church, on April 16th, a quarter-peal of Kent Triple Bob Major (1280 changes) in 45 mins.: R. Mackrill 1, H. Barrett 2, H. Cook 3, Pte S. Meadows (A.S.C.) 4, G. Iles 5, P. H. Smith 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, C. Hunt 8. Rung as a wedding compliment to Miss Edith Hunt (niece of the ringer of the tenor), and Sapper J. Lugate, R.E.

HAMMERSMITH.—At St. Paul's Church, on Sunday, April 16th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major, in 44 mins.: W. Stevens 1, M. Jacobs (first quarter-peal in the method) 2, H. Barrett 3, P. H. Smith 4, R. Mackrill 5, H. Cook 6, F. Skevington 7, C. Hunt (conductor) 8.

DEATH OF SIR A. P. HEYWOOD.

(Continued from page 193).

not the sort of man whom they generally got in touch with in connection with ringing. He was chairman of the Standing Joint Committee of Derbyshire; he was an engineer of great attainments, as many of them knew he had a miniature railway round his grounds at Duffield, everything connected with which was made in his own shops under his own supervision and a good deal of it with his own hands. Moreover, like his father before him, he was a great Churchman, taking the keenest interest not only in bell ringing, but in all matters connected with the welfare of the church. To have a man of that type and of his ability as President of the Central Council was an enormous asset to the Exercise at large. Those of them who had been members of the Council could hardly imagine what they would do without him. He thought they could not separate from that meeting, coming as it did so soon after Sir Arthur's death, without expressing the sense of the loss which they felt the Exercise had sustained by his decease, and he proposed that they place on record their sense of the services which Sir Arthur had rendered to the Exercise as President of the Central Council since its establishment, and their regret at his death; further, that an expression of their sympathy with his widow and family in their bereavement be sent to Lady Heywood.

Mr. Edwin Ransom seconded the resolution, which was supported by Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, who spoke of Sir Arthur's work in connection with the composition of Stedman, and carried in silence.

The President of the Middlesex Association (Mr. A. T. King) has sent to the hon. secretary of the Central Council (the Rev. C. D. P. Davies) an expression of the association's regret at the death of the President.

Presiding on Monday at the annual meeting of the Midland Counties Association, at Nottingham, the Vice-President (Mr. J. W. Taylor) made touching reference to the death of Sir Arthur Heywood, who was President of the Association, and the members passed a vote of sympathy and condolence with the family of the deceased baronet.

Reference to the loss which the Exercise had sustained was also made at the annual meeting of the Hertford County Association at St. Albans by the retiring president, Mr. E. P. Debenham.

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Bell Frames in Cast Iron, Steel
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Estimates Furnished to cover every
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Musical Handbells, in any size and number,
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PEAL BOARDS
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of Derby will clock you in the best way and as near eternity as possible."

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An Inkstand in the design of a Well-shaped Bell



This charming model in Solid Hall Marked Silver
will make a most appropriate and useful Gift.

It can be supplied in the following sizes:—

| | | | | | | | |
|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| Diameter | 2½ in. | 2¾ in. | 3½ in. | 3¾ in. | 4 in. | 4½ in. | 5 in. |
| Price ... | 9/- | 13/6 | 17/6 | 22/6 | 27/6 | 35/- | 46/6 |

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most approved principles. Old Bells Re-cast,
New Bells supplied, Ropes of the best make.
Ellacombe's Chiming Apparatus fixed, Hand-
bells in sets, Chromatic or Diatonic.

THE BADGE OF THE CRAFT

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in Gold, Silver or Bronze.
Specially Suitable for Gifts.

Prices, Gold (9 carat) 21/-, Silver 4/6
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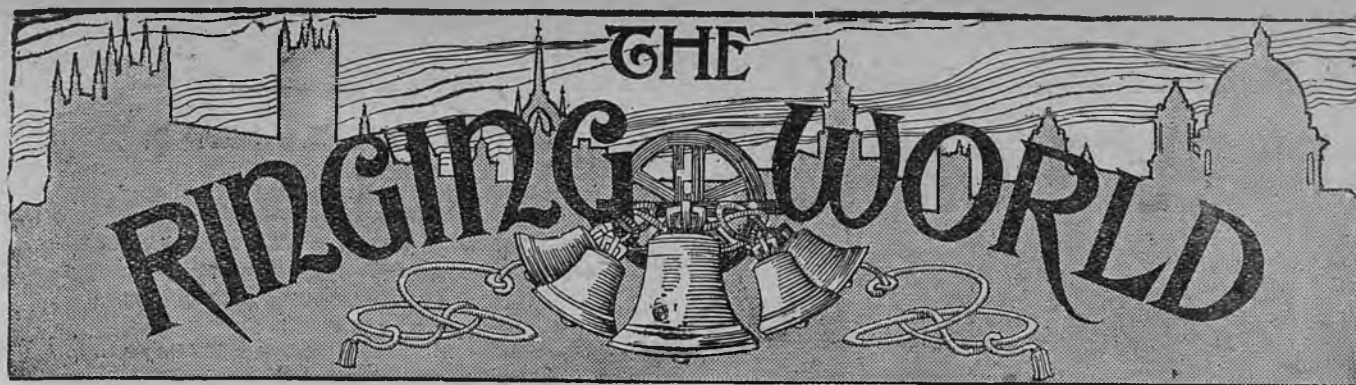


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FRIDAY, MAY 5th, 1916.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

THE DEAD PRESIDENT.

It is only with the lapse of time that the Exercise will realise what it owes to the services rendered by the late Sir Arthur Heywood. No one could have read the memoir penned by his intimate friend, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, without realising the vast and varied interests which made up Sir Arthur's life, his nobility of character, his earnestness of purpose and his eminent services, not only to the counties in which he resided, and to his country, but to the Church of which he was so devoted a son and to the ringing Exercise, of which he was an honoured member. As founder, president and main spring of the Central Council it is difficult to imagine that body without him. He largely directed its policy and controlled its aims, and those who have differed from him in regard to these matters have never doubted his sincerity of purpose or the value of his services.

At a time when, to some extent, the fortunes of ringing may be considered to be in the melting pot—for who shall say we shall return to quite the same conditions that existed before the war?—the Exercise could ill afford to lose one whose position, influence and knowledge were so exceptional. If the Central Council in the future is to be what Sir Arthur desired it should be, a representative body to defend the rights of ringers whenever they may be seriously challenged, it will have to be extremely careful of the way in which it acts, both in regard to filling the vacant presidency and in shaping its future policy.

The moment is too premature even to discuss Sir Arthur's probable successor in the presidential chair, but the members of the Council and the Associations who elect them may well begin seriously to consider how best the Council can be made to serve the interests of ringers. The whole future, indeed the very existence of a representative Council depends upon the course which the central body elects to follow, and now, more than ever, it behoves the associations to give the matter their most careful consideration so that they may strengthen the hands of their delegates. The death of the President has brought the Council to a parting of the ways. A false step might mean rapid disintegration, whereas a wisely conceived policy, based upon the desires of the electing bodies, would give it a new energy, which, suddenly deprived of the guidance and support of its founder and president, it will undoubtedly require. It is not too soon for the associations to bear this position in mind, for, though the Council will not assemble till next year, a good many of the county and diocesan organisations will meet only once in annual conclave between now and then, and opportunities are thus not too numerous to discuss a question which may have an important bearing on the future of the Exercise,

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs. C. CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to Inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your contract,—we may be able to assist you.

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IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
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TWELVE BELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Monday, April 24, 1916, in Three Hours and Thirty-nine Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt., in C.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| CHARLES DICKENS Treble | MORRIS J. MORRIS 7 |
| FREDERICK DICKENS 2 | BENJAMIN GOUGH 8 |
| ALBERT WALKER 3 | ERNEST MANSELL 9 |
| FRANK W. PERRENS 4 | HERBERT KNIGHT 10 |
| ALF. PADDON SMITH 5 | JAMES E. GROVES 11 |
| J. FRANK SMALLWOOD 6 | GEORGE YENDALL Tenor |

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and
Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

Rung half-muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of Sir Arthur Percival Heywood, Bart., Mr. George W. Baldwin, and Ex-Chief Detective-Inspector William Painter. The two latter were Vice-Presidents of St. Martin's Guild and Mr. Baldwin was the Guild's oldest member, having joined the St. Martin's Society in 1868.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, April 29, 1916, in Three Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5017 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. in E flat.

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ERNEST T. ALLAWAY Treble | J. FRANK SMALLWOOD 7 |
| CHARLES DICKENS 2 | ALF. PADDON SMITH 8 |
| ALBERT WALKER 3 | BENJAMIN GOUGH 9 |
| JAMES E. GROVES 4 | JESSE SCREEN 10 |
| GEORGE F. SWANN 5 | JAMES GEORGE 11 |
| FRANK W. PERRENS 6 | THOMAS H. REEVES Tenor |

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and
Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Rung half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Sir Arthur Percival Heywood, Ex-Chief Detective-Inspector William Painter and Mr. George W. Baldwin.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

SHIPLEY, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 24, 1916, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5988 CHANGES;

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| JOSEPH BROADLEY Treble | ERNEST H. SIMPSON 5 |
| THOMAS B. KENDELL 2 | JOHN JOYCE 6 |
| WILLIAM CLARK 3 | EDWARD CROWTHER 7 |
| WILLIAM JOYCE 4 | HERBERT PELL Tenor |

Composed by JOHN J. BRIERLEY, and
Conducted by JOSEPH BROADLEY.

Rung on the 20th anniversary of the long peal of 10,400, and as a farewell to Mr. F. C. M. S. Rhodes and Mr. Thompson, Churchwardens, who were retiring.

LONGNEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 24, 1916, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor about 12 cwt.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| JOHN W. DAVIS Treble | JOHN W. JONES 5 |
| THOMAS BALDWIN 2 | CHARLES DYSON 6 |
| JOHN AUSTIN 3 | EX-SERG. J. WILLIAMS 7 |
| JESSE GILLET 4 | GEORGE CONDICK Tenor |

Composed by SIR ARTHUR P. HEYWOOD, and
Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

Rung on the 34th anniversary of the wedding day of Mr. George Condick.

SIX BELL PEALS.

HAWKSHEAD, WESTMORLAND.

On Thursday, April 20, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,
At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB, 5040 CHANGES;

| | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|
| †THOMAS B. NEWTON... ..Treble | WILLIAM ROBINSON ... 4 |
| *WILLIAM D. HEELIS ... 2 | THOMAS TOWNSON ... 5 |
| *FREDERICK W. COWARD ... 3 | CHARLES E. WEBB ... Tenor |

Conducted by T. B. NEWTON.

* First peal. † First peal as conductor. Rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. Joseph Barker, for many years a sidesman of this church.

CAWTHORNE, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 29, 1916, in Three Hours,

At the Church of All Saints.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of City Delight, London Scholars' Pleasure, Arnold's Victory, College Pleasure, Duke of York, Violet, Oxford.

Tenor 9 cwt.

| | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| DAVID BREARLEY... ..Treble | HERBERT ROWLEY ... 4 |
| GEORGE F. PICKLES ... 2 | CLIFFORD ROBINSON ... 5 |
| GEORGE HUNT ... 3 | GEORGE HILL ... Tenor |

Conducted by GEORGE HILL.

This peal was arranged for C. Robinson, who is a member of the above tower, and the ringers take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar for the use of the bells and also for kindly entertaining them to tea after the peal.

DALLINGTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 29, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Giles,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 Six-scores with 10 different callings. Tenor 11 cwt.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| *JAMES GOODSSELLTreble | WALTER H. PERRY ... 4 |
| *WILLIAM H. HOAD ... 2 | ALBERT E. EDWARDS ... 5 |
| *TRAYTON BOOTH ... 3 | *EDWARD MILLS ... Tenor |

Conducted by ALBERT E. EDWARDS.

* First peal. First peal on the bells, which were augmented to six in 1904. All the ringers belong to the Salehurst band of ringers.

HANDBELL PEALS.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Thursday, April 27, 1916, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 15 in C.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| J. BRUCE WILLIAMSON ... 1—2 | REV. E. BANKES JAMES... 5—6 |
| REV. A. H. F. BOUGHEY... 3—4 | REV. H. LAW JAMES ... 7—8 |

Composed by W. HUDSON.

Conducted by the REV. H. LAW JAMES.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, May 1, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

At 41, GLAMORGAN STREET, S.W.,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 502 CHANGES;

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| ALFRED B. PECK ... 1—2 | HENRY R. NEWTON ... 5—6 |
| CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... 3—4 | HARRY R. PASMORE ... 7—8 |
| HERBERT LANGDON ... 9—10 | |

Composed by F. DENCH, and

Conducted by H. R. PASMORE.

Umpire: JAMES WILLSHIRE.

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL.

Sunday ringing has been resumed at Chelmsford Cathedral at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. The monthly practice will be held on the last Saturday in the month from 6 to 7.30 p.m. Visitors welcome.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

ENCOURAGING LEARNERS.

A special meeting of the Northampton District was held at Wootton, on Saturday last, when 24 sat down to tea.—Mr. J. Slarke, vice-president, in explaining the reason these meetings were being held, said that as so many of our ringers had left the belfry for the battlefield, many of them, alas, never to return, it was the duty of those left at home to see that our bells were kept ready for the time when they would be wanted to proclaim the end of this awful war. They must encourage the lads who are too young for military service, to take up ringing, and arrange these special meetings at the various towers which did not at present belong to the Association. He hoped this would be the means of some—perhaps all—of the ringers joining the Association. These meetings would be chiefly devoted to learners. By learners, he did not mean that only those who were just starting ringing would be allowed to ring. All who were anxious to get a step higher than was possible in their own tower would, as far as possible, receive a helping hand. He was very pleased to see during the afternoon, those who had rung peals of Surprise doing their best to get a learner to hunt the treble to Grandsire Doubles. He thought that was just what the committee wished when they decided to have these special meetings.

The Rector, Canon Dodson, said how very pleased he was to welcome them to Wootton. Although not a ringer himself he was very keen on hearing the bells rung, and he thought it a splendid idea to have such gatherings. If they could get the lads interested in ringing what a splendid asset it would be, as so many were apt to drift away from the church when their Sunday School days were past.

The Rev. J. P. Friend, Collingtree, said he hoped to invite them to Collingtree when the war was over, as he now had a beautiful peal of five, but the donor of the new tenor bell had given it on condition that it was not to be rung till peace was proclaimed. He thought it most tragic that the bells were consecrated by the Bishop one day, and the next day the tenor was tolled for the death of the donor.

The District Secretary referred to the loss which had befallen the Exercise by the death of Sir Arthur Heywood.—Mr. F. Hopper proposed that the meeting express its sympathy with his widow and family in their sad bereavement.—This was seconded by Mr. W. Sharp, and carried in silence.

One honorary and three ringing members were elected, and Dallington was chosen for the next meeting, on May 20th.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector for the use of the bells, and conducting the service, to which he suitably replied.—A cordial vote to the host and hostess for the splendid tea they had provided brought the proceedings to a close.

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL DISTRICT MEETING AT LEWES.

Centrally situated at the junction point of six railway branches, Lewes, with its melodious ring of ten bells at the Church of St. John the Baptist, Southover, and its ever hearty welcome to ringers, is always a popular meeting place for members of the Sussex Association, and it was not surprising to find an attendance of between 50 and 60 at the Central Division gathering held there on Easter Monday. Ringing commenced shortly after two o'clock with a touch of Superlative, followed by Stedman and Grandsire Caters and Cambridge Royal, while touches in other methods provided opportunity for all to have a pull.

A short service was held in the church, the Rector (the Rev. T. H. Windle, M.A.) giving an excellent address. Subsequently the ringers assembled at the Church Hall, where, at the kind invitation of the Rector, they partook of tea. At the business meeting, which followed, the Rector, who presided, supported by the Rev. A. S. Dendy, warmly welcomed the Association. Five new members were elected. The Rector's hospitality in entertaining the ringers was, needless to say, greatly appreciated, and a vote of thanks was passed to him for welcoming the Association to Southover, for his capital address, and for providing the members with such an excellent tea. This was carried with applause, and concluded the business.

The tower was again visited, and the bells were kept going in various methods until 7.30, when ringing ceased on account of restrictions.

A feature of the gathering was the number of members present from outside the border, amongst whom were such well-known ringers as Messrs. A. B. Peck, G. R. Pye and C. T. Coles. The evening concluded with handbells and harmony. The following towers in the county were represented: Aldington; St. Peter's and St. Nicholas', Brighton; Burgess Hill, Bolney, Ditchling, Hurspierpoint, Heene, Lindfield, Rotherfield, Seaford, Shoreham, Steyning and Southover.

DEATH OF A YORKSHIRE RINGER.

The death occurred on Sunday, April 16th, at the Rotherham Hospital, of Mr. Thomas Whitworth, who for a long time had been a patient of the institution, suffering from cancer. The deceased was much respected around Sheffield and district. He was a life member of the Yorkshire Association, also a member of the Sheffield and District Society. He had rung 46 peals in different methods. The funeral took place at Treeton on Good Friday.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT ST. ALBANS.

The gathering of ringers at St. Albans on Easter Monday demonstrated an unwavering interest on the part of members of Hertford County Association who assembled in the Cathedral City of the Diocese as usual for their annual festival.

The members, during the day, visited the towers of St. Albans Churches and rang touches in various methods. At five o'clock there was choral evensong with the choir of the Cathedral, the Dean, Canon Papillon, and the Rev. J. H. Newton officiating. The address was delivered by the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake, whose text was taken from I. Peter, iii., 8. He applied the message of the text to the work of ringers. Their work, he said, was completed in the worship of God. The bells were committed to them in order that they might summon the whole parish to the worship of God. Religion must always be the main object of their life. Both in ringing and in the Christian life they must have continual perseverance. If they were to make progress as ringers they must all be of one mind. Just as in the belfry they must listen to the voice of the conductor in order to know what they were to do, so in the Christian life they must listen to the voice of those whom God had set in authority in the Church. They must also have compassion one with another. In closing, the preacher spoke of some of the common mistakes to be found in the belfries. Compassion for the beginner was not as common as it might be; they did not always find a band of ringers content to work together, and selfishness would spoil the work of any belfry. Finally he alluded to the unpunctuality that marked many a belfry, and said the clergy noticed more than other people how often people were late for church when the bells started five or ten minutes late. People very often only went to get ready for service when they heard the bells begin to ring. They must remember always to do their best on Sundays. They were sometimes tempted to try more difficult methods which they did not know, when the old method would produce far better striking, and would be much more appropriate, for that very reason, for calling people to the service of God. The jangling of the bells never sounded well, but it sounded far worse when ringing for service. Let them be courteous to God by giving only the best to His service, let them be courteous to those they called to church by beginning to ring the bells punctually in order that they might not be given an excuse for being late for the service. They could only give their best service by being united, by having compassion, by loving as brethren, by being pitiful, by being courteous.

THE BUSINESS MEETING.

Following the service, the members adjourned to the Abbey Institute for high tea, served by Messrs. Slaters, of St. Albans. Mr. E. P. Debenham, the retiring president, occupied the chair, and was supported by the Dean of St. Albans (the Very Rev. G. W. Blenkin), Canon Papillon, the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake, Vicar of Thundridge (President-elect), Mrs. Tyrwhitt Drake, Mr. I. Mark, Mr. R. H. Arundel, and Mr. G. W. Cartmel (hon. secretary).

The President said as these were war times they ought to feel glad that the popularity of the meeting at St. Albans was apparently unimpaired. During the year the amount of ringing had been greatly restricted, partly on account of the Lighting Order, and partly on account of a surmise that the sound of bells might be heard by enemy aircraft. During the winter the services had been summoned more often than not by one bell. The Dean Lawrance Memorial had been floated during the twelve months. The proposal made at the last annual meeting to increase the peal at St. Albans Cathedral from eight to twelve was not accorded a reception that encouraged them to persevere with that form of memorial. The County Association had sent out a request to the various bands in the company to contribute towards the memorial to one who had the greatest care for and interest in the Association, although not himself a ringer, through a period of thirty years. He would be glad if the towers who had not sent in, would make a contribution to the fund. The President proceeded to refer to the loss the Exercise had sustained in the death of two celebrated ringers, Mr. Henry Dains, of the Cumberland Society, and Sir Percival Heywood, both of whom had done good suit and service for ringing, and their loss would be deplored by many who had met them and known them well.

NEW MEMBERS.

The provisional election of Messrs. Cooper and Golding as members was confirmed, and the following ringing members were also proposed: The Rev. E. B. James, Lee-on-Solent; Mr. Chas. Dean, Croydon; Mr. J. B. Williamson, Trinity College, Cambridge; Mr. W. A. Alps, Idol Lane, City; and Mr. Chas. Dean, Croydon, life members; Mr. W. G. M. Long, St. Albans, St. Michael's company; Messrs. O. Luxon and Rowland Newson, Harpenden; Messrs. S. Proctor, Albert Darnell and Herbert Warner, Cheshunt; Mr. R. W. Green, Islington, St. Margaret's, Westminster; and Messrs. L. Barnes, Higher Tramore, and H. Samuel, Birkenhead (unattached).

The Treasurer presented the annual financial statement, which showed that the year started with a balance in hand of £2 1s. 6d. The receipts had amounted to £19 8s. 6d., and the balance in hand at the close of the year was £5 6s. 3d. The reserve fund amounted to £21 19s. 11d.

The statement was received and adopted.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

In his annual report the Hon. Secretary said: "My first thought, in presenting to you the 31st Annual Report, must be an acknowledgment of God's goodness towards us since we last met, in keeping us in safety during unprecedented perilous times, and enabling us to meet together to-day in brotherly, social intercourse. It is true that we cannot chronicle any ringing achievements, beyond the ringing of a peal of Grandsire Triples at Berkhamstead, owing to the present prevailing circumstances; but I look upon an annual meeting as something more than a meeting for ringing only; it is a gathering of Church workers, who meet in the Cathedral of the Diocese and offer unitedly their praises and thanksgivings to God not only for the daily mercies He so bountifully bestows, but for the priceless gift which is the essence of the Easter Message. We are engaged in a work often unseen, although loudly proclaimed, often laborious and exacting, yet pleasurable, because undertaken in the right spirit. A Ringers' Association is a brotherhood, possessing no mystic signs or pass words, yet strongly welded together in one indissoluble whole, which finds expression in the spontaneous and hearty welcome extended to any ringer who enters a change ringing belfry in any portion of the United Kingdom, and beyond the seas.

A FITTING MEMORIAL.

"Whilst we regret the absence of peal ringing, and the restriction placed upon ringing generally, we can certainly rejoice that our members (those whom Anno Domini could not claim) have done something far nobler. By joining His Majesty's Forces, and doing their bit to uphold the honour and glory of Old England, they are earning the gratitude of their King and the admiration of their fellow men. It has been truly said, 'All men must die; it is only given to the few to die for their country.' Some of our members belong to that few. We deplore the loss, and admire their courage and devotion. Second-Lieut. Rupert Gascoyne Cecil was the youngest son of the Rev. Canon Lord William Cecil, and joined the 4th Batt. Bedfordshire Regiment on the outbreak of the war. He was 19 years of age, and fell in action in France on July 12th, 1915. He commenced ringing at his father's church when a boy, and became intensely interested in the pastime, being a regular attendant at our annual meeting. Subject to the consent of the Vestry, it is intended to add two trebles to the peal of eight at Hatfield Church, in his memory—an appropriate tribute to one who was honoured among us. Corpl. F. T. Martin, of the Oxhey Society, was a son of Mr. T. Martin, of Harrow Weald. He joined the 7th Rifle Brigade, and was drafted to France. He has been missing since July 30th. A comrade reported that he was wounded and offered his services to him, but he said: 'No, go and support the boys in the trench.' He was an accomplished ringer, and gained the distinction of conducting on handbells the first peal he had rung, Holt's ten-part, ringing 1-2. Robert Ware, of the Knebworth Band, has also been killed in France. Amongst the non-combatant members, we mourn the loss of Mr. Ernest E. Huntley, of Bushey, and President of the Association in 1910; and Mr. Joseph Hollingsworth, of Hatfield.

THE EFFECTS OF THE WAR.

"As to the condition of ringing generally throughout the county, it is somewhat varied. In some towers it has practically ceased, whilst in others better conditions prevail, and with the help of outside members, the bells are rung for most services on Sundays. When the married groups are called up under the Lord Derby Scheme, I am afraid the conditions will be worse.

"As regards the work of the District Secretaries for East and North Herts, both gentlemen have done their best to keep things going, but the Western District has been without a secretary since Mr. Eden joined the colours. The thanks of the Association are accorded to the Rev. Canon Mills, who each year invites the Association to hold a ringing meeting at Bennington, and generously entertains all comers to tea, to our district secs., and to Mr. Bertram Prewett, who is attached to the London Rifle Brigade at Southwold, and has again audited the accounts. There have been no demands on the library this year. At the same time, I should like it known that gifts of ringing books are at all times acceptable. The photographic album still waits to be filled. Perhaps some of our khaki members will send their portraits, for I believe the photographic studio is irresistible to the khaki lads. During the year a movement to perpetuate the memory of the late Dean Lawrance, has been initiated, and knowing something of the kindness existing between the late Dean and our members, the president and your hon. secretary issued an appeal for funds, to be handed over to Diocesan Committee, who have the memorial in hand. Our aim was not the amount to be raised, but an endeavour to get the many to contribute, to show in a small way the sincerity of friendship that existed between Dean Lawrance and the members of the Herts Association. Although the times are difficult, over 100 of our members sent in contributions, amounting to £5 13s. 6d., which has been paid to the treasurer of the fund. Further amounts will be gladly received. The memorial will take the form of a stained glass window, to be placed in the Lady Chapel of the Cathedral, together with a medallion and inscription, probably inserted in another portion of the church.

SUPPORT "THE RINGING WORLD."

"I think the time is opportune that I should refer to "The Ringing World," now the only journal issued in the interests of bell-

ringers. Papers are passing through a crisis, not so much I believe from a shortage of paper, but from inflated prices, from which the printer has no remedy. I hold no brief for 'The Ringing World,' but I am certain that the Exercise would seriously suffer, especially the younger element, if from lack of support this paper ceased. It is a very interesting publication, and whether it contains the announcement of a six-score of Grandsire Doubles, the first perhaps rung by a band, or the ringing of a peal of Stedman Cinques in hand, or the query whether John Holt ever composed the Original, it has a charm and distinctiveness of its own. Personally I read no paper with greater interest, because the world is our parish, and we rejoice at the accomplishment of others, whether known to us or otherwise, which but for 'The Ringing World' we should be ignorant of. I appeal, therefore, to members to support 'The Ringing World.' Don't be content with the one copy in the belfry, which nobody has the time to read or really study, and which often is not seen. We owe to the Editor, who is a member of this Association, our loyal support during especially trying times. I have now come to the last few courses of my report. I trust your decision will be that the 'calling' has been correct, although the 'striking' may have been at fault, and the music somewhat remiss. If I have made any bad blows during the year, I claim your indulgence—it is war time—a time of blows. I have tried to do my best for the Association for another year, and I am assured that you appreciate my efforts. With that assurance I feel amply repaid for anything I have been enabled to do in the past. I would ask you all, if you realise as I believe you do, the bond of brotherhood among ringers, that you will cultivate that quiet intercession to the Throne of Grace for those ringers who at their country's call are facing dangers not only on the battlefield, but in the thousand other ways at home, in their billets, and in the canteen. Let our members feel they are supported by ringers' prayers. Remember also that the primary duty of the ringer is to ring for the Divine Services of the Church. The meeting one short is disheartening. So turn up regular, even at personal inconvenience. Think of others first. Be punctual. Punctuality often permits of a decent touch, and gives all the opportunity of a share in pulling up the bells."

THE DEAN'S SPEECH.

The Dean of St. Albans proposed the adoption of the report. He referred to the project for the memorial to the late Dean Lawrence, and described the proposal to erect a stained glass window in retro choir, and said it had been practically decided to place also in the north transept a medallion with a bust of the late Dean, so that his well-known and kindly features might be perpetuated and handed down to future generations. In such a position the medallion would be seen by the ringers as they passed through the belfry door to the tower, although ringers flattered themselves that they were men who were accustomed to changes; they knew that through all the tangle of these changes, as it seemed to the outside world, there was a plan of purpose being worked out. Never had there been more startling changes than had taken place in the world during the past two years. So much so that the stories that their "Grandsires" had told them seemed almost like a "plain course," as compared with the perplexing "surprise" which now had been causing such terrible disasters in Europe, deluging God's fair earth with blood. Under such circumstances, nothing had been able to go on as usual, not even ringing, and the changes which were taking place were such as demanded the watchful care and co-operation of every man who deserved the name of a man that he should do his part to "ring out the false" and "ring in the true"; ring out the false tyranny of militarism which had turned Europe into an armed camp for years, and ring in true brotherhood and peace among the nations which was part of God's plan. Ringing had been carried on with great difficulties. War work at home had claimed all their work and energies, and there were not a few who had "gone into the hunt" and had been ready to lay down their lives for us. In passing, the Dean made a humorous allusion to the marriage of Mr. L. A. Goodenough, a member of the St. Albans Cathedral Society, and referred to the statement recently made that papers had been sent to the clergy in Germany asking if they would be prepared to sell their bells in order that they might be melted down to make guns with! This might be a good sign for us; but we did not want to depend upon that, but rather to show what kind of mettle our men were made of. He trusted that before another annual meeting of the Association the bells in every tower of Hertfordshire would be permitted to join in ringing a joyous peal to usher in victory (applause).

Canon Papillon seconded the adoption of the report, which was agreed to.

THE NEW PRESIDENT.

Mr. E. P. Debenham, as outgoing president, proposed the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake as his successor. His name, he said, was well-known in connection with ringing; he believed that in his college days at Cambridge there were some distinctions gained, as recorded in the ringing newspapers, and from time to time members of the Association had had the pleasure of welcoming him into the towers of St. Albans.

Canon Papillon recommended the election of the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake as President, stating that, ringing being a church work, he felt

that a clergyman should be at the head of the ringers. He did not, however, depreciate the work of the laity or their fitness for such a position, and referred especially to the work done for many years by the retiring president in connection with ringing as church work. Unfortunately at the new president's church there were only four bells, two of which were cracked, and the fifth was in the Vicar's pigsty (laughter).

Replying, the new President said it was true that at his parish church he had little opportunity of change ringing, as had been said. He hoped, however, to get hold of some money soon so that the bells might go up to London and go back to their home new and shining, but six in number, with a proper steel frame work and bell ropes. Then he would be happy to welcome members of the Association there. In conclusion, the President said he valued most highly the work of the ringers.

OFFICERS ELECTED.

The election of officers followed. Mr. E. P. Debenham was re-elected hon. treasurer; Mr. G. W. Cartmel, hon. secretary; Mr. B. Prewett, hon. auditor; and Messrs. F. R. Bacon, W. H. Lawrence and H. Eden, and Frank Smith, hon. district secretaries for the northern, eastern and western divisions respectively.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake for his address, and to the Dean of St. Albans and the Vicars of St. Peter's, St. Michael's and St. Stephen's for the use of the bells of their towers.

After the meeting a touch of Stedman Caters was rung on handbells.

THE LATE SIR A. P. HEYWOOD.

MUFFLED RINGING.

There are many evidences throughout the ringing Exercise of the regret which has been occasioned by the death of Sir Arthur Heywood, and of the great respect in which he was held. In many places there has been muffled ringing, and, in addition to the peals recorded last week, a peal of Stedman Cinques was also rung at St. Martin's, Birmingham, and another at West Bromwich.

Sir Arthur was for many years a prominent and esteemed member of the College Youths, and last Saturday members met at Southwark Cathedral and rang the whole pull and stand funeral peal to his memory: E. Horrex 1, E. Gibbs 2, H. Springall 3, C. F. Winney (conductor) 4, H. R. Newton 5, H. Langdon 6, A. B. Peck 7, A. A. Hughes 8, S. E. Joyce 9, W. D. Smith 10, W. T. Cockerill 11, A. S. Pettett 12. This was followed by three courses of Stedman Cinques, in which W. A. Garrard rang the 3rd, the others standing as above.

At Cotgrave, Notts, on Tuesday of last week, the bells were rung muffled to the memory of the deceased baronet by members of the Midland Counties Association, of which he was the President. It was intended to start for a peal, but meeting short, 720 Bob Minor was substituted. This was rung in 29 minutes by: S. N. Simpson 1, Pte. A. P. Wakley (conductor) 2, W. Hickling 3, W. E. White 4, T. Squires 5, Walter White 6.

Among those present at the funeral of Sir Arthur Heywood, and whose names were omitted from our report last week, were the Rev. C. D. P. Davies and Mr. John Carter.

A resolution of condolence and sympathy has been passed by the Central Northants Association.

Interesting Reminiscences of Sir Arthur Heywood, by Mr. F. E. Dawe, are unavoidably held over.

KING'S CLIFFE BELLS.

AN APPEAL FOR HELP.

We make an earnest appeal to all ringers to assist the Rector and ringers of the little village of King's Cliffe, Peterborough, to replace their tenor bell which, as recorded a fortnight ago, cracked while being rung. This bell is 12½ cwt., in F. Only eighteen months ago the parish raised nearly £200 to have the five bells rehung and quarter-turned, and a band of change ringers was started, among them being the Rector's daughter (Miss C. M. Orlebar). This enthusiastic little company, in the face of many difficulties, have just managed to ring their first 120 Grandsire Doubles, and were getting on well, when the tenor cracked. Unless outside help is forthcoming, ringing must be interfered with for an indefinite time, but with the aid of ringers throughout the country, the necessary amount of £38 for recasting ought quickly to be raised. Contributions should be sent to the Rector, the Rev. H. A. Orlebar, King's Cliffe, near Peterborough, and will be acknowledged through these columns.

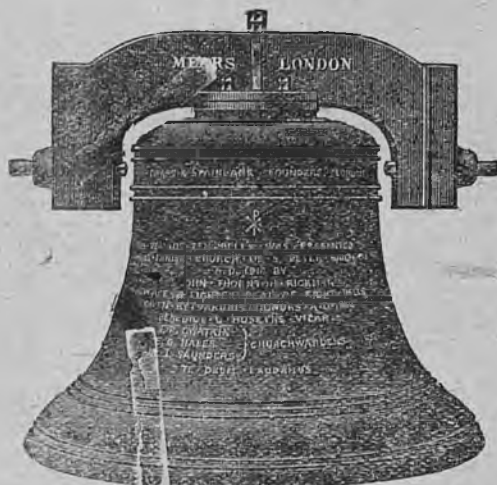
King's Cliffe bells have a very ancient history, and to this day a custom prevails which dates from the reign of King John, who had a palace not far from the church. This is the ringing of the 3rd bell at 7 a.m. in summer (8 a.m. in winter), and at 11 a.m., 1 and 4 p.m. all the year round, and the curfew from April till October. The curfew, of course, is not rung during the war.

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DUFFIELD CHURCH. ITS BELLS AND RINGING HISTORY.

By J. R. JERRAM.

The steeple of St. Alkmund's Church, Duffield, prior to the year 1720, contained four bells. In the year mentioned two trebles were added to make a peal of six, and at other times subsequently the four original bells were recast as the following inscriptions show:—

Treble.

JOHN HERVEY FRANCIS RADFORD C; W: MDCCXX

Second.

T. CALTON M: A: UIC: MDCCXX ["uic" stands for "vicar"]

richest, if not the richest, bell in the county in point of ornamentation, that has yet come under my notice."

Tenor.

THOMAS MEARS OF LONDON FECIT 1799

In 1884 these bells were replaced by a peal of eight, with a tenor of 17 cwt., all cast by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of the Loughborough foundry; and in 1887 two trebles were added by the same firm to make a peal of ten. These were given by the late Sir A. P. Heywood in commemoration of the Jubilee of the late Queen Victoria. The inscriptions are as follows:—

Treble.

A. P. HEYWOOD NOS DUAS DEDIT. 1887 [Taylor's medallion]

Second.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN. 1887 [Taylor's medallion]

THE FIRST PEAL AT DUFFIELD.

BOB TRIPLES, JULY 26th, 1884.



O. BEMBRIDGE, 5. G. HINGLEY, 3. W. HICKLING, 4. R. JOHNSON, 6.
A. P. HEYWOOD, 7. J. JOHNSON, 8.
E. MORETON, 2. (Conductor).

DUFFIELD CHURCH. ST. ALKMUND'S TEN BELLS.



Where the late Sir Arthur Heywood was a member of the "official band," and created a trust fund for the payment of the ringers.

Third.

IO. BRADSHAW; W. TOPLIS; C. WARDENS
1742

Fourth.

LESTER & PACK OF LONDON FECIT. 1763

Fifth.

GOD SAVE HIS CHVRCH [on the waist below].
W: ROBINSON C: WARDEN G: HEDDERLY. Founder NO . . . 1786

The stops between the words consist of a highly ornamental lombardic H alternately with a lombardic T inverted, both surrounded by four impressions of the King's head stamp used by the early Nottingham and other mediæval founders. These stamps evidently descended to the Hedderlys from the earlier members of the Oldfield family. "NO" before the date evidently stands for "Nottingham."

Mr. Llewellynn Jewitt, F.S.A., in his notes on Derbyshire bells published some forty years ago, remarks as follows: "This is one of the

Third to Ninth, inclusive.

J. TAYLOR & CO FOUNDERS, LOUGHBOROUGH, 1884.

Tenor.

GOD SAVE THIS CHURCH. J. TAYLOR & CO.,
FOUNDERS, LOUGHBOROUGH. 1884.

EARLY PEALS.

As soon as the bells were opened in the year 1884, the ringers set to with a will to master change ringing, and in the following July rang their first complete peal, one of Bob Triples. In January, 1885, as we learn from an interesting booklet published in 1893, a peal of Grand-sire Triples was achieved, and in March of the same year 6000 Bob Major. Treble Bob followed in December, Stedman Triples in May, 1886, and Double Oxford Bob Major in June of that year. In February of the following year Double Norwich was added to the list of methods. On June 19th the two new trebles were dedicated, and before the month was out 5001 Stedman Caters had been rung. In the same year peals of Duffield Major, Grand-sire Caters, and Bob

Royal were scored, and in 1888 Treble Bob Royal and Duffield Royal were achieved. Superlative Surprise Major was rung in 1889, Cambridge in 1890, and in 1891 the band arrived at the top of the campanological ladder by ringing on July 31st, their first peal of London Surprise Major, and at that time they had the distinction of ringing peals on their bells in more methods than any other company had accomplished. In this rapid progress, the late Sir Arthur Heywood was the leading spirit, and many of the peals, including the first, were conducted by him. To show the activity of the band it may be mentioned that they rang 100 peals in their own tower between July 26th, 1884, and January 20th, 1892, of which Sir Arthur Heywood conducted no fewer than 70. These included 10,000 Bob Major, on February 13th, 1886, and 7008 Double Oxford on April 23rd, 1887.

A church belfry endowment fund, consisting of £500 £5 per cent. Midland Railway Consolidated Perpetual Preference Stock, was established in 1891 by the late Sir Arthur Heywood, to give the ringers' society an improved position in the parish by making the moderate income which they draw as ringers an assured salary, independent of the vote of any future vestry; as also to ensure at all times a sufficient sum of money in hand to keep the bells and ringing chamber in perfect order, without any draw upon the Church Expenses Fund. His hope in thus endowing the belfry was that the proper ringing of the bells for the Sunday services would be thereby guaranteed, while the proviso, contained in the trust deed, that only half the salary is to be paid if half pull ringing deteriorated into round or call change ringing is intended to encourage future generations of ringers to persevere in the scientific mode of handling the bells. The fund provides for the payment of £2 per annum to each of not more than eight official ringers, £1 to each of not more than two deputy ringers; and £1 to the steeplekeeper for his care of the belfry, and 6d. for each service at which one bell only is rung. The fund also provides the cost of booking the peals and of a new book when necessary. Any balance may be devoted to payment for ropes, muffles and oil for bells, lighting and warming the ringing chamber, treatises on change ringing, repairing bells, bell frames, sound shutters, belfry stairs and doors, painting and refurnishing the ringing chamber, etc.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A well-attended meeting of the Portsmouth District was held at Soberton on Easter Monday. During the afternoon the bells were kept going to Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major and Double Norwich, while Kent Treble Bob was in progress when the tenor rope broke. Ringers attended from Portsea, Portsmouth, Wickham, Bishop's Waltham, Swanmore and Curdridge, while the visitors included Mr. F. E. Dawe, Woking; Mr. and Mrs. Williams, North Stoneham; Lieut. Goodship, Reading; Mr. J. J. Jones, Guildford; and Mr. J. H. Shepherd, Swindon.

Tea was provided at the White Lion Hotel, and ringers and their friends, 37 in number, taxed the resources of the host to provide room.

At the business meeting, in the absence of the Master (the Rev. C. E. Matthews), who is at the front, Mr. J. H. Shepherd was unanimously voted to the chair, and was supported by the district secretary (Mr. J. Harding) and the two representatives.—One honorary member (the Vicar of Shedfield) was elected, and it was decided to arrange a combined practice at Fareham on Saturday, May 27th.—Votes of thanks to the chairman and to the Vicar for the use of the bells closed the business.—The bells were then kept going till dark.

EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the East Derbyshire Association was held at South Wingfield on Easter Monday, when 40 members attended, representing eleven towers. The six bells were well used from 2 p.m. the methods rung being Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and London Surprise Minor.

A ringers' service was held in church at 4.30 p.m., and a splendid address was given by the Rev. A. Wright, Vicar of Pentrich. A tea and the meeting followed in the Church Room.—The Vicar (the Rev. J. F. Morley) presided over the business proceedings, and gave the Association a very hearty welcome to South Wingfield. He expressed the hope that he would soon have the pleasure of meeting them all again.

The quarterly meetings were fixed for Ault Hucknall in June, Bolsover in September, and Blackwell in December, and the annual meeting at North Wingfield on Easter Monday, 1917.—One hon. member and 16 ringing members were elected.

The Rev. J. F. Morley was elected president for the ensuing year, and the hon. secretary and treasurer were re-elected.—A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. A. Wright for his address, and to the Rev. J. F. Morley for use of the bells and room.

The tower was again visited, and ringing indulged in until 8 p.m., when the restrictions caused them to cease, and a very enjoyable afternoon was brought to a close.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

Members of this society should note that the annual meeting is to be held to-morrow (Saturday), at Chesterfield. Details of the arrangements will be found in our notice columns.

FIRE AT FAMOUS BELFRY.

IPSWICH BELLS GIVE WARNING OF OUTBREAK.

An outbreak of fire in the belfry of St. Mary-le-Tower Church, Ipswich, early on Thursday of last week threatened the famous tower and bells with destruction, but thanks to the curious fact that the bells themselves gave the warning, and to the prompt action of the police and fire brigade, the fire was quickly extinguished and the damage limited.

Between three and four o'clock in the morning the neighbours were aroused by the ringing of one of the bells. Mr. F. C. Corder, the church surveyor, who lives near by, on looking out of his window, saw smoke belching from the louvres of the bell chamber, and immediately communicated with the police and fire brigade. The latter were quickly on the spot with the first aid and ladder truck, followed by the hose-cart and escape. Connecting up with a hydrant, the brigade quickly extinguished the flames.

Mr. William Motts, the tower keeper, informs us that on Bank Holiday the Ipswich ringers had had a pleasant day's ringing with their Coggeshall friends and others, and, at the close, they as usual left the larger bells up. It is to this happy circumstance that the early discovery of the outbreak was made. It appears that on Wednesday night the verger had gone to the top of the tower, and the gas being off at the meter, he had struck a match. When, as he thought, this went out he dropped the remains, and it fell into the sawdust which covers the floor under the bells to deaden the sound in the ringing room. The sawdust smouldered for some time, and when it burst into flame it burnt the pulley block and part of the 7th bell wheel, the stay and slider, pulley block and 8th bell wheel, and also the floor under these two bells and part of the frame. When the stay and slider gave way the 8th, of course, ran itself down, and this was the fortunate warning that was given. Several of the bells got very hot, including the one cast in 1607 by Miles Gray, but the tone of the bells has not been affected, neither have the headstocks been damaged. Mr. Fred Day, of Eye, has been called in to estimate for the repairs, and it will be about a month before the twelve bells can be rung again. It was only about a month ago that the St. Mary-le-Tower Society were able to resume ringing for the Sunday evening services.

At the Easter Vestry meeting, which was held the same morning, Mr. F. S. Corder referred to the fire, and said that but for the fact of the bells being in the position they were, it was his opinion that the whole belfry at least would have been destroyed. He thought their appreciation was due both to the police and the firemen for their promptness and efficiency. He could not estimate the damage himself, but was of opinion that it was confined to the woodwork connected with the bells. He advocated the firm who had been concerned in their erection being communicated with at once.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Central District of the Surrey Association was held at Carshalton on Monday in Easter week. Thirty-four members foregathered to keep this fixture from the following 15 towers: St. Mary's, Beddington; All Saint's, Benhilton; St. Peter's and St. John the Baptist's, Croydon; All Saints', Carshalton; St. Dunstan's, Cheam; Christ Church, Epsom; St. Peter's, Hersham; St. Nicholas', Leatherhead; St. Peter's, Mitcham; Christ Church, Mitcham; St. Leonard's, Streatham; Emmanuel, Streatham; St. Mary's, Reigate; and St. Mary's, Wimbledon. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Treble Bob Major, Double Norwich, and London Surprise Major were rung during the afternoon until 5.30, when the back six were lowered in peal—a musical practice which it is to be much regretted is not at all usual in the district. At the present time when method ringing is at a standstill in many towers it surely might be possible to advance this most beautiful custom.

Evening prayer followed, with a short address of welcome by the Rector, who was voted to the chair at the business meeting super-vening upon tea (and tobacco). No peals were reported as having been rung in the district since the last meeting. One new member was elected, and it was reported that in one tower ringing of any sort had ceased, due in part to enlistment, removals, and to an order to "cease ringing until the war is over."

The meeting heard with sincere regret of the illness of the hon. secretary of the Western District, Mr. Arthur F. Shepherd, of Hersham, and a letter was ordered to be addressed to him expressing sympathy and hope of restoration to full health; and another letter to Lieut. Cyril Johnston, the hon. secretary of the Association, congratulating him upon convalescence after a serious operation.

The Master (Mr. J. D. Drewett) also feelingly referred to the sickness of a local member, Mr. Wm. Miles, whom he had visited that afternoon and conveyed to him the members' good wishes.

A vote of thanks to the Rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and to the Rector for the service and his presence at, and conduct of, the meeting was passed; and to Mr. Heather for making local arrangements, terminated the business.

Owing to regulations under the Defence of the Realm Act tower ringing had to be abandoned after 7.30 p.m., and, therefore, a few touches on the handbells brought the meeting to a conclusion at about 7.45 p.m.

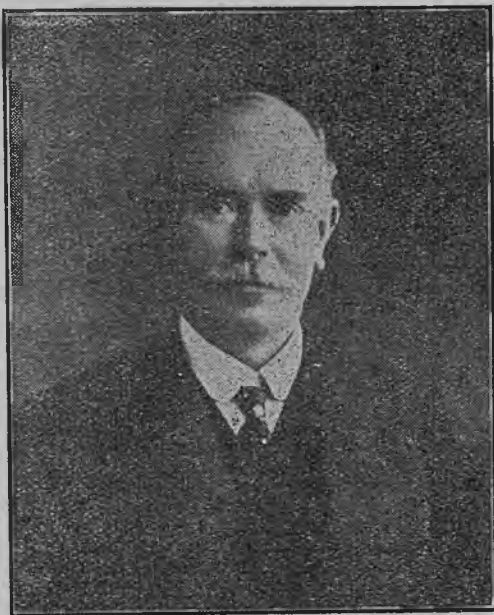
DEATH OF MR. G. W. BALDWIN. OLDEST MEMBER OF ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

The death took place on April 19th, at his residence, "Doriscroft," Somerset Road, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham, of Mr. George Wm. Baldwin, one of the best known business men in Birmingham.

Mr. Baldwin, who was sixty-seven years of age, entered the service of Lloyd's Bank as a boy, and rose to the position of chief inspector of branches. He had been associated with Handsworth Parish Church practically all his life, first as a chorister, afterwards as a ringer, and from 1908 to 1913 as Rector's warden.

He attended the Church School with Henry Bastable, and with him was initiated into the mysteries of change ringing. They both joined the St. Martin's Guild in 1868, and Mr. Baldwin thus had an unbroken membership of forty-eight years.

Mr. Baldwin rang many peals in his younger days in the four standard methods, and, as with so many other Birmingham men, his favourite ringing was Stedman Cinques. He was a very safe ringer, and until his hearing began to fail, an excellent striker. Just before retiring from business some three years ago, Mr. Baldwin had a heart attack, but he had so far recovered as to be able to attend the annual



THE LATE MR. G. W. BALDWIN.

meeting of the Bank in February, and the directors' dinner which followed it.

He leaves a widow and daughter, the wife of the Rev. W. V. Chilwell, Vicar of King's Bromley.

Owing to heart affection, deceased had not done any ringing for the last few years, but he was as keenly interested in the doings of the Exercise as ever, and was a regular reader of "The Ringing World."

Mr. Baldwin had been a Vice-President of St. Martin's Guild for many years, and his genial character and never-failing courtesy made him very popular with all with whom he came in contact.

It is related of him that on one occasion when visiting a county town to confer with the local manager on bank matters, he made an appointment in the evening at his hotel, but when the manager turned up at the appointed time, Mr. Baldwin was not there. The church bells near by were ringing, the tower door was open, and knowing his man, the manager repaired to the belfry, where he found his chief in shirt sleeves, with the other men ringing away, and on his face that rapt look of content and enjoyment which is only to be found when ringing is going just to one's liking. The call of the bells had been too strong for Mr. Baldwin, and the business had perforce to wait awhile.

The funeral took place at Handsworth Old Church on Tuesday of last week.

A. P. S.

CORPL. A. R. MACDONALD'S BEREAVEMENT.

His many friends will regret to learn that Corpl. Alan R. Macdonald, has sustained a severe bereavement by the death of his mother, who passed away suddenly from heart failure. Corpl. Macdonald has been in hospital for many months, a victim of enteric fever, contracted at Gallipoli, and it was a sad coincidence that his mother died the night before he left the hospital on six weeks leave before rejoining his corps.

FATAL ACCIDENT TO WELL-KNOWN RINGER. A SAD GOINCIDENCE.

Ringers in many parts of the country, and especially in London, will be grieved to hear of the death of Mr. George Smith through a fatal accident at his work on April 15th. He was an engine driver on the London and North Western Railway, and in the early morning had taken an engine from the Bescot sheds to the turntable. Here he got off the engine to go to a telephone box, when his foot caught in the rails and the engine passed over him before he was seen in the dark. He was taken to the Walsall Hospital, where he passed away the same evening, through exhaustion and shock.

At the inquest the Assistant Superintendent of the Loco Department at Crewe said that Mr. Smith had been in the employ of the Railway Company for 27 years, and was a trusted and valued servant. Mr. Smith began his ringing career at the small village of Hartingpalebury, in Herts, when he was quite a lad, under the tuition of Mr. J. Crawley, and there he took part in the first 720 of Grandsire Doubles on the bells, being at that time about 16 years of age. After that he had to be content with call change ringing till he had served his apprenticeship as a shoemaker, when he went to London, and making the acquaintance of Messrs. Dains, Newson and other prominent members of the Cumberland Youths he soon made rapid progress. Like Mr. Dains, he rang his first peal at St. Anne's, Highgate, one of Grandsire Triples, on June 13th, 1891, and it is a sad coincidence that the muffled peal rung at that church on April 15th for the late Mr. Dains was in all probability in progress at the time Mr. Smith passed away.

He had rung peals with the Waterloo Society, Middlesex and Kent Associations, and latterly at Walsall with the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford, but most of his peals were rung with the Cumberland Youths, with whom he took part in many notable performances, among which may be mentioned the 13,440 of Double Norwich at Romford on April 18th, 1894, in 8 hours 16 minutes, and, of course, was with the same band when the treble rope broke at Brentwood after 8½ hours' ringing on the Easter Monday previous (March 26th). He also rang many peals of Superlative, his first of which was one of 6048, while he also took part in the first peal of London rung by a London band. He had not kept a correct list of his peals, but had rung about 100 of Bob Minor and Major, Treble Bob Major, Royal and Maximus, Grandsire Triples and Caters, Stedman Triples, Caters and Cinques, Double Norwich Major, Superlative and London Surprise.

The funeral took place on Wednesday, April 19th, the first part of the service being held at St. Matthew's Parish Church, Walsall, where he had rung for the last seven years, and was conducted by the Vicar of Walsall, the Rev. Prebendary Paice. The interment took place at Ryecroft Cemetery, and among the floral tributes was one from the ringers of St. Matthew's.

A muffled peal of Stedman Caters was rung by ten members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford at St. Matthew's on Saturday, April 22nd, and was recorded in our last issue.

Mr. Smith was in his 50th year. He will be sadly missed by the St. Matthew's company, and great sympathy is extended to his widow and three young children.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

The 34th annual meeting of the Midland Counties Association, at Nottingham on Easter Monday, was held under the shadow of the great loss which had been sustained by the death of the President of the Association (Sir A. P. Heywood). Owing to there being none of the customary cheap railway fares the number present was not so great as usual. The Vice-President (Mr. J. W. Taylor) occupied the chair, supported by the hon. treasurer (the Rev. A. D. Hill, of East Bridgford) and about 30 members representing Beeston, Burton-on-Trent, Cotgrave, Derby, Duffield, Loughborough and Leicester, in addition to the local men.

The Vice-President made touching reference to the loss sustained by the death of Sir Arthur Heywood, and the members passed a vote of sympathy with the family of the deceased gentleman, by rising in their places. The secretary was asked to send a letter of condolence to Lady Heywood, and to record the same on the minutes.

The balance sheet and treasurer's report for 1915 was passed, on the proposition of Mr. C. Draper, seconded by Mr. E. D. Taylor, the auditors, who were thanked for their services, on the proposition of Mr. W. Wallace, seconded by Mr. B. Sugden.

It was decided, on the proposition of the Vice-President, seconded by Mr. W. Willson, that members on active service with the army or navy should not be asked to pay a subscription during the war.

The retiring officers were thanked for their services during the past year, on the proposition of the Rev. A. D. Hill (who also spoke feelingly of the late President), seconded by Mr. C. Draper, and on the further proposition of the Rev. A. D. Hill, seconded by Mr. W. C. Wakley, it was decided to adjourn the meeting for about three months for the purpose of receiving nominations for the presidency.

The retiring vice-president, hon. treasurer and hon. secretary (Mr. W. E. White) were unanimously re-elected, on the proposition of Mr. J. Lord, seconded by Mr. J. H. Benstead.—Eight new ringing members were admitted.

NOTICES.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on May 18th for handbell practice, and on the 9th and 23rd for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Swinton on Saturday, May 6th. Bells available from 3.0 p.m. till dusk, meeting to follow.—W. W. Wolstencroft, 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Quarterly meeting at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, May 6th, at 2.30. Tea at Nag's Head, 9d. per head.—H. J. Bradley, 25, Winchester Avenue, Brondesbury, N.W.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Sedgley on Saturday May 6th. Bells available at 3. Service in church, with an address by the Vicar (Rev. T. G. Swindell, D.D.) at 5.15. Tea (1s.) in the Schoolroom at 6. — H. Knight, Honorary Secretary, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The annual meeting of the Maidstone district will be held at All Saints', Maidstone (10 bells) on Saturday, May 6th. Bells available for ringing at 3 p.m.; short service at 5 p.m. Tea at the Restaurant, Bank Street, at 5.45. Business meeting after.—Stephen Hayzelden, District Secretary, Lower Street, East Farleigh.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting of the Kettering District will be held at Gretton on May 6th. Bells (5) open 3 o'clock.—R. F. Turner, District Sec., 160, St. Peter's Avenue, Kettering.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The annual meeting will be held at Chesterfield to-morrow (Saturday), May 6th. Bells (10) available from 3 to 7.30 p.m. Business meeting in the Vestry, chair to be taken at 5 o'clock by the Ven. Archdeacon Crosse. — Sam Thomas, Secretary, 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bridgewater on Saturday, May 6th, in the Parish Church at 4 p.m. Tea and Meeting at Taylor's Restaurant at 5 p.m. Bells available at 2 p.m.—E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Warminster on Tuesday, May 9th. Business meeting in the Vestry 11.45 a.m., service in the Minster, 12.30 p.m., preacher, the Vicar (the Rev. Canon Jacob). Towers open: Warminster (8), Corsley, Heytesbury, Longbridge Deverell (6). — F. L. Edwards, Hon. Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held on May 13th at Leesfield. Bells ready at 3 o'clock, meeting at 6.30.—T. K. Driver, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Rev. E. Basil Spurgin (Vicar), at St. John's, Sidcup (three minutes from 'bus terminus) on Saturday, May 13th. Tower open 3.30 p.m. Service and

address by the Vicar at 5.0 p.m. Tea (9d. per head) and business meeting in St. John's Hall, to follow the service. It is particularly requested that those who require tea send their names to me not later than Tuesday, May 9th.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The 18th annual general meeting will be held at St. Stephen's, West Ealing, on Saturday, May 13th. Service at 6 p.m., with an address by the Vicar (Rev. Dr. W. Halliday Thompson, LL.D.) Tea in the Parish Hall at 6.30 by the kind invitation of the Vicar and churchwardens. *This invitation is only to be extended to those who inform Mr. W. Lawrence, 24, Wimborne Gardens, West Ealing, by Wednesday, May 10th, of their intention to be present, and to prevent disappointment members should send in their acceptance of the invitation by post as soon as possible.* The following towers will be open for ringing:—St. Stephen's, West Ealing, from 4 to 6 p.m.; St. Mary's, Ealing, from 3 to 5.30 p.m. Nearest stations, Ealing Broadway (District) and West Ealing (G.W.) Middlesex Council car to Northfield Road (for St. Stephen's Church). Buses from the City to Ealing Broadway.—C. T. Coles, 49, Wood Street, Walthamstow, H. C. Chandler, Church Road, Heston, Hon. Secretaries.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Brighton on Saturday, May 13th. Meat tea at The Criterion, West Street, at 4 o'clock. Tickets 1s. 9d. (to members, 9d.) Service at St. Nicholas at 6. Preacher, Rev. H. H. Horden, Rector. Bells of St. Peter's open from 2—4, and again after service. Members (resident in the county) attending will be allowed half railway fares. These, as also others intending being present, should notify same to me not later than Tuesday, May 9th.—G. Watson (Gen. Sec.), Vale Road, St. Leonard's.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting of this branch will be held at Eccleston on Saturday, May 13th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. Meeting in the tower at 5.30.—A. E. Woodhouse, Honorary Secretary.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hursley on Saturday, May 13th. The tower (6 bell) will be open during the afternoon and evening. Tea in the Parish Room at 5.15.—Jas. W. Elkins, District Secretary.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM, Established 1755. — Quarterly meeting will be held at Sutton Coldfield on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available from 3.30. The Guild's form of service will be held in church at 5.30, the Rector giving the address, and every member is specially invited to be present. Tea will be provided free in the Church House for those who advise me, not later than the 17th inst., of their intention to be present. Business meeting afterwards.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Secretary, 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bagshot on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea 5.30.—G. Miles, Honorary Secretary, Owlsmoor, Camberley.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division. A practice meeting will be held at St. Margaret's, Barkings, on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available from 4 to 8 p.m. All will be welcome. — E. J. Butler, Shadwell Heath.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Painswick on Saturday, May 20th. Further particulars next week.—R. W. Hyner, Hon. Secretary, 46, Goddard Avenue, Swindon.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

DEATH OF MRS. COWLISHAW, EAST MARKHAM.

DONOR OF A TREBLE BELL.

The death of a very highly respected parishioner of East Markham, North Notts, in the person of Mrs. Cowlishaw, wife of Mr. Cowlishaw, Mill Cottage, occurred on April 6th, after a long illness, at the age of 82 years. The deceased was a native of Womersley, Yorkshire, and came to East Markham many years ago with her husband, whose father was one of the pioneers of the fruit growing industry. During the whole of the deceased's residence in the village, she had by her kindly disposition endeared herself to all, and she will be much missed. She leaves a husband and two daughters to mourn their loss. Her only son died as a prisoner of war in Germany last year, and his death was a great blow to her. Twenty-one years ago the deceased gave the treble bell to the church to augment the ring to six bells, and on the occasion of her funeral a muffled peal was rung as a sorrowing tribute to her memory by: H. E. Page (conductor) 1, J. Booth 2, C. Crawford 3, S. Brett 4, J. Lockhart 5, W. Freeman 6.

THE PASSING OF GREAT COMPOSERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In enclosing a peal (taken from my peal book) of the late Henry Dains, I should like to state that we were all astounded by the sad news of the death of Sir A. Percival Heywood at the Carshalton meeting yesterday, following as it does so quickly after the decease of the late Mr. Henry Dains. The Exercise owes a lot to men like these. Henry Dains was one of the very few who realised the musical properties of the "Middles" in Treble Bob, especially so with the 6th in fifth's place, his contention being (and rightly so) that, looked at in its proper light, you cannot have a wrong bell behind the 7th. But unfortunately many ringers and bob callers fail to realise this, which, although sounding slightly paradoxical, is Major and Minor combined. To realise this it is absolutely essential that one should understand music as well as the science of change ringing. Henry Dains was also one of those who recognised the value of "the beautiful in-and-fifths" in composition.

In Sir A. Percival Heywood, too, we shall miss a musical composer. His production of "Duffield" shows us this—a method that has been thrown on one side. Why? Not because of the absence of musical properties, but because of its simplicity. When we consider that the sixth can be used to double the extent in composition through the nature of the rows being different from other methods, the bells being capable of being thrown out of course without a single, who can say but that this is the production of a master mind?

I am very glad to see that Mr. Lindoff is publishing some articles on composition. Mr. Trollope has also done a lot in this way, but unfortunately the majority of ringers are quite content to follow on in the old ruts, like "dumb-driven cattle," and as long as they get their fancied "touches" or "peals" round they seem to think that the theoretical side of the question should be ignored altogether. I wonder where the present-day bob callers would be if it was not for such men as the late Sir Arthur Heywood, Messrs. Dains, Hattersley, Pitsoy, etc., not forgetting the ever-green Henry Johnson, and his 17-course peal of Treble Bob especially. Let some of us see to it!

A. J. P.

APRIL 24th.

The record forwarded with the above letter is that of the late Mr. Henry Dains' only peal of Grandsire Triples on handbells. It is as follows: "The London County Association (late the St. James's Society), on Wednesday, June 19th, 1907, in two hours and 40 minutes, at the residence of Mr. H. Dains, 47, Richmond Road, Barnsbury, N., a peal of Grandsire Triples (5040 changes), Reeve's Variation of Holt's Ten-part: George N. Price 1—2, †Auckland J. Perkins 3—4, *Challis F. Winney 5—6, †Henry Dains 7—8. Conducted by A. J. Perkins. Umpires: H. W. Stanley (College Youths), and J. Barry (Royal Cumberlands). * College Youths. † Royal Cumberlands Youths.

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| | | | | | | | |
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New Bells supplied, Ropes of the best make.
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THE BADGE OF THE CRAFT



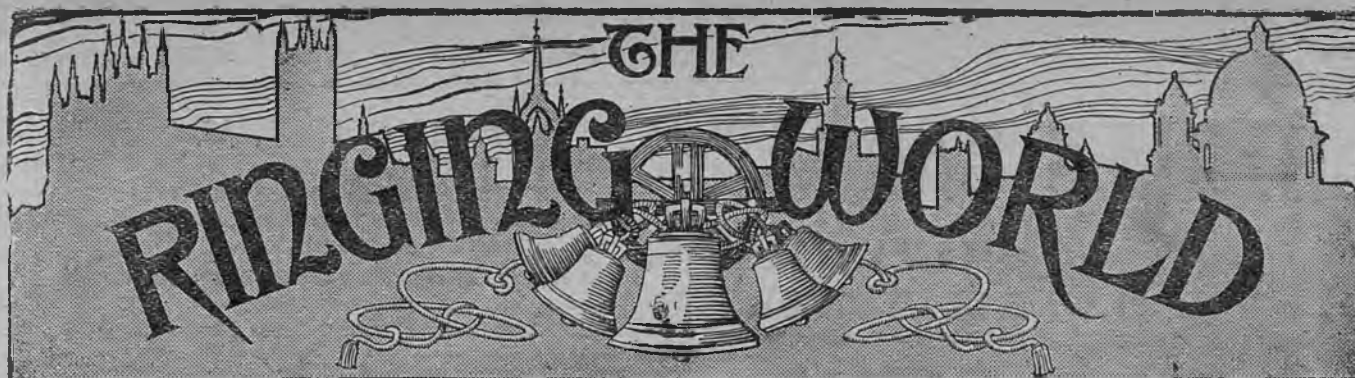
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FRIDAY, MAY 12th, 1916.

Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.

Price 1d.

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CROYDON, Surrey.
BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

THE FUTURE OF THE COUNCIL.

Signs are not wanting that the future of the Central Council will soon become a question of important interest to the Exercise. For a considerable time there has been a growing feeling in favour of a "mend or end" policy, and the death of the President will unquestionably precipitate the position. It is quite certain that very few people are entirely satisfied with the condition which the Council has now reached, and those who may think that, in this connection, all is for the best in this best of all possible worlds do not fully appreciate the feeling that exists among ringers generally. But, as we have always maintained, it is the ringers' associations, who elect the members of the Council, who can most effectively improve the utility of the central body and it should be the constant aim of every organisation, entitled to send representatives, to make the Council useful.

It is pleasing to read, therefore, that at the annual meeting of the Worcestershire Association, the subject was openly discussed and that the matter is to receive the attention of the members of the Association during the year, so that next time the Association meets there may be something practical before it to discuss. This seems undoubtedly the right step to take and further help might be derived if the district meetings were, in the meantime, to ventilate the subject. By this means it would obtain fuller discussion, and those who will be responsible for dealing with the question at the next annual meeting might thus receive some practical help. The example set by Worcestershire ought to be adopted by other associations, so that when next the Central Council meets there may be no lack of ideas upon which a strong and useful policy might be based.

In our view the question of the future of the Central Council is one of real importance to the Exercise and ought to be seriously considered. It is not so much what the Council has done or left undone in the past that matters, but the use which might be made of it in the future. The moment has arrived for constructive and not destructive policy and for that reason we regret to notice upon the agenda for the annual meeting of the Sussex Association to-morrow a motion that the Association should discontinue sending representatives to the Central Council meetings. A negative policy is not the one that is now required, but rather that individual associations should lend a hand in raising the Council to a higher plane of practical usefulness. The resolution may serve a purpose in opening discussion upon the subject, but, in our view, a much more valuable outcome would be an action such as has been taken by the Worcestershire Association.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

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Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract,—we may be able to assist you.

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TEN BELL PEAL.

ASTON, BIRMINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 6, 1916, in Three Hours and Forty-three Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| WILLIAM H. JONES Treble | JAMES HOPKIN 6 |
| JOHN CARTER 2 | GEORGE GARRISON 7 |
| WILLIAM J. MEERS 3 | WILLIAM G. ELLIS 8 |
| MORRIS J. MORRIS 4 | *ARTHUR J. CARTWRIGHT 9 |
| WALTER J. SEATON 5 | CHARLES ALLEN Tenor |

Composed and Conducted by JOHN CARTER.

* First peal of Caters. Rung half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Sir Arthur Percival Heywood, Bart., President of the above Association, Mr. George Baldwin, and Ex-Detective-Inspector William Painter. The composition has the 6th 24 times right both in the inverted tittums and handstroke home positions.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 29, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY TOWER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 6½ cwt.

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| JOHN OLDHAM Treble | JAMES HUTCHBY 5 |
| HORACE STUBBS 2 | WILLIAM WILLSON 6 |
| ERNEST LESLIE 3 | EDWARD READER 7 |
| JOHN SMITH 4 | WILLIAM THORLEY Tenor |

Conducted by EDWARD READER.

Rung with the bells half muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., for 30 years President of the Association.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers who have joined H.M. Forces:—

Pte. Percy Roberts, of All Saints' Church, King's Cliffe, Royal Garrison Artillery, now at Dover.
Spr. H. C. Edwards, of All Saints', Calverton, Bucks, Royal Engineers, now at Longmore Camp, Hants.
Pte. C. Roberts, of Whitworth Parish Church, Rochdale, A.S.C., Motor Transport, now at Isleworth.
Pte. Richard Morris, of St. George's, Clun, 2/1st Batt. Monmouthshire Regiment, now at Bedford.
Spr. H. C. Walters, of the Parish Church, Pontefract, 5th Provisional Co., R.E., now at Chatham.

BOLNEY RINGERS WELCOME THEIR VICAR.

At Bolney Parish Church, Sussex, on Sunday last, for service, and also as a welcome home to the Rev. E. W. Michell (Vicar), who unexpectedly arrived on the previous evening on short leave from "somewhere in France," where he is serving as Chaplain to the Forces, the following touches were rung: For morning service, a quarter-peal (1386 changes) of Bob Major in 51 mins.: G. Walder 1, W. Wheeler 2, A. Absalom 3, E. Davey 4, C. Starley 5, T. Gasson 6, W. Vincent (conductor) 7, W. Walder 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Grandsire Triples by the same band, in 46 mins., conducted by E. Davey, this being his first quarter-peal as conductor. The band are now reduced in number to the above-named, and it is expected that further depletions will shortly occur when the men previously "starred" are called to the colours.

CARILLONS AND BELL MUSIC.

On Saturday last a lecture on the subject of Carillons and bell music was given in the Victoria Institute, Worcester, by Mr. W. W. Starmer, F.R.A.M., of Tunbridge Wells, who explained to an interested audience the difference of bells for ringing and for carillon use, and the methods employed in sounding bells. He referred to the earliest carillons, and explained the orchestral use of the bells, spoke of the bells of "The Golden Legend," and then went on to describe Carillon machinery—the Clavier and its mechanism, particularly that of Malins. The famous carillonneur of this now stricken city and his method of playing came in for observation, while original music for carillons was musically illustrated by the lecturer on the pianoforte.

PROOF AND COMPOSITION

OF TREBLE BOB METHODS.

By GABRIEL LINDOFF.

(Continued from page 168.)

If any row of the lead given occurs in any other lead, then that lead in which it occurs can be found in the following manner:—Take the first two rows of section 1, marked A and B, and write them down beside one another as under. Underneath them write Rounds, as it is the lead they both occur in in their own place. Now put B in A's place, and A in B's, and transpose as the one immediately above. The result is the false lead or leads that those two changes will also occur in

| | | | |
|---|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| A | <u>12345678</u> | B | <u>12346587</u> |
| | 12345678 | | 12345678 |
| B | <u>12346587</u> | A | <u>12345678</u> |
| | 12346587 | | 12346587 |

Write this false lead (2346587) down on a piece of paper and proceed in like manner with C and D.

| | | | |
|---|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| C | <u>12435678</u> | D | <u>12436587</u> |
| | 12345678 | | 12345678 |
| D | <u>12436587</u> | C | <u>12435678</u> |
| | 12346587 | | 12346587 |

The result is just the same so far. You need not put this down as you already have it. This completes section 1.

Next take section 2 and proceed in like manner:—

| | | | |
|---|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| A | <u>21345687</u> | B | <u>21435678</u> |
| | 12345678 | | 12345678 |
| B | <u>21435678</u> | A | <u>21345687</u> |
| | 12435687 | | 12435687 |

Here we have a new one to write down, viz., 2435687.

I will not occupy too much space by working through every pair, but will ask those who wish to follow this system to try and complete them.

Although in the four pairs given above we have got the same result on both sides, do not think this will always be the case, as the following pair, C and D of section 5, will illustrate.

| | | | |
|---|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| C | <u>42531786</u> | D | <u>24361875</u> |
| | 12345678 | | 12345678 |
| D | <u>24361875</u> | C | <u>42531786</u> |
| | 14623587 | | 14526387 |

Having worked through all the pairs, we find that against lead 2345678 we have the following false leads:—

2345678
2346587
2435687
2438675
2435768
3264587
3256487
4623587
4526387
3426587
4236587

If we now take the leads of the plain course and transpose each one by these ten false leads we get all the false leads against the plain course. Underline those false leads that have 7—8 in their ordinary coursing order as they are the only ones that are required for proof so long as the tenors are not parted.

Proof scale of a course:—

| | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 2345678 | 4263857 | 6482735 | 8674523 | 7856342 | 5738264 | 3527486 |
| 2346587 | 4268375 | 6487253 | 8675432 | 7853624 | 5732846 | 3524768 |
| 2435687 | 4623875 | 6842753 | 8764532 | 7586324 | 5378246 | 3257468 |
| 2438675 | 4627853 | 6845732 | 8763524 | 7582346 | 5374268 | 3256487 |
| 2435768 | 4623587 | 6842375 | 8764253 | 7586432 | 5378624 | 3257846 |
| 3264587 | 2486375 | 4678253 | 6857432 | 8735624 | 7523846 | 5342768 |
| 3256487 | 2438675 | 4627853 | 6845732 | 8763524 | 7582346 | 5374268 |
| 4623587 | 6842375 | 8764253 | 7586432 | 5378624 | 3257846 | 2435768 |
| 4526387 | 6348275 | 8267453 | 7485632 | 5673824 | 3852746 | 2734568 |
| 3426587 | 2648375 | 4867253 | 6785432 | 8573624 | 7352846 | 5234768 |
| 4236587 | 6428375 | 8647253 | 7865432 | 5783624 | 3572846 | 2354768 |

In this proof scale we find that there are but four that we need take any notice of so long as the tenors are kept together, viz., 8675432, 7853624, 7865432 and 8573624.

These four false leads traced to their course ends give us the three following false courses against the plain course:—

24365
32546
46253

Any course transposed by these three gives us the false course ends against that particular course.

It will be noticed that against the leads M. W. and H. there are no false leads with tenors together, therefore we can introduce the full extent of those leads so long as the tenors are not parted. The false leads in the centre of the course prevent us using the whole sixty courses, but allows us the use of an extent of thirty courses.

This has now brought the method proved identical with our old friend Treble Bob.

We next proceed, by the help of these three false course ends, to find thirty true course ends. Up to the present this problem has only been dealt with in a most hazy manner. I will therefore try to make it quite clear how every possible combination of thirty can be obtained.

(To be Continued).

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

DEVIZES BRANCH MEETING.

A monthly meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at St. Michael's Church, Erchfont, on Saturday last, and was fairly well attended by ringers from Devizes, Chirton, Erchfont, Southbroom and Beeching-stoke. Ringing commenced soon after three o'clock, and at four p.m. the authorised Guild service was conducted in the church by the Vicar (the Rev. S. D. M. Davys), who gave an excellent and impressive address to the ringers assembled. Miss Edwards, of Stanley House, very kindly presided at the organ. Tea, which followed, was provided at the Nag's Head Inn, and afterwards a short business meeting took place, presided over by the Branch Chairman (Mr. Sidney Hillier), supported by the hon. secretary (Mr. H. Brownlee West), the Rev. H. E. Tilney Bassett, Master of the Guild, being also present.—One new member (the Vicar of Erchfont) was duly elected as a member of the Guild. Votes of thanks accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells and service in church, and also to Miss Edwards for presiding at the organ, brought the meeting to a close. The ringers then returned to the tower, where some good touches of Grandsire and other methods were kept up until 7.30, when the bells were lowered in order, and the company dispersed to their various homes, after enjoying a very pleasant and harmonious meeting.

THE KING'S CLIFFE APPEAL.

We hope that ringers will lose no time in coming to the aid of the Rector and authorities of King's Cliffe, near Peterborough, in their task of raising funds for recasting the tenor, which cracked while being rung. Nearly £200 was spent on the bells by the parish only eighteen months ago, and the £38 now necessary to recast the tenor is beyond their means. Ringers, by their contributions, which will be gratefully acknowledged by the Rev. H. A. Orlebar, King's Cliffe Rector, will be doing that parish, the church and a struggling but enthusiastic young band of ringers a splendid service in helping them at this moment. Among so many, the sum of £38 ought quickly to be raised.

MR. W. J. SEVIER.

Mr. William J. Sevier, formerly of Gloucester, and now of 43, Colwick Road, Sneinton, Nottingham, underwent a serious operation last Saturday, but latest reports, we are pleased to say, state that he is progressing favourably under the circumstances.

TAKING 'THE ISLAND' BY STORM.

THE STORY OF A SCHOLASTIC TRIP.

April 7th, 1916, and we are breaking up! I wonder if you could find another school in all England that could turn out seven ringers? If so, good luck to them. But we can, anyhow, and we are breaking up and going to the island; that is we seven, hurrah!!

But, stop a bit, we are going too fast; we have not been introduced yet. Forgive the oversight and let me do the needful. Perhaps the picture will help us. We are all in the picture, and you can give us each a nod as we go along.

First of all there's me—that is to say—I, myself. I know it's not usual to put one's self first; but one can't introduce one's friends unless the other one knows the one who is introducing them; so I had better introduce myself first. That's me: sitting in the middle with my arms folded. Then there's my colleague—let's call him the M.C. for short—you can't mistake him, he fills about three quarters of the plate, and looks stern, but isn't really, that's the photographer's fault, he "shot" at the wrong moment. He was our host—the M.C. I mean, not the photographer—during our stay on the Island, and did us right well.

Just to the the north-west of the M.C. you will observe the B.N. Why he is so called is known to five persons, and only five (they are all in the picture, and will carry the secret with them to the grave). Next to the B.N. comes the L.B., and below him, sitting on my right, is "Wilkie." The wings are occupied by the two Tommies. Tommy

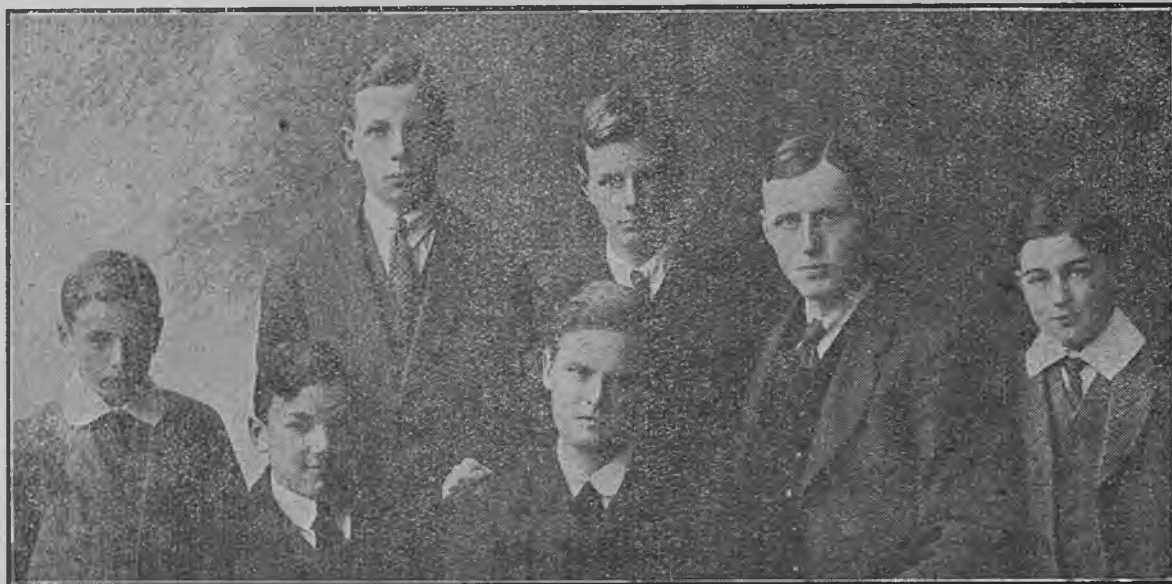
Barton and Mr. Scamell, whose kind assistance was much appreciated. Six-scores in Grandsire and Stedman were successfully accomplished, as also a rather gouty course of Bob Minor. We would take this opportunity of according our thanks to the Rev. J. C. Orr, the Vicar of Whitwell, for the use of his bells, a handy little ring of six, which do great credit to the Cripplegate foundry.

A SUNDAY TOUR.

Sunday was a red-letter day, as it always should be among ringers. A hefty motor of 30 odd horse-power was panting under our windows at an early hour, and soon made off with the majority of the party, throwing up a cloud of dust, which seemed to trouble "Wilkie" on the motor bike. At least he fell behind, and afterwards explained that his engine had heated, an explanation that was received without comment.

Newport was our first destination, which was safely reached at ten o'clock, and we received a cordial welcome from the local ringers. The start was unfortunate, Mr. Barton proving too strong for the treble rope. Yards of it descended into the belfry, which proved too much for Tommy Major's gravity. He is only a young ringer, and has not seen a rope break before. However, this was soon remedied, and the party indulged in some touches of Stedman Triples, and plain courses of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major.

The Newport band are to be congratulated on the progress they have made in change ringing. Two years ago "Churchyard Bob" and "Tombstone Surprise" were the only methods rung, but the band were desirous of better things, and under the able tuition of Mr. H. Jennings, the conductor of the Brading band, they have made wonder-



Major on the East and Tommy Minor on the West. They are brothers, and don't quarrel more than brothers generally do, which is saying something.

THE EXCURSION BEGINS.

There, that's got through the introduction, thank goodness, and now we can start for the Island. Three push-bikes and a motor took us as far as Portsmouth, but they would not have the motor bike on board the packet, because the petrol had not been taken out, so "Wilkie" had to ride her as far as Southsea Pier, where he is believed to have splashed some water on the ground, and assured the man that it was all gone (petrol is far too dear to chuck away these days), so at last we are off to Ryde. The man on Ryde Pier wanted to sell us some petrol to take the motor bike ashore (Ryde Pier is nearly 1,500 yards in length). We thanked him, but thought we could manage to push along, and that "Levis" certainly got ashore in remarkably quick time. Five of the party proceeded to Ventnor by train, but "Wilkie" and I decided to go by road, and had an enjoyable spin, at least he said so—I was on a push bike.

Lunch was a welcome factor on our arrival, and then four of the party set out for Whitwell under the guidance of the M.C. to obtain the use of the bells, whilst I, with the two Tommies, strolled on the pier, where we were reprimanded by another Tommy, who was on sentry go, for attempting to go down stairs. It seems this is forbidden, though how we were to know it, unless they put up a notice, or at least fastened the gate, is beyond me.

Saturday afternoon saw us fairly under way. The road to Whitwell hummed with bikes. It is believed that the County Council ordered the new steam-roller in consequence of the wear and tear to the surface, but we do not vouch for this. At Whitwell we were met by Mr.

ful progress. It is indeed a rare event and a very encouraging one, to find an entire company of call change ringers so developing.

After morning service the motor was again in evidence, and we proceeded to Shanklin. This proved to be the only disappointment of the trip. We got to the church at the right hour, but it proved to be the wrong week, as the service for which we hoped to ring had taken place on the previous Sunday. We solaced ourselves with a hearty lunch at the Chine Inn, and made our way to Whitwell, in time to ring for evensong, the Vicar again making us most welcome.

SPIRITED ADVENTURES.

Monday was a day of spirited adventures. The first point of call was Blackgang Chine, from which we set out to assault the village churches. The Vicar of Shorwell was the first victim. After vainly laying siege to the vicarage, we located him at the neighbouring post office, and firmly, but respectfully demanded the use of his bells. He seemed doubtful at first. It seems the treble was muffled, lest she might be heard by Zepps on dark nights. Then, too, the people might not understand what was happening. But at last he gave his consent, and accompanied us to the tower. The bells were soon raised and Tommy Major mounted on a chair by the Vicar, to enable him to reach the treble rope. He, however, looked neither secure nor happy, so we substituted a large red hassock, which answered the purpose admirably, and the tone and go of the bells were much appreciated. Our thanks are due to the Rev. G. E. Jeans for giving us leave to ring, as also for the kindness with which he conducted us round his church, and pointed out and explained its many interesting features.

At Brighstone, the Vicar was busy with a confirmation class, but at last appeared and instituted stringent and searching enquiries as to our capabilities of handling the bells without doing material damage to their mechanism. At last he gave his consent, but seemed very

uneasy while we were ringing. The villagers, too, seemed surprised. They kept popping in and out of the church during the ten minutes that we were there, and our chauffeur afterwards informed us that they had swarmed from their houses like angry bees, anxiously enquiring whether it were a Zeppelin raid. The Vicar was afterwards most kind, in showing us his church, and we would tender him our thanks for so doing.

A visit to Freshwater and Carisbrooke Castle occupied the remainder of the day, and on Tuesday the party returned all safe and sound to the main land. They one and all join in hearty thanks to the M.C. and his sister for the enjoyable time that they spent with them, and only regret the unavoidable absence of Mr. George Williams, who had hoped to join them on Saturday, but was unfortunately prevented from so doing.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

BY "BOB MAJOR."

How fast our veterans are falling! Nathan Pitstow, William Snowdon, Charles Hattersley, Henry Dains, and now Sir Arthur Heywood, within about a year, and the last four in little more than six months. The death of these men—despite the fact that they went to their graves full of years and honour, and could not be expected to remain much longer with us, has made a terrible gap. They were leaders of the best type, and while their work has enriched the Exercise, their death makes us feel immensely poorer. There is little that I can add to what has already been said about Sir Arthur Heywood. His influence and intellect have left an indelible mark upon the ringing world, and there is no man in our ranks to-day to replace him. Let me not be misunderstood. The belfry is the greatest leveller that I know. Social barriers disappear when you cross the threshold of the ringing chamber, and squire and artisan, baronet and farm labourer meet upon an equality. This is one of the greatest charms of our art, and Sir Arthur Heywood always valued that feature of it. But when it came to contact with the outer world, then it was that the position and influence of the dead baronet stood us in good stead, and it is in this connection that I say we have no one at the moment to replace him. We have not all of us always been in agreement with the President of the Council—he would not have been human if he had pleased everyone—but no better evidence of the appreciation of Sir Arthur's work could be found than in the testimony from meetings all over the country of the loss which is felt by his death.

WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN.

It was rather curious that within a week or two of my suggesting that the Central Council should consider the framing of a code of punishment for those who publish false peals, that an expert, like our friend George Baker, should, so to speak, put his foot into it. If the Council had been able to put my suggestion into practice, instead of having had letters on the subject, we should have had a report of proceedings much more formal and impressive. It would probably have read something like this:—

At the Court of the Central Council yesterday, George Baker, of Brighton, pleaded guilty to having on April 7th, in a paper known as "The Ringing World," unlawfully and negligently published a certain composition, to wit a peal of Stedman Triples, the said composition being false.

P.O. J. W. Parker gave the following evidence: On the 7th April I investigated the figures of the peal of Stedman Triples from a fresh round block, which appeared in "The Ringing World," and were declared to be composed and proved by the accused. I found that the peal contains comparatively few true changes, and its falseness was so glaringly obvious that a glance at the published course-ends showed rounds three changes after 142365, which is the eighth course-end in the peal. As proof of the impossibility of such a peal had already been published, I at once took the accused in charge, according to law.

The Presiding Councillor: According to which law, not Mr. Law James, I hope?

Witness: No, the law of the Central Council.

Accused: Did you ever compose a false peal?

Witness: I don't see that that has got anything to do with this case.

Accused: It might not have much to do with this case, but I submit that if you have not composed a false peal you can't have had much experience; and if you have you ought to know how easy it is—nothing simpler, in fact—and you ought to have had a little sympathy with me. What made you look into the figures of my composition?

Witness: They were too suspicious to be passed over without examination, and it is part of my business.

Accused: Part of your business, you say? What else do you do?

Witness: In my spare time I am engaged on war work.

Accused: It's a bad job for me, apparently, that you were not engaged on war work all your time. When you found my figures were wrong why didn't you do me a good turn, and give me a private warning?

Witness: Duty is duty, whether it's on mineral waters or in stopping false peals. If I had let you off I should have to let others off.

Addressing the Court the accused said: I have pleaded guilty,

your worship, but I want to put forward a claim to extenuating circumstances. This was my first attempt at the composition of a peal of Stedman Triples, and I didn't know as much when I started as I do now. I thought I knew enough to put together 5040 changes in any method, but we live and learn. My elementary proof was all right, but I didn't know there were ten additional false course-ends when singles were made use of. I am very sorry I overlooked it, and it shan't happen again. I assure you it was quite an oversight, but when I have found those 60 true courses of Stedman it will more than compensate for this mistake.

The Presiding Councillor: We cannot postpone sentence indefinitely to give you a chance of finding those 60 course-ends, if we did we might not be here to sentence you at all. You have pleaded guilty to the offence with which you are charged, and it is made the worse because you not only said the peal was composed by you, but went out of your way to say you had proved it. Although you say this was the first time you tried to compose a peal of Stedman Triples you were not new to the business of composition, and your excuse is only a lame one. As a warning to others we ought to make an example of you, but as this is the first time you have been before us, we will deal leniently with you. In this Court we think the punishment should fit the crime, and you are sentenced to prove twenty false peals in the method and then ring them.

"SOME" COMPOSING.

In an amateurish sort of way I have sometimes dabbled in composition. It is true I know very little about it, yet there is a fascination in it which I have no doubt everybody feels who tries his hand at it. Those amongst us who, like myself, are pure tyros at the game spend hours without result and waste reams of paper. I doubt if on an average we could get one new peal a month, working overtime and Sundays. I daresay some of you have read the joke about the fisherman who was angling in a stream that ran past the grounds of a lunatic asylum. He had been there for some time when a gentleman who had his residence in the institution popped his head over the wall, and after watching the angler for a while, asked: 'What are you doing?' 'I'm fishing,' replied the devotee of the rod. 'How long have you been here?' queried the inmate. 'About six hours,' was the reply. 'Caught anything?' was the next inquiry. 'Not yet,' answered the fisherman. 'Come inside,' said the gentleman on the other side of the wall. Well, I often think that if some folks could see the time we spend on trying to figure out peals or methods, without catching anything, we should be told to 'come inside.' But I have often marvelled at the prolific output of some composers—those, I mean, who are composers and not dabblers. Look at Gabriel Lindoff the other day, coming down with 22 peals of Grandsire Triples, symmetrically arranged, all in a lump. It reminds me of John Carter who, I have been told, composed 180 peals of Stedman Caters in one dinner hour! Ghee, whizz! Some composing, that.

THE HANDBELL RINGERS.

I read an amusing story the other day of Sir Ernest Shackleton, whose fate in the Antarctic is giving rise to much anxiety. It is a yarn which Sir Ernest relates against himself. "When lecturing on one occasion in the north," he says, "before the proceedings were timed to commence, I took a peep through a curtain to see what kind of an audience I was likely to have. Things looked promising and I said so. 'Yes,' said the chairman, 'I think you are going to have as big an audience as the handbell ringers had last week.'"

WAITING!

Recent events may have had something to do with the cessation of "hostilities" over the Central Council, but it may also be that the combatants have had enough for the time being. No doubt, if they are not saying things, they, like the parrot, think a good deal, and perhaps the following sums up the position:

We are waiting for round Number Four,
But the "fighters" aren't anxious for more;
At least, so it seems,
For it's only in dreams,
With each other they now wipe the floor.

DEATH OF MR. GEORGE RABBITT.

We regret to record the sudden death of Mr. George Rabbitt, a well-known and much-respected Tonbridge member of the Kent Association, who had been a regular and most punctual ringer at the Parish Church for a period of over 45 years. During a large part of this time he held the important post of steeplekeeper, and carried out the duties of that office in a most painstaking manner.

Mr. Rabbitt was in his accustomed place only ten days before his decease, which occurred on Tuesday, April 18th, after a few days' illness.

The funeral took place at Tonbridge Cemetery on the following Saturday, the bells of the Parish Church being rung half-muffled during and after the sad ceremony. The local ringers were assisted by Messrs. Latter, Thomson and J. Smith, of Tunbridge Wells; and Mr. Reader and Sergt. Parris, of Hadlow.

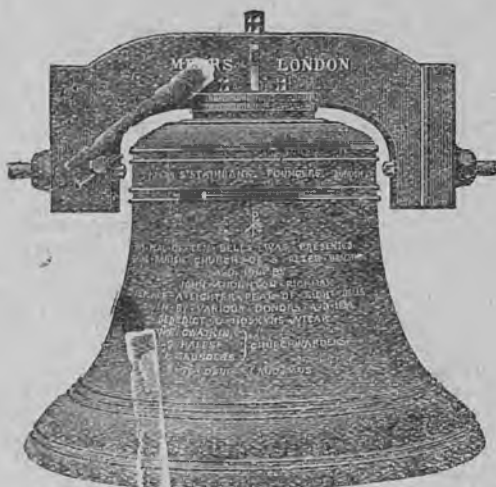
Mr. Rabbitt had rung a number of peals on the tenor, of which no correct record is available. Suffice it to say that he was as good a tenor man as it was possible to find, and he will be much missed from the belfry, where the band is now reduced to six only.

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THE LATE SIR A. P. HEYWOOD.



The most recent portrait of
THE LATE PRESIDENT OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

In addition to the resolutions of regret and condolence passed upon the death of Sir Arthur Heywood and already mentioned, similar votes have been carried at meetings of the Warwick Guild, Worcestershire Association and Lancashire Association.

Muffled peals have also been rung at Aston and Loughborough.

An attempt for a peal at Pendleton was lost after 2½ hours' ringing.

Mr. W. E. White, the hon. secretary, representing the Midland Counties Association, and Mr. W. H. Wilde, of Belgrave, Pulford, Cheshire, an old employee of Sir Arthur Heywood's, were among the ringers present at the funeral.

RECOLLECTIONS OF DUFFIELD.

BY FRANCIS E. DAWE.

With your permission, Mr. Editor, I would like to take this opportunity of expressing my humble testimony to and appreciation of the lasting good which the ringing science has derived from the life-long labours of the late Sir Arthur Percival Heywood. To myself, his decease has come as a painful surprise and very great shock, for such a man can ill be spared. Other writers have expressed their views of his great abilities in a far more able manner than I can, but I feel it is "up to me" to give some particulars that are not within the knowledge of many others of the present time, for I have enjoyed the great privilege of Sir Arthur's unstinted friendship for about 30 years, and took part in his first peal of Stedman, conducted by my dear old friend, James Pettit.

In the autumn of 1887, Mr. Heywood, as he then was, kindly invited me to his mansion at Duffield Bank, a most delightful spot, very plea-

santly situated on a charming hillside, and from which extensive views of the surrounding districts, with the winding River Derwent, can be obtained. At the foot of his estate stood the church and the famous little belfry, containing a handy little ring of ten, which as Henry Johnson expressed it, are "like a nest of chattering magpies!" A good Stedman Cater band kindly met me, and a most interesting time was spent, for Sir Arthur himself had hung the ring of ten, and he personally showed me the bearings there used of his own design. It was the first time I had ever seen, or even heard, of such things, and could at once appreciate the inestimable value of such self-aligning bearings.

One splendid rule he enforced in that tower, applying to his own band and visitors alike, was that out of consideration for the feelings of those residents near at hand, no one was allowed to pull off a single bell for more than one whole pull during the evening. This tip might well be copied at countless other places. He was always a sound, practical, and above all, a very safe ringer, and never hurried himself over anything, while he was also a fund of anecdote and good humour.

Another thing at Duffield, well calculated to surprise and delight any visitor, who, like myself a "steam man," or of an engineering turn of mind, was his model railway. On my arrival, he at once "lit up and put on the blast," whereupon the full value of his discoveries were brought out, such as climbing steep gradients and gliding down dangerous declines, through tunnels and over viaducts and round sharp curves for a considerable distance, all round and over the estate. It was a charming experience, full of interest from first to last. The gauge, I believe, is 15 inches, and the railway could hardly be called a "toy," for, on attending a large ringers' gathering there on another occasion, I travelled on the engine (named "Ella" after one of his daughters) with Sir Arthur, when he hauled a miniature train full of about 80 visitors at once! It was at this period that his inventions were appreciated by the then Governmental Departments, who adopted various ideas of his in connection with the mountain railways in India and other places, he having supervised a lot of their work in that direction.

When he brought out the method bearing the name of his place, I was the first to receive it in book form from him as a gift, which I greatly value.

THE FORMATION OF THE COUNCIL.

It was during the six years I had the honour of being Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths, that he conceived the idea of bringing into being the annual assembly known as the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers. With his wonderful far-seeing powers he realised that the day would eventually come when the ringing science should have a sort of Parliament of its own, a Tribunal to appeal to, and, above all, a representative body which could, in case of need, go forward to the Government or other authorities, if bell ringing were ever seriously attacked. Indeed his primary and principal reason for forming the Council was that there should be a body to watch over and protect our rights and privileges and our interests in the future. As he always expressed it, there was no knowing what some idiotic Government, who carried things in a high-handed manner, might eventually do to put us all in the background!

I fear this idea of the Council's work has not always been adhered to, as the meetings of recent years tend to show that it has degenerated into a sort of first-rate discussion class amongst half-a-dozen singularly clever experts on mathematical problems, who write long articles and air their views by the hour in trying to decide the fractional difference between tweedledee and tweedledum. I remember at one meeting, after a very long and tedious ordeal of this sort of thing, that eventually one of the very finest and best known ringers from the North of England was goaded to get up and say: "Mr. Chairman,--I moves as how 'Stedman' be still called 'Stedman' as it was in me fayther's time!" I really do hope these gentlemen will now be content to write their love letters to each other privately, instead of inflicting them on the whole community in the ringing Press; for having travelled the country a great deal I can confidently say that, from opinions broadly expressed and in no measured terms, such articles are not read by more than two or three per cent. of the ringing fraternity. Give these gentlemen all the credit we can for their wonderful knowledge, but the publicity of such matters is not appreciated generally and never will be!

When Mr. Heywood first contemplated forming the Central Council, he journeyed to London several times to consult me, owing to my official position in the College Youths, for at that period the "old school"—a body then to be reckoned with, mind you, were on the wane, and I had already become a link between them and the new. We had a lot of old-fashioned prejudice, with powerful opponents, to break down, and we both worked hard and diplomatically together with the result that they at last whole-heartedly agreed with us "to have a Central Council!" Mr. Heywood also travelled to the big societies and associations in all directions to lay his plans and ideas before them and so obtain the necessary support to the scheme.

I became the Council's first secretary, defeating the only other nominated candidate (Mr. E. F. Strange), but could only hold the appointment for a year or eighteen months, as the work at that period was of such a harassing, tedious, and voluminous nature, requiring almost "whole time," that I am bound to admit I failed ignominiously and

gladly made way for the next—the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer (a gentleman who strangely enough was noted for penning all his letters and other written matter in bright red ink!)

A REMINISCENCE OF BIRMINGHAM.

I also represented the College Youths at the great and representative gathering of all the ringers in Britain given by Mr. Heywood at the Colonnade Hotel, Birmingham, on Henry Johnson's 80th birthday in 1889, and which I shall never forget. It was by far the best, largest, successful, and most enjoyable meeting of ringers I ever attended, and Henry Johnson was surprising and absolutely at his best all the evening—quite 20 years younger! And as for Mr. Heywood, as chairman, why he quite surpassed himself on that occasion, for I have never seen or heard him in such fine form, and he was always a gifted and very powerful speaker.

This brings before me the recent memoir of my old friend, Tom Russam, who took part in that wonderful touch of Stedman Cinques on handbells during the evening. I have never heard handbells before or since rung like they were on that occasion, both in action and accuracy, and in a style peculiar to themselves. It was about six courses called by Harry Bastable, and I know Jack Carter and Tom Miller took part in it as well, but I forget the other two. I can truthfully say that everyone present was agreeably surprised and absolutely spellbound, for at that period a plain course of Grandsire Cinques retained in hand was the height of general attainment on such occasions.

It was at this meeting that Professor Thompson, the talented mathematical expert from King's College, London, produced his wonderful Decadahedron—a thing like a sliced-up football, only clipped so as to have numerous sides, and by means of eight various coloured lines drawn with points and curves, he could prove peals of Treble Bob up to 8448. This gentleman afterwards gave me one, but it was really of little use to any practical ringer, the 'scales' supplied me by Henry Johnson and John Cox being much simpler!

When Mr. Heywood's touch of 50 Stedman Caters was rung at the opening of the Imperial Institute bells in May, 1893, I was "reserve man" at that representative ceremony, and Queen Victoria stopped her carriage outside and sent a special messenger to congratulate the ringers on their work.

Only once of recent years has the Central Council attempted to discuss the great object it was originally intended for! This was brought forward from information given by me to Sir Arthur, but as I was no longer a member, it was impossible for me to lay the facts in my possession before them. It was, however, done by a gentleman to the best of his abilities, who unfortunately lacked the necessary experience, and Sir Arthur was really the only one present to take in the true state of affairs, and its then very serious possibilities, with the result that the item on the agenda as to the public feeling regarding church bell ringing was "made a mess of" and actually did more harm than good!

To my certain knowledge Sir Arthur was a very painstaking, impartial, and just county magistrate in all cases requiring his thoughtful consideration and decision, and on all occasions—ringing or otherwise—he had a kind word and friendly handshake for all, however humble their station in life might be. He was a Royalist in every way, and a true and thorough English sportsman. We have lost a kind, generous, and wonderful man, whose one aim was to do good, and whose master mind, to my thinking, was only second to that of my dear old friend—Jasper Whitfield Snowden, first President of the Yorkshire Association. All ringers will regret the end of such a useful life, and re-echo the prayer, "May he rest in perfect Peace."

5216 TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By ARTHUR CRAVEN, OF STAVELEY.

| 23450 | M | B | W | H |
|-------|---|---|---|---|
| 23564 | 2 | 2 | 1 | |
| 24365 | 2 | | 1 | |
| 34625 | | 2 | 1 | |
| 43528 | 2 | | 2 | |
| 25340 | 1 | — | | |
| 34258 | | | 1 | 1 |
| 45236 | | | 2 | |
| 56234 | 2 | — | 1 | 2 |
| 63425 | 2 | — | | |
| 26354 | — | — | | 2 |
| 52364 | 1 | — | 2 | |
| 64235 | 2 | — | | 2 |
| 62345 | | 1 | 2 | |
| 52436 | 2 | — | | 1 |
| 65324 | 2 | | 1 | 2 |
| 23456 | 1 | | 1 | |

This peal has the 4th, 5th and 6th exclusively in 6th's place, and contains all the 4—7—8's, 6—7—8's, 11 of the 12, 5—7—8's and 8—4's, and 10 of the 12—8—6's.

Rung at Staveley on Easter Monday, conducted by the author.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING DISCUSSES CENTRAL COUNCIL.

As usual, the annual meeting of the Worcestershire and District Association was held at Worcester on Easter Monday, and, considering the number of members who are affected by the war in one way or another, and the restricted railway services, the attendance was better than might have been expected. The bells at the various churches were in use early in the day; for, with the exception of the Rector of St. Helen's, all the incumbents had kindly allowed their bells to be used, although some disappointment was felt that those at the Cathedral were not available, the Dean and Chapter having had to withdraw their permission at the last moment, owing to it being impossible to finish repairing the damage done to the tower by the blizzard of March 28th, although, as the Dean stated, the work had been pushed forward in order that the bells might be used if possible.

At 12.45 the Dean of Worcester (Dr. W. Moore Ede), President of the Association, unveiled a peal board erected by the Association in the Cathedral belfry to commemorate a peal of Stedman Cinques rung on those bells on June 2nd, 1914, it being the first peal of Cinques on the bells and in the county. The Master (Mr. A. E. Parsons), in introducing the Dean, remarked upon the difficulty of the performance, and paid great compliment to the ability of those who took part, especially the conductor, Mr. W. Short, among whose many peals he considered, two stood pre-eminent, these being the one and only peal ever rung on the sea, which was also conducted by him, and that at Worcester the other.

The Dean, in unveiling the board, complimented the ringers, and, remarking upon the presence of some lady members, he hoped that, seeing how ladies had acquitted themselves in munition works, he might some day have the pleasure of listening to a peal on those bells rung by ladies.

The board, which is of very handsome design, and made to correspond with the other records in the tower was erected by the treasurer, Mr. W. H. Johnson.

BUSINESS MEETING.

The business meeting was held in the Chapter House at 2.30, the Dean being in the chair. He remarked upon the loss the Association had sustained by the death of the Rev. Canon Cloughton, who, as the annual report states, was elected a member of 1884, while Vicar of St. Mary's, Kidderminster, and who had always taken a great interest in the work of this Association.

The balance sheet, which had been passed by the committee, was presented to the meeting, and showed another satisfactory year, financially. A sum of £30 had been transferred from the bank account into the War Loan, and the Belfry Repairs Fund showed its first grant, a sum of two guineas having been given toward the re-hanging of the bells of All Saints', Worcester.

Some discussion arose over the annual peal, and it was finally decided that it should be rung half-muffled in memory of members who had given their lives for their country, it being left to Mr. R. Matthews to conduct it and to arrange it where he chose, the Chairman suggesting that it be rung on All Saints' Day, and, if possible, preceded by a memorial service.

There was no question as to the place for the next annual meeting, Worcester being again chosen.

The Master then referred to the loss the Exercise had sustained by the death of Sir Arthur Heywood. He remarked upon the immense amount of work he had done, and the help he had given toward the improvement of ringing and of ringing facilities, and a vote of condolence with Lady Heywood was carried by everyone standing, the secretary being asked to convey to Lady Heywood the Association's sympathy in her loss and the appreciation of Sir Arthur's work.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Secretary brought forward for discussion the improvement of the practical part of the work of the Central Council. He said he thought Associations might assist in this more than they had done, by taking a greater interest in the work of the Council, and by bringing forward, for the Council's consideration, subjects which might require attention.

The Rev. Hastings remarked that he thought the agenda for the next meeting might include suggestions for discussion.

Messrs. Salter, Mason and Parsons also took part in this discussion. The whole of the officers were unanimously re-elected, and the Rev. Canon James was elected a vice-president in place of the late Canon Cloughton.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the President, and the Dean and Chapter, etc., the Dean replying.

A photo of the members present was taken at the west end of the Cathedral, and the members then assembled in the choir for the service, at which a most excellent address was delivered by the Clerical Secretary of the Association, the Rev. J. F. Hastings.

As last year, tea was provided in the fine old College Hall, and about 90 members sat down. Mr. W. H. Johnson most kindly defrayed the additional cost of the repast over the amount allowed by the rules.

Ringling at the various towers afterwards brought to an end another successful meeting and enjoyable day.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting was held at Bridgwater on Saturday last, with 53 members were present, representing 18 towers. The fine ring of eight bells were set swinging at 3.30, and touches of Stedman and Grandsire were rung until 4 p.m., when the service was held. The Rev. Russell officiated, and gave an excellent address. Service over, tea was partaken of at Taylor's Restaurant, and when justice had been done to the good things provided, the business meeting was held, the Master of the Association (the Rev. C. C. Parker) presiding.

One honorary and 25 performing members were elected, including nine lady ringers.

It was announced that the annual meeting this year is to be held at Wells (subject to the consent of the Dean), on July 8th.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar of Bridgwater for arranging the service and for the use of the bells; also to the Rev. Russell for officiating at the service, to the organist for his services, and to Mr. A. E. Coles for making the arrangements.

This concluded the business, and the tower was again visited, and some well-struck touches in various methods rung until 8 p.m.

MEETING AT FROME.

The annual meeting of the Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery Branch was held at Frome on Saturday week, the business being presided over by the President of the Branch (the Rev. J. E. W. Honnywill), Vicar of Leigh-on-Mendip, and the following towers being represented: Frome, Leigh-on-Mendip, Camerton, Timsbury, Midsomer Norton, and Radstock. Several new members were admitted, and the Chairman appealed to all members to induce ringers in non-affiliated towers to join, and thereby reap the many advantages offered by the Association, not the least of these being free instruction by the hon. secretary (Mr. I. B. Holmyard) in the art of change ringing.—The next meeting will be held at Timsbury on July 29th. The President (the Rev. J. E. W. Honnywill) and the hon. secretary were unanimously re-elected for the year. Mr. I. B. Holmyard was nominated to serve on the General Committee of the Association during the absence of Mr. A. M. G. Daniel (Frome) on military service.

AXBRIDGE DEANERY BRANCH.

The quarterly meeting of the above branch was held at Weare on Saturday week. Fine weather favoured the event, and as a result there was a good attendance of members from Burnham, Weston-super-Mare, Loxton, Wick St. Lawrence, Mark, and East Brent, and some friends from Bristol. The service was held in the church, conducted by the Rev. D. Stephen Evans (Vicar). After service about 30 sat down to tea in the Church Hall, provided by Mr. G. H. Pruen, of the Clarence Hotel, Burnham.

At the subsequent meeting the vice-president (Mr. G. H. Pruen) presided. The Rev. D. Stephen Evans was elected an hon. member, and several new performing members were also elected.—It was decided that the next meeting should be held at Winscombe.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. D. Stephen Evans for arranging the service, for the use of the bells, and the address, to the ladies who so kindly helped with the tea, and to the organist.—The Vicar replied, assuring the members that it was a great pleasure to him to welcome the Association at Weare. The organist also suitably replied.

The bells were kept going during the afternoon and evening to Grandsire, Stedman and Bob Minor.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**ELECTION OF OFFICERS.**

On Saturday week the annual meeting of the London County Association was held at the "Edinburgh," Milford Lane, Strand, W.C. (the new headquarters), which take the place of the "Cheshire Cheese," Milford Lane. The chair was occupied by the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender), and a good number of members from the following parishes were present: Fulham, Kensington, Streatham, Hammersmith, Islington, Southwark, Willesden, Chelsea, Bishopsgate, etc.

The balance sheet showed that the finances of the Association were satisfactory, and a motion to transfer a sum of money from the bank to Exchequer Bonds was defeated by a majority of one.

The ratification of the election of the following members took place: Messrs. Attwater (Streatham), J. Pryor (Highgate), J. Lewis and J. Habgood (Rotherhithe).—Two new members were elected, viz.: Mr. H. E. Stubbs (Stoke Newington) and Mr. H. Dyas (Kensington).

A vote of condolence was passed to the relatives of the late Sir A. P. Heywood and Mr. H. Dains, both highly respected members of the Association.

Mr. T. H. Taffender was re-elected to the office of Master, and the following other officers were elected: Mr. T. Walker, hon. secretary; Mr. W. G. Matthews, treasurer; Mr. E. A. Reeve, senior steward; Mr. A. D. Barker, junior steward.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the officers for their past services.

Owing to the various restrictions imposed under the Defence of the Realm regulations, the members had perforce to seek their homes with disappointment at being unable to enjoy the usual social half-hour following these meetings.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

The seventh annual meeting of the Warwickshire Guild was held at Warwick on Easter Monday, between 30 and 40 members and friends attending. The towers of Leamington Parish Church (8), All Saints, Emscote (8) and St. Mary's, Warwick (10) were opened to the visitors, and were well patronised. Touches in all the standard methods were successfully brought round, including Mr. George's (the Master) touch of Stedman Caters, which he has dedicated to the Association.

Service was held at the Leamington Parish Church, and was well attended by the members.—Tea was served at the Globe Hotel, and the business meeting followed.

The Secretary reported that, all things considered, the Society was in a very healthy state, and that, although only two peals had been rung during the year, the interest in the art was on the increase throughout the diocese.

Mr. Roberts wrote regretting his inability to be present, he being on active service.

All the officers and committee were re-elected en bloc, and it was decided to forego the usual annual report, and to substitute a short resume of the year's working instead, copies of the latter to be distributed among the different belfries and members on active service.

The society's representative on the Central Council, Mr. H. Argyll, moved a vote of condolence to the family of the late Sir A. P. Heywood, and the Guild's president (the Rev. Back) kindly undertook to forward the same.

The meeting was voted a complete success, and the day's outing was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

Like many other Guilds and Associations, circumstances would not permit the Lincoln Diocesan Guild to hold the annual meeting at Lincoln on the 29th April on the usual lines. After consultation it was deemed advisable simply to have a formal meeting similar to last year. This took place at St. Peter-at-Arches Rectory, Lincoln, in the evening, at which the Guild secretary was present, together with sufficient Lincoln members to form a quorum. All the retiring officers were re-elected for the ensuing year.

Immediately after, the Northern Branch meeting was held, presided over by the Rev. R. Bond, the Guild secretary, when the retiring officers were re-elected. A question was asked as to the annual subscriptions, whereupon the secretary to the Lincoln Branch announced that he was receiving subscriptions as usual, and that the Heckington and Great Hale members had already paid for the current year.

In replying to the vote of thanks for the use of the room at the Rectory, the Rev. R. Bond said he could only hope that the condition of affairs would soon materially alter, so as to enable the branch to reinstate meetings for ringing and social intercourse. They could only strive by every effort to keep the bells ringing for church services, and to endeavour to bring in and train new recruits to take the many vacant places in existing bands of ringers through the country, who had nobly responded to the Empire's call, and many of whom were now fighting for our very existence.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

One of the best attended meetings of the Bolton Branch of the Lancashire Association was held at Walkden on Saturday week. The towers represented were: Manchester, Worsley, Hyde, Stockport, Bolton, Leigh, Newchurch, Pendlebury, Eccles, Liversedge, and the local company. Owing to the illness of Mr. J. Potter he was not able to ring with the visitors, who wish him a speedy recovery. Some very good touches of Stedman, Double Norwich, Treble Bob and Plain Bob were rung during the afternoon and evening.

At the business meeting, Mr. J. Ridyard, vice-president, presided, and it was decided that the next meeting be held at Newchurch.—A vote of condolence was passed upon the death of Sir Percival Heywood, one of the mainstays of the ringing Exercise.—A vote of thanks accorded to the Vicar for use of the bells, also to the ringers for their welcome and for having all in readiness, brought to a close one of the most successful meetings of the Bolton Branch held for some time.

OUTING IN LINCOLNSHIRE FENS.

On Easter Monday an outing in the Lincolnshire Fens was arranged by the Heckington and Great Hale company of ringers. The towers visited were: Donington, Wigtoft, Algakirk, Sutterton and Kirton, at which touches in Stedman, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Grandsire, and Double Court were tapped off. Dinner was arranged at the Beridge Arms, Sutterton, and the Vicar of Sutterton kindly invited the party to tea at the Vicarage. The ringers taking part were: Messrs. J. Clark, M. Clark, J. T. Holmes, W. Dickinson, H. Nash, A. Dixon, W. H. Wood, C. Ward (Heckington and Great Hale), A. Chilton (Billingborough), C. Glenn (Sheffield), A. Ward (Derby), A. Andrews (Daventry), and they spent an enjoyable day.

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING.

Visitors to the Sussex Association annual meeting at Brighton tomorrow (Saturday) should note that the tea is to take place at the New Ship Hotel, and not the Criterion Restaurant, as at first advertised.

NOTICES.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on May 18th for handbell practice, and on the 23rd for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held on May 13th at Leesfield. Bells ready at 3 o'clock, meeting at 6.30.—T. K. Driver, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Rev. E. Basil Spurgin (Vicar), at St. John's, Sidcup (three minutes from 'bus terminus) on Saturday, May 13th. Tower open 3.30 p.m. Service and address by the Vicar at 5.0 p.m. Tea (9d. per head) and business meeting in St. John's Hall, to follow the service. It is particularly requested that those who require tea send their names to me not later than Tuesday, May 9th.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The 18th annual general meeting will be held at St. Stephen's, West Ealing, on Saturday, May 13th. Service at 6 p.m., with an address by the Vicar (Rev. Dr. W. Halliday Thompson, LL.D.) Tea in the Parish Hall at 6.30 by the kind invitation of the Vicar and churchwardens. The following towers will be open for ringing:—St. Stephen's, West Ealing, from 4 to 6 p.m.; St. Mary's, Ealing, from 3 to 5.30 p.m. Nearest stations, Ealing Broadway (District) and West Ealing (G.W.) Middlesex Council car to Northfield Road (for St. Stephen's Church). Buses from the City to Ealing Broadway.—C. T. Coles, 49, Wood Street, Walthamstow, H. C. Chandler, Church Road, Heston, Hon. Secretaries.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Brighton on Saturday, May 13th. Meat tea at the New Ship Hotel, Ship Street, at 4 o'clock. Tickets 1s. 9d. (to members, 9d.) Service at St. Nicholas at 6. Preacher, Rev. H. H. Horden, Rector. Bells of St. Peter's open from 2—4, and again after service. Members (resident in the county) attending will be allowed half railway fares.—G. Watson (Gen. Sec.), Vale Road, St. Leonard's.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting of this branch will be held at Eccleston on Saturday, May 13th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. Meeting in the tower at 5.30.—A. E. Woodhouse, Honorary Secretary.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hursley on Saturday, May 13th. The tower (6 bell) will be open during the afternoon and evening. Tea in the Parish Room at 5.15.—Jas. W. Elkins, District Secretary.

A RINGERS' MEEING will be held at Oakford (8) on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available from 3. Service and address by the Rector at 4.30. Tea (6d.) in the Parish Room at 5. Names of those requiring tea to be sent to me not later than Tuesday, May 16th. Oakford is 4 miles from Bampton and Dulverton stations.—Rev. E. V. Cox, Bampton, Devon.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Aberavon (Port Talbot) on Saturday, May 20th, at 4.30. Tea will be provided free.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., John W. Jones, 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon., Hon. Secs.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Barrow Gurney on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available at 5 o'clock. Business meeting at 6.30.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Newchurch, near Warrington, on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available from 3.30 to dusk.—G. Pincott, Branch Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Grassendale on Saturday, May 20th. Bells ready at 5, meeting at 6. Business important. A good meeting is requested.—Walter Hughes, Honorary Secretary.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Painswick on Saturday, May 20th. Bells (12) available from 2 p.m. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea in Mission Room at 5 o'clock, followed by business meeting. All members are earnestly requested to attend, and it would greatly facilitate arrangements if they would kindly advise me not later than Tuesday, May 16th.—R. W. Hyner, Honorary Secretary, 46, Goddard Avenue, Swindon, Wilts.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Hayfield on Saturday, May 20th.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Honorary Secretary, New Mills.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM, Established 1755. — Quarterly meeting will be held at Sutton Coldfield on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available from 3.30. The Guild's form of service will be held in church at 5.30, the Rector giving the address, and every member is specially invited to be present. Tea will be provided free in the Church House for those who advise me, not later than the 17th inst., of their intention to be present. Business meeting afterwards.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Secretary, 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bagshot on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea 5.30.—G. Miles, Honorary Secretary, Owlsmoor, Camberley.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division. A practice meeting will be held at St. Margaret's, Barking, on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available from 4 to 8 p.m. All will be welcome.—E. J. Butler, Shadwell Heath.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—The next meeting will be held on May 27th at Wotton-under-Edge. Bells (8) open from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Visitors heartily welcomed. Kindly notify by May 24th to W. A. Lewis, Ham, Berkely, Glos.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—By kind permission the half-yearly meeting will be held at Wigan on Saturday, May 27th, when All Saints' and St. James' bells will be available from 3.30.—W. H. Shuker, J. H. Banks, Hon. Secs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Canterbury District).—The annual meeting of the District will be held on Saturday, May 27th, at Faversham. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea in Queen's Hall. Business after tea. Members attending must send their names to me not later than Wednesday, May 24th; anyone neglecting to do this must not expect a place at the tea. Subscriptions must be paid before or at the meeting.—Fred J. O. Helmore, Hon. Sec., Canterbury.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

TO LET.

GOOD SHOP with **DWELLING HOUSE**, in best position in Devizes, suit any class of business. Rent very moderate to a good tenant. Immediate possession. Apply to H. Brownlee West, "Avalon," Devizes.

CLUN'S EFFORTS.

At the recent Vestry meeting Mr. W. Mead, hon. secretary St. George's Society of Church Bell Ringers, was unanimously re-elected as one of the churchwardens of the Parish Church.

In the course of the meeting, the Vicar spoke on the tower and bells restoration, and said last Easter they had a debt of £300. He was glad to say it was now down to £116. It was wonderful how the money kept coming in, and what a large amount had been made up of small sums.

A discussion followed as to the best means of completely clearing off the debt, and it was decided to make a special effort by asking each household in the parish for assistance in wiping it off.

Mr. Mead said his little booklet, "History of Clun Church Bells," had been well received in the parish and elsewhere, and with the profits from its sale and the amount he had already paid in, he would guarantee the £41 5s., the total cost of the new second bell.

GRANDSIRE COMPOSITIONS.

Mr. Fred Hayes, of High Wycombe, writes to point out that of the 22 peals published in our issue of April 7th by Mr. G. Lindoff, Nos. 10 and 12 are variations of two compositions produced by him in 1902, and rung by the Oxford Guild in 1905 and 1903 respectively. The figures may be found in the Oxford Guild report for those years.

RINGER'S WEDDING.

On Easter Monday the wedding took place at Old Windsor of Mr. Sidney John Boore (one of the ringers of the Parish Church, and a chorister for 18 years), and Miss Anna Russell, of Belfast. A large number of people witnessed the ceremony, which was really a "war" wedding, for the bridegroom is a munition worker, and all the male guests were either khaki-clad or wearing the Derby armlet. The bride was given away by Mr. G. Boore, and 1st Air-Mechanic Charles G. Boore, R.F.C., acted as best man. The bridesmaids were the Misses Violet Parsons and Violet M. Boore. The Vicar (the Rev. J. R. Napier) officiated, and the choir were in attendance. A visit of Oxford Guild ringers and friends coincided with the ceremony, and the bells were rung during the signing of the registers, and the organist played the "Wedding March." As the happy pair left the altar they passed beneath the crossed ropes of the ringers, and at the church gate were greeted by a party of handbell ringers (Messrs. Trollope, Fussell, Smith, Lawrence and Henley). Afterwards touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung on the church bells. The gifts to the bride and bridegroom included a set of cutlery from the Vicar, organist and choir, and a coal vase from the ringers.

HADLOW RINGER'S DEATH.

The band at Hadlow, Kent, have just sustained a great loss by the death of one of their most capable members, Mr. E. J. G. Hook, which took place after a very short illness at the early age of 36 years. The funeral took place at the Cemetery, and the bells of the Parish Church were rung half-muffled in the evening as a last tribute of respect to his memory. Mr. Hook leaves a widow and young family to mourn his loss, and with whom great sympathy is felt.

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PEAL BOARDS
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ESTIMATES FREE FOR ANY DESCRIPTION
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writing to the Vicar of Minchinhampton, Lord Grimthorpe said:—"Smith
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UNIQUE FOR PRESENTATION.

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This charming model in Solid Hall Marked Silver
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| Price ... | 10/6 | 16/- | 21/- | 26/6 | 32/6 | 42/- | 55/- |

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(MAKER OF THE RINGERS' BADGE.)

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Hangers, **TAUNTON.**—Bells Hung on the
most approved principles Old Bells Re-cast,
New Bells supplied, Ropes of the best make.
Ellacombe's Chiming Apparatus fixed, Hand-
bells in sets, Chromatic or Diatonic.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 270. Vol. X.

FRIDAY, MAY 19th, 1916.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 1d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON CROYDON, Surrey. BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



[St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

A UNITED EFFORT NEEDED.

The unfortunate position of King's Cliffe, the little village near Peterborough, where the efforts of an enthusiastic young band of ringers to make progress in change ringing have been brought to an abrupt stoppage by the breaking of the tenor bell, is very much like that of Long Stanton just over three years ago, when the tenor at that tower cracked soon after five new bells had been added to the ring to make an octave. Long Stanton, at the time of its misfortune, still had the incubus of debt on the restoration upon its shoulders, and the raising of the additional money necessary to replace the damaged tenor was quite beyond its parochial power. Happily, when the position was put before the ringers of the country they, with characteristic readiness to help any good cause within the four corners of the Exercise, responded generously to the appeal that was made through these columns, with the result that, as recorded upon the new bell, it was "recast by public subscription."

Another opportunity now presents itself to ringers to do not only a generous but a worthy action, by coming in like manner to the aid of King's Cliffe, where the parishioners are faced with, for them, the impossible task of raising a sum of about £38 in order that the tenor bell may be replaced. It is another instance in which the local purse has reached its limit in providing bells, for it is only about eighteen months ago that the rehanging and quarter turning of the ring was carried out at a cost of nearly £190. Small villages like King's Cliffe cannot go on indefinitely raising money even for bells, and the untoward accident that has happened is a source of real grief to the parishioners, and especially to the Rector and Church officials, who so recently made such great efforts.

Ringers, wherever the art is practised, must also feel regret that misfortune should so soon have overtaken the church and this struggling band, but a little help is worth a lot of pity, and if all will put their shoulder to the wheel the success which attended the effort to assist Long Stanton may be repeated at King's Cliffe. While it is a fact that the present is a time for many and heavy calls on the purses of most people and that many ringers, who, under different conditions, would have been ready to help, are now away, there still remain enough at home to raise the sum which King's Cliffe needs. A whip round in every belfry next Sunday morning, for instance, even if it only meant the contribution of a shilling or two from each tower, would mean a substantial sum in the aggregate, and it might well be done if only as a thankoffering from those who are able to enjoy the privilege of still ringing the bells of our churches. The Rev. H. A. Orlebar will only be too glad to receive small as well as large donations, and they should be sent direct to him at King's Cliffe Rectory.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs. C. CARR, LTD.,
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract,—we may be able to assist you.

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BIRMINGHAM**

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Maker to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester and Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

HORWICK, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, May 13, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,*

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| TITUS BARLOW Treble | Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qrs. 13 lbs. |
| JOSEPH LOWE 2 | ROBERT WALWORK 5 |
| THOMAS B. WORSLEY ... 3 | JOSEPH RIDYARD 6 |
| GEORGE PINCOTT 4 | BEJAMIN A. KNIGHTS ... 7 |
| | JOHN EDGE Tenor |

Conducted by BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. Ridyard.

MEMORIAL PEALS.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, May 13, 1916, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,*

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt., in E flat.

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| P.C. HAROLD JENNY ... Treble | JOHN OLDHAM 5 |
| FREDK. H. DEXTER 2 | LEONARD ALLEN 6 |
| LOUIS ALLEN 3 | R. HENRY BARTRAM ... 7 |
| HENRY BROUGHTON 4 | WILLIAM WILLSON ... Tenor |

Composed by F. H. DEXTER, and

Conducted by WILLIAM WILLSON.

Rung with clappers half-muffled, as a farewell tribute to the late Sir Arthur Heywood, M.A., President of the Association, and of the Central Council of Church Bellringers. This was the first opportunity for the use of the bells. The composition, now rung for the first time, has the sixth 22 courses wrong, and her extent right, obtained by "real" double bobs and in two equal parts.

COLSTON BASSETT, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, May 13th, 1916, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 22½ cwt.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| WILLIAM E. WHITE ... Treble | JOSEPH LORD 5 |
| ALBERT COPPOCK 2 | THOMAS SQUIRES 6 |
| EDWARD C. GOBEY 3 | PERCY PRICE 7 |
| WALTER WHITE 4 | *GEORGE NOWELL ... Tenor |

Conducted by Edward C. Gobey.

* First peal. Rung with the bells half muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., for 30 years President of the Association and of the Central Council of Church Bellringers.

SIX BELL PEAL.

WRENTHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

*On Sunday, May 14, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,*

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Kent Treble Bob, three 720's of Oxford Treble Bob and three 720's of Bob Minor. Tenor 10½ cwt.

| | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| *PTE. CECIL V. EBBERTSON Treble | JOHN SPENCER 4 |
| RIFLEMAN B. PREWETT ... 2 | EDWARD NUNN 5 |
| NORMAN R. BAILEY 3 | FRANCIS W. NAUNTON ... Tenor |

Conducted by FRANCIS W. NAUNTON.

* First peal in three methods. This peal was arranged and rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. A. J. Naunton on his 72nd birthday. He has been for 45 years and still is a ringer at the above church.

HANDBELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

*On Saturday, May 13th, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
IN ST. MARTIN'S BELFRY,*

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 Size, in B flat.

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ALBERT WALKER 1-2 | JAMES E. GROVES 5-6 |
| GEORGE F. SWANN 3-4 | *J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ... 7-8 |
| | JAMES GEORGE 9-10 |

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

* First peal in the method on handbells.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

There can be few towers that have supplied so many men to the army as that of the little village of Ecton, Northants, where there is a peal of six bells. No fewer than eleven men are now serving their King and country, some having joined at the outbreak of war, and others on reaching military age. Their record is a splendid one. The ringers and their regiments are as follow:—

R. Elson, 3/4th Essex Regiment.
S. Johnson, 3rd Norfolk Regiment.
B. Johnson, Northants Yeomanry.
F. Johnson, Northants Yeomanry.
F. Harlott, Northants Yeomanry.
F. Pinney, R.A.M.C.
H. Tebby, A.S.C.
Fred Pinney, A.S.C.
J. Perkins, A.S.C.
B. Tebby, 4th Northants Regiment.
F. Brown, 4th Northants Regiment.

From St. Mary's, Anstey, Leicestershire, five have gone:—

Pte F. Moore, 8th Battalion Leicester Regiment.
Pte F. Palmer, 2/4th Battalion Leicester Regiment.
Pte A. Mason, 3rd Battalion Leicester Regiment.
Pte L. Mason, M.T., A.S.C.
Pte J. Bottrill, M.T., A.S.C.

The three following belong to St. Martin's, Alfreton:—

Pte G. Radford, 1st Garrison Battalion Warwick Regiment, now at Khartoum.

Pte J. A. Kenworthy, 4th South Staffords, now in Jersey.
Spr. W. H. Peppar, R.E., now at Longmore.

From St. Mary's, Selly Oak:—

Pte W. Dowler, M.T., A.S.C., now at Osterley Park.
Gnr. E. Boylin, R.F.A., now at Winchester.

In sending on the names of the Alfreton ringers who are with the colours, our correspondent says "The Ringing World" is sent to each of them by their Guild, and if other societies did the same to their members on active service it might be the means of bringing ringers who are comrades in arms in touch with one another. Here is a hint that many towers might take, and their action would be greatly appreciated by their absent colleagues.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

WALTHAMSTOW.—St. Mary's Society.—On Sunday evening, March 26th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1263 changes), in 48 mins.: H. T. Scarlett 1, C. T. Coles 2, G. Grimwade 3, R. Maynard, senr., 4, R. Maynard, junr. (composer and conductor) 5, J. C. Adams 6, H. J. Maynard 7, J. H. Wilkins 8, F. C. Maynard 9, A. Chapman 10. During the time the ringing was in progress the Bishop of Chelmsford, who was preaching in the district, sent to the ringers thanking them for their ringing, and stating that he was charmed with the bells.—On Easter Sunday, at 5.30 a.m., for the six o'clock service, 252 Stedman Triples: H. T. Scarlett 1, H. J. Maynard 2, R. Maynard, senr., 3, J. C. Adams 4, J. H. Wilkins 5, R. Maynard, junr. (conductor) 6, F. C. Maynard 7, H. C. Stubbs 8. At 10.30, 492 Stedman Caters: R. Maynard, junr. (conductor) 1, F. C. Maynard 2, G. Grimwade 3, Henry Rumens 4, R. Maynard, senr., 5, J. C. Adams 6, J. H. Wilkins 7, Albert A. Hughes 8, W. D. Smith 9, A. Chapman 10. For evening service, a quarter-peal Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: F. C. Maynard 1, J. H. Wilkins 2, R. Maynard, senr., 3, J. C. Adams 4, H. J. Maynard 5, R. Maynard, junr. (conductor) 6, H. T. Scarlett 7, H. C. Stubbs (first quarter-peal) 8.

GRAVESEND, KENT.—At St. George's Church on Sunday, April 9th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: J. Avis 1, R. Smith 2, A. Constant 3, R. Tall 4, J. Constant 5, A. Martin 6, R. Constant (conductor) 7, E. Hadlow 8. This quarter-peal was specially arranged for Quartermaster-Sergt. Amos Constant, who was home on leave from the front.

SHREWSBURY.—Salop Guild and St. Chad's Society.—On Sunday, April 9th, at St. Chad's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins.: W. C. Brooks 1, J. Tudor 2, W. R. Stockdale 3, Pte T. M. Belton 4, W. Weatherby (Market Drayton) 5, A. E. Fullick 6, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 7, H. Jones 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor, after meeting short for Stedman Caters.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.—On Thursday, April 13th, after confirmation service, conducted by the Bishop of Buckingham, 504 Grandsire Triples: E. Leonard 1, H. Sear (conductor) 2, F. Hedges 3, H. Morris 4, L. Meager 5, W. Mead 6, W. Sear 7, V. Sear 8. Before the service, a quarter-peal of Stedman was lost in the last part owing to a shift course.—On Easter Day, for evening service, also in honour of St. George's Day, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): E. Leonard (first quarter-peal) 1, W. Mead 2, J. Mead 3, H. Morris (first quarter-peal inside) 4, L. Meager 5, E. Marks 6, H. Sear (conductor) 7, V. Sear 8.

MARKET DRAYTON.—Chester Guild.—On April 15th, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: W. T. Holding (Crewe) 1, H. Overton (Crewe) 2, G. H. Crawley (Crewe) 3, A. Crawley (Crewe) 4, R. T. Holding (Crewe) 5, C. R. Lilley (Shrewsbury), conductor 6, W. Weatherby (Market Drayton) 7, J. Clarke (Market Drayton) 8. First quarter-peal of Stedman by Messrs. Overton and Clarke, also first quarter-peal of Stedman on the bells.

FULHAM.—On Sunday evening, April 16th, at All Saints' Church, 1260 Stedman Caters: A. Outmore 1, W. E. Garrard (conductor) 2, A. W. Davis 3, J. W. Driver 4, J. H. Payne 5, H. G. Miles 6, A. V. Selby 7, W. H. Hollier 8, A. F. Harris 9, F. Edwards 10.

DEPTFORD.—At St. John's, for evening service, on Sunday, April 16th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples from the "Original," in 43 minutes, as a birthday compliment to Mr. Joseph Law and his wife: R. Fosdike 1, F. S. Bacon 2, F. W. Richardson 3, T. A. Easterby 4, E. B. Crowder (conductor) 5, W. J. Jeffries 6, Joseph Law 7, A. G. Bennington 8. Mr. Law is 74 years of age.

LONDON.—Royal Cumberland Youths.—On Sunday, April 16th, for evening service, at Shoreditch, 1187 Stedman Cinques: J. D. Matthews (conductor) 1, Edgar Wightman 2, B. Foskett 3, J. Hunt 4, Frank Smith 5, H. T. Scarlett 6, W. T. Powell 7, H. Flanders 8, G. Card 9, W. Berry 10, W. Shimmains 11, H. C. Stubbs 12.

HITCHIN.—At St. Mary's Church, on April 16th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins.: E. W. Day 1, A. Squires 2, J. Hare (conductor) 3, F. R. Bacon 4, L. Fidler 5, W. Croft 6, H. Day 7, H. Else 8.—On April 30th, in 50 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. W. Day 1, A. Squires 2, H. Day 3, F. R. Bacon 4, W. Croft 5, J. Hare (conductor) 6, L. Fidler 7, H. Else 8. This quarter-peal was rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. J. Randall, who had been a ringer at the church for the past 50 years.

LLANDUDNO.—On Sunday, April 16th, for evening service, at Holy Trinity Church, 720 Grandsire Doubles: A. W. Brighton (London), conductor, 1, Sapper J. Preece, R.E. (Staunton-on-Arrow) 2, E. King 3, J. Pritchard 4, R. W. Thompson 5, T. W. Dunn 6, S. Swan 7, T. Barrow 8. Rung with 7, 6, 8 covering. First 720 by ringers of 3, 4 and 5, of whom great credit is due, they having only rung the plain course three weeks previously.—On April 17th, 360 Grandsire Doubles: T. Barrow 1, Sapper J. Preece, R.E., 2, E. King 3, J. Pritchard 4, R. W. Thompson (conductor) 5, S. Swan 6.

TAUNTON.—On Sunday, April 16th, at St. James' Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: F. Millard 1, T. Doble 2, W. Cording 3, J. Matthews 4, W. Evans 5, E. E. Burgess 6, J. Maddock (conductor) 7, W. Tarr 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor and the ringer of the 2nd.

MIDDLETON.—At the Parish Church, on Palm Sunday, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples: J. Hollows 1, Wm. Berry (conductor) 2, J. Jacques 3, T. K. Driver 4, Jas. Arrowsmith 5, T. A. Ogden 6, S. Holt 7, Wm. Hardman 8. For afternoon service, 720 Bob Minor: J. Hollows 1, Wm. Berry (conductor) 2, J. Jacques 3, T. A. Ogden 4, Jas. Arrowsmith 5, S. Holt 6. For evening service, 720 Minor: J. Hollows 1, W. Berry (conductor) 2, J. Jacques 3, T. K. Driver 4, Wm. Hardman (first 720) 5, S. Holt 6.

TYLDESLEY, LANCASHIRE.—On Good Friday, for morning service, at St. George's Church, with the bells deeply muffled, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1280 changes), in 45 mins.: H. Watts 1, J. Allred 2, F. Banks (Leigh) 3, B. Allred 4, Harry Allred 5, J. T. Allred 6, Herbert Allred 7, R. Allred (conductor) 8.

LEICESTER.—On Easter Day, at St. Margaret's Church, 500 Grandsire Doubles: E. Smith 1, Pte E. Morris 2, A. Ballard 3, B. Kirby 4, J. Vernon 5, J. Morris 6, H. Mills 7, 5 and 7 covering. Conducted by Pte Ernest Morris, who was home on leave from Langwith, Derbyshire.

LONDON.—On Easter Day, for evening service, at St. Mary-le-Bow, Stratford, 1312 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 50 mins.: A. Scambler 1, C. T. Cranfield 2, R. J. Turner 3, York Green 4, W. Truss 5, E. Hall 6, R. Sanders 7, H. Torble (conductor) 8.

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.—On Easter Day, for matins and evening, two quarter-peals of Grandsire Triples: C. Greenfield 1, S. Stone 2, Sergt. W. H. Hollman 3, P. H. Doick 4, G. H. Lee 5, S. W. Corden 6, A. Greenfield (conductor) 7, H. J. Doick 8.

GORSEINON, GLAM.—At St. Catherine's Church, on Easter Sunday, for evening service, in 65 mins., a date touch of 1916 changes of Grandsire Doubles, containing "extremes," each six-score called differently: G. Ellacott (conductor) 1, A. W. Dabbins 2, J. Williams 3, E. Hapgood 4, W. Dabbins 5, F. Webb 6. Longest length on the bells and by the hand. It was also rung as a farewell to one of the ringers who was about to be called to the colours.

WHITCHURCH, NEAR CARDIFF.—At St. Mary's Church, on Easter Sunday, for evening service, two 720s Bob Minor: Signaller F. J. Bailey (17th Welsh) 1, W. Biss 2, L. Wright 3, B. Chew 4, S. Dawe 5, F. J. Bailey, senr. (conductor) 6. Also Signaller F. J. Bailey 1, W. Biss 2, F. J. Bailey, senr., 3, T. Word 4, B. Chew 5, S. Dawe (conductor) 6.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

DEATH OF OLD MEMBERS.

The spring quarterly meeting of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths was held at Walthamstow on Saturday week. Many members were present and enjoyed the afternoon at the historic part of the suburb, which constituted the ancient village. The bells of St. Mary's were kept going to the tune of Stedman and Grandsire Caters, Superlative Major and Plain and Treble Bob Royal up to 6 p.m., when some 30 members adjourned to the Nag's Head, where Mr. Rumens, the secretary of the local band, had very kindly arranged for tea. The hostess provided a very enjoyable spread, and had prepared some home-made cake and pastries, which the members did justice to.

The Master (Mr. J. D. Matthews) presided over the short business meeting which followed, at which the ratification of Mr. F. Wilford as a member was passed, and Messrs. E. J. Butler and E. A. Lebbon were elected. The question of electing a new treasurer was referred to the annual meeting.

The Master then brought forward the saddest part of the day's business, and in proposing a vote of condolence with Mrs. Dains, the wife of the late Mr. Henry Dains, for over 40 years a member of the society, said it wanted no words of his to carry the deep feeling and sense of loss that the society had suffered by his death. He (the Master) and the secretary had already written Mrs. Dains immediately upon receiving the sad news, and he felt sure that the members would confirm their action. Mr. Dains was known, and is now mourned all over the country, and his place in the ringing circles would be hard indeed, if it ever became possible, to fill. The Master said he would



The late Mr. GEORGE SMITH, of Walsall, a former prominent member of the Royal Cumberland Youths, who met his death by accident on April 15th.

also like to propose a vote of condolence to the relatives of the late Sir Arthur Heywood, the President of the Central Council, and also that their regret at the loss to the Exercise should be recorded on the minutes of the meeting. Yet another death it was his painful duty to mention, viz., that of Mr. George Smith, who had been killed whilst at work. He was known to many Cumberlands, and had rung many times with the late Mr. Dains, and he (the Master) believed that his last peal was rung in London about 20 years ago, when he rung in a peal in which the late Mr. George Newson took part. The master's words were endorsed in silence, the members standing.

Mr. Rayner then presented the society with two photographs to be hung in the tower of Shoreditch, consisting of the band who rang the long peal of Superlative, and also the long peal of Double Norwich in which Mr. Dains and Mr. George Newson took part.

The Master, in thanking Mr. Rayner for his gift, said the society were very grateful to him for the pictures, and it came as a touching tribute, following upon the vote of condolence which had just been passed.

A vote of thanks was very heartily carried to Mr. Rumens, the local secretary, for making such excellent arrangements for the society's comfort, and to the steeplekeeper for having "all ready" in the tower, and to the Vicar for his kindness in allowing the society the use of the bells.—Mr. Rumens expressed his pleasure at the visit of the society, and said that the Vicar had also charged him to convey to the meeting his (the Vicar's) heartiest welcome.

A few airs on handbells by Messrs. Scarlett, Lucas and Stubbs, and a few touches also on handbells brought a very enjoyable afternoon to a close.

SALISBURY GUILD.

ENJOYABLE GATHERING AT WARMINSTER.

The annual meeting of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild was held at Warminster on Tuesday of last week. Owing to the absence of nearly 200 members on active service and the shortage of hands for work at home, coupled with the fact that the weather was wet and cold, the attendance was much smaller than usual, about 40 being present. But if the meeting was small the ringing was above the average, for it is seldom that at an annual meeting in this diocese all the standard methods are rung, as was the case this year.

The business meeting was held in the Minster vestry, the Master of the Guild (the Rev. Tilney Bassett) presiding, supported by the hon. secretary (the Rev. F. L. Edwards), the assistant hon. secretary (Mr. T. Hervey Beams), three of the branch secretaries, Canon W. Jacob, the Rev. A. E. Peters, etc.

The officers were re-elected, and a proposal to sub-divide the Marlborough branch was referred to a committee.

It was resolved again to remit the subscriptions of all members serving with the King's Forces.

A resolution of sympathy was passed with the relatives of the late Sir Arthur Heywood, and of those members of the Guild who had fallen in battle or lost their lives in the King's service.

Divine service was afterwards held in the grand old church, the Vicar, (the Rev. Canon Jacob) taking the office, and the singing being led by the boys of the choir. Canon Jacob preached from the text, "A golden bell and a pomegranate," and pleaded that nothing short of the best change ringing should be the aim of all who rang for the church services.

THE RINGING.

During the day many well-struck touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major were rung on the fine bells of the Minster, and also a course of Kent Treble Bob, as well as rounds and plain courses for beginners. Advantage was also taken of kind permission to ring at Heytesbury (where six heavy bells, with a magnificent tenor, are pulled by eight men!) and other neighbouring towers which were reached by motor. Probably the last ringing of the day took place at Salisbury, where, at St. Martin's Church, a mixed band from Dorchester and Bournemouth rang two or three good touches. Salisbury is about 22 miles from the place of meeting, but a good car eliminates distance.

Although the meeting was small, it provided a most enjoyable day for the faithful ones who made the effort to be present.

The annual report for 1915, which was circulated, stated that there was little to record for the year. The roll of honour had been considerably augmented by the enlistment of many more members in the Army and Navy, bringing the number up to 202, or about 26 per cent. of the total membership, while the Guild had to lament the loss of several members who had during the year given their lives in the cause of King and Country. The secretaries of the Sarum and Dorchester branches were still on active service. Throughout the Diocese generally, ringing on Sundays and festivals had been maintained, though naturally under difficulties, in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Central Council. In some districts Guild meetings had been held; the Devizes branch especially had succeeded in keeping things alive. The ringing of the mid-day "Angelus" either daily or on Wednesday and Friday had been general, and muffled peals were widely rung on the Day of Intercession, in conformity with the Archbishop's recommendation. The death of Dr. Hill had deprived the Guild of a valued supporter. By the removal of Canon Mansel-Pleydell from Sturminster Newton, the Wimborne Branch had lost a chairman to whose kindly interest and devotion the work of the Guild in East Dorset owed much of its vitality.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday week a quarterly meeting of the Kettering district was held at Gretton, about 25 members being present from Cransley, Desborough, Northampton, Harringworth, Isham, Rothwell, Kettering, Stoke Albany, Uppingham, and the local band. A service was held, at which an address was given by the Vicar (the Rev. A. L. Armitage).

Tea was served in the Schools, and kindly provided by the Vicar and Mrs. A. L. Armitage.

At the meeting which followed, the Vice-President (the Rev. R. Copeman) presided. Kettering was proposed for the next meeting early in July, which will be the annual meeting of the district.—Mr. T. Harris, of Kettering, was elected a ringing member, and the District Secretary said he was sorry to report that they had lost another member, namely, G. Holland, of Cransley, who had been killed in action.

Mr. F. Wilford proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar and Mrs. A. L. Armitage for providing tea, and to the ladies and local ringers for making the meeting a success.—Mr. W. T. Wilson said how pleased he was in these times to see a fair number of members present to help the effort of the committee in that part of the district.—The Rev. A. L. Armitage, in replying as an old hon. member of the Association, said he was very pleased to do what he had done.

After tea a good number of the members availed themselves of the opportunity to have a pull on the handy ring of six at Harringworth.

EASTER MONDAY EXCURSION.

FOUR COUNTIES IN ONE DAY.

A majority of the members of the St. Mary's, Slough, Society, having thought a friendly visit to the neighbouring towers would also be appreciated by residents and others, as well as themselves (and a few old friends who were asked to join them) set about arrangements, hence the following programme for Easter Monday, which was drawn up under the auspices of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. The route and times proposed were practically adhered to, so I append the list, adding the remarks of the respective incumbents who very kindly sanctioned the ringing.

- Slough, St. Mary's.—9.30 to 10.30. "A little ringing Easter Monday would be nice."
 Wraysbury, St. Andrew's.—11.0 to 12.0. "I think we may fairly make an exception at Easter."
 Old Windsor, St. Peter's.—1.0 to 2.0. "You are welcome to the use of my tower."
 Egham, St. John's.—3.0 to 4.0. "The tower and bells will be at your pleasure."
 Staines, St. Mary's.—5.0 to 6.0. "I think an hour's ringing would be good for us all."

Fortunately most of our East Berks and South Bucks "boys" are keen cyclists, and such a "round of belfries" was easily overcome by them, but, a difficulty arose with our "ineligibles," who could not walk the distances in the time available, and whom war economy forbade the luxury of hired conveyances. Mr. Stillwell, however, came to our help with his side-car, by taking the Ealing pair to Wraysbury, while the London G.O. Company's extra 'buses enabled Messrs. J. and W. Evans, R. Flaxman and G. T. Reader to reach Old Windsor in good time. Here an excellent snapshot of the whole company was kindly taken by Mr. Lawrence, after a ringer's wedding, in celebrating which the visitors assisted.

The outing did not partake of the usual Bank Holiday character, as times are too serious both from pecuniary and patriotic motives, to indulge in unnecessary joviality, but everyone quietly enjoyed themselves, whilst giving pleasure to hundreds of others—the tired war worker, the active soldier or sailor home on leave or invalided, and the numerous visitors from town, in the several parishes where the church bells of late have been so seldom heard for the want of bell men.

We little dreamed in our peaceful wanderings into four fair counties abutting the beautiful valley of the Thames, that such tragic and deplorable incidents were taking place on the banks of the River Liffey, and the day's close found us all fit and well, free from pains and penalties for bell ringing after dark or excessive lighting of tower or bike, such as our Manchester and Dunmow friends have had to endure under the recent anti-aircraft war regulations.

We were also honoured in the knowledge that His Majesty the King was in residence in our midst for the Easter recess, and although it may not be generally known that His Majesty, early in the war, most thoughtfully decreed that no bells should be employed to celebrate the royal birthdays, or announce State functions during the war, we know he would be one of the first to approve of the Church observing one of the most beautiful Festivals of the King of Kings.

A repetition of names and touches is undesirable with the present dearth of paper—we must consider the "Lillies how they grow," a floral decoration most prominent in our Churches at this spring season of the year—so I will only give you a condensed report.

At Slough: Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, conducted by E. T. Hooper, and bells lowered "in peal." Mr. G. Martin found the tower nest empty, owing to delay through tyre puncture, but, with his friend, Mr. A. Wiggins, from Reading, he overtook the flock at the second tower.

Wraysbury: Touches of Grandsire and Double Norwich, conducted by G. Martin, our old friend, Mr. Burley, the steeplekeeper, coming to fulfil his duty of tolling the noonday "intercession bell." All the local men of this tower, who were under instruction in change ringing a year ago, have "joined up" for war, and three or four bells only are now chimed for the weekly services.

Further progress was here barred by an ever-flowing stream. A well-worn ferry boat furnished the crossing from Bucks to Berks. Now that we Britishers possess a few such contrivances as aero-seaplanes, perhaps someone will build a road water cycle, because a boatload of bicycles is about the most incongruous cargo possible.

For men may come, and men may go,
 But I go on for ever,

says Tennyson, and more than one reader will recall his crossing here, and many more have passed over since Harry Passmore made his Tri-London record. Musing as the boat swayed us across, I noticed the growing piscatorial denizens of the stream darting by swiftly, wagging their propellers as much as to say: It's too soon for summer picnics and the Pyes, and when will they come to ring the "Bells of Ousley"?

At Old Windsor: Touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Treble Bob and Double Norwich, conducted by W. Welling. The motor party having

joined forces with us, we were able to comfortably pack the potting sheds of the Priory Gardens previous to the wedding, by kind permission of Mr. Jos. Gutteridge. Non-treating orders and restricted hours failed to deprive the homely sandwich lunch of its tonic—forewarned is forearmed and some potting sheds have mysterious bulbs stored away in boxes which bloom with a fine head when the neck is twisted.

The camera "grouping" took some time—not Lord Derby's grouping—as well as the acquisition of a bouquet for the solitary lady member of our company—Miss Welling-Fuller—the first probably to ring in five towers and four counties in one day. Some of the men had not quite recovered their equanimity after witnessing the impromptu drilling of some 30 boys from a neighbouring institution, when one little straggler ran up calling out: "Drill me, sergeant!" However, they lined each side of the church path in their grey capes, like a young regiment, and it then came across my mind in what regiment and in what part of the Empire will many of them stand when they come to man's estate?

Another quandary arose at this stage, how to reach Egham by the hour named, but our organiser solved it by enticing a willing chauffeur to return with his car for more guests than he had bargained for. Thus our men from Ealing, Hughendon and Slough were egged on to further scenes and changes across the smiling Egham meads dotted with motor-cars and bikes, whose jaded owners were enjoying the country quietude and the fresh air of Runemede whilst picnicking.

At Egham: Grandsire and Stedman Triples, a good course of London Surprise Major and bells lowered in peal; conductor, John Evans. Mr. George Gigg, steeplekeeper, met us and finished the day with us. Our ancient Flaxman found a surprise in his sister's welcome. Having heard the Slough ringers were coming, she stood at the door to receive him. Another branch of the London Road car services took our ineligible into Staines, enabling everyone to go the round without undue fatigue. The Bells Inn was made our rendezvous, and the last tower found us punctually at the rope end, we being met by Mr. Davis, in the absence of the steeplekeeper, and Mr. W. E. Butter.

At Staines: Touches of Grandsire and Treble Bob, conducted by W. H. Fussell: a good course of Superlative Surprise, the fall in peal omitted, as one of the ropes slipped wheel towards the end of a touch of Oxford Bob. Mrs. Gavin, our landlady, made extra accommodation for our increase of numbers, seating 21 together by the judicious use of side tables. The tea hour—6 to 7 p.m.—passed very quickly, what with another cup, another chat and another slice. An end of a real good day's relaxation came at 7.30, the G.W. Railway conveying the Elders home in respectable hours, the remainder cycling back without further adventure worthy of note. Among those not already mentioned who were present were Messrs. W. Bateman (Stoke), H. Crop-ley (Datchet), G. Gutteridge (Fulmer), W. Burden (Old Windsor) and T. S. Smith, G. Bedford, P. Jones and George Beeby, of Slough.

W. H. F.

MEMORABLE PERFORMANCES OF THE PAST.

Last Monday was the anniversary of a peal of 12,096 Grandsire Caters, rung in 7 hrs. 50 mins., at Fulham in the year 1837, by the St. James's Society. At that time it was claimed to be "the greatest amount of changes ever performed by ten men only, the truth of which is attested by several of the ablest judges of the art, who witnessed the whole performance, and which can only be equalled by the same ability and persevering exertions." Unfortunately for the ringers, their claim to the longest single-handed peal was a false one. Owing to the lack of information at that time, they were unaware of a peal of 12,312 Grandsire Caters rung at Painswick just 20 years before.

In that great struggle for supremacy between the College Youths and Cumberland in the latter half of the eighteenth century, when Shoreditch was the great centre of their activities, two long peals were rung in the month of May, 1777. The first was by the Cumberlands, who rang 10,200 Treble Bob Royal on the 10th of May, and the second by the College Youths, who achieved a 11,080 on the 19th.

The anniversary of the first peal of Stedman Triples rung in London; and by some presumed to be the first true peal in the method ever accomplished, occurs on the 22nd inst., the peal having been rung at St. Giles-in-the-Fields on May 22nd, 1799. The tablet records: "This intricate but truly admirable composition for a series of years being industriously pursued by all composers of eminence in this noble science, and by all pronounced impracticable, was at length, with 732 hobs and 22 doubles, acquired by the celebrated John Noonan, who conducted the above unparalleled masterpiece of Campanistanean Fame." Noonan, by-the-way, did not ring in the peal, but called it from manuscript.

RINGER AND THE "ZEP."

Sergt. J. Bennett, R.M.L.I., a well-known Chatham ringer, is serving on board H.M.S. "Phaeton," which was one of the warships concerned in bringing down the Zeppelin L7, in the North Sea last week. We hope he will have many more such experiences.

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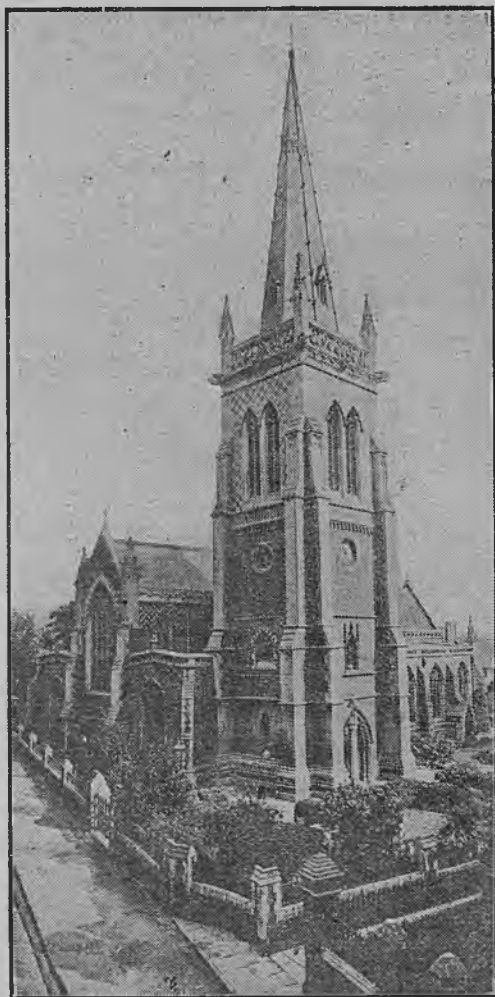
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FAMOUS BELFRIES.**ST. MARY'S-LE-TOWER, IPSWICH.**

By J. R. JERRAM.

The recent fire at the belfry of St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, recalls the fact that much ringing history has been made upon these celebrated bells, which include one (the seventh) cast by Miles Gray.

Previous to 1844 the steeple contained a peal of eight bells, of which the present eleventh was the tenor. In 1845 two trebles were added, the old fourth and eighth (now fifth and ninth) being recast to bring them in tune.



S. MARY-LE-TOWER, IPSWICH.

Thus the present peal of twelve was made up. The inscriptions are as follows:—

Treble.+ **Cantate Domino Cantico Novo** + 1866

[i.e. "Sing unto the Lord with a new song"].

*Second.*JOHN TAYLOR & SON, LOUGHBOROUGH,
FOUNDERS. JULY 15th, 1845.*Third.*GEORGE TAYLOR, JOSELYN & EDWIN BROOK,
CHURCHWARDENS. 1844.*Fourth.***CHRISTOPHER HODSON MADE ME. 1688.**
R. M. T. S.*Fifth.*+ **Laudate Dominum In Cymbalis**
Renesonantibus + 1866.

[i.e. "Praise the Lord with the well sounding cymbals"].

*Sixth.***JOHN DARBIE MADE ME. 1671.***Seventh***MILES GRAYE MADE ME. 1607.***Eighth.***JOHN DARBIE MADE ME. 1671.***Ninth.*+ **En Resono Reparata Maria Decora Vocata** +

CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS, LONDON. 1866.

[i.e. "Lo! having been recast I sound again, I am called comely Mary"].

*Tenth.***JOHN DARBIE MADE ME. 1671.***Eleventh.***MILES GRAYE MADE ME. 1610.***Tenor.*+ **Triplex Persona Trinitas Nunc Taudia**
Dona + CAST BY JOHN WARNER & SONS, LONDON. 1866.
[i.e. (Holy) Trinity, Three Persons, now grant joys.]

The tenor is 58 inches in diameter; weight about 32 cwt.

In the inventory of 1553 we find that there were five bells and a sanctus bell.

A large number of peals have been rung on these famous bells, nearly 150 having been placed to the credit of the Norwich Diocesan Association alone. Such names as Motts and Catchpole have been household words among ringers for a generation, and one has only to note some of the performances accomplished in this tower to realise the lead which it has given in advancing the art. For the Norwich Association the first peals of Grandsire Caters and Cinques, Stedman Caters and Cinques, Bob Royal and Maximus, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Royal and Maximus, Double Norwich Royal and Maximus, and Cambridge Surprise Royal and Maximus were rung at St. Mary-le-Tower, the Cambridge Maximus being the first ever rung in this method in any tower.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Maidstone district was held at All Saints', Maidstone, on Saturday week. The bells were set going about 3 p.m., by which time a good muster of members were present. A short service was held, at which the Vicar gave an address on the use of the bells in the Middle Ages, and also referred to rules and fines that were in use at that time. "A jug of beer," was, he said, one of the fines for breaking a stay.

About 70 sat down to tea, at which a collection was made on behalf of the Association Benevolent Fund, and amounted to £1, and forwarded to the general secretary.

Mr. S. Hayzelden was re-elected district secretary, and Mr. Mannerling district representative.—Six new members were added to the roll. This being the first meeting of the Association since the death of Sir A. Heywood, a vote of condolence was passed to Lady Heywood and family.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Boxley.

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

BIG GATHERING OF MEMBERS AT EALING.

The annual meeting of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild, at Ealing on Saturday, was an extremely successful gathering. Despite the number of members who are now away serving their country there were well over a hundred members present, and they found enjoyment during the afternoon in ringing on the bells of St. Mary's and St. Stephen's Churches. The methods practised varied from Grandsire Triples to Superlative, London and Bristol Surprise Major, and at 6 p.m. the ringers assembled in St. Stephen's Church for special service, which was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. W. Halliwell Thompson, LL.D. The service opened with the National Anthem, and the hymns also included, "O God, our help, in ages past," and the ringers' hymn, "Unchanging God, Who livest." The Vicar preached a practical sermon based upon the words: "In that day shall there be upon the bells of the horses, Holiness unto the Lord," Zac. xiv. 20. He pointed out that the two great principles underlying the Prophet's words were that in everything, whether we considered it great or small, important or unimportant, there should be holiness unto the Lord, and that in the sight of the Lord there was nothing great and nothing small. All things were equal, and what really mattered was the spirit in which a thing was done. The service of the ringers in the belfry might be even greater than that of the priest in the chancel, if in the work of the one there was reverence and the spirit of holiness unto the Lord, while with the other there was a mere mechanical recitation of prayers into which the heart did not enter. They needed lowliness, meekness, forgiveness, forbearance, but they also wanted behind those things strength and determination. In all things there should be holiness unto the Lord.

After the service a photograph of the members was taken outside the church.

The Vicar and churchwardens very kindly entertained the members to tea in the Parish Hall, Mrs. Thompson and other ladies officiating at the tables, whilst Miss Edith Jones and Messrs. W. Lawrence and W. H. Russell gave valuable assistance in attending to the wants of the members.

THE BUSINESS MEETING.

At the business meeting which followed, the President (Mr. A. T. King, I.S.O.) occupied the chair, and was supported by Messrs. F. A. Milne (hon. treasurer), W. Pye (Master), T. Beadle and J. Armstrong (District Masters), C. T. Coles and H. C. Chandler (hon. secs.), J. Waghorn, James Parker, J. R. Sharman, S. Wade, etc.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. C. T. Coles) mentioned that he had received letters regretting inability to attend from the Rev. C. J. Sharp, of St. Mary's, Ealing; Rev. W. Templeton King, of Christ Church, Ealing, and from Capt. J. H. B. Hesse, one of the vice-presidents, on active service, who sent good wishes to all his friends of the Association.

THE REPORT.

The annual report stated: "During the year 1915 the continuance of the war, with all its sadness, has shown us a bright side. It has revealed to us unexpected depths of earnestness and self-sacrifice which stand out in sharp contrast to the attitude of a comparative handful of persons who persistently refused to share in the plain and manifest duties of our British manhood. To such an extent have the ranks of ringers been depleted by the war, that it has become a matter of increasing difficulty to get the ringing done for the Sunday services of the church. Our ringers have answered the call of duty nobly. They have shown themselves eager in every direction to fill up the war roll, and we have reason to be proud of them. Our report may be shorn of much interesting matter in consequence; but we are sure that our members would be disappointed if we failed to place on record the continuity of our work as an Association, if only by way of showing those who are fighting our battles abroad, and by way of encouragement to those who are too old for active service, to do their utmost to keep the ranks of ringers filled. The continued interruption of the work of the society by the war showed itself in a very marked fashion in the past year, as during 1915 only 21 peals were rung, and all, with one exception, on handbells. The number of new members elected during the year was, as might have been expected, much smaller than usual, and for the first time for many years the loss by deaths, resignations, etc., exceeds the number of ringers who joined the Association. Whilst the new-comers totalled 18, the membership at the end of the year amounted to 695, as against 735 at the end of 1914.

"During the year 1915 we have had to mourn the loss of an unusually large number of members. Some have yielded up their lives in the service of their country and their King, while others have completed a lifetime of faithful service in the parishes to which they belonged; but all have left behind them a valuable example, the recollection of which we do well to note and to cherish. The members who died on active service included Capt. H. J. Sudell, A.S.C., of St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton; Lieut. W. D. James, R.G.A., and Lance-Corpl. L. E. Alford, of the Sunbury band. Other deaths recorded included Mr. W. H. Tubb, nearly 50 years a ringer at Finchley; Mr. E. B. Huntley, of Bushey; Mr. E. Pye, and Mr. A. R. Barker (an hon. member)." The report added: "Beyond slight repairs to one or two bells at St. James', Clerkenwell, by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, we have

nothing to record in the way of bell restoration. The energies of our great bell founders are at present being put to making munitions of war, but we hope the time is not far distant when we shall be able to record a return to the work of the making and hanging of bells. We must, however, mention that the two additional bells placed some time ago in the tower of St. Mary's, Willesden, were dedicated at midnight on Christmas Eve by the Vicar. The Willesden ringers have now the privilege of ringing upon a nice peal of eight bells, which cannot fail to encourage them to make further progress in the Art, of which they have already proved themselves to be able exponents. We should like to mention just one other important matter. With so many members away serving their country, whose subscriptions are excused, it is all the more necessary for those who remain behind to make every effort to keep up their payments. In the spirit of brotherhood to those who are serving, and to save our finances, we should like to suggest that some of our members might voluntarily raise their subscriptions, for as the days go by, the numbers going off to fight will increase, and it is due to them that we should endeavour to keep the Association alive in their absence. So let us all do our best in whatever way we can and save our honorary secretaries and treasurers many anxious moments, and much troublesome correspondence by at least paying promptly. *Be dat qui cito dat!* Above all, it would be an excellent way of showing our appreciation of the admirable work which is always being done by our joint hon. secretaries."

A SUGGESTION TO MEMBERS.

The Hon. Secretary, in presenting the report, drew special attention to the paragraph that those members remaining at home might increase their subscriptions in order to maintain the finances of the Association. He pointed out that with the calling up of so many men under the Derby Scheme and Military Service Act a serious loss of income would result, as men who were away fighting were excused their subscriptions. He appealed to those members who could afford it to help in this matter, as the report suggested, by voluntarily raising their subscriptions. The Hon. Secretary also drew attention to the war roll, on which there were now 122 names. Three members had died for their country, as mentioned in the report; many had been wounded; Lance-Corpl. F. T. Martin had been missing since July, 1915, and there was, alas! reason for fearing the worst had happened. Two of their one-time very active members had been invalided home from Gallipoli, Pte R. E. Stavert, of Bushey (3rd City of London Fusiliers) and Sapper A. R. Macdonald (Royal Engineers). The latter had sufficiently recovered to be with them that day, and he (the hon. secretary) was sure they were all glad to have Mr. Macdonald with them again (loud applause).

The balance sheet of the Central Fund showed a loss on the year's working of £2 0 2d., the balance in hand being £15 17s. 6d.

The President moved the adoption of the report and balance sheet, and endorsed the remarks made by Mr. Coles as to the subscription. He said another good way for members to help would be by paying the small sum of 2d. for their reports; this would help the Central Fund in a very trying time. Of course, any such payment would be quite voluntary, but they had to keep the camp fires burning.—Mr. J. Armstrong seconded the motion for the adoption of the report and balance sheet, and it was carried unanimously.

Eighteen new members were elected, including eleven members of a newly-formed band at St. Mary's, Hornsey, under the leadership of Mr. J. R. Sharman, who was being ably assisted by Mr. S. Wade.—One old member was re-elected.

PRESIDENT'S RE-ELECTION.

The re-election of Mr. King, as President, was carried with great enthusiasm, on the motion of Mr. F. A. Milne, seconded by Mr. G. B. Lucas.—Mr. King thanked the members for the very kind way in which they had re-elected him, and said that if there had been a diminuendo in his physical activity there had been a corresponding crescendo in his affection to all his friends who delighted to honour him with their confidence. The President added: Our presence here reminds me of the fact that it was in an adjoining parish that the ringers of this county on Whitsun Monday, 1897, united in forming this County Association, over which it is my pride and privilege to preside, so that we shall be shortly entering on our 20th year of existence. We started, doubtless, with many imperfections, but our aims were honourable and good, in so far as we desired to be better men as well as better ringers. We have also learned in the course of our experience that there are two sides to membership; first, the natural happiness that every ringer finds in extending the circle of congenial surroundings; and, secondly, the desire on the part of everyone, growing year by year, to put something into his membership for the benefit of his fellows, that is to say: Let every man get as much pleasure as he can out of his membership; let those who are gifted experts give as much as they can of their knowledge in helping things along for the benefit of other people. There might be more of this unselfish goodness displayed with advantage, for, like Shakespeare's quality of mercy, "It blesteth him that gives and him that takes."

The President proposed the re-election of the other officers: Mr. William Pye as Master; Mr. F. A. Milne as hon. treasurer; Messrs. H. C. Chandler and C. T. Coles as hon. secretaries; and Messrs. J. E. Miller and W. Pickworth as hon. auditors.—Mr. J. Armstrong seconded, and the motion was carried.

Mr. King also nominated Mr. F. A. Milne for the North and East

district, and Capt. J. H. B. Hesse for the South and West district as vice-presidents.

The arrangements for the next annual general meeting were left in the hands of the hon. secretaries.

The President referred to the great loss the Exercise had sustained in the death of Sir A. P. Heywood. Mr. King said that as soon as he heard the news he took upon himself to write to Lady Heywood, conveying the sympathy of the members of the Association, which had been acknowledged. Mr. King briefly spoke of the good work done by Sir A. P. Heywood, and asked the members to endorse his action in sending the letter of sympathy, which was done by the members all standing.

Mr. King also proposed a vote of condolence with the relatives of the late Mr. Henry Dains, referring to the very useful work done for ringers at large by that great composer. — Mr. James Parker seconded, and the vote was passed in silence, and the Hon. Secretary instructed to convey the same to the widow of the deceased ringer.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The President next referred to the Central Council. He said he was quite in sympathy with the Worcestershire Association that the Exercise might take a greater interest than they did in the work of the Council, by bringing forward and discussing at their meetings fit subjects for the consideration of the Council. He continued: "I would ask those who are only too ready to find fault with our proceedings to moderate their criticisms and make them less personal. So long as we have a scientific as well as a practical side, we must have discussions of both kinds—and I am sure that the members of the Council would resent being exclusively scientific, or on the other hand, exclusively general. We must, however, move with the times, though we are at all times crippled with the financial question as to the funds, out of which our representatives can have their expenses paid. Some can afford to pay their own—others can't—with the result that we have fewer attendances. I am not quibbling over the selection of Plymouth as a place of meeting, but it is a long and expensive journey from the Northern Counties, and few Associations could bear the expense of sending their full number of representatives. Still, if we think it out calmly and don't quarrel over it by passing resolutions to end the Council, which with all its shortcomings has done much excellent service, which is forgotten in the turmoil caused by a sudden desire for change, we shall get along and still be of some use in our day and generation.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. W. Halliday Thompson, LL.D., for the service and very excellent sermon, and for the use of the bells, and also, coupled with the churchwardens, for the great hospitality shown to members in providing tea; also to the Rev. C. J. Sharp (for St. Mary's bells), to Mr. W. Laurence for his great efforts and excellent arrangements to make the meeting a success, to Mr. E. J. Watson for arrangements at St. Mary's, and to the ladies who had helped at tea.

Immediately after tea a course of Stedman Cinques was rung on handbells by Mrs. F. I. Hairs, Messrs. W. Shepherd, G. R. Pye, W. Pye, J. Thomas, and C. H. Horton. Handbell ringing also took place after the meeting.

WANTED: A LORD HIGH EXECUTIONER.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Under ordinary circumstances I should not have troubled you with this letter, but everyone is talking about the Central Council, and I have a brilliant idea. What the Central Council wants is ginger, and I think that Mr. Joseph W. Parker should be appointed Lord High Executioner with plenary powers. In an unofficial capacity, Mr. Parker has wielded the executionary axe with marked ability, and quite a number of campanological malefactors have experienced its shortening effect, the last to suffer being the President Pearce of the Exercise, Mr. George Baker. For several of Mr. Parker's victims I have had considerable sympathy, but for Mr. Baker I confess that I have none. No one knows better than he that the peculiarity of Stedman is that it combines the virtues of Plain Bob and Duffield, inasmuch as it keeps the dodging and hunting principles inviolate, and yet, not in ignorance, mind you, but with malice propense, he straightaway goes and violates both. Now, sir, men that do these things ought to be made to feel that the way of transgressors is hard, and I agree with "Bob Major" that the punishment should be made to fit the crime. Fortunately, owing to Mr. Parker's vigilance, no damage of military importance has been done. But it might have been otherwise, for although Stedman ringers are very wary birds, and they have hitherto declined to be caught with golden corn, Mr. Baker, if his malevolent designs had not been nipped in the bud, might have caught them with his chaff, and the whole of the Stedman section of the Exercise would have been in open rebellion.

And now, sir, I have a little crow to pull with you. I have never seen you ring except once at St. Paul's, and no one can generalise on that, but I know that you think you can ring, and, this is what I am coming to, you ought to have known that that peal was false. In fact, you did know, it being turtle to tripe against it; and working in collusion with Parker, like some Sawney Bean or Eugene Aram—I forget which gentleman it was—you kidded poor Baker into publishing it.—Yours, etc.,

GEORGE T. CLAYTON.

Walthamstow, May 13th, 1916.

ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY.

The last quarterly meeting of the society's year was held at Sedgley on Saturday week, when the following towers were represented: Bilston, Birmingham (S. Martin's and Bishop Ryder's), Bradley, Coseley, Dudley, Tipton, Walsall, West Bromwich (All Saints and Christ Church), Wolverhampton (S. Luke's and S. Peter's).

A short service was held in the church, with a helpful address given by the Vicar (Rev. T. G. Swindell, D.D.). Tea was provided in the Schoolroom, to which 34 sat down.

A vote of sympathy was passed to the relatives of the late Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., Mr. George Smith (of Walsall), and Mr. William Painter (ex-chief detective inspector of Birmingham); also to the Rev. W. T. de Vine, R.D. (of Tipton), who has recently lost his son (the Rev. H. B. St. John de Vine) at the front, the secretary being instructed to forward an expression of condolence to the respective families.

The date of the annual meeting is fixed for June 24th, at Tamworth.

In reply to a vote of thanks for his address, the use of the bells, etc., the Vicar expressed his feelings of great joy in meeting the members. In reference to the war, the reverend gentleman said the people of England will have to be brought to their knees—there being at the present time too much Germanism in the country.

Various methods were rung upon the bells during the afternoon and evening.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday week the Manchester branch held a very successful meeting at Swinton, no less than sixteen towers being represented.—The Vicar (the Rev. B. O. F. Heywood, M.A.), cousin of the late President of the Central Council, presided over the meeting, and gave a hearty welcome to all present.—A vote of condolence and sympathy with Lady Heywood and family in their bereavement was passed in silence.—Flixton was chosen as the next meeting place.—Mr. Collier, of the Swinton company, was elected a member of the Association, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for presiding and granting the use of the bells, and to the local ringers for having things in readiness.

The usual monthly meeting of the Rochdale Branch was held at Leesfield last Saturday, members being present from Oldham, Glodwick, Milnrow, New Hey, Middleton, etc.—The Milnrow ringers gave the branch a special invitation to hold the next meeting at Milnrow on June 3rd for the unveiling of a double peal board containing the records of a muffled peal in memory of those who had fallen in the war, and the other as a welcome to the new Vicar.—Votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells and the ringers for having everything in readiness.—Touches of Stedman and Grandire Triples, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob Major were rung during the day.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

EFFECT OF THE WAR.

In the 31st annual report of the Worcestershire and Districts Association, which was circulated among the members at their meeting at Worcester on Easter Monday, occurs the following: Everyone feels compelled to look at events during the past year from the standpoint of what one has done to help toward a satisfactory peace, and of the effect the war has had upon one's work. In regard to our association, we must feel proud of those of our members who are doing their utmost by joining the army and navy, or by helping to produce material, and we pray that those serving in H.M. Forces may, by God's mercy, be spared to share in the joy of celebrating peace. When we turn to the effect the war has had upon our duties as ringers, we see bands struggling to teach beginners to take the place of those that are fighting, and of whom they are most proud, and we find them doing all they can to keep in practice ready for the celebration of peace and for ringing for Sunday services; in this our association is doing as much as possible by holding its usual meetings and by carrying out its work as far as possible.

The report goes on to express deep regret at the death of the Rev. Canon Claughton, who had been an honorary member since 1884, and became a vice-president in 1886. The banch meetings had again been successful and well attended, and there had been no change in the branch officers. The balance sheet, considering the war, was satisfactory, and £30 had been transferred from the Post Office Savings Bank into the War Loan. The first grant from the Belfry Repairs Fund had been made, two guineas having been given towards the rehanging of the bells at All Saints', Worcester. As one would expect, there had been but few peals rung on tower bells, but the number of handbell peals one would have liked to have seen larger. The total was: On tower bells, 15; on handbells, 9.

"ALL WELL."

"All Well," is the message dated May 9th, which we have received from Mr. Gabriel Lindoff, of Dublin, and which his many friends in England will be delighted to learn after the recent tragic happenings in Ireland. Many ringers have happy memories of visits to Dublin and the kindness with which arrangements for their pleasure have been made by Mr. Lindoff.

NOTICES.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Painswick to-morrow. Bells (12) available from 2 p.m. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea in Mission Room at 5 o'clock, followed by business meeting.—R. W. Hyner, Hon. Secretary, 46, Goddard Avenue, Swindon, Wilts.

A RINGERS' MEEEEEING will be held at Oakford (8) on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available from 3. Service and address by the Rector at 4.30. Tea (6d.) in the Parish Room at 5. Names of those requiring tea to be sent to me not later than Tuesday, May 16th. Oakford is 4 miles from Bampton and Dulverton stations.—Rev. E. V. Cox, Bampton, Devon.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Aberavon (Port Talbot) on Saturday, May 20th, at 4.30. Tea will be provided free.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., John W. Jones, 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon., Hon. Secs.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Barrow Gurney on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available at 5 o'clock. Business meeting at 6.30.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Newchurch, near Warrington, on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available from 3.30 to dusk.—G. Pincott, Branch Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Grassendale on Saturday, May 20th. Bells ready at 5, meeting at 6. Business important. A good meeting is requested.—Walter Hughes, Honorary Secretary.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Hayfield on Saturday, May 20th.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Honorary Secretary, New Mills.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM, Established 1755. — Quarterly meeting will be held at Sutton Coldfield on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available from 3.30. The Guild's form of service will be held in church at 5.30, the Rector giving the address, and every member is specially invited to be present. Tea will be provided free in the Church House for those who advise me, not later than the 17th inst., of their intention to be present. Business meeting afterwards.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Secretary, 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Yorktown District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bagshot on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea 5.30.—G. Miles, Honorary Secretary, Owlsmoor, Camberley.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division. A practice meeting will be held at St. Margaret's, Bark-ing, on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available from 4 to 8 p.m. All will be welcome. — E. J. Butler, Shadwell Heath.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS, Established 1637.—A Meeting will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on May 23rd for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—The next meeting will be held on May 27th at Wotton-under-Edge. Bells (8) open from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Visitors heartily welcomed. Kindly notify by May 24th to W. A. Lewis, Ham, Berkely, Glos.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—By kind permission the half-yearly meeting will be held at Wigan on Saturday, May 27th, when All Saints' and St. James' bells will be available from 3.30.—W. H. Shuker, J. H. Banks, Hon. Secs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Canterbury District).—The annual meeting of the District will be held on Saturday, May 27th, at Faversham. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea (3d. a head) in Queen's Hall. Business after tea. Members attending must send their names to me not later than Wednesday, May 24th; anyone neglecting to do this must not expect a place at the tea. Subscriptions must be paid before or at the meeting.—Fred J. O. Helmore, Hon. Sec., Canterbury.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Eastern District).—A meeting will be held at Bennington on May 27th, when the bells will be available during the afternoon and evening until 8.30. Tea will be provided free by the Rector, Rev. Canon Mills, 5.30, in the Parochial Hall. All members and friends will be made welcome. A card from those who can notify me will oblige.—W. H. Lawrence, Little Munden.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The Annual General Meeting will be held at East Retford on Saturday, May 27th. East Retford (10 bells), West Retford (6 bells), Ordsall (6 bells), will be available from 2.30 p.m. until sunset. Divine Service, 4.20 p.m., Parish Church. Tea in Parish Room at 5 p.m., to be followed by a Business Meeting immediately afterwards. Tea 9d. (half-price) to members, 1/3 to non-residents, and 1/6 to all others. Vice-Presidents free. A hearty welcome will be extended to members of kindred associations.—J. C. Haigh, Hon. Sec., 103, Gateford Road, Worksop.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Northampton District.—A meeting will be held at Dallington on Saturday, May 27th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—T. Law, Dist. Sec., St. Peter's Cottages, Weston Favell.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A meeting will be held at Seale on Saturday, May 27th. Bells (6) available from 3 o'clock. Tea, 9d. to members, 1/6 to visitors, at 5. Service at 6.30, conducted by the Rector.—John J. Jones, Hon. Sec.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next monthly meeting of the Society will be held at Tong on Saturday, May 27th, 1916. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting at 7.30 p.m.—W. Barton, Hon. Sec., 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bitton on May 27th. Bells (6) from 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Visitors welcomed. Kindly notify by May 23rd to Arthur W. Seviour, 5, Brunswick Street, City Road, Bristol.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Thrapston District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Great Addington on Saturday, May 27th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock.—F. Stubbs, District Secretary.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Shenley, Saturday, June 3rd. Service at 3 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—T. Best, Secretary.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Western District will be held at Ripponden on Saturday, 3rd June. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Tea in Schools 5 p.m., 1/- per head to all sending in to Mr. A. Carter, Jubilee Buildings, Ripponden, before Tuesday, May 30th. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A quarterly meeting of the above Guild will be held at St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, on Saturday, June 3rd. The bells (12) will be available for ringing at 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30, which will be conducted by the Rev. Prebendary Penny (Rector). Business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held in Milnrow on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6 o'clock. This meeting is by special request of the Milnrow ringers for the unveiling of a Peal Board. A good attendance of members is requested.—Secretary, T. K. Driver, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next meeting will be held at Whiston (Bus 2d. from Rotherham) on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (8) available 3 to 9 p.m. Tea provided (1/- each) for those who notify W. Warburton, Meadow View, Whiston, near Rotherham, by Tuesday, May 30th. Business meeting in Church Institute after tea.—Leonard Brightman, 45, St. Stephen's Road, Rotherham (District Sec. *pro tem.*).

ESSEX ASSOCIATION (North-Western Division).—A District Meeting will be held at Matching on Saturday, June 3rd, 1916. Bells available 3 p.m. Business meeting will be held in the Marriage Feast Room, next the Church, at 5.30 p.m. Those who require tea please let me know by Wednesday, May 31st. All subscriptions for 1916 are now due and should be paid as soon as possible.—William Watts, District Secretary, Mont House Cottage, Stansted, Essex.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.
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DAGENHAM.—Essex Association.—Easter Day, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor: Pte Nipper 1, Miss C. Playle 2, Pte Moore 3, J. Baker 4, G. Playle (conductor) 5, Corpl. Gale 6. The soldiers are of the Somerset Light Infantry, stationed at Purfleet.

BARNES.—At St. Mary's Church, Barnes, on Easter Sunday, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 42 mins.: M. Jacobs 1, H. Barrett 2, R. Mackrill 3, P. H. Smith 4, C. Hunt 5, H. Cook 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, J. Wilmott 8.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Easter Day, for evening service, at All Saints' Church, 1260 Stedman Triples: H. Blundell 1, A. P. Hensman (conductor) 2, J. T. Hensman 3, T. Law 4, H. Rainbow 5, W. Farey 6, W. J. Allen 7, J. White 8. Also rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

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**Bell Frames in Cast Iron, Steel
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**Bells tuned on the latest im-
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This charming model in Solid Hall Marked Silver
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New Bells supplied, Ropes of the best make.
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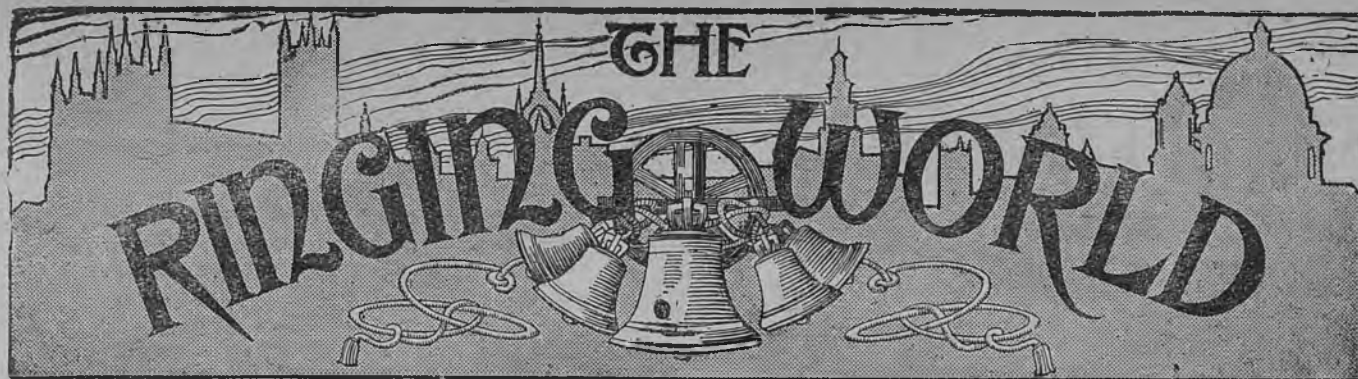
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Bronze 2/9 (post free).



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FRIDAY, MAY 26th, 1916.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 1d.

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CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

ASSOCIATIONS AND THE COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the Sussex Association, which is reported in this issue, was a breezy gathering, but one which the members are not altogether unused to. Plain speaking has been a frequent characteristic of the meetings of this organisation, although, happily, the ground of complaint is not against the management. The association is run by officials who are painstaking and enthusiastic, and nothing could speak higher for the successful way in which the affairs are conducted than the fact that, despite the financial depression which many of the ringing societies are feeling, the Sussex Association has increased its funds to the extent of nearly £13 during the year.

The trouble arose over the question of sending representatives to the Central Council, there being a motion on the agenda that this should be discontinued. In Sussex, as elsewhere, the feeling is strong among some ringers that the Council, in recent years, at any rate, has not justified its existence and that the expense involved is, therefore, so much money wasted. This feeling throughout the country is strong, and those who desire to see the continuance of the Council must not minimise its importance. The Sussex meeting clearly showed that, at any rate, there is one association which, although it has up to now given the Council consistent support, would not turn an unwilling ear to severing its connection. And in this respect we do not think Sussex is an isolated instance.

We are glad to read that wise counsels prevailed, and that a decision upon falling away from union with the central body is postponed. The adjournment is for a year, but the Council will not have met again before that period expires, and the association will hardly be in any better position then than now to judge whether conditions are likely to improve. But, at any rate, hasty resolution was averted, and, perhaps, it may now be possible to suspend action until the Council has held another meeting and has shown in its own deliberations whether any effort is to be made to bring it more nearly into accord with what many ringers think it should be. If this is to be done we urge, as we have continually urged, that it is for the associations to undertake the re-vitalising. The members of the Council are the association's representatives, and it is from the associations, through the representatives, that most of the discussions by the Council should be originated. It is no good calling the Council useless, unless those responsible for its formation have tried and failed to make it useful. Surely among the forty or more associations, with their thousands of members, there are sufficient ideas to give the Council enough useful work for one day a year!

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



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Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

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Kindly ask us to Inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract,—we may be able to assist you.

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and report on Bells and Towers

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

COLERNE, WILTS.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 14, 1916, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| *ARTHUR J. HILL Treble | ALBERT E. SEERS 5 |
| FRED C. RICH 2 | RICHARD J. COUSINS 6 |
| ALBERT E. ALEXANDER 3 | †SAMUEL J. HECTOR 7 |
| WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT 4 | THOMAS F. KING Tenor |

Conducted by R. J. COUSINS.

* First peal, and elected member before starting. † Fiftieth peal. This peal was arranged as a farewell, all the ringers in the band having joined the married groups under Lord Derby's scheme and shortly expecting to be called to the colours.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 20, 1916, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

E. TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 21 cwt. 0 qrs. 14 lbs.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| *ASTLEY JOHNSON Treble | SAMUEL COLLIER 5 |
| ROBERT DAVIES 2 | JAMES H. COLLIER 6 |
| PERCY DERBYSHIRE 3 | JOSEPH RIDYARD 7 |
| †WILLIAM JONES 4 | WRIGHT JOHNSON Tenor |

Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire. Rung with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect in memory of Joseph Brooks, who was a ringer at the adjoining parish of Walkden, and was buried at Walkden on May 16th.

HANDBELL PEALS.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 20, 1916, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT ST. MICHAEL'S, JOSEPH ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL,

Tenor, size 15 in C.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| CHARLES HAZELDEN ... 1—2 | ALFRED H. PULLING ... 5—6 |
| MRS. FRANK I. HAIRS ... 3—4 | MRS. CHARLES HAZELDEN ... 7—8 |

Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

Witnesses: MRS. PULLING and MRS. YVONNIE ELOIE-LELOUIE.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. C. Hazelden.

CHESTERFIELD.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES AND THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.

On Sunday, May 21st, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT 31, HIGHER ALBERT STREET,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB ROYAL, 5184 CHANGES;

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| GEORGE HOLLIS 1—2 | WILLIAM J. THYNG 5—6 |
| CLEMENT GLENN 3—4 | ARTHUR KNIGHTS 7—8 |

GEORGE DAVIES 9—10

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, and

Conducted by C. GLENN.

Umpire: WALTER ALLWOOD.

First handbell peal in the method by the M.C.A., and by all the band except the conductor.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following have joined the Colours:—

Pte F. E. Tegg, of Christ Church, Southgate, East Surrey Regiment, now at Saltash.

Driver Samuel Brook, junr., of Pontefract, R.F.A., now at Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Pte D. H. Newman, of Chelmsford Cathedral, 2nd Essex Yeomanry, now at Aldershot.

Pte Arthur Phillips, of Little Munden, 4th Essex Territorials.

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SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

REPRESENTATION ON THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The thirty-first annual meeting of the Sussex County Association was held at Brighton on Saturday week, when upwards of 70 members were present, representing a great number of towers. The members enjoyed a substantial meat tea at the New Ship Hotel, the Rev. H. Horden (Vicar of St. Nicholas) presiding, supported by the Master (Mr. F. B. Tomkins), the hon. treasurer (Mr. R. C. Ford), the hon. secretary (Mr. G. Watson), and the divisional secretaries. The business meeting was afterwards held, the Master presiding.

The following report was presented, and, with the balance sheet, adopted: Notwithstanding the war, the financial position of the Association continues to improve, for although—as might have been expected—the income this year has not been so great as in former years the expenses, owing to the small number of meetings, have also been considerably less, the net result being that our assets have been augmented during the year by about £13. As will be seen by a reference to the balance sheet, we have purchased out of the current and Benevolent Accounts £50 of the 4½ per cent. War Loan. A proposal will be made at the annual meeting to make this the reserve fund of the Association, and it will also be proposed at that meeting to withdraw the present reserve fund from the Post Office Savings Bank, leaving the committee to invest the whole, or such portion as may be deemed advisable in their opinion, in Exchequer Bonds. It cannot but be gratifying to the members to know that our finances are in such a happy state that should bad times arise in the future we shall in all probability be able to cope with them. As has already been said, but few meetings (four in all) have been held, but it is earnestly hoped that a greater number may be held in the coming year, and although it has not been found possible to arrange times and places for these, the district secretaries will be most pleased to welcome invitations from any towers desirous of having meetings. Though “the times be out of joint” and many restrictions have been placed upon ringing, members are earnestly requested to do all in their power to keep the work of the Association to the fore, and as the song says—

“Keep the Church-bells ringing
Till the boys come home.”

Only six peals, and all of these either five or six bell peals, have been rung during the past year, the Shipley band being the only one to get into double figures in the points list. Before concluding this brief report, we would convey our heartiest greetings and best of good wishes to those of our members now serving with His Majesty's Forces

HEALTHY FINANCES.

The balance sheet showed that the year started with £42 3s. 11d. in hand. The receipts were £43 11s. 1d., and the expenses £32 2s. 4d. leaving a balance of £53 11s. 8d., of which £3 19s. 4d. was in hand, and £49 13s. 4d. represented the purchase price of £50 War Loan. The reserve fund remained at £50, the interest amounting to £2 7s. 7d. having been transferred to the Benevolent Fund, which, at the end of the year, had a balance of £29 4s. 4d.

The whole of the officers were re-elected as follows: Master, Mr. F. F. Tomkins; hon. treasurer, Mr. R. C. Ford; hon. secretary, Mr. G. Watson; divisional secretaries: East, Mr. G. H. Howse; Central, Mr. A. D. Stone; West, Mr. A. W. Groves; hon. auditors, Messrs. C. J. E. Harfey and W. White; peals' secretary, Mr. A. Gravett.

On the motion of the General Secretary, it was resolved: (1) That the War Loan purchased by the Association be transferred to three trustees—these to be appointed at the annual meeting; (2) that the Reserve Fund be withdrawn from the Post Office Savings Bank and either the whole, or such portion as the committee may deem advisable, be invested in Exchequer Bonds; (3) that the War Loan take the place of the Reserve Fund.

Mr. R. Stredwick, one of the Association's representatives on the Central Council, then proposed: “That the Association discontinue sending representatives to the Central Council meetings.” He said that the representatives did not report to the Association; indeed, there was nothing for them to report, as the Central Council fulfilled no useful purpose to ringers generally. He pointed out the cost to the Association, which derived no benefit whatever from its connection with the central body.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Doick, and strongly supported by Mr. K. Hart, Messrs. R. J. Dawe and G. H. Howse having spoken.

The General Secretary urged that the matter be left in abeyance for a year, suggesting that it would be better to try to make the Council meetings more useful to the general body of ringers than to withdraw all representation, especially at a time so closely following the death of Sir Arthur Heywood, the founder of the Council. It might be found necessary on the score of expense to send only one or two members instead of four, but in his opinion a central body was necessary, and although a small number of delegates had in past years monopolised the time of the Council in debating questions of but little interest to the great body of ringers, there was a possibility that in the future it might be of much use to the Exercise. If it were not so, then he, also, would vote for the resolution.

An amendment, proposed by Mr. Dawe, seconded by Mr. F. Bennett, “That the further consideration of the question be postponed for a year,” was carried by a large majority.

Brighton was chosen as the place for next year's meeting.

A vote of condolence was passed with Lady Heywood and Mrs. H. Dains (Mr. Dains having been an old member of the Association).

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. Horden for presiding at the tea, for allowing the service to be held in his church, and also for permitting the offertory at the service to be given to the Benevolent Fund of the Association.

This terminated the business, and the members then attended service at St. Nicholas' Church.

Afterwards, as in the afternoon, they enjoyed ringing on the fine new peal of ten at St. Peter's Church.

THE LATE SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD.

GIFT OF HANDBELLS TO MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

A peal of 13 handbells (with one duplicate bell cast by himself), the property of the late Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., has been presented to the Midland Counties Association by Lady Heywood.

At Stoke, Coventry, on Saturday week, members of the Warwickshire Guild attempted a half-muffled peal of Stedman Triples to the memory of the late Sir Arthur Heywood, but much to the regret of the ringers it came to grief, after 2 hrs. 40 mins. ringing: H. J. Balcombe 1, W. J. Smith 2, H. Argyle 3, O. J. Hunt 4, T. W. Chapman 5, W. Brunsdon (conductor) 6, C. Freeman 7, F. Brassington 8.

SIR ARTHUR'S PORTRAIT.

To the Editor.

Sir,—May I suggest that you print on a separate sheet of good paper the excellent portrait of our late President, Sir Arthur Heywood, even if you have to charge a nominal sum. It is really one of the best I have seen of him. By-the-way, our old friend, Mr. F. E. Dawe, in his recollections of Duffield, says he took part in Sir Arthur's first peal of Stedman. May I ask Mr. Dawe where and when this was, as I always thought Sir Arthur rang his first peal of Stedman on March 2nd, 1886, and the first peal of Stedman on Duffield bells I conducted 30 years come “Oak Apple Day.” It was quite interesting to me, and it must be to many of my old ringing friends, to read Mr. Dawe's recollections, and during these serious times it wants someone to relieve the monotony, such as our old friend Mr. Jerram, whose writings are ever appreciated, and also Mr. Morris, of Leicester. I know lots of men who are able to write to interest us.

Look how Mr. Daniels used to, so I wish he would give us that recipe of how the ringers used to have legs of mutton stuffed when they used herrings for the stuffing. I should like to try it some time. Old Charlie Hounslow tried it, and he told me it was fine. You know, Mr. Editor, I could tell a tale or two, but I haven't got time. The Government's put us on short hours.—Yours faithfully, JOHN JAGGAR.

Dear Sir,—May I be permitted to refresh Mr. Dawe's memory, and put him right in his account of the handbell ringing at the first Johnson dinner in Birmingham. The band was as follows: T. Russam 1—2, W. Kent 3—4, T. Miller 5—6, H. Bastable (conductor) 7—8, B. Witchell 9—10, H. Johnson, junr. 11—12.—Faithfully yours, T. RUSSAM.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE OUTING.

On Saturday last the ringers of St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, with their wives and friends, had a most successful and enjoyable outing to Mottram-in-Longendale. They took car to the Stayleybridge terminus, and then proceeded on foot through the famous cutting which was made during the cotton panic. Reaching Mottram about 3.45 p.m. they were met by Mr. Joseph Goddard, who had made every arrangement for the comfort of the ringers. Whilst viewing the beautiful scenery around there was evidence of an approaching thunderstorm. Ascending the tower, the visitors had hardly commenced to ring when down came the flood in torrential force, and for the time being there was a battle royal between the elements and the swinging bells (rung by the fair belles). On descending from the tower the party found the rain had ceased, the sun shining with magnificent splendour, and the birds singing with renewed vigour. Mr. Joe Goddard and Mr. Robert Walker rang with the ladies, this being the first time they had rung with members of the fair sex. It was also the first occasion that a band of lady ringers had rung at this old and famous church.

Tea was served by Mrs. Hobson, an old resident of Mottram, who has lived under the sound of the tower bells for many long years. Afterwards a ramble over hill and dale and through woods filled with luxuriant blossom, the party landed at Gee Cross, where they again took car, arriving safely home about 10 p.m., having had one of the best of outings.

The ringers desire to thank the Vicar and the local men for granting the use of the bells, which it was understood was a special privilege to the lady ringers, it being the strong desire of the incumbent that the bells should only be rung on very special occasions during the war.

“NO COMMENT NEEDED.”

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have seen and read Mr. Clayton's letter in your last issue. The purpose for which it was written is best known to its author, and it needs no further comment from Yours truly, GEORGE BAKER.

Brighton.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

By "BOB MAJOR."

This new daylight saving stunt isn't a bad wheeze, from the ringers' point of view. Practices have had to be suspended in lots of places under the Defence of the Realm regulations, but by arranging to have the sun wound down an hour later each evening it ought to open up many more opportunities for ringing after business hours. But it is funny, isn't it, how we play the game of make-believe on ourselves? I get up in the morning now at nine o'clock and seriously believe it is ten, and I presume, although I am not up in time to see, that those who rise at five "kid" themselves it is six. It is really going back again to our nursery days, when we would believe anything. And we have taken to it as a duck takes to water. I suppose it is Nature re-asserting itself. In our young days our imaginations were open to anything, and they are just as receptive now—when we like.

WHAT OLD GEORGE THOUGHT.

But old George, the sexton at a church where I sometimes lend a hand, didn't tumble to the alteration very readily. George doesn't bother much about reading the daily papers, but he had heard something about this extra hour's daylight which we were to have. He, however, apparently thought the change was to be brought about by some natural phenomenon. When the bells started for service at 9.30 (according to his watch) he dashed up to the belfry to know who gave the ringers permission to start at that time of the morning—he always regards himself as the man in authority. When he was reminded about the daylight saving business, he replied: "That ain't worked. I looked out my bedroom window 's'mornin' early an' it didn't get light no later." It took a minute or two to convince old George that it was the clock and not the sun that was being altered. But ringers, no doubt, will make the most of the change, for that additional hour's daylight is just the thing to make a week-night practice possible.

CALLING THE "BOBS."

Have you yet sent up your shillings towards the fund for recasting the cracked bell at King's Cliffe? All you men who are doing your bit at the benches, earning so much money that you haven't time to spend it all, have a good chance here of shedding some of your superfluous wealth in a good purpose. What is it they say? "He gives twice who gives quickly"—or something like that—and I daresay he would if he gave so quickly the first time that he didn't know what he was doing. But seriously, ringers have a way with them of helping a good cause which is connected with their art. The freemasonry of the Exercise touches the spring of their generosity when there is good to be done, and here, undoubtedly, is a case where a shilling or two from each tower—a mere trifle to the individuals concerned—would do a great service. I hope to read shortly that the response to the Editor's appeal for help for King's Cliffe has been so wide that the new tenor bell there has been ordered. Now, when you meet next Sunday don't forget to pass the hat round, and don't forget to send the collection to the Rector of King's Cliffe on Monday.

THE LORD HIGH EXECUTIONER.

George T. Clayton on the war-path again! He is no respecter of persons, and from Holt to Baker they came under his lash. His suggestion for a Lord High Executioner, however, isn't bad, but bearing in mind what has happened in the past—the inventor of the guillotine is said to have been the first to lose his head by the instrument—G.T.C. may have to tread warily lest he, too, should suffer the fate he advocates for offenders. "Campanological malefactors" are not confined to composers of peals, there are others, and the Lord High Executioner would be likely to have a busy time.

If a Lord High Executioner,
With plenary powers, one day
Were established in the Exercise,
What a busy time and gay
He would have among the members
When he came upon the scene
And brought with him his shining axe,
With blade so sharp and keen

He would start among composers who
Just fancy they are "it,"
But who cut a sorry figure
When false peals they published get,
Next he'd find the dreary talkers,
Who waste the Council's time,
And in their case, be sure he'd make
The punishment fit the crime.

Then many a careless ringer would
The penalty have to pay,
But still the Executioner's work
Would need another day.
There are many wordy writers,
Who try to prove black's white,
And should come beneath his sharpened axe
So that out might go their light.

BAD RINGING AT GOOD MEETINGS.

In reading the report of the annual meeting of the Salisbury Guild last week, I noted that the ringers had a treat. The four standard methods were rung during the day—an unusual occurrence at the meetings of this Guild. I think this shows progress down Wilts and Dorset way, and I have no doubt those touches were executed in good style. But it is strange, isn't it, that one usually hears the worst of ringing on such occasions. The better the meeting in point of numbers, the worse the average ringing, as a rule. I often wonder what some of the inhabitants think of ringers as a whole when they read in their local paper that the Blankshire Association held their annual meeting in the town, and that representative ringers from all parts of the county were present; and when they (the inhabitants) have had for some hours to endure the most execrable striking. Ringers, of course, know the reason for this—the visitors have been out-weighted on strange bells, or lame dogs have been helped over stiles—but the public do not. It was at such a gathering once that I was talking to a tradesman, whose shop was opposite the church. He wanted to know what the bells were ringing for, and when I told him and thought to impress him with the importance of the occasion by adding that all the best ringers from the county were there, he replied, with a sigh of resignation, "Well, I'm glad you didn't bring the worst." It was not exactly what he said, but the way he said it, that struck home.

NOTABLE PERFORMANCES OF THE PAST.

Next Sunday is the anniversary of the first peal of Stedman Caters, for it was on May 28th, 1787, that the College Youths at St. John's, Horsleydown, achieved the first peal in the method. It is recorded on a board in the following terms: "In honour to a most noble performance by the Ancient Society of College Youths, who on Monday, May 28th, 1787, did ring, in an excellent manner the first complete peal of Caters upon Stedman's Principle, 5076 changes, in 3 hours and 27 minutes. May this panel transmit their names to posterity with that of the ingenius Mr. W. Jones, on whose abilities his inimitable commentaries so happily concludes with 'Here the Cynic and the Panegyrist stop,' and join in eulogiums to such distinguished merits. John Reeves 1, John Anderson 2, Daniel Jenkins 3, John Inville 4, Thomas Heap 5, Nathaniel Williamson 6, Allen Grant 7, Christopher Wells 8, William Lowndes 9, Paul Webb 10. Composed and called by Mr. John Reeves."

"Mr. Holt's true whole Peal of Grandsire Tripples, containing 5040 changes, was rung in this steeple by a set of the Society of Sherwood Youths, from Nottingham," records a board dated May 24th, 1768, which hangs in the belfry of All Saints', Gainsborough. The ringers were: Jno. Wright treble, Jno. S. Canner 2, Fr. Draper 3, Wm. D. Crofts 4, Jas. Wilkinson 5, Rt. Metheringham 6, Rd. Stathern 7, Wm. Frogat tenor. "The Bobs were call'd by J. S. Canner."

One of the earliest peals of Treble Ten, if not the first true one, was rung on May 30th at St. Sepulchre's, Snow Hill, London, in the year 1741. This was 5000 Union Bob Royal. The only known peal of Treble Bob Royal rung before it was at the same church on April 7th in the same year, by the Eastern Scholars, and some doubt has been thrown upon this performance by a couplet which was added to the record of the second peal.

"When merit's justly due, a little praise then serveth;
A good peal needs no frame, a bad one none deserveth."

A MEETING IN NORTH DEVON.

A very successful gathering was held in the village of Oakford, four miles from Bampton, last Saturday. The church possesses a good ring of eight bells by Mears and Stainbank, dated 1825, and the "go" is excellent, owing to the fact that Messrs. Stokes, of Woodbury, rehung them only recently. Despite the fact that the place is situated in the heart of a "call change" neighbourhood, there was plenty of good ringing done during the afternoon and evening to the tune of Grandsire Doubles and Triples. More than 30 ringers were present from Bampton, Clayhanger, Chipstable, Dulverton, Exton, Huntsham, Milverton, Minehead, Oakford and Swindon (Mr. J. H. Shepherd).

The Rector (the Rev. F. G. Buller) gave an address at the service, and welcomed all the ringers at the tea, which was subsequently partaken of in the Parish Room. Quite a commotion was caused, just after "grace" had been said, by the appearance of a monoplane—any flying machine is a rarity in these parts—flying very high in a south-westerly direction.

The Rev. E. V. Cox thanked the Rector for allowing them to hold the meeting at his church and for bearing part of the expenses connected with the tea. It was decided to try and arrange the next meeting, about the end of July, at Huntsham.

KING'S CLIFFE BELLS.

We would remind our readers of the appeal which is made for contributions toward recasting the tenor at King's Cliffe, which was broken recently while ringing was in progress. Bands might well send up their collective gifts through their secretaries. A shilling or two from each tower would go a long way towards the £38 required. Contributions should be sent to the Rev. H. A. Orlebar, King's Cliffe, near Peterborough. Sums of 10s. and 10s. 6d. are acknowledged.

DEATH OF A LEICESTERSHIRE RINGER.

There has just passed away from amongst the ringers of Stanford-on-Soar and Loughborough, in the person of Mr. John Yates, one who, for over a quarter of a century, had been a ringer at the quiet village of Stanford, and also sexton of the beautiful church. The deceased, who was 59 years of age, was in the tower on Sunday, May 7th, and took his customary place in the belfry. On the following Tuesday he went to work as usual, but came home about dinner-time and complained of not feeling very well. Before a doctor could be summoned he passed away.

He was laid to rest on Sunday, May 14th, in the beautiful churchyard of Stanford, in the presence of sorrowing relations and a host of friends. The service was choral, and the organist played the Dead March in "Saul" on the organ as the body was taken out of the church. After the funeral service the "whole pull and stand" was rung, also a touch of Grandsire Triples, with the bells muffled, the ringers being: C. Harriman 1, W. Tharley 2, J. Oldham 3, H. Stubbs 4, E. Cartwright 5, H. Whittle 6, E. Reader 7, J. Powell 8. The ringers desire to convey to the widow and relatives of the deceased their deepest sympathy in their sad bereavement. It is but the barest truth to say that the late Mr. Yates had the respect of all who ever had the pleasure of being in his company.

DEATH OF A WALKDEN RINGER.

On Friday, May 12th, there passed away one of the oldest of the Walkden ringers, in the person of Mr. Joseph Brooks. Deceased had been a ringer at Walkden for close on 40 years, being one of the first band to learn change ringing there. He had not been able to ring for over four years, through illness, but, whenever he was able, he came to the tower.

The funeral took place at Walkden, on Tuesday, May 16th, when the deceased was carried to his last resting place by his brother ringers, who sent a wreath as a token of sympathy.

A peal of Stedman was attempted last Saturday, with the bells deeply muffled, but unfortunately came to grief, after an hour and ten minutes very good ringing: J. Denner (Walkden) 1, A. Potter (Walkden) 2, T. Barlow (Deane) 3, J. Welsby (Walkden) 4, J. T. Potter (Eccles) 5, W. Pennington (Bolton) 6, W. E. Wilson (Blackburn), conductor, 7, Jas. Denner (Walkden) 8.

A peal attempt in the adjoining parish of Worsley was, however, successful, and will be found recorded in another column.

The late Mr. Brooks had rung 23 peals in the following methods:—Kent Treble Bob, 8; Oxford Treble Bob, 1; Grandsire Triples, 5; Stedman (on tenor), 1; Bob Major, 3; Bob Triples, 2; Darlaston Bob Triples, 2; 7 Minor Methods, 1; total, 23.

PROOF AND COMPOSITION**OF TREBLE BOB METHODS.**

BY GABRIEL LINDOFF.

(Continued from page 211.)

To find the thirty true course ends we proceed as follows:—

Write down the five course ends obtained by five bobs before marked A, and transpose each by the three false course ends thus:—

| A | False Course Ends. | | | |
|-------|--------------------|-------|-------|--|
| 23456 | 32546 | 46253 | 24365 | |
| 35264 | 53624 | 24365 | 32546 | |
| 56342 | 65432 | 32546 | 53624 | |
| 64523 | 46253 | 53624 | 65432 | |
| 42635 | 24365 | 65432 | 46253 | |

Now observe these three columns of false course ends. One thing that will strike you is that each of the three columns contains exactly the same five courses although in different orders. And what is more, if we take one of them, and make it a member of five courses obtained by bobs before, we find that those five courses are identical with these three false columns (See B).

B.

32546
24365
46253
65432
53624

Therefore B contains any falseness against A, and likewise A contains any falseness against B. In fact they are interchangeable, and quite independent of any other course ends as regards proof.

Now the sixty course ends can be broken up into six of these interchangeable pairs of blocks, a table of which is given below. Take any one block, either A or B from each number, and the result is thirty true courses.

Table for obtaining thirty true course ends:—

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 23456 | 42356 | 34256 | 54326 | 52436 | 53246 |
| 35264 | 25463 | 45362 | 42563 | 23564 | 34562 |
| 56342 A | 56234 A | 56423 A | 26435 A | 36245 A | 46325 A |
| 64523 | 63542 | 62534 | 63254 | 64352 | 62453 |
| 42635 | 34625 | 23645 | 35642 | 45623 | 25634 |
| 32546 | 24536 | 43526 | 45236 | 25346 | 35426 |
| 24365 | 43265 | 32465 | 53462 | 54263 | 52364 |
| 46253 B | 36452 B | 26354 B | 36524 B | 46532 B | 26543 B |
| 65432 | 65324 | 65243 | 62345 | 63425 | 64235 |
| 53624 | 52643 | 54632 | 24653 | 32654 | 43652 |

The number of possible thirty true course ends from this table is sixty-four. The key for obtaining them is as follows:—

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|----|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | A | A | A | A | A | 33 | A | A | A | A | B |
| 2 | B | A | A | A | A | 34 | B | A | A | A | B |
| 3 | A | B | A | A | A | 35 | A | B | A | A | B |
| 4 | B | B | A | A | A | 36 | B | B | A | A | B |
| 5 | A | A | B | A | A | 37 | A | A | B | A | B |
| 6 | B | A | B | A | A | 38 | B | A | B | A | B |
| 7 | A | B | B | A | A | 39 | A | B | B | A | B |
| 8 | B | B | B | A | A | 40 | B | B | B | A | B |
| 9 | A | A | A | B | A | 41 | A | A | A | B | B |
| 10 | B | A | A | B | A | 42 | B | A | A | B | B |
| 11 | A | B | A | B | A | 43 | A | B | A | B | B |
| 12 | B | B | A | B | A | 44 | B | B | A | B | B |
| 13 | A | A | B | B | A | 45 | A | A | B | B | B |
| 14 | B | A | B | B | A | 46 | B | A | B | B | B |
| 15 | A | B | B | B | A | 47 | A | B | B | B | B |
| 16 | B | B | B | B | A | 48 | B | B | B | B | B |
| 17 | A | A | A | B | A | 49 | A | A | A | B | B |
| 18 | B | A | A | A | B | 50 | B | A | A | A | B |
| 19 | A | B | A | A | B | 51 | A | B | A | A | B |
| 20 | B | B | A | A | B | 52 | B | B | A | A | B |
| 21 | A | A | B | A | B | 53 | A | A | B | A | B |
| 22 | B | A | B | A | B | 54 | B | A | B | A | B |
| 23 | A | B | B | A | B | 55 | A | B | B | A | B |
| 24 | B | B | B | A | B | 56 | B | B | B | A | B |
| 25 | A | A | A | B | B | 57 | A | A | A | B | B |
| 26 | B | A | A | A | B | 58 | B | A | A | B | B |
| 27 | A | B | A | B | B | 59 | A | B | A | B | B |
| 28 | B | B | A | B | B | 60 | B | B | A | B | B |
| 29 | A | A | B | B | B | 61 | A | A | B | B | B |
| 30 | B | A | B | B | B | 62 | B | A | B | B | B |
| 31 | A | B | B | B | B | 63 | A | B | B | B | B |
| 32 | B | B | B | B | B | 64 | B | B | B | B | B |

WYKE REGIS CELEBRATION.

On Monday evening of last week a very pleasant gathering took place in the belfry of All Saints' Church, Wyke Regis, near Weymouth, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the restoration of the bells by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough. The local band was assisted by several ringers from St. Peter's, Dorchester, and by Mr. J. Morris (of Leicester), Mr. Page (of Stoke, Staffs), who were visiting the locality, and also by Gnr. T. H. Hardy, R.G.A. (of Leicester) and several other soldier ringers who are at present encamped in the neighbourhood, the company numbering altogether 21.

Touche of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung, conducted by Messrs. Lewis W. Wiffen (late of Ipswich), Mr. Page (Stoke), and Mr. Bengier (Dorchester), and after the lowering of the bells a plain course of Grandsire Triples was rung on the handbells, by: Messrs. C. H. Jennings 1—2, J. Morris 3—4, L. W. Wiffen 5—6 and T. H. Hardy 7—8, which brought to a close a very enjoyable ceremony.

There is a great improvement in the ringing in Wyke Regis belfry at the present time due chiefly to the able tuition of Mr. Lewis Wiffen, who is now one of the members of the band there, and a hearty welcome is extended to any soldier ringers, who may come into the neighbourhood, to pay a visit to the belfry and have a pull. Particulars as to times of ringing, etc., may be obtained from the secretary of the band, Mr. C. H. Jennings, 2, Sunnyside Road, Wyke Regis, Weymouth, who will be very pleased for any ringer to call and see him.

BELLS OF ENGLISH CHURCHES.

ST. MARY'S, LEWISHAM, KENT.

By E. J. PANNETT.

From the year 918, when Lewisham was granted by the daughter of Alfred the Great to the Abbey of S. Peter at Ghent, until the reign of King John, the spiritual oversight of the place was committed to a "Chaplin" appointed by the Abbot, and removable at will.

The fourth Lateran Council of 1215 decreed the establishment of perpetual Vicarages in those churches which, like Lewisham, belonged to a Monastic House, and, in 1220, an arrangement to that end was made between the Bishop of Rochester and the Abbot of Ghent. The name of only one of the "Chaplains" has come down to us, and he was named Geoffrey in A.D. 1200. Robert, who was parish priest here in 1239, styled himself "Vicar." and was one of the first, if not the first, to bear that title.



ST. MARY'S CHURCH, LEWISHAM.

It may be of interest to repeat here the late Professor Skeat's interpretation of the name of Lewisham. Its full form was "Leveson's home," i.e., a homestead in which dwelt a man named Leveson—the literal meaning of which is "dear son."

The tower of St. Mary's was built about 1483; in 1652 Abraham Colfe, M.A., founded the Grammar School and almshouses. The Vicarage was rebuilt in 1692, and the church rebuilt in 1777.

The tower contains a peal of eight bells of excellent tone, with a tenor of 22½ cwts. The earliest bell in the tower is dated 1776, and the inscriptions of the bells are as follows:—

- Treble. Mears of London Fecit 1819.
2. Recast by John Taylor, Loughborough, 1896, Samuel Bickersteith, M.A., Vicar. Laus, D.E.O. Lester and Pack, London.
3. T. Mears of London. Fecit 1819.
4. Cast by John Warner of London. 1859. Honorable and Rev. H. Legge, D.G.L., Vicar. S. Southorn

and Charles Atkins, Churchwardens. Recast 1859 by subscriptions collected by W. S. Shove.

5. Ye People who hear me ring, be faithfull to your God and King. Pack and Chapman of London. Fecit 1777.

6. Recast 1776. Paul Valentine and Jno Evens, Ch. Wardens. Pack & Chapman, of London. 1743. Jno Baker & Geo Thornton, Ch. Wardens.

7. Recast by John Taylor of Loughborough, 1894. Gloria, Tibi, Domine, qui, Natees, est De Virgine.

8. Lester & Pack, of London. Presented by subscription 1777. Paul Valentine and John Evens, Ch. Wardens.

These bells were rehung in iron frame by John Taylor, Loughborough, 1894.

A new second bell in 1896.

The oldest peal board in the tower is as follows:—

On Tuesday, the twenty-fourth of February, 1784, the Society of Trinity Youths of Deptford, did ring in this steeple, a true and complete peal of 10,080 Bob Major in six hours thirty-three minutes, and was performed by the following persons, viz.:—

| | | | |
|-------------------------|--------|-------------------------|-------|
| Mr. Ths. Dean | Treble | Mr. John Day | 5th |
| Mr. Wilm. Dixon | 2nd | Mr. Jas. Mandley | 6th |
| Mr. Wilm. Windsor | 3rd | Mr. Saml. Mandley | 7th |
| Mr. Geo. Allen | 4th | Mr. Geo. Harwood | Tenor |

This peal was called by Mr. Saml. Mandley.

Renovated by W. Shade, Greenwich, September, 1851.

The next is one of Grandsire Triples, as follows:—

On Sunday, Nov. 28th, 1819, was rung in this steeple by the Society of Cumberland Youths, a complete peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in the short space of 2 hours and 56 minutes, performed by the following persons, viz.:—

| | | | |
|---------------------|--------|----------------------|-------|
| Danl. Deering | Treble | Willm. Herbert | 5th |
| John James | 2nd | Jas. Blacklock | 6th |
| John Bray | 3rd | Jas. Stichbury | 7th |
| Jos. Ladey | 4th | Willm. Fell | Tenor |

This peal was called by Jas. Ladey.

Robt. Saunders, Natl. Hadley, Churchwardens.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

A very successful and most enjoyable meeting of the Gainsborough District of the Northern Branch was held at Stow on Saturday last, ringers being present from Gainsborough, Willingham, Scotter and Lincoln. The bells were available during the afternoon and evening, and were kept going in Grandsire, Plain Bob and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor.—Tea, provided at the Cross Keys, was followed by the business meeting, at which Mr. J. C. Tinker presided.

After the ordinary business had been disposed of the Chairman called the notice of those present to the misfortune which had befallen the ringers at King's Cliffe, near Peterborough, through the cracking of their tenor bell. A collection towards the cost of recasting realised the sum of 4s. 6d.

The usual votes of thanks concluded the meeting.

During the afternoon and evening the Rector of Stow (the Rev. J. E. Christie) visited the tower and gave a very hearty welcome to the visitors, and expressed the hope that he would see them again at some future date.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

WEST DORSET BRANCH.

A most enjoyable meeting of this branch was held on Saturday, at Symondsbury.

The Church of St. John Baptist, a cruciform building with central tower, contains a peal of five bells. These, however, do not go as well as they might, but doubtless when the work of restoration which is anticipated is carried out, the bells will receive the attention they need.

Despite their heavy going, they were well used from 4 o'clock till 5.30, at which hour service was held.

The chairman of the branch (the Rev. C. F. Langford) conducted the service, while the Rev. C. F. Sweet, the Rector of Symondsbury, read the lesson and gave a most appropriate address.

The Rector's welcome was not a matter of words only, for he most generously provided tea for the party, 23 responding to his invitation.

Needless to say, at the meeting which followed, he was most heartily thanked for his kindness and hospitality.—Three members were elected, and Lyme Regis fixed for the next meeting, on 15th July.

Progress was made, for after the meeting touches of Grandsire Doubles and courses of Triples were rung on handbells. This marks a step forward, for such has never before taken place.

The tower bells were also kept going till 8 p.m., and a thoroughly enjoyable time was spent.

TRIPLE METHODS.

A CORRESPONDENT'S INQUIRIES.

We have received the following letter from a correspondent, and have to thank Mr. John Carter for the first portion of the reply.

Dear Sir,—From a recent issue of "The Ringing World" I am pleased to see that you are willing to help beginners.

(1) I shall be glad if you will kindly give a lead or division of Triples on Carter's principle, explaining how the calls are made, also where I may find peals.

(2) What is a false course-end, and how is this discovered from a true course-end.

(3) Is there any method of Triples with a plain course of more than 84?

Any information on these points will be greatly appreciated.

Mr. Carter supplies the following figures:—

| | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Carter's | Annulose | Scientific |
| 1234567 | 1234567 | 1234567 |
| 2143657 | 2143576 | 2135476 |
| 1246375 | 2415367 | 2314567 |
| 1423657 | 4251637 | 3241657 |
| 4126375 | 4526173 | 3426175 |
| 1462735 | 5462713 | 4326157 |
| 1847253 | 5647231 | 4631275 a |
| 6142735 | 6574321 a | 6413725 |
| 1624753 | 6753412 | 6147352 |
| 6127435 | 7635142 | 1674532 |
| 1672453 | 7361524 b | 6147523 |
| 6174235 | 3716254 | 6415732 |
| 6712453 | 3172645 | 4651372 |
| 6 times repeated | 1327465 | 4563127 |
| Bob | 1234756 | 5436217 |
| 1234567 | 2143765 | 5342671 |
| 2143576 | 2417356 | 3524761 b |
| 1245367 | 4271536 | 3257416 |
| &c. | 4725163 | 2375146 |
| Single | 7452613 c | 2731564 |
| 1234567 | 7546231 | 7213546 |
| 2143567 | 5764321 | 7125364 |
| 1245376 | 5673412 | 1752346 |
| &c. | 6537142 | 1573264 |
| The proof of this | 6351724 | 5137624 |
| method, if you get up | 3615274 | 5316742 c |
| the 4132567, or a | 3162547 | 3561472 |
| 3412567 it is sure to | 1326457 | 3654127 |
| be false with 6-7 at | 1234675 | 6345217 |
| home, or a | 2143657 | 6432571 |
| 1732564 | 2416375 | 4623751 |
| 1752364 | 6 times repeated. | 6 times repeated. |
| 1254376 | Bob | Bob |
| 1624537 | 4526173 | 4362157 |
| 1364527 | 5462137 | 3461275 |
| 1264357 | 5641273 | 4316725 |
| 1374562 | 6514237 | 3417652 |
| 1724563 | 6152473 | 4371562 |
| 1253467 | &c. | &c. |
| 1245367 | Double | Double |
| This is a very tricky | 7546231 | 1573264 |
| method. Whatever you | 5746231 | 5173264 |
| have to do with it, it is | 5472613 | 5712346 |
| very uncertain. | 4527163 | 7521436 |
| | &c. | &c. |
| | In these two Methods | |
| | If you have a Bob at a from | 1234567 |
| | You must have a Bob at b from | 2435176 |
| | You must have a Bob at c from | 3167245 |
| | If you have a Bob at b from | 1234567 |
| | You must have a Bob at a from | 2516734 |
| | You must have a Bob at c from | 5617243 |
| | If you have a Bob at c from | 1234567 |
| | You must have a Bob at b from | 3576124 |
| | You must have a Bob at a from | 5132476 |

Our correspondent will find his answer to his first question in the above figures. If his second inquiry relates merely to Carter's principle, the author of the method has supplied him with the answer, but if he desires information on true and false course-ends generally we would refer him to the articles by Mr. Lindoff now appearing in these columns. The methods Annulose and Scientific are an answer to question 3.

ACTON.—At St. Mary's Church, for the morning service, on May Doubles, each six-score called differently: H. Johnson 1, A. Robinson 2, C. Tebb (first 720) 3, T. Law 4, H. Clarke (conductor) 5, C. Tapp 6.

VANCOUVER RINGERS' PATRIOTISM.

NEARLY ALL WITH THE COLOURS.

Practically all the ringers at Vancouver have joined the colours, and among those thus serving King and Empire is Mr. A. C. Limpus, who has been the leading spirit of ringing in that distant corner of the world and who, though over military age, could not stay behind when the others had gone. He is with the Canadian Engineers, and writing from Ottawa, says he is afraid there will not be much ringing news from Vancouver for some time yet. "I could not see," he writes, "all the boys answering the call of their King and country without falling in line and doing my little bit, too." 'Twas but a short time before this war started that, writing to his Majesty, as secretary to the Vancouver Change Ringers' Association, I declared our loyalty to his person. Having had our request so willingly granted, how should I feel at some future time if it were known that I had failed to respond, even though my age might excuse me, in the hour of greatest need. As bell ringers we have a duty to perform in giving to the world expressions of joy or sadness through the bells, but we also have another duty, and that is to protect them from the melting pot of the Hun.

"I rather expect we shall be leaving for England in a few days. It was, indeed, a hard thing to leave the dear old belfry in which I have rung now for 16 years, without being absent more than six or seven times other than my three months' holiday in England a few years ago. But if I get back O.K. after this little business with Emperor William, I shall take the helm again with renewed vigour. I have left the best man possible in charge in Mr. George Foster, unless he, too, goes back to Borden, and then I feel sad to think of the long silence of that beautiful peal.

MONTREAL'S BELLS.

"I paid a visit to Montreal on Easter Sunday, and looked up Mr. C. Willshire (formerly of Guildford), and spent a most pleasant evening with both him and his wife. I heard all the bells in that big city ringing and all a la Francais; that is, they were just let swing higgledy-piggledy—just what I had been fighting against for five years in Vancouver. I watched them in the Church of Notre Dame, about eight in one tower and the large one in the other, and what a clatter! The large one, I believe, weighs over seven tons, and is the largest in Canada; in fact, I believe, in America. I don't think it is very often rung, as I have been told that it breaks all the windows in the neighbourhood when it is. But on this occasion, by some strange power, it didn't break any. There was a very large crowd watching the bell swing on each occasion, which was twice on Sunday morning and once on Monday, so I must consider myself fortunate in just being there at the right moment. I also hunted up that mythical peal of ten, which I had heard existed somewhere in that city. I had heard that somewhere there, there was a peal of ten and the back five were hung for ringing. I found my peal in the Cathedral of St. Patrick—11 of them with a place left in the frame for one more, and all hung for ringing, but they are not rung except the back five, which are rung by electricity—so I was told. But as the Rev. Father McShane was away I could only get a two minutes' peep at them. The Sacristan who piloted me to them would not trust one there alone, and he was too busy to wait, but as far as I could see they were all in good ringing order. Most of them are by Mears and Stainbank, 1906; one I noticed by Pack and Chapman, and by the pulleys in the ringing chamber, as I was hurried past, and the wire rope over the wheels I should judge they are rung in some manner by electricity, and not chimed, although a chiming apparatus is there. There were also five bell ropes, very dirty, as was everything below the bell chamber. I was told that five years ago a band did ring them, but it was so unsatisfactory that it was dropped, and the present system installed. Mr. Willshire, although there two years, had never heard of them. I also chimed on those at the English Church of St. George—a ring of eight in F—but not hung for ringing. The church, I understand, has been sold and a new one will be built, when they expect to have the bells hung properly. There are ten bells there."

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGAN.—At St. Illtyd's Church, on Easter Day, for evening service, a quarter-peal Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: Trooper W. Evans 1, T. J. Evans 2, J. Evans 3, R. Evans 4, J. Cox 5, F. B. Stedman 6, A. J. Pitman (conductor) 7, B. J. Toby 8.

BILLINGBOROUGH, Lincs.—For evening service, on Easter Sunday, a quarter-peal of Bob Doubles: R. Harrison 1, W. E. Allen 2, A. Chilton 3, W. Hare 4, A. Andrews (conductor) 6. A 720 in the same method was rung for morning service. The first 720 and quarter-peal by any of the band except conductor. Nine months ago the band were only ringing rounds. The fifth bell is out of action, having recently cracked.

BLACKBURN.—On Easter Monday, April 24th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung as a farewell to Corp. T. Wilson, of the Royal Naval Division, a member of the Parish Church band, who had been spending a short leave after nine months on the Gallipoli Peninsula, and was returning to his depot at Blandford: F. Wilson 1, E. Duteson 2, Corp. T. Wilson 3, E. Walmsley 4, T. Strickland 5, J. Watson 6, W. E. Wilson (conductor) 7, J. E. Wilson (longest length) 8.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT HURSLEY.**

A well-attended quarterly meeting of the Winchester District was held at Hursley on Saturday week, when between 30 and 40 representatives were present from the towers of North Stoneham, Southampton, Upham, Bishop Sutton, Titchfield, Winchester, and a good attendance of the local band, besides a number of visitors from the military camp at Hursley Park belonging to the Devons and Somerset Light Infantry. The bells (6) were raised about three o'clock, and kept going in various methods till tea-time. Tea was served in the Parish Room, kindly arranged by members of the local band, and their wives. The chair was taken by the Vicar (the Rev. J. R. Husband), supported by the Rev. W. E. Colchester (hon. treasurer), Rev. C. R. Hollis (curate), Rev. E. Bankes James, Mr. J. B. Williamson, Mr. J. H. Sheppard (Swindon), Mr. G. Williams (hon. general secretary), etc. Canon Braithwaite (chairman of the district) looked in early in the afternoon, but unfortunately was unable to stay for the tea.

The Chairman, in welcoming the Guild again to Hursley, said how pleased he was to hear the bells of his church rung again to these various methods, known only to change ringers. He had himself to plead ignorance of them, and he related his experience with bells at the various places he had lived to show he had not had much opportunity of learning. Now he was afraid he was too old to learn, but still he hoped they would at no very distant date be able to increase their ring of six to eight (applause). He was very grateful for the help given to his own band by the various ringers that turned up from the camp.

The Hon. Treasurer proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and taking the chair, also for his very warm words of welcome. He also apologised for the absence of the district secretary (Mr. Elkins), and gave particulars as to why the meeting could not be held at Twyford. He was sorry to find he was the only representative from Winchester.

The Hon. General Secretary, in seconding, said he was glad to see so many clergy present. He was afraid there were still some who held very curious views as to keeping the ringing going during the war, but it was very gratifying to him to know that they had the support of a Vicar and his curate at the place where a meeting was being held, thus showing appreciation of the efforts of the Guild in trying to keep change ringing alive during the absence of those who had been called away to much more serious and stern duties.—Mr. George also supported the motion.—The Vicar thanked the meeting, and hoped they would spend a very pleasant evening in the tower.—Mr. Jones, on behalf of the local band, also gave those present a very hearty welcome, and hoped the arrangements they had been able to make for tea had been satisfactory.—Needless to say this was agreed to, and a hearty vote of thanks accorded the ladies for their assistance.

Bandsman Bosley, Somerset L.I., then gave a selection on his "fair bells," which was much appreciated. A course each of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major was rung on the handbells by Messrs. J. B. Williamson, — Thompson, G. Williams, A. Stubbington, A. Wilkins and Rev. E. Bank James, and the tower was then again visited and the bells kept going till dusk, the methods rung during the day being Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise Minor.

The weather was all that could be desired, and this no doubt helped to make the meeting one of the most successful held in the district.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.**ARCHDEACON ADVOCATES WAR-TIME MEETINGS.**

The annual general meeting of the Sheffield District and Old East Derbyshire Amalgamated Society was held at Chesterfield on the 6th May, the attendance not being so numerous as in previous years, partly owing to a wet afternoon. The following towers were represented, viz.: Bolsover, Barlborough, Chesterfield, Mansfield, New Mills, North Wingfield, Ranmoor, Rotherham, Sheffield Cathedral, and Staveley. The bells were raised about 3.30, and kept going until 5 o'clock, when the business meeting took place in the Vestry, the Vicar of Chesterfield (the Ven. Archdeacon Crosse) presiding.

The balance sheet showed a total income (including 13s. 6d. brought forward) of £5 16s. 6d., and expenses amounting to £4 1s. 10d. on the yearly account. There was a balance of £13 14s. on the capital account, making the total to the credit of the society at the close of 1915 £15 8s. 8d., against £14 0s. 5d. at the close of 1914.—This was considered satisfactory, and the balance sheet was unanimously adopted.

The Hon. Secretary's report showed the number of towers directly affiliated with the society to remain at 20, the same as last year, the number of members being 244, classified as follows: Attached to affiliated towers, 173; unattached, 51; life members, 15; hon. members, 5—a slight decrease compared with last year. Seven ringing meetings were held during the past year, the great majority of which had been a success. The number of peals rung was six, including two on handbells. The Sunday service attendance proved to be the hardest hit by the war, no company having the honour of taking the cup. Many entered, but owing mainly to the call to serve the country none finish-

ed the full twelve months, and the committee have decided to discontinue this competition until the close of the war.

No new nominations having been submitted, the whole of the officers were re-elected, together with the committee, with the exception of one or two alterations to the latter.

THE NEED FOR MEETINGS.

Seven meetings arranged by the committee for the ensuing year were confirmed.

The Archdeacon, before putting the above resolution to the meeting, gave the members some very sound advice in regard to holding these meetings. He said most emphatically that we should hold meetings for practice, as owing to so many companies being short-handed and totally unable to get any practice at home, the society's meetings gave them opportunities of keeping up the standard of the art. He had, in some of his travels, so missed the sound of the church bells that he felt it would be a national calamity, if, when peace was at length proclaimed, the bells could not be rung as well as before. He further advised that wherever a meeting was held this aspect of the ringing should be brought before the public.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Chesterfield branch for making the necessary arrangements for the meeting.

Proposing a vote of thanks to the Archdeacon for his kindness in presiding and allowing use of bells and vestry, the Rev. A. T. Beeston, in a pithy speech, noted with satisfaction the emphatic manner in which he advocated the holding of meetings during the war, saying that unfortunately this was not the view taken by a great number of incumbents. He (Mr. Beeston's) conclusions were that the standard of change ringing was suffering depreciation as a consequence of lack of facilities for practice.

The meeting then concluded with the Benediction, pronounced by the Chairman.

The tower was again visited, and ringing was continued until 7.30, touches and courses of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Caters, Treble Ten, Double Norwich Major, Superlative and Yorkshire Surprise Major being amongst those brought round.

HENLEY RINGER KILLED.

We regret to record that one of the band at Henley Church, near Ipswich, Mr. Charles Ward, has been killed in action in France. The deceased was employed by the Vicar, the Rev. W. C. Pearson, himself an enthusiastic ringer, and the death of this gallant soldier will be much lamented among ringers in and around Ipswich. In the words of one of his ringing friends, "he was such a splendid fellow."

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

STONY STRATFORD, BUCKS.—On Saturday, April 22nd, for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: A. Clarke 1, H. Dewick 2, W. T. Tucker 3, C. A. Valentine (conductor) 4, H. J. Tucker 5, T. Tompkins 6. For evensong, on Easter Day, 720 Bob Minor: H. Dewick 1, H. J. Tucker 2, A. Clarke 3, W. Bonham 4, C. A. Valentine 5, W. T. Tucker (conductor) 6.

ACTON.—On Easter Day, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples: A. E. Smith 1, W. E. Garrard 2, C. Edwards 3, H. W. Wilkes (Ichen, Southampton), conductor, 4, J. Fruin 5, R. Holloway 6, W. Lawrence 7, J. Faithful 8.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—On Easter Sunday, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins.: A. J. Plowman 1, A. J. Perkins (composer and conductor) 2, A. Arnold 3, E. G. Bryant 4, C. Gordon 5, J. Trappitt 6, A. Clayton 7, E. Plowman 8. First quarter-peal inside by the ringer of the 4th, and also the first by the ringer of the tenor, who is one of Beddington's youngsters. This touch is in three divisions, consisting of 30 leads each with different calling, containing the Whittingtons, Queens and Tittums, the extent of the 6-7-4's, and the handstroke home position.

HORSMONDEN, KENT.—On Easter Sunday, the following touches of Minor were rung at St. Margaret's during the day at intervals both before and after the morning and afternoon services: 240 Oxford Bob, 240 Double College Single, 240 Double Canterbury, 180 Reverse Plain Bob, 144 Double Court, 120 Plain Bob, 108 Reverse College Single, 180 Double Oxford, 60 Single Court, 60 College Single, 180 Canterbury Pleasure, 240 St. Clement's, 180 Reverse Canterbury, 180 Double Bob, 240 Kent Treble Bob, and a Plain Course of Oxford Treble Bob. The following ringers took part: E. Lambert (conductor), J. Beach, J. Waghorn, R. Hope, F. Lambert, F. Butchers, W. Boys, Miss K. Lambert, F. Foreman, G. Fuller. As the bells are not allowed to be rung after sunset, several other methods had to be left out. It was the intention of the band to ring a touch of all the methods now practised by them, but time would not permit this.

DENTON.—Chester Guild.—At St. Anne's Church, on Easter Day, for morning service, 720 Wragby Delight: D. Wilde 1, Pte W. Wilde 2, A. E. Marshall 3, J. Pollitt 4, A. E. Walters 5, J. Heckingbottom (conductor) 6.—For evening service, 720 Kingston Delight: D. Wilde 1, Pte J. W. Walters 2, A. E. Marshall (conductor) 3, Pte W. Wilde 4, A. E. Walters 5, W. Wright 6.—On Sunday, April 30th, for evening service 720 City Delight: W. Wright 2, others as on Easter Morn. Ptes Wilde and Walters have both served in Gallipoli, and were home on sick furlough, the former on his final furlough before rejoining.

NOTICES.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—The next meeting will be held on May 27th at Wotton-under-Edge. Bells (8) open from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Visitors heartily welcomed. W. A. Lewis, Ham, Berkely, Glos.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—By kind permission the half-yearly meeting will be held at Wigan on Saturday, May 27th, when All Saints' and St. James' bells will be available from 3.30.—W. H. Shuker, J. H. Banks, Hon. Secs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Canterbury District).—The annual meeting of the District will be held on Saturday, May 27th, at Faversham. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea (3d. a head) in Queen's Hall. Business after tea. Subscriptions must be paid before or at the meeting.—Fred. J. O. Helmore, Hon. Secretary, Canterbury.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Eastern District).—A meeting will be held at Bennington on May 27th, when the bells will be available during the afternoon and evening until 8.30. Tea will be provided free by the Rector, Rev. Canon Mills, 5.30, in the Parochial Hall. All members and friends will be made welcome. A card from those who can notify me will oblige.—W. H. Lawrence, Little Munden.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The Annual General Meeting will be held at East Retford on Saturday, May 27th. East Retford (10 bells), West Retford (6 bells), Ordsall (6 bells), will be available from 2.30 p.m. until sunset. Divine Service, 4.20 p.m., Parish Church. Tea in Parish Room at 5 p.m., to be followed by a Business Meeting immediately afterwards. Tea 9d. (half-price) to members, 1/3 to non-residents, and 1/6 to all others. Vice-Presidents free. A hearty welcome will be extended to members of kindred associations.—H. Haigh, Hon. Sec., 103, Gateford Road, Worksop.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Northampton District.—A meeting will be held at Dallington on Saturday, May 27th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—T. Law, Dist. Sec., St. Peter's Cottages, Weston Favell.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A meeting will be held at Seale on Saturday, May 27th. Bells (6) available from 3 o'clock. Tea, 9d. to members, 1/6 to visitors, at 5. Service at 6.30, conducted by the Rector.—John J. Jones, Hon. Sec.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next monthly meeting of the Society will be held at Tong on Saturday, May 27th, 1916. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting at 7.30 p.m.—W. Barton, Hon. Sec., 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bitton on May 27th. Bells (6) from 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Visitors welcomed. Kindly notify by May 23rd to Arthur W. Seviour, 5, Brunswick Street, City Road, Bristol.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Thrapston District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Great Addington on Saturday, May 27th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock.—F. Stubbs, District Secretary.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on June 1st, 15th and 29th; and for general business on the 6th and 20th, all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Flixton on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. — W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Shenley, Saturday, June 3rd. Service at 3 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—T. Best, Secretary.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Western District will be held at Ripponden on Saturday, 3rd June. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Tea in Schools 5 p.m., 1/- per head to all sending in to Mr. A. Carter, Jubilee Buildings, Ripponden, before Tuesday, May 30th. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A quarterly meeting of the above Guild will be held at St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, on Saturday, June 3rd. The bells (12) will be available for ringing at 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30, which will be conducted by the Rev. Prebendary Penny (Rector). Business meeting afterwards.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held in Milnrow on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6 o'clock. This meeting is by special request of the Milnrow ringers for the unveiling of a Peal Board. A good attendance of members is requested.—Secretary, T. K. Driver, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next meeting will be held at Whiston (Bus 2d. from Rotherham) on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (8) available 3 to 9 p.m. Tea provided (1/- each) for those who notify W. Warburton, Meadow View, Whiston, near Rotherham, by Tuesday, May 30th. Business meeting in Church Institute after tea.—Leonard Brightman, 45, St. Stephen's Road, Rotherham (District Sec. *pro tem.*).

ESSEX ASSOCIATION (North-Western Division).—A District Meeting will be held at Matching on Saturday, June 3rd, 1916. Bells available 3 p.m. Business meeting will be held in the Marriage Feast Room, next the Church, at 5.30 p.m. Those who require tea please let me know by Wednesday, May 31st. All subscriptions for 1916 are now due and should be paid as soon as possible.—William Watts, District Secretary, Mont House Cottage, Stansted, Essex.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held on Whit-Monday at Braintree. 11.30 a.m., service in the Parish Church; 1 p.m., lunch at the Mechanics Institute. Notice of attendance must be sent to the hon. secretary not later than June 7th.—Henry T. W. Eyre, Honorary Secretary, Great Totham, Witham.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Higham Ferrers on Whit-Monday, June 12th, 1916. The bells of Higham Ferrers will be available from 10.30 a.m. to

11.50, and from 3 o'clock to 6.30. The bells of Raunds, Irthlingboro, and Finedon will be available from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Service in the Parish Church, Higham Ferrers, at 12 noon. Meat tea in the Bede House at one o'clock. Business meeting to follow. — Fred Wilford, General Secretary, 149, Ashburnham Road, Northampton.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

WEST EALING.—For the afternoon service, at St. Stephen's, on Easter Day, 518 Grandsire Triples: W. Lawrence (conductor) 1, George Harbour 2, C. Edwards 3, R. Holloway 4, J. Hunnisett 5, H. W. Wilkes 6, H. H. Chandler 7, A. Harding 8. For evening service, 1040 Bob Major: Miss Edith Jones 1, W. E. Garrard 2, W. H. Hollier 3, H. W. Wilkes 4, J. A. Trollope (conductor) 5, Geo. Iles 6, W. Lawrence 7, A. Harding 8.

ST. ALBANS.—At the Cathedral, on Easter Day, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: H. Goodenough 1, E. Randall 2, J. Chatley 3, R. Dean 4, S. Barnes 5, L. Goodenough 6, E. Whitbread (conductor) 7, B. Samuels 8.

BROUGHTON-IN-FURNESS.—Lancashire Association.—On Easter Monday, 720 Bob Minor: Miss E. M. Suart (first 720 in the method) 1, J. Huddleston 2, T. Watson (conductor) 3, J. Williams 4, C. J. A. Cushing 5, J. Burrows 6. Rung on the back six. It was intended to attempt a peal of Triples, but three ringers failed to turn up.

TYNEMOUTH.—Durham and Newcastle Association.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, April 30th, 720 Bob Minor, with 6-8 behind: N. P. Harrison (first 720) 1, C. Waugh 2, J. Hern 3, A. Tully 4, G. Dix 5, A. Patterson 6, E. A. Hern (conductor) 7, J. Lindsay 8.—On Sunday, May 7th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major: F. Flowers 1, C. Waugh 2, J. Hern 3, C. Watts 4, G. Dix 5, J. T. Hogg 6, E. A. Hern (conductor) 7, A. Tully 8.

PENTRE RHONDDA.—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—On April 27th, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal (1260 changes), in 50 mins., of Double Norwich Major: G. Cross 1, F. Wines 2, B. Davies 3, H. Page 4, J. Cross 5, G. Wines 6, W. Page 7, T. Page (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal in the method by all and first on the bells.

CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.—At the Cathedral, on April 28th, with the bells fully muffled, tenor open at back stroke, as a tribute of respect to the memory of Major Sir H. P. St. John Mildmay, Lord of the Manor of Chelmsford, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1260 changes), in 55 minutes: C. Gentry 1, W. Newman (first quarter-peal of Caters) 2, A. Whight 3, F. Edwards 4, A. E. Acfield 5, H. Richell 6, P. Timson 7, H. Allen 8, H. F. Cooper 9, W. Pease 10. Also 395, with H. Allen 4, F. Edwards 6, H. Richell 8, the rest as before; conducted by H. F. Cooper.

MATLOCK.—On Friday evening, April 28th, at the Parish Church, 700 Grandsire Triples from Holt's Original: L. N. Statham 1, W. Lambert 2, A. W. Brighton (of London), conductor, 3, J. H. Paulson 4, W. Paulson 5, A. E. Holmes 6, F. Knowles 7, J. Toplis 8. For evening service, on Sunday, April 30th, 840 Grandsire Triples: L. N. Statham 1, F. Knowles (longest length) 2, A. W. Brighton (conductor) 3, J. H. Paulson 4, W. Paulson 5, W. Lambert 6, A. E. Holmes 7, J. Toplis 8.

TEWKESBURY.—Gloster and Bristol Association. — On Saturday, April 29th, at the Abbey Church, in 46 mins., a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): J. Gillett 1, J. W. Jones 2, C. Dyson 3, G. Condict 4, J. Wathen 5, J. Austin 6, J. Hunt (conductor) 7, F. Smith 8.

BOURNEMOUTH.—At St. Peter's, on Sunday, April 30th, 1280 Bob Major, in 51 mins.: Q.-M.-S. J. G. Bennett (R.F.A.) 1, F. Forsyth 2, J. H. White 3, E. T. Green 4, C. R. Forfitt 5, E. Waters 6, Sec.-Corpl. A. R. Macdonald (R.E.) 7, C. W. Goodenough (conductor) 8. Arranged for J. H. White, of Coventry, and J. G. Bennett and A. R. Macdonald, who both are members of the local band, home on leave.

ACTON.—Middlesex Association and St. Mary's Guild.—For morning service, on Sunday, April 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins.: A. E. Smith 1, W. Phillips 2, C. Edwards 3, R. H. Boddington 4, J. W. Fruin 5, Robt. Holloway (conductor) 6, W. Lawrence 7, J. J. Gray 8.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 272. Vol. X.

FRIDAY, JUNE 2nd, 1916.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 1d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON CROYDON, Surrey. BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1913.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BLOK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

RECIPROCITY.

It has been, we need hardly say, a source of much gratification to us to find that, quite unsought, the claims of "The Ringing World" to the support of the Exercise have been prominently brought before ringers of late at some important gatherings. At the Birmingham dinner, as we noted at the time, there was a strong advocacy in favour of ringers giving their individual support to a paper which was essentially "their own," and the policy of being content with one copy for a tower was wholeheartedly condemned. Since then, at the Hertford County Association meeting, similar views found expression in the annual report presented by the hon. secretary, and this week we read of these expressions being endorsed at an important meeting of the Llandoff Diocesan Association. Let us say at once, that we fully appreciate the kindness of those who have thus done us a service in seeking to gain for this journal a wider support, and we value it the more on account of the spontaneity which characterises it.

What is the relationship between ringers and their journal? It ought to be one of mutual help. The Exercise is bound together in a brotherhood that is to be found, we believe, in no other pursuit, and this fraternal feeling has been greatly fostered in the past by the ringing journals, whose services to the Exercise have been very largely responsible for the progress which has been made in the last thirty or forty years. Without these journals much of the knowledge, which is now widespread among ringers, would have been limited to a comparative few; the doings of those who take a delight in our art would remain unknown to the rest of the Exercise; there would have been little or no means of communication between the various organisations, and much of the spirit of emulation which the records of others give could never have been kindled, simply because the information would have been lacking. After all, it is not too much to say that in the last three decades the various papers devoted to the art have been the centre about which the ringing universe has turned, and, looked at from that standpoint, the prosperity of the Exercise depends in no small degree upon having a journal to provide a medium of intercourse. This task is now exclusively discharged by "The Ringing World," and, while we are always anxious to do our best to promote the interests of ringers, there ought to be, as some of the associations have very kindly recognised, an even greater reciprocity on the part of ringers than at present prevails. Every ringer can do his share by becoming a regular weekly subscriber and thus promote the interests of ringing generally, as well as keep himself in touch with the doings of the Exercise.

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**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs. C. CARR, LTD.
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Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract,—we may be able to assist you.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

COGGESHALL, ESSEX.

THE ELY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 27, 1916, in Three Hours and Two Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-AD-VINCULA,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

WALDER'S VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 19½ cwt.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| WALTER SADLER Treble | FRANK CLAYDON 5 |
| WILLIAM KEEBLE 2 | DAVID H. ELLIOTT 6 |
| ANDREW SHUFFLEBOTHAM 3 | WALTER FARLEY 7 |
| ERNEST W. BECKWITH ... 4 | ERNEST NEWMAN Tenor |

Conducted by A. SHUFFLEBOTHAM.

First peal of Grandsire on the bells. Arranged for Trumpeter-Major W. Farley, N.S.Y., of Wells, Somerset, who is at present stationed in this district, also as a farewell to E. Newman, who is called up.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, May 27th, 1916, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| JOHN BASS Treble | GEORGE POPNELL 5 |
| WILLIAM SHORT 2 | *JOSEPH SMITH 6 |
| *RALPH MOORS 3 | ROBERT MATTHEWS 7 |
| *ARTHUR WHATMORE ... 4 | CHARLES E. PERKINS ... Tenor |

Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.

* First peal of Stedman. This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute to the memory of all members of this Association who have fallen in the war, Private Jacob Williams, of the local band, being one.

HENLEY, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND THE
ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.

On Saturday, May 27, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 8 cwt. 0 qrs. 3 lbs., in A flat.

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| JAMES MOTTS Treble | JAMES ROSE 5 |
| WILLIAM MOTTS 2 | EDGAR PEMBERTON 6 |
| HAWKINS ENGLISH 3 | CHARLES T. SEDGLEY ... 7 |
| HENRY C. GILLINGHAM ... 4 | WILLIAM L. CATCHPOLE Tenor |

Composed by TOM LOCKWOOD, and

Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

Rung with clappers half-muffled as a last tribute to the memory of Charles Albert Ward, Lance-Corporal, 11th Battalion Royal Sussex Regt., who died of wounds in France, April 30th, 1916. Aged 23. R.I.P.

SIX BELL PEAL.

STANTON-ON-HINE-HEATH, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

On Sunday, May 28th, 1916, in Two Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 42 six-scores, viz., two six-scores of Stedman and 40 six-scores of Grandsire, with the ten callings in Snowdon's book.

Tenor 8 cwt. 0 qrs. 3 lbs., in A.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| WILLIAM BODEN Treble | Sec.-Lt. E. V. Rodenhurst 4 |
| LEONARD HEWITT 2 | WILLIAM SAUNDERS 5 |
| WALTER LAGO 3 | JOHN ASTON Tenor |

Conducted by WILLIAM SAUNDERS.

NATIONAL RELIEF FUND.

Amount already acknowledged in these
columns

"Wanderer"

Total

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0 6 0

124 13 5

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.**SPLENDID MEETING AT SUTTON COLDFIELD.**

A most successful and enjoyable meeting of the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held at Sutton Coldfield on Saturday week. The meeting had been postponed for a month so that the longer evenings would permit more ringing, and, as it happened, the day was a glorious one, the attendance was large, and the privilege was enjoyed to the full.

Sutton Coldfield is a beautiful old town of great antiquity, and so far has managed to retain its rural character, although it is only distant about seven miles from Birmingham, in a north-easterly direction, and to which city it is now a sort of dormitory. Formerly a Royal Manor, it is now a Royal Borough, being incorporated by Charter granted by Henry VIII in the year 1528.

The church is a very ancient structure, and was enlarged and ornamented in the reign of Henry VII. An interesting feature is the record to be seen in the main porch of all the Rectors of Sutton from the year 1250 to the present day. The tower is square and rather squat, its height being between 50 and 60 feet, but by reason of the fact that the church is built on the top of a steep hill it absolutely dominates the whole town, and is a prominent feature in the landscape for miles around. The bells are a noble ring of eight, tenor 24 cwt., and to bask in the shade somewhere in the depths of Sutton Park listening to a well-struck touch or peal—but it must be well struck—is a treat not quickly forgotten.

The said Sutton Park is a natural beauty spot of immense size—about 3,500 acres—which was presented to the town by Bishop Vesey, a native of the Borough and one time Bishop of Exeter, who died in 1555 at the age of 103. His tomb may be seen in the north aisle of the church. Rumour says that the Park is not nearly so large now as it was when pious old Bishop Vesey presented it, but we hope no ringer of Sutton ever helped in the "land-grabbing!" The fortunate inhabitants of the Royal Borough can claim free admittance to the Park to this day, but to "outlanders" there is a charge of 2d.

The bells were going to Stedman when the majority of visitors arrived by the 3.36 train, and from then until 5.30 the belfry was positively over-crowded. At that hour the Guild's form of service was held in the church, and Canon Barnard, the Rector of Sutton, gave a very helpful address.

Tea, to which 67 sat down, was held in the Church House immediately after the service, the Rector taking the chair and being supported by the churchwardens, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, and other of the Guild's officers. Canon Barnard remained in the chair for the business meeting which followed, and at which he was later elected an honorary member of the Guild. Seven full ringing members and one life member were also elected.

On the proposition of Ald. Pritchett, seconded by the secretary, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector, wardens and others for the way in which they had welcomed the Guild that day, for providing such an excellent tea and for arranging the service; to the organist and choir for their assistance, and to Messrs. Bloore and Charles and Fred Dickens for the interest they had taken in helping to organise the proceedings.

In acknowledging the vote the Rector said it had given him true pleasure to welcome the Guild there, and he was delighted to see such a numerous assembly. He hoped his own band would benefit by the visit, and he should expect them to go ahead wonderfully in the future now that the control of the tower had been placed in the hands of men who knew what good ringing was.—Mr. Marston, people's warden, and Mr. Bloore also responded.

After the meeting the tower bells were again set going, while many stayed to listen to the handbells.

In connection with the latter, it was interesting to see three of the "old uns" (I beg their pardon) sitting down again to Stedman Cinques in the order in which they used to ring more than thirty years ago! These three were Tom Russam, Wm. Kent and Bernard Witchell, the second gentleman having resumed ringing and joined the Guild again after a slight lapse of eighteen years! Truly is it said once a ringer always a ringer.

Solihull was chosen as the venue for the next meeting, which will be held in July.—A.P.S.

FULHAM CHURCH.

It is not often that writers in the daily press show much knowledge of bells, much less do we expect to find them able to mention the number to be found in any particular belfry. But here is a paragraph from the "Office Window" column of the "Daily Chronicle," which at any rate shows an accuracy of detail not often to be found in such quarters: "Fulham Parish Church, which gets a City rector for the new vicar, is a landmark familiar to most people who have seen the start for the 'Varsity boat race. The fine Early Perpendicular tower contains the ten bells which used to infuriate Swinburne—who lived on the opposite side of the river. The interior of the edifice has been much modernised, but contains many monuments and brasses of historic importance, including the altar-tomb of Sir William Butts, the royal physician mentioned by Shakespeare in 'Henry VIII.' In the churchyard are buried numerous Bishops of London, who have held Fulham manor for more than 1,000 years; but these highly-respectable prelates have an incongruous companion in Theodore Hook, the last exponent of the practical joke."

WEST HAM SOCIETY.**PEAL BOARD UNVEILED.**

An interesting little ceremony took place at All Saints' Church on Saturday last, when a good number of ringers assembled for the purpose of unveiling a new peal board to commemorate a peal of Stedman Caters, rung on March 5th, 1914, by W. Doran (conductor) 1, A. Neale 2, W. Truss 3, R. Sanders 4, J. Scholes 5, W. H. Theobald 6, W. W. Miller 7, J. Moule 8, H. Torble 9, G. Potter 10. The 5081 changes occupied 3 hrs. and 24 mins., and the peal was composed by J. P. Bradley.

The honour of unveiling fell upon Mr. G. F. Margetson, of Chigwell Row, who in performing the ceremony said: "We meet to-day in this ancient and venerable tower for the purpose of unveiling the peal board recording the peal of Stedman Caters, and to make the occasion more auspicious we hail this day as the anniversary of the birth of William Doran, who conducted the peal. Let me first wish him many happy returns of the day, even though he has passed the allotted span, and is now entering his 72nd year. No doubt you have chosen me for this honour by reason of my age and my having known Mr. Doran so many years, for I suppose he and I are now amongst the veterans, having joined the Cumberlands and St. James' Society in the late '70's, when John Cox was amongst us. In those days I regarded Wm. Doran amongst the 'Top Hats' of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, that is, as one of the best twelve-bell ringers, and I always recognised him as my superior in change ringing. I am glad to have lived to see his declining years surrounded with so much respect and esteem. He is as devoted to the bells as ever, and no doubt proud of his 'maiden effort' in calling a peal of Stedman Caters. This peal board which I am now to uncover I trust will endure the test of Time, being more durable than the tombstone, which 'the grass hideth and the rain effaces,' and may I hope it will not meet the fate of some, which are relegated to the upper regions of the belfry to give place to more recent performances. The old peal boards are silent monitors and pregnant with useful lessons, and I admire them more than the new. May this board, on which are inscribed the names of most of those present, with Mr. Doran as conductor, remain to future generations a testimony of your triumph and skill in the noble art we cherish."

The memento having been fully exposed to view, Mr. Doran, in a few appreciative words, thanked all present, especially Mr. Theobald, for their successful efforts in getting up the board. The company then indulged in a few touches of Stedman Caters, much to the delight of all those who love the magic dance of figures and sounds, separating with a fervent hope that the end of war is in sight, and peace shall soon be proclaimed. Plenty of ringing to be done then, but where are the ringers?

OLD AMERICAN BELL REHUNG.

A recent issue of the "Boston Globe" gives a picture of Mr. Richard Newton, formerly of Manchester, ringing a famous Boston bell, which was cast by Paul Revere a century ago, and which had hung silent in the tower of the King's Chapel for the past ten years. This year, however, it was rung every day at noon during Lent, and Mr. Newton is portrayed with rope in hand and watched by interested ladies, who are members of the King's Chapel choir. Does this portend more ladies finding their way into the Exercise in America, where, we believe, Dr. Nichols' daughter, Mrs. Shurtleff, is the only ringing member of the fair sex.

The "Boston Globe" says: "After ten years of silence the Paul Revere bell in the tower of King's Chapel has again been pealing the call to worship out of its historical old metal throat. During Lent its tones, familiar to old Bostonians, have been heard every day at noon, inviting the busy passer-by to the noonday service. On holidays the bell will be rung morning, noon and night—a small payment being made by the city for holiday ringing. Expert ringers from the Boston Guild of Change Bell Ringers alternated in ringing the bell."

"The reason for the long silence of the bell was a break in the mechanism, which necessitated its being rehung. This delicate operation Edward F. Gibbon, an expert hanger from the famous Whitechapel Foundry, which cast the predecessor of this bell in 1772, has recently successfully accomplished. This bell, cast in 1816 by Paul Revere at his foundry at Canton, weighs 2437 pounds, and is, with one exception, the heaviest bell cast at the Revere foundry. Its tone is E flat, with minor overtones, and it is celebrated for its beautiful harmonic effects which enable it to be identified even when heard from afar."

"It replaced an English bell hung in 1772 which cracked while being tolled for evensong on May 8th, 1814. A contract was entered into with Paul Revere by which he should take the old bell and allow 25 cents a pound for its metal. He was to mould the new bell in all respects, size, shape, weight and tone, as near as possible like the old one. This he accomplished successfully by using the old metal and adding a little of his own composition. His pay for the new bell completed was at the rate of 41 2-3rds cents a pound. During his lifetime Paul Revere cast 398 bells, of which this was the 161st."

BRIERLEY HILL.—On Sunday, May 22nd, at St. Michael's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes) for evening service: R. Matthews (conductor) 1, R. Moors 2, Wm. Potter 3, A. E. Whatmore 4, G. Popnell 5, J. Basg 6, E. Perkins 7, C. W. Cooper 8.

FORTY YEARS A RINGER.

PRESENTATIONS AT QUEENSBURY.

At Queensbury, Yorks, on Saturday week, two interesting ceremonies took place. The first was in the belfry, where a peal board was unveiled. This board tells its own story in the following inscription:—

"Holy Trinity Church, Queensbury. A previous peal of six bells having been recast and augmented to eight, the re-opening and dedication took place on December 14th, 1907, a date touch being rung. Also on Saturday, March 21st, 1908, the same members of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers rang the first complete peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, consisting of 5088 changes in three hours 12 mins., standing as follows: Joe Hardcastle, Bradford, treble; John E. Jenkinson, Huddersfield, 2nd; James Cotterell, Halifax, 3rd; Jonas S. Ambler, Halifax, 4th; James Barraclough, Huddersfield, 5th; Thomas B. Kendall, Shipley, 6th; George B. Bolland, Tong, 7th; Joseph Broadley, Bradford, tenor. The peal was composed by A. Knights, Chesterfield, and conducted by J. Cotterell. R. Pulleine, M.A., Vicar; J. Chatburn, E. B. Drake, churchwardens."

The belfry is not large, but over 50 people were crowded into it. Among them were many past and present ringers, and most of those mentioned on the tablet. Illness prevented Mr. George Bolland (Tong) from attending. After a hymn, and prayer by the Rev. F. W. Bardsley (Vicar), the Rev. R. Pulleine (Bingley, late Vicar) unveiled the peal board, and uttered a few words of dedication and prayer.

GIFTS TO MR. AND MRS. GREGSON.

In the Co-operative Assembly Room, where all retired for tea, after group photographs had been taken, honour was done Mr. Harry Gregson, a ringer at the church for 40 years. The Rev. F. W. Bardsley, presenting him with a silver rose bowl, subscribed for by the ringers and officers, said they could hardly believe that one so young-looking as Mr. Gregson could have been in office 40 years. Many of the ringers seemed robust, but whether it was due to ringing, or that only robust men could ring, he did not know. He was afraid some imagined that ringers were not churchworkers, but they were. Mr. Gregson was not the only one with a long record, and he hoped the young ringers would follow their example and become old stagers. In the name of those who had kindly subscribed to the gift, he made the presentation, hoping Mr. Gregson would be spared for many more years of service.

Mr. A. Hanson, handing Mrs. Gregson a gold pendant, said he had known both of them a long time, and felt sure Mr. Gregson would not have done his duty so well had it not been for Mrs. Gregson.

Mr. Gregson, replying for both, said he could scarcely find words to express their thanks. They would cherish the gifts as long as they lived. It was 41 years since he went as an apprentice, and after ringing twelve months, he was put on for the summer service in 1876. He remembered his first peal of 720 changes of Bob Minor, in 27 minutes, rung by a band of Queensbury ringers, conducted by Mr. Sam Gledhill, who was still with them.

Mr. E. Whiteley, thanking Mr. Pulleine for attending, and subscribers, mentioned that for a man to keep bell ringing over three hours was no little job. The cost of the board was about £3, paid for by the ringers.

RINGERS' FRATERNAL SPIRIT.

The Rev. R. Pulleine, replying, said it was always a tremendous pleasure for him to come to Queensbury. Bell ringing functions were especially happy because he thought in the various orders of church workers there was not the fraternal spirit which was found among bell ringers. They stuck well together, walked from 10 to 20 miles to visit towers, and always seemed to be very brotherly. Other church workers were apt to be too parochial, and in that bell ringers set them an example. A spirit of camaraderie seemed to pervade all their members.

Mr. James Cotterell, hon. treasurer of the Yorkshire Association, on behalf of visiting ringers, said they enjoyed coming to Queensbury because they got such a warm welcome. They felt it an honour to be included in the names on the board.

Councillor W. H. Midgley, also replying, alluded to other ringers, Mr. S. Gledhill, who had served 45 years, Mr. Fred Gledhill and Mr. J. Butterfield, who had left the parish but enjoyed coming up occasionally. Having read a letter from Pte Fred Hoyle, Councillor Midgley said they all thought of the time, which they hoped was not far distant, when they would hear the bells ring out peals of victory and peace, when the menace of German militarism had passed.

Councillor Chatburn having thanked those who had prepared tea, Mr. E. B. Drake, a former warden, hoped they would put alongside the peal board another recording the names of all the ringers from the beginning of the church.

A fitting close to the proceedings were some well-struck touches on the bells.

LIEUT. E. MAURICE ATKINS, R.E.

We are glad to state that Lieut. E. Maurice Atkins, R.E., who was severely wounded in France some months ago, and who has been for some time in hospital in London, is now making splendid progress, although he still has to spend most of his time on his back.

THE SUSSEX ASSOCIATION AND THE CENTRAL COUNCIL

To the Editor.

Sir,—Will you allow me to make a few observations on the above subject, and also upon what transpired at the meeting of our Association. In supporting the resolution, "Not to send any delegates," I pointed out that the cost of sending these gentlemen during the last ten years had been £42 14s. 4d. Of this enormous sum over £20 has been paid out to the present delegates of the Eastern Division, £11 to the Central Division, and £6 to the Western Division. I should state of the present delegates of the Central and Western Division that this is their first term of office, and £5 of the total has been Council fees.

Now, what I want to know is, are we justified in spending the money in this manner? I say "No," emphatically. In my opinion, it should be spent in the advancement of change ringing, which should be the primary object of every Association, not on providing outings for privileged individuals.

The General Secretary, in his report of the meeting, says it might be found necessary to send only one or two members. If this is the case, why did he not put an amendment to this effect, when challenged to do so by me. I would have supported it, and the whole thing would have been settled. He then goes on to say that a central body is necessary, but he does not say what for.

The Central Council have no more power over any individual ringer or tower than I have, and to spend the money of an Association in this manner, and get not the slightest benefit, is one of the most scandalous things I have ever heard. I might add that Messrs. Dawe and Merritt spoke as to the uselessness of the Central Council.—Yours faithfully,
KEITH HART.

Brighton.

PRESENTATION TO MR. J. W. WHITING.

Members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild of Change Ringers met at Fareham on Saturday to honour their late hon. district secretary, Mr. J. W. Whiting, who has given up the office through ill-health. A presentation took place at Mr. Whiting's residence, the officers of the district present being the Rev. C. E. Matthews (Ringing Master), Vicar of Titchfield; Mr. G. Williams (hon. secretary, Southampton), Mr. E. J. Harding (hon. district secretary), and Mr. Burnett (representative).

The Rev. C. E. Matthews testified to the excellent work done by Mr. Whiting for the Guild, and in handing him a cheque for £10 expressed their gratitude to him, and wished him restored health and every happiness.—Messrs. Williams and Harding also spoke.

It was stated that the subscribers belonged to quite a number of towers, and some of them were now serving in the trenches in France.

Mr. Whiting, in thanking the members for their kindness, said it had been a great pleasure to him for the last 40 years to work in harmony with his brother ringers and to forward the interest of the Guild.

By permission of the Vicar of Fareham, the bells of the Parish Church were rung in the evening.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Canterbury District was held at Faversham on Saturday last, when about fifty members attended. The bells were kept going up to 5 p.m., when the service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. T. G. Crosse), who gave an address on the subject of "Influence." The hymns, "O God of love, O King of peace" and "Through the night of doubt and sorrow" were sung, accompanied by Mr. C. H. Drake, organist of Ospringe.

The tea was held in the Queen's Hall, provided by Miss Drake. At the business meeting nine new members were admitted. The Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe (Elham) was re-elected district secretary, and Mr. F. G. Bursden (Canterbury), representative. Mr. F. G. Brett (Canterbury) was appointed deputy representative in case Mr. Bursden's military duties should prevent his attendance at the Central Committee meeting.—It was decided to hold the autumn meeting at Littlebourne, the spring meeting at Sturry, and the annual at Chilham.—Votes of thanks to the Vicar, and Mr. and Mrs. Drake closed the proceedings.

KING'S CLIFFE BELL FUND.

HELP FROM RINGERS' MEETINGS.

Collections in aid of the fund for recasting the tenor bell at King's Cliffe Parish Church were made at the Central Northants Association meeting at Dallington on Saturday last, and at the Winchester Guild meeting at Seale. These amounted to 7s. and 11s. 6d. respectively. We have also received a sum of 5s. from "Wanderer," which will be forwarded to the Rector (the Rev. H. A. Orlebar), who also acknowledged further contributions amounting to £1 17s. 6d. Now that the fund has really got a start we would urge ringers to subscribe without delay, so that the sum necessary (£38) may be secured as quickly as possible. "Strike while the iron's hot," is a maxim that may well be applied in this case. Belfry and individual contributions should be sent to the Rectory, King's Cliffe, near Peterborough.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**MR. JOHN AUSTIN ELECTED MASTER.**

The annual meeting was held at Painswick on Saturday week, and in spite of the fact that many members are serving with the colours there was a fairly large and representative attendance. The weather was glorious, and was responsible for the appearance of a number of enthusiastic cyclist ringers, to whom distance was no object. Amongst the visitors were Messrs. J. E. Sykes (Huddersfield) and B. Thorp (Ashton-under-Lyne). The famous Painswick bells were raised soon after two o'clock, and were kept going until 4 p.m., after which the ringers attended divine service in the fine old Parish Church.

The Rev. J. M. Williams officiated, and extended a very hearty welcome to all present, and hoped they would spend an enjoyable time during their visit. An excellent tea was provided by Mrs. J. Russell in the Mission Room, where the business meeting was afterwards held. Mr. F. K. Howell (Master) presided, and was supported by the Rev. H. A. Cockey (treasurer) and Mr. R. W. Hyner (hon. secretary).

The Treasurer presented the balance sheet, which showed a balance in hand of £21 18s. 3½d.



The New Master: MR. JOHN AUSTIN.

The election of officers then took place, and Mr. John Austin, of Gloucester, was elected Master. The Rev. H. A. Cockey, of Bristol, was re-elected treasurer, and Mr. R. W. Hyner, of Swindon, was again elected hon. secretary.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar of Painswick for the use of the bells and the service, coupled with the name of the Rev. J. M. Williams, who officiated.

A similar compliment was extended to the ladies for their kind assistance at the tea.

The newly-elected Master moved a vote of condolence with Lady Heywood in her bereavement.—This was seconded by Mr. H. Howell, and passed in silence.

After the meeting the bells were again set going, and during the evening Messrs. J. E. Sykes and B. Thorp were elected members of the Ancient Society of Painswick Youths before starting for Grandsire Cinques. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major were also rung before the members dispersed to their respective destinations, after spending a most delightful and enjoyable time.

Our illustrated article this week gives the bell and ringing history of Painswick.

BRISTOL BRANCH.

A meeting of the Bristol Branch was held at Bitton on Saturday. During the afternoon touches of Plain Bob and several six scores of Grandsire were rung, and a short service was held in the church, the Revs. E. E. Lough and H. A. Cockey officiating. The Rev. H. A. Cockey gave a very interesting address on the Vicars of Bitton during the past century.

The ringers then adjourned for tea, 36 members and friends sitting down. Mr. H. Howell took the chair at the short business meeting which followed.—One new member was elected, and it was decided that the next place of meeting be Abbot's Leigh, about June 17th, if this could be arranged.—A vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. E. E. Lough and Mr. Higgins for making the arrangements.—The Rev. E. E. Lough, responding, expressed a hope that he would see some of the members in the Chippenham district, where he will be going shortly.

The members then visited the tower, and further six scores of Grandsire and Stedman were brought round.

A party (including some lady ringers from St. George's) were invited to the residence of the Rev. H. A. Cockey, and the use of his splendid peals of handbells was much appreciated.

DEATH OF LANCE-CORPORAL WARD.**"BRAVE WORK FOR SAKE OF HIS CHUMS."**

As briefly announced in our last issue, the death has occurred in France of Charles Albert Ward, lance-corporal, H Company, 11th Batt. Royal Sussex Regiment, at the early age of 23. He was formerly a ringer and member of the choir at the Parish Church of Henley, Suffolk.

The following are extracts from letters received by the Vicar relating to this sad event: "Sir,—I am sorry to have to write and tell you of the death of Charlie; poor fellow, he died of wounds on 30th April. It is a very difficult job for me to have to write about, but I will do my best. He was in charge of a wiring section, whose duty was to go out in what we call 'No man's land' to put up barbed wire in front of our line. Being a very brave lad he volunteered to go out and do some special work, and, having to go very close to the German line, it was exceedingly dangerous; so you will see that he met his death while doing some good work, which was of great importance for the sake of his chums. I do not think he suffered much, for he was wounded on the 28th, but did not regain consciousness, being shot right through the head. I must say that he was a great friend and pal of mine, for we enlisted together, and have been together right to the last. He was a great favourite amongst all, and admired by every one of us for his great pluck . . . I must add before closing that Charlie was a very good living young man, and is sadly missed by all, including officers and N.C.O.'s of the company. The N.C.O.'s and men of No. 1 Platoon wish to offer their deepest sympathy to his mother and all his friends.—Yours truly, D. G. HONEYSETT, Sergt."

Captain Cooling, the captain of his company, has also written:—"Dear Sir,—I hear from Sergt. Honeysett, of my company, that the sad news of the death of Lance-Corpl. Charles Ward has not yet reached his relatives. Immediately after his death I made the fullest investigation to ascertain your address and the address of his relatives, but was unable to obtain any information. I wrote a letter of sympathy to his mother, and forwarded it on to the hospital where he died, with the request that they would send it on. This evidently has not reached its destination. I pointed out in that letter how brave Lance-Corporal Ward was, and what a great loss his death is to the regiment. He was very popular as a man, and equally admired as a soldier. I understand Sergt. Honeysett has written you personally. If there is any further information I can give you please let me know, and I will do the best I can for you.—Yours faithfully T. H. COOLING."

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**WEDDING PRESENTATION.**

A meeting of the Bradfield Deanery Branch was held at Mortimer, Berks, on Saturday last, and was attended by some 33 ringers and clergy. Service was held at St. John's Church, and an admirable sermon was preached by the Rev. F. J. Howard, Vicar of St. Luke's, Reading, on "Love the Brotherhood." Tea had been kindly provided by the Vicar of Mortimer (the Rev. A. Baskerville Mynors) in St. John's Hall, at the conclusion of which the secretary of the branch (the Rev. H. C. Wilder, R.D.) took the opportunity of presenting a silver teapot to Miss M. Chillingworth, of Bradfield, on the occasion of her marriage with Mr. A. E. Reeves, secretary of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. This had been subscribed for by 54 members of the branch as a token of their esteem and gratitude for all the work which Miss Chillingworth had done, and their appreciation of her energy and perseverance in the cause of ringing.

The marriage of Mr. A. E. Reeves and Miss Chillingworth took place at Bradfield yesterday.

ST. MARY-LE-TOWER, IPSWICH.

In our next issue we hope to supplement the history of St. Mary-le-Tower bells by particulars of the early peals at that celebrated belfry, supplied through the kindness of Mr. William Mott and Mr. Chas. J. Sedgley.

Mr. Jerram writes: "In my account of the bells of St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, in your issue of May 19th, there were two printer's errors, which I shall be much obliged if you will kindly correct. In the inscription on the fifth bell for "Renesonantibus" read "Benesonantibus," and in that on the tenor, for "Taudia" read "Gaudia."

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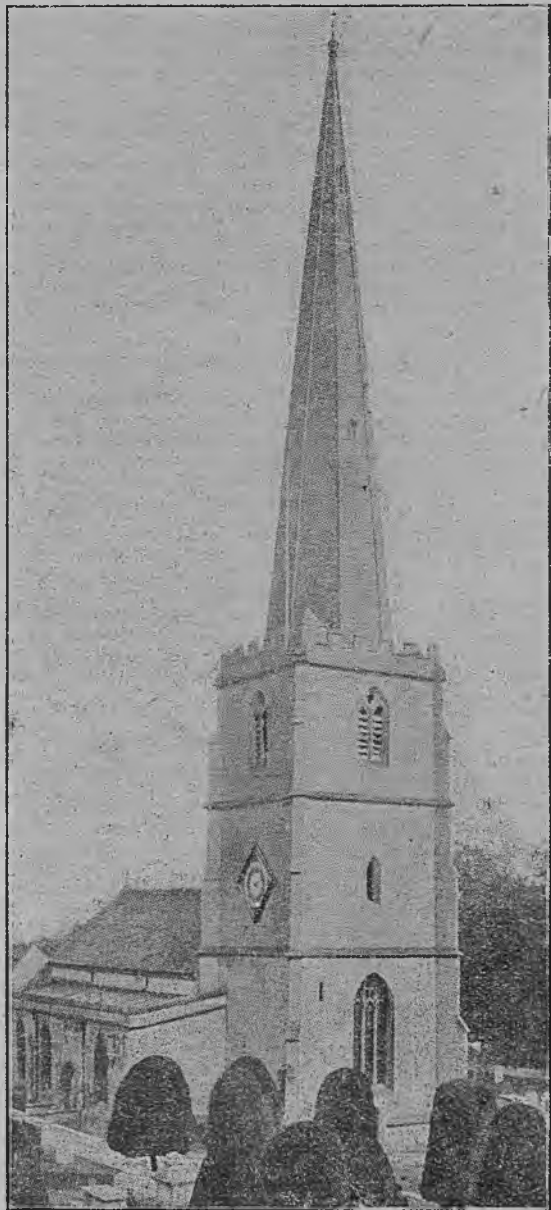
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BELLS OF ENGLISH CHURCHES.

PAINSWICK'S FAMOUS PEAL.

One of the most celebrated rings in England, among ringers at all events, is the famous peal of twelve at Painswick. The tenor is 52 inches in diameter and weighs 25 cwt. 2 qrs. 19 lbs. The note is a rather flat D. Mr. J. R. Jerram supplies the following copy of the inscriptions:



Treble and Second.

JOHN RUDHALL. GLOUCESTER. FECT 1821.
[Both these bells were recast by Mears and Stainbank, London, in 1887.]

Third.

WHEN YOU RING ILE SWEETLY SING, 1731.

Fourth.

PROSPERITY TO ALL OUR BENEFACTORS.
A. ♪ R. 1731.

Fifth.

THE GIFT OF EDMD WEBB CLOTHIER 1686.
RECAST 1731.

Sixth.

THE GIFT OF WM ROGERS ESQR 1686. RECAST 1731.

Seventh

ABRA : RVDHALL CAST VS ALL 1731 ♪

Eighth.

1732 ♪

Ninth.

PROSPERITY TO THIS TOWN AND PARISH. A.
♪ R. 1731.

Tenth.

JOHN DOWNE VICAR. 1731. A. ♪ R.

Eleventh.

THOMAS SMITH AND WILLIAM BARNES,
CHURCHWARDENS. A. ♪ R. 1731. ♪

Tenor.

I TO THE CHURCH THE LIVING CALL AND TO
THE GRAVE DO SUMMON ALL.

In "The Church Bells of Gloucestershire," by the Rev. H. A. Cockey, treasurer of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, we read: The third ring in Gloucestershire is the far famed ring at Painswick, noted throughout England for the beauty of its music, though modern critics would have us believe that all the bells were out of tune! The effect of the bells when rung, either in rounds or changes, is acknowledged by most people to be delightful, and is said by those competent to judge to be second to that of no ring in the country, with, perhaps, the one exception of St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich. In both places there is an excellent vantage ground on which to enjoy the music of the bells — at Norwich the Castle Grounds, and at Painswick the old bowling green at the back of the hotel, both being of somewhat higher level than the bells themselves and just far enough away for the clash of the iron tongues to be pleasantly modulated. Many notable feats of change ringing have been performed on these bells in bygone days, as well as in more recent times, and members of the Painswick Society of Change Ringers have greatly distinguished themselves in the ringing world. Mr. William Estcourt, as composer, conductor and ringer, was one of the most noted in England, and, amongst other fine performances, took part in a peal of 12,312 changes of Grandsire Caters in May, 1817, the ringing taking seven hours and forty-four minutes. The last surviving member of the band who rang this peal, Giles Mansfield, died only a few years ago, having rung his first peal at Painswick in 1814. On February 19th, 1831, the society rang a peal of Grandsire Triples to commemorate one which was rung in the same method in the year 1731. It was in a great measure due to the enthusiasm of the members of this society that the ring was increased from eight to ten bells, and afterwards to twelve.

Previous to the year 1686 there were six bells in the tower, but in the January of that year a meeting was held, at which "a levy was made for the hanging of the two new bells, the two new wheels, four new ropes, the timber and workmanship and the two new clappers and other ironwork to the said bells belonging; and the ironwork in setting the chimes going on the eight bells and workmanship thereto belonging." The parish also voluntarily paid the expenses incurred in fetching and hanging the two bells, which were cast by "Abraham Riddall" (Rud-

hall), of Gloucester, and in re-arranging the chimes to play on the eight bells for which a new chime barrel and fittings were provided. Forty-five years later it was decided to add two more bells and to recast the eight old bells. The various payments in connection with their work are recorded in the parish accounts, and provide interesting reading. The ring of 12 bells was completed in 1821 by the same Gloucester firm of bell founders.

The treble and second bells were recast by Mears and Stainbank in 1887, and the whole 12 bells rehung in a new iron frame, all on one level, by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, in 1902.

PEALS AT PAINSWICK.

In sending us the list of peals which have been rung on the bells, Mr. William Hale, the steeplekeeper, says:—"I should esteem it a favour if anyone could throw any light on the peals which must have been rung between the years 1737 and 1811. This period seems a blank, but as it was through the great enthusiasm of the ringers that the various improvements were made, and we have an excellent peal ringing society in 1737, and pick them up again in 1811, there must have been peals rung, and any information of what happened between those dates would be most interesting to us all."

| | | | | |
|---------------------|----------|-------|------|---------------|
| February 19th, 1731 | Ye whole | in ye | 3-27 | 5040 changes. |
| March 1st, 1731 | Peal of | space | 3-36 | |
| March 26th, 1731 | Tripples | of | 3-24 | |

| | | | |
|------------------|--------|----------|---------------|
| March 1st, 1734 | a Peal | — 8,064 | 4-55 minutes. |
| March 1st, 1735 | of | — 10,080 | 6-27 |
| April 18th, 1737 | Caters | — 12,006 | 7-55 |

MDCXXXIX.

| | | Changes. | Hrs. | Mts. |
|----------------------|--|----------|------|------|
| February 10th, 1811 | Grandsire Caters | 5039 | | |
| June 19th, 1814 | Holt's Original | 5340 | | |
| August 6th, 1815 | Grandsire Royal | 5099 | | |
| October 29th, 1815 | Grandsire Caters | 6001 | | |
| September 23rd, 1816 | Grandsire Caters | 10,278 | 6 | 48 |
| November 27th, 1816 | Bob Royal | 6440 | 4 | 48 |
| January 14th, 1817 | Bob Major | 6000 | 4 | 1 |
| January 21st, 1817 | Bob Major | 6336 | 4 | 15 |
| February 1st, 1817 | Bob Major | 8064 | 5 | 24 |
| May 5th, 1817 | Grandsire Caters | 12,312 | 7 | 44 |
| January 1st, 1818 | Grandsire Royal | 6000 | 4 | 3 |
| May 4th, 1818 | Grandsire Major | 8000 | 5 | 23 |
| September 21st, 1818 | Bob Royal | 6300 | 4 | 1 |
| October 11th, 1819 | Grandsire Caters | 5213 | 3 | 32 |
| August 7th, 1821 | Grandsire Cinques | 5081 | 3 | 26 |
| January 1st, 1823 | Treble Bob Major | 5088 | 3 | 27 |
| April 26th, 1824 | Treble Bob Major | 5856 | 3 | 51 |
| April 1st, 1827 | Treble Bob Royal | 5000 | 3 | 20 |
| May 6th, 1828 | Treble Bob Royal | 5120 | 3 | 23 |
| April 4th, 1831 | Grandsire Triples, with- out a plain lead | 5040 | 2 | 49 |
| November 5th, 1832 | Treble Bob Maximus | 5232 | 3 | 35 |
| December 9th, 1832 | Treble Bob Maximus | 10,224 | 6 | 50 |
| November 5th, 1837 | Stedman Caters | 5232 | 3 | 21 |
| November 5th, 1841 | Stedman Caters | 5081 | 3 | 13 |
| January 25th, 1842 | Stedman Caters | 8105 | 5 | 10 |
| November 19th, 1846 | Stedman Triples | 5040 | 3 | 12 |
| May 20th, 1850 | Grandsire Cinques | 5191 | 3 | 23 |
| April 28th, 1851 | Stedman Triples | 5040 | 3 | 8 |
| December 26th, 1851 | Stedman Caters | 5079 | 3 | 16 |
| January 31st, 1852 | Stedman Caters | 5189 | 3 | 15 |
| March 4th, 1852 | Stedman Caters | 5081 | 3 | 20 |
| April 18th, 1853 | Stedman Triples | 5040 | 3 | 3 |
| April 16th, 1856 | Stedman Triples | 5040 | 3 | 5 |
| December 26th, 1857 | Stedman Caters | — | — | — |
| January 25th, 1858 | Stedman Cinques | 5148 | 3 | 25 |
| February 16th, 1858 | Stedman Cinques | 8448 | 5 | 52 |
| January 3rd, 1859 | Stedman Caters | 5081 | 3 | 19 |
| May 28th, 1860 | Stedman Caters | 5081 | 3 | 9 |
| February 25th, 1862 | Stedman Triples | 5040 | 3 | 7 |

This last was the only peal rung in the Painswick tower for about 50 years without one of the members of the Estcourt family taking part. It was conducted by Robert Birt.

There was a break then in peal ringing at Painswick till the year 1888, when a peal of Grandsire Triples was again rung by the Painswick Youths, and in appreciation of the peal Mr. Albert Estcourt pre-

sented them with a splendid peal of handbells. Since then a large number of peals of Grandsire Triples, Caters, and Cinques, Bob Major, Royal and Maximus have been rung, including a peal 7325 of Grandsire Cinques on Easter Monday, March 24th, 1913, in 5 hours, conducted by Mr. Albert Wright. An attempt for a record peal failed in the following year, but another attempt is to be made at the first opportunity after the war.

THE LLANDAFF ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL GATHERING AT ABERAVON.

Favoured with beautiful weather the quarterly meeting of the Llandaff Diocesan Association was held at Aberavon, Port Talbot, on Saturday week. The bells were available for ringing all the afternoon and evening, and full advantage was taken of the opportunity, various methods being rung. The Vicar of the Parish very kindly provided tea, which was followed by the business meeting.

The Vicar, who presided, said it was a great pleasure to welcome the Association to Aberavon. The Master of the Association (Mr. W. B. Biss) was unfortunately unable to be present owing to a serious attack of rheumatism, which confined him to his bed.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. J. W. Jones) referred to the death of the President of the Central Council, and at some length mentioned what an enormous amount of good Sir Arthur Heywood had done during the past 30 years for the Exercise.—A vote of condolence with the relatives was passed, all standing for a few moments in silence.

New members were elected from Llanishen and Aberavon.—The place for the next Glamorgan meeting was discussed, both Whitechurch and Pentre being proposed, and, on going to the vote, Pentre was carried by a large majority.

The circular letter sent out by the hon. secretary of the Central Council was next read announcing the abandonment of the meeting at Plymouth this year.

A GOOD WORD FOR "THE RINGING WORLD."

The Hon. Secretary next read an extract from the report of the Herts County Association meeting at St. Albans on Easter Monday urging ringers to support "The Ringing World" by individually taking copies. He endorsed every word that was said at that meeting, and was backed up by the Vicar, who asked the members, in a very humorous speech, to see when they obtained their "John Bull" or other paper next week, that "The Ringing World" accompanied it.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for his kindness and generosity in providing the tea, and to the ladies who so well attended to the serving of it.—Replying, the Vicar said it had been a great pleasure to do the little he had, and if at any future time the Association cared once more to visit Aberavon, he would be only too pleased to welcome it again.

There was an excellent attendance, and the meeting was a successful and pleasant one.

A GLOUCESTER RING RESTORED.

BELLS OF ENGLAND'S FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH.

Situated in St. Mary's Square, formerly the mother church of the city of Gloucester, St. Mary de Lode Church is a building of stone in the later Early English style, consisting of chancel and nave and a low massive tower containing six bells. The chancel is Norman, and the arch between it and the nave is much admired. In the chancel is an ancient tomb, said to be that of Lucius, the first British Christian King and founder of the original church, who is supposed to be buried here. Much interest attaches to the site of the edifice, for on the rebuilding of the nave in 1826 it was found to have been previously occupied by a Roman Temple used as the first Christian church in this country. In the churchyard is a fine monument to Bishop Hooper, who was burned at the stake on February 9th, 1555. The church has recently undergone a thorough restoration, and the bells, which have been silent for about 17 years, have been put in good order by Messrs. John Warner and Son, of the Spitalfield Foundry. The old wood frame has been taken out, and a new girder frame put in on the firm's latest principle, built on four main girders let into the walls of the tower, thus binding and strengthening the whole together, the bell frame having a clearance of nearly two feet all round the tower, thus leaving plenty of room to get about. The bells were taken away to the foundry and tuned on the Canon Simpson principle, and have been rehanged with all new fittings and the firm's patent self-aligning self-lubricating bearings. The whole of the work has been carried out by two of the firm's bell hangers, who are good practical ringers, Mr. F. Smith and Mr. J. Hunt. Room has been left in the tower for the addition of two trebles to complete the octave, which it is hoped will be forthcoming after the war is over in commemoration of peace. When the work was completed a number of ringers from the surrounding districts were invited to try the bells, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Bob Minor and Treble Bob Minor were rung, the general opinion being that the work had been carried out in a first-class manner, and leaving nothing to be desired except the addition of the two trebles. On Monday, May the 20th, a special dedicatory service was held by the Archdeacon of Gloucester, after which visiting ringers once more rang touches in various methods on the bells.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

A special meeting of the Northampton District was held at Dallington on Saturday last, when a most enjoyable afternoon was spent. Service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar, and tea was served in the Vicarage grounds under the shade of some splendid old beeches, a party of 25 sitting down.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar and Mrs. Streatfield for the splendid tea, also for the privilege of roaming about the beautiful garden.—The Vicar suitably replied.

Mr. H. Clarke proposed a "whip round" in aid of the Kingscliffe Bell Fund—for which an appeal was made in "The Ringing World."—The Vice-President (Mr. J. Slarke) went round with the plate, the result being the sum of seven shillings for the secretary to forward to Kingscliffe, with the hope that they might soon be able to have their bell recast.

Three new ringing members were elected.—Great Brington was chosen for the next special meeting on June 24th. Ringing was continued until 7.30, there being a good attendance of young ringers, for whom these meetings are chiefly arranged.

SHRAPSTON DISTRICT.

A quarterly meeting of the Shrapston District of this Association was held at Great Addington on Saturday last, when about 30 sat down to tea. The President (the Rev. W. St. Geo. Coldwell) presided at the meeting, which followed, and was supported by the Rev. F. Lang (Rector of Twywell). An apology was read from the Rector of Addington regretting that he was unable to be present.

It was resolved to hold the annual quarterly meeting of the district at Islip in August, and to hold a special ringing meeting at Aldwinckle in July. One new member from Lowick was elected.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector for the use of the bells; also to all those who had made the arrangements for such a successful meeting.

Various Minor Methods were rung during the afternoon and evening on the bells, which are a fine peal of six.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A meeting of the Crewe Branch was held at Barthomley on Saturday last, when there were about 25 ringers present, representing the following towers: Crewe, Nantwich, Bunbury, Alasger, Lawton, Kidsgrove, Bucknall, Wybunbury, and the local band. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman were brought round, and some call changes were rung by the band from Wybunbury, where they have decided to take up change ringing, and have formed a new band. Nine new members were elected from Wybunbury and from Barthomley. The captain kindly catered for tea, which was served *à la carte*, and he was ably assisted by his wife in making everything a success. A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells brought a very pleasant meeting to a close.

"LUSITANIA" DAY RINGING.

The sinking of the "Lusitania," one of the blackest crimes in history, occurred on May 7th, 1915, and the anniversary was fittingly celebrated in many places in America. The Boston (Mass.) Guild of Ringers met at the Perkin's Institute, Watertown, and rang the bells half-muffled, the following taking part: A. Matthews, P. J. Allfrey, R. Newton, E. E. Randall, J. Goodhead, W. Bashford and J. F. Laker.

At the Church of The Advent, at 3 p.m. the same day, 672 Grandsire Triples was rung on the occasion of a church parade by members of the Orders of the "Sons and Daughters of St. George." Six of the ringers belong to the Order of "Sons of St. George," and stood for the ringing as follows: A. Matthews 1, J. F. Laker 2, J. Goodhead 3, Mrs. M. H. Shurtleff 4, W. Bashford 5, E. E. Randall 6, P. J. Allfrey (conductor) 7, R. Newton 8.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.

A meeting of Romney Marsh and District Guild was held at Woodchurch on Saturday. About 15 members attended, representing Bidenden, Stone-in-Oxney, Fluckley and Tenterden, and several of the local ringers. Ringing commenced soon after 6 p.m., and the bells were kept busily swinging to Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles and Bob Minor till sunset.

At the business meeting, the Secretary read a letter from Mr. G. Billeney, the Master of the Guild, resigning office, as he had now been called on, like so many more of his brother ringers, to fight for his King and country, and should not, therefore, be able to take any active part in the Guild's affairs. A resolution was passed congratulating him on his loyalty, and conveying hearty wishes for a safe and speedy return. Mr. G. Youngs, the late secretary, was then appointed Master pro tem.

It was decided to hold the next meeting in conjunction with the Kent County Association at New Romney on Whit-Monday.—Two new members, Kenneth King, of Woodchurch, and Walter Ovenden, of Aldington, were duly elected.—The Rector gave the visitors a cordial welcome and an invitation to the Rectory for light refreshments before proceeding on their homeward journeys, which, needless to say, was greatly appreciated. When the party dispersed, all thought they had done their little bit towards "Keeping the home fires burning and the church bells ringing till the boys come home."

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

CALVERTON, BUCKS.—On Easter Day, for early service, 720 Bob Minor: J. Tompkins 1, W. G. Edwards 2, W. T. Tucker (conductor) 3, W. Bonham 4, H. J. Tucker 5, T. Tompkins 6.

KEYNSHAM, SOMERSET.—On Sunday, April 30th, for morning service, several 120's Grandsire Doubles, with three bells covering: J. Williams 1, F. Day 2, W. Knight 3, W. Bryant 4, R. Harris 5, J. Lazenby 6, S. Murphy 7, C. Williams 8.—On May 2nd, several 120's Grandsire Doubles: J. Williams 1, F. Day 2, W. Knight 3, Pte F. Parsons 4, R. Harris 5, G. Lacey 6; and also with W. Bryant on the fourth.—On May 4th, several 120's Grandsire Doubles, with three bells covering: J. Williams 1, F. Day 2, W. Knight 3, Pte F. Parsons 4, R. Harris 5, J. Lazenby 6, G. Murphy 7, C. Williams 8; and also a six-score, with W. Bryant on the fourth, and a plain course of Grandsire Triples: J. Williams 1, F. Day 2, R. Harris 3, Pte F. Parsons 4, J. Lazenby 5, G. Murphy 6, W. Knight 7, C. Williams 8. The practices were arranged for Pte Parsons, on leave after 16 months' absence in France, he having to return on the following Friday. These were the first six-scores rung by the members as a band.

EALING.—For the evening service, at Christ Church, on Sunday, May 7th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: J. J. Pratt (conductor) 1, W. Lawrence 2, W. H. Hollier 3, R. Holloway 4, Geo. Iles 5, A. Harding 6, H. H. Chandler 7, Pte S. Meadows (Staffordshire Regiment) 8. For service the same evening, at St. Mary's (Old Town), the time being half-an-hour later, 504 Stedman Triples: J. J. Pratt (conductor) 1, J. W. Walsom 2, Geo. Iles 3, W. Lawrence 4, A. Harding 5, H. H. Chandler 6, H. Browning 7, E. Harris 8.

LONDON.—London County Association.—At St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, E.C., on Sunday, 30th April, for evening service, also to celebrate the election on the previous Thursday, of Mr. John Todd to the position of senior churchwarden of the above church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 48 mins.: A. W. Grimes 1, T. H. Taffender 2, W. P. Buckingham 3, W. G. Matthews 4, F. Davis 5, W. A. Alps (conductor) 6, A. Turner 7, A. Pettett 8.

GODSTONE, SURREY.—At the Parish Church, on April 30th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 42 mins.: W. T. Beeson 1, L. Goodwin 2, F. Smith 3, W. T. Beeson, junr. (conductor) 4, G. Potter 5, F. Balcombe 6, Corpl. W. Cockings 7, J. Balcombe 8.—On May 1st, three courses of Grandsire Doubles: R. Hayward 1, W. Moore 2, A. Redford 3, W. T. Beeson 4, W. T. Beeson, junr., 5, D. Ashdown 6. The ringers of 1, 2 and 3 are all 13 years of age—2 have only learnt to ring this year.

BARNES.—At St. Mary's Church, on April 30th, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 45 mins.: J. Wilmott 1, H. Barrett 2, M. Jacobs 3, R. Mackrill 4, C. Hunt 5, H. Cook 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, G. Hunt 8.

GUILDFORD.—At Holy Trinity, on Saturday, May 6th, in honour of the anniversary of the Accession of His Majesty King George V, 504 Grandsire Triples: W. E. Jelley 1, R. W. Melville (first 504) 2, H. Hutton 3, C. Hazelden 4, M. Smither 5, W. R. Melville 6, A. H. Pulling (conductor), H. Harris 8.

LEWISHAM, KENT. At St. Mary's Church, on Saturday, May 6th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: H. Warnett, junr., 1, C. H. Walker 2, G. R. Simmonds 3, T. Taylor 4, H. Warnett, senr. (conductor) 5, H. Walker 6, W. W. Fox 7, H. G. Goodwin 8. Rung in honour of the anniversary of the King's Accession, also as a compliment to H. Walker on his 21st birthday.

OLDSWINFORD.—On Sunday, May 7th, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), for evening service: R. Moors 1, J. Bass 2, A. E. Whatmore 3, Jos. Smith 4, T. Heathcock 5, J. Newnam 6, R. Matthews (conductor) 7, T. C. Whitehouse 8.—On Sunday, May 14th, 720 of Bob Minor, 7-8 covering: J. Orford 1, C. W. Cooper 2, R. Moors 3, A. E. Whatmore 4, G. Popnell 5, J. Newnam (conductor) 6, P. Pope 7, R. Newnam 8.

ACTON.—At St. Mary's Church, for the morning service, on May 7th, the first 518 of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples: W. Lawrence (conductor) 1, A. Davis 2, J. Fruin 3, R. H. Boddington 4, R. Holloway 5, Geo. Iles 6, B. Brewer 7, A. E. Smith 8.—On May 6th, for King's Accession, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A. Edwards 1, G. Harbour 2, J. W. Fruin 3, W. Lawrence 4, H. W. Lidbetter 5, Robt. Holloway (conductor) 6, F. Skevington 7, A. E. Smith 8.—On April 16th, a quarter-peal of Bob Major: Miss Jones (first in the method) 1, Pte S. Meadows (A.S.C.) 2, P. H. Smith 3, G. Iles 4, W. Lawrence 5, B. Brewer 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, A. Harding 8. Practice on Wednesdays from 7 till 8 p.m.

STONY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.—Midland Counties Association.—At St. Michael's Church on the occasion of a special service, held on Sunday evening, May 7th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: H. Briggs 1, C. Briggs 2, Nunn Walker 3, G. Wood 4, T. Wright 5, H. Wright 6, W. Hyde Inglesant (conductor) 7, W. Jones 8.

BRIDGEND, GLAM.—At St. Illtyd's Church, on Sunday, May 7th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: J. Evans 1, T. J. Evans 2, A. J. Stanley 3, C. H. Perry (conductor) 4, R. Evans 5, F. Stedman 6, J. Pitman 7, B. Toby 8.

NOTICES.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on June 15th and 29th; and for general business on the 6th and 20th, all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.

—The next meeting will be held at Flixton on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. — W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—The Annual Meeting will be held at Shenley, Saturday, June 3rd. Service at 3 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—T. Best, Secretary.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Western District will be held at Ripponden on Saturday, 3rd June. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Tea in Schools 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A quarterly meeting of the above Guild will be held at St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, on Saturday, June 3rd. The bells (12) will be available for ringing at 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4 p.m., which will be conducted by the Rev. Prebendary Penny (Rector). Business meeting in upper vestry at 4.30.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held in Milnrow on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6 o'clock. This meeting is by special request of the Milnrow ringers for the unveiling of a Peal Board. A good attendance of members is requested.—Secretary, T. K. Driver, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next meeting will be held at Whiston (Bus 2d. from Rotherham) on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (8) available 3 to 9 p.m. Business meeting in Church Institute after tea.—Leonard Brightman, 45, St. Stephen's Road, Rotherham (District Sec. *pro tem.*).

ESSEX ASSOCIATION (North-Western Division).—A District Meeting will be held at Matching on Saturday, June 3rd, 1916. Bells available 3 p.m. Business meeting will be held in the Marriage Feast Room, next the Church, at 5.30 p.m. All subscriptions for 1916 are now due and should be paid as soon as possible.—William Watts, District Secretary, Mont House Cottage, Stansted, Essex.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Ramsbottom, on Saturday, June 10th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting will be held at Higham Ferrers on Whit-Monday, June 12th, 1916. The bells of Higham Ferrers will be available from 10.30 a.m. to 11.50, and from 3 o'clock to 6.30. The bells of Raunds, Irthlingboro, and Finedon will be available from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Service in the Parish Church, Higham Ferrers, at 12 noon. Meat tea in the Bede House at one o'clock. Business meeting to follow. — Fred Wilford, General Secretary, 149, Ashburnham Road, Northampton.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Middlesbrough on Whit Monday, June 12th, 1916. Middlesbrough, Thornaby, Ormesby (8 bells), Stockton-on-Tees (10 bells). Committee meeting at 11 a.m. Divine service at 12 noon; Address given by the Rev. F. H. Stock, Vicar of Middlesbrough. Dinner provided at the Clifton Temperance Hotel; members 1/3, non-members 2/6. Those intending to be at dinner please notify the hon. sec. not later than Thursday, June 8th, 1916.—T. Metcalfe, Hon. Sec., 26, High Street, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Braintree on Whit-Monday. Service in the Parish Church, address by the Vicar (the Rev. J. N. France) 11.30 a.m. Lunch at the Mechanics Institute 1 p.m., to be followed by the business meeting. Braintree (8 bells), Bocking (8 bells), Felsted (8 bells), Stisted (6 bells), Rayne (6 bells), Black Notley (5 bells) will be available. To ensure accommodation at the lunch notice must be sent to the honorary secretary not later than June 7th.—Henry T. W. Eyre, Great Totham Vicarage, Witham.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Eastern District will be held at Beverley on Whit-Monday. Bells available most of the day. Tea at 5 p.m. to those who notify Mr. W. Gibson, 2, Brithunus Place, Long Lane, Beverley, on or before Tuesday, June 6th, 1916, 1s. per head. — Thos. Smith, 12, Sutton Street, Goole, Hon. District Secretary.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A meeting of the above will be held at New Romney on Whit-Monday, June 12th. Ringing to commence at 2 o'clock. A short special service in the church at 4 o'clock. The Vicar and Mrs. South have cordially invited all the members attending to tea in the Vicarage grounds at 5 o'clock. A brief business meeting will follow and ringing continued till sunset. It is earnestly requested that all members intending to be present should notify me not later than Wednesday, June 7th. — C. Tribe, Hon. District Secretary, British School Villas, Tenterden.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Hartlebury on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in the church at 4.45 p.m. The service will be taken by the Rev. Canon J. H. Grieg. Tea kindly provided for all those who let me know on or before June 14th. — E. J. Dowler, 11, Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Rochester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hoo St. Werburgh, on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available from 3.30 till 8.30 p.m. (election of district representative for Central Committee). — Edward A. G. Allen, Hon. District Secretary, 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Oswaldtwistle on Saturday, June 24th, 1916. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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IN MEMORIAM.

In loving memory of Ernest Edward Huntley, Master of the Bushey Society of Change Ringers 1887-1908, and President of the Hertfordshire Association 1910, who died 3rd June, 1915, aged 53 years.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A meeting of the Guildford District was held at Seale on Saturday, May 27th, and was attended by nearly 40 members from the neighbouring towers. The weather was beautiful, and the lovely church and village looked quite ideal, and amid the peaceful surroundings of so pleasant a spot it seemed out of place to have so many apologies from tower after tower for the small numbers present, because "all the others have joined up." Tea was held in the Jubilee Hall, presided over by the Rector (the Rev. A. R. Wiseman), who gave the ringers a hearty welcome to Seale. The Ringing Master (Mr. C. Edwards) reported that only one peal had been rung, and that on handbells, since the last meeting. Mr. R. Whittington asked for an expression of opinion as to the advisability of sending any representatives to the Central Council. A number of ringers took part in the discussion, and it was finally resolved that no alteration should be suggested for this year. A collection was made for King's Cliffe tenor, and the sum of 11s. 6d. was raised in the room by the persuasive collecting powers of Mr. C. Hazelden.

Service was held in the Parish Church, the congregation nearly half filling it.—The Rector gave a most interesting address, and mentioned that a church had been on that spot for over 600 years, and was situate right on the Pilgrim's Way, and was one of the shrines visited by the Pilgrims on their way to Canterbury. The nice little peal of six was kept going in various methods, and the large and lovely gardens of the Rectory were greatly admired.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of Preston branch was held at Eccleston on May 13th, a fair number of members being present. After various touches on the bells, the business proceedings were presided over by Mr. J. R. Taylor.—It was decided to hold the next quarter's meetings at Ribchester, Goosnagh and Broughton.—A vote of condolence with the relatives of the late Sir Arthur Heywood was passed, to be expressed through the columns of "The Ringing World."—Votes of thanks to the church officials for use of the bells, etc., closed the meeting. Further ringing and an attempt at the peculiar local method brought a pleasant afternoon to a close.

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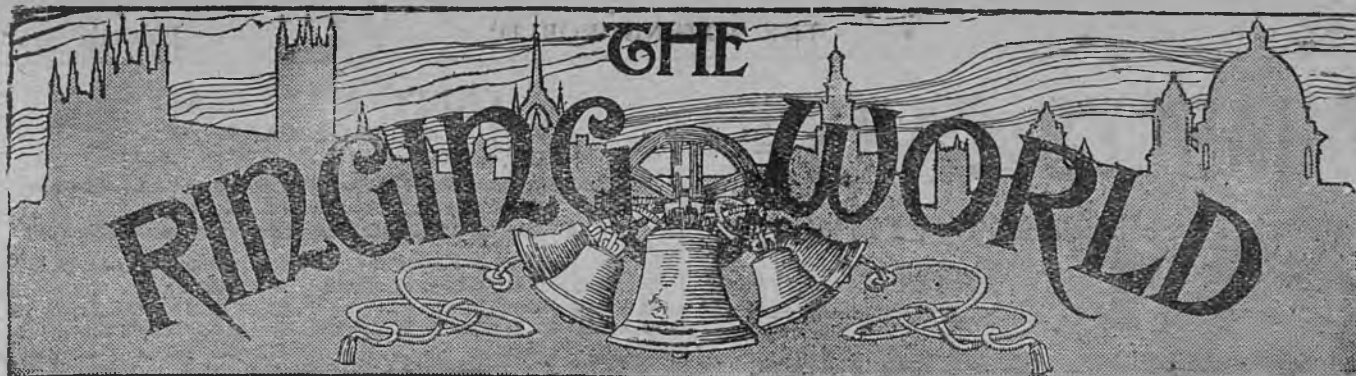
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FRIDAY, JUNE 9th, 1916.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
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CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



[St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
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Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12

MESSERS. GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

SERVICE RINGING DIFFICULTIES.

A very useful suggestion is made by a correspondent in another column. He refers to the fact that the new military requirements, as typified in the Compulsion Act, will further drain the belfries, and that many, already undermanned, will be further depleted when the "calling up" has been concluded. The writer suggests that those who are left behind should, in the case of neighbouring towers, amalgamate and divide their services between the churches in such a way that instead of all the towers being silent, the bells of each may be rung in turn. He mentions that at Putney, in which district there are four towers near each other, the subject has been discussed, and, we presume, steps will be taken to carry the suggestion into effect if possible. It is, of course, probable that in other districts the same thing is already being done.

This practical idea should, however, commend itself to those ringers similarly placed—and there must be many up and down the country who have not adopted the idea. We have over and over again urged united efforts to keep up the practice of ringing in different districts, and now that the towers will be still harder hit in the loss of men, the adoption of some organised means of "keeping the church bells ringing" is more than ever necessary. Our correspondent's idea that in this matter the clergy should be taken into conference is certainly to be commended, and we think they will be found ready to give their assistance. A ringer's first duty is to his own church, and if, in the stress of present circumstances, he desires to divide his services, it is only right that he should do so with the consent of his incumbent. It may be true that he is under no express obligation, but consultation with the clergy would be a step, to put it on no higher ground, demanded by courtesy as well as one which would doubtless lead to a more satisfactory arrangement.

Where towers are short-handed this method of helping one another should be beneficial in many ways. It would add to the fraternal feeling between ringers, it would show the clergy and the public that ringers are determined to discharge their duties, however difficult the circumstances, to the best of their ability; it would help to keep up the standard of ringing and it would preserve the position of the ringer by maintaining continuity of service. There are likely to be many districts where properly organised amalgamation would enable the bells to be rung fully and properly at regular frequent intervals, instead of remaining for months unring. We think the suggestion made at Putney is likely to commend itself wherever there are remnants of bands handicapped by the absence of those called to the stern duties of war.

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EIGHT BELL PEAL.

SHIFNAL, SALOP.

THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

On Saturday, May 27, 1916, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes

At THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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|---|---------------------------|
| HOLLIS' IRREGULAR FIVE-PART, No. 1. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E flat. | |
| G. LEONARD HEWITT... ..Treble | WILLIAM PAGE 5 |
| *WILLIAM JONES 2 | JOHN BRADNEY 6 |
| CHARLES R. LILLEY 3 | WILLIAM SAUNDERS 7 |
| ALBERT WOODVINE 4 | †THOMAS SMITHTenor |

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal. † First peal of Triples. Rung with bells muffled as a token of respect to the memory of the late Sir A. Percival Heywood, Bart., it being the band's first opportunity of meeting. The ringers of the treble and 7th belong to Coalbrookdale, 4th to Malins Lee, 5th to Shifnal, 3rd to St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, 2nd and 6th to St. Luke's, Wolverhampton, and tenor to St. Peter's, Wolverhampton. It was also the conductor's 500th peal.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING AT RETFORD.

The 29th annual meeting of the North Notts Association was held in the Parish Room, East Retford, on Saturday week, and was preceded by a service in the church, at which the preacher was the Rev. R. D. Foster (Rector of Ordsall), and a tea well served by Miss Falconer, of the Cannon Cafe.

Canon Gray presided over the business meeting, which was very largely attended, there being present representatives to the number of 65, from East and West Retford, Ordsall, Worksop, Tuxford, East Markham, Blyth, Shireoaks, Anston, Norton Cuckney, Everton, and other towers, including the Rev. C. J. Sturton, Vicar of Orston, Nottingham, and Mr. F. S. Butler, one of the secretaries of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild.

The annual statement of accounts showed a net gain on the year's work of 13s. 10½d., and the balance sheet was passed as read.

The report was also presented, and in this the list of special performances was headed by Mr. John Segar, junr., of East Retford, who had taken great pains, since the war commenced, to teach a band to ring changes double-handed on handbells. Mr. Segar and his band had been successful in ringing five peals of 5040 changes in three Minor Methods, which were the first peals for the Association on handbells. This was a very good record for a young band in their first year of existence and their trainer, and they were to be congratulated upon the success which had rewarded their perseverance. One new tower, Shireoaks, with eight ringers, had become affiliated; the membership roll to date being 144 ringing members, 28 probationary, and 19 ex-officio, total 191, a gain of 17 on the year.—The Secretary took the opportunity of thanking Mr. Arnold Beck, of Worksop, who had given him great assistance since becoming a member of the Association, and all the local committeemen who had been prompt in answering any communication; also the vice-presidents for their patronage and support during the year, especially at that most critical time, when everybody was asked to economise. He looked forward to a continuance of support during the current year. In conclusion he expressed a wish that those who were fighting our battles against the common foe might be spared, and that a year hence they might meet under widely different and happier circumstances.

The Hon. Secretary also made an appeal to the ringers to support "The Ringing World," by each of them taking a copy weekly and not being content with one or two copies for a tower. It would be the worst day's work the ringers did if they allowed the only ringing paper that now existed to be starved through want of support. With 15 ringers at Worksop, 13 copies of the paper came to the tower weekly, and he hoped all other belfries would follow Worksop's example.

The report was adopted, and the whole of the officers were re-elected en bloc, with the addition of Mr. Arnold Beck, of Worksop, as assistant secretary.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar of East Retford, to the Rev. R. D. Foster, Rector of Ordsall, and the Rev. Canon Gray, Rector of West Retford, for the use of bells, and to the latter for presiding, were passed, the Rev. Canon Gray suitably responding.

During the afternoon and evening touches on 10, 8 and 6 bells in the methods of Grandsire, Treble Bob, Plain Bob and Killamarsh Treble Bob were successfully brought round, whilst in the evening Mr. Segar's handbell band rang 240 Bob Minor non-conducted, and Mr. Segar tapped a course of Cambridge single-handed.

A CITY INVITATION TO RINGERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The bells of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, City, will be available on Whitsun Day at 9.45 a.m. and 5 p.m., when ringing visitors to London, naval, military and civilian, will be heartily welcomed by—

Yours faithfully,

10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate.

T. WALKER.

CHESTER GUILD'S FOUNDER.

An event of much interest to members of the Chester Diocesan Guild and ringers generally, took place at Chester Cathedral on Saturday week, when a memorial to the late Archdeacon Barber, founder of the Guild, was dedicated. A stone has been placed in the north aisle of the choir, and has been erected by the Diocesan Guild. It bears the following inscription:—

"In honour of the worship of God, Edward Barber, M.A., Archdeacon of Chester, founded the Guild of Church Bell Ringers in 1887, and was master until his death in 1914. By this tablet the members desire to keep his faithful work in lasting remembrance."

During the afternoon the Cathedral bells were rung, and the impressive service, which was attended by a large number of ringers, took place in the choir. Among the clergy present were the Ven. Archdeacon Paige-Cox, the Rev. Minor Canon Williams, and the Rev. H. Grantham, V.D. The members of the committee of the Guild present included Mr. C. J. Bowen Cooke (Crewe) (Master), Archdeacon Paige-Cox, Mr. H. A. Heywood (Christleton), Mr. G. D. Warburton (Stockport), Mr. R. T. Holding, Mr. R. Langford, Mr. J. Pierpoint (Crewe), Mr. Ashcroft (Grappenhall), Messrs. Mottershead, Galleymore, and Norbury (Macclesfield), Messrs. Ashmole and Yarwood (Northwich), Messrs. Brocklebank, Storer and Wilcox (Birkenhead), and the Rev. A. T. Beeston (Stockport), hon. secretary and treasurer. Several other towers were represented by a number of members.

Following the third Collect, the choir sang the first five verses of a hymn, as the Dean proceeded to the tablet. The first verse was:

Swing them gently in our towers,
Let our bells be set on high,
There fulfil their daily mission
Midway 'twixt the earth and sky.

As the Dean walked to the tablet he was followed by members of the Guild, Mr. C. J. Bowen Cooke and the Rev. A. T. Beeston walking immediately behind the Dean.

The special Collects were:—

Almighty God, Who by the mouth of Thy servant Moses did'st command to make silver trumpets for the convocation of solemn assemblies, send Thy blessing on the bells dedicated to Thy service throughout the diocese, and upon the Guild here present, grant that through this generation and the generations yet to come, they may call together Thy faithful people to praise and worship Thy Holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We dedicate to Thee, O Heavenly Father, this memorial of Edward Barber, who with zealous care gathered and guided the Chester Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers. They bless Thy Glorious Name for his faithful example: Let the light of Thy countenance ever shine upon him, and grant that we with him may have eternal peace, through the merits of Thy Son our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

The choir then sang the remaining five verses of the hymn, commencing:—

Year by year the steeple music
O'er the tender graves shall pour;
Where the dust of saints is garnered
Till the Master comes once more.

THE LATE ARCHDEACON'S EXAMPLE.

In a brief sermon, the Dean spoke of the purpose of the ringing of church bells, alluding to the change which has taken place, and spoke of the late Archdeacon's aim in his work among the bell ringers. His text was from the first epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians: "Seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the Church." To-day, he said, our thoughts are specially turned to the use of bells as used in the service of Almighty God. Primarily, as you know, they are used to call God's people to His worship, and at times they are used to express the sympathy of the Church for the sorrow felt by bereavement. We know the pathetic touch of the muffled peal, and our hearts are led to weep with them that weep. But not only so, they are often used to express the joy which we feel in common. We ring our peal in the honour of the King; we ring upon his day of birth, we ring upon his accession, and all this is done in the service of that God Who has given us a Sovereign to reign over us. Therefore, I think you ringers, as you practice, may keep as your motto, "Seek that ye may excel in the edifying of the Church." You know, and a great deal better than I, the practice that is required, and the labour that you have to expend, in seeking to excel, not only in ringing your changes to perfection, but in the order and quiet and reverence observed in the tower where you gather; I do not intend to allude only in a most distant way to what may have happened in days gone by. Things have vastly changed for the better in the sense that we have in bell ringers distinctly officers of the Church, devoting their skill and their time to excel to the edifying of the Church, not in boasting, but in reverent devotion of that God to Whose house you summon others. You do not forget the God for Whom you work, and you do not forget the work which you do in His name for the benefit of others. Now, as one who was very intimate for forty years with your late warden, I know that above all things he had at heart when he went about among you this very text, that you might seek to excel to the edifying of the Church. There was nothing he desired more than your lives should be consecrated to this work, and that you should recognise that in your ringing of the bells you had in mind the setting forth of the glory of God, and the extending, by the very sound of the bells you ring, an invitation to "Come unto Me; fall down and worship at My footstool,

receive a blessing from Almighty God." In his memory we have joined together to dedicate this simple, but very beautiful, tablet, in its simplicity, to his memory, and to keep alive, not for this generation only, but for those to follow you in the same work, the memory of a zealous, faithful and courageous master, who often laboured against and under great difficulties, but who was determined to do his duty. Let that example of his tarry with us and inspire us with the same high sense of duty both to God and man.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The half-yearly meeting of the Lancashire Association held at Wigan brought together some 60 ringers from the county and neighbourhood. Three o'clock found the first batch at the historic church, almost if not quite the oldest in Lancashire.

The building of the old Church, dedicated to All Saints, is lost in the mists of history. Certainly there stood a church on the same spot in Saxon times, as is learnt from the survey of William the Conqueror. The existence of what is supposed to be an old Roman altar, at present embedded in the bay of the north window of the tower, suggests that the present church stands, as did its predecessors, upon the site of some heathen temple. The first Rector of Wigan, whose name we know, was Ranulph, treasurer of Salisbury, who resigned it in 1205. Among the most famous of the Rectors were the following: John Maunsel, keeper of the great seal to Henry III., to whom the town was indebted for its first charter of freedom; John de Winwick, who obtained for himself and his successors, from Edward III., powers to hold assizes, which were held probably by no other secular priest in England, in right of his Church: Thomas Linacre, the great scholar and physician, who founded the College of Physicians; and John Pearson, Bishop of Chester, whose work on the Creed is still a text-book. From 1616—1707, except during the rebellion, the rectory was held by the Bishops of Chester. The registers date from 1580. A due of £20 is still paid by the Rector to Lichfield, and is supposed to have been paid since St. Chad was Bishop in the year 669.

The Church has three Private Chapels: on the north of the altar, the Leigh Chapel, originally belonging to the Leigh family; on the south, the Bradshaigh Chapel, which now belongs to Lord Crawford; and the third a Gerard or Walmesley Chapel, recently restored, separated from the north aisle by an iron screen, belonging to the Walmesley family. Except in the lower part of the tower, which appears to date from the thirteenth century, but may be earlier, there is no trace of any earlier architectural style than the perpendicular. The whole church, except the tower and Walmesley Chapel, was re-built between 1846 and 1850, but the lines of the old church were closely followed.

Specially interesting to ringers, of course, are the bells. There is mention in the wardens' accounts in 1651 of repairs to bells, and in 1732 there were six bells, with a tenor nearly 26 cwt. These were recast into eight by Rudhall, with a tenor 29½ cwt., but the tenor, being cracked, was recast by J. Taylor, at Loughborough in 1876, and now weighs 28 cwt. There is also a priest's bell weighing 60½ lbs.

On the occasion of the meeting, the bells were sent off into Stedman, and on through Kent and Grandsire until 5.30, when in the Parish Room the meeting was held, but as there was no business it was a happy family gathering. The Rev. H. J. Elsee presided, supported by the Revs. C. A. Clements and W. E. Kingsbury. The Rev. H. F. Lloyd also met the visitors in the churchyard to welcome them. After a few complimentary speeches to the clergy and ringers for making the Association welcome, the visitors again adjourned to the tower to ring for service, while others took car to Poolstock to ring on the grand peal there, with its 25 cwt. tenor, by Mears, which had also been placed at their disposal. Touches of Grandsire, Stedman and Double Norwich were rung till train time brought another successful meeting to a close, the striking being such that "Bob Major" would not grumble at.

MANCHESTER BRANCH DISCUSS CENTRAL COUNCIL.

On Saturday last members of the Manchester Branch met at Flixton. A goodly number attended from Ashton-under-Lyne, Birch, Bolton, Barlow Moor, Denton, Miles Platting, Pendleton, Reddish, Stretford, Worsley, etc. Ringing was indulged in from an early hour until 9 p.m., the methods being Plain Bob, Grandsire, Kent Treble Bob, Stedman, Double Norwich, and Superlative. Several lady ringers from Ashton and Miles Platting took part in the more elementary methods.

The ringers were delighted to see at this meeting two old members of the Flixton company, viz., Mr. George Astbury and Mr. James Rove, the latter having rung a peal of Kent on the tenor as long ago as 1861. A special touch of Grandsire Triples was arranged for him, and he is to be heartily complimented on his ringing at so ripe an age as 81 years.

A discussion took place on the subject of the Central Council, and the opinion was expressed that there might be room for improvement, either in its construction or policy towards ringing in general. The Council's work in the past, especially during its early stages, was recognised as being invaluable and worthy of commendation, and without its aid the ringing fraternity would have been the poorer.

Didsbury (Barlow Moor) was chosen as the next meeting place on July 1st.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector and wardens for the use of the bells, and to the ringers of Flixton, who are ever ready with a hearty welcome to visitors.

MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry
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Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
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ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest, held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

OXFORD GUILD SECRETARY'S MARRIAGE.

BRIDE CONDUCTS HER OWN WEDDING PEAL.

On Ascension Day, June 1st, the village of Bradfield, Berks, was en fete for the marriage of Miss M. E. Chillingworth and Mr. A. E. Reeves, the secretary of the Guild. Just before 2 p.m. a company of Berks Women Volunteers, in which the bride holds the rank of captain, formed a guard of honour in the church path, with three colours displayed over the porch. Having seen the bride into church, accompanied by her father and Miss Nell Sellwood, her bridesmaid, the B.W.V.'s lined the aisle during the service—these, together with bride and bridesmaid, being in uniform. The bridegroom, captain and adjutant of the C.L.B. Cadet Corps, was supported by Major the Rev. H. Wardley King, of the same corps, both being in khaki.

The Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, C.F., Master of the Guild, fortunately home on short leave from France after a full year's duty with the troops, took the service, assisted by the Rev. Canon Hurt, Rector of the parish, and the Rev. G. F. Coleridge, Vicar of Crowthorne and Rural Dean of Sonning, who gave an address at the end of the service. The registers being signed, the party proceeded from the Vestry to the belfry, where an excellent 720 Bob Minor was rung, conducted by the bride. The occasion was unique, for never had a bride and bridegroom rung their own wedding peal with two of the officiating clergy standing in, the Rector and bridesmaid being part-time spectators. The ringers on this historic occasion were: J. Swain 1, S. Chapman 2, Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn 3, Rev. G. F. Coleridge 4, Mrs. A. E. Reeves 5, A. E. Reeves 6.

AN ACCOMPLISHED AGRICULTURIST.

Mention may be made in passing that Mrs. Reeves is the only lady member on the Oxford Guild Committee, and is not only a skilled ringer and conductress, but also a skilled agriculturist. Perfectly at home on any bell in any tower, she is equally at home on a motor plough and other implements, made use of in England's leading industry. Quite recently she returned from the war zone in France, whither she had been sent by the War Agricultural Committee, with the approval of the Boards of Trade and Agriculture, to study and report, and, finally, lecture, on the farm work done by women within range of the enemy's guns.

Among the wedding presents of interest to ringers, were displayed a handsome silver Queen Anne teapot, bearing the inscription: "Presented to Miss Mary E. Chillingworth on her marriage by the members of the Bradfield Deanery Branch of the O.D.G.C.B.R., June 1st, 1916," and also a sugar basin to match. "Presented to Mr. A. E. Reeves and Miss Chillingworth on their marriage, June 1st, 1916, by the St. Mary's ringers, Reading." The Master of the Guild gave a handsome salad bowl and bell-shaped inkpot; cheques were also received from the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, treasurer of the Guild; the Rev. E. Broome, secretary of the Sonning Deanery Branch, and the Rev. G. F. Coleridge, a member of 35 years' standing. Mention should also be made of an attache case, writing wallet and shower bouquet of white roses and ferns presented by the B.W.V.'s.

The wedding cake was embellished with six bells, which in mould, if not in material, evidently betrayed the work of an artist-ringer.

Ringers will join in wishing "health and happiness to the newly-married couple," while the Oxford Guild will no doubt find that its affairs, which have always gone smoothly, will now go with even less friction, notwithstanding the scratching of two pens in place of one on the secretarial desk.

SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD'S FIRST PEAL OF STEDMAN.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In your issue of the 26th ult., I notice a letter from an old Burton-on-Trent friend, Mr. John Jagger, and hasten to thank him for his kindly remarks concerning the recent article written by me about Duffield and its principal resident. Mr. Jagger asks for information as to Sir Arthur Heywood's first peal of Stedman, and goes on to mention that he always thought he called the late President's first in the method on March 2nd, 1886.

I can go two better, for Sir Arthur's first peal of Stedman Trinles (Brooks') was with the 6th at St. Paul's, Shadwell, on Tuesday, 26th May, 1885, and anyone referring to the paper of that period will find his name "starred" to this effect. Again, at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, on Wednesday, 25th November, 1885, Sir Arthur rang the 8th for 5002 Stedman Caters, and on this sad occasion the bells were deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Jasper Whitfield Snowdon. Sir Arthur Heywood accomplished his first peal of Stedman Cinques (5014), at St. Giles', Cripplegate, on Monday, 22nd March, 1886, in which he rang the 9th, and all the above were conducted by the late James Pettit. The fact was often alluded to by the late baronet at the annual banquet of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

I will certainly take the hint dropped by Mr. Jagger to occasionally contribute something of interest, so far as lays in my power, during this trying period when peal ringing is at such a low ebb.—Yours faithfully,

FRANCES E. DAWK.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.—On May 20th, in 28 mins., 720 Bob Minor: W. Cramp 1, H. Edwards 2, T. Booth 3, W. Hoad 4, W. H. Perry 5, A. E. Edwards (conductor) 6. First 720 Bob Minor by all except the conductor.

ANOTHER SUFFOLK RINGER KILLED.

The band at Eye, Suffolk, has lost another promising ringer, who has been killed in action in France. Lance-Corpl. Ernest William Clover, of the 16th Lancers, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Clover, of Cross Street, Eye, joined the army 5½ years ago. Before that he was an enthusiastic ringer, regular in his attendance in the belfry, and quickly becoming most proficient. He had taken part in four peals for the Norwich Diocesan Association, including one of Double Norwich with the Diss company.

The deceased, who was 26 years of age, was through the early stages of the war. He took part in the battles of Mons, the Marne, the Aisne, and the battle of Ypres, being wounded on February 15th, 1915, when the trenches of D Squadron, 16th Lancers, were blown up. After staying for a time in hospital in France, he was conveyed to the 4th Northern General Hospital, Lincoln, and when convalescent he stayed



THE LATE LANCE-CORPL. E. W. CLOVER.

at Brocklesby Park, the residence of the Earl of Yarborough, which had been transformed into a military hospital. Whilst there he had a nervous breakdown, and had to return to the 4th Northern General Hospital. He subsequently went to Eye on the 29th April of last year, and rejoined his regiment at the Curragh Camp, Ireland, about a fortnight later, where he remained until he returned to France again on the 11th October last, when he was attached to the Military Mounted Police. He had seven days' leave at home about the end of March, and had only been back about three weeks when he met his death, which occurred on Easter Day. Much sympathy is felt for his parents in their great loss.

The deceased was much respected by his brother ringers and, on the occasion of a memorial service at Eye Parish Church on Sunday week, the bells were rung muffled before and after the service by F. Day, E. Broome, A. Berry, E. Youngs, Sergt. A. E. Howell, Corpl. F. Brunning, H. Moss, A. Oakes, C. Nunn, D. Whiting, G. Murton and E. Poppy. Lance-Corpl. Clover was for many years a member of the church choir.

CHIDDINGFOLD RINGER'S DEATH.

The death occurred on Tuesday week, from consumption, at Brompton Hospital, of Mr. H. J. Ellis, a well-known and highly-respected member of the Chiddingfold (Surrey) company. The deceased, who was 30 years of age, had been ailing about three months before going to the hospital, where he had been confined to bed for twelve weeks.

The funeral took place on Saturday at Fulham New Cemetery, where the deceased's father is also buried. The bells at Chiddingfold were rung muffled at the time of interment by the following past and present ringers: A. Ashdown, T. Attwell, J. Gardiner, A. C. Bookham, G. Johnson, G. Bartlett and A. J. Bartlett.

The late Mr. Ellis had rung upwards of 30 peals in following methods: Grandsire Triples and Caters, Bob Minor (one of which he conducted), Bob Major, Double Norwich (on the treble) and Stedman Triples (a good many of these latter having been conducted by the late Rev. F. E. Robinson). With the exception of two for the Oxford Guild, all the peals were rung for the Winchester Diocesan Guild. Deceased was at one time a great help to the Cobham (Surrey) band, who showed their recognition of his help by presenting him with a valuable walking stick, suitably engraved, and which he greatly prized.

AMALGAMATION FOR SERVICE RINGING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In view of the possible further depletion of many local bands when the new Compulsion Bill becomes operative, it would seem to be desirable that ringers and clergy alike should consider the question of ways and means of keeping the ringing going until the return of normal conditions.

The matter was discussed at the annual meeting of the St. Mary's, Putney, Society last week, and a resolution was passed expressing the opinion that, in order to provide for the ringing of the bells for Sunday services, neighbouring bands should amalgamate for the time being, and so organise the arrangements for ringing, that the bells at each church should be rung at least once on alternate Sundays. There are, for instance, within two miles of Putney at least four towers, each with a change ringing band, but it is quite conceivable that when the Compulsion Act gets into full swing there will not be more than two or three left in each tower.

Would it not be possible for those few who are left, to agree to form one band and ring at one church in the morning and another in the evening on one Sunday, visiting the other two churches in the same way on the following Sunday? Similar arrangements could no doubt be made in other districts. There is an opportunity for the clergy all over the country to take a little more than passing interest in the welfare of ringers and ringing.

If neighbouring clergy could be induced to confer on this subject and discuss the question with their respective local bands, it is certain that much could be done to keep up the standard of ringing during the difficult times ahead. It is necessary that someone should make the first move, and it is suggested that ringers at neighbouring towers should get into touch with each other during the next week or two, and decide whether they are in favour of temporary amalgamation, and, if so, agree on the point as to which bands should amalgamate, and the order in which their towers should be visited.

Perhaps these suggestions might be considered at the meetings of the various county associations.—Yours faithfully,
A. JONES.
Fulham.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

NEW HON. MEMBERS FOR DEVIZES BRANCH.

On Saturday last a monthly meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at the fine old Parish Church of the Holy Trinity, at Bradford-on-Avon, with its grand ring of eight bells, the tenor weighing 31 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs. It being a beautiful day, a good number of ringers assembled from the neighbouring parishes. Ringing commenced at 4 o'clock, and later the authorised Guild service was held in church by the Vicar, the Rev. A. T. Richardson, M.A., who gave a very impressive address to those present. Tea was partaken of at Summer's Restaurant, and 18 sat down.

Afterwards a short business meeting was held, presided over by Sidney Hillier, chairman of the branch, supported by Mr. H. Brownlee West, hon. secretary, and ringers from Holt, Bradford, Trowbridge, Southbroom, Melksham, Erchfont, Devizes, Bromham, and Batheaston.

The Secretary made the pleasing announcement that he had just succeeded in obtaining three new honorary members for the Guild, viz., the Rev. F. G. Gough, Rector of All Cannings; the Rev. E. P. Knubley, Vicar of Steeple Ashton; and the Rev. J. L. Thorold, Rector of Bromham; all of whose names were joyfully received by the members present. Mr. J. Taylor, of Batheaston, was elected as a life ringing member; and with the proposal by Mr. West of a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar of Bradfield for the use of the bells, and the service in church, and to the organist for his kind services, the meeting was brought to a close, the whole company adjourning to the tower, where ringing was resumed and some good touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, and Bob Major were successfully brought round, the striking in all cases being exceptionally good. The bells were kept going until eight o'clock, when the company dispersed to their various homes, many of the members having cycled twelve and eighteen miles to attend the meeting.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

A most enjoyable meeting of the Wotton-under-Edge and District Branch was held on Saturday week at Wotton-under-Edge, ringers being present from Bristol, Berkeley, Dursley, Hinchcombe, Thornbury, Wickwar, Wotton-under-Edge, Minchinhampton and Newport (Mon.).

The splendid peal of eight bells were available from 3 p.m., and the members attended service, the form adopted by the Association being conducted by the Rev. F. J. Greenham (Vicar), who gave a most appropriate address. A good number of ladies also attended and rendered great help in the singing.

The Vicar presided at the tea-table, and then had to leave the company, but before his departure Mr. F. K. Howell proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the kind welcome and for allowing the use of the bells. This, needless to say, was carried unanimously.—Mr. H. W. Fussell, vice-chairman of the branch, then took the chair for a short business meeting, which followed. Coaley was selected for the next place of meeting on June 24th.

MEETINGS POSTPONED.

On account of the abandonment of the Whitsun holiday this year, the following meetings, arranged for next Monday, have been postponed.

Essex Association annual meeting, postponed to August Bank holiday.
Central Northants Association annual meeting, postponed.
Yorkshire Association, Eastern District, postponed to Saturday, June 17th.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The annual meeting of North Bucks Branch of the Oxford Guild was held at Shenley on Saturday last, when there were about 70 ringers present, representing Bletchley, Fenny Stratford, Loughton, Stony Stratford, Newport Pagnell, Melton Keynes, Maids Morton, Old Bradwell, Linslade and the local band. A choral service, which was well attended, was followed by a splendid sermon preached by the Rev. A. Rust, of Ridgmont. An excellent tea, kindly provided by the Rev. J. R. Vincent, to which justice was done, was followed by the business meeting. The late secretary, Mr. T. Best, having resigned, Mr. W. Sear, of Bletchley, took the branch work over. The accounts showed a good balance in hand, and it was decided that £210 should be invested in War Loan.

A letter from the Master, the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, was read by the chairman (the Rev. J. R. Vincent) expressing his good wishes for a successful meeting. He being in England only for a few days after a strenuous time in France as Chaplain to the Forces, time would not allow him to attend. It was decided that a letter should be sent to the Master conveying the best wishes of the branch and hopes for his safe return, as all would be glad to see him in their midst again.

Opportunity was taken of impressing upon the members the importance of supporting "The Ringing World."

The bells of Shenley and Loughton were available, the methods rung being Grandsire Doubles, Stedman Doubles, Bob Minor, Kent Treble Bob, Double Court and Cambridge Surprise.

An unofficial gathering of ringers will be held by the East Berks and South Bucks Branch on Whit-Monday, when members and friends will be welcome to a little ringing, by kind permission of the respective incumbents, as follows: Farnham Royal, 9.30 to 11 a.m. (motor bus from Slough Railway Station 9.55); Beaconsfield, 12 to 1.30 p.m.; High Wycombe and Hughendon in the afternoon and evening. Visitors should book single journeys, as they will be able to return home by an alternative route. Please write me at once if coming, and say if tea is required. It will be advisable for visitors to bring their own "war rations" in the way of lunch, and those requiring tea should communicate with W. H. Fussell, Farnham Avenue, near Slough.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

To the Editor.

Sir,—On looking over the paper that you were good enough to publish in "The Ringing World" for April 14th, I see that I made a stupid blunder. In speaking of twin-bob, five-part quarter-peals with 60 bobs, I said that the observation bell is in 6-7 exactly 15 times each way with every other bell. The 15 should, of course, be 30. In the extent, each of the 42 pairs of bells, i.e., 21 pairs, both ways, must obviously be in 6-7, 30 x 4 equals 120 times. I should not have troubled about this correction, the blunder being so obvious, but it has been pointed out to me that in such quarter-peals the observation bell is not necessarily in 6-7 30 times each way with every other bell, and in support of this statement, my informant handed me the following quarter-peal with an expression of regret that he could not give me the composer's name.

| H | L | Q | 123456 |
|---|---|---|--------|
| x | x | x | 615423 |
| | x | | 245163 |
| x | x | | 315246 |

Repeat four times.

This quarter-peal, notwithstanding the 10 four-bob sets, is of singular excellence, the 6th and 7th being together behind no less than 45 times each way, or half as many times again as their proper quantum; but as the foundation for a peal it is as useless as any odd-bob quarter-peal that I have examined. In some respects Stedman Triples is the most treacherous of all methods, and it will be noticed that I add the words "that I have examined" in case anyone should come along with an odd-bob quarter peal with the observation bell in 6-7 30 times each way with every other bell, which would probably knock the bottom out of the twin-bob principle altogether.

I shall feel obliged if you will publish this correction.—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE T. CLAYTON.

HELD OVER.

The article upon past performances at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, is unavoidably held over until next week, as are also a letter from Mr. R. Whittington on the question of the Winchester Guild's representation on the Central Council, and a report of the Yorkshire Association meeting at Whiston.

NOTICES.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on June 15th and 29th; and for general business on the 20th, all at 8 p.m. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Middlesbrough on Whit Monday, June 12th, 1916. Middlesbrough, Thornaby, Ormesby (8 bells), Stockton-on-Tees (10 bells). Committee meeting at 11 a.m. Divine service at 12 noon; Address given by the Rev. F. H. Stock, Vicar of Middlesbrough. Dinner provided at the Clifton Temperance Hotel; members 1/3, non-members 2/6. — T. Metcalfe, Hon. Sec., 26, High Street, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.
—A meeting of the above will be held at New Romney on Whit-Monday, June 12th. Ringing to commence at 2 3'clock. A short special service in the church at 4 o'clock. The Vicar and Mrs. South have cordially invited all the members attending to tea in the Vicarage grounds at 5 o'clock. A brief business meeting will follow and ringing continued till sunset.—C. Tribe, Hon. District Secretary, Bristol School Villas, Tenterden.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD OF BELL RINGERS. — The annual meeting will take place at Hereford on Wednesday, June 14. There will be Divine Service at St. Peter's Church at 11.30 a.m., with an address by Rev. W. L. B. Janvrin. The business meeting will follow at St. Peter's Church House, and can be adjourned till after dinner if necessary. Dinner 2s., at Farmer's Ordinary. Those intending to be present are requested to let the Hon. Secretary know as soon as possible. — James L. Roper, Quatt Rectory, Bridgnorth, Salop.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Hartlebury on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in the church at 4.45 p.m. The service will be taken by Archdeacon H. J. Greig. Tea kindly provided for all those who let me know on or before June 14th. — E. J. Dowler, 11, Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Rochester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hoo St. Werburgh, on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available from 3.30 till 8.30 p.m. (election of district representative for Central Committee). — Edward A. G. Allen, Hon. District Secretary, 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—Owing to the suspension of the Whitsuntide Holidays the meeting of the Yorkshire Association to be held at Beverley on Whit-Monday is cancelled for that date, and will be held on the following Saturday, June 17th. The bells at the Minster and also at St. Mary's will be available during the day. Tea (1s.) will be provided to all who notify Mr. W. Gibson, 3, Brithunus Place, Long Lane, Beverley, by Tuesday, June 13th.—Thos. Smith, Hon. District Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Horwich on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m. —G. Pincott, Branch Secretary.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society).—The next meeting will be held at the Church of All Saints, Edmonton, on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available at 4 p.m. to 9. A business meeting will be held in the tower. All ringers are welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Secretary, 10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate, E.C.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Abbot's, Leigh on June 17th. Bells (6) from 3. Service 5. Tea 9d., at 5.45, in the George Inn. Kindly notify by June 14th to A. W. Seviour, 5, Brunswick Street, City Road, Bristol.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Oswaldtwistle on Saturday, June 24th, 1916. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Derby on Saturday, June 24th. (Full particulars in next week's issue). Nominations for presidency, signed by two members of the association, should reach me not later than first post on Saturday, June 24th.—W. E. White, Hon. Secretary.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS' ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch. — The next quarterly meeting will be held at Crowle on Saturday, June 24th. Service at 4 o'clock, business meeting afterwards. The bells will be available. Tea provided only for those who notify me by the Wednesday previous. — R. G. Knowles, Branch Secretary, Madresfield, Malvern.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY OF CHANGE RINGERS (Established 1623). — The 293rd anniversary of the above society will be held on Tuesday, June 27th. Ringing commences at 9 a.m. All visitors are cordially welcomed.—R. A. Strong, Hon. Secretary.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The annual meeting will be held at Tamworth on Saturday, June 24th. Bells available at 3. Service in church at 4.45, with an address by the Rev. and Hon. M. Peel (Vicar). Tea (at 5.30), 6d. each, to those who have paid their subscriptions; to others 1s. Please send word not later than Tuesday, the 20th inst.—H. Knight, Hon. Secretary, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—In consequence of the decision that Whit-Monday shall not be regarded as a holiday this year, it has been decided to postpone the annual meeting to Bank Holiday, Monday, August 7th. Further notice and particulars will appear in due course.—Chas. H. Howard, Master; H. T. W. Eyre, Hon. Secretary.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting, arranged for Whit-Monday, has been postponed.

CHANGES OF ADDRESSES.—The address of Mr. J. Armstrong, Master of the North and East District of the Middlesex Association is now 4, Field View Cottages, Balaam's Lane, Southgate, N.—The address of Mr. J. E. Sykes is, for the present, Chez Simon Carves et Cie, St. Chamas, B. Du R., France.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

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(MAKER OF THE RINGERS' BADGE.)

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We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 10th, 1916, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION.

Tenor 21 cwt. 0 qr. 14 lbs.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| HARRY CHAPMAN Treble | ROBERT DAVIES 5 |
| *FRED GRUNDY 2 | PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE ... 6 |
| *WILLIAM JONES 3 | JOSEPH RIDYARD 7 |
| *WILLIAM OAKES 4 | JOHN EDGE Tenor |

Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

* First peal in the method. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to Lord Kitchener, and to Frederick Derbyshire, late clerk and sexton at St. Mark's Church, Worsley.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 10, 1916, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 11½ cwt., in F.

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| ALFRED E. ACFIELD Treble | FREDERICK W. EDWARDS ... 5 |
| ALFRED TARBUN, JUNR. ... 2 | HENRY F. COOPER 6 |
| JAMES TARBUN 3 | ARTHUR HEAD 7 |
| *PERCY TIMSON 4 | *WILLIAM G. PEASE Tenor |

Conducted by HENRY F. COOPER.

* First peal. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Lord Kitchener and others of H.M.S. Hampshire; also to all who lost their lives in the Great Naval Battle. R.I.P.

The ringers of 2nd and 3rd are members of the local company; 5th and 7th belong to Writtle; treble, 4th, 6th, and tenor to Chelmsford.

RUARDEAN, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(FOREST OF DEAN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, June 10, 1916, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| WILLIAM G. BEARD Treble | ERNEST J. MATTHEWS ... 5 |
| JOHN AUSTIN 2 | EX-SERG. J. WILLIAMS ... 6 |
| JOHN HARPER 3 | WILLIAM E. BISHOP ... 7 |
| WALTER T. BENNETT 4 | JAMES BISHOP Tenor |

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the memory of Lieutenant-Commander R. L. Clayton, who was killed on H.M.S. Queen Mary in the battle in the North Sea. He was the son of the late Admiral Clayton, of Ruardean.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, June 12th, 1916, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT 32, EDGELEY ROAD, CLAPHAM, S.W.,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| HERBERT LANGDON 1-2 | WILLIAM T. COCKERILL ... 5-6 |
| CHALLIS F. WINNEY 3-4 | JOHN N. OXBORROW ... 7-8 |

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

Umpire: EDWIN GIBBS.

Should there be any ringers visiting Manchester in connection with the Royal Agricultural Show, arrangements can be made for ringing at St. Thomas' Church, Pendleton, on the evenings of June 27th, 29th and 30th, by communicating with Mr. H. Chapman, 11, Beech Grove, Plymouth Grove, Manchester.

ANOTHER D.C.M. RINGER. MAIDSTONE MAN'S BRAVERY.

Another ringer has gained the Distinguished Conduct Medal for valiant service in the field. Lance-Corpl. P. Hassock, a member of St. Michael's, Maidstone, band, who is serving with the 1/6th City of London Rifles, in which he is a machine gunner, has received his decoration at the hands of General Munro, commander of the 1st Army in France. After having been buried with his gun by enemy mining operations, Lance-Corpl. Hassock managed to extricate himself. Then he dug out his gun, and although his comrades were killed he succeeded in bringing the gun into action again, and by his gallantry largely contributed to the repulse of the enemy.

Lance-Corpl. Hassock, who is a chorister as well as ringer at St. Michael's, writing to a fellow member of the choir, described the incident as follows:—

"It was," he said, "at Souchez, a month ago. Two huge German mines went up, followed almost immediately by a terrible bombardment. My gun position was located by the enemy's artillery, and my machine gun, myself and gun team were blown up and buried, three of my comrades being killed. Being unhurt myself I was able to dig myself out, also my gun and ammunition, and proceed to the top of the parapet, where, under a heavy bombardment, I was able to build a new position for my gun and once again get it into action."

Lance-Corpl. Hassock is a member of the Kent Association, and prior to joining the Army, soon after the outbreak of war, was engaged as a butcher at Maidstone.

A ringer who had previously gained the D.C.M. was Corpl. Robert W. Jesson, of East Langton, Market Harborough, who, unhappily, was killed the day after receiving the notification of his decoration.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The Rev. C. B. Hulton, Vicar of Worsley, and an hon. member of the Lancs Association, left home on Ascension Day for Belfort, France, where he is to drive a motor ambulance attached to the French Ambulance Corps. The following have joined H.M. Forces:—

Pte F. A. Youngman, of Leiston, A.S.C., now at Catford.

George Crisp, All Saints', Long Stanton, 6th Batt. Middlesex Regt.

From Pettistree, Suffolk:—

David Leggett, 2/10th Suffolks, now at Woolwich.

George R. Finch, 3/5th Suffolks, now at Windover.

Alfred Clements, 3/4th Suffolks, now at Tring.

From Weston Favell, Northants:—

Charles Haines, 3rd Batt. Northants Regt.

Alfred J. Richardson, Royal Engineers.

From Wellingborough, Northants:—

H. Lilley, Middlesex Regiment.

R. Lilley, Royal Navy.

L. Waterfield, R.A.M.C.

PRESENTATIONS TO MR. A. H. PULLING.

WELL-KNOWN CONDUCTOR "JOINS UP."

Having responded to "the call," Mr. A. H. Pulling, of Guildford, last week joined the Royal Garrison Artillery. For eight years he has been caretaker at the Royal Grammar School, and before his departure the headmaster, on behalf of the masters and himself, presented Mr. Pulling with an illuminated wrist watch, and, on behalf of the boys, the vice-captain of the school, Knight, senr., handed him a Gillett safety razor, and presented Mrs. Pulling with a bottle of eau-de-Cologne, as a slight token of the affection and esteem in which Mr. and Mrs. Pulling were held. The Headmaster spoke of the good feeling which had always existed between Mr. and Mrs. Pulling and the staff and boys, and expressed the hope that it would not be long before Mr. Pulling's military duties would be completed, and they would be able to welcome them back to the school.

On Sunday week, at Holy Trinity Church, Guildford, for evensong, as a farewell to Mr. Pulling, and as a birthday compliment to Mr. B. Chorley, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): B. Chorley 1, W. E. Jelley 2, C. Hazelden 3, H. Hutton 4, G. Gunner 5, W. R. Melville (first quarter-peal) 6, A. H. Pulling (conductor) 7, H. Harris 8.

SOLDIER RINGERS MEET.

Ringers from the various camps in the neighbourhood of Ludgershall met at St. James's Church on a recent Sunday and rang a well-struck quarter-peal of Grandire Doubles (1260 changes): Pte W. Smith (Worcestershire Association) 1, Pte W. Spalding (Worcestershire Association) 2, Pte J. Cox (Oxford Guild) 3, Pte G. Fisher (Winchester Guild) 4, Pte B. T. Jeunes (Bath and Wells Association), conductor, 5, Pte Noic (Winchester Guild) 6. This was the first quarter-peal on the bells.

The bells at Ludgershall are open to ringers previous to and after evensong on Sundays, and on any evening during the week by arrangement with the captain of the local band, Mr. Hailstone, Bill Street, Ludgershall. Ringers in the neighbouring camps will be especially welcome, and a practice night can be arranged to suit their convenience.

The Rector and those of the local band who have not been called up for service, have recently been made members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

"OUR OUTING."

BRADPOLE RINGERS' 140-MILE MOTOR TRIP.

The word "our" appeals to every band of ringers, because to them it means their own particular band to the exclusion of all others, and, no matter where you go, the personal touch appeals to the individual band rather than the general body of ringers. In the present instance the word "our" may be taken to stand for the Bradpole (Dorset) band of ringers. A fortnight ago the question was raised as to whether there should be an outing or not, and a "straight" vote taken on the subject. This vote was "yea," mainly owing to the fact that no outing had been held in 1915, and so steps were at once taken to carry the decision into effect. Fortunately there was one well-versed in the matter of detail, and he soon put the matter in hand by securing a motor char-a-banc from the Rodwell Motor Garage, Weymouth. Having done this he next mapped out a circular trip of something like 140 miles, and worked out the details on this basis.

Ringers and the friends accompanying them were warned to meet at 6 a.m. sharp on Saturday last. Hardly had the whistles of the local factories ceased their blasts than the car was speeding on its way with twenty-three happy people (including four ladies) aboard. Taunton was the first stop, and a 32 miles run was taken by way of Broadwindsor, Winham, Chard and Combe St. Nicholas.

A halt was made at the Parade Hotel, where Host Roberts had breakfast ready. Needless to say the spin through the fresh morning air had whetted the appetites of all, and ample justice was done to the splendid repast. The inner man having been satisfied, time was found for the after-breakfast smoke and a stroll round the market. Nine a.m. saw us again seated on route for Dunster, 22 miles farther on. How we wished time had permitted us to call at some of the towers en route, but we had to pass them with regret.

DUNSTER.

Quaint old Dunster is in itself worth a day's visit, or even longer. Here there is much to linger over—the venerable "Yarn Market," an old English "Market Cross"; fourteenth and fifteenth century houses still in splendid condition, the handsome, almost Cathedral-like, priory Church of St. George, and last, but by no means least, the venerable castle still in the possession of the Luttrell family, as it has been for the past six hundred years. Small wonder that two hours were spent here in viewing the church and having a touch on the fine peal of eight bells (21 cwt.), and then going over the castle grounds, through the special permission of Mr. A. G. Luttrell—Saturday not being one of the show days. Here could be seen yew hedges 60ft. high, palm trees in flower, lemon trees bearing fruit fit to pick, six hundred year old cedars, and other horticultural and floricultural specimens too numerous to mention, yet lovely to look upon. The castle itself is still inhabited, and in this respect may rank with either Alnwick, Arundel or Warwick.

Leaving this place most reluctantly, a short spin of two and a half miles brought us into Minehead, where the car pulled up at the Plume of Feathers. Mine Host Chidgey had a substantial luncheon spread in one of his numerous rooms, and we did credit to his splendid catering. Luncheon over we climbed the hill to the church and rang for a short time on the easy running peal of ten. The way our six youngsters handled the front bells, even if only in call changes, evoked praise from the local ringers present.

A short stroll and a visit to some of the shops brought on three o'clock, the time for leaving.

EXMOOR.

Across Exmoor to Tiverton, thirty miles away, was our next spin. And what a glorious drive it was! The way by which the road winds and twists through the hills, the glorious scenery, the lovely flowers and gushing streams, made this section of the journey most enjoyable. Readers of "Lorna Doone" could, in imagination, again traverse the hills and dales over which Jan Ridd walked, and picture to themselves the nature of the meetings between him and the Doones of Bagworthy. The thirty miles was safely negotiated in two hours, and we pulled up at Clapp's Restaurant in Tiverton, quite ready for the cup that cheers. After a chatty meal we made our way to St. Peter's Church and had a pull with the local ringers. The bells are a mellow-toned peal of eight, in D, and go like the proverbial tops, so it was a pleasure to ring.

Once again seated, we made for Honiton, by way of Collumpton. Being well within our scheduled time we had half an hour to stretch our legs, and then embarked on the last stage of our journey. Axminster, Charmouth and Bridport were passed in turn, and we drew up at Bradpole within five minutes of the anticipated time—10.30 p.m. Fine weather, pleasant company, and splendid scenery all tended to make the outing a most enjoyable one.

TOWER STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.

During a thunderstorm which passed over Lancashire on Friday last, the lightning struck the tower of the Horwich parish church, causing a fire in the clock room which is just below the bell chamber. Fortunately the outbreak was seen from outside almost immediately, and was extinguished before much damage was done.

It was thought at first that two of the bells were cracked, but on Sunday they were tried in peal, and were found to be quite sound. It is fortunate that the bells were undamaged, as they are a fine ring only just recently augmented to eight.

HINTS ON CONDUCTING.

HELP FOR BEGINNERS.

We have been told that "the best laid schemes o' mice and men gang aft a-gley," and however nicely it had been schemed for me to continue my articles under this heading without undue interruption, force of circumstances has crowded me out and the "hints" prepared some weeks ago have been excluded until now. But I know my readers will excuse both me and the Editor—me because it is not my fault; the Editor because, while he does not perhaps always succeed, he does his best to please us all.

In my article which last appeared I tried to make clear how the young conductor can call Grandsire Triples by the bells "before." It is done, as we saw, by watching for the bell, which is to come "before" at the bob, hunting down in front of the treble. To call touches or peals by this method, of course, necessitates memorising the order in which the bells are called "before." Now, as leading up to the eventual calling of a peal, a good practice touch is a 500 from Holt's famous ten-part. In this peal the calling in each of the last five parts is the reverse of the calling in each of the first five parts, and, without the insertion of the singles, the calling in each half brings the bells back into the plain course and thence into rounds. The 2nd is in the hunt at each part-end and in each part you have a bob at the first lead to call the 2nd out. There are only nine more bobs to the part, and at seven of these the same bell is called "before," divided into two sequences by one other bell being called "before" twice. Here is the calling of each half:

| First half. | | Second half. | |
|-------------|---|--------------|---|
| 234567 | | 234567 | |
| 752634 | 1 | 752634 | 1 |
| 347265 | 2 | 657423 | 5 |
| 243576 | 5 | 456372 | 5 |
| 542637 | 5 | 354267 | 5 |
| 765342 | 1 | 673425 | 2 |
| 367254 | 5 | 476532 | 5 |
| 543726 | 2 | 254376 | 1 |
| 745632 | 5 | 352647 | 5 |
| 647253 | 5 | 653724 | 5 |
| 246375 | 5 | 246375 | 2 |

The above are the calling and figures of the first part of the first half, but the calling only of the second half. The singles which are used to join the two halves together, and, at the end, to bring the bells round, reverse 4, 5, and 6, 7. My object at the moment, however, is to show how easily the bells "before" in this peal can be memorised. To take the first half, and putting aside the call which brings the 2nd out of the hunt at the first lead, we have the following as the bells before:—

| | | | | |
|----------|-------|-------|-----|---------|
| 1st part | | 4 4 4 | 6 6 | 4 4 4 4 |
| 2nd part | ... | 6 6 6 | 7 7 | 6 6 6 6 |
| 3rd part | | 7 7 7 | 5 5 | 7 7 7 7 |
| 4th part | | 5 5 5 | 3 3 | 5 5 5 5 |
| 5th part | | 3 3 3 | 4 4 | 3 3 3 3 |

You will notice that the order in which the bells are brought in is the plain course coursing order. Now take the second half, ignoring the bob at the end, which brings the 2nd back into the hunt; and remembering that when we are ringing the peal the half way lead end, from which we work, will be 235476. The bells before will be:

| | | | | |
|-----------|-------|---------|-----|-------|
| 6th part | | 4 4 4 4 | 6 6 | 4 4 4 |
| 7th part | | 3 3 3 3 | 4 4 | 3 3 3 |
| 8th part | | 5 5 5 5 | 3 3 | 5 5 5 |
| 9th part | | 7 7 7 7 | 5 5 | 7 7 7 |
| 10th part | | 6 6 6 6 | 7 7 | 6 6 6 |

Here the order in which the bells are brought in is the reverse of the plain course order. Note, too, that in both halves the bell interposed in the middle is the bell which, in the coursing order of the plain course, is next after the one that is seven times before; i.e., the 6th with the 4th, the 7th with the 6th, and so on.

As to the rest of the calling, there ought to be little difficulty. It is no trouble to remember, in the first half, to call the 2nd out of the hunt the first lead after the part end, while in the second half the 2nd has to be called into the hunt after the last of the sequence of bobs "before." If the beginner cannot see this clearly enough by watching the 2nd itself, he can easily get over the difficulty by calling "before," the bell which is coursing after the 2nd.

There is only one other point that may cause some difficulty, and that is recollecting how many times a bell has been called "before" in a sequence. It would be rather awkward, to say the least, if in the last part, for instance, a conductor did not know whether he had called the 6th three or four times "before" in the first sequence. To guard against this sort of thing—for memory, however well trained, will play tricks—some sort of guide is necessary and the best that I have found is this. In each part of the first half the 2nd comes out of the hunt at the end of the first sequence and goes into the hunt at the end of the second. In each part of the last half, the bell "before" at the preceding part end goes into the hunt at the end of the first sequence and comes out at the end of the second.

Here, then, you have a few hints for calling Holt's ten-part from any bell. You can practise it by calling as many parts as you like up to half a peal, and the bells will always come round after any part end without further bobs, as they are in the plain course. But remember, after the first part, which runs round at 518, the touches will not be true (unless you go to the half peal), as one or more leads of the plains course will be rung over again.

The Editor has asked me to answer a correspondent who desires to know what "lapping" is, as it has been mentioned that Henry Haley "lapped" quite a number of peals in his youth. "Lapping" is done with handbells by sitting in a circle and making the changes by passing the bells from lap to lap. Four men, for instance, would have eight bells. They ring them round and then get the first change by each changing over the pair of bells in his hands. The next change is got by A putting the bell from his left hand into B's lap, retaining the bell in his right hand, and B giving the bell in his right hand to A and that in his left to C, receiving in exchange that from the right hand of C. The same thing happens in regard to C and D, except that the latter, having no one to give his left hand bell to, retains it. This process goes on, of course, while the bells are being rung round and requires quickness and precision. The third change, again, is got by each one changing hands with his own pair. And so the business proceeds, until a lead end, when the necessary place has to be made and the dodging done. It requires a good ear, plenty of concentration and not a little practice to lap properly, but when it is done nicely it is not a bad amusement, and it is certainly more spectacular for the on-lookers than handbells "retained in hand," but for actual skill it is not to be counted with the latter form of change ringing.

LONDON.—Royal Cumberland Youths.—On May 28th, for divine service, at St. Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, a quarter-peal of Stedman Cinques: J. D. Matthews (conductor) 1, W. J. Nudds 2, E. Wightman 3, B. Foskett 4, F. Smith 5, J. Hunt 6, W. T. Powell 7, H. T. Scarlett 8, G. A. Card 9, W. Berry 10, W. Shimmans 11, H. G. Stubbs 12.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**THE PAST YEAR'S WORK.**

The annual report of the Essex Association has just been issued to members. In reviewing the work for the past year, the Master (Mr. C. H. Howard) refers to the deplorable effect which the war has had upon ringing institutions all over the country. "The ranks of our members," he says, "have been again sadly depleted by the call to service which has been made to the manhood of the nation, and in the coming year we are faced with the certainty that the continued and increasing demand for men must drastically reduce the number of our more active members. In this sad national necessity we must be prepared to face even greater sacrifices in the coming months, and all our efforts must be concentrated to keeping alive the essential part of our work as ringers—the summoning of worshippers to Divine service. We hope many of our loyal members will return to us again from the fighting forces."

RINGERS' CHIEF MISSION.

"By necessity of circumstances peal ringing has been practically abandoned in the county; only two peals have been recorded during the year, one by the Leytonstone band in a metropolitan tower and the other on handbells by Mr. Lewis Wiseman's band at Sible Hedingham. This result is, to our members, a sufficient indication of how ringing has been curtailed, as in normal years we have generally rung between fifty and sixty peals. But although peal ringing has suffered to this extent and practically ceased in our midst, it behoves us in the critical times through which we are passing, and, in view of even more trying times that are undoubtedly to come, to concentrate all our endeavours upon the chief mission of our work in serving the Church. Whilst regretting the lapse of peal ringing, we must also recognise that the restrictions imposed by the competent authorities will practically prevent meeting for practice in the coming winter evenings. Still we must acknowledge the devotion to duty of those who formerly derived great pleasure and instruction from peal ringing in remaining loyal to their duties as church workers, by continuing, in many instances under great difficulties, the Sunday ringing, and here I must appeal again to the older members to rally to the towers where they formerly rang, and so assist in preserving an art which it must be our one object to maintain during the time that our younger members are away bearing the burden of the war. Nothing would be more lamentable than that during the enforced absence of our more active members in foreign lands, the music of the bells, which had been a prominent part of our worship for centuries, should cease in the homeland. Our roll of honour shows an increasing number of members who have joined the Army and Navy during the year. Unfortunately we have to lament that three have fallen serving their King and country. Death has removed from our midst several prominent members whose loss we deplore: Mr. E. Pye, of Chadwell Heath, was a genius among ringers, and we are proud to have been able to claim him as a resident member of our Association; Mr. E. A. Davies, of Barking, who was for many years a regular attendant at our annual meetings, and whom we shall greatly miss; Mr. J. J. Bradley, of Chadwell Heath; Mr. G. Taylor, of Cambridge, and Mr. H. Bottrill, of Harlow, had each in their own locality rendered good service to the exercise."

IMPROVED FINANCIAL POSITION.

"We have to report a decreased membership, brought about partly by the normal shrinkage due to members dropping out through being in arrears. The possibilities of increase have been affected by the curtailment of facilities for teaching beginners who, in ordinary times, would be joining our ranks. It is a pleasure to be able to announce that the Castle Hedingham band have become affiliated during the year, thus making a welcome addition to our numbers. It will be remembered that at our last annual meeting we decided the names of all members on active service should be retained on the books without payment of subscription during the period of the war. Notwithstanding the diminution in income brought about by this concession we are able to meet all expenses and carry forward a balance of £17 6s. 11d., against £10 1s. 11d. in hand at the commencement of the year. In view of the probability of a decreased income in the present year we have decided, in order to keep our expenditure within our expected income, to economise by publishing only essential features. A record will be kept of the details omitted in the hope that, with the return of normal times, they may be again included in the annual report. The balance sheet discloses that £50 of our reserve fund, which was formerly in the post office at 2½ per cent., has been invested in the 4½ per cent. War Loan, thus showing our patriotism to the national funds and securing a larger income from the capital. During the year restoration work has been unavoidably restricted. The chief restoration was the opening of the new ring of eight at Felsted. The bells of Rettenden have been rehung and quarter-turned. It is interesting to report that at Wethersfield Sir Fortescue Flannery, Bt., M.P., Lord of the Manor and Patron of the Living, has inaugurated a fund for the restoration of the ancient Saxon tower and bells of the Parish Church. In conclusion I cannot do better than endorse the auditor's report that the careful management by the various Masters and Secretaries has enabled such a satisfactory balance sheet to be shown. I wish to thank them on behalf of the Association for their zeal and valuable services in the past year."

ENJOYABLE MEETING AT MATCHING.

A most successful meeting of the North-Western Division of the

Essex Association was held at Matching on Saturday week. Members attended from Stansted, Saffron Walden, Bishop's Stortford, Great Bentley, Walthamstow, Braintree, Great Totham, Sawbridgeworth, Matching, Romford, Writtle and Chelmsford. Ringing opened with a 720 Kent Treble Bob on the fine little peal of six, rung by: T. J. Watts 1, F. W. Edwards 2, C. H. Howard 3, E. J. Butter 4, O. L. Twist 5, W. Watts (conductor) 6.—The Vicar (the Rev. J. B. Brinkworth) conducted a short service, and gave a very interesting address on bells and the purposes of ringing.

At the conclusion of the service, an adjournment was made to the old Marriage Feast Room, where 27 sat down to tea.—The business meeting followed, the Vicar presiding, supported by the District Master (Mr. F. Pittsow), the district secretary (Mr. W. Watts), Mr. C. H. Howard (Master of the Association), the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre (hon. general secretary), Mr. E. J. Butter (Master of the South-Western Division), and Mr. F. W. Edwards (district secretary, South-Western Division).

Mr. C. Charter, of Roydon, was elected a ringing member, and it was decided, on the motion of Mr. A. Evenett, seconded by Mr. H. J. Tucker, to hold the next meeting at Bishop's Stortford.—The Rev. H. T. W. Eyre proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for his address, and for presiding over the meeting.—The Vicar, in replying, thanked the members, and said it gave him very great pleasure to welcome them to Matching.

The ancient Marriage Feast Room adjoining the church, and an interesting description of it was given by the Vicar, who stated that the handsome structure was erected by Lord Rich 400 years ago to provide accommodation for the rejoicings of newly-married couples, and it was still occasionally used for that purpose.

After tea some of the members enjoyed a look round the beautiful grounds of the Vicarage, and drove to Harlow Parish Church. Ringing was kept up until about 8 p.m. in the following methods: Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob and Bob Minor, Stedman and Grand-sire Doubles. The thanks of the members are due to Mrs. Brinkworth and her daughter for helping at the tea, and making the meeting a successful one. It is hoped to hold another meeting at Matching before very long.

DUDLEY GUILD.

A quarterly meeting of the Dudley and District Guild was held at St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, on Saturday week. The weather being all that could be desired, a fairly large number of members availed themselves of the pleasure of being present and having a pull on the beautiful peal of twelve bells. The Guild service was said in church, conducted by the Rev. T. W. Wilkes, one of the staff of clergy of St. Peter's, who also gave a very eloquent address.

At the conclusion of the service the business meeting was held in the upper vestry, the chair being taken by the Rev. T. W. Wilkes, who gave the members a hearty welcome to St. Peter's on behalf of the Rector, who could not be present owing to indisposition. Apologies for absence were received from Mr. S. Spittle (Ringing Master) owing to illness, and Mr. H. Mason, Old Hill.—The hon. secretary was instructed to send a letter of sympathy to the Ringing Master in his illness, and it was mentioned that this was believed to be the first time that Mr. Spittle had been absent from a meeting since the formation of the Guild in 1899. Hopes were expressed that he would soon be in his usual health again.

It was decided that the next meeting should be held at Darlaston, if the consent of the Vicar were obtained.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. T. W. Wilkes for his kindness in conducting the service in church and presiding at the meeting, also to the Rector for granting permission to hold the meeting at St. Peter's, to the organist (Mr. Leslie Guest), to Mr. Herbert Knight and his band for making the necessary arrangements, and all who in any way assisted in making the meeting successful and adding to the comfort of the members.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Glastonbury Branch was held at Baltonsborough on Saturday week, when eighteen members were present from Baltonsborough, Street, Meare and St. John's, Glastonbury. The bells were set going about 3.30 p.m., four lady members of St. John's, Glastonbury, taking part in the ringing. Service in the Parish Church followed, the Rev. F. C. Fitch (Vicar) and the Rev. W. M. K. Warren (chairman of the branch) officiating, and the Rev. Atchley (Vicar of Godney) giving an address upon bells, their inscriptions and meanings.

After service the members adjourned to the schoolroom, where a substantial tea was waiting, kindly provided by the Vicar. At the subsequent meeting, the Rev. W. M. K. Warren presided, and on the motion of Mr. H. Lee, seconded by Mr. S. J. C. Matthews, Dinder was selected for the next meeting, the secretary remarking that the Vicar of Dinder would welcome the branch there, and also provide tea.—Mr. S. J. C. Matthews proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar of Baltonsborough for kindly providing tea, and also arranging the service, also to the Vicar of Godney for his most interesting address.—Both the clergy responded, and a move was then made to the tower, where some good touches of Doubles were brought round.

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MR. C. R. LILLEY AND HIS 500 PEALS.

THE MASTER OF ST. CHAD'S, SHREWSBURY.

The last ringer to reach the 500 peal mark is Mr. Charles Richard Lilley, Master of the St. Chad's Society, Shrewsbury, who is among the best known provincial ringers, for he has travelled the country a great deal, and wherever he has settled he has scoured the country for "new towers," and has made the acquaintance of a large number of members of the Exercise. To say that Mr. Lilley is an enthusiast is to put the matter quite mildly, for he has often proved that neither distance, time nor difficulty need stand in the way. A keen cyclist, a matter of 60 miles by road for a peal, perhaps on bad going bells, was quite an insignificant detail, and when out on ringing tours he could always be relied upon to do the tower work of greasing or splicing. In this respect he has rendered valuable service to more than one touring band. His wide experience is now serving him in good stead, and as tower keeper and ringing master at St. Chad's, where there is one of the best rings of twelve in the country, Mr. Lilley finds himself absolutely in his element.



MR. C. R. LILLEY.

Born at Candlesby, Lincs, in 1874, Mr. C. R. Lilley is the eldest son of the late Mr. Richard Lilley, for many years churchwarden of his parish church. As quite a small boy he used to be taken to the church by the parish clerk, the late Henry Barker, to ring the eight o'clock service bell, and this seems to have aroused in him the liking for ringing which he may have inherited from his great-grandfather—William Fant—the only other member of the family who was a change ringer, and who was a member of the company at Frieston, Lincs. It is interesting to note that Mr. Lilley has in his possession an old ringing book which belonged to his predecessor.

Mr. Lilley began his change ringing career at Skirbeck Lincs, on the five bells there, with a young band who were struggling with a art by the aid of "Rope Sight." Then came along a ringer qualified to teach them, in Mr. H. Palmer, and they soon scored their first 120 of Bob Doubles. This was on Sunday, June 19th, 1892, and progress was quickly made from this point. This was a time when change ringing bands were few and far between in Lincolnshire, and to get a touch of Grandsire Triples meant a 30 mile cycle journey to Heckington. On December 26th, 1894, Mr. Lilley rang his first peal. This was at Wrangle in twelve methods of Doubles, conducted by Mr. J. Sharpe, of Frieston, and a few weeks later he took part in a similar peal at Skirbeck, in which three of his own band rang. Moving to Lincoln, Mr. Lilley came in contact with Messrs. Gabriel Lindoff and Arthur Craven, and soon got on to Treble Bob ringing. In 1897 he moved to Bedford, where the finishing touch, so to speak, was put to his ringing education by Mr. C. W. Clarke, and some of whose enthusiasm he imbibed. About this time St. Paul's bells were increased to ten, and Mr. Lilley rang his first peals of Caters and Royal on them in 1897. Double Norwich, at Leicester, was added in 1898, in which year Mr. Lilley went to Watford, where, on July 28th, he called his first peal of Grandsire Triples. Next he moved to Leicester, where he rang Stedman Triples, and while residing in that district called a peal of Royal at Duffield. Removing afterwards to London, he was a frequent visitor at the College Youths practice meetings, and joined the Waterloo and St. Margaret's Societies.

On May 22nd, 1899, he took part in the long peal of Double Norwich at Kidlington—17,024 in 11 hrs. 12 mins. After this he went in strong for peal ringing, and had the ambition to ring 52 in a year, but he did not achieve success in this direction until 1903, when he rang 65 and conducted 52. His first peal of Cinques was rung at Sheffield, conducted by the late Mr. C. H. Hattersley, with whom he formed a very great friendship and from whom he learned a great deal in conducting. In 1909 Mr. Lilley went to Caversham, and joined the famous St. Peter's Company, with whom he rang his first peal of Cambridge, and peals in other Surprise methods, his first of London having been rung at St. Stephen's, Bristol, conducted by Mr. W. A. Cave, and his first of Bristol, at St. John's, Waterloo Road, London, conducted by Mr. W. Pye. Mr. Lilley called the first peal of Royal west of Bristol, this being achieved at Charles Church, Plymouth.

In 1913 he removed to Shrewsbury, and called the first peal of Stedman Triples in the town, at St. Alkmund's. This latter tower was soon afterwards closed and Mr. Lilley was appointed ringing master at St. Chad's, where the authorities were determined to have a good change ringing band and to put the bells, which had got into a dilapidated condition, into good order. St. Alkmund's band joined St. Chad's, and a beginning was made with Cinques, but it was not until the bells had been recast and rehung in 1914 that much could be done. Messrs. Taylor's work has placed Shrewsbury in possession of one of the best peals of 12 in the kingdom, and on November 19th, 1914, Mr. Lilley called a peal of Bob Major on the back eight, it being the first time that the tenor had been turned in to a peal since December 27th, 1813, when it was rung by the celebrated Samuel Lawrence. The outbreak of war interfered with progress, and seven of the members are now with the colours, but when normal conditions arrive again doubtless more will be heard of the St. Chad's Society.

In addition to being a ringer and conductor, Mr. Lilley has rendered valuable service as an instructor. His 500 peals have been rung in no fewer than 270 towers in 31 counties, and it is curious that his 500th peal, rung at Shifnal and recorded last week, should have been at the tower where he rang his 100th peal of Grandsire Triples. The peal, it was hoped, was to have been Bob Royal at St. Chad's, but this had to be abandoned. His peals are made up as follows:

| On tower bells: | Rung. | Cond. |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Bristol Surprise | 2 | |
| London Surprise Major | 4 | |
| Cambridge Surprise Major | 3 | |
| Superlative Surprise Major | 25 | 2 |
| Double Norwich Major | 37 | 11 |
| (Including a 17,024) | | |
| Oxford Treble Bob Major | 3 | 3 |
| Kent Treble Bob Major | 32 | 22 |
| Kent Treble Bob Royal | 7 | |
| Bob Major | 39 | 34 |
| Bob Royal | 10 | 5 |
| Stedman Triples | 57 | 15 |
| Stedman Caters | 9 | 1 |
| Stedman Cinques | 3 | |
| Oxford Bob Triples | 1 | 1 |
| Bob Triples | 1 | 1 |
| Union Triples | 1 | |
| Grandsire Triples | 105 | 92 |
| Grandsire Caters | 22 | 9 |
| Minor, 1 to 7 Methods | 98 | 67 |
| Doubles, 2 to 12 Methods | 9 | 4 |
| On handbells: | | |
| Bob Royal | 2 | 2 |
| Bob Major | 12 | 12 |
| Bob Triples | 1 | |
| Grandsire Caters | 3 | 3 |
| Grandsire Triples | 3 | 3 |
| Kent Treble Bob Major | 3 | 3 |
| Total | 500 | 290 |

CENTRAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Although I am sure our secretary had no intention of misrepresenting what I had to say at the meeting at Scale on the question of representatives to the Central Council, yet, as a matter of fact, that is what he has done. Perhaps you will allow me to state what I actually did say on the subject. I told the meeting that I had got the idea into my "noddle" that until such time as the discussions and deliberations of the Central Council resulted in more apparent benefits to the general rank and file of ringers, I had thought of proposing at our coming annual general Central Committee meeting, that the Winchester Guild send only one representative to the meetings of the Council, and not as reported, no representatives. (We are entitled to send four, but, as a matter of fact, more than two very rarely go) I should just like to say that I have no antagonistic feelings whatever towards any past or present members of the Council, and should be very sorry to see the central body done away with. It would, of course, be wrong, and very unkind also, to say that the rank and file of ringers have never reaped any benefit from the work of the Council. The kind of work that men of the type of, for instance, the Rev. E. W. Carpenter and others have done must be of benefit to us all, but those kind of discussions which are entered into by a certain section of the members of the Council, and which have been very aptly described by Mr. F. E. Dawe as simply a discussion as to which is tweedle-dee, and which is tweedle-dum, are not of the slightest interest or benefit to the general body of ringers, and until there is less of that kind of discussion at the meetings of the Council, I sincerely believe that the Winchester Guild will be wasting money by sending more than one representative.

One reason why I brought the subject up at this time is because I have been given to understand that the Council does not meet at all this year, and that being the case, I thought this was a very suitable time for a discussion on the subject, giving ringers an opportunity of expressing their opinions, whilst at the same time no definite action need be taken until twelve months hence. I am also of the opinion that

in order to obtain a Central Council of a type that will be of real benefit, the general body of ringers must take a closer interest in the doings of the Council, and also a much closer interest as to who is chosen to represent their particular Guild on the Council. The way to stimulate that interest, in my opinion, is by introducing these discussions at our ringing meetings up and down the country. I have, on several different occasions, and in different parts of the country, when some question re the Central Council has been under discussion, asked the question—Who are your representatives on the Council? and have been met with the reply—"Bothered if I know who they all are, and it does not matter as I know." Until we get rid of that indifference I am afraid we shall not get a very efficient Council. Much more interest, and, perhaps, discretion also, should be shown in selecting the men chosen to represent the members of the various Guilds. Men are often chosen because, and simply because of their undoubted skill in and out of the belfry as first class ringers, or perhaps composers, and it does not by any means follow that because of those qualifications they are the best men available in that particular Guild as representatives on the Council. Something besides ringing or composing ability is desirable in a representative for the Central Council, or we shall very soon get nothing else but "tweedle-dee and tweedle-dum."—

Yours faithfully,
Cranleigh.

ROBERT WHITTINGTON.

OXFORD GUILD SECRETARY'S WEDDING.

The unique event of a bride conducting her own wedding peal, in which the bridegroom and two of the officiating clergy took part, made the ceremony at Bradfield, recorded last week, specially noteworthy. The bride was Miss Mary E. Chillingworth, and the bridegroom, Mr. A. E. Reeves, of Reading, General Secretary of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.



Photo

Foulsham, Reading.

THE BRIDE AND BRIDEGROOM.

BELLS FOR SHELLS.

Arrangements have now been completed, it is stated, for taking over the church bells in the province of Lower Austria by the military authorities. There will be no formal requisitioning, but the matter will be done by mutual consent. The bells will be paid for at the rate of about 1s. 6d. a pound. At present it is proposed to leave all bells cast before the year 1800. Altogether one-third of the bells will be left in the churches and two-thirds removed.

RINGING AT ST. MARTIN'S-IN-THE-FIELDS.

By arrangement with the Vicar, the Royal Cumberland Youths ring for service at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, every Sunday morning.

ST. MARY-LE-TOWER, IPSWICH.**THE RINGING RECORDS.**

If ever there was a belfry where ringing "history" has been made, that belfry assuredly is St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, and the early records made on those famous bells will be read with interest. In connection with our article, which appeared in a recent issue, on the bells themselves, it should have been stated that the peal was augmented to ten in 1812 and not 1845. To Mr. C. J. Sedgley and Mr. W. Motts, the tower keeper, we are indebted for the particulars of the peals rung. An advertisement in the old "Ipswich Chronicle" of that year throws some light on this: "On Tuesday next, the 7th of July, being the first day of the Ipswich races, will be opened at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, a peal of ten bells, two trebles being added to the former eight, provided and hung by John Naunton."

"The whole church," adds Mr. Sedgley, "was practically entirely rebuilt in 1862, the old tower was demolished, and, on the new one being completed, the bells were augmented to twelve by the addition of a treble and tenor, the old 4th and 8th being recast at the same time. This divides ringing matters very distinctly into two periods, that done before the restoration, and that after. I am sending you copies of all the boards relating to peals rung before the restoration, also the record of a peal rung in 1735, and another little record from an Ipswich paper, a century later."

There is no board relating to the following in the tower, but the record is taken from the "Ipswich Gazette," dated December 6th to 13th, 1735.

Ipswich, December 13th, 1735.—Yesterday, in the evening, was rung by our town ringers at St. Mary tower in this town, 5040 changes, being the whole peal of Grandsire Triples on eight bells, the persons were: James Kirridge, aged 61, 8th, Isaac Whitehand 7th, Stephen Bond 6th, George Bond 5th, Stephen Kirby 4th, Robert Hogger 3rd, Thomas Bennet 2nd, George Weston treble, which was done in three hours and eleven minutes by the above said persons to the satisfaction of all the lovers of that science.

From boards in tower:

Thursday, May 23rd, 1811, was rung on the old peal of eight bells, 5040 changes of Bob Major, in 3 hours and 15 mins. by the following persons: Treble, John Church; 2nd, John Pettit; 3rd, James Ling; 4th, James Burgess; 5th, Benjamin Bennett; 6th, William Callunn; 7th, Thomas Avis; tenor, John Naunton, who conducted the peal.

John Pettit rang in the 10,080 of Bob Major at Debenham in 1767.

On Monday, May 12th, 1817, a complete peal of 5088 changes of Oxford Treble Bob was rung in this steeple in 3 hours and 15 minutes by the following persons: Treble, John Pettit; 2nd, James Pipe; 3rd, Robert Bailey; 4th, Edward Smith; 5th, James Ling; 6th, Robert Burch; 7th, Thomas Avis; tenor, John Naunton. J. Naunton called the peal. *Tinniendi Arti Felicitas Adsit.*

On Tuesday, December 28th, 1824, Holt's complete ten-course peal of 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples was rung in this steeple in 3 hours and 11 minutes by the following persons: Treble, Robert Burch; 2nd, William Adams; 3rd, Robert Bailey; 4th, Edward Smith; 5th, William Garrod; 6th, Thomas Wright; 7th, William Leach; tenor, Samuel Capon. R. Burch called the peal. *Ars Campanarium Sonandarum Floreat.*

On Christmas Day, 1827, a complete peal of 5400 changes of Bob Royal was rung in this steeple in 3 hours 31 minutes by the following persons: Treble, Robert Burch; 2nd, William Adams; 3rd, Thomas Wright; 4th, John Bateman; 5th, Robert Bailey; 6th, Thomas Avis; 7th, William Tillet; 8th, Thomas Meadows; 9th, William Leach; tenor, Francis Andrews. Composed and conducted by Wm. Leach. *Ars Incognita Imperitis Contemnitur.*

On Friday, January 29th, 1830, Holt's six-part peal of 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples was rung in this steeple in 3 hours 6 minutes by the following persons, viz.: Treble, Robert Burch; 2nd, George Rose; 3rd, William Adams; 4th, William Garrard; 5th, William Tillet; 6th, Thos. Wright; 7th, Samuel Capon; tenor, William Leach. Conducted by Robert Burch.

On Wednesday, December 22nd, 1830, a complete peal of 5147 changes of Grandsire Caters was rung in this steeple in 3 hours and 18 minutes by the following persons, viz.:—Treble, Robert Burch; 2nd, William Leach; 3rd, William Garrard, senr.; 4th, Thomas Wright; 5th, Walter Meadows; 6th, Williams Garrard, junr.; 7th, William Tillet; 8th, John Naunton; 9th, Samuel Capon; tenor, Thomas Avis. Conducted by Robt. Burch. *Famam Extendere Factis Vis Unita Fortior.*

On Monday, April 2nd, 1832, a complete peal of 5000 changes of Treble Bob Royal in the Kentish Variation was rung in this tower in 3 hours 15 minutes by the following persons: Treble, Thomas Wright; 2nd, Robert Burch; 3rd, William Garrard, senr.; 4th, William Adams; 5th, Walter Meadows; 6th, William Garrard, junr.; 7th, William Tillet; 8th, John Naunton; 9th, William Leach; tenor, John Bateman. Composed and conducted by Wm. Leach. *Per Incentem Perseveratiam Hinc Societati Bene Evenit.*

On Saturday, Feb. 16th, 1850, was rung in this tower a complete peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, consisting of 5200 changes, in 3 hours 28 minutes by the following persons: Treble, Robert Birch; 2nd, Thomas Cook; 3rd, John Sherman; 4th, John Standing; 5th, Henry Card; 6th, Robert Naunton; 7th, William Woods; 8th, William Garrard; 9th, Joseph Lewes; tenor, John Naunton. The above peal was composed and conducted by William Garrard. *Semper Memorandum.* Rev. W. A. St. Leger, Minister; T. Silburn, T. E. Rabett, Churchwardens.

The following is taken from the "Ipswich Chronicle" of Saturday, April 25th, 1855: On the evening of 18th inst., eight of the Society of Ringers in this town accomplished on the bells of St. Mary Tower a quarter-peal of that scientific and intricate method, Stedman Triples, the first ever completed by any society in this county.

The present society was formed in 1816, and have rung the following peals on the bells since then:—

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Cambridge Surprise Maximus | 2 |
| Cambridge Surprise Royal | 1 |
| Cambridge Surprise Major | 2 |
| Double Norwich Court Bob Maximus... | 3 |
| Double Norwich Court Bob Royal ... | 8 |
| Double Norwich Court Bob Major ... | 4 |
| Oxford Treble Bob Maximus | 1 |
| Oxford Treble Bob Royal | 1 |
| Oxford Treble Bob Major | 2 |
| Kent Treble Bob Maximus | 39 |
| Kent Treble Bob Royal | 9 |
| Kent Treble Bob Major | 1 |
| Plain Bob Maximus | 1 |
| Plain Bob Royal | 2 |
| Plain Bob Major | 1 |
| Stedman Cinques | 20 |
| Stedman Caters | 19 |
| Stedman Triples | 3 |
| Grandsire Cinques | 4 |
| Grandsire Caters | 6 |
| Grandsire Triples | 5 |
| London Surprise Major | 1 |
| Superlative Surprise Major | 2 |

Total ... 137

DEATH OF MR. F. DERBYSHIRE.**FORMER VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

The Lancashire Association has lost a valued member by the death of Mr. F. Derbyshire, of Worsley, who joined the Association in 1882, and served in the office of vice-president in the years 1896 and 1897. He was clerk and sexton at St. Mark's Church, and among the parishioners, as well as among his many friends in ringing circles, he was highly esteemed. He rang his first peal—Grandsire Triples—at Eccles on November 15th, 1884, and his last at Worsley on May 15th, 1915. This was Stedman Triples. Altogether he had put to his credit 102 peals, of which the following is a list: Grandsire Triples 15, Grandsire Major 1, Grandsire Caters 2, Erin Triples 1, Stedman Triples 23, Treble Bob Major 39, Treble Bob Royal 3, Double Norwich Major 15, Bob Major 3.

On Saturday last a half-muffled peal of Stedman Triples was rung to his memory at Worsley.

A LONDON RENOVATION.

The bells of St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, several of which date from 1693, and upon which the first peal of London Surprise in the City of London was rung some 17 or 18 years ago, have just been thoroughly overhauled by Messrs. John Warner and Sons. The bells had not been rung for a long time, and now that they have been put into going order again it is hoped that the church authorities may be persuaded to allow the tower to be open more often in the future for practice, etc.

On Saturday week several ringers belonging to the Cumberland and College Youths met to try the bells, and found that a great improvement in the "go" had been effected. The ringing included 288 Stedman Triples (conducted by J. Hunt), 288 Kent Treble Bob (conducted by F. Smith), and a touch of Double Norwich (conducted by E. Wightman). Those taking part, in addition to the conductors mentioned, were: J. Scholes, W. J. Nudds, W. T. Powell, R. Sanders, G. Dawson, T. Walker and J. D. Matthews.

KING'S CLIFFE BELL FUND.

Up to the present a total of £5 17s. 6d. has been received by the Rector towards the fund for recasting the tenor at King's Cliffe. We hope that the balance necessary will quickly be raised among the ringers throughout the country so that the bells at King's Cliffe may be ready to ring when the time comes to celebrate peace. The smallest donations will be most thankfully received, and we hope to see the suggestion, which we have already thrown out, of collections made among ringers in the different towers and at ringing meetings, extensively carried out. Among the recent donations received are 12s. from the Long Stanton ringers, 5s. from St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham; 4s. from change ringers at Messrs. Brotherhood's works at Peterborough; 5s. from Miss Powell, King's Cliffe; and 1s. from Mr. W. H. Fussell, Slough. Further contributions should be sent to the Rev. H. A. Orlebar, King's Cliffe Rectory, near Peterborough.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT MEETING.

The Southern District held a quarterly meeting, Saturday week, at Whiston, near Rotherham. Favoured with lovely weather, over 40 ringers were present from Sheffield (Cathedral), Rotherham (Parish Church and Eastwood), Doncaster, Nottingham, Staveley, Leicester, Bolsover, Wath-on-Dearne, Bolsterstone, Chesterfield, Worksop, Anston, Beighton, etc., and the meeting proved a splendid success.

By kind permission of the Rector (the Rev. A. G. Allton), the Rectory grounds and gardens were open to the visitors, and many availed themselves of the opportunity. The bells were raised about 3 p.m., and touches of Grandsire, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob Major, Stedman, Double Norwich, etc., were brought round. A touch of Grandsire Caters (conducted by Mr. C. Glenn) was rung in the churchyard on the handbells; among those taking part were Mr. E. Morris, of Leicester (who is stationed in the district with the Notts and Derby Regt.), and Mr. A. Hague (R.A.M.C.), the district secretary. The Church Institute was hospitably lent for tea, and all the visitors admired this splendid building, which is practically a new addition to the village.

A short business meeting was afterwards held, Mr. G. Hawksworth (of Doncaster) presiding, in the regrettable absence of the vice-president (Mr. T. R. Hensher), who sent word signifying his disappointment at not being able to be present. Mr. F. Willey, of Sheffield, a member of the committee, also wrote expressing his regret at not being able to attend, and all members present were sorry to hear he had unfortunately met with severe injuries to his arm. Both gentlemen sent their good wishes for a successful gathering.—The meeting passed a vote of condolence with the relatives of the late Sir A. P. Heywood, and also with those of the late Mr. T. Whitworth (of Treeton), who had been a member of the Association for many years.

Six new members were elected.—A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and to the local company for all arrangements, and also to the ladies who had helped so ably with the tea.

The committee decided to hold the next meeting on September 9th, at Wortley (if permission were granted) failing which, the secretary was instructed to apply for Barnsley.

The day's outing proved most enjoyable.

RINGERS IN FRANCE.

SOLDIERS' EXPERIENCE AMONG THE BELLS.

Pte Wm. Brett, who was leader of the ringers at Tuxford, Notts, and a guard on the Great Central Railway, has written to Mr. Haigh, secretary of the North Notts Association, an account of the experiences of himself and two other ringers in France. Pte Brett was wounded twelve months ago in France, and passed through five hospitals. He is, however, now back again in the fighting line. He writes from "Somewhere in France":—

"It may interest you to have a bit more news about myself and two fellow ringers out in France. Our battalion is now out of the trenches for a rest, and we arrived in a small village one afternoon. The next morning we were very much surprised to be awakened by the sound of church bells. You can guess how anyone would feel who takes the same interest in bells as I do. The sound of the bells soon found out we had more ringers in our battalion. There were soon two others aroused out of their sleep, so we discussed the matter and wondered whether there would be a chance of having a pull together. One of our officers was very good to ask the priest if three of his men could have a pull, so by kind permission of the priest we had the pleasure of being taken to the church on Wednesday night.

"CHURCHYARD BOB."

"We did not find the bells as we thought, or like they are in England, but quite different. There were three bells in the tower, and the same number of wheels in a frame, about 4ft. square all fastened together and worked on ball bearings with three wire ropes attached to each wheel running up to the bell. On the other side was a kind of handle fixed on the wheel, but no ropes whatever. There had been some at one time, as the holes in the ceiling and the rope guides indicated. The Frenchman who took us up tried to explain the different methods by which the bells were rung, but we could not understand him a bit, so we were allowed to ring for half an hour, and gave the inhabitants and our comrades a touch or two of 'Churchyard Bob' and 'Grave Diggers' Surprise.' The ringers taking part were: Pte Wm. Brett (13926), H Company, East Markham; Pte W. Good (11092), from Skegness; and Lance-Corpl. Wilmot (14780), from Arksey, near Doncaster. The weight of the bells are as follows: Treble 150 kilos; 2nd, 300 K; tenor, 450 K. We spent a very happy half hour, and were very much interested in what we saw. It may interest ringers if you would put an account of our experience in 'The Ringing World,' which I have sent me every week. We are now having much better weather than when I wrote to you, and it is quite a treat to be out of the sound of the guns."

RAINHAM, KENT. — On May 21st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, for divine service, in 50 mins.: L. L. Gray (Wickham Market) 1, W. Haigh 2, R. Ockwell 3, A. Manktelow 4, J. H. Champion 5, W. Easter 6, C. Belsey 7, A. V. Tucker 8.

NOTICES.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on June 29th; and for general business on the 20th, all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Hartlebury on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in the church at 4.45 p.m. The service will be taken by Archdeacon H. J. Greig. — E. J. Dowler, 11, Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Rochester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hoo St. Werburgh, on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available from 3.30 till 8.30 p.m. (election of district representative for Central Committee). — Edward A. G. Allen, Hon. District Secretary, 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—Meeting at Beverley to-morrow (Saturday, June 17th). The bells at the Minster and also at St. Mary's will be available during the day.—Thos. Smith, Hon. District Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Horwich on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—G. Pincott, Branch Secretary.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society).—The next meeting will be held at the Church of All Saints, Edmonton, on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available at 4 p.m. to 9. A business meeting will be held in the tower. All ringers are welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Secretary, 10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate, E.C.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Abbot's Leigh on June 17th. Bells (6) from 3. Service 5. Tea 9d., at 5.45, in the George Inn.—A. W. Seviour, 5, Brunswick Street, City Road, Bristol.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch. — The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Ribchester to-morrow (Saturday), June 17th, 1916. Tower open for ringing at 3 o'clock.—A. E. Woodhouse, Hon. Branch Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Oswaldtwistle on Saturday, June 24th, 1916. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A practice meeting will be held at Dagenham on Saturday, June 24th, 1916. Bells available from 3 p.m. All will be welcome.—E. J. Butler, Chadwell Heath.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual meeting will be held at St. Maurice's Hall, Winchester, on Saturday, June 24th, at 2 p.m. Service at the Cathedral 4 p.m. Preacher (The Master) Rev. C. E. Matthews. Tea at 5 p.m. — George Williams, Hon. General Secretary, West End, Southampton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The adjourned annual meeting will be held at Derby on Saturday, June 24th, for the election of a president, etc. Committee meeting in St. Andrew's Schoolroom at 4.15, fol-

lowed by general meeting at 5 p.m. No arrangements have been made for tea, but there are numerous cafes in the town. The bells at St. Andrew's will be available for ringing from 2 until 8 o'clock, excepting during the time of the meeting. Nominations for the presidency, signed by two members of the association, should reach me not later than first post on Saturday, June 24th. — W. E. White, Hon. Secretary.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Coaley on June 24th. Bells (6) open from 3 p.m. Tea 5. Visitors heartily welcomed. Kindly notify by June 21st to W. A. Lewis, Hon. Sec., Ham, Berkeley, Glos.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY OF CHANGE RINGERS (Established 1623). — The 293rd anniversary of the above society will be held on Tuesday, June 27th. Ringing commences at 9 a.m. All visitors are cordially welcomed.—R. A. Strong, Hon. Secretary.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The annual meeting will be held at Tamworth on Saturday, June 24th. Bells available at 3. Service in church at 4.45, with an address by the Rev. and Hon. M. Peel (Vicar). Tea (at 5.30), 6d. each, to those who have paid their subscriptions; to others 1s. Please send word not later than Tuesday, the 20th inst.—H. Knight, Hon. Secretary, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—The church bells will be available for ringing from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday, June 24th. Old and new visitors will be made welcome.—A. Symonds.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at North Wingfield on Saturday, July 1st. All ringers welcomed. Will those who intend being present kindly notify Mr. J. P. Tarlton, 16, Bright Street, North Wingfield, not later than Tuesday, June 27th. Clay Cross Station, Midland Railway. — Sam Thomas, Hon. Secretary pro. tem., 29, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting and six-bell contest will be held at Howarth, Saturday, July 1st, 1916. Weight of tenor 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt. Draw for order of ringing at 3.15 p.m. at the Black Bull Hotel. Entries for the contest to be sent in to me not later than Monday, June 26th, 1916. — F. Salmons, Secretary, 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Shore Parish Church on Saturday, July 1st. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30. All ringers welcome.—T. K. Driver, Secretary, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—The quarterly meeting announced for June 24th at Crowle is cancelled.—R. G. Knowles, Branch Secretary, Madresfield, Malvern.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. W. H. B. Wilkins has removed to 47, Argyle Street, Iffley Road, Oxford.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

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This charming model in Solid Hall Marked Silver
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It can be supplied in the following sizes:—

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|-----------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
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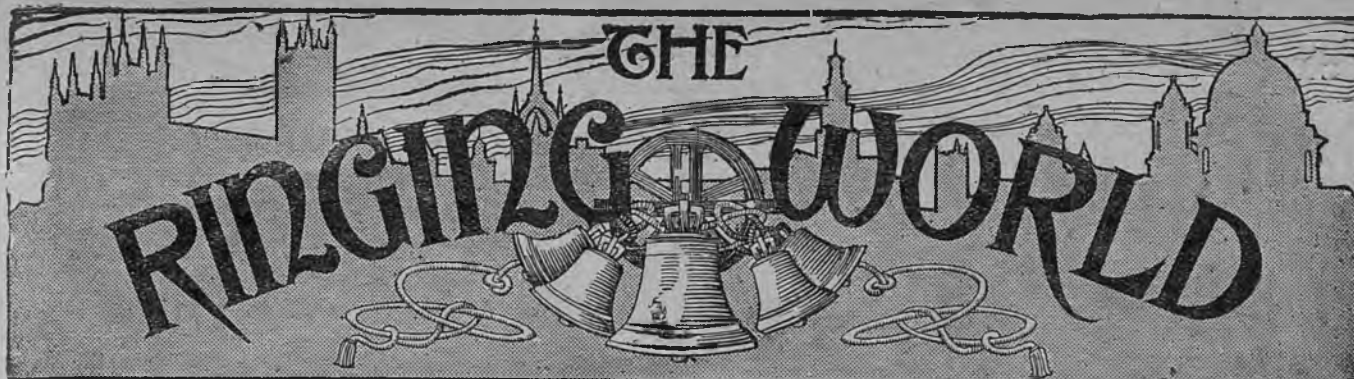
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FRIDAY, JUNE 23rd, 1916.

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Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two
new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton,
recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given
general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased
they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to
judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

THE COUNCIL'S BUSINESS.

Two letters appear in our columns this week upon the subject of the Central Council, and both should carry weight, not only with those who desire to see the usefulness of the Council increased, but also with those who are indifferent as to the Council's future. Lady Heywood's communication very aptly sums up the position. There is no reason whatever why the Council should be ended, but with changing times it is necessary to adapt it to the varying circumstances. This is, as we have all along insisted, the business not only of the Council itself, but of the organisations which are represented upon it and in whose interests it exists. Ringers, as a body, we believe, do not realise to what an extent they could increase the utility of the central organisation and increase, also, the interest in its doings by bringing forward subjects for discussion at their own meetings so that, if they were matters which concerned the Exercise generally, they could be taken on to the Council for debate.

The letter from the Rev. H. Law James deals more particularly with the detailed work of the Council, and shows that the reports presented usually form the principal, though not always the most interesting, part of the business. With this, of course, all acquainted with committee work will agree. It is by these smaller bodies of experts that the threshing out of abstruse or scientific questions must be done, and no one will deny that what has been done in this way in the past has largely contributed to the raising of the standard of ringing. But truth to tell, with a small number of exceptions, the committee reports in recent years have been quite brief verbal statements, which have contained very little matter of a substantial nature. The discussion of general resolutions, Mr. James holds, does not form the most important work of the Council, and he might have added that the debates are often uninteresting in the bargain. They turn upon subjects about which the general body of members may be ready to learn, but concerning which they are not always competent to speak. That is a difficulty which is not easily surmounted, and we have sometimes wondered whether, in matters such as these, a better purpose might not be served if the subjects were treated by papers read, rather than by discussion on a resolution. This may be thought by some to be a distinction without much difference, but it has certain advantages which those acquainted with the working of bodies of this kind will be readily aware of. At any rate an experiment on this line might be worth consideration, for it opens up opportunity to discuss and elucidate matters which do not require any resolution, and which, for that reason, are at present more or less beyond the scope of the business of the Council.

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**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,
CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

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Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your contract,—we may be able to assist you.

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TEN BELL PEAL.

SOLIHULL, WARWICKSHIRE.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, June 17, 1916, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5067 CHANCES;

Tenor 19½ cwt., in D.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ALBERT WALKER... .. Treble | GEORGE WALKER 6 |
| STANLEY BRAGG 2 | JAMES E. GROVES 7 |
| JAMES GEORGE 3 | GEORGE YENDALL 8 |
| J. FRANK SMALLWOOD 4 | JOHN BRAGG 9 |
| ERNEST T. ALLAWAY... .. 5 | SIDNEY J. JESSOP Tenor |

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Rung half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Lord Kitchener.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

DERBY.

On Saturday, June 17, 1916, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

A VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| *FREDERICK WALDRON ... Treble | JOSEPH LORD 5 |
| GEORGE TOMLINSON 2 | †FREDERICK FOSTER 6 |
| JOHN HAYNES 3 | JOHN WM. GLEW 7 |
| †FREDERICK W. STONE 4 | *JOHN ED. ROWLAND ... Tenor |

Conducted by JOHN WM. GLEW.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal on an inside bell. First peal as conductor. Rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of Lord Kitchener.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

On Wednesday, June 14th, 1916, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qrs. 10 lbs. in E.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| WILLIAM BODEN Treble | RICHARD JONES 5 |
| LEONARD HEWITT 2 | WILLIAM SAUNDERS 6 |
| JAMES L. YORK 3 | WALTER LAGO 7 |
| ALBERT WOODVINE 4 | JACK ASTON Tenor |

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and
Conducted by WILLIAM SAUNDERS.

R. Jones was proposed a member of the above Guild before starting the peal. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to all the soldiers and sailors who have lost their lives during the War. It is eighteen years since the ringer of the 5th took part in a peal.

SIX BELL PEALS.

WEST RETFORD, NOTTS.

THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION

On Sunday, June 11th, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| LCE-CPL. F. WILSON, R.E. Treble | G. TURNER 4 |
| C. BLAGG 2 | J. SEGAR, Junr. 5 |
| J. S. BLAGG... .. 3 | R. MILES Tenor |

Conducted by J. SEGAR, Junr.

The first peal on tower bells by all except the ringer of the tenor. This peal was rung half-muffled as a tribute to the late Lord Kitchener.

STEDMAN AT DUFFIELD.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I thank Mr. F. E. Dawe for his information. Now just one slight correction. I said that I conducted the first peal of Stedman on Duffield bells, not Sir Arthur's first peal. 'Nuff said.

JOHN JAGGAR.

RINGSTEAD, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, June 12, 1916, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being two 720's of Oxford, two of Woodbine, and three of Kent, each called differently.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ARTHUR BELLAMY Treble | W. J. GILBERT 4 |
| JOHN BALL 2 | *FRANK CHAPMAN 5 |
| LEONARD WYMAN 3 | REGINALD C. LOVEDAY ... Tenor |

Conducted by REGINALD C. LOVEDAY.

* First peal and first attempt. First peal of Treble Bob Minor by the ringers of Treble, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Lord Kitchener and the men of H.M.S. "Hampshire"; also of those who lost their lives in the great naval battle.

GREAT ADDINGTON, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, June 17, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Oxford Bob, and Bob Minor.

Tenor 10 cwt.

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| JOHN BALL Treble | W. J. GILBERT 4 |
| FRANCIS BALL 2 | HARRY MEADOWS 5 |
| LEONARD WYMAN 3 | REGINALD C. LOVEDAY ... Tenor |

Conducted by REGINALD C. LOVEDAY.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled in memory of Lord Kitchener, and all those that have fallen in this great World's War.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Thursday, June 15th, 1916, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

In the Belfry of the Parish Church of St. Martin,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANCES;

Tenor 17 Size, in B flat.

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| FRANK W. PERRENS ... 1-2 | JAMES E. GROVES ... 7-8 |
| GEORGE F. SWANN ... 3-4 | J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ... 9-10 |
| ALBERT WAKER ... 5-6 | JAMES GEORGE ... 11-12 |

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Referee: MR. THOMAS RUSSAM.

First peal on handbells by F. W. Perrens, and first peal of Cinques in hand by the rest. This is the first handbell peal on twelve bells rung in the City of Birmingham and by the above Guild.

SHIPLEY, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 17, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

In the Belfry of the Church of St. Paul,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| JOSEPH BROADLEY ... 1-2 | PERCY J. JOHNSON ... 5-6 |
| JAMES COTTERELL ... 3-4 | THOMAS B. KENDALL ... 7-8 |

Composed by YORKE GREEN, and

Conducted by PERCY J. JOHNSON.

Attested by GEORGE NETTLETON.

A BOSTON FAREWELL.

The Boston (America) Guild has suffered a loss by the removal to Worcester, Mass., of Mr. P. J. Allfrey, who was the first Master of the Guild. As a farewell, a touch of 556 Grandsire Triples was rung by: A. Matthews 1, P. J. Allfrey (conductor) 2, W. Bashford 3, J. F. Laker 4, J. Goodhead 5, E. E. Randall 6, R. Newton 7, A. Thompson 8.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following ringers have joined H.M. Forces:—

Pte P. Turner, of St. Wulfram's, Grantham, Royal Engineers, now at Clipston, Mansfield.
 Pte C. H. Varo, of Burstow, Surrey, 1st Reserve Garrison Batt., Suffolk Regiment, now at Milton, Gravesend
 Pte W. E. Dale, of Stretford, Lancs, Cheshire Regiment, now at Bedford.
 Pte William Goodman, Dudley Parish Church, Devonshire Regiment, attached 5th Worcesters, now at Plymouth.
 Pte W. H. Austin, St. Peter's, Northampton, Royal Flying Corps, now at South Farnborough, Hants.
 Sapper Jack Brewin, of St. Oswald's, Wragby, Royal Engineers, now at Chatham.
 From St. Mary's Society, Fen Ditton:—
 L. G. Mallion, R.E.
 J. Martin, R.E., now in France.
 A. Wilkin, 1st Cambridgeshire Regiment, now in France.
 J. Turner, 1st Cambridgeshire Regiment.
 A. Turner, Bedfordshire Regiment.
 H. Wishbeach, Royal Garrison Artillery.
 T. Ward, Royal Garrison Artillery.
 From St. Barnabas', Linslade, Bucks:—
 Rifleman A. Sayell, King's Royal Rifles, C.L.B., now at Wimbledon.
 Pte A. E. Seddon, R.M.A., now at Eastney Barracks, Portsmouth.
 Pte R. J. Seddon, 5th Royal Sussex Regiment, now at Rye.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

HONORARY MEMBERS' INTEREST.

A meeting of the Bristol Branch was held at Abbots Leigh on Saturday last. At half-past three the bells were raised, and started to Grandsire Doubles, Bob Minor and Kent Treble Bob Minor following until 5 o'clock, when service was held in the church, the Rev. F. B. Brinkley (an honorary member) officiating. After service, the party, which numbered 23, and included visitors from Newport (Mon.), Bath, and Caversham, adjourned to tea at the George Inn, where a splendid spread was awaiting them.

At the business meeting which followed, two new members were elected, one of whom was the first young lady to join the branch.—It was decided to hold the next meeting at Dyrham, on July 15th.

Other items brought forward for discussion were quickly dealt with, and the ringers, once more visited the tower and indulged in further ringing until about eight o'clock, when the bells were lowered, and the company dispersed.

The presence of the Archdeacon of Bristol was hoped for at this meeting, but previous arrangements necessitated his presence elsewhere. It is a most gratifying feature to find honorary members expressing a wish to attend some of the meetings other than at their own churches. At Bitton, in May, the branch was favoured with a visit from the Rev. G. H. Willmott Elwell (Vicar of St. George, Bristol), who brought his party of lady handbell ringers by motor, and then in like manner, later in the evening, landed them at the residence of the Rev. H. A. Cockey, where the young ladies greatly delighted the party there with some selections on the Rev. H. A. Cockey's fine peal of handbells. It is felt that by such practical interest as this from honorary members the association will make progress and keep on the right track.

A YORKSHIRE VETERAN.

The death has occurred at Kildwick, Yorks, of Mr. Wm. Birch Holmes, the oldest resident of the village. He was in his 89th year, and in his younger days took a great interest in ringing. Advancing years had caused him to give up ringing for some time past, the last occasion on which he handled a rope being at a period when the then Kildwick ringers, several years ago, went on strike. The deceased was for many years village postmaster, a position previously occupied by his father, the business being in the family for over 40 years, and being carried on in the same cottage during the whole of that period. During the quarter of a century that Mr. Holmes trudged the steep lanes, within sound of Kildwick Church bells, to deliver his letters, it is estimated that he travelled over 60,000 miles. For over 66 years Mr. Holmes had been a member of the Ebarocum Lodge of Oddfellows (Keighley), of which he had been for some years a free member. He had served under three postmasters, and had been three times married, and had a family of one son and four daughters. In appreciation of the services of the veteran postman the inhabitants of the district made a presentation to him of a purse of gold on his retirement about seven years ago.

The funeral took place at Kildwick Church on Monday week, and on the preceding day the Kildwick Church ringers rang a muffled peal in the morning and half-muffled in the evening, in memory of their veteran colleague.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday, May 7th, for men's service in the afternoon at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 45 mins.: *Pte S. Meadows (A.S.C.) 1, G. Spencer 2, *E. Newell 3, H. Cook 4, F. Skevington 5, *A. Beckensale 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, *H. Brooks 8. * First quarter in the method.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING 1915.

Compiled by the Committee appointed by the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

| Association. | Treble Bob Maximus. | Stedman and Grandsire Cinques. | Treble Bob and Little Bob Royal. | Stedman and Erin Caters. | Grandsire Caters. | Cambridge Surprise Major. | Guildford and Yorkshire Surprise Major. | Double Norwich Major. | Treble Bob Major. | Plain Bob Major. | Stedman Triples. | Grandsire and Oxford Bob Triples. | Minor. | Doubles. | Total Tower Bell Peals. | Total Handbell Peals. | Total Peals. | Total Points. | Average Points per Peal. |
|--|---------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|---|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|----------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Ancient Society of College Youths | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | 32 | 32'000 |
| Bath and Wells | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 10 | 5'000 |
| Bedfordshire | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 59 | 29'500 |
| Central Northants | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 65 | 10'833 |
| Chester Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 21 | 7'000 |
| Cleveland and North Yorkshire | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 46 | 5'111 |
| Dudley and Districts | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 10 | 10'000 |
| Durham and Newcastle | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 100 | 14'285 |
| Ely Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 42 | 5'250 |
| Essex County | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 42 | 21'000 |
| Gloucester and Bristol | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 102 | 11'333 |
| Hereford Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 9 | 3'000 |
| Kent County | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 54 | 9'000 |
| Ladies' Guild | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7 | 7'000 |
| Lancashire | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 27 | 331 |
| Lincoln Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 31 | 15'500 |
| Llandaff Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 | 6'333 |
| Middlesex County | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 21 | 494 |
| Midland Counties | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 22 | 290 |
| North Notts | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 | 5'800 |
| North Wales | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7 | 7'000 |
| Norwich Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | 29 |
| Oxford Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 | 55 |
| Royal Society of Cumberland Youths | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 6 | 78 |
| St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 14 | 398 |
| Salisbury Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 3 |
| Salop Archidiaconal | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7 | 45 |
| Archdeaconry of Stafford | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7 | 161 |
| Surrey | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 56 |
| Sussex County | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 6 | 62 |
| Warwickshire | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 4 | 76 |
| Winchester Diocesan | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 10 | 11 |
| Worcester and Districts | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 9 | 24 |
| Yorkshire | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 15 | 211 |
| Independent Societies | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 69 | 6'900 |
| TOTALS | 2 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 5 | 13 | 10 | 28 | 38 | 32 | 16 | 173 | 86 | 259 | 3531 | 13'633 |

(a) Grandsire.

(b) Little Bob.

(c) Erin.

(d) Guildford.

(e) Yorkshire.

(f) 1 Oxford Bob.

HANDBELL PEALS.

| | Stedman Cinques. | Plain Bob Royal. | Stedman Caters. | Grandsire Caters. | Treble Bob Major. | Plain Bob Major. | Stedman Triples. | Grandsire Triples. | Minor. | Doubles. | Total. |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------|----------|--------|
| Ancient Soc. of Col. Youths | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Central Northants Assn. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| Chester Diocesan Guild | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Cleveland and North Yorks | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 7 |
| Durham & Newcastle Assn. | — | 2 | 1 | — | — | 3 | — | — | — | — | 6 |
| Ely Diocesan Association | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 8 |
| Essex County Assn. | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Lincoln Diocesan Guild | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 2 |
| Middlesex County Assn. | 7 | 1 | 7 | — | — | 2 | 1 | 2 | — | — | 20 |
| Midland Counties Assn. | — | 1 | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 |
| North Notts Association | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 5 |
| Royal Cumberland Youths | — | 1 | — | — | — | 5 | — | — | — | — | 6 |
| Surrey Association | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Winchester Diocesan Guild | — | — | 3 | — | — | 1 | 2 | 4 | — | — | 10 |
| Worcestershire & Dists. | — | — | — | 3 | 1 | 1 | — | 3 | 1 | — | 9 |
| Yorkshire Association | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Independent Societies | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 3 |
| Total | 8 | 5 | 12 | 6 | 1 | 13 | 4 | 14 | 20 | 3 | 86 |

The 10 peals rung by Independent Societies were thus distributed: Derbyshire, 2; Gloucestershire, 3; Hants, 1; Warwickshire, 1; Ireland, 3.

The 21 peals of Treble Bob were rung as follows: In the Kent Variation; Maximus, 2; Royal, 3; Major, 14. In the Oxford Variation; Royal, 2.

The 51 peals of Grandsire Triples may be sub-divided as follows: Holt's Original, 6; Holt's 10-part and variations, 10; Parker's 12-part, 13; Parker's 6-part, 3; Carter's 12-part, 3; Taylor's peals, 4; Hollis' peals, 2; Day's 6-part, 2; Moorhouse's peals, 2; other peals, 6.

The 29 peals in Plain Methods comprised: Bob Royal, 5; Bob Major, 23; Oxford Bob Triples, 1.

The 32 peals of Stedman Triples were: Thurstons' 4-part and variations, 19; Washbrook's peals, 5; Carter's No. 35, 3; by Sir A. P. Heywood, Lates and Lindoff, one peal each, 3; and unnamed, 2.

The 19 peals of Doubles are shown in the following statement:

| Association | No. of Methods | | | | Total |
|------------------------------|----------------|---|---|---|-------|
| Bath and Wells | 1 | 2 | 3 | — | 1 |
| Cleveland and N. Yorks | 3 | — | — | — | 3 |
| Hereford Diocesan | 3 | — | — | — | 3 |
| Midland Counties | — | 1 | — | — | 1 |
| Salisbury Diocesan | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| Salop Archidiaconal | 1 | — | — | — | 1 |
| Sussex County | 4 | — | — | — | 4 |
| Worcestershire & Dists. | 1 | — | 1 | — | 2 |
| Independent Societies | 1 | 2 | — | — | 3 |
| Total | 15 | 3 | 1 | — | 19 |

The number of peals rung on Church bells was 173; and on handbells, 86. Owing to the continuance of the war, there has been a great drop in the number of peals rung; the total being 259 only, compared with 2359 for 1913, and 1415 for 1914, when the war stopped peal ringing in the latter months.

The peals rung month by month in 1914 and 1915 are appended for purposes of comparison:—

| | 1914. | 1915. | | 1914. | 1915. |
|-----------------------------|-------|-------|-----------------|-------|-------|
| January..... | 211 | 26 | July | 121 | 10 |
| February | 216 | 16 | August | 63 | 21 |
| March | 143 | 19 | September | 26 | 18 |
| April | 183 | 29 | October | 21 | 19 |
| May | 189 | 24 | November | 37 | 27 |
| June | 187 | 18 | December | 18 | 32 |
| Jan. to June .. | 1129 | 132 | July to Dec. .. | 286 | 127 |
| Total for the year 1914 ... | 1415 | | | | |
| Total for the year 1915 ... | 259 | | | | |
| being a decrease of ... | 1156 | | | | |

The total number of peals, whether on tower bells or handbells rung year by year since 1881, is as follows:—

| | | | | |
|----------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1881...156 | 1889...797 | 1897... 905 | 1905...1519 | 1913...2359 |
| 1882...244 | 1890...699 | 1898...1002 | 1906...1313 | 1914...1415 |
| 1883...330 | 1891...878 | 1899... 912 | 1907...1339 | 1915... 259 |
| 1884...419 | 1892...802 | 1900... 924 | 1908...1474 | |
| 1885...500 | 1893...705 | 1901...1194 | 1909...1628 | |
| 1886...556 | 1894...859 | 1902...1313 | 1910...1725 | |
| 1887...646 | 1895...766 | 1903...1469 | 1911...1739 | |
| 1888...759 | 1896...791 | 1904...1512 | 1912...2329 | |
| Grand Total, 36,237. | | | | |

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1915.

The Analysis Committee find themselves in some difficulty with regard to their work this year, as to the form in which the Analysis and Report should be presented to the Central Council. It is evident that, under present circumstances, all idea of competition is out of the question. The committee have, therefore, arranged the Societies in alphabetical order, and as the status of peals on tower bells and on handbells is so different, it has been thought better to give a separate analysis of each. In these circumstances the peal values might, perhaps, have been dispensed with, but the committee have decided to include them rather than interrupt further the continuity of the analysis in its accustomed form.

The total number of peals on tower bells in 1915 was 173, of which 79 were rung with the bells muffled. For Church Festivals, Institutions, etc., ten peals were rung; for weddings, eight; for the King's and other public birthdays, 11; Empire and Coronation Days, 5; peals arranged for service members (Navy and Army), 6; farewell peals, 4; Quarterly Association peals, 3; Anniversaries 3; one peal was rung in honour of King Albert, and one for the success in South Africa. First peals on the bells were 9, and first after restoration 3, of which 6 appear under other heads. For the remaining 36 no special reasons are given. The number of peals on tower bells and handbells combined was only 259, a smaller number than in any year since 1882.

Sixty-nine ringers are stated to have rung their first peal; first away from the tenor, 3; first with a bob bell, 12; first peal as conductor, 8; and one first peal by a local band is recorded.

The conductors of four peals and over are as follows:—W. Shepherd, 11 peals, all on handbells; J. D. Johnson (H.B. 6), A. H. Pulling (H.B. 8), and S. H. Symonds (H.B. 8), 8 peals; J. E. Groves, W. Pye (H.B. 6) and G. F. Swann, 6 peals; J. R. Barton (H.B. 5), and E. Morris, 5 peals; T. Baldwin, F. H. Dexter, J. A. Goffton (H.B. 4), S. Grove, A. Knights (H.B. 2), B. Knights, C. R. Lilley, J. Potter and E. Wightman (H.B. 4), 4 peals each. There were also five conductors of 3 peals, 25 of two peals and 95 of one peal. Two ladies appear as conductors in 1915, viz.: Miss Doris Coles, who at 15 years of age, conducted a peal of Grandsire Triples for the Ladies' Guild at Portishead, and Miss E. M. Johnson, who conducted a peal of Grandsire Triples on handbells for the Worcestershire and Districts Association.

(Signed)—

E. W. CARPENTER, Boothby Pagnell Rectory, Grantham.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN, 11, Shobnall Street, Burton-on-Trent.
ARTHUR T. KING, 1, Southsea Terrace, Southsea.
GEORGE WILLIAMS, West End, Southampton.

RINGING AT PORTSMOUTH.

On Saturday week, at the Church of St. Thomas-a-Beckett, Portsmouth, a combined practice was held, with the bells deeply muffled, as a token of respect to Lord Kitchener and the men who lost their lives in the naval battle off Jutland, and also to the men of H.M.S. Hampshire, who were drowned. Touches in the following methods were brought round: Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob and Bob Major, the following members participating: Messrs. G. Williams and W. Tucker (North Stoneham), G. Conduit (Holy Road, Southampton), J. H. Shepherd (Swindon), Rev. E. Banks James, and friends (Lee-on-the-Solent), Messrs. E. J. Harding, J. Harris, J. Symons, W. Wheeler, C. Creasy (St. Mary's, Portsea) and R. Davies and F. A. Burneth (St. Thomas', Portsmouth).

DEATH OF MR. FRED RUMENS. WALTHAMSTOW SOCIETY'S LOSS.

The St. Mary's, Walthamstow, Society, has sustained an irreparable loss by the death of Mr. Frederick Rumens, who died on Tuesday, June 13th, at the age of 58. During the last three or four years he had suffered poor health, owing to kidney trouble, and recently complications set in, causing his death.

His remains were laid to rest on Saturday last under the shadow of the tower, where he had spent the greater portion of his ringing career, and the funeral was attended by a large number of ringers and friends, who, besides many members of the local band, included Mr. W. M. Beck, churchwarden and an hon. member of the St. Mary's Society; Mr. J. Wilkins, senr., hon. secretary; Messrs. A. Hughes, A. A. Hughes, C. F. Winney, W. D. Smith, J. C. Adams, and W. A. Alps, representing the Ancient Society of College Youths; Mr. C. T. Coles and Lance-Corpl. W. J. Kemp, representing the Middlesex County Association; Gunner H. Rumens, representing the Essex Association; Messrs. T. Watson, R. K. Knight, W. B. Manning, I. G. Shade, G. T. Clayton, A. S. Waddington, H. Stubbs, Pte J. Smith, etc.

The first portion of the service was held in St. Mary's Church, the Vicar (the Rev. H. D. Lampen) giving a short address, in which he spoke of the great amount of work the late Mr. Rumens had done for the St. Mary's Society during the many years he had been with them. The coffin was carried to the grave by four brother ringers, and at the conclusion of the service a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells by Messrs. R. Maynard, junr., W. D. Smith, C. F. Winney and H. T. Scarlett.

Afterwards, in the tower, a touch of 483 Stedman Caters was rung with the bells half-muffled, by a band representing the College Youths, Kent, Essex, and Middlesex Associations, as follows: W. D. Smith 1, Lance-Corporal W. J. Kemp 2, A. A. Hughes 3, I. G. Shade 4, C. F. Winney 5, W. A. Alps 6, Gunner H. Rumens 7, R. Maynard, junr. (conductor) 8, H. T. Scarlett 9, A. Chapman 10; and, later in the day, the local ringers, assisted by one or two friends, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes), in 57 minutes, as a last token of respect. In this the following took part: A. Chapman 1, W. B. Manning 2, H. T. Scarlett 3, I. G. Shade 4, R. Maynard senr., 5, J. C. Adams 6, R. Maynard, junr. (conductor) 7, F. C. Maynard 8, C. T. Coles 9, H. C. Stubbs 10.

Among the very large number of floral tributes sent were wreaths from the St. Mary's Society of Change Ringers; Mr. J. Wilkins and family; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wilkins and family; Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Manning; Mr. T. Watson and Miss Watson; Mr. A. T. King, I.S.O., President of the Middlesex County Association; Walthamstow Conservative Club; Colleagues in the Comptroller's Dept., L.C.C.; teachers, Cranbrook Road Girls' School, etc.

The late Mr. Rumens commenced his ringing career at the Church of St. John at Hackney, and up to the day of his death remained a member of the Hackney Society, a period of 40 years. Part of this time, however, was spent in S.E. London, where he regularly rang at St. Mary's, Lewisham, and at Camberwell, and he was hon. secretary of the Trinity Youths before that society became merged into the Kent County Association. In 1892 he joined the St. Mary's, Walthamstow, ringers, and has been an active member ever since, during the last seven years being assistant hon. secretary to the society, an office which he filled in a most efficient manner, the whole of the secretarial work, owing to various reasons, falling upon his shoulders.

A complete list of his peals is not available, but he rang his first at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, on March 3rd, 1878, the method being Grandsire Triples, and the conductor, the late Mr. J. Pettit. This peal was one of many, which he rang for the Ancient Society of College Youths, of which he was a member since he began ringing. He joined the Middlesex County Association soon after that society was formed and rang in the first peal of Stedman Triples for that Association, besides ten others in later years. He rang in several peals in the Greenwich and Lewisham districts for the Kent County Association, and also in four of the Essex Association. He was also a member of the St. James' Society, and, as stated above, of the late Trinity Youth's Society. He will be greatly missed by the band he has served so faithfully for the past seven years as acting hon. secretary, and of which he was a member for such a long period, during which time he rang for the various services with never-failing regularity, except during the last three or four years since his health began to fail. Only a few weeks ago he attended the annual meeting of the Middlesex Association at West Ealing, meeting, for the last time, many ringing friends of days gone by. R.I.P.

SERVICE TOUCH BY SERVICE RINGERS.

There was a gathering of the clans, so to speak, at St. Mary's Church, Dover, on Sunday, the following members of H.M. Army ringing 180 Stedman Triples for evening service: Gnr. A. H. Pulling, R.G.A., of Guildford (conductor) 1, Gnr. J. J. Hole, R.G.A., of Dunster, 2, Lance-Corpl. R. H. Stevens, Kent Cyclists, of Dover, 3, Pte J. Thomas, Royal Fusiliers, of Edmonton, 4, Q.-M.-S. J. Whitehead, R.A.M.C., of Teddington, 5, Spr. C. R. Walker, Royal Engineers, of Acton, 6, C.-S.-M. J. R. Mackman, East Surrey Regiment, of Acton, 7, Pte J. E. Titmarsh, East Surrey Regt., of Hertford, 8.

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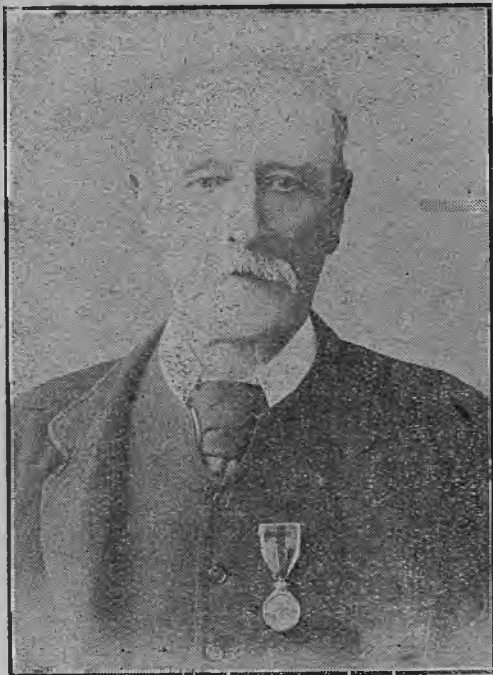
DEATH OF MR. A. HAYWARD.

A PAST MASTER OF THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

We deeply regret to announce the death of a highly respected member and past master of the College Youths, Mr. Arthur Hayward, who, at the advanced age of 84 years, passed away suddenly from cardiac failure, at his residence, 3, Princes Square, Kennington, S.E., on Whit-Monday. By his death another of the "old school," who put striking before everything, and who, in their day, made ringing history, has been removed from our midst, and that fast dwindling band of famous London ringers, which included Cox, Haley, Pettit, Wood, Hayes and others well known a generation ago, is still further depleted.

The late Mr. Hayward's ringing career commenced through his early association with the late Mr. Matt. Wood on the cricket field, for both were keen cricketers. Matt. at that time was equally keen on ringing, and he soon roused in his friend of the cricket field enthusiasm for the fascinating pastime of the belfry, and for 50 years "Old Matt." and "Joe" Hayward, enjoyed a close friendship.

Mr. Hayward joined the College Youths in 1864, and on November 18th, 1865, he rang his first peal, the tenor, to Stedman Triples at Bethnal Green, conducted by the late Mr. William Cooter, the band being: H. Haley 1, W. Cooter 2, J. Pettit 3, M. A. Wood 4, H. Boswell 5, J. M. Hayes 6, W. Rose 7, A. Haywood 8. Mr. Hayward was usually to be found at the heavy end, and the band of that day always welcomed him in a peal, especially when there was a tenor that



THE LATE MR. ARTHUR HAYWARD.

"wanted ringing." In July, 1872, Mr. Hayward was one of the band of College Youths who rang the first peal in Ireland. This was at Christ Church Cathedral, Waterford, Mr. James Pettit calling Holt's Original, and the company being: W. Cooter 1, J. Pettit 2, J. R. Haworth 3, G. A. Muskett 4, C. Lee 5, M. A. Wood 6, A. Hayward 7, W. Greenleaf 8. Of this band only Mr. C. Lee, who still rings at St. Paul's Cathedral, and Mr. W. Greenleaf survive.

In 1874-5 Mr. Hayward served in the office of Master of the College Youths. He assisted in the formation of the Yorkshire Association, and took part in its first peal, on November 9th, 1875, at Holy Trinity, Hull. This was Holt's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, rung by E. Prince 1, G. Harrison 2, T. Jackson 3, H. Jenkins 4, W. Southwick 5, C. Jackson (conductor) 6, A. Hayward 7, H. Eastwood 8. Mr. Hayward's last peal was Holt's Original, by the St. James' Society, at Pinner, Middlesex, on December 14th, 1889, conducted by his old friend Richard French. In addition to the College Youths, the Yorkshire Association and the St. James' Society, Mr. Hayward was a member of the Waterloo Society, and he had rung altogether 96 peals made up as follows: Grandsire Triples 63, Grandsire Major 2, Grandsire Caters 11, Stedman Triples 15, Stedman Caters 4, Stedman Cinques 1.

Mr. Hayward was at one time one of the ringers at Westminster Abbey, and in that capacity had the honour of helping to ring the six Abbey bells on the occasion of the Coronation of the late King Edward VII in August, 1902. The other ringers were: J. R. Haworth, Richard French, W. Weatherstone, W. Waghorn, H. Flowers and D. Lovett,

and each received a commemoration medal. Our portrait of Mr. Hayward is reproduced from a photograph taken shortly after the event, and shows him wearing the medal he received. Those who have seen Mr. Hayward recently will notice how little his features changed with his declining years.

The mortal remains of the deceased were buried at Tooting Cemetery on Saturday last.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A very successful and enjoyable meeting of the London County Association was held at All Saints', Edmonton, on Saturday last, the beautiful weather, no doubt, being responsible for bringing members from such distances as Camberwell, Willesden, Brockley, Marylebone, etc., whilst Holborn, Battersea, West Ham, Hammersmith, Islington and Bishopsgate were represented. Touches were rung in the following methods: Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob, and Double Norwich Major, Cambridge, Superlative and London Surprise Major.

At the business meeting held subsequently, Mr. Charles B. Hare, now residing at Tottenham, was elected a member. — A vote of condolence was passed, in silence, with the relatives of the late Mr. F. Rumens, of Walthamstow. — The Hon. Secretary called attention to the serious depletion of ringers owing to the war, and urged those left behind, also young men and women now under instruction, to use their best endeavours to support and increase the circulation of "The Ringing World." The fact of its being the only journal devoted to ringing matters, made it important that every effort should be made to keep it going, as its withdrawal would mean a serious loss to the Exercise.

It was left to the hon. secretary to fix the date of the next meeting, notice of which will appear in "The Ringing World."

A vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, also to Mr. G. Paice, Mr. James Parker and Miss E. K. Parker for their kindness and courtesy in making every arrangement for the comfort of the visitors. — Mr. Parker responded, and remarked that all ringers, of whatever society, were always made welcome at their tower.

MARRIAGE OF THE REV. E. V. COX.

The wedding took place last Tuesday in Bampton (Devon) Parish Church of the Rev. E. V. Cox, assistant curate of the parish, and Miss Gertrude Holmes, second daughter of the Vicar and Mrs. Holmes. The Rev. A. V. Cox, father of the bridegroom, performed the actual ceremony, assisted by the Rev. Fanshawe Bingham, uncle of the bride, whilst the Rev. C. Carew Cox (cousin) acted as best man.

Not only, as is known to many, are the bridegroom and his cousin ringers, but also the father of the bridegroom. The local band rang at intervals during the day. The bridegroom was the recipient of a case of very handsome carvers and steel from the Bampton ringers.

BUSHEY SOCIETY'S OUTING.

On Saturday, June 3rd, the Bushey Parish Church Society held their annual outing. Owing to the Master (Mr. B. Prewett) and others having enlisted, the outing was only a half-day one. The Rector, too, was unable to join the party owing to another engagement, but a few friends and some of the "chips of the old blocks" accompanied the ringers. The journey was made by brake, and took the party through lovely country roads to King's Langley Church, where the fine peal of eight were set going to Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Bob Major. The bells were much admired by everyone. The drive was continued through Apsley and Boxmoor to Berkhamstead, where the visitors were met by some of the local ringers, and Stedman and Grandsire Triples were rung, some of the Berkhamstead ringers taking part in the latter. At the Crown Hotel a splendid tea was ready for the party, who, after the good things had been disposed of, were joined by Mr. Lewis, late of St. Albans, and some handbell ringing was indulged in, and a pleasant time spent with the local men and some of the Tring ringers. A start was then made for home, which was reached soon after ten o'clock, everyone expressing themselves very pleased with the outing, and hoping that all the "boys" would soon be home again with us. The ringers wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Vicars of Berkhamstead and King's Langley for the use of the bells and the sextons for having everything ready for them.

PEAL BOARD UNVEILED.

In the tower of St. Mary's, Otlands, Surrey, on Sunday evening last, the Vicar (the Rev. J. Vere Leigh) unveiled a peal board recording the first peal rung on the bells. The board is a gift from Mr. Ferris Shepherd, senr., who made and wrote it himself. A numerous company was present, when the Vicar, after a few prayers, spoke of the good work done by ringers. Being a new-comer he was glad to find the same spirit prevailing in Otlands and district, as he had found elsewhere. The board records a peal of Bob Major by the Hershman band on Whit-Monday, 1913, conducted by Wm. Shepherd. A portrait of the late Vicar has also been presented to the tower recently.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

LADY HEYWOOD AND ITS ADAPTATION TO CHANGING REQUIREMENTS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I have been touched by the number of votes of sympathy I have received from ringing associations on the death of my husband, Sir Arthur Heywood, for which I have sent my thanks privately.

I have noticed with concern a certain number of expressions of dissatisfaction in "The Ringing World" about the status and work of the Central Council of Church Bellringers. It strikes me forcibly that those who find fault with it should try, as far as in them lies, to amend, not to end it.

I know Sir Arthur felt strongly that a Central Council was a necessity if the art of change ringing and the position of ringers as church officers are to be maintained on a permanent basis. We are living in an age of changes on all sides, and of necessity, as time goes on, alterations and adaptations are needed. If these are wisely and carefully considered and acted on with a view to strengthening the representative character and usefulness of the Central Council, I personally shall feel that Sir Arthur's 25 years of work in trying to make it a living organisation has not been in vain.—Yours faithfully,

MARGARET G. HEYWOOD.

Dove Leys, Rocester, Staffs,
June 15th, 1916.

THE COUNCIL'S REAL WORK.

REV. H. LAW JAMES AND THE VALUE OF THE DISCUSSIONS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I have been a member of the Central Council now for eighteen years, a member of the Legitimate Methods Committee ever since it was appointed, and a member of the Standing Committee for a considerable time, and I think that I know something about the working of the Council and the real use it has been to the Exercise, and I am not at all pleased with the kind of destructive criticism which has appeared in "The Ringing World" lately.

By all means let us improve the Council if we can, but in order to do so we must get a clear understanding of the real state of affairs, or we shall do more harm than good.

The Exercise is apt to judge the Council by the discussions which take place at the meeting, and many members of the Council also make the same mistake; they come to a meeting, and, after the minutes have been read, come a number of reports from different committees, which take up a considerable time, and are passed over as being rather dull and uninteresting. Then comes what the bulk of the members and the outside public look upon as the business of the meeting, whereas nine times out of ten the business of the meeting is really over, for those reports represent the real work of the Council, and if the Exercise want to know what use the Council is, let them look at its list of publications, and if they want value for their money which is spent on the Council let them buy those publications which are published at a price which would be quite impossible but for the subscriptions of the various Associations.

Then I turn to the latter part of the meeting which has been represented as a discussion about the difference between tweedle-dum and tweedle-dee.

There have been long discussions about the nature of a method, and I can quite understand that the average ringer thinks these discussions quite useless, because he cannot understand them, but they have really been of very great value, and if he wants to know their practical value let him get the "Collection of Minor Methods" and ask himself if that collection is worth ninepence. Well, sir, but for those discussions that collection would either not exist, or it would be full of useless figures. Since it was published the Plain Major methods have been collected and a selection made from them, which but for the war would have been published a year ago, and Treble Bob methods are in hand, and will be ready some day; these things are the result of discussions which to the man who does not understand them must appear like the difference between tweedle-dum and tweedle-dee.

Finally, let me say that if we are to make progress we must build upon what has been done already; the mistake some people have made has been to try and upset reports already accepted. That does lead to useless discussion and waste the time of the Council; we must not

debate the same thing over and over again. No report is perfect, and while I never did agree with some of the conclusions of the "report on calls," I realise that it has been accepted, and that any attempt to upset it will only interfere with the "Collection of Peals," and I would plead with members of the Council who do not agree with the report on methods to leave it alone and let us go on with the practical work of publishing methods instead of having to waste time in fighting for the methods report, which, if not perfect, is a very good foundation to work upon.

H. LAW JAMES.

DEATH OF MR. SALMON, OF KENDAL.

We regret to record the death of Mr. James Salmon, which took place at his residence, Grayrigg Bank, Kendal, on May 29th, after an illness of three months.

Deceased, who was 72 years of age, had been an official ringer at the Kendal Parish Church for 44 years, and a member of the Furness Branch of the Lancashire Association since its formation in 1905. He had taken part in several peals of Grandsire, both Triples and Caters, and was known as a sound, steady ringer, and a man who won the respect of everyone he came in contact with, both in business and private life. His loss is deeply felt locally, and will be regretted by many friends in Lancashire, where he was a regular attendant at the Association annual meetings during the past ten years.

The interment took place at the Kendal Cemetery on June 1st, and was attended by many relatives and friends, whilst the ringers paid their last tribute to his memory with a full muffled touch during the passing of the cortege, and a half-muffled touch rung in the evening, while four of their number acted as bearers to the graveside.

COMING-OF-AGE FESTIVITIES.

On Friday evening, June 2nd, at St. Nicolas' Church, North Stoneham, Hants, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung, and the bells "fired" in honour of the coming-of-age of Second-Lieut. J. B. F. Willis-Fleming, son and heir of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. A. Willis-Fleming, of North Stoneham Park. The ringers taking part were: Messrs. C. J. May, E. Munday, W. Rowe, senr., A. Marks, W. G. Edwards, W. T. Tucker, W. H. George, E. Dumper, G. Williams, Pte A. Jones (A.S.C.), and Gunner A. Stubbington, R.G.A.

At the supper which followed, the loyal toasts were honoured, and the health of Lieut. Fleming was most enthusiastically drunk, hopes being expressed that he would be spared to return. Unfortunately his duties prevented him being present at the festive gathering. The toast of "The Rector and Mrs. Arnold" was also honoured, the party breaking up just before midnight, when all returned to their various domiciles by motor-cars kindly provided by the squire, who was thanked for his great kindness in entertaining the ringers.

The estate employed were given a holiday in connection with the celebration, which, but for the war, would have been on an extensive scale. The Flemings have been familiar in Southampton history since the 13th century, some as sheriffs and many as Members for the borough. One, Solicitor-General in Queen Elizabeth's time, was afterwards Lord Chief Justice. He it was who purchased the Stoneham estate in 1607 from the third Earl of Southampton. He was also connected with the Isle of Wight, and there is a statue of him of heroic size in Newport Guildhall. Second-Lieut. Fleming, whose mother was a daughter of the late Admiral Sir Augustus Phillimore, of Shedfield, was educated at Winchester and at Christ Church, Oxford. He joined the Hampshire Yeomanry soon after war broke out. Like his father, Second-Lieut. Fleming is a fine horseman and a good shot.

INTERESTING AND VALUABLE RECORDS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Will you allow me, through the medium of your valuable paper, to give my best thanks to the following gentlemen who have enabled me to keep up my acquaintance with the belfry, whilst placed in a rather awkward position out here doing my "bit" for King and country, viz.: Mr. J. Flint, of Bolsover; Mr. H. Haigh, of Worksope; and Messrs. Smith and Lenton, of Cuckney, at which places I have thus been enabled to ring for evening services on Sundays.

I also note Mr. J. Jaggar's remarks on the valuable series of articles on "Bells of English Churches" by our friend, Mr. Jerram, of Salisbury, and those of my unworthy pen, and I must say that these should be encouraged more than in the past, for they are not only of the most valuable antiquarian and historical interest, but also restore and place on record many notable happenings and performances of the past which would otherwise be lost to us, and I quite agree with him that there are many other capable ringers who could, if they only would, give us some really interesting and valuable records on the many and varied phases of our art.—Sincerely yours, Pte ERNEST MORRIS.

27646 Sherwood Foresters, H.M. Factory, Langwith, Derbyshire.

TRING.—On Sunday, May 14th, for evening service, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: F. Filkin 1, F. Reeve 2, H. Lovell 3, A. Tompkins 4, H. Heley 5, O. Bayes 6, Pte Roland Bragg, O.T.C. (conductor) 7, W. Redman 8. The ringer of the 7th is stationed at Berkhamstead with the Officers' Training Corps.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

BY 'BOB MAJOR.'

A paragraph has appeared in some of the papers about a bell, in an East Lancashire town, which has fallen down and, as in the course of two previous wars it has fallen and peace has followed in three months, there are those who are waiting to see if the "spell," or the "charm" or the "fluence," or whatever you like to call it, is going to work again. I am perhaps a bit of a sceptic, and should have thought more of the story had the location been given in more definite terms. "East Lancashire" is a bit vague, but perhaps some of my readers can supply the missing particulars as to which bell in which church in which town has come tumbling down once more to herald peace. We ought to know, because it is of vital importance that we ringers should have early intimation of the coming final vanquishing of the Hun and his allies, for there are ropes to look to and bells to grease in readiness of the greatest "joy" day of all. If we were in some countries, that bell would be held by us all in the greatest veneration, and it is really a shame that we should not be told where it is to be found, so that the lurking suspicion that someone is "pulling our leg" may be removed.

A PROPHETIC BELL.

Here is the paragraph: "A remarkable story is told of a prophetic bell in an East Lancashire town. In the Franco-German War, it is stated, one of the bells in a certain church belfry suddenly and without any warning fell to the floor undamaged. Exactly three months from the date of its fall peace was declared in that war. During the Boer War the same bell came down again, and just three months afterwards peace was declared in that great war. The same bell fell to earth again last week. If the old bell is not on this occasion misinformed, the world war should come to an end about the end of August."

CENSORED!

When I read that paragraph, the maggot bit me, and I pencilled the lines given below. But as they related to a military matter they had to be submitted to censorship (in the editorial department), with the result that my rhyme is not as I intended in should appear. I presume it is because the enemy should not learn where they are likely to finish up:—

Have you heard of that wonderful bell
That the end of a war can foretell?

When it drops without damage
Old Fate seems to manage

To shut down the lid over . . . the strife.

ANOTHER LINK GONE.

Another of those "links with the past," whose disappearance is slowly but surely severing our direct connection with the ringing of half a century ago, has crossed the bourne whence no man returns. Arthur Hayward, familiarly known as "Joe," who in his day was a great man at the heavy end, has passed away. Present-day ringers, perhaps, knew little of him, for it was over 40 years ago that he was Master of the College Youths. But Joe Hayward wore well, and he was over seventy years of age when he took an official part in the Coronation ceremony of King Edward VII, by sharing in the duty of ringing Westminster Abbey bells. He was a remarkably fine striker was Joe, and his peal ringing was done among men who rang, not for the sake of getting the peal, as many do in these days, but for the sake of the striking. One of the peals of which he was proudest, because he considered it the best struck peal in which he ever took part, was a 5091 Stedman Caters rung by the St. James' Society at St. Clement Danes, in the year 1873. It was composed and conducted by John Cox, the band being: John Cox, J. Nelms, G. Stockham, G. Mash, J. R. Haworth, G. Newson, J. Pettit, W. Baron, A. Hayward, and W. Greenleaf. That band was a mixture of the best ability in the College and Cumberland Youths, and if they couldn't strike Stedman Caters, I should like to know who could.

THE BEST FAIL SOMETIMES.

They rang the peal—with a band like that it was as good as done before they went into the tower—and did not belie their reputation like one company I know of. A party were on tour in—well, never mind where; it is sufficient that the facts are true. Eight of them started for Treble Bob Major, and in their case one would have thought the peal as good as rung before they started, except for the formalities. They tapped the bells to perfection, and the odd man standing out held forth in raptures upon the skill of the performers, to the locals who were not well versed in the mysteries of the art. Said the odd man at last: "If there's eight men in this world that can ring Treble Bob they are up in that tower now." Hardly had he got the words out of his mouth when the bells came to a sudden stop, and, though he tried hard, the odd man never really convinced the locals that the best Treble Bob ringers in the world had visited their tower.

A DISAPPEARING BAND.

But this is straying from the recollections of Mr. Hayward. I have no doubt the Editor's obituary notice will do justice to the departed College Youth's performances, but I must just refer to one other noteworthy peal in which Mr. Hayward took part. That was the first peal in Ireland, which, on referring to my scrap book, I see was rung on July 27th, 1872. That band has nearly all left us. Only Charlie Lee and Bill Greenleaf are left. The former we can meet nearly any Sunday at St. Paul's, but what has become of Bill Greenleaf? He

seems to have disappeared from the ringing firmament, yet at one time he was a bright star. And what a wonderful ear he had. Probably no man ever had a better either for tuning a bell or striking a tenor. Of the rest of the band who took part in that memorable performance at Waterford Cathedral none remain, but what men they were, and what service they did to the Exercise in their day and generation: Bill Cooter, Jim Pettit, Bob Haworth, George Muskett, Matt Wood, Joe Hayward! But it only reminds us that sooner or later, Death the Reaper will call "This is all" for each one of us. And the years keep slipping by.

LAPPING.

I see our old friend "Conductor" has, at the request of a correspondent, been describing the process of "lapping." But he only described one form of lapping. There is, or rather was, another, which, I am told by those who ought to know, used sometimes to prevail in the bad old days among ringers. It wasn't done with handbells, and what passed went nearer to the lip than the lap, unless someone knocked the drinker's arm. But I won't go into details on this method of lapping, as "Conductor" did in the process which he described. It would need the poetic pen of a Fussell to do justice to the subject, and someone with more experience than myself. But I did once try lapping a peal with handbells. After about an hour the monotony of it made my head "fuzzy," and I dropped a bell through my knees as the most effective way of putting an end to it. I never realised, till I heard what the other three had got to say about it, how much some people think of a peal. Anyone would have thought I had dropped the crown jewels overboard in mid-channel.

WEDDING BELLS.

At Christ Church, Luton, on Whit-Monday, a pretty wedding was solemnised, the bridegroom being Mr. Harold Blackburn Mason, son of Mr. George Mason, of Doncaster, and Miss Violet Irene, second daughter of Mr. Thomas Blackburne, of Villa Road, Luton, late of Oakham and Salisbury.

As the bride's father is a well-known ringer, a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Triples (1260 changes) was rung after the ceremony in 47 mins., on the Parish Church bells by: J. Shaw 1, J. Rookwood 2, B. Wilson 3, A. King (conductor) 4, W. Payne 5, T. Kendall 6, Pte H. Walker (Beds Regiment) 7, H. Shaw 8.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

FULHAM.—On Sunday, April 30th, at All Saints' Church, for evening service, 1260 Stedman Triples: W. H. Hollier 1, W. A. Garrard 2, A. Cutmore 3, W. E. Garrard 4, A. W. Darlington 5, J. W. Driver 6, H. G. Miles (conductor) 7, F. C. Edwards 8.—On Sunday evening, May 21st, 1280 Double Norwich Major. A. Cutmore 1, W. A. Garrard 2, W. H. Hollier 3, A. W. Darlington 4, H. G. Miles 5, J. W. Driver 6, A. F. Harris 7, W. E. Garrard (conductor) 8.

CANTERBURY.—At Christ Church Cathedral, on May 6th, for King's Coronation, 381 Stedman Caters: Miss Hague 1, Corpl. Buesden, R.E. (conductor) 2, F. G. Brett 3, C. E. Millway 4, Q.-M.-S. Whitehead 5, Rev. F. J. O. Helmore 6, F. Wells 7, Q.-M.-S. Mackman 8, M. W. Pierce 9, G. J. Jenkins 10. Also 301 Stedman Caters, with G. Simpson 10. Conducted by Corpl. Buesden. The band wish to congratulate Miss Hague on the able manner in which she rang, it being the first time she had rung Caters.

GREAT MALVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, May 7th, for morning service, at the Priory Church, to commemorate St. George's Day and the tercentenary of Shakespeare, 336 Double Norwich: H. Chance 1, E. Gibbs 2, E. E. Barber 3, F. Stanton 4, F. Bryan 5, C. Camm 6, H. T. Knowles 7, R. G. Knowles 8; also touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, in which W. Ranford and R. McCann took part. For evening service, at St. Matthias's Church, Malvern Link, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. Chance 1, C. Camm 2, W. Ranford 3, E. E. Barber 4, F. Bryan 5, F. Stanton 6, R. G. Knowles 7, A. Rickings 8. Conducted by R. G. Knowles.

NEWPORT, MON.—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—At All Saints' Church, on Sunday, May 7th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: T. Ford 1, J. Bullen 2, M. Selby 3, *G. S. Burley 4, H. Morgan 5, C. Greedy (conductor) 6, J. W. Jones 7, *G. Williams 8. * First quarter-peal. Rung for evening service, and as a birthday compliment to C. Greedy.

STANSTED, ESSEX.—On Thursday, May 11th, at the Parish Church, 240 Grandsire Doubles: W. W. Watts 1, G. Gray 2, H. G. Watts (age 15), first touch, 3, A. Jordan 4, W. Watts (conductor) 5, R. Law 6.—On Sunday, May 14th, for morning service 308 Grandsire Triples: W. W. Watts 1, G. Gray 2, T. J. Watts 3, R. Law 4, W. E. Carr 5, A. Jordan 6, W. Watts (conductor) 7, H. W. Watts 8.

BARKING, ESSEX.—At St. Margaret's Church, on Sunday morning, May 14th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: C. Fenn (conductor) 1, James Carrier 2, W. G. Jackson (Royal Flying Corps) 3, A. J. Neale 4, A. C. Hardy 5, E. Andrews 6, R. J. Fenn 7, D. Carrier 8. The ringer of the second, for whom this was arranged, hails from Vancouver, British Columbia, and is serving in the Canadian Artillery, now training in the old country.—On Sunday morning, May 28th, 1260 Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: Caleb Fenn (conductor) 1, J. Waghorn, senr., 2, A. Worboys 3, A. J. Neale 4, A. C. Hardy 5, G. W. Faulkner 6, R. Sanders 7, R. J. Fenn 8.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

NEWPORT.—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—At St. Woolos' Church, Newport, Mon., on Sunday, May 14th, for evening service, and to celebrate the 65th birthday of the conductor who has been a regular ringer at St. Woolos' for 30 years, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: R. L. Lovel 1, F. Atwell 2, H. Weston 3, J. Goddard 4, J. Butler 5, W. Phillips 6, J. Pippin 7, F. Stansbury 8.

STREATHAM.—At St. Leonard's Church, on Sunday, May 14th, for evening service, a 504 Grandsire Triples: S. Greenwood (conductor) 1, G. Badrington 2, J. C. Mitchell 3, H. Pates 4, C. Lewry 5, L. Attwater 6, I. J. Attwater 7, H. Smith 8. Rung in honour of the 62nd anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. S. Greenwood's wedding.

HILLINGDON EAST, MIDDLESEX.—A quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1241 changes) was rung for the evening service at St. John's Church on Sunday, May 15th: Miss Edith Jones (West Ealing) 1, Geo. H. Guttridge 2, J. J. Pratt (conductor) 3, Wm. Lawrence 4, P. Jones 5, W. Henley 6, E. Hancox 7, A. Harding 8, H. H. Chandler 9, W. Honor 10. This was the first quarter-peal of Caters rung by Miss Jones, for whom it was specially arranged.

STOKE-IN-COVENTRY.—Warwickshire Guild.—On Monday, May 15th, in 47 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. J. Balcombe 1, W. J. Smith (conductor) 2, E. Johnson 3, H. Kettle 4, J. Herron 5, W. Cox 6, C. Freeman 7, A. Clements (first quarter) 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of Mr. J. Allen, a sidesman of the church, who was interred on this day.

HARBORNE.—At St. Peter's Church, on Sunday, May 21st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (from Biddlestone's): J. Such 1, A. T. Hyland 2, A. J. Cartwright 3, H. Grosvenor (conductor) 4, G. Hitchman 5, A. Pratt 6, A. Beacham 7, A. Price 8. Rung as a farewell to W. H. Keys, who was about to join the colours, but who was unable to take part in the ringing.

LEEK, STAFFS.—At St. Edward's Parish Church, on Sunday, May 21st, 576 Stedman Triples: J. Rider 1, A. Coppock (conductor), Nottingham, 2, F. Spilsbury 3, J. Newall 4, F. White 5, E. Sharratt 6, E. A. Ridgway 7, Pte J. Goodwin, R.W.F., 8.

COTGRAVE, NOTTS.—On Empire Day, May 24th, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: W. Clarke 1, W. Hickling 2, Rev. C. J. Atherton 3, Walter White (conductor) 4, William E. White 5, Thos. Squires 6.

BEDFORD.—At St. Peter's Church, on May 27th, touches of London, Durham, Wells, and Chester Surprise Minor.—On Sunday, May 28th, for morning and evening service, 720 Wells Surprise Minor and touches of Munden, Surfleet, Canterbury, York, Beverley, Newcastle, Stamford Lancashire, Carlisle and Cambridge. The ringers were: L. Harlow, A. Robinson, C. W. Clarke, W. Stapleton, Miss E. Steele, Miss D. Steel and W. Perkins. Arranged for W. Perkins, of Irthlingboro'.

WEST EALING.—On May 26th, at St. Stephen's Church, in honour of Her Majesty's birthday, 504 Grandsire Triples: J. Hunnisett 1, J. Fruin 2, J. Barrett (Willesden) 3, A. W. Davis 4, R. Holloway 5, G. Kilby (Willesden) 6, W. Lawrence (conductor) 7, C. Edwards 8.

BROMLEY, KENT.—At SS. Peter and Paul's Church, on Sunday, May 28th for evening service, 1280 Superlative Surprise Major, in 46 mins.: G. Durling 1, A. J. Neale 2, W. Hewett 3, I. Emery 4, E. Andrews 5, G. W. Faulkner 6, R. Sanders 7, A. C. Hardy (cond.) 8.

ACTON, MIDDLESEX.—For the evening service, on Sunday, May 28th, 518 Grandsire Triples: A. E. Smith 1, W. Phillips 2, Miss Edith Jones 3, R. Holloway 4, J. Fruin 5, C. Edwards 6, W. Lawrence (conductor) 7, J. J. Gray 8.

WORCESTER.—On Sunday, May 28th, for evening service, at All Saints' Church, by the resuscitated society of All Saints' Youths, 471 Grandsire Caters and 500 Bob Royal; also a course of Stedman Caters: B. Thorpe (Ashton-under-Lyne) assisting, and the following members taking part: J. Woodyatt, W. Lewis, G. Hinton, senr., G. Hinton, junr., C. Jones, J. Brettel, W. Powell, W. Page, W. Edgington, G. Checketts and E. Watkins, the Grandsire Caters being conducted by B. Thorpe, and the Bob Royal by W. Page. Longest touch of Grandsire by J. Woodyatt and W. Lewis, and longest touch of Royal by G. Hinton, junr., J. Brettel, W. Edgington and E. Watkins.

WICKHAM, HANTS.—On May 28th, for morning service, at the Parish Church, 720 Bob Minor: W. Churcher 1, W. Singleton 2, G. E. Chappell 3, N. Welch 4, H. Smith 5, G. Williams (conductor) 6. Also Kent Treble Bob, in which Mr. J. H. Sheppard, of Swindon, took part.

DORCHESTER.—Salisbury Guild.—On June 4th at St. Peter's Church, an attempt for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples came to grief in the last two changes: J. T. Godwin 1, Miss Alice White 2, C. H. Jennings 3, T. Page 4, T. Woolley 5, Gunner T. H. Hardy (R.G.A.) 6, W. J. Bengier (conductor) 7, W. S. Collins 8. Miss White hails from Basingstoke, Gunner Hardy from Leicester (stationed at Weymouth). Rung as a welcome home to Mr. Jennings (the hon. secretary of the Dorchester Branch).

WORSLEY, LANCs.—On June 4th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman (1260 changes), in 47 mins., for the anniversary service: J. H. Ridyard 1, J. Lowe 2, W. Jones 3, W. Oakes 4, F. Grundy 5, P. Derbyshire 6, Joseph Ridyard (conductor) 7, W. Grundy 8.

ACTON.—On June 4th, for morning service, 1260 Stedman Triples: W. E. Garrard 1, A. Outmore 2, J. W. Fruin 3, R. Holloway 4, J. H. Payno 5, W. A. Garrard (first quarter as conductor) 6, W. Lawrence 7, 2nd Air Mechanic V. Holloway 8.

NOTICES.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Oswaldtwistle on Saturday, June 24th, 1916. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—The quarterly meeting announced for June 24th at Crowle is cancelled.—R. G. Knowles, Branch Secretary, Madresfield, Malvern.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A practice meeting will be held at Dagenham on Saturday, June 24th, 1916. Bells available from 3 p.m. All will be welcome.—E. J. Butler, Chadwell Heath.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Maurice's Hall, Winchester, on Saturday, June 24th, at 2 p.m. Service at the Cathedral 4 p.m. Preacher (The Master) Rev. C. E. Matthews. Tea at 5 p.m.—George Williams, Hon. General Secretary, West End, Southampton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The adjourned annual meeting will be held at Derby on Saturday, June 24th, for the election of a president, etc. Committee meeting in St. Andrew's Schoolroom at 4.15, followed by general meeting at 5 p.m. No arrangements have been made for tea, but there are numerous cafes in the town. The bells at St. Andrew's will be available for ringing from 2 until 8 o'clock, excepting during the time of the meeting. Nominations for the presidency, signed by two members of the association, should reach me not later than first post on Saturday, June 24th.—W. E. White, Hon. Secretary.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Coaley on June 24th. Bells (6) open from 3 p.m. Tea 5. Visitors heartily welcomed. Kindly notify by June 21st to W. A. Lewis, Hon. Sec., Ham, Berkeley, Glos.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The annual meeting will be held at Tamworth on Saturday, June 24th. Bells available at 3. Service in church at 4.45, with an address by the Rev. and Hon. M. Peel (Vicar). Tea (at 5.30), 6d. each, to those who have paid their subscriptions; to others 1s.—H. Knight, Hon. Secretary, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—The church bells will be available for ringing from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday, June 24th. Old and new visitors will be made welcome.—A. Symonds.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY OF CHANGE RINGERS (Established 1623).—The 293rd anniversary of the above society will be held on Tuesday, June 27th. Ringing commences at 9 a.m. All visitors are cordially welcomed.—R. A. Strong, Hon. Secretary.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at North Wingfield on Saturday, July 1st. All ringers welcomed. Will those who intend being present kindly notify Mr. J. P. Tarlton, 16, Bright Street, North Wingfield, not later than Tuesday, June 27th. Clay Cross Station, Midland Railway.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Secretary pro. tem., 29, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Shore Parish Church on Saturday, July 1st. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30. All ringers welcome.—T. K. Driver, Secretary, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting and six-bell contest will be held at Howarth, Saturday, July 1st, 1916. Weight of tenor $12\frac{3}{4}$ cwt. Draw for order of ringing at 3.15 p.m. at the Black Bull Hotel. Entries for the contest to be sent in to me not later than Monday, June 26th, 1916. — F. Salmons, Secretary, 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next monthly meeting of the above society will be held at Rothwell on Saturday, July 1st. Bells available from 4 p.m. Business meeting in the White Swan Hotel at 7.30 p.m. — W. Barton, 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Barlow Moor on Saturday, July 1st. Bells available from 4.30. Meeting at 7. — W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION. — Kettering District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Kettering on July 1st. Bells available 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 (election of district representative). Kindly notify me by Wednesday, June 28th. — Robert F. Turner, District Secretary, 160, St. Peter's Avenue, Kettering.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — South-Eastern Division. — A meeting will be held at Brentwood on Saturday, July 8th, bells available 4 o'clock. Service 5.30. Will all those intending to be present please notify me not later than Wednesday, July 5th. — F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle, Chelmsford.

THE LADIES' GUILD. — The annual meeting will be held at St. Giles', Reading, on Saturday, July 8th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Short service at 4.30. Tea (1s.) at 5.15 at the "Rising Sun" Institute. Will all who intend to be present kindly notify me before July 4th. All ringers welcome. — Edith K. Parker, Honorary Secretary, 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION and LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD. — North and East District. — A meeting will be held at the Church of St. Anne, Highgate, by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. R. Ellershaw, on Saturday, July 8th. Bells available from 3 to 7, business meeting to follow. All members and friends welcome. — C. T. Coles, Honorary Secretary, 49, Wood Street, Walthamstow.

SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD. — The quarterly meeting will be held on July 8th, 1916, at Shifnal, Salop. Ringing at 3 p.m. Belfry prayers at 4 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Meeting after tea. Please reply before July 3rd to Rev. F. Tennison, St. Alkmund's Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The summer festival will be held at Woburn on Saturday, July 15th. — A. Rust, Hon. Secretary.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Archdeaconry of Sudbury. — Owing to the resignation of the Rev. R. L. Gardner as secretary of the above Archdeaconry, Mr. Arthur Symonds, 41, Market Lane, Lavenham, has kindly agreed to act as temporary secretary. — A. E. Austin, Acting General Secretary, 4, Hills View, Great Shelford, Cambs.

PEAL BOOKS. — Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application. — I. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 276. Vol. X.

FRIDAY, JUNE 30th, 1916.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 1d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON CROYDON, Surrey. BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

THE COUNCIL MOVING.

The letter which appears in another column from the honorary secretary of the Central Council will be read with interest. In the first place the general body of the Council will probably find themselves in full agreement with the Standing Committee in changing the place of meeting next year from Plymouth to Gloucester. In normal times the former place would have been a pleasant venue, but a centre within easier reach of the great majority of the members is certainly advisable under existing circumstances, and specially in view of the fact that a large attendance of members is specially desirable at the next meeting, in fact is really essential for the satisfactory transaction of the business.

We are glad to see it thus early announced that the agenda is to include a motion which will enable a discussion to take place "on the subject of the Council's work and any means that may be suggested for increasing its utility and influence." There may be members of the Council who feel that its activities, as at present carried on, need no improvement, but those who are in touch with the real feeling of ringers know that there is in many quarters a sense of dissatisfaction. When the Council gets to the business of discussing its own position it will have the opportunity either of showing that this feeling is without foundation or of demonstrating that it is ready not only to continue upon the principles upon which it was founded, but to adapt itself to meet the changing conditions. Now that it is definitely known that the question of increasing the Council's utility and the scope of its work will be discussed, it is for the ringers themselves, at their own association meetings, to ventilate their ideas and put them in concrete form. Matters will not progress very far by expressions of satisfaction, or otherwise, with what has been done in the past, and of platitudes, as to the future. The members of the Council should have some definite ideas before them, and the discontented should be the first to show the way to improvement.

Whatever shortcomings the Council may have had in the past may, we think, be largely traced to the absence of interest which the mass of the Exercise has shown in the Council's work, and this apathy has got to be overcome if the best results are to be obtained in the future. The Council, be it remembered, is, or should be, representative of the ringers, and it is futile to complain that the Council is useless if no steps are taken to remedy the situation. But for those who are not satisfied the opportunity is coming next year. Among the whole Exercise there ought to be no lack of suggestions which should provide the Council with ample material for consideration, but there seems a strange disinclination on the part of most associations to bother themselves about the subject.

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**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

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Dear Sirs,

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We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

THE CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

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CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

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At THE CHURCH OF St. PETER,

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Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| WALTER PERKINS... .. Treble | MISS EVELYN STEELE ... 5 |
| JOHN J. MAWBY 2 | ALFRED H. MARTIN ... 6 |
| EDWARD J. CHAPMAN... .. 3 | FREDERICK W. SAWFOOT 7 |
| GEORGE LINES 4 | CHARLES W. CLARKE ... Tenor |

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW, and
Conducted by WALTER PERKINS.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Lord Kitchener.

HANDBELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Thursday, June 22, 1916, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 Size, in B flat.

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| FRANK W. PERRINS ... 1-2 | JAMES E. GROVES ... 7-8 |
| GEORGE F. SWANN ... 3-4 | J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ... 9-10 |
| ALBERT WALKER ... 5-6 | JAMES GEORGE ... 11-12 |

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Referee: MR. JOHN NEAL.

A peal of Bob Minor, rung at Woodston, Peterborough, has been sent us without date. Will our correspondent kindly send on this information.

A CORRECTION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The latter part of the footnote to the peal of Stedman Cinques on handbells rung at Birmingham, on June 15th, should read: "This is the first peal of Stedman Cinques rung on handbells 'retained in hand,' in the City of Birmingham; also the ringer of 5-6 was Albert Walker not Waker."—Yours, J. E. GROVES.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following are serving with H.M. Forces:—

Pte A. D. Aldham, of St. Mary's, Barwell, Leicestershire, 10th Batt. South Staffordshire Regiment, now at Rugeley.

Pte B. Herbert, R.A.M.C., now at Colchester.

Pte J. Armstrong, Christ Church, Southgate, 19th (R) Batt., King's Royal Rifles (Churchman's Battalion), now at Wimbledon.

Gunner J. Garlick, of Holy Trinity, Skipton, 21st Company R.G.A., Braefoot Battery, Aberdour, Fife, N.B.

Seaman Edwin Ogden, Holy Trinity, Burnley, now on H.M.S. Dublin.

From Goole Parish Church:—

Spr. M. Tate, of the Parish Church, Goole, I.W.T., Royal Engineers, now at Sandwich, Kent.

Pte A. Ingleby, Royal Fusiliers, now at Edinburgh.

Pte Ernest J. Goldstone, of St. Peter's, Portishead, Somerset, 3rd Somerset L.I., now at Plymouth.

From St. Mary's, Beighton, near Sheffield:—

Pte J. Willows, York and Lancs Regt., now in France.

Gunner W. Winn, R.F.A., at Forest Row Camp, Sussex.

Pte A. Whelpton, Highland Light Infantry, now at Maldon, Kent.

Pte T. Billingham, A.S.C. (M.T.), now on Salisbury Plain.

From St. Michael's, Maidstone:—

Corpl. J. A. Elmslie, R.A.M.C.

Pte W. Elmslie, The Buffs.

Lance-Corpl. P. Hassock, D.C.M., 1/6th City of London Rifles.

Pte W. Skinner, R.A.M.C.

Pte G. Wheeler, 4th Batt. Royal West Kent Regt.

Pte F. Skinner, A.S.C. (Mechanical Transport).

GOOLE'S RECORD.

The two names included above make a total of ten ringers who have gone from Goole Parish Church. Five of these are now at the front, and one has been invalided home.

Ringers stationed in Aldershot and district will be welcomed to the practices at the Parish Church, Farnham, which will take place during the summer months, on Saturdays 7 to 8 p.m.

ESTABLISHED 1760.

JOHN NICOLL,

**Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope
Manufacturer,**

40, QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.

(Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway).

Late 165, Keeton's Road, Bermondsey.

Maker to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester and Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

VENUE OF NEW YEAR'S MEETING CHANGED.

The Hon. Secretary of the Central Council (the Rev. C. D. P. Davies) writes:—

The Standing Committee of the Central Council held a meeting on Whitsun Tuesday.

The following resolution was passed unanimously: "The Standing Committee of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers on their own behalf, and on that of the Central Council, desire to place on record their deep sense of the unspeakable loss which they and the whole Exercise have sustained by the death of Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., the founder of the Council, and its President for a quarter of a century, and to tender to Lady Heywood and her family their deep sympathy in their bereavement."

This has been transmitted to Lady Heywood, and a copy of her reply is appended.

The Committee felt that in view of the very important business before the next Council meeting in various matters, chiefly in the election of a new President, it is desirable to ensure as large and representative an attendance as possible. They, therefore, unanimously decided to hold next year's meeting, not, as arranged, at Plymouth, in the remote S.W. of England, but at Gloucester, which is very centrally situated and enjoys exceptional railway facilities for communication with all parts of the country. It is hoped that members of the Council will feel that, in thus endeavouring to meet their convenience, their committee has acted wisely, and that we may look forward to a warm welcome at Plymouth on some future occasion.

CRITICS CRITICISED.

Thus far I have written officially. That which follows is an expression of one or two of my own personal thoughts. In the course of a brief general conversation which followed the committee's business, I remarked that I had for some time past been thinking that it might be well to initiate a discussion at the next meeting of the Council on the subject of the Council's work, and any means that might be suggested for increasing its utility and influence. I was glad to find that the idea commended itself to everyone, and I, therefore, propose, unless the subject should be crowded out by pressure of other matter, to enter it on the agenda.

Now that I am writing, I should like to say a word as to the criticisms of the Council to which we have of late become more or less accustomed. So far as I can recollect they are all characterised by one and the same failing. They all appear to be oblivious of the principal and predominant function of the Council, a function, too, in which so far from having failed of its purpose, it has been singularly and eminently successful. The Council has been freely and frequently criticised on the ground that it has failed to do any good to ringers. In my opinion, however, the first and primary object of the Council was to advance not ringers, but ringing—not necessarily quite the same thing. It is the art and science that we all love which we wish to see recognised and honoured.

There are two main means of achieving this: First, by raising the science, the art, and ourselves to the highest possible level, so as to render it worthy of honour and recognition; and secondly, by endeavouring to secure for it from the world outside, and in particular from the ecclesiastical world, that honour and recognition which will thus have become its due. In this last object, which is the very essence of its existence, the Council has been eminently successful. Any tendency, therefore, which leads in the direction of diminishing the representative character of the Council or the status of its members is to be deplored. That the result of some of the criticisms recently levelled at the Council has been a tendency—so far very limited, I am thankful to say—towards diminishing its representative character cannot be denied.

A SHORT-SIGHTED POLICY.

To put it briefly, by adopting Lady Heywood's words the tendency of late has been towards "ending" rather than "mending" the Council. Nothing could be more short-sighted or fatal. Those who remember the old days before the Council's existence know only too well how ringing lay at the mercy of one or two self-constituted authorities, such, for instance, as the late Lord Grimthorpe or Mr. Haweis. Not many know all that the Council has been enabled to do, and no one can tell how far its influence has extended. Though for the time being the war has stopped the negotiations, it is hoping to accomplish still more in this direction through, for instance, its Towers and Belfries Committee. In all that it has accomplished by providing the Exercise with a tangible organisation to voice its opinion, its judgment, and its interests, we cannot yet gauge what we owe to our good fortune in having had through all these years such a President as Sir Arthur Heywood. By everything that he was and did he was a tower of strength. By the ripeness and soundness of his judgment, by the position which he had deservedly won for himself in the counsels of the Church and in other assemblies, by his architectural knowledge, by his mechanical training, and by his many gifts, among them his rank and wealth, he was an ideal President, whose worth and prestige have accomplished more for ringing than we as yet can tell. I can only trust and hope that a spirit of sound and temperate judgment and of far-seeing wisdom will guide the Council in the grave business of choosing his successor.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

LADY HEYWOOD'S LETTER.

"Dear Mr. Davies,—Will you convey my warm thanks and that of my family for the message of sympathy that the Committee of the Central Council have forwarded through you? I know how genuine their feeling is at his great loss. Yours sincerely,

"M. G. HEYWOOD."

Doveleys, Rocester, June 17th.

WOUNDED SHEFFIELD RINGER.

Pte. J. E. L. Cockey, of Sheffield, late secretary of the Sheffield District Society, is in the Patterson Ward, East Suffolk Hospital, Ipswich, suffering from a shell wound in the hip, but, we are glad to say, he is making fair progress. He has been serving with the Sheffield City Battalion (12th York and Lancaster Regiment) since its formation, and was wounded at the end of May while in charge of a Lewis gun in the front line in France.

"It may interest you," writes the wounded soldier, "to know that I have had 'The Ringing World' sent to me regularly since I have been on active service, and I have always found time to glance through it, and to note the doings of the Sheffield District Society. The paper has reached me and been read in some queer places—on the banks of the Suez, in a lonely camp on the Sinai Peninsula, on the deck of a crowded transport, in billets, and a dirty, damp dug-out in the British line in France."

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT RIPPONDEN.

The June meeting of the Western District was held at Ripponden, near Halifax. Favoured with a lovely day, a good number of members and friends attended, 20 towers being represented. The nice light peal of eight was well utilised during the afternoon and evening to the tune of Stedman, Grandsire and Kent Treble Bob.

A committee meeting was held during the afternoon, and at 5 p.m., 60 members and friends sat down to a good substantial tea in the schools.

The general business meeting followed, and in the absence of Mr. G. B. Bolland (due to an injury to his foot, the result of an accident) the Rev. C. C. Marshall (Master of the Association) took the chair, supported by the Rev. E. W. Easton (Vicar of Ripponden), Mr. P. J. Johnson (Ringing Master), Mr. J. Cotterell (hon. treasurer), etc. Thirteen new members were elected, including two from Ripponden, other members of the local company promising to join shortly.

The Chairman announced that in the event of the tablet being completed which the Association is erecting to the memory of the late Mr. William Snowdon, in Ilkley Parish Church, the next meeting would be a combined one of the whole of the Association at Ilkley in September, when the tablet will be unveiled.

It was decided to hold a practice meeting shortly, and members are requested to look out for an announcement of this in "The Ringing World."

A vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells was proposed by Mr. H. Williams, seconded by Mr. G. H. Simon, and supported by the Chairman.—The Vicar, in responding, said it had given him great pleasure to welcome the visitors to Ripponden, and hoped the time would often come when the ringers would pay this nice valley a visit. He remarked that Mrs. Ayre had kindly thrown open the grounds of Brigroid Hall for the ringers to look round. The local members would accompany any of the visitors round the grounds after the meeting.—Mr. J. Lawson proposed, and Mr. P. J. Johnson seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to the local company, and to the ladies who presided at the tea-tables, also to Mrs. Ayre for kindly opening the grounds of Brigroid Hall.—Mr. Allen Carter, of the local company, in responding, said that two of them had joined the Association that day, and hoped before long that they would all be members.

Mr. H. Williams then gave notice that at the next meeting he would move that ladies be admitted to the Association at half the usual fee.

A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the business. Handbell ringing in a variety of methods brought a most successful meeting to a close.

VISIT TO PETERBOROUGH.

Four members of the Bottesford branch of the Framling Society (the Rev. C. J. Sturton, Messrs. A. Mackears, M. Bend and S. Baker) recently paid a visit to Peterborough, where they were met by Mr. Jutson. After looking round the city, they made their way to St. Mary's Church, where they met other friends, including Miss Milton, and ringing took place on the peal of six. A 720 Bob Minor was tapped off by J. Vaughan 1, Rev. C. J. Sturton 2, T. Tebbutt 3, M. Bend 4, A. Mackears (conductor) 5, S. Baker 6. Touches of Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court and Stedman Doubles were also rung. After inspecting the Cathedral, the party took taxi to Woodstone, where there is another peal of six, and here, with other friends, further ringing was indulged in. A very pleasant afternoon was spent, and thanks are due to Mr. Jutson for the arrangements he made, and to the friends who kindly met the visitors.

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Established
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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
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ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

usical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contest, held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MEETING OF THE NORTHERN BRANCH.

The quarterly meeting of the Northern Branch of the Worcestershire Association was held on Saturday week at Hartlebury when the weather was all that could be desired. Ringing commenced soon after three o'clock. The service, which was taken by Archdeacon H. J. Greig, and commenced with the singing of the first two verses of the National Anthem, was attended by over 50 members. The address by the Archdeacon dealt with the duty of all churchworkers, and was much to the point. He was sure nothing but good could come from the work of such Associations as theirs for the benefit of the Church as a whole.

After the service a splendid tea was partaken of in the Parish Room, about 60 sitting down. The Archdeacon, who unfortunately had another meeting to attend, could not stay to the business meeting, but before going he apologised for the absence of the Right Rev. The Lord Bishop of Worcester (Patron of the Association), who had charged him to say how sorry he was he could not be amongst the ringers on account of a prior engagement at Upton-on-Severn, especially as the meeting was so close to his home. Speaking for himself, the Archdeacon said that as the meeting was held in his own particular parish, he was very grateful for having had the pleasure of addressing them, and he trusted that in due course the bells would ring out the joy of victory. People might differ with regard to the ringing of bells during this terrible war, but personally he was delighted to hear them rung that afternoon, for they sounded the joy of victory, as he had no doubt that when the truth was fully known it would be found we had won the greatest naval victory of all time. He personally thanked his churchwarden, Miss F. Gibbons, for the splendid manner in which she had arranged the tea for him, in his absence. Miss Gibbons had asked him to say she would be delighted to conduct the members round her gardens and grounds.—This announcement was received with applause.

In reply to a vote of thanks for his address and arranging the service, the Archdeacon said it gave him the greatest possible pleasure to invite the Association to Hartlebury, and he hoped on some future occasion to welcome them there again.

At the business meeting which followed, the Rev. T. L. Chavasse was voted to the chair. It was decided to hold the September meeting at Stone, near Kidderminster.—Miss Gibbons was elected an hon. member, and is the first lady to be elected an honorary member of the Association.

The Master of the Association (Mr. A. E. Parsons) reported that a few friends had had printed in pamphlet form the address given by the hon. clerical secretary (the Rev. James F. Hastings, M.A.) in Worcester Cathedral at the annual meeting at Easter, and he trusted that every member would avail himself of the opportunity of securing one.

In reply to a vote of thanks, Miss Gibbons said she was very pleased if she had been the means of adding to the enjoyment of the members, and she was delighted to hear the bells. She wished the Association every success, and was very pleased to become a member.

It was brought to notice that one of the members of the Association was ill and in distress, and a sum of £1 2s. was collected in the room for him.

A further visit was made to the tower, where touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich and London Surprise brought another enjoyable and successful meeting to a close.

PRESENTATION AT PORTISHEAD.

The band at Portishead have sustained a loss by the departure of Mr. Ernest J. Goldstone to join the Somerset Light Infantry. He has been a member of the band for the past sixteen years, and during that time has rendered invaluable assistance in helping beginners. Before he left Portishead, the captain of the local band (Mr. William Gillingham) presented Mr. Goldstone, on behalf of the band, with a dressing case, thanking him for his splendid service to the belfry, and wishing him a safe return.

Among the touches rung recently at St. Peter's Church, Portishead, where, as is well known, ladies make up the majority of the band, have been the following: On Sunday, May 28th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): Miss B. Mitchell 1, Miss D. Sage 2, Ernest Goldstone 3, Miss M. Hudleston (first quarter-peal with a bob bell) 4, Miss M. Gillingham 5, Miss E. M. Hole (conductor) 6, William Gillingham 7, Albert Colbourn 8.

On Whitsun Day, for the 7 a.m. celebration of Holy Communion, a quarter-peal in the same method: Miss M. Hudleston 1, Ernest Goldstone 2, Miss A. Stokes 3, Miss M. C. Jukes 4, Miss N. Gillingham 5, Miss E. M. Hole (conductor) 6, William Gillingham 7, Albert Colbourn 8.

On June 13th, with the bells half-muffled in memory of the late Earl Kitchener, an attempt was made for Thurstons' five-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but unfortunately it came to grief after 2 hrs. 50 mins. good striking, owing to the tenor rope breaking: Miss M. Hudleston 1, Miss D. Sage 2, Ernest Goldstone 3, Miss M. C. Jukes 4, Miss E. M. Hole 5, Miss N. Gillingham (conductor) 6, William Gillingham 7, Albert Colbourn 8.

On Sunday, June 18th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Miss M. Hudleston 1, Miss D. Sage 2, Miss N. Gillingham 3, Miss M. C. Jukes 4, F. S. Wilson (Tewkesbury) 5, Miss E. M. Hole (conductor) 6, William Gillingham 7, Albert Colbourn 8.

MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

MR. JOHN W. TAYLOR ELECTED PRESIDENT.

The principal business before the adjourned annual meeting of the Midland Counties Association at Derby on Saturday, when between 30 and 40 members and friends were present, was the election of a president to succeed the late Sir Arthur Heywood. The meeting was held in St. Andrew's Schools, the chair being taken by Mr. John W. Taylor (vice-president). Amongst those supporting him were representatives from Alfreton, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Burton-on-Trent, Chesterfield, Cotgrave, Darley Dale, Duffield, Hinckley, Ilkeston, Loughborough, Nottingham, Orston and Swanwick.

The Secretary (Mr. W. E. White) read the nominations for the presidency, three having been received for Mr. J. W. Taylor, and one for Mr. W. W. Worthington. The former was unanimously elected.

On the proposition of Mr. E. J. Stone, seconded by Mr. F. Cotton, it was agreed to leave the election of a vice-president, rendered necessary by the election of Mr. Taylor to the presidency, to the next annual meeting.



MR. JOHN W. TAYLOR.

The peal of handbells presented to the Association by Lady Heywood, in memory of Sir Arthur, were on view, and the Hon. Secretary read a letter received with the bells. He was asked to send a letter of appreciation and thanks.

One new life and six new ringing members were elected.

The President said the question of holding quarterly meetings, which have been suspended during the war, had been discussed in committee, and it was thought advisable that these meetings should be resumed.—On the proposition of Mr. B. Mitchell, seconded by Lance-Corpl. A. P. Wakley, it was decided that they should be held as usual. The next meeting will be at Chesterfield in September.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the chairman, on the motion of Mr. W. E. White, seconded by Mr. A. H. Ward.

The bells at St. Andrew's were at the disposal of the ringers during the afternoon and evening, and the bells at St. Peter's and All Saints were also available for a few hours.

THE ASSOCIATION'S NEW PRESIDENT.

There is no one more familiar to ringers throughout the country than Mr. John William Taylor, of Loughborough, and no one is more esteemed and respected throughout the Exercise. As the head of one of the most famous bell foundries in the world, Mr. Taylor has been, of

course, in an almost unique position in making the acquaintance of ringers in every corner of the country, and his genial nature and his enthusiasm for ringing—an enthusiasm extending, even beyond the dictates of interest in a concern so intimately locked up in the progress of the art—have made him as popular among ringers generally as he is among those of the Midland Counties Association in particular. One often reads of a ringer's interest in bells being life-long, but such a statement was never more true of any man than of Mr. Taylor. He was cradled among the bells, they have been his life-long study, scientifically and mechanically, as well as being his principal hobby. In his younger days Mr. Taylor was very keen on a good peal, and he has a fine total to his credit, more than 160 having been rung for the Midland Counties Association alone. These peals for the M.C.A. include 8,800 Superlative Surprise at All Saints', Loughborough, on May 15th, 1894, occupying 6 hrs. 16 mins., in which Mr. Taylor rang the tenor. At that time it was the longest length composed and rung in the method.

In the counsels of the Midland Counties Association, which he joined in 1883, Mr. Taylor has long held an honoured place, and his unanimous election last Saturday to the office of President to succeed the late Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., was only to be expected. Mr. Taylor's interest in the Association has been manifested in many ways, and he seldom missed a meeting. For many years he has been vice-president, and, we believe, for the past 25 years has represented the Association on the Central Council.

Since the war broke out, Mr. Taylor and his family have set a remarkable example of patriotism. His two sons who were in the business at Loughborough have commissions in the Leicestershire Regiment, and are at the front, two others who were in Canada enlisted in the Forces of the Dominion, and Miss Taylor took up Red Cross nursing, and is now serving in France. Mr. Taylor himself, as a member of the Royal Automobile Club, placed himself and his car at the disposal of the military, and has rendered great service by acting as a staff driver to one of the important home commands, a function which he still fills.

THE LEYTONSTONE SOCIETY.

UNVEILING OF A PEAL-BOARD.

The Church of All Saints', Chigwell Row, was on Saturday, June 24th, the scene of jubilation, when the ringers of Leytonstone, widely renowned for their skill in Surprise Minor ringing, assembled for the purpose of unveiling the first peal board to commemorate the first peal on these delightful bells, hung in 1910 by the Whitechapel Foundry. The peal was rung on March 11th, 1911, consisting of 5040 changes, in seven different Surprise Methods, namely, Ipswich, Cambridge, Lincoln, London, Wells, York, and Durham, occupying 2 hrs. 38 mins. by the following members of the Essex Association: G. F. Margetson treble, W. Theobald 2, G. Black 3, H. Torble 4, W. Miller 5, J. Moule tenor. Conducted by W. Miller.

Owing to the war, the bells at Chigwell Row had not been rung for some considerable time, and though every attention had been previously paid them by the steeplekeeper, they refused to start so suddenly into Surprise Minor without attesting their weight and sluggishness. But such men of muscle and strength as J. Moule and W. Miller, proved too much for the big bells, and they had to obey the demand made upon them. We were pleased to see the veterans turn up with renewed vigour, such as J. Waghorn, W. Doran, and G. F. Margetson. Messrs. T. Faulkner, R. Sanders, A. C. Hardy, Andrews, A. Prior, H. Torble, G. Hayden, W. Theobald and others also attended.

Mr. W. Miller, in a few words, congratulated those whose names were inscribed on the handsome board, and thanked those present. His thanks were due also to the Rector, churchwardens and tower keeper for the use of the bells under the stress of present war conditions, and he trusted that in the near future the ringers would again unite as in the happy days gone by, for though the war was proving a great deterrent to the Exercise, the fraternity of ringers would not perish; science and art must endure for ever.—The company, having enjoyed the ringing until 8 o'clock, separated well pleased with their reception at Chigwell Row.

CHARLES CHURCH, PLYMOUTH.

Owing to the majority of the members having joined His Majesty's forces, ringing latterly has been at a low ebb at Charles Church, Plymouth. With the kind help of members from St. Andrew's and Emmanuel Churches, however, those who are left have endeavoured during the war to ring every Sunday evening for divine service. On Sunday, 11th inst., only five bells could be rung, but Sunday, the 18th, brought about a very unique meeting of a scratch band. The local men were to have met for a quarter of Grandsire Triples to honour their conductor, Bomb. E. W. Marsh, R.G.A., who was home on leave. But the band met three short, the absent ones having to do Sunday work in the Dockyard. Just as those present were about to again ring five, there began a steady stream of men into the belfry, all clothed in khaki, and among them were ringers from London, Birmingham, Worcester, Avonmouth, etc., all stationed in the garrison for training. Time was short (would it had been longer), but a short touch of Grandsire Triples was brought round, and the following rang a well-struck touch of 252 Stedman Triples: Gunner T. W. Bond 1, Gunner W. Banister 2, W. G. Hiscott 3, Gunner F. Withers 4, Gunner F. Tegg 5, W. Richards 6, Bomb. E. W. Marsh (conductor) 7, H. Burner 8. Bomb. F. H. Elson and Gunner F. Haines took part in the Grandsire Triples.

LINCOLN GUILD.**GRIMSBY DISTRICT MEETING.**

A very successful meeting of the Grimsby District of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held at Bigby on Saturday week, ringers being present from Grimsby, Barrow, Barton, Scunthorpe, Gainsboro', Waltham, etc. During the afternoon and evening the following methods, viz., Plain Bob Minor, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor and Grand-sire and Stedman Doubles were rung. Messrs. N. Dale, G. Blanchard, A. Peart, S. Bromfield, F. S. Butler (conductor) and J. W. Seamer took part in a 720 of Plain Bob Minor, and Messrs. T. H. Parkin, A. Hoodless, J. W. Seamer (conductor and Ringing Master), P. Hocknell, C. H. Bird and F. S. Butler rang a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor.

Tea was provided by the Rev. H. T. Parry (Vicar) and Mrs. Parry, whose kindness was much appreciated, and who, upon the proposition of Mr. J. W. Seamer, seconded by Mr. F. S. Butler, received the very best thanks of the visitors.

The District Secretary (Mr. T. H. Parkin) read the following letter which he had written to Mr. Long: "Seeing a report of the death of Percy C. Long in the 'Hull News' last evening, I take it to be that of your brother. If so, I sorrowfully convey to you, his dear mother and all other family connections my heartfelt sympathy, and also do the same on behalf of the ringers in the Grimsby district. I have rung with the dear old boy several times, including one peal, and shall ever remember him for his kind and gentlemanly bearing. —Yours with the greatest sympathy.—T. H. Parkin, District Sec."

The communication was endorsed, and the Rev. H. T. Parry spoke of its excellence and appropriateness. He also expressed his individual sorrow and sympathy at the loss sustained by the death of Mr. Long. The District Secretary, Mr. Butler, Mr. Seamer, Mr. Bird and others also made suitable reference to the sad event.

The place of the next meeting was decided by vote, Scunthorpe receiving 16, Barrow 4 and Appleby 2, the meeting to be held, if possible, on the 5th or 19th August, preferably on the former date.—All who had kindly helped to make the meeting and tea such a great success were thanked for their services, as was also the Vicar for the use of the bells and for presiding.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Ashford District was held at New Romney on Whit-Monday, and, taking into consideration the postponement of the Bank Holiday and the state of the weather, it was very well attended. Ringing commenced soon after two o'clock, and continued till 4 p.m., at which time a special service was held—one of those services which by the homeliness of the preacher and the skill of the organist makes one feel "It is good for us to be here," and at which all the absent members who were on active service were especially remembered in the intercessory prayers.

The Vicar then piloted the visitors to the Vicarage, where they found an excellent tea awaiting them in the Parish Room, the Vicar's wife presiding at the tea table, and by her cheery welcome, making all feel perfectly at home. The disappearing egg trick was performed in fine style, and the bachelors' cake was in great demand.

A short business meeting followed, at which the Vicar presided. It was decided to hold the next interim meeting at Appledore on August Bank Holiday.

The Rev. V. L. Batson then proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and Mrs. South for the hospitable way in which they had entertained the members to tea, also for the permission to hold the meeting, and for holding the service. This was seconded by Mr. C. W. Player, and carried with acclamation.—The Vicar, in reply, thanked everybody for coming, and said he felt sure it did them all good to meet together in that way in these times of stress and anxiety. What Mrs. South and he had done was a pleasure indeed.

The tower was again visited, and Grandsire Triples, Bob Major and Kent Treble Bob were the order till sunset, when the bells were lowered in peal. The number attending was 25, representing the following towers: Appledore, Ashford, Biddenden, Benenden, Brookland, Mersham, Stone-in-Oxney, Headcorn and Tenterden, together with several of the local members. The visiting members included Mr. D. Hodgkin, of Marden, and Mr. Harrison Smith from Wickhambreau. Some of the members paid a visit to Brookland on their way down, and rang several 120's of Doubles. Mrs. Gatehouse, a lady member, had made arrangements to ring at Lydd, but on arrival the belfry door was found locked, and an hour's exercise at key-hunting proved fruitless, so ringing at Lydd had to be abandoned.

PUTNEY.—At the Parish Church of St. Mary, to celebrate the birthday of King George V, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins.: J. Herbert 1, Alf. Jones 2, Art. Jones 3, E. Cassell 4, C. Collis, junr., 5, T. Bolton 6, W. T. Elson (conductor) 7, C. Collis, senr., 8.

ACTON.—On June 18th, for the usual third Sunday afternoon ringing at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: Wm. Lawrence 1, — Cook 2, Pte Meadows, A.S.C. 3, J. W. Fruin 4, Robt. Holloway 5, Staff-Sgt. Verralls (Tunbridge Wells) 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, C. Hunt 8.

NOTICES.

FARNHAM, SURREY.—Practice will be resumed at Farnham for summer months, commencing Saturday next, 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., when we shall be pleased to welcome soldiers or other friends. There is an excellent 'bus service to and from Aldershot.—C. Edwards.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at North Wingfield on Saturday, July 1st. All ringers welcomed. Clay Cross Station, Midland Railway.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Secretary pro. tem., 29, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Shore Parish Church on Saturday, July 1st. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30. All ringers welcome.—T. K. Driver, Secretary, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting and six-bell contest will be held at Howarth, Saturday, July 1st, 1916. Weight of tenor 12½ cwt. Draw for order of ringing at 3.15 p.m. at the Black Bull Hotel.—F. Salmons, Secretary, 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Barlow Moor on Saturday, July 1st. Bells available from 4.30. Meeting at 7.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Kettering District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Kettering on July 1st. Bells available 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 (election of district representative).—Robert F. Turner, District Secretary, 160, St. Peter's Avenue, Kettering.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Brentwood on Saturday, July 8th, bells available 4 o'clock. Service 5.30. Will all those intending to be present please notify me not later than Wednesday, July 5th.—F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle, Chelmsford.

THE LADIES' GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Giles', Reading, on Saturday, July 8th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Short service at 4.30. Tea (1s.) at 5.15 at the "Rising Sun" Institute. Will all who intend to be present kindly notify me before July 4th. All ringers welcome.—Edith K. Parker, Honorary Secretary, 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION and LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at the Church of St. Anne, Highgate, by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. R. Ellershaw, on Saturday, July 8th. Bells available from 3 to 7, business meeting to follow. All members and friends welcome.—C. T. Coles, Honorary Secretary, 49, Wood Street, Walthamstow.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—Next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Misson (Bawtry Station, G.N.) on Saturday, July 8th. Tea at 5 p.m. at "White Horse" Inn, 1/6 per head, half-price to members sending in number by July 3rd to S. W. Law, Willow House, Misson, Bawtry.—Signed, Herbert Haigh, Arnold Beck, Joint Secretaries.

SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.—The quarterly meeting will be held on July 8th, 1916, at Shifnal, Salop. Ringing at 3 p.m. Belfry prayers at 4 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Meeting after tea. Please reply before July 3rd to Rev. F. Tennison, St. Alkmund's Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Burnham on Saturday, July 8th. Meeting in the Church Hall at 3.30 p.m. Tea in the Lifeboat Pavilion at 4.30 p.m. Service in the Parish Church at 5.30 p.m. Bells available all the afternoon.—E. E. Burgess, Honorary Secretary, Taunton.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Brentwood on Saturday, July 8th. Bells available 4 o'clock. Service 5.30. Tea, 7d. each, at Coffee Tavern, followed by business meeting. Will all those intending to be present please notify me not later than Wednesday, July 5th.—F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle, Chelmsford.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Boxley on Saturday, July 8th. The bells will be available for ringing at 3 o'clock; a short service at 5 o'clock; tea will be provided at 5.45. All those intending to be present please notify Mr. G. Pound, 7, Harbourland Cottages, Boxley, not later than Monday, July 3rd, and oblige Stephen Hazzelden, District Secretary.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The summer festival will be held at Woburn on Saturday, July 15th. Service at 4 p.m. Preacher: The Rev. J. R. Vincent, Rector of Shenley. Tea at 5 at King's Tea Rooms, Bedford Street. The bells (8) will be available at 2.30.—A. Rust, Hon. Secretary.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Quarterly meeting at Loughton on Saturday, July 15th. Tower open 3 to 6; short service at 6 o'clock. Tea at King's Head to those who notify me by July 12th.—H. J. Bradley, 25, Winchester Avenue, Brondesbury.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—A special general meeting will be held at Berkswell on Saturday, July 15th. Bells available all afternoon and evening. Committee meeting at 4.15. Service at 4.45. Tea will be provided by kind invitation of the President to all who notify me by July 9th. Business meeting after tea.—H. Kettle, Honorary Secretary, Rectory Cottage, Allesley, Coventry.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION (Southern Branch).—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Feckenham on Saturday, July 15th. Service, with an address, at 5 p.m., at which all possible are requested to attend. Tea will be provided, and it is important I should be notified by those intending to be present not later than the Wednesday previous. The bells (8) will be available. — J. Hemming, Branch Secretary, 29, Church Bank, Hampton, Evesham.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Sudbury.—Owing to the resignation of the Rev. R. L. Gardner as secretary of the above Archdeaconry, Mr. Arthur Symonds, 41, Market Lane, Lavenham, has kindly agreed to act as temporary secretary. — A. E. Austin, Acting General Secretary, 4, Hills View, Great Shelford, Cambs.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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