

# THE RINGING WORLD

No. 303. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5th, 1917.

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.

1917.

The first thing which devolves upon us in this first number of 1917 is to wish all our readers "A Happy New Year." The phrase is conventional, but the sentiments which it conveys are deep and sincere. We all of us hope that the year just opening will bring with it a lasting peace to the world, based upon the sure foundation of right and justice, and that it will see all those heroic men, now upholding the honour of the Empire in the face of the enemy in many parts of the earth, return once more to the dear old homeland. If peace is vouchsafed to us by the victories of our arms, 1917 will go down in history as one of the most momentous years of modern ages. Much in the future depends upon the happenings of this year, and the anxieties of the coming months will provide a burden which will test the stoutest hearts. But whether the end comes this year or some other year, confidence in the ability of the Empire and its Allies to win through at the finish was never higher than it is now; and though individually there are many to whom the wish of a happy new year may sound something of a mockery, yet we hope that 1917 will, before its close, prove to be the happiest which the nation has witnessed for generations.

And what of the future—as it concerns us as ringers? There are many who feel that ringing will not be quite the same for us in days to come as it was before the war. The Art had then attained to a wonderful height of popularity, and a marvellous standard of skill in its practical application had been achieved. The long break which the war has caused is bound, we think, to affect at least the immediate future. Bands are disorganised or almost wholly broken up by the demands which national service has made upon the men, and it must be, at any rate, a long time before we can return to the former condition of affairs. Whenever the war may end, therefore, the coming year, at all events, is likely to be a "lean" one for ringing; but just as we have confidence in our ultimate triumph in the field, so we can look forward to the future restoration of our Art to the high position it formerly held.

In preparation for the time when the bells will ring again, there is much that might be done by those who are left at home to "carry on" until the "boys" return. Some of the Associations are doing their best to maintain touch with their towers and keep up the interest of depleted bands, but there are others whose condition seems somewhat moribund, although it may be that the reason is beyond their control. Wherever it is possible, however, 1917 ought to witness a determined effort on the part of all Associations to get their organisation in order, to tune up the machine, as it were, in anticipation of the time when peace will once more free the brazen tongues of the bells.

# CHARLES CARR, LTD.



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BIRMINGHAM**

**BELLS**  
FOR CHURCHES,  
SINGLY,  
OR IN PEALS.

**CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.**

PEALS AUGMENTED,  
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

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IN BEST SEASONED OAK,  
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MALLEABLE IRON BRACKETS.

BEST BELL ROPES.

REPAIRS AND REHANGING  
IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANDERS sent to inspect  
and report on Bells and Towers

**SEND FOR CATALOGUE.**

**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.

ESTABLISHED 1780.

**JOHN NICOLL,**

**Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope  
Manufacturer,**

**60, QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.**

(Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway)

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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.

## TWELVE BELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tuesday, December 26th, 1916, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANCES;**

Tenor 36 cwt., in C.

JOHN NEAL ... .. Treble	THOMAS MILLER ... .. 7
JAMES L. WELLS ... .. 2	*CHARLES WILLIAMS ... .. 8
FRANK W. PERRENS ... .. 3	ERNEST MANSELL ... .. 9
JOHN R. SHARMAN ... .. 4	SAMUEL GROVE ... .. 10
ALF PADDON SMITH ... .. 5	JAMES E. GROVES ... .. 11
ERNEST T. ALLAWAY ... .. 6	JAMES GEORGE ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

\* First peal on twelve bells.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

AND THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Sunday, December 31, 1916, in Three Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5002 CHANCES;**

FRED HAYES ... .. Treble	BENJAMIN THORP ... .. 7
EDWARD R. COLES ... .. 2	GEORGE TWITCHEN ... .. 8
RALPH COLES ... .. 3	WILLIAM T. HORNE ... .. 9
JOHN D. MATTHEWS ... .. 4	WILLIAM PHIPPS ... .. 10
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL ... .. 5	WILLIAM J. NUDDS ... .. 11
FRANK SMITH ... .. 6	HUGH T. SCARLETT ... Tenor

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH, and

Conducted by FRED HAYES.

Rung with the bells fully muffled in honour of those who have gallantly given their lives for their country during 1916. First peal of Cinques by the ringers 2, 8, 9, 10, who are members of the local company.

## TEN BELL PEAL.

HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On St. Stephen's Day, December 26th, 1916, in Three Hours and Thirty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANCES;**

Tenor 22 cwt., in E flat.

† WILLIAM HONOR ... .. Treble	* EDWARD T. HOOPER ... .. 6
WILLIAM HENLEY ... .. 2	† EDGAR HANCOX ... .. 7
GEORGE H. GUTTERIDGE ... .. 3	WILLIAM LAWRENCE ... .. 8
PERCY E. JONES ... .. 4	WILLIAM T. HORNE ... .. 9
* JOSEPH MILNER ... .. 5	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM HUDSON, of Sheffield, and

Conducted by EDGAR HANCOX.

Rung with the bells solemnly muffled by special permission of the Rev. R. M. Carrick, M.A., Vicar of the Parish, in memory of Lieuts. Charles Thomas Mills, Jerome Fane De Sahs, Evelyn Geoffrey Worsley, and twenty-four N.C.O.'s and men from Hillingdon who have fallen in this War, including Cyril Buttrum, of H.M.S. Queen Mary.

\* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Caters away from tenor.  
‡ First peal of Caters as conductor.

## HANDBELL PEAL.

GREAT HAMPTON, WORCESTERSHIRE/

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION  
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, December 26, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. J. HEMMING, 29, CHURCH BANK,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor No. 17 size, in A.

MISS ELLEN M. JOHNSON 1-2	FREDERICK J. JOHNSON ... 5-6
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON ... 3-4	JAMES HEMMING ... .. 7-8

Conducted by JAMES HEMMING.

Umpire: GEOFFREY HEMMING.

First peal "in hand" as conductor.



**EIGHT BELL PEALS.**

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

On Saturday, December 30, 1916, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Abbey Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 30 cwt., in D.

*FRANK GODFREY ... .. Treble	GEORGE DOLPHIN ... .. 5
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON ... .. 2	JAMES HEMMING ... .. 6
FREDERICK J. JOHNSON ... .. 3	JOHN DOLPHIN ... .. 7
WILLIAM NEED ... .. 4	SIDNEY O. ANNIS ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

\* First peal on eight bells. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to Mr. Joseph Amphlett, who was a ringer and a faithful and devoted worshipper at the Abbey Church and who was interred at Pershore on the previous Wednesday; also in memory of those from the town who have fallen in the War.

**DEPTFORD, KENT.**

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Monday, January 1, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

At the Church of St. John the Evangelist,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOSEPH LAW ... .. Treble	GEORGE HUXLEY ... .. 5
FREDK. W. RICHARDSON ... .. 2	JOHN CROWDER ... .. 6
WILLIAM J. JEFFRIES ... .. 3	WILLIAM A. MARTIN ... .. 7
EDWIN J. PANNETT ... .. 4	ERNEST B. CROWDER ... .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. JEFFRIES.

As the police restrictions will not allow ringing after dark, this peal could not be attempted on New Year's Eve, so was started early on New Year's Day.

**ANCIENT RINGING PERFORMANCES.****HOW HOLLIS HELPED THE SEXTON.**

On Boxing Day, a party of ringers visited the towers of St. Peter's, Maxey, when touches of Oxford Treble Bob and Single Court were rung, and St. Guthlac's, Market Deeping, where touches of Treble Bob, Single and Double Court, and Plain Bob, were brought round. Those who took part, were Messrs. W. A. Day (Market Deeping), E. A. Sneath (St. James' Deeping), T. Bainbridge, H. Waud (Witham-on-the-Hill), W. Waldron, H. Hoare and J. J. Jutson (Peterborough).

In Maxey belfry there is a board which contains the following:  
December 11th, 1863.

Mr. Dixon's peal of Bob Minor Variations was rung for the first time in this belfry, after being composed for 34 years, in a masterly style by the following ringers, viz.: S. Black, senr., treble, S. Black, junr., 2, J. Shelton 3, H. Cuthforth 4, W. Lambert 5, J. Shelton tenor.

This society also rung in this belfry, on June 11th, 1849, 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. and one minute.

The same society also rung, at Glinton, on January 1st, 1852, 10,080 changes, in 5 hrs. and 59 mins. The same men also rung, on January 18th, 1853, at Castor, in this county, 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. These peals were conducted by Jno. Shelton.

Whatever Bob Minor Variations may have been there was keen rivalry between the Maxey, Glinton, and St. Martin's (Stamford) ringers at this time, and Mr. Dixon (Sexton at St. Mary's, Stamford), although the "composer" was unable to produce a 720, and Mr. J. T. Hollis, a youth of 17 years, of Glinton, having studied "in and out of course," produced it for them, and was presented with a copy of Shipway, by Mr. Dixon. This Mr. J. T. Hollis was subsequently the author of Hollis's five-part and one-part peals of Grandsire Triples.

Evidently the 10,080 was Oxford Treble Bob. The ringers were good six-bell men in Oxford, Double and Single Court, and the writer remembers, some years ago, ringing in this district in company with a lad of eight years. Steven Black, junr., was present, and while the lad was busy ringing Grandsire Doubles, Steven prodded him in the back, and remarked: "Remember Steve Black, of Maxey, and the 10,080 Treble Bob."

At Glinton there was a good six-bell band over a hundred years ago. Mr. John Scott, a well-to-do farmer, was foreman, and inscribed on the tenor bell is: "John Scott did pay for me one hundred pounds and odd money, November 1st, 1799." For many years this date was kept by the ringers as the big bell's birthday.

It may be interesting to note that, when the bells of St. John the Baptist's, Peterborough, were reopened on Feb. 23rd, 1809, the Soham Youths opened them with five courses of Treble Bob, and Mr. Scott and his company were present. Presumably the Tebbults were amongst them, and a youngster was on the tenor of 28 cwt. One of the Glinton men remarked in admiration: "Didn't that youngster dodge that tenor in and out of the slow!" J. J. J.

**WELL-KNOWN KENT RINGER DEAD.**

MR. E. E. FOREMAN'S SERVICES TO THE EXERCISE

It is with very much regret we announce the death of Mr. Edward E. Foreman, of Hernhill, Faversham, at the age of 68 years. His illness commenced about a year ago with a malignant growth in the nose and throat. His local doctor partly removed it many times, but it assumed such proportions as to cause great difficulty in breathing. A more serious operation then becoming imperative, this was done apparently very successfully at a London Nursing Home last spring. Mr. Foreman recovered so well that he was able to attend the annual meeting of the Canterbury district of the Kent Association, at Faversham, in May. He rang again at Boughton, in July, at the induction of the new Vicar, and again at the harvest thanksgiving service at the same church on October 2nd. From that time he failed rapidly in health till the end came, on December 20th. Fortunately he suffered practically no pain till the last week, though he felt at times uncomfortable and very weary.

He was buried on Saturday, December 23rd, in the quiet churchyard of Hernhill in the same grave as his wife, who predeceased him 18 years. The local ringers acted as bearers, and the bells were rung half-muffled, after the service, by E. Bones, S. Hadlow, F. Elsey, C. Hadlow, A. Bones, P. Price, R. Tong, F. Packman; and E. Trendell, of Boughton.

Of the deceased's ringing career it seems superfluous to speak, for he was so well known and respected in Kent, in the Canterbury district, of which he has filled the positions of secretary and representative on the Central Committee. He made it a practice to attend all meetings of the district, and used his powers to help, as far as he could, anyone desirous to learn, and no probationer in any branch of the art ever had a more energetic, patient or sympathetic teacher. He tried on many occasions to form local bands at the towers near his home, his greatest success being shown by the first local peal on Hernhill bells, conducted by himself on December 1st, 1911, followed by another on December 19th, 1911, conducted by H. Gilbert.

Mr. Foreman commenced change ringing rather late in life, but was so enthusiastic that he managed to do more than some would in the whole span of three-score years and ten. Many bands attempting peals have good cause to remember his kindness and hospitality. He made it a rule to entertain the ringers attending meetings held at his native place, his one regret being that the meetings were not frequent enough. Many well remember the most successful autumn gatherings, when Mr. F. Bennet, and friends, making Hernhill a centre, visited various towers and rang peals in Surprise methods.

The ringers much regret their inability to do more than above recorded for such a great ringer and such a great friend of ringers, owing to the absence of members on active service, and the restrictions placed on ringing bells at this most anxious time. However, it was in keeping with the deceased's wish, as he was most desirous that the funeral arrangements should be of a very quiet nature. Mr. Foreman was an earnest Churchman. He considered ringing an important branch of church work, and his life will be an inspiration to many who will long mourn his death.

The following is a list of his known peals, though no official account has been kept: Minor methods (4 Plain Bob, 3 Grandsire), 2: Grandsire Triples, 62 (conducted 14); Bob Triples, 1; Stedman Triples, 58; Kent Treble Bob Major, 13; Oxford Treble Bob, 1; Bob Major, 2; Stedman Caters, 6; Double Norwich Major, 10; Superlative Surprise Major, 1; Cambridge Surprise Major, 1; total, 157. All rung for Kent County Association, except one, in 25 different towers.

**THE PEAL AT PERSHORE.**

The peal rung at Pershore, on Saturday last, was interesting, for the fact that, although the bells date back to 1729, it was the first peal rung on them by a band resident in the district, and the first since the funeral of King Edward. The unique surroundings, together with the indifferent "go" of the bells, are not exactly conducive to peal ringing, but the very bells seemed to know that they were solemnly honouring one who had devoted his lifetime to the welfare of the grand old Abbey Church. In Mr. J. Amphlett, the town loses one of its oldest and worthiest citizens, for he had spent his 72 years in the place, and had enjoyed the high esteem of seven successive Vicars.

The famous peal of bells, together with the good striking, did full justice to the excellent composition, and the band were congratulated on the peal by several old ringers who were listening to the ringing, one going so far as to say that he had heard every peal and every attempt on Pershore bells by bands from all over the country for the past 60 years, but never had he heard them struck better. The military representative on the local Tribunal, Capt. Darbyshire, who, by the way, is himself a skilled change ringer, but declined to take a rope in the peal, sat in the ringing chamber all through the peal, and at the conclusion heartily congratulated the band on the excellent striking.

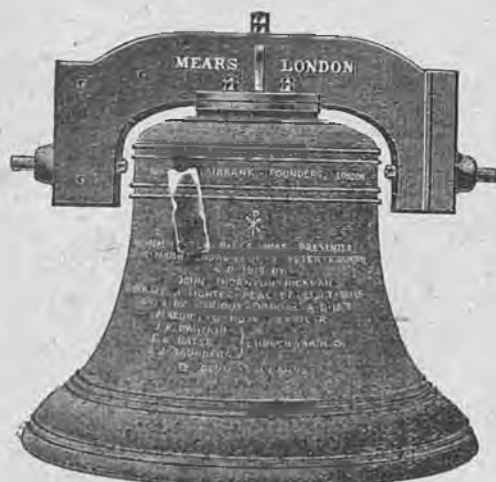
Afterwards, tea was partaken of at Mr. J. Dolphins, and a quiet social hour spent, the party breaking up with the old wish, "A Happy and Prosperous New Year."

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry  
Established  
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

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.*

## METHOD CONSTRUCTION.

### THE DIVIDING LINE.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—There are three or four of your valued writers who from time to time have given us their definitions of the exact constitution of a Lead, Division, or Unit; the latest being Mr. Baker (vide "Ringing World," Dec. 1st, 1916), who observes: "It seems not to be understood that, structurally, the lead-end of all methods, and the division-end of all principles and systems, come at hand-stroke."

How these gentlemen arrive at their conclusions—and they seldom agree with each other—it is impossible to say. Can it be that their vision is limited to the plain course, and are they blind to the aspect of the whole method as contained in a short touch, consisting of plains and bobs?

But, for the moment, taking the plain course to represent the whole method, we find that it can be partitioned off so as to give the regulation number of equal divisions from any row in the course. The mystery to me is how they pitch on any particular one of these cases as the "one and only" proper division.

It is very different when you come to look into a touch. There is only one point from which you can divide the method into equal sections, that point being the row on which the Bob is made, or liable to be made; that is, this particular row is bound to be the beginning—the head—of the little equal sections of which the method is exclusively built, and from no other point is it possible to partition your method in equal units from beginning to end. I ought to say here that the same fact holds good in the case of Double Methods and Stedman, these having two kinds of units running alternately, and in which corresponding units are equal to each other.

Now, since the Bob is made on the hand-stroke in most odd bell methods (short of some freak arrangement or such methods as Bob Triples, I think I may say all), it follows that the back-stroke must be the unit-end, the reverse holding good with even bell methods. We were told some time ago by Mr. Fright that the Bob may be made on any row in the lead; that a lead-head may have more than one possible lead-end, which means that equality in its units is not at all necessary. All I will say is that such notions as these are directly opposed to order, uniformity and fact.—Yours truly,

G. CLEAL.

29, St. Saviour's Road East, Leicester.

## EXTENSIONS.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—Mr. Baker has neither proved himself right nor me wrong. He states a theory for determining correct extensions, but he does not prove it. His contention that a method produced by three interior places cannot be the same as one produced by two would upset a good many accepted extensions. It must be remembered that methods are bound to have different forms on odd and even numbers of positions (i.e., odd and even multiples of two), just as much as on odd and even numbers of bells.—Yours truly,

H. W. FRIGHT.

Artists' Rifles. O.T.C.,  
Hare Hill Camp

## "RING OUT THE OLD."

Nowhere in England was the traditional custom of ringing out the old and ringing in the new observed at midnight on Sunday. The Defence of the Realm regulations prevented it, and most of the London daily papers remarked the absence of the ringing at St. Paul's Cathedral. It would be interesting to know how many centuries have elapsed since the custom was so completely suspended throughout the country.

In France, near the fighting line, however, there appear to have been no restrictions, for Mr. Philip Gibbs, a well-known war correspondent, writing of the passing of the old year, says:—

"Behind the lines—so close that the noise of the guns shakes the windows of French villages and the light of the night rockets make the sky pale above them—bell ringers are going round the little old churches to ring the New Year in. In these little old churches the bells have been rung for many birthdays of the years and the centuries, when Edward the Black Prince came riding through them with Sir Walter Manny and Lord Chandos and other English knights, when Joan the Maid came in her armour with spirit voices calling through the wind, and when the guillotine was put up at midnight in the market square of Arras, and now the bells of France are clashing out again, and the wind mingles their notes with the booming of the guns, and another year of history opens with greater strife than in all the centuries before, and in these villages of France British soldiers stand on sentry duty saying, 'Halt, who goes there?' to any shadow who comes out of the darkness. It is the New Year that answers the challenge."

## STEDMAN TRIPLES.

Mr. J. J. Parker writes with regard to the article from his pen on Stedman Triples, which appeared in our last issue: "Owing to the omission of a part of a sentence at one point, the kernel of the question is lost. In summing up the results from the five-part table, I meant to say: 'But in no case is it possible to get a single group or even a single course in Class II true with any four groups in Class I.'"

## THE LATE CORPL. W. S. INWOOD.

Lieut.-Corpl. W. S. Inwood, of Aldenham, Herls, Royal Fusiliers, killed in action on November 14th. He was a most promising ringer, having achieved peals in Surprise methods, and was a devoted member of the church choir and Bible class at his native parish.



## PLEASANT GATHERING AT CONISBRO'. PRESENTATION TO MR. S. HARRISON.

An interesting ceremony took place at Conisbro', near Rotherham, on Boxing Day, the occasion being the presentation of a silver bell-shaped inkstand to Mr. S. Harrison, the late leader of the new band of ringers at Conisbro' Church.

The presentation was made by the Vicar (the Rev. W. A. Strawbridge, M.A.), who expressed regret at the departure of the recipient of the gift, but assuring him of the best wishes of the clergy, churchworkers and bell ringers of Conisbro'. The peal of eight bells recently hung in the tower had, he said, been placed in the care of Mr. Harrison, who had spared no pains in getting together a band of young ringers, and, furthermore, under his tuition they had made splendid progress.

Mr. Harrison suitably responded, and said it would be always a great pleasure to him to come over to Conisbro' and help them whenever he could.

Mr. G. Hawksworth, of Doncaster, expressed much pleasure in being able to be present on the interesting occasion, and spoke of the genial disposition of Mr. Harrison, and of his ability as an instructor.

The ringers of the local company very kindly invited a few ringing friends from neighbouring towers, and during the afternoon some good touches were enjoyed.

## O.D.G. MASTER HOME ON LEAVE.

The Caversham ringers had the extreme pleasure of welcoming home, on leave from France the other day, the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, Master of the Oxford Guild, whose conspicuous bravery on the field recently gained recognition by the award of the Military Cross. On Sunday, December 16th, "welcome" touches were arranged at Caversham Church, the following being rung: 448 London Surprise: H. Simmonds 1, G. Essex 2, Second Air-Mechanic J. Thomas, R.F.C., 3, A. D. Cullum 4, E. J. Menday 5, Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn 6, H. Smith 7, R. T. Hibbert 8. 504 Stedman Triples: Air-Mechanic L. Griffiths, R.F.C., 1, J. Thomas 2, W. Hibbert 3, C. Giles 4, G. Essex 5, E. J. Menday 6, Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn (conductor) 7, A. D. Cullum 8. Also a course of Cambridge Surprise.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX. — On Nov. 5th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1280 changes): E. Bonfield 1, J. Waghorn 2, R. Bevan 3, A. E. Brightman 4, E. F. Cole 5, T. Beadle 6, C. Hunt 7, P. Smith (conductor) 8.

BEESTON, NOTTS. — On Sunday, Nov. 5th, 448 Superlative Surprise: L. Price 1, A. Coppock (conductor) 2, W. Clifford, senr., 3, F. S. Price 4, C. Dicken 5, W. Clifford, junr., 6, E. J. Boot 7, Pte P. Price 8.

## LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

### SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL MEETING AT CARDIFF.

The annual meeting of the Llandaff Diocesan Association was held at Cardiff on Boxing Day, and, notwithstanding that train arrangements were curtailed, there was a good attendance, the Glamorganshire members especially mustering well, but several abstained from attending in order to carry out the suggestion made through the Press that the public should not travel more than was absolutely necessary so as to enable the trains to carry those serving King and country. Members began to muster soon after 10 a.m. at St. John's, and a party, including Mr. J. H. Shepherd, of Swindon, was made up to go over to Whitechurch, three miles distant, to try the ring of six (tenor 14½ cwt.). A mishap on the road to the motor bus made the journey longer than was anticipated, but on arrival the first to be met was a band from Caerphilly, who, by the way, had called at Llanishen, where there is a light ring of six. After all had tried their hand, steps were made for Llandaff Cathedral, about a mile and a half away. There the bells were quickly raised, and those that had not heard the peal before expressed the opinion that they are a good lot. After touches of Grandsire Triples, the ringers returned to Cardiff, and, on the way across Llandaff fields, the bells of St. John's could be heard beautifully.

### THE BUSINESS MEETING.

A short service, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Henderson, was held at 3 p.m., which was followed by touches on the bells until half-past four, and this finished the ringing for the day. A move was then made to the Grand Hotel, where arrangements had been made to hold the business part of the proceedings. The chair was taken by the Rev. Canon Henderson, who was supported by the two churchwardens.

The Hon. Secretary read a post card, which he had received on the previous day from Mr. A. Peppin, a member of the Association, now a prisoner of war in Germany, acknowledging his grateful thanks to all those that had subscribed at the Pentre meeting towards sending him a parcel.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, Mr. J. Prickett, of Chepstow, being unanimously elected Master for the ensuing year; the two hon. secretaries (Rev. Connop L. Price and Mr. J. W. Jones) were re-elected, and Mr. F. Chamberlain and Mr. S. Daws were elected auditors.

All Saints', Newport, was selected as the place for the next annual meeting, Llanfrechfa for the next Monmouthshire quarterly meeting, and Whitechurch for the next Glamorganshire meeting.

New members were elected from Caerphilly, and also the whole of the ringers at Llangunoyd Church, thus adding one more tower to the Association's list.

The Hon. Secretary announced that one of the members, Mr. Dan Morgan, of Rumney, had been killed in action, and a vote of condolence was passed by all standing in silence. It is with regret also that news has now been received of the death of Mr. F. G. Lewis, one of the Llanfrechfa ringers, who has been killed in action.

At the close of the meeting, the Vicar welcomed the Association to Cardiff. He dwelt at some length on the history of bells, both English and foreign, but nowhere had he heard bells rung as in England. He would, he said, be always delighted to do what he could for ringers, and as regards the bells, if what he had been reading lately, that bells were introduced to drive away evil spirits, was true, he hoped Cardiff bells would ring, and not stop again until all the "devils" were driven out of Cardiff. He mentioned that in the past there appeared to have been a gap between the ringers and the church officers, but he was glad to think this had been removed, and he would be only too pleased to do what he could, if his ringers would only ask for it. He added that he considered the ringing of the bells on special occasions should be recorded.

The Hon. Secretary brought to the Vicar's notice the fact that not a single peal board hung in St. John's tower, not even to record the first peal on the bells, and the reason for it was that a former Vicar objected to any peal records being fixed to the walls. After a word with the wardens, the Vicar announced that there existed no objection now. The St. John's company will, no doubt, bear this in mind, and do their utmost when peace is declared to score a peal, and have it recorded as suggested.

A vote of thanks to the chairman and to the churchwardens for attending brought the meeting to a close.

### ASSOCIATION ENTERTAINED.

At the invitation of Mr. W. Hammelt, one of the churchwardens, the whole of the members adjourned to an adjoining room, where an excellent repast was waiting, the company being graced with the presence of several ladies. At the conclusion of the meal, a musical evening was spent, presided over by Mr. W. Belton. The toast of "the King" having been honoured, glees, solos and handbell ringing followed. The Chairman, on behalf of the St. John's company, welcomed and appreciated the Association for visiting St. John's for the annual meeting. What the members had partaken of that evening, together with the whole of the refreshments which would be required before



dispensing, would be kindly provided by Mr. W. Hammett. This announcement was received with loud applause.

The toast of "the donor" was then submitted by the Chairman, and received with musical honours.—Replying, Mr. Hammett said what he had done had been a very great pleasure to him, but they really had to thank his son, who had expressed a desire to participate jointly in the expense. (Mr. Hammett's son, by the way, is one of the St. John's ringers, but at present holds a commission in the army, and is now serving in France.) He (Mr. Hammett) hoped all had enjoyed themselves, and at any future time he would be only too pleased to do what he could for St. John's ringers. — His co-warden, Mr. James, having spoken in terms of welcome, the musical part of the programme resumed, and the day's proceedings were brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

The Association is very much indebted to the St. John's company for making such a success of the gathering, but more especially is it indebted to Mr. H. Bolton for his untiring personal efforts in bringing about the very best annual meeting yet held in the history of the Association.

The bells of St. John's were made good use of during the day, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent and Forward Major being rung.

#### A CHRISTMAS REVIVAL AT BECCLES.

After several months of silence (owing principally to the war, and the various restrictions at present in force), Christmas ringing at Beccles, Suffolk, came as a very welcome revival, and a number of touches were accomplished in excellent style by the St. Michael's company, members of the Norwich Diocesan Association. On Sunday, Dec. 24th, several touches of Grandsire Caters were rung for divine service in the morning, and also during the afternoon, and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was brought round in capital style, in 57 mins.: R. J. Goate 1, Pte E. Pipe 2, G. Baxter 3, J. Spaulding 4, C. Parnell 5, E. Elteridge 6, H. Ling (conductor) 7, R. Freestone 8.—On Christmas Day, for 7 a.m. Holy Communion, touches of Grandsire Caters; for 11 a.m. service, 504 Grandsire Triples; and for evening prayer and carols, at 4 p.m., touches of Grandsire Caters.—On Bank Holiday, several touches of Grandsire Caters and Grandsire Triples were rung during the morning. The following are the members who took part: R. J. Goate (captain), H. Ling (conductor), H. Reynolds, R. Freestone, R. Rush, E. Elteridge, J. Spaulding, C. Parnell, S. Clarke, G. Baxter, T. Holmes and Pte E. Pipe, Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, one of the company, who the members were extremely pleased to welcome home on a well-earned ten days' Christmas leave, after several months' fighting in the Somme battles.

#### RINGERS ENTERTAIN WOUNDED SOLDIERS.

A party of handbell ringers from Herisham gave selections on handbells to wounded soldiers and friends at Llandaff Military Hospital, Weybridge, on Christmas evening. The following programme was much appreciated by all present: Waltz, "Believe me, those endearing charms"; song (with handbell accompaniment), "Dear old mother"; waltz, "Cinderella"; air, "The rakes of Malloy"; "A course of Grandsire Triples"; waltz, "Merry bells." At the end of the programme the matron voiced the appreciation of those present, and presented a suitably inscribed book to the ringers as a small token of thanks. She also said how good it was of the party to come over without remuneration. The ringers were: Mrs. W. Shepherd, Messrs. F., P. J. and W. Shepherd, and Mr. J. Emery.

#### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

MALDON, ESSEX.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, Nov. 5th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: E. Mansfield 1, J. H. Walcock 2, Sergt.-Major H. Finch 3, H. J. Mansfield 4, A. South (conductor) 5, P. Chalk 6. Arranged for Sergt.-Major H. Finch, who was home on leave from "somewhere" in France.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Nov. 5th, for morning service, 560 Bob Major: Miss E. M. Stuart 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, J. Huddleston 4, T. Stuart 5, T. R. Jackson 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8; and for evening service, 720 Bob Minor: Miss E. M. Stuart 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, J. Huddleston 4, T. R. Jackson (conductor) 5, W. S. Forshaw 6, J. Burrows 7 (covering).

GLOUCESTER.—On Lord Mayor's Day, Nov. 9th, at St. Michael's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Edward Pugh 1, Francis E. Hart 2, Thomas Newman 3, John Austin 4, Jesse Gillett 5, Ernest E. Davis 6, George Condie (conductor) 7, George Brunson 8.

SOLIHULL.—On Saturday, Nov. 11th, on handbells, 180 Doubles, being 120 Grandsire and 60 Stedman: E. C. Shepherd (conductor) 1—2, G. A. Martineau 3—4, V. Rigg 5—6. Also 36 Bob Minor. Longest length on handbells by ringers of 1—2 and 5—6.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, Nov. 12th, 1056 Kent Treble Bob Major: I. Titterton 1, A. Keeble 2, E. S. Bailey 3, H. J. Button 4, J. M. Bailey 5, G. Wilson (conductor) 6, C. Sampson 7, J. G. Rumsey 8.

#### NOTICES.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bolton Parish Church on Saturday, January 6th, 1917. Bells available from 2.30 to 5.30.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Secretary, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Jan. 6th, at St. George's, Bristol. Bells, 2 till 4.30; service to follow; tea, 5 o'clock. Members are urged to attend if possible. Kindly notify by Jan. 2nd to C. J. Walton, 4, Jamaica Street, Bristol.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—Meetings for practice will be held at Bromley (SS. Peter and Paul's) on Saturday, Jan. 6th, St. John's, Deptford, S.E., on Saturday, Jan. 13th, Bromley (St. Luke's) on Saturday, Jan. 20th, and Beckenham, Saturday, Jan. 27th. All 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Friends and visitors will be cordially welcomed.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting of the above society will be held at Burley (Leeds) to-morrow, Saturday, Jan. 6th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Business meeting to follow the ceasing of the bells.—William Barton, Hon. Sec., 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Established 1755.—Annual Business meeting will be held at Tamworth Arms Hotel, Moor Street, City, on Tuesday, January 9th, 1917, at 7.30 p.m. All subscriptions are due at this meeting, and the special attention of members whose subscriptions are in arrears is directed to Rule 5. The balance sheet and statement of accounts for year ending Nov. 30th last will be presented.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting of the Kettering District will be held at Burton Latimer on Saturday, Jan. 13th. Bells ready 2 p.m.; short service 4.15; tea 5 o'clock. Kindly notify me by Wednesday, Jan. 10th.—Robt. F. Turner, Dist. Sec., 160, St. Peter's Avenue, Kettering.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—The quarterly meeting of the District will be held at Fareham on Saturday, January 13th. Bells available 3 to 5. Tea at Miss Foster's, West Street, at 5.30; business meeting after. Will members kindly let me know by Tuesday, 9th, how many will require tea, which will be provided free; visitors 1/-.—E. J. Harding, District Secretary, 76, Carnarvon Road, Portsmouth.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Pendleton (St. Thomas's) on Saturday, January 13th. Bells available from 3 p.m. till dusk; meeting to follow.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late the St. James' Society.—Established 1824).—A meeting will be held at St. Giles', Camberwell, on Saturday, Jan. 13th. Tower open from 2.30 to 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow at the "Stirling Castle," Church St., at 6.30 p.m. Social evening with music to follow. Ringers and friends welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION**—Maidstone District.—A quarterly meeting of the Maidstone District will take place at Bearstead on Saturday, Jan. 13th, 1917. Bells available for ringing at 3 o'clock. A short service at 5 o'clock. Tea provided at 6 p.m. Business meeting after.—S. Hazelden, Hon. Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION**.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Balderstone Parish Church, on Saturday Jan. 13th. Bells ready at 2 o'clock till dusk, meeting to follow.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 132, Morton St., Middleton.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD**.—Guildford District.—Meetings for practice during the first three months of 1917 will be held as follows:—Jan. 13th, Cranleigh; Jan. 27th, Shalford; Feb. 10th, Cranleigh; Feb. 24th, Worplesdon; March 10th, Shere; March 24th, Clandon; all at 3 p.m. Visitors heartily welcome.—J. J. Jones, Hon. Sec.

**WORCESTERSHIRE & DIST. ASSOCIATION**—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Old Hill on Saturday, Jan. 20th. Service in the Church at 4.45. Tea will be provided, to be followed by the meeting in the schools after the service. Bells available for ringing from 3 p.m. until service time. Will all those intending to be at the service and tea kindly let me know on or before Wednesday, Jan. 17th?—E. J. Dowler, 11, Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham, Branch Hon. Sec.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on January 16th and 30th; and for handbell practice on the 11th and 25th. All at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members, who seldom attend the meetings, to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION**.—The Hon. Gen. Sec., Mr. Clement Glenn, having joined the R.N.V.R., all official communications should, for the present, be sent to the President or Hon. Treasurer.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD**.—North and East District.—The Honorary Secretary, Mr. C. T. Coles, having joined H.M. Forces, all communications should be sent to Mr. W. H. Oram, 25, Crown Street, Harrow, until further notice. Will members and others please note?

**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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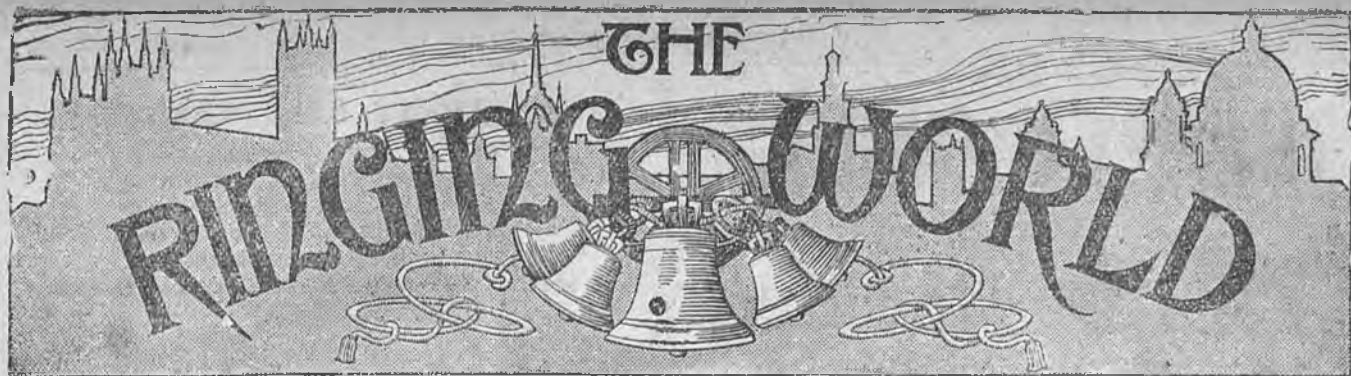
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Guildford, and Published by Messrs. WM. DAWSON & SONS  
LTD., Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.





No. 304. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12th, 1917.

[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. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

## MODERN WORK

### A BELFRY DANGER.

From time to time we hear of valuable bells being damaged by the thoughtless or ignorant acts of those who have access to belfries. Another case has just been brought to light by the Master of the Winchester Guild (the Rev. C. E. Matthews), from whose letter in the "Winchester Diocesan Chronicle"—the official publication of the diocese—it appears, that at some church in the Winchester Archdeaconry a sixteenth-century bell has been irretrievably ruined by the bell being pulled off while the chiming apparatus remained in action. Such an accident as the cracking of a bell is always a matter for deep regret, but it is particularly lamentable when it occurs through avoidable causes; and the Rev. C. E. Matthews does useful service in calling the attention of incumbents to the danger to valuable church property which arises when proper instructions are not given, or remain unobserved, in regard to bells.

It was not long ago that a bell at Exeter Cathedral had to be recast, through cracking by coming in contact with the chiming hammer, and the loss of this old bell in the Winchester district emphasises the need for more general care. Most of the danger arises, we think, from the fact that it is not always the same people who use the chiming apparatus who ring the bells; and if incumbents are to frame instructions, one of the most important and the one that should be placed and remain in the most conspicuous position, is that directing the user of the chiming apparatus to put it out of gear immediately it is finished with. This is a much simpler operation than lowering and pulling up the bells between each service, which is another safeguard which the Master of the Winchester Guild advocates. This latter precaution is the counsel of perfection, but it is not always practicable between the services on a Sunday, while, where there is not a band capable of pulling bells up or running them down in peal, there is much to be said for avoiding, as far as possible, the jangling, which raising and falling the bells singly or in twos and threes, gives rise to.

Where a band is capable, there is nothing nicer, as a good finish to a well-struck touch, than a rhythmical lowering of the bells in peal; but where it cannot be done properly, there is nothing more grating to the ears of the public outside. Raising and lowering in peal is a thing which might with advantage be practised a great deal more, but even so, it would not always be practicable to run the bells down at every service. Whether they should be left up throughout the week is another matter, but the first precaution that is necessary to protect bells from damage by the chiming apparatus being left in gear, is to impress the danger of such an action upon the user of it, and to keep his memory alive to the subject by a conspicuous notice placed where he cannot fail to see it every time he goes to the ropes.

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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 PEAL.

DRIGHLINGTON, YORKSHIRE.  
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.  
(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, December 26th, 1916, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 16 cwt.

JAMES COTTERELL ... .. Treble	PERCY J. JOHNSON ... .. 5
FIRTH HOPWOOD... .. 2	JOHN PALFRAMAN ... .. 6
ALBERT NORTH ... .. 3	JOSEPH BROADLEY ... .. 7
WILLIAM JOYCE ... .. 4	THOMAS B. KENDALL ... Tenor

Composed by J. PLATT and conducted by JAMES COTTERELL.

Rung with the bells half muffled as a tribute of respect to Mr. Hopwood's only son and the following parishioners who have fallen in the war: W. Battye, W. Thornton, E. Clayton, and J. W. Horsfall.

## ROLL OF HONOUR.

From St. Michael's, Stoke-in-Coventry:

Corpl. W. Pryce, XIVth Corps Schools, France.  
Wheeler A. Roberts, A.S.C., now in Salonica.

Pte F. Perwin, A.O.C.

Pte F. Andrews, Royal Fusiliers, now in France.

Pte E. H. Johnson, 3rd Royal Warwicks.

From All Saints', Allesley:

Pte G. H. Kettle, 92nd T.R. Battn., Chisleton Camp.

From Christ Church, Mitcham, Surrey:

Sapper Alfred Miller, 6th Prov. Coy. R.E., Chatham (making the 8th member from this tower).

From St. Peter's Guild, Staunton-on-Arrow:

Sapper C. L. Powell, R.E.

From Beeston Parish Church, Notts:

Pte Albert Coppock, Notts and Derby Regt.

From Bolsover, Derbyshire:

Gunner F. W. Bemrose, R.F.A., now at Ripon.

From Bushey, Herts:

Air-Mechanic P. Parslow, R.F.C., now in France.

## SUDBURY RINGER KILLED IN ACTION.

The ringers of Sudbury, Suffolk, have lost a much-respected colleague, Mr. C. W. Lee, who was killed in action in France in November. The deceased was the only son of Mr. W. Lee, another well-known Sudbury ringer, who met with an unfortunate accident at Sudbury Railway Station siding some few weeks back. His brother ringers sympathise with him in the loss of his son, and wish him a speedy recovery from the effects of his accident. As a tribute to the memory of the young soldier, half-muffled touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the bells of All Saints' Church, on December 16th, by the following: C. Poulson, A. Symonds and S. H. Symonds (Lavenham), A. Perry, G. Tatum, A. Scott, S. J. Howell, A. Cardy (Sudbury).

## RINGERS IN ACCIDENT.

As the ringers were making homewards they were almost run down by a motor-car on the Market Hill, Mr. A. Symonds being nearly under the off-side front wheel, and Mr. Cardy, more unfortunate, was knocked down under the bonnet of the car, and slightly injured in the back. The rest happily escaped.

This accident provided a curious coincidence. On the 100th anniversary of the death of Lord Nelson the bells of All Saints' Church were rung, muffled, and Mr. Symonds, who had been assisting the Sudbury ringers, went up to the bells with Mr. Cardy, after the ringing, to remove the muffles. While they were doing this, Mr. Symonds slipped off the frame under the tenor, cutting his head and hurting his shoulder. After ringing muffled for the late Mr. Lee, the other day, the same two went up to take off the muffles, and Mr. Cardy reminded his friend of the previous accident, and warned him not to fall under the tenor again, little dreaming that he himself was so near a serious mishap. We are glad to state that Mr. Cardy was able to walk home after his accident.

## COMMISSION FOR BUSHEY RINGER.

A well-known Bushey ringer, Robert Stavert, who has been in the army since the early stages of the war, has been given a commission, and is now Second-Lieutenant in the 3rd City of London Regiment.

## CHRISTMAS PARCELS TO ACTIVE SERVICE MEMBERS.

Following their example of last year the ringers of St. George's Society, Clun, Salop, dispatched to their five absent members a Christmas parcel, each containing plum-pudding, plum cake, chocolates, cocoa and milk, and cigarettes. The parcels duly reached their destinations, and, needless to say, were much appreciated.

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**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.****SONNING DEANERY ANNUAL MEETING.**

The annual general meeting of the Sonning Deanery Branch was held on Saturday, at St. Paul's, Wokingham. Evensong was said in church at 5.30 by the Rector (the Rev. H. M. Walter). The Rev. F. M. Caulfield read the lesson.

An eloquent address was given by the Rev. S. M. Winter, Vicar of Wargrave, who, basing his discourse on Judges xiv. 14, graphically showed, by reference to the war, how out of peril came forth sweetness; out of death a new sort of life; out of dry bones a busy hive of industry; out of a barren field a fruit which shall be sweet to those that come after. The new binding love of the different parts of the Empire, the truly national government, the triumph of science over malaria, septic poisoning, and the prevention thus of war wastage, all gave cause for thanks to God. Applying the text to their belfries at home, he said the bells played their part—in peace and in war. In olden days they rang the alarm, now they hung in silent protest. Might they again ring out in due time, on the conclusion of peace—such a peace that they might thank God for, and that would advance His Kingdom. Could they not thank God already for many things in the belfry—this and that man readily answering the call of King and country, the noble self-sacrifice of those whose lives had been laid down? All, too, had learned more of the value of prayer, more of the old belfry rule that "Those who ring the bells to call others to church should themselves fill their place in God's house." They thought less of themselves, and were more determined to do their work; though there were none to praise them (visitors to the belfry being but few), they would have learned something that was good during the war, each man doing his part "as unto God, and not unto men." Thus they gave their answer to the riddle.

The discourse was followed with much interest. A short war intercession followed, and the service closed with the National Anthem.

Tea followed, in the Parish Room, the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis presiding. Among those present were: Revs. H. M. Walter, B. Long (All Saints', Wokingham), A. P. Carr (St. Sebastian's, Wokingham), S. M. Winter, E. E. Broome (Hurst), branch hon. sec., and P. Nichols (All Saints', Wokingham); also Mrs. Broome and Mr. G. N. Durbridge (organist), and Mr. Saunders, an old ringer. There were also present 49 ringers, including three ladies. After the final grace, the National Anthem was sung.

At the business meeting, over which the chairman of the branch, the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis presided, letters of regret for absence were announced from Lieut. Breach and the Rural Dean (the Rev. G. F. Coleridge).

**THE ANNUAL REPORT.**

The Hon. Secretary presented the report and balance sheet. Including former members now at the front, they numbered 194 members, made up of: Life members, 5; honorary, 29; change ringers, 132; probationers, 11; life subscribers, 9. Of a total of 152 ringers, 4 were on active service. The balance in hand was £7 13s. 8d., comparing well with the £3 18s. 1d. of last year. Mrs. Finch of Hurst, by death, and Mr. Hankey, Wokingham, by removal, had been lost as hon. members. He congratulated the Rev. A. E. Cousins, once a Sandhurst ringer, now a Chaplain of H.M. Forces, on winning the Military Cross. G. Collins and E. Lloyd were still missing, with a slight hope of their being prisoners of war. He regretted the loss (killed in action) of S. Gearing (Binsfield) and A. V. Loader (All Saints', Wokingham).

The report and balance sheet were adopted. The Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis was heartily thanked, and re-elected chairman. The Rev. E. Broome was thanked, and re-elected hon. secretary, the chairman remarking how excellently Mr. Broome had carried out his duties ever since 1892, when first elected.

The Rev. B. Long thanked the Vicar of Wargrave for his address, the Rector of St. Paul's for the use of the church and parish room, and the organist for his capable services. He also congratulated the Vicar of Wargrave on the restoration of his church and bells.—Each gentleman suitably responded. Foremen of towers were then re-appointed, viz.: Arbourfield, S. Embler; Barkham, A. Cook; Binsfield, H. Bungay; Easthampstead, W. Newton (deputy); Finchampstead, W. Goddard; Hurst, Jos. White; Hurst (ladies), Miss Roe; Sandhurst, H. Watts; Sonning, G. J. Wright; Twyford, F. Dentry; Wargrave, W. Easterling; Wokingham (All Saints'), S. Paice; Wokingham (St. Paul's), T. Houlton. Messrs. Dentry, Moth, S. Paice and Wright were re-elected on the Guild General Committee.

The Chairman said if that year saw the end of the war, he hoped to see also their Guild Festival at Oxford, with their Bishop, if possible, again to preach the sermon. Their Guild Master (Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn) had, since their last annual meeting, won the Military Cross (applause). He would write and tell him how they applauded that statement. In printing the Guild report, expenses would be reduced to a minimum. The income was £105, expenditure £46 only. They had also £22 in the reserve fund, beside that balance of £60. Money would be wanted for the festival, which should be well done. He regretted Government regulations did not permit of ringing, as usual, after their meeting.

The Rev. B. Long thanked the chairman for his services of the past year.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.****DEVIZES BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING.**

On Saturday last, the annual meeting of the Devizes Branch of the Salisbury Guild was held at St. John's Church, Devizes, and there was also ringing towers of St. Mary's, Devizes, and St. James', Southbroom. The authorised Guild service was held at St. John's, the Rector (the Rev. A. H. T. Clarke) officiating, and Mr. H. H. Baker kindly presiding at the organ. Afterwards tea was partaken of at Mr. Gould's Cafe in the Market Place, to which 17 sat down, including the Rector and Mrs. H. Brownlee West, of Avalon.

The business meeting, which followed, was presided over by Mr. S. Hillier, supported by the hon. secretary, Mr. H. Brownlee West, and ringers from the towers of St. John's, St. Mary's, St. James', Southbroom, Holt, Chirton, Bromham, Swindon, and Bishop's Cannings.

The secretary's annual report was presented, from which it appears that eleven meetings had been held in the branch during the past year, with an average attendance of 26, a considerable increase over the previous year, in spite of the great depletion caused by the war. The towers of Holt and Seend had withdrawn from their affiliation to the Guild, but on the other hand, Bratton, Steeple Ashton, Erchfont, and Upavon, had again re-entered the fold. Eleven honorary members had kindly contributed to the support of the Guild, and three new life ringing members had been elected during the year. The total membership of the branch for 1916 stood as follows: Change ringers, 111; round ringers, 142; honorary members, 11; total, 264, of whom 81 are at the war.

The balance sheet for the year proved to be satisfactory. Although no subscriptions had been received from the 81 members with the forces, there was still a respectable balance to be carried forward to 1917.

The chairman, Mr. Hillier, and the secretary, Mr. H. Brownlee West, were, with unanimous consent, re-elected to office for another year, with many thanks for their past services, and a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector of Devizes and the Vicar of Southbroom for the use of the church bells, and also to the organist of St. John's, brought a very pleasant and successful meeting to a close.

**RINGING DAY AT SALEHURST, SUSSEX.**

Continuing a very old custom, the ringers of St. Mary's Church, Salehurst, assisted by a few friends, met at the belfry on New Year's Day to welcome in 1917. The bells were rung at intervals from 10 a.m. till dusk, and among other touches, 1260 Grandsire Triples (conducted by Mr. C. Tribe) and 1344 of Grandsire Triples (conducted by Mr. A. E. Edwards) were successfully brought round. In addition to the local ringers there were also present Messrs. W. Franks and W. Thomas (Battle), C. Tribe (Tenterden) and W. H. Lambert (Benenden). True ringers' grit was shown by Mr. Lambert, who, although well advanced in years, walked from Benenden and back, a distance of nine or ten miles each way. At 5 p.m. an excellent tea was partaken of at the Old Eight Bells Inn, when the Vicar, the Rev. C. E. Ward, M.A., occupied the chair, and was supported by Mr. B. V. Leigh Smith, of Sealands, while Mr. W. H. Perry was in the vice-chair.

The Vicar heartily thanked the men for their regular attendance at Sunday ringing, welcomed the visitors, and expressed the hope that before their ringing day next year peace would be proclaimed. — In replying, Mr. Franks, of Battle, and Mr. T. Booth (local captain) both thanked the Vicar for his kind words, and remarked how lucky the Salehurst ringers were in securing the services of Mr. A. E. Edwards, late of Barcombe.

The usual loyal and patriotic toasts having been honoured, the remainder of the evening was spent in handbell ringing and harmony. — At the close, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Host and Hostess Kirby (ringers' true friends) for the excellent spread they had provided.

**LANCASHIRE RINGER'S DEATH.****MR. CHARLES SHARPLES, OF AUGHTON.**

There passed peacefully away, last month, at Aughton, Lancs, Mr. Charles Sharples, who for upwards of 25 years had been captain of the ringers of Christ Church, where he had been a ringer from the time the bells were installed, close upon 40 years ago. Deceased had taken part in about 50 peals in the standard methods, and had conducted a fair number of peals of Grandsire. He was a member of the Liverpool Diocesan Guild, and attended the last meeting of that society when it was amalgamated with the Lancashire Association.

His remains were laid to rest beneath the shadow of the tower he loved so well, the funeral service being conducted by the Rector of Aughton (the Rev. R. F. Markham, M.A.). Six of the local band acted as bearers, and before and after the service the bells were rung half-muffled in Stedman Triples, by: Messrs. W. Fairclough, W. Bentham, J. Eastham, H. J. Morley, W. Gibbons, W. Rimmer and J. Gardner (of Aughton), B. Counce (Liverpool), and J. Park and J. E. Sholicear (Ormskirk). Amongst the many beautiful floral tributes was one from the members of the band, of which he had been the respected head for so many years.



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*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 DANGER OF LEAVING BELLS "UP."

WINCHESTER GUILD MASTER'S APPEAL.

In the "Winchester Diocesan Chronicle" for January, the Rev. C. E. Matthews, Master of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, draws the attention of church authorities to the danger of leaving bells "up." He writes:—

"May I call the attention of all incumbents and churchwardens who possess a chiming apparatus in their bellfries, to the urgent necessity of having some definite and printed regulations as to its use? A most unfortunate accident occurred lately in the Winchester Archdeaconry. The bells had been left 'up' between the morning and afternoon services. By some means or other, the chiming apparatus had not been thrown out of gear. The consequence was that a valuable old bell, cast in A.D. 1582, was hopelessly cracked, and must be recast. In these times, when most of the older and more experienced ringers are serving their country, many willing but inexperienced lads have taken their places, and sometimes it may happen that the foreman or steepie-keeper is absent. The authorities in charge of all peals should (1) make some fixed rules that either the bells should be rung, or the chiming apparatus used at certain services; (2) issue an order to the ringers that the bells are never to be kept 'up' between services, but always lowered. The custom of keeping bells 'up' is both dangerous and lazy, and is entirely unnecessary."

## METHOD CONSTRUCTION.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir.—In reply to your two correspondents of last week—Mr. Cleal and Mr. H. W. Fright—let me once more reiterate that we have passed the stage of theorising in method construction, and we know as an absolute fact that Touches, Methods, Principles and Systems, are produced by bobs (or by bobs and extremes) made in the Quick and Slow primary principles, separately or in combination.

In both Quick and Slow primary principles the fundamental row is always first, and on all numbers of bells from three upwards, the last row before the fundamental row comes up again in a simple transposition row.

Every Touch, Method, Principle or System in which the bobs (or bobs and extremes) have been properly duplicated in the first lead or division also have a simple transposition row at the lead end or division end, as the case may be.

There are never more than two round blocks of any Touch, Method, Principle or System, starting from the fundamental row, which, when proved by Reciprocal proof, will have only one false row—a simple transposition row—and the one false row on all numbers—Even or Odd—is the lead end or the division end which comes at hand-stroke.

Reciprocal proof is proving row against row by transposition, using the altered positions of the bells from the fundamental row, and once it is fully understood there is no further use for argument on Method construction, everything becomes as simple as the fact that twice two make four.

At some future date, with your permission, I will try and explain to readers of "The Ringing World" the two kinds of proof—Reciprocal and Equivalent—that I make use of in examining methods, but at present I have not the spare time to go into the matter.—Yours faithfully,

Brighton.

GEORGE BAKER.

## "DIXON'S VARIATIONS."

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir—I was interested in reading the account of "Dixon's Variations" in J. J. J.'s article on "Ancient Ringing Performances." I may say that I knew the composer, Mr. Dixon, in years gone by, also Mr. Hollis and Messrs. S. Black, senr. and junior. The method referred to was very much practised in the district mentioned about 50 or 60 years ago. It is simply Bob Minor in which the following rules are observed:—A Bob is made in the usual way whenever the second or fourth lead, and whenever the tenor dodges behind with any bell except the fifth at a lead end. This rule affects the treble, as well as any other bell, if she happens to be in fourth's place when the call is made, thus:—

	514632
	541362
Bob	453126
	435162
	341526
	314256

A single is made in the usual way whenever the tenors dodge together behind, and an "extreme" whenever the tenor dodges in 3—4 at a lead end. Extremes are made thus:—

	125634
	126534

The peal contains 136 bobs, 6 singles, and 4 extremes. I have never heard of any attempt to apply the method to more than six bells.—Yours, etc.

J. R. JERRAM.

Salisbury.

## DEATH OF MR. ALFRED W. GRIMES.

### REMARKABLE RECORDS IN RINGING RECALLED.

It is with sincere regret that we have to announce the death of that splendid ringer and right good fellow, Mr. Alfred W. Grimes who, after an illness extending over many months, has passed away at the residence of his parents, at Debenham, at the comparatively early age of 35 years. The disease to which Mr. Grimes has succumbed was contracted from a chill, pleurisy and pneumonia subsequently supervening. For some time Mr. Grimes was in Ipswich Hospital, and after his discharge went to Debenham for a change before returning to his London home. For a while he seemed improved in health, but latterly he got much worse, and the end was not unexpected. Much sympathy will go out to his wife, who is left with a family of six young children (the eldest only nine and the youngest a month old), and to the other relatives who are left to mourn their loss.

Alf. Grimes was one of those great ringers who are born and not made. He was in the very first flight of practical exponents of the art, and no man ever did so much ringing in so short a time as he. He was the cheeriest of optimists, and his genial nature made him a host of friends. Ringers in London, where he did the principal part



of his ringing, will deeply regret his loss, and the Exercise generally is the poorer for his death, which took place on Wednesday of last week.

### PEAL RINGING EXTRAORDINARY.

Born at Copdock, near Ipswich, on January 30th, 1881, Alfred William Grimes spent the early part of his life at Debenham, where, under the tuition of his father, Mr. William Grimes, one of the best known ringers in the Eastern Counties, he learnt to master a bell at an early age, and had instilled into him that greatest of all good ringing essentials, accurate striking. His first peal was rung at Thornden on November 21st, 1896, and consisted of seven 720's of Bob Minor. His second was on February 27th, 1897, at Debenham, where, also, he culled his first peal. He rang over fifty peals in the Debenham district, and then migrated to London, where, for a time, he remained practically outside ringing. He re-entered it again in 1909, when, while on a visit to Debenham, he met some of the band from St. John's, Waterloo Road, London, who were spending a holiday in the district. He was invited to meet them when they all got back to town, and this he did, joining the society to which he continued to be attached. Opportunities for ringing came his way, not only at St. John's, but with the College Youths and the Middlesex Association, and other societies which touched the London area, and in addition to being always ready to take his place for service ringing, and at the many practices held in the Metropolis, he soon took enthusiastically to peal ringing, in which, in the years 1912 and 1913 he set up a record unequalled by any other ringer. In the first of these two years he rang 114 peals, and in the second 126, making exactly 250.

### SOME MEMORABLE PERFORMANCES.

Mr. Grimes was one of those ringers who was at home in any method and on any bell. He could strike a big one as well as a small one, and was always ready to tackle an awkward job. No method presented any difficulties to him, and he was just as happy ringing

Bob Major as he was Cambridge Maximus. To him the ringing was the thing, and, as long as it was good, he got pleasure out of it. He would always be relied upon, not only to be in his place when wanted out to ring his bell, however difficult the method, without a mistake many of his peals were notable. He took part in the 15,264 Bristol Surprise record at Hornchurch in 1912—the longest surprise peal ever rung—the first peals of Cambridge, Bristol and London Surprise in Cornwall, the first peal of London in Devon, the first peal of Norfolk Surprise in London, Kent, Essex and Norfolk, the first peal of Forward in London, and the first peal of Bristol in the City, the first peal of Cambridge Royal in Essex, and the first of Cambridge Maximus in Cambridgeshire, and the first peals of Waterloo Major and Brighton Surprise Major ever rung. Among the heavy bells which Mr. Grimes rang to peals was St. Peter Mancroft tenor (43 cwt.) to Treble Twelve, and that bell was never better rung, although many great men have turned her in. In the year when he made the individual record for twelve months—136 in 1913—the tower hall peals were rung in 71 bellries in 11 different counties. The last specially noteworthy performance in which he took part was the ringing of four Surprise peals in four different towers in one day, which was accomplished on April 13th, 1914. And, sad to recall, he is the second of that band to cross the valley.

Mr. Grimes' handbell ringing record is also a striking one, and although he was usually content to ring the back pair, he was equally competent when called upon to ring "inside" bells. His last tower bell peal was one of Bob Major, which he called at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the late Capt. H. J. Sudell, but his last peal of all was on handbells, on Feb. 15th, 1916, at 49, Wood Street, Walthamstow, where, by a coincidence, his intimate friend and colleague, the late Mr. Ernest Pye, had also rung his last peal. As far as we are able to say at the moment, Mr. Alf. Grimes rang 439 peals, of which 88 were on handbells, and the following is the list:—

	Tower Bells		Handbells	
	Rung.	Cond.	Rung.	Cond.
London Surprise Major	15			
Bristol Surprise Major	41			
Superlative Surprise Major	28	1		
Norfolk Surprise Major	9	1		
Brighton Surprise Major	1			
New Cambridge Surprise Major	4			
Cambridge Surprise Major	39	1		
Cambridge Surprise Royal	12			
Cambridge Surprise Maximus	2			
Duffield Major	1			
Forward Major	1			
Waterloo Major	1			
Double Norwich Major	54	4		
Oxford Treble Bob Major	20	2		
Kent Treble Bob Major	15	4	2	2
Kent Treble Bob Royal	17	2	2	2
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	6		1	
Bob Major	17	3	4	
Bob Royal			5	1
Bob Maximus			1	
Grandsire Triples	3		5	
Grandsire Caters			2	
Stedman Triples	19		13	
Stedman Caters	28		26	
Stedman Cinques	18		27	
On six bells	5	1		
Totals	351	19	88	5

Mr. Grimes was a member of the College Youths (in which society last November he was elected to the office of Senior Steward), London County, Middlesex, Norwich Diocesan, Kent, Oxford, Hertford, Sussex, Warwickshire, Devon and Fly Associations; St. Margaret's Society, Westminster, and the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich.

### RINGERS' TRIBUTE AT BISHOPSGATE.

The funeral took place on Saturday, and on Sunday last, for morning service, the bells of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, City, were rung fully muffled, as a last mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, who frequently attended there for service ringing. On the same afternoon, several of his intimate ringing comrades attended, and rang the "whole pull and stand" (half muffled). Mr. C. F. Winney, who was visibly affected, repeated the 130th Psalm (De Profundis), which tended to make this solemn rite most impressive. The ringers stood as follows: C. F. Winney (conductor) 1, W. G. Matthews 2, W. A. Alps 3, T. Walker 4, H. Mance 5, W. Hewett 6, T. H. Taffender 7, A. Pettitt 8. Following this, touches of Stedman Triples and Double Norwich Major were brought round, the following taking part: R. Sanders, J. Barry, W. Essery, T. Coledge, E. Brett, and F. Pike, the conducting being shared by Messrs. Alps, Sanders, and Taffender. The last occasion on which Mr. Grimes rang upon tower bells was the 30th April, 1916, at St. Botolph's, in a touch conducted by Mr. W. A. Alps. The state of his health at that time can be gauged by the fact that his request was to ring on the front, a desire quite foreign to the Alf. of former days. R.I.P.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

The December meeting of the Western District of the Yorkshire Association was held at Pudsey, when about 30 members attended, representing 14 towers. During the afternoon the fine peal of bells were kept going in several methods. Subsequently the visitors adjourned to the White Cross, where the local company had kindly provided refreshments.

The business meeting was held in the evening, Mr. G. B. Bolland (President) presiding, supported by Mr. P. J. Johnson (Ringing Master), Mr. J. Cotterell (Treasurer), and members of the committee. Mr. Herbert Scott (of Birstall) was elected a member of the Association.

The venue for the annual district meeting in March was left over for the committee to select a suitable tower.—Mr. P. J. Johnson proposed a vote of thanks to the church authorities for the use of the bells, and to the local company for making the necessary arrangements, etc.—Mr. J. Broadly, of Shipley, seconded, and Mr. P. Cordingley replied for the local company.

Afterwards, handbell ringing in the following methods brought a most enjoyable meeting to a close: Grandsire (Caters, Royal, Triples, and Major), Bob Major, Oxford and Kent Minor.

**RINGER'S WEDDING.**

An unexpectedly fine day brought together a good gathering of ringers at Uxbridge on a recent Saturday, when Mr. Win. Welling, of Old Windsor, was married to Miss Gertrude E. Marchant, of Uxbridge, at the old Parish Church of St. Margaret's. This church adjoins a quaint old town hall and market place on a triangular site in the High Street, entirely surrounded by business houses and shops, so that permission to ring at all was a favour on a busy market day. Mr. A. Marchant was best man, while the bride was given away by her father. The bridesmaids were the Misses E. Fuller and Marjory Baskerville, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. Livesey. Of course, the steeplekeeper (Mr. Kedge) was present, and had the bells in going order. The base of the tower also forms the porch, and here the handbell party stood—a party of Bills (Henley, Burden, Fussell and Lawrence), under the leadership of Mr. J. J. Parker—who kept the double-handed cymbals going until the motor-cars had sped away with the company. Eight parishes were represented by the tower bell band in a touch of Stedman Triples—extra hands taking part in some Grandsire, including two of the bridegroom's pupils, who are now equally eligible for a peal, the army, or matrimony. The others present were Messrs. Smith, Jones, Hancox, Honor, Chandler, and Gutteridge. War-time fashion decrees a quiet time and economy, but afterwards the ringers drank "Health and happiness to the Bride and Bridegroom" at a neighbouring hostelry, while the wedding reception went forward at the bride's home.

A visit was paid by the ringers to the neighbouring tower of St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, for an hour, where Mr. Peddie had everything ready for the visitors, and touches of Grandsire, Stedman and Treble Bob were brought home. Further reinforcements arrived here, including Messrs. Horne, Blackmore, and Pte F. L. Bradley, of Sedgely, Staffordshire (44th Canadian Regiment), who has been away from England 11 years, and now took his first pull in Triples after his long rest spell.

**NOTICES.**

**HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION**—Western Branch.—A District Meeting will be held at Watford Parish Church, on Saturday, January 20th. Ringing from 2 o'clock until dusk. Meeting afterwards.—F. A. Smith, and F. Edwards, Secretaries, 67, Upper Paddock Road, Oxhey, Watford.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION**.—Northampton District.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held at Ecton, on Saturday, January 20th. Bells ready 2.30 p.m. Service 4.40 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—T. Law, District Secretary, St. Peter's Cottages, Weston, Favell.

**SITUATION WANTED.**

**WANTED**.—Situation as GARDENER, 22 years' experience in all branches;  $3\frac{1}{2}$  years in present place; not eligible for the army, change ringer on 6, 8, or 10 bells. Glamorgan or Monmouthshire preferred.—Apply F. Edwards, 38, Ludlow Street, Penarth.

**HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.**

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

**NOTICES.**

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION**.—A quarterly meeting of the Kettering District will be held at Burton Latimer on Saturday, Jan. 13th. Bells ready 2 p.m.; short service 4.15; tea 5 o'clock. Kindly notify me by Wednesday, Jan. 10th.—Robt. F. Turner, Dist. Sec., 160, St. Peter's Avenue, Kettering.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD**.—Portsmouth District.—The quarterly meeting of the District will be held at Fareham on Saturday, January 13th. Bells available 3 to 5. Tea at Miss Foster's, West Street, at 5.30; business meeting after. Will members kindly let me know by Tuesday, 9th, how many will require tea, which will be provided free; visitors 1/-.—E. J. Harding, District Secretary, 76, Carnarvon Road, Portsmouth.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Pendleton (St. Thomas's) on Saturday, January 13th. Bells available from 3 p.m. till dusk; meeting to follow.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late the St. James' Society.—Established 1824).—A meeting will be held at St. Giles', Camberwell, on Saturday, Jan. 13th. Tower open from 2.30 to 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow at the "Stirling Castle," Church St., at 6.30 p.m. Social evening with music to follow. Ringers and friends welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION**—Maidstone District.—A quarterly meeting of the Maidstone District will take place at Bearstead on Saturday, Jan. 13th, 1917. Bells available for ringing at 3 o'clock. A short service at 5 o'clock. Tea provided at 6 p.m. Business meeting after.—S. Hazelden, Hon. Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION**.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Balderstone Parish Church, on Saturday Jan. 13th. Bells ready at 2 o'clock till dusk, meeting to follow.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 132, Morton St., Middleton.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on January 16th and 30th; and for handbell practice on the 25th. All at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members, who seldom attend the meetings, to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION**.—The annual general meeting of the Surrey Association will be held at St. Mary Magdalene, Reigate, on Saturday, the 20th Jan., 1917. The ten-bell tower (tenor 20 cwt.) will be open for ringing from 2.30 to 5 p.m. Service 5.10. Tea in Parish Hall, Lesbourne Road, 5.45 (Members 9d.). Please notify intention to be present before Thursday, 18th, to Mr. H. F. Ewins, Eversfield Road, Reigate. It is hoped that those who can possibly do so will endeavour to be present at least at the meeting following tea, for the election of officers to "carry on" so far as may be possible.—Ch. Reading, Asst. Hon. Sec., Union Bank Chambers, Croydon.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD**.—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Rugby on Saturday, January 20th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. till dusk. Committee meeting 4.30 p.m.; Business meeting in belfry, 5.30 p.m.—J. H. White, 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.



**WORCESTERSHIRE & DIST. ASSOCIATION**  
—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Old Hill on Saturday, Jan. 20th. Service in the Church at 4.45. Tea will be provided, to be followed by the meeting in the schools after the service. Bells available for ringing from 3 p.m. until service time. Will all those intending to be at the service and tea kindly let me know on or before Wednesday, Jan. 17th?—E. J. Dowler, 11, Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham, Branch Hon. Sec.

**SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**—Quarterly meeting will be held at Rushall on Saturday, January 27th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in church, with an address by the Vicar (Rev. A. T. S. Talbot), at 5.15; Tea (1/-) in the Schoolroom at 6. Please send word not later than Tuesday, 23rd inst.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Lewisham District.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Beckenham on Saturday, January 27th. Bells available 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Service, with address by Canon H. Arnott, at 5 p.m.; Tea and business meeting to follow in the Church House. A charge of 1/- per head for tea, and this can only be provided for those who send their names to me by Tuesday, Jan. 23rd, the latest. Subscriptions are now due, and should be paid at this meeting.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.**—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Loughborough, on Saturday, January 27th. Ringing from 1.30 p.m. until dusk at the Bell Foundry, and at Stanford-on-Soar. Visitors to Stanford should make up their band previously and notify Mr. Harry Whittle. Committee meeting at 5 o'clock, followed by tea and general meeting for the election of auditors, etc., at 5.30 p.m., in the Coffee Rooms, Market Place. The tea will be free to ticket holders only. Application for tickets, giving each member's name, must reach me not later than first post on the previous Thursday.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec., Cotgrave.

**SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**  
—Annual meeting at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Tower open 2.30 to 5. Tea kindly provided by the Vicar in the Vestry Hall at 5.30 to those who notify me by the 24th.—H. J. Bradley, 25, Winchester Avenue, Brondesbury, N.W.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The Hon. Gen. Sec., Mr. Clement Glenn, having joined the R.N.V.R., all official communications should, for the present, be sent to the President or Hon. Treasurer.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North and East District.—The Honorary Secretary, Mr. C. T. Coles, having joined H.M. Forces, all communications should be sent to Mr. W. H. Oram, 25, Crown Street, Harrow, until further notice. Will members and others please note?

**THE LADIES' GUILD.**—I beg to remind Members that the annual subscription is now due.—Edith K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 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.

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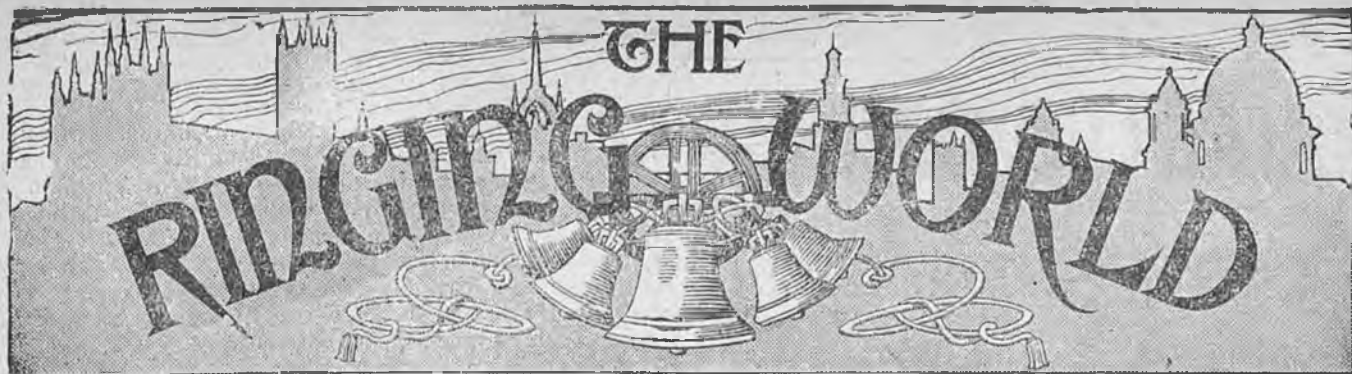
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No. 305. Vol. XII.

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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 LENGTH OF A PEAL.

In introducing a peal of Stedman Caters of ringable length on the plan of Henry Johnson's famous composition of 26,016, Mr. George Clayton calls attention to what he terms the "inequity of the Central Council's ruling" on the length of peals, and argues that in fixing a minimum of 5,000 changes for peals on eight or more bells, the Council have acted on an "inequitable principle." We doubt if Mr. Clayton will find many ringers in agreement with him, or prepared to advocate that we should "accept the nearest product of the length and number of courses divisible by 2, 3, 4, or 5," when that product is less than 5,000. In the first place, the limit for a peal was not an innovation by the Central Council; they merely affirmed in 1892 the minimum which has been accepted by ringers from the earliest days of peal ringing—certainly for two hundred years.

The origin of this number as a peal length is fairly easy to guess at, for it is the nearest round number to the extent of Triples. The minimum length on the higher numbers of bells, while it may be arbitrary and have nothing to do with mathematics, is therefore established by long practice; and we have no doubt that had the Council endeavoured to set up any other standard than that which had received the approval of time, they would quickly have had the Exercise in arms. Moreover, there are not many obvious advantages in changing the limit. That a peal of Stedman Caters, for instance, should be cut down to 4,860 changes in order to enable it to be made up in five equal parts, does not seem to be sufficiently important to change a practice which has the approval of centuries. It is for modern composers to accommodate themselves to old-established principles, and not for the principles to conform to the requirements of later-day composers.

If we read Mr. Clayton aright, we fancy his second suggestion has a good deal of bearing on his first. The gist of the second proposal is that the starting-point of a touch or peal should be permissible at any row, and not necessarily at rounds. The deviation from all preconceived notions of change ringing is compulsory, if Mr. Clayton's proposals, at any rate in Caters and Cinques, are to be of any value. He argues that the "incomparably beautiful cadence" of the tittums position could be maintained from start to finish of the peal if this were permitted. But can we not get it already from the first to very nearly the last change? The importance of the alteration to Mr. Clayton's argument is that to start and end in the tittums position is necessary, if he is to get his peal of 4,860 changes in five equal parts, and maintain the musical qualities from the beginning to the end as he advocates. We think Mr.

(Continued on Page 18.)



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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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(Continued from page 17.)

Clayton will have to adduce stronger arguments than he has yet put forward, if he desires the Exercise to change the recognised and old-established length of a peal on the higher number of bells, or the principle of starting all touches and peals from rounds, which is the natural sequence of the bells in their musical notation, and, to the ordinary ringer, the only acceptable starting-point. Others may differ from us in these views, and our columns are open to their expressions of opinion.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BARNWOOD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 13, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 10½ cwt.

ALFRED A. WAITE ... .. Treble	JOSEPH A. WAITE ... .. 5
JESSE GILLET ... .. 2	THOMAS NEWMAN ... .. 6
JOHN AUSTIN ... .. 3	GEORGE CONDICK ... .. 7
HENRY MITCHELL ... .. 4	FRANK A. WAITE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

First peal on the bells since being augmented to eight. Rung as a birthday compliment to the Rev. F. H. Fowler (Vicar); also to Mrs. F. E. Hart. Mr. Alfred A. Waite and Mr. Henry Mitchell have been connected with the above tower close on 50 years. Mr. Mitchell is now in his 82nd year.

IPSWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION  
AND THE ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.

On Saturday, January 13, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

Tenor 15½ cwt.

ROBERT H. HAYWARD ... .. Treble	HENRY C. GILLINGHAM ... .. 5
WILLIAM MOTTS ... .. 2	EDWARD EVANS ... .. 6
EDGAR PEMBERTON ... .. 3	JAMES MOTTS ... .. 7
WILLIAM J. NEVARD ... .. 4	ROBERT H. BRUNDLE ... .. Tenor

Composed by T. THURSTAN, and

Conducted by JAMES MOTTS.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Alfred W. Grimes. The deceased was a member of the Norwich Association and of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich.

## HANDBELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Saturday, January 6, 1917, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,  
AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. A. WALKER,

81, BAKER STREET, SPARKHILL,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANCES;**

Tenor 17 Size, in B flat.

THOMAS RUSSAM ... .. 1-2	JAMES E. GROVES ... .. 7-8
GEORGE F. SWANN ... .. 3-4	*WILLIAM SHORT ... .. 9-10
ALBERT WALKER ... .. 5-6	JAMES GEORGE ... .. 11-12

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and

Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

Referee: Mr. WILLIAM KENT.

\* First peal of Cinques on handbells.

## LEYTONSTONE BAND'S PERFORMANCE IN 1916.

The following 720's have been rung by the Leytonstone company during 1916, with the assistance of visitors: Surprise Methods—Cambridge 6, Lincoln 5, York 5, London 3, Wells 2, Durham 2, Canterbury 2, Beverley 2, Newcastle 2, Ipswich 2, Chelsea 1, Chichester 1, Worcester 1, Carlisle 1, Norwich 1, Northumberland 1, Chester 1; and, in addition, Oxford Treble Bob 5, Kent Treble Bob 2, Plain Bob 1. The ringers were: W. Theobald 46, W. Miller 43, H. Torble 35, A. Prior 29, J. Moule 26, W. Riches 24, G. Dawson 16, G. Hayden 15, E. Smith 11, W. Doran 9, R. Sanders 8, A. Fiddis 4, G. T. Clayton 2, W. Allcock 2, F. C. Newman 2, G. A. Black 1, E. Andrews 1, A. Hardy 1, A. E. Labbon 1. The conducting was shared by W. Miller 25, H. Torble 8, J. Moule 6, W. Theobald 2, G. Dawson 2, A. Prior 1, R. Sanders 1, A. Hardy 1.

## ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM. THE CENTRAL COUNCIL PRESIDENCY.

The annual meeting of the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held in the Guild's Room at the Tamworth Arms Hotel, Birmingham, on the evening of Tuesday, January 9th last, and bearing in mind the fact that many members are busy making "something for the Germans"—that "something" being in very great demand at the present moment—was fairly well attended.

Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., took the chair, and was re-elected as Presiding Ringing Master for the ensuing year, all the other officers being also re-elected.

Messrs. J. H. Shepherd and Wm. Kent were unanimously elected vice-presidents, and all felt that the honours had been well deserved. Mr. Shepherd has involved the Guild in a deep debt of gratitude for his munificence on various occasions, which he does not care to be talked of, and Mr. Kent has given many years of good, solid service to the Guild. He has recently resumed "active service" after a period of slackness for which he has been duly censured.

The balance sheet for 1916 which was duly adopted, showed an increase in funds of nearly £3 over the previous year, which must be considered highly satisfactory. Among the items appearing in the financial statement were two that called for comment—donations of £9 and £9 10s. from "Anonymous" and Mr. John Carter, respectively, who were thanked heartily for their generosity. These sums were given to defray the cost of framework for peal tablets in St. Martin's belfry, and of the tablet recording the muffled peal of Stedman Cinques rung to the memory of the late Charles Hy. Hattersley, of Sheffield. By-the-by, the photo of the last-named gentleman, promised for St. Martin's belfry, is not yet to hand. (What's that, you say, Sam Thomas? Don't be in a hurry? All right, but don't forget it!)

It was decided to hold the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner on Saturday, Feb. 24th next, so will all intending visitors please note?

Edghaston was chosen as the place for the next quarterly meeting, of course with the Vicar's consent for the use of his bells.

In proposing a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the Hon. Secretary (Mr. A. Paddon Smith) read an extract from a letter he had received from Mr. J. H. Swinfield, of Burton-on-Trent, expressing the hope that Alderman Pritchett would in due course become President of the Central Council.—The Secretary said how proud every member of the Guild would be to see him in that position, and pointed out that the "Ringing World" had evidently gauged correctly the opinion of a large number of ringers, when it singled out Mr. Pritchett as the most likely and perhaps most suitable successor to the late President.—The vote was seconded by Mr. Walker, and carried with acclamation.

In reply, the Alderman said he was deeply touched by the remarks that had been made in that room. He had certainly noticed the references to himself that had appeared in the "Ringing World," and he had received letters on the subject from ringers in all parts of the country. He was proud to think he had earned the confidence of so many brother ringers, and in certain circumstances he might, perhaps, be able to give the suggestion consideration. That would not be, however, until after the war, as he was far too busy to entertain the idea of anything extra at present. He thought it would probably not be wise to fill the position or make any arrangements during the war. It was very flattering even to have been mentioned as a probable successor to the late Sir Arthur Heywood, and a distinct honour in itself, but Sir Arthur had set such high standards that it would be difficult for any man to follow him.

Formal votes of thanks to the other officers brought the meeting to a close.  
A. P. S.

## MILITARY RINGERS AT BLACKPOOL.

On Sunday, December 24th, at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Blackpool, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples: Lance-Cpl. E. J. Mallard 1, Spr. S. J. White 2, Pte T. H. Reeves 3, Pte E. W. Marshall 4, Corpl. J. Lloyd 5, Lance-Corpl. F. Butler 6, Pte M. Hibbert (conductor) 7, T. Bolton 8.—On December 30th, at the Church of the Holy Trinity, 720 Bob Minor, in 24 mins.: Sapper S. G. White (conductor) 1, Pte T. H. Reeves 2, Corpl. J. Lloyd 3, Pte E. W. Marshall 4, Lance-Corpl. F. Butler 5, Pte J. A. Trollope 6.—On Sunday, January 6th, at the Church of St. John, for afternoon service, 504 Stedman Triples, in 19 mins.: Lance-Corpl. J. Mallard 1, Corpl. J. Lloyd 2, Sapper S. G. White 3, Pte E. W. Marshall 4, Pte J. A. Trollope 5, Pte T. H. Reeves 6, Pte M. F. R. Hibbert (conductor) 7, Pte Poole 8. The majority of the band were leaving for Chelmsford, Essex, and wish, through the medium of "The Ringing World," to give their best thanks to Messrs. Crookhall, Smith, Maries, and others, for their cordial welcome and hospitality, the local ringers being anxious to do all in their power to make their stay in Blackpool, from a ringing point, highly successful.

The captain of the Parish Church of St. John (Mr. F. Crookhall) extends a hearty welcome to all service ringers stationed in or near Blackpool, and arrangements for ringing can be made by calling on him at his residence, 18, Bank Hay Street, opposite the Palace Theatre.

## 5400 STEDMAN CATERS.

By GEORGE T. CLAYTON.

4	5	6	15	16	123456789
—	—	—	—	—	326451978
—	—	—	—	—	215436
—	—	—	—	—	165324
—	—	—	—	—	642315
—	—	—	—	—	234516

Repeat four times, substituting a single for the bob at 15 in the last part and repeat the whole.

Additional bobs at 1 in courses 1, 49 and 50.

There are a few other peals of Stedman Caters without a fixed bell in 2nd's place, but so far as I know this is the only one on the plan of Henry Johnson's great peal of 26,016 changes. That peal is so highly commended by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies and Sir Arthur Heywood, vide "Stedman," page 92, and, if I may be permitted to add my mite of praise, deservedly so, that I was induced to compose a peal of a ringable length. The peal is necessarily a good bit over the conventional 5,000 changes, but notwithstanding this, it may find favour with the admirers of a man who in his day and generation adorned the Exercise in many ways.

In connection with peal lengths, however, I should like, if I may be allowed to do so, to call attention to the inequity of the Central Council's ruling. On railways, when halfpence are not accounted for, the fraction is taken when it is  $\frac{1}{2}$  or more, and dropped when it is less. This is equitable, but the Central Council go on the inequitable principle of taking every advantage, and giving none. The extent of the changes on seven bells is undoubtedly the natural peal unit, and I submit that the rule for Major and upwards should be to accept the nearest product of the length and number of courses divisible by 2, 3, 4 or 5. This would make a five-part peal of Stedman Caters, without starting and turning courses, 4,860 changes, which is surely enough for a ten-bell peal. Examples might be multiplied, but the principle advocated is perfectly obvious, and the net result of its adoption would probably be insignificant, for, cutting both ways, the ruling authority would gain in some cases; whereas the present rule so heavily penalises peals in certain parts that such peals are either not composed at all, or they are composed in a form in which they can only be said to be divided into parts by a campanological fiction.

There is another rule which, I venture to think, could be amended with advantage. For a considerable time I have been of opinion that the definition of the words "touch" and "peal" ought to be a round block of so many changes. Theoretically the row called "rounds" is of no more value than any other row, and there is no scientific reason why it should not occur anywhere, or, in non-existent peals and touches, nowhere. Many peals of Stedman Caters and Cinques are lost owing to the turning course, and if not lost the ringing is often more or less rough after the heavy bells have been moved into unaccustomed, and, I may add, musically inferior positions. It seems to me unreasonable that the Central Council, in order to maintain an unscientific and invidious distinction, should put a stumblingblock in the way of ten and twelve bell ringers. What untoward consequences, may I ask, would follow if touches and peals of Stedman Cinques went off from the row ending 78E90? Were this allowable, Annable's incomparably beautiful cadence would be the termination of every course. It ought not to be necessary to observe that, theoretically speaking, in no form of Stedman does it signify in the least whether you go off from, or with, the particular row selected, whatever that row may be. But musical cadences most properly come at the end, and with only two exceptions that I can think of, ringers have had the good taste to recognise this.

These are eminently practical questions over the head of no ringer, and on this occasion, perhaps, some of the silent men will favour the Exercise with their views.

## LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MANCHESTER BRANCH.

On Saturday last, a very successful meeting of the Manchester Branch was held at St. Thomas' Church, Pendleton, when members and friends attended from Ashton-under-Lyne, Bolton, Didsbury, Eccles, Manchester, Prestwich, Stockport, etc.—Mr. Harry Chapman gave a hearty welcome to the visitors, wishing them all a happy and prosperous New Year.

Mr. Frank Stoneley (Miles Platting), Miss Ada Wolstencroft (Ashton-under-Lyne) and Mr. George Marshall (Stockport), non-resident, were elected members of the Association, and St. John's, Deansgate, was chosen for the next meeting, on Feb. 10th.

A resolution was passed, calling upon the president and general secretary to suspend the half-yearly meeting this year, owing to the increased cost of travelling, and to curtail the Association's expenses incurred thereby.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the authorities for the use of the bells, and to the local ringers for having everything ready. The methods rung during the afternoon were: Grand sire Triples, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich, and Superlative Surprise Major.

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry  
Established  
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

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.*

## ACCIDENTS CAUSED BY CHIMING APPARATUS.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—There would be little danger from accidents caused by chiming apparatus being being left in gear if the plan which I described about a year ago, when an accident happened through the same cause at Exeter Cathedral, were adopted. It is simply to have the manual enclosed in a lock-up case, and a single roller with ratchet-wheel and pawl for putting the apparatus in gear; with a block fixed on the inside of the door of the case in such a position that it is impossible to shut the door when the pawl is down in the ratchet-wheel. A printed notice should also be displayed, stating that the apparatus must be thrown out of gear, and the door closed immediately after chiming. It is better, if possible, to have the manual placed in the ringing chamber, when the bells are rung from the floor above.—Yours, etc., J. R. JERRAM.  
Salisbury.

## DAMAGE AT FULMER.

Sir,—The Rev. C. E. Matthew's letter goes to show how truly necessary it is that a notice of some kind should be posted up in every belfry where a chiming apparatus is in use, especially now there are so few ringers available. Our little ring of six (tenor 7½ cwt.) at Fulmer Parish Church (about four miles from Slough) were rehung, and a chiming apparatus installed in 1884. Between then and now, with the exception of the second, all the bells have had pieces chipped off them, through carelessness, by the chiming apparatus being left in gear, as it is fixed in the loft above, and the bells are rung from the church floor. The third and tenor are new bells, and have suffered more severely than the others. As recently as this last summer, a big piece was chipped out of the tenor by the clerk putting the apparatus in gear to chime, and finding the bells set up, went downstairs to lower them without again first putting it out of gear.—Yours truly, G. H. GUTTERIDGE.

## LOSS OF TWO ESSEX RINGERS.

News has come to hand that two members of the Essex Association (South Western Division) have died from wounds received in action in France, viz., Mr. P. Leate and Mr. T. E. D. Loosemore.

The former, who enlisted in the R.F.A., was a well-known member of the Loughton band, and was held in great respect by all who knew him, and the deepest sympathy is extended to the young widow he has left to mourn his loss.

Mr. Loosemore, who was for many years a member of the St. Edward's Guild, Romford, joined up under the group system, and was called to the colours in July, and drafted to the Middlesex Regiment. He went to France in October, and died from wounds received in action in November last. He was for one year the secretary of the South Western Division of the Essex Association, and was held in great esteem by all who knew him. He leaves a widow, to whom the deepest sympathy goes forth in her loss of a gallant husband.

Mr. Loosemore had rung in all twelve peals, made up of Bristol Surprise 1, Superlative Surprise 2, Bob Major 1, Stedman Triples 4, Grandioso Triples 4; one each of the two latter having been on handbells.

## KING'S CLIFFE TENOR FUND.

A sum of only £17 remains to be raised to recast the tenor bell at King's Cliffe, and the church authorities there hope to be able to get the work done by Easter. That being the case, it behoves the Exercise to put their shoulder to the wheel, and find the balance of the money that is necessary. The latest contribution to the fund comes from India, the sum of 2s. 6d. having been received from Pte H. J. Dewey, R.A.M.C., Calaba War Hospital, Bombay. Donations should be sent to the Rev. H. A. Orlebar, King's Cliffe Rectory, Peterborough.

## WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

The annual meeting of the Portsmouth District was held at Fareham, on Saturday, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. G. E. Tarbat). The bells of the Parish Church were available, and ringers turned up from Portsmouth, Wickham, Gosport, Curdridge, Swanmore, North Stoneham, Ryde, Newport, and Ventnor, and visitors from Worcester and Somerset, as well as some of the local band. During the afternoon touches of Bob Major, Grandioso and Stedman Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung. Afterwards the members partook of tea, and the business meeting followed, presided over by Mr. G. Williams, hon. general secretary of the Guild. The district secretary (Mr. E. J. Harding) presented the balance sheet, which showed a balance of nearly £10.

The officers elected were: Rev. C. E. Matthews, Vicar of Titchfield, president; E. J. Harding, secretary; W. Sinter and F. Burnett, representatives; J. Harris, auditor.

It was decided to have the next meeting some time in April, the date to be fixed by the secretary, at St. Thomas', Portsmouth.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar of Fareham for the use of the bells, and to the officers of the district, concluded the business.



### THE DEATH OF MR. A. W. GRIMES. COLLEGE YOUTHS' TRIBUTE.

On Saturday, at the Church of St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang the whole pull and stand funeral peal to the memory of Mr. Alfred W. Grimes, who was a most highly respected member, and the Senior Steward of the Society. Those taking part were: Edwin Horrex 1, Edwin Gibbs 2, Alfred Jones 3, C. H. Horton 4, Henry Springall 5, W. E. Garraway 6, H. Langdon 7, C. F. Winney (conductor) 8, Albert A. Hughes 9, Reuben Sanders 10, Samuel E. Joyce 11, W. T. Cockerill 12. This was followed by three courses of Stedman Cinques: S. E. Joyce 5, A. A. Hughes 7, H. Langdon 9, W. T. Cockerill 11, A. S. Pettett 12, the others standing as before.

One peal, and a notable one in its way, was omitted from Mr. Grimes' list, published in the last issue. This was a peal of Bob Maximus by the Kent Association at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, to which the late Mr. Grimes rang the tenor. The peal was interesting from the fact that it was the first peal of Bob Maximus rung on tower bells in London for more than a hundred years. Among the associations of which Mr. Grimes was a member, in addition to those mentioned, was the Winchester Guild. The last tower bell ringing in which he took part was, we are informed, a course of London, at Barking, at the end of May.

The widow and family of the late Mr. Alfred W. Grimes, and his parents, wish to thank the many friends for the sympathy exhibited to them in their bereavement, and for the kindness shown to the late Mr. Grimes during his long illness.

A half-muffled peal of Stedman Triples was rung to the memory of the deceased at St. Margaret's, Ipswich, by members of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, on Saturday. Mr. W. J. Nevard, of Great Bentley, being in the band. Mr. Nevard had rung 19 peals with the late Mr. Grimes, two of them at Debenham, and the rest in 17 other different towers in Suffolk, London, Cornwall, Devon, and Surrey.

### A REMARKABLE COINCIDENCE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The sad news of the death of my dear friend, Alfred W. Grimes, came as a great blow to me, and I am sorry to be too far away from London to pay my respects to him in the usual ringer's fashion. What you say about his last peal is quite true, but the coincidence is even more remarkable. The last peal in which he rang was my first of Stedman Caters, on handbells, and he sat on my immediate right, whilst the last peal in which the late Mr. E. Pye rang was my first of Stedman Triples, on handbells, and Mr. Pye also sat on my immediate right. Thus the finish of their ringing careers seems to me to be bound up with my own in a way that I shall never forget. We shall all miss our late friend, and our deepest sympathy goes out to his widow and family in their bereavement.—Yours faithfully, C. T. COLES (Sapper).

No. 2 Hut, B Company, R.T.D., R.E., Longmoor Camp, Hants.

### ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.

The annual meeting of the Romney Marsh and District Guild was held at Appledore on Saturday week, and, taking all things into consideration, the attendance was quite satisfactory. Grand-sire Doubles and Triples were rung throughout the afternoon, and a service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar and President of the Guild (Rev. A. O. Scott), at which all the absent members on active service were specially remembered. Tea was partaken of at the Red Lion, Host Noakes, as usual, providing a bountiful spread, and the Vicar presiding.

At the general business meeting following, the Secretary presented his annual report, in which it was stated that although the times had been adverse to ringing, they had been able to get in their twelve monthly meetings for the year, most of which had been very well attended. There were 40 active members, as against 35 in 1915, and two hon. members, and the balance in hand was £4 8s. 9d., as against £3 3s. 5d. at the end of 1915. The President (Rev. A. O. Scott), the Master (Mr. G. Youngs), and the Secretary (Mr. H. Balcombe), were unanimously re-elected, and all received a hearty vote of thanks for their past services. The names of Mr. C. Everett (Ashford), Mr. R. Barman (Woodchurch), and Mr. R. Card (Rye), were added to the committee, and the next meeting arranged to be held at Stone on Saturday, Feb. 17th.

The Secretary read a letter which he had received from Gunner A. H. Pulling from "somewhere in France," who sent hearty greetings to all the members, and said he often lived over again the happy times he had spent with them during his stay in their neighbourhood, and he was looking forward to renewing their acquaintance after the war.

A vote of sympathy was passed to Mr. G. Johnson, who was ill, and unable to attend, it being the first annual meeting he had missed since the Guild's formation.—Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for his permission to hold the meeting for the service, and for presiding at the tea and meeting; to Miss Avery, the organist, for playing for the service, and to the host and hostess for the bountiful tea. The towers represented were: Ashford, Rye, Woodchurch, Stone and Tenterden, and the local tower, Ashford, came out strong, with six representatives.

### EARLSHEATON BELLS RESTORED. PLEASANT YORKSHIRE GATHERING.

On Saturday, January 6th, at the invitation of Mr. Walter Idle, of the local band, there was a gathering of ringers at St. Peter's Church, Earlsheaton, to try the bells of the church, which had recently undergone a thorough renovation at the hands of Messrs. J. Taylor and Son, of Loughborough. The bells were cast by Mears, in 1855, being a peal of eight, with a 14 cwt. tenor, and were a nice musical peal. Some twelve months ago the "go" of the bells became very heavy, and as the Earlsheaton ringers are famous strikers and ringers, invariably occupying a prominent position at the local contests, Messrs. Taylor were called in to set matters right. The result was that a new iron frame was put in, with all new fittings, wheels, headstocks, etc., the bells being returned on Canon Simpson's principle, the result being a great credit to the famous Loughborough foundry. The following gentlemen accepted the invitation to attend: Messrs. G. B. Bolland (Tong), F. Salmon and J. Cotterell (Haltwhistle), F. W. Dixon (Guiseley), H. Oddy (Thornhill), J. Broadley and T. B. Kendall (Shipley), P. J. Johnson (Holbeck), and last, but not least, Mr. Harry Withers, of Birmingham. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m., and consisted of various touches of Kent Treble Bob and Stedman Triples, the conducting being shared by Messrs. Johnson, Withers, Dixon, and Cotterell. The tone and go of the bells were greatly admired, the tuning in particular coming in for great praise, as the 14 cwt. tenor sounds as if it were a much larger bell.

Tea was provided at the Co-operative Restaurant, Dewsbury, by Mr. Idle, the party there being joined by the members of the local branch, some 25 ringers sitting down to a really splendid tea. An adjournment was then made to the headquarters at Earlsheaton, the evening being spent in handbell ringing in various methods, while Mr. Withers, with his dulcimer, completely mystified and delighted his hearers by the ease with which he produced musical selections and changes, ranging from Stedman Triples to Grandsire Caters, Double Norwich and London Surprise Major, the last named being a truly marvellous performance.

Mr. G. B. Bolland, during an interval, announced to the company that it was the birthday of Mr. Idle, and also of Mr. John Garforth, the veteran of the Earlsheaton band. Their health was drunk, and wishes expressed by Messrs. Cotterell, Broadley and Johnson, that they may be spared many years with good health, to ring on the bells that they had been so long and honourably connected with.

Opportunity was also taken to thank Mr. Idle for his great kindness in entertaining the party, and also Mr. Withers for his fine performances during the evening. Train time brought proceedings to a close all too soon, leaving one wishing that it might fall to their lot soon to meet again under such happy and congenial surroundings in the future.

P. J. J.

### GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. BRISTOL BRANCH MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Bristol Branch was held at St. George's, on Saturday week. The bells (6) were set going soon after two o'clock to various methods until 4.30, when a short service was held in the church. The Rev. G. H. Willmott Ellwell officiated, and, in his interesting address, he referred to the loss to the Association of the Rev. H. A. Cockey. Some 23 members and friends afterwards sat down to tea in the Schoolroom.

Before commencing the business meeting, the chairman of the branch (Mr. H. T. Howell) extended a hearty welcome to the visitors, Mr. A. W. Brighton (of London) and Mr. J. W. Jones (of Newport, Mon.), the latter being a most frequent visitor.

The chair was then taken by the Rev. Willmott Ellwell.—Mr. Howell said they no doubt greatly regretted to learn of the Rev. H. A. Cockey's death, and spoke very highly of his services to the Association, and particularly of the active part he took as hon. treasurer. He proposed that a letter of sympathy be sent to Mrs. Cockey by the hon. secretary, and the members signified their approval by standing in silence.

The balance sheet, presented by the Hon. Secretary, and adopted, showed the branch to be in a good financial position, with a balance in hand of £5 12s. 6d.

The Chairman of the Branch, in his report, said the past year had been very successful, and he asked the members to continue the good feeling and real pleasure shown at the meetings. He also urged that a still more keen interest be taken in the Association, and its objects by all members. Mr. Howell then asked to be allowed to resign the chairmanship, considering it would be better to have new blood for the new year.—With the unanimous wish of the members, however, it was decided to elect Mr. Howell again as chairman for the year; it being stated that when a good man occupied the position it was better to keep him there.—The chair was then taken by Mr. Howell for the remainder of the meeting.

A letter was read from the hon. secretary, Mr. Arthur W. Seviour, at present with the army, tendering his resignation. Mention was made of the services to the Association of Mr. Seviour and to his great interest in the ringing, and with the unanimous assent of the members it was decided that a letter of thanks be sent to Mr. Seviour for his efforts during his term of office.

The present hon. assistant secretary, Mr. Charles J. Walton, was then elected hon. secretary for the year, and Mr. C. Gordon was re-elected as representative on the Management Committee.

Mr. G. Condie again brought forward the suggestion to have four fixed quarterly meetings, one in each district, to be decided at the annual meetings, and after discussion it was finally agreed to have the four quarterly meetings for this year, as under: No. 1 District, Henbury, 10th February; No. 2 District, Bilton, 12th May; No. 3 District, Westerleigh, 18th August; No. 4 District, Almondsbury, 17th Nov.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for so kindly receiving the Association again at St. George's, and for taking the chair at the meeting, and also to the lady organist and the organ blower.—The Rev. Willmott Ellwell, in responding, expressed his pleasure at seeing the Association gather at St. George's again, and hoped to have them at another time.—A vote of thanks was also passed to the ladies for arranging and attending the tea.

Several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters and Cinques on the handbells furnished an appropriate end to a successful meeting.

### DEATH OF THE REV. J. H. PILKINGTON. RINGER AND FREEMASON.

The Exercise has lost another of its clerical members by the death of the Rev. James Holme Pilkington, who for thirty years was Rector of Framlingham, Suffolk. The deceased gentleman had not in recent years been actively identified with ringing, but his interest in the art never flagged. He was a member of the Norwich Diocesan Association, for which he had rung 26 peals, and was always a welcome figure at the Association meetings. Twenty years or so ago the reverend gentleman was fond of composition, and he composed several peals of Bob Major of some note. Some of them appear in the Central Council's Collection, among them being a 5088, with the fewest possible number of courses in a six-part composition; a 5088 with the 120 7-8's before, and a perfect seven-part 5152, in which the part-ends are the lead-ends of the plain course in their proper coursing order. While he was Rector of Framlingham Mr. Pilkington carried out the restoration of the church at a cost of £5,000, the scheme including the rehanging of the peal of eight bells.

In Freemasonry the deceased was a very prominent member, and rose to the rank of Deputy Provincial Grand Master of Suffolk, and Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of England, one of the highest honours in the craft open to a clergyman. He was initiated into "Fidelity" Lodge, Framlingham, in 1888; served the office of W.M. on more than one occasion, and was successively appointed Chaplain, Provincial Senior Grand Warden, and eventually in 1902 Deputy Provincial Grand Master of the Province of Suffolk. He was also a Past Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of England. In the Royal Arch he was initiated into "Heuniker" Chapter, Framlingham, No. 555, and after first serving as Provisional Grand Sojourner, was in 1901 appointed Grand Superintendent of Suffolk, which exalted position he occupied with credit to himself and to the welfare of the Province till his death. In Mark Masonry he has been Provincial Grand Chaplain of England as well as of East Anglia. He was also a Past Provincial Senior Grand Warden of East Anglia. In the Rose Croix he was a P.M.W.S.; K.T.; and a Past Provincial Grand Prince of East Anglia.

Although the deceased gentleman was known to have enjoyed anything but good health in recent years, his somewhat sudden death on the 28th ult. came as a shock to his parishioners. The comparatively recent death of the reverend gentleman's daughter, and the fact that his only surviving son was badly wounded in France, resulting in the amputation of the right hand, tended to retard progress towards good health, which the late rector had not enjoyed for some years past. He had the widespread sympathy of all amongst whom he lived in these domestic afflictions, and the large attendance at his funeral indicated the general regret his demise had occasioned.

The first part of the service took place at the Parish Church at Framlingham, the building being filled by a congregation consisting of the townspeople of Framlingham and the representative gathering of Suffolk Freemasons. Canon Abbat (Earl Soham), Canon Goldsmith (Aldeburgh), and the Rev. H. A. Bright (curate of Framlingham) conducted the service, which was fully choral, and attended by a number of supplied clergy. Brahms' "Requiem" was played as the funeral procession entered the church, and the hymns were "O God, our help" and "Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven," set to Goss's music.

The interment took place in Saxted Churchyard, the body being laid to rest at the head of the three graves of the deceased gentleman's children. The remains were followed to their last resting-place by deceased's daughter (Miss Phyllis Pilkington), his brother (Mr. Arthur Pilkington), his sister (Miss Edith Pilkington), and Mr. F. G. Ling. The widow was too unwell to attend, and the deceased gentleman's son (Mr. Dan Pilkington), who is a Second-Lieut. in the Suffolk Regiment, was, of course, unable to be present, being still in a London nursing home. The Rev. Canon Abbat and the Rev. S. W. Key officiated at the graveside service, at the conclusion of which those of the Masons who made the three-mile journey to Saxted dropped sprigs of acacia on to the coffin, which bore the following inscription: "James Holme Pilkington, born July 3rd, 1856; died December 28th, 1916." There were a large number of beautiful wreaths.

## NOTICES.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on January 30th; and for handbell practice on the 25th. All at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members, who seldom attend the meetings, to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—The annual general meeting of the Surrey Association will be held at St. Mary Magdalene, Reigate, on Saturday, the 20th Jan., 1917. The ten-bell tower (tenor 20 cwt.) will be open for ringing from 2.30 to 5 p.m. Service 5.10. Tea in Parish Hall, Lesbourne Road, 5.45 (Members 9d.). It is hoped that those who can possibly do so will endeavour to be present at least at the meeting following tea, for the election of officers to "carry on" so far as may be possible.—Ch. Reading, Asst. Hon. Sec., Union Bank Chambers, Croydon.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**—A Quarterly Meeting will be held at Rugby on Saturday, January 20th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. till dusk. Committee meeting 4.30 p.m.; Business meeting in belfry, 5.30 p.m.—J. H. White, 65, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

**WORCESTERSHIRE & DIST. ASSOCIATION**—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Old Hill on Saturday, Jan. 20th. Service in the Church at 4.45. Tea will be provided, to be followed by the meeting in the schools after the service. Bells available for ringing from 3 p.m. until service time.—E. J. Dowler, 11, Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham, Branch Hon. Sec.

**HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION**—Western Branch.—A District Meeting will be held at Watford Parish Church, on Saturday, January 20th. Ringing from 2 o'clock until dusk. Meeting afterwards.—F. A. Smith, and F. Edwards, Secretaries, 67, Upper Paddock Road, Oxhey, Watford.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**—Northampton District.—The Quarterly Meeting will be held at Linton, on Saturday, January 20th. Bells ready 2.30 p.m. Service 4.40 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—T. Law, District Secretary, St. Peter's Cottages, Weston, Favell.

**SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**—Quarterly meeting will be held at Rushall on Saturday, January 27th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in church, with an address by the Vicar (Rev. A. T. S. Talbot), at 5.15; Tea (1/-) in the Schoolroom at 6. Please send word not later than Tuesday, 23rd inst.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Lewisham District.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Beckenham on Saturday, January 27th. Bells available 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Service, with address by Canon H. Arnott, at 5 p.m.; Tea and business meeting to follow in the Church House. A charge of 1/- per head for tea, and this can only be provided for those who send their names to me by Tuesday, Jan. 23rd, the latest. Subscriptions are now due, and should be paid at this meeting.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.**—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Loughborough, on Saturday, January 27th. Ringing from 1.30 p.m. until dusk at the Bell Foundry, and at Stanford-on-Soar. Visitors to Stanford should make up their band previously and notify Mr. Harry Whittle. Committee meeting at 5 o'clock, followed by tea and general meeting for the election of auditors, etc., at 5.30 p.m., in the Coffee Rooms, Market Place. The tea will be free to ticket holders only. Application for tickets, giving each member's name, must reach me not later than first post on the previous Thursday. —W. E. White, Hon. Sec., Cotgrave.

**SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—Annual meeting at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Tower open 2.30 to 5. Tea kindly provided by the Vicar in the Vestry Hall at 5.30 to those who notify me by the 24th.—H. J. Bradley, 25, Winchester Avenue, Brondesbury, N.W.

**SALOP GUILD.**—Annual meeting, January 27th, 1917, at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury. Ringing, 2 to 5 p.m.; service, 5.15 p.m.; tea in St. Chad's Institute, 5.45 p.m.; meeting 6.30 p.m. Please reply to Rev. F. Tennison, St. Alkmund's Vicarage, before 24th inst.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The annual general meeting will be held at Pontefract on Saturday, February 3rd, 1917. Bells of both churches available until dusk; service in All Saints' Church at 4.45 p.m.; tea and meeting to follow. —H. Williams, Sec. *pro tem.*, New Wortley Cemetery, Leeds.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Ashford District. —A meeting of the above will be held at Hythe, on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells available from 2 o'clock till sunset. A member will be elected at this meeting to serve on a sub-committee to consider the question of a memorial to all those who will have fallen in the War and who have served in H.M. Forces. A good attendance is hoped for. —C. Tribe, Hon. Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—North-Eastern Division. —A district meeting will be held at Coggeshall on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells ready at 2 p.m., until sunset. See notice next week. Subscriptions for 1917 are now due. —B. Ridgwell, Dist. Sec., Rayne.

**THE LADIES' GUILD.**—I beg to remind Members that the annual subscription is now due.—Edith K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 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.—I. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

#### SITUATION WANTED.

**WANTED.**—Situation as GARDENER, 22 years' experience in all branches; 3½ years in present place; not eligible for the army, change ringer on 6, 8, or 10 bells. Glamorgan or Monmouthshire preferred. —Apply F. Edwards, 38, Ludlow Street, Penarth.

#### HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

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

# Clewellins

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Diameter	2½in.	2¾in.	3½in.	3¾in.	4in.	4½in.	5in.
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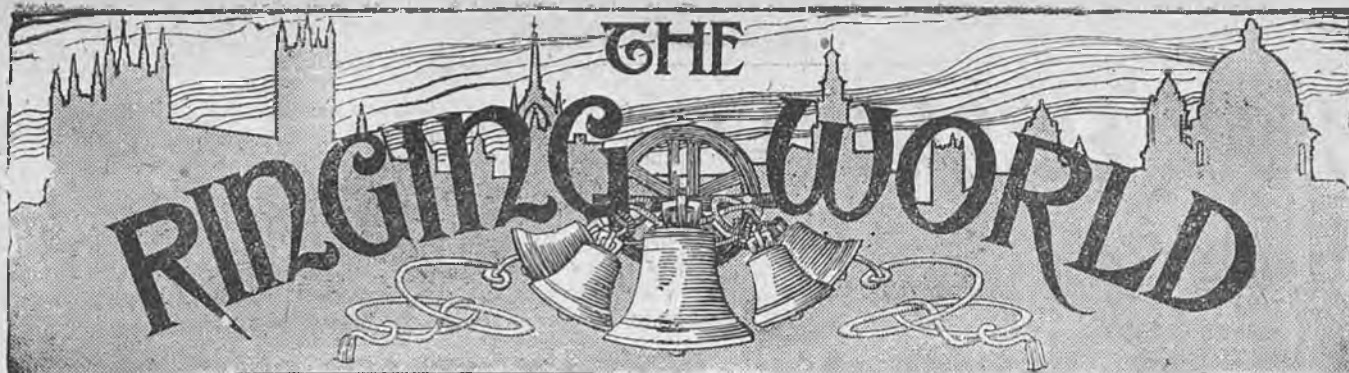
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Ltd. Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.



No. 306. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26th, 1917.

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

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

WULFEON 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 NEXT COUNCIL MEETING.

The preliminary notice of the Central Council meeting at Whitsun has been issued to the members, and, as resolved upon by the Standing Committee last year, the venue is to be Gloucester, which was chosen on account of the fact that, the meeting being one of more than ordinary importance, that city is much more central and convenient to reach than Plymouth, which was selected by the Council two years ago. When the Standing Committee exercised their discretion—wisely, we think—to change the place of meeting, there was doubtless a hope that, before the time arrived for the gathering to be held, the war would be over, or, at least, that the end would be well in sight. The meeting, originally fixed for Plymouth, was abandoned on account of the "pressure of the war and its accompanying burdens," which, it was thought, would make the likelihood of the attendance of a reasonable number of members at so distant a place as Plymouth very remote.

If that was the case last year, have the conditions improved this? The war is still the overburdening preoccupation; the stress is greater than ever, men have less time to give to minor affairs, and, not least important from the point of view of the various associations who have to meet the expenses, the cost of travelling has increased by fifty per cent. We imagine the Standing Committee have taken all this into consideration, or at least will do so before finally convening the meeting. Would ringing suffer seriously if the meeting were postponed for another year? We think not. On the other hand, it would be to the best advantage of the Central Council if a meeting of the importance that its next promises to be were attended by a full complement of members. The prevailing conditions are such as will prevent anything but a limited attendance, and apart from the fact that several members are actually serving with the forces, and a great many others are engaged on work of national importance, and could not give up the necessary time to attend the gathering, some of those associations whose funds are at this time by no means too plentiful, will not be over-anxious to send their representatives, when the distance, as it is in many cases, is so great.

It is because the business of the next meeting of the Council is important—it may have a considerable bearing on the future of the Council itself—that the question of meeting under present circumstances ought seriously to be considered. As long as the Standing Committee are available to deal with any matters of emergency as they arise—and as they did, we believe, in the question which we strenuously advocated recently—the Council would not suffer by postponing its business until it can meet under

(Continued on Page 26.)

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FOR CHURCHES,  
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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 re-  
spects great credit upon your firm,  
and believe that your system of  
hanging the bells reduces the vibra-  
tion 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.

ESTABLISHED 1780.

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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.

(Continued from page 25.)

happier and more normal conditions. It would be a  
thousand pities if the next meeting of the Council were not  
fully representative, and it seems to us that unless there is  
a change of existing circumstances at an unexpectedly near  
date, it is more than likely that the attendance would be  
far below the average. The matter is one which, of course,  
rests with the Standing Committee, who, it must be pre-  
sumed, will carefully weigh the pros and cons.

## SIX BELL PEAL.

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

On Sunday, January 14, 1917, in *Three Hours and Seven Minutes*,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being four 720's of Plain Bob and three of Grandsire each called  
differently. Tenor 10 cwt., in G.

HARRY GOULD ... .. 3	EDMUND ROBBINS ... .. 4
JAMES HEMMING ... .. 2	ARTHUR JORDAN ... .. 5
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON ... .. 3	FREDERICK JORDAN ... .. Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK JORDAN.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to Pte  
William Tayler, a member of the local band, who has fallen in  
France. The peal preceded a memorial service in the Parish Church.

## ROLL OF HONOUR.

From St. Saviour's, Walthamstow:—

Spr. C. T. Coles, Hon. Secretary Middlesex Association, Royal  
Engineers, Railway Transport, now at Longmore Camp,  
Hants.

From Irthlingborough, Northants:—

A.-M. J. Hubert Horn, Royal Naval Air Service, now at Crystal  
Palace.

From Framlingham, Suffolk:—

Pte W. E. Maulden, A.S.C., M.T., now at Grove Park.

## THE LATE MR. A. W. GRIMES.

The interment of the late Mr. A. W. Grimes, whose death has  
evoked much sympathy among his large circle of friends, took place  
at Debenham Cemetery. The principal mourners were the widow,  
Mr. and Mrs. W. Grimes (father and mother), Mr. and Mrs. Sage  
(brother-in-law and sister), Mrs. Perry, Mrs. Burch, Miss A. Grimes,  
and Miss C. Grimes (sisters). Owing to the fact that Debenham is  
14 miles distant from Ipswich, and a difficult place to reach, there  
were no ringers present at the funeral, for most of the local men  
are away in the army, but among the many nice wreaths that were  
sent was a beautiful one from members of the College Youths and  
friends.

## LATE NOTICES.

ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER, S.W.—  
Ringing for evensong will recommence on Sunday next,  
January 28th, at 6 o'clock (service at 7), and on every  
alternate Sunday from this date. All visitors welcome.—  
W. H. Hewett.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby  
District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held  
in St. Andrew's Church Belfry, Derby, on Saturday, Feb.  
3rd, 1917, at 2.30 p.m. Will members whose subscriptions  
are in arrears please send them in; also the Roll of Honour,  
so that the Hon. Secretary's list can be brought up to  
date?—J. Lord, Local Sec., 36, Howard St., Derby.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.  
—North Forest Branch.—The annual general meeting of  
the above branch will be held at St. Mary's Church,  
Newent, on Saturday, Feb. 3rd. Bells (6) available at 2  
p.m. till dusk. Short service in the church at 4.30 p.m.  
Tea at 5 p.m. in the Parish Room, provided free by the  
Rector. Will members who intend coming kindly notify  
me on or before Wednesday, January 31st?—Ex-Sergt.  
Joseph Williams, Acting Sec., Glen Holm, Newent, Glos.



## CHURCH BELLS OF LANCASHIRE.

MR. CHEETHAM'S BOOK.

Those who were fortunate enough to secure a copy of Part I. of Mr. F. W. Cheetham's "The Church Bells of Lancashire" a year or so ago, will welcome the appearance of the second portion of the volume, which promises to be one of the most interesting of all those dealing with the antiquarian study of bells. Part II., like its predecessor, is a reprint from the "Transactions of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society," and deals with the bells in the Hundred of Salford, which includes such centres of ringing as Manchester, Ashton-under-Lyne and Oldham.

Mr. Cheetham's volume is much more than a catalogue of the bells to be found in the Lancashire churches. From old parish records he has unearthed many interesting facts concerning the history of the bells and the customs of the ringers, and consequently this book is as attractive to ringers, and particularly Lancashire ringers, as it is to archaeologists. Mr. Cheetham, in summarising the results of his investigations, tells us that there are only two mediæval bells in the Salford Hundred—one at Bradshaw, of 14th century date, and the other at Clayton Hall, probably a late fourteenth or early fifteenth century bell. There are no church bells of the sixteenth century; but Edenfield, Holcombe, Bolton, Ringley and Great Lever Hall have bells of the seventeenth century. There are a fairly large number of eighteenth century bells, and the Rudhalls, of Gloucester, seem to have done a great deal of work in the district in this period. This, of course, was due to the fact that means of transit by water was fairly easy between the two cities. The Whitechapel Foundry also provided many bells for the Hundred of Salford during the same period.

## ANCIENT RINGERS' RIVALRY.

We have only space to quote one extract from the ringing history that appears in this volume, which runs to nearly 120 pages, and it relates to the old-time rivalry between the Ashton-under-Lyne and Oldham ringers. On August 6th, 1782, it is recorded, says Mr. Cheetham, that "the Ashton Youths rang a true peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 9 mins., the weight of the tenor being upwards of a ton. The above peal is the only one ever yet completed in this county." A week later, "the celebrated Youths of Oldham" rang the same number of changes, in 2 hrs. 50 minutes, but the tenor bell was only about 8 cwt. The active rivalry between Ashton and Oldham seems to have begun in 1783, and only came to an end about 1830. The Oldham ringers are credited with "repeatedly, arrogantly and unprovokedly saying that the Ashton ringers were not able to ring them anywhere"; and when a deputation from Ashton waited upon Oldham they were treated with something like contempt. "Instead of entering into a proper obligation to prove the superior ability of the disputants, nothing was heard on their part but banter, scurrility and defamation." After this a challenge was issued on behalf of the "Ashton ringers to ring upon eight bells any set of ringings belonging to Oldham... for any sum of money not less than eight and not more than twenty guineas." The contest took place at Leeds on September 22nd, 1786, and was decided in favour of Oldham. Both the Ashton and the Oldham ringers met at the opening of the new bells at Flixton, in January, 1808, but at the close of the ringing the judges were unable to come to a decision, and the prize money was divided. The verdict satisfying nobody, a match for £40 was arranged at Flixton, and came off on June 24th, 1808, when Oldham were declared the winners. The conductor of the Ashton ringers Jonathan Wild, was charged with selling the match to the Oldham men, and so high was the state of feeling at the time that Wild left Ashton and went to live at Stockport, where he remained 26 years. The accusation seems to have been unjust, and Wild was allowed to come back to Ashton before his death. For the great contest, both companies went into training. The ringers went to Flixton the day before the contest, accompanied by their supporters; and the number of visitors to the village, it is said, was so large that some had to sleep in the open-air, in carts, etc. After the Flixton match there was continual strife between the Ashton and Oldham ringers for more than 20 years, and it is said to have been carried to such a pitch that "if one of the Oldham ringers strayed to Ashton and was recognised, they ran him out of the village."

## MYSTERY OF ORIGIN OF A BELL.

Is there anyone among our readers who can help Mr. Cheetham to trace the origin of the heaviest of the three bells at St. James', Heywood? The church was built in 1838, but this bell is one by Abraham Rudhall, date 1749. Mr. Cheetham suggests it ought to be possible to discover from whence this bell came from the names of the churchwardens, for it is thus inscribed: "Wm. Swan, Ino. Sharples, Imo. Millor, Robt. Dickson, churchwardens, 1749." It also bears Rudhall's initials.

Mr. Cheetham's volume is a deeply interesting one, far removed from the dry-bones style which one usually associates with the treatment of antiquarian subjects. But those who wish to secure a copy should do so at once, as there are only 50 on sale. They can be obtained from the author, 54, Sussex Road, Southport, post free 2s. 6d.

TUNSTALL, KENT.—On Sunday, Nov. 12th, 720 Kent Treble Bob: Miss C. N. Jarrett 1, E. H. Spice 2, J. W. Unwin 3, W. E. Spice 4, G. H. Spice 5, W. Spice (conductor) 8.

## SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

## MARLBOROUGH BRANCH SUSPENDS MONTHLY MEETINGS.

The annual meeting of the Marlborough Branch was held on Saturday week, at St. Mary's, Marlborough. For various reasons the attendance was not large, but an instructive and enjoyable time was spent by those who were able to be present. The six bells were available at 3 p.m., and were kept going till 5 p.m. The members then adjourned to the Angel Temperance Hotel for tea, which was provided by Host Brown in an excellent manner.

The usual Guild service was dispensed with, but after tea the Rev. A. E. G. Peters used the Guild Collect and other prayers, and after reading the names of the members of the Guild who are on active service with H.M. Forces, prayer was offered for their protection and safe return.

The business meeting followed, presided over by the Chairman of the Branch (the Rev. A. E. G. Peters). — The Hon. Secretary (Mr. Seward C. Archer) read the report for 1916, which showed that nine meetings had been held during the year. All the affiliated towers on last year's list had been retained, and one more tower (Ludgershall) added. The membership of the branch had increased from 44 to 61, and 25 members were now on active service with H.M. Forces. — The balance sheet showed a balance on the right side.

The report and balance sheet were both considered satisfactory, and were unanimously adopted.

A vote of thanks was accorded the chairman and secretary for their work on behalf of the branch, and they were unanimously re-elected to office for 1917.

After discussion, it was decided to discontinue the monthly meetings, owing to present circumstances caused by the war, and to leave the date of the next meeting to the discretion of the chairman and secretary.

## LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Another very successful meeting of the above London County Association was held at St. Giles', Cambervell, on Saturday week, ringers attending from all parts of the Metropolis. The fine peal of ten bells were kept going in various methods from 3 to 5 p.m., and at 6.30 p.m. a business meeting presided over by the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender) was held at the Stirling Castle, Church Street.—One new member (Mr. G. Dawson, of Leytonstone) was elected.

Sympathetic references to the death of Mr. A. W. Grimes, a highly esteemed member, were made by several who knew him well, a letter of condolence having been sent to his relatives by the hon. sec. immediately on the receipt of the sad news of his demise.

It was also decided that a letter of condolence should be forwarded to the representatives of the late Mr. F. Watson, of Walthamstow, an old and respected member of the Association.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar of St. Giles' for the use of the bells, also to the steeplekeeper (Mr. H. Flower) for the admirable arrangements made by him for this visit.

The annual meeting is to be held on Saturday, Feb. 10th, and particulars will appear in the "Ringing World" in due course.

The remainder of the evening was devoted to songs and handbell ringing, the vocalists including Messrs. J. Milner, W. G. Matthews, S. Andrews, A. Riley and T. Walker. Mr. Richardson and Mr. J. Chapman kindly presided at the piano.

An interesting announcement was made during the evening by Mr. Flower, to the effect that he had received a notice from the police, stating that the restrictions on bell ringing, under the Defence of the Realm Regulations, had been removed, and that ringing could now be carried on until 9 p.m.

## CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

A most successful quarterly meeting of the Kettering District of the Central Northants Association was held at Burton Latimer on Saturday week, about 34 members being present from Northampton, Kettering, Rothwell, Isham, Barton, Orlingbury, Finedon, Wellingboro', Irthlingboro', Sharnbrook, and the local tower. A service was held in the church, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. G. L. Richardson). Tea was provided at the Coffee House, presided over by the Rector, supported by the Rev. J. B. Atkins, of Isham. At the meeting which followed, Orlingbury was chosen for the next meeting. R. Twelvetree was elected a ringing member. Congratulations having been sent to Pte A. J. Knight, one of the Kettering ringers, 6th Northants Regiment, on his winning the D.C.M., his reply was read with much pleasure.—The district secretary was requested to write to Lieut. E. M. Atkins, R.E., wishing him a speedy recovery, he being still under treatment for wounds received nearly a year ago.

No tower bell ringing was done after tea owing to restrictions, but handbell ringing was much enjoyed.

A vote of thanks to the chairman and to the local ringers brought to a close one of the best meetings held by the district.

## WORCESTERSHIRE RINGER KILLED.

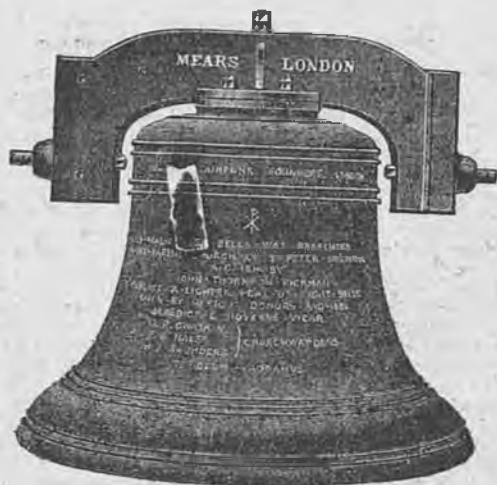
Pte William Taylor, one of the band at Cropthorne, Worcestershire, has been killed in France. On Sunday week a memorial service was held in the Parish Church, and was preceded by a muffled 5040 of Minor.

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry  
Established  
A.D. 1870.

*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 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.*

## RINGING AFTER DUSK.

### DEFENCE OF THE REALM REGULATIONS MODIFIED IN SOME AREAS.

It will be seen from the report of the meeting of the London County Association, published in another column, that the announcement was made that at Camberwell the Defence of the Realm regulations with regard to the ringing of church bells after dusk, have been so modified as to permit ringing to take place in the evenings up to 9 p.m.

At the moment of writing this concession does not seem to be general, but we have ascertained that in several London districts, under the Metropolitan Police, an intimation of the modification of the order has been conveyed to the various church authorities, and on Sunday the bells were going more or less generally for evening services. Indeed, a report appears elsewhere in this issue of a half-muffled quarter-peal rung at Woolwich on Sunday evening in memory of the victims of Friday's munitions disaster. We understand, too, that practice has now been arranged to take place at Barnes on Thursday evenings from 7.30 to 9.

The curious part of the matter, however, is that there seems to have been no general notification of the change, and as late as last Monday the City of London police had not been made acquainted with the modification, although in the surrounding Metropolitan area ringing up to 9 p.m. was permissible.

We would advise our readers, before ringing their church bells after dusk, to inquire from their local police authorities whether the modification of the regulations has been officially conveyed to them.

## THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The usual preliminary notice of the annual meeting of the Central Council, which is to be held at Gloucester on Whitsun Tuesday, May 29th, has been issued by the Hon. Secretary (Rev. C. D. P. Davies). Notices of motion, etc., should be sent to the Hon. Secretary not later than April 28th.

## DEATH OF MR. C. E. D. BOUTFLOWER.

### GLoucester AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION'S THIRD RECENT LOSS.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower, which occurred at Clifton, on January 8th, after an illness which prevented his taking part in any ringing for some years. Mr. Boutflower had filled the office of honorary treasurer to the St. Stephen's Guild (Bristol) from the formation of the present company in 1894, and took a very active part in all its works, seldom missing a practice or Sunday service ringing, until illness compelled him to abandon ringing altogether.

He was a past Master of the Gloucester and Bristol and Bath and Wells Associations, and also filled the honorary secretaryship of the former Association for several years, until obliged to retire through ill-health. He had rung peals of Grandsire, Stedman, Treble Bob, and one of Double Norwich Major.

In civil life Mr. Boutflower had also been very active, having been a member of the Bristol Town Council and Board of Guardians, being chairman of the latter for several years. He was very highly respected in the city, and his loss will be felt by all who were privileged to be associated with him.

Mr. Boutflower's death makes the third sad loss the Gloucester and Bristol Association has sustained within a few months, the other two being Mr. F. E. Ward (a former hon. treasurer), and his successor, the Rev. H. A. Cockey.

## KING'S CLIFFE TENOR FUND.

The £17, which is now needed to complete the fund for the restoration of the tenor bell at King's Cliffe, is a sum that ought to be well within the power of ringers of this country to raise by Easter, if all who have not already done so, will put their shoulders to the wheel and send along their mites straight away. The recasting, as our readers know, is to cost £38, and £21 of this amount have been raised principally through the contributions of members of the Exercise who, happy in the possession of their own bells in ringing order, have sympathised with the good folk of King's Cliffe, who, after spending nearly £200 on the bells a couple of years or so ago, had the misfortune to crack their tenor. It is now hoped to have the damage made good by Easter, and we feel sure that ringers, who have had such a large and happy share in raising the amount already subscribed, will see to it that no debt remains when the new bell is dedicated. The sum of 2s. has been received from Miss M. A. Cooke, of Burgess Hill, Sussex, and further contributions should be sent to the Rev. H. A. Orlebar, King's Cliffe Rectory, near Peterborough.

## THE MUNITION FACTORY DISASTER.

On Sunday last, for evening service, at St. Mary's Church, Woolwich, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the victims of the terrible disaster of Friday night in East London: W. W. Horsley 1, F. J. Cullum, junr., 2, W. Watehorne 3, B. Thorpe (conductor) 4, H. Beckford 5, J. Sykes 6, W. Aldridge 7, H. McCabe 8.

## IRISH BELLS AND RINGING SOCIETIES.

### ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, DUBLIN.

By C. MURRAY.

St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, is known to people living outside Ireland chiefly from the famous Dean Swift's connection with it. To ringers it is known as the only church in Ireland containing a ring of twelve bells.

In the year 1895 the present society of ringers was started under the presidency of Mr. R. R. Cherry, LL.D., who, as is well known, became Lord Chief Justice of Ireland, a position which he recently resigned on the

Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, and the peal was dedicated on the 20th August, 1897.

The tenor is in C and weighs 45 cwt. The inscriptions, selected by Dean Jellett, with their translations, are:—

- Treble. SURSUM CORDA (Lift up your hearts).  
 II. VENITE ADOREMUS ET PROCIDAMUS (O come, let us worship and fall down).  
 III. TE LAUDAMUS (We praise Thee).  
 IV. TIBI BENEDICIMUS (We bless Thee).  
 V. TE ADORAMUS (We worship Thee).  
 VI. TE GLORIFICAMUS (We glorify Thee).  
 VII. PER SINGULOS DIES BENEDICIMUS TE (Day by day we magnify Thee).  
 VIII. OMNIS SPIRITUS LAUDET DOMINUM (Let everything that hath breath praise the Lord).  
 IX. GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO (Glory to God in the highest).  
 Tenor. AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM (To the greater glory of God). This peal of ten bells was erected at the expense of Edward Cecil, Baron Iveagh, K.P., A.D. 1897. Henry Jellett, Dean. John Taylor and Company, Loughborough, Founders.



ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL, DUBLIN.

ground of ill-health. For many years before this the bells had been rung by a paid band for evening service on Sundays. For morning service sometimes a bell was tolled, at other times the bells, eight in number, were chimed. When the new society was founded the bells were not in good going order, and after a short time their condition became so bad that rehangings at least was imperative. As, however, their tone left something to be desired, it was thought that an effort ought to be made to have them recast. Old associations rendered the breaking up of the bells distasteful to many people. It was, therefore, decided to try to obtain a new set, and for this purpose a committee was formed, having as chairman Dean Jellett, who was very enthusiastic in the matter. The labours of the committee did not last long, for Lord Iveagh generously offered to provide a new peal. The work was given to

There is also a half-tone bell, which is in B flat, and is inscribed: "God save the Queen, 1897." The hanging of this and the addition of another treble would give a light eight, with the seventh as tenor. To provide this, the President of the Society added two trebles, and had the B flat bell hung, thus providing the light octave so useful for practice, and also changing the ring of ten into one of twelve. Each of the new bells bears the inscription: "The gift of Richard R. Cherry, 1909."

Of the former ring of eight, two, the third and the tenor, are used for calling worshippers to the week-day services, the remainder stand in a room of the tower. The inscriptions on these old bells are:—

Treble. DVRET: ILLAESA: AD: PRECES: EXCITANS: VSQVE:  
 AD: SONITVM: SVPEMAB: TVBAB \* 1724 \*  
 (May it last, uninjured, calling to prayers till the sound of the last trumpet, 1724.)

II. \* \* IVLY: THE: I: ANNO: DOMI: 1670: GIDEON: DE-LAYNE: SAMVEL: HOLT: \*

III. ROBERTVS BRADY. VIRGER. 1670. W.P.R.P.I.P.

IV. AN NO DO MI NI, 1670. W.P.R.P.I.P.

(Note.—There is a scroll between each two pairs of letters of Anno Domini, and in the case of Nos. 3, 4 and 7, there is a bell between each of the initials after the date.)



V. SPES MEA IN DEO. B.L.G. 1864. JAMES MURPHY, DUBLIN, FECIT.

(My hope is in God. Benjamin Lee Guinness, 1864. James Murphy, Dublin, made me.)

VI. Same as V.

VII. FEARE GOD AND HONNOR THE KING FOR OBEDIENCE IS A VERTVOVS THING AN NO DO MI NI. 1670. W.P.R.P.I.P.

(There is a double fleur-de-lys on each side of the words on this bell, except on each side of the "A" where a single one is used.)

RECAST A.D. 1809. REV. JAMES VERSCHOYLE LL.D., DEAN AND THE REV. THOMAS CRADOCK, LL.B., PREB. OF ST. AUDOEN, PROCTOR. CAST BY JAMES WELLS, ALDBOURN, WILTSHIRE, AND REHUNG UNDER THE DIRECTION OF FRANCIS JOHNSTON ARCHITECT DUBLIN, IN THE 50TH YEAR OF THE REIGN OF KING GEORGE III.

Tenor. \* \* \* A: D: 1670: RDMO: IN: XTO: PAT: MICH: D: AUCH: DVB: ET: TOT: HIB: D: CANC: NECNON: R: V: THO: SERLE: SS: TH: PROF: \* \* \* \* HVIVS: ECCL: DECANO: ET: R: V: TO: PARRY: EIVSD: PRÆCEN: ET: PROCVRANTE: IAS: CAMPANAS: \* \* \* FVDIT: O: PVRDVE: CVM: SOCIIS.

(A.D. 1670, when the Most Reverend Father in Christ Michael was Lord Archbishop of Dublin and Lord Chancellor of the whole of Ireland, and also when the Rev. Thomas Seale, Professor of Sacred Theology, was Dean of this Church, and the Rev. Thomas Parry was Proctor and Proctor of the same. William Purdue and Company cast these bells.)

The letters B. L. G. on the 5th and 6th are the initials of Sir Benjamin Lee Guinness, who restored the Cathedral in 1864. The records state that these bells, which were recast, formerly had the following inscriptions:—

V. HENRY PARIS MADE ME WITH GOOD SOVND TO BE FIFT IN EIGHT. WHEN ALL RING ROVND AT THE CHARGE OF DEAN LINDSEY OF ST. PATRICK'S. 1695

VI. AN: DOM: 1670: IOHANNES: DODSON: IOHANNES: PREENE: NON: CLAMANS: SED: AMANS: IN: AVRE: DEI:

(Not noisy, but pleasing in the ear of God.)

It is a pity that the old inscriptions were not placed on the recast bells.

The Rev. John Parry, whose name is found on the tenor, was also Dean of Christ Church, and it was through his untiring efforts that six new bells were cast by the Purdues for Christ Church, and eight for St. Patrick's. It is interesting to note that the bells were made from old disused guns which Dean Parry obtained by means of a King's letter. The letters, with representations of bells between them, are the initials of the founders, William, Roger and John Purdue. John Purdue does not seem to have come to Dublin.

Associated with William and Roger Purdue were William and Tobias Covey, who apparently had charge of the making of the frames and the hanging of the bells, though at a later period Tobias Covey came alone to Ireland, and cast bells in different places.

In addition to these bells a new bell for the carillon clock was cast for Sir Benjamin Lee Guinness. It has the same inscription as the 5th and 6th. There is also a very small bell which may be the bell referred to in old records as being in the little belfry.

No peals, in the technical sense in which the term is used by ringers seem to have been rung on the old bells though they were rung on famous anniversaries. On the 22nd August, 1897, an attempt at a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal was made by a band of ringers brought over by Mr. Tavior for the opening of the new bells. The result of the ringing was published as a peal, but, after much controversy, it was withdrawn as being false. This gave St. Patrick's Society the opportunity of ringing the first peal on the bells. This, which was also the first peal of Grandsire Caters in Ireland, was rung on Saturday, 26th May, in 4 hours. On Saturday, January 26th, 1901, a muffled peal, in memory of Queen Victoria, was rung in 4 hrs. 10 mins. A peal of Grandsire Cinques was rung on Saturday, January 14th, 1911, in 4 hrs. 15 mins. This was the first peal on twelve bells rung outside England. On Saturday, 19th February, 1916, a muffled peal of Grandsire Caters was rung in memory of Viscountess Iveagh. Muffled peals, in memory of King Edward VII. and Dean Jellett, came to grief in the last half-hour. Other peals rung on the bells by the society are Kent Treble Bob Major, Skedman Triples and Caters, Grandsire Triples, and Caters and Erin Triples.

Peals have been rung by visitors from time to time the first peal of Royal being rung by St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, in 1902. The bells are rung regularly for the services at 11.15 a.m. and 3.15 p.m. on Sundays and Christmas Day, and also for special services. Practices are held on Monday nights at 8 p.m.

CHELMSFORD.—At the Cathedral, on Sunday, Dec. 3rd, for the children's service, 575 Grandsire Caters: C. Gentry (R.N.V.R.) 1, W. Newman 2, D. H. Newman (Essex Yeomanry) 3, A. Whight 4, Pte J. R. Kemp (K.O.S.B.) 5, H. F. Cooper (conductor) 6, P. Timson 7, H. Allen 8, A. E. Achfield 9, H. Richell 10. Also rung to welcome C. Gentry and D. H. Newman, who were home on a week-end leave.

## NOTICES.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Rushall on Saturday, January 27th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in church, with an address by the Vicar (Rev. A. T. S. Talbot), at 5.15; Tea (1/-) in the Schoolroom at 6. H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Beckenham on Saturday, January 27th. Bells available 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.; Service, with address by Canon H. Arnott, at 5 p.m.; Tea and business meeting to follow in the Church House. Subscriptions are now due, and should be paid at this meeting.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—The next Quarterly Meeting will be held at Loughborough, on Saturday, January 27th. Ringing from 1.30 p.m. until dusk at the Bell Foundry, and at Stanford-on-Soar. Visitors to Stanford should make up their band previously and notify Mr. Harry Whittle. Committee meeting at 5 o'clock, followed by tea and general meeting for the election of auditors, etc., at 5.30 p.m., in the Coffee Rooms, Market Place.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec., Cotgrave.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Annual meeting at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, on Saturday, Jan. 27th. Tower open 2.30 to 5. Tea kindly provided by the Vicar in the Vestry Hall at 5.30 to those who notify me by the 24th.—H. J. Bradley, 25, Winchester Avenue, Brondesbury, N.W.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Saviour's Church, to-morrow, Saturday, January 27th. Bells available from 2.30 till dusk.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

SALOP GUILD.—Annual meeting, January 27th, 1917, at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury. Ringing, 2 to 5 p.m.; service, 5.15 p.m.; tea in St. Chad's Institute, 5.45 p.m.; meeting 6.30 p.m. Please reply to Rev. F. Tennison, St. Alkmund's Vicarage, before 24th inst.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Pontefract on Saturday, February 3rd, 1917. Bells of both churches available until dusk; service in All Saints' Church at 4.45 p.m.; tea and meeting to follow.—H. Williams, Sec. pro tem., New Wortley Cemetery, Leeds.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Hythe, on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells available from 2 o'clock till sunset. A member will be elected at this meeting to serve on a sub-committee to consider the question of a memorial to all those who will have fallen in the War and who have served in H.M. Forces. A good attendance is hoped for.—C. Tribe, Hon. Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North Eastern Division.—A district meeting will be held at Coggeshall on February 3rd. Bells ready 2 p.m. until sunset. Tea at W. S. Mount's, 5.30, 9d. each. Members intending to be present must notify me not later than January 31st (first post). Subscriptions for 1917 are now due.—B. Redgwell, Dist. Sec., Rayne.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**  
—Chew Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Portishead on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells available 2.30; Divine Service 4.30; tea at the Café, 5.30; business meeting to follow.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**  
—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Weston-super-Mare on Saturday, February 3rd. Service 5.30. Tea and meeting at Glass's Restaurant to follow. Bells (8) from 2 o'clock till service time.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham, Somerset.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North and East District.—The annual meeting will be held at Southgate on Saturday, February 10th. Further particulars next week.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Southern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bretforton on Saturday, February 10th. Service in church at 5 p.m. Tea for those who send me their names not later than the previous Tuesday. The bells (6) will be available till service time.—James Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Great Hampton, Evesham.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch, will be held at Great Marlow, Bucks, on Saturday, February 17th, 1917. Ringing at 2.30 p.m. Ringers' service at the Parish Church at 5 o'clock. Business meeting at St. Peter's Schools at 5.45.—W. H. Fussell, Hon. Sec., Farnburn Avenue, near Slough.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The next meeting of this Society will be held at Chesterfield on Saturday, March 10th, not as previously arranged on Feb. 3rd, owing to military restrictions as to time.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

**THE LADIES' GUILD.**—I beg to remind Members that the annual subscription is now due.—Edith K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 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.

#### MARRIAGE.

**COX—ROBINSON.**—On Jan. 16th, at St. Barnabas', Kensington, by the Rev. G. N. Walsh, Vicar of Hammer-smith, the Rev. Charles Carew Cox, of Milton Abbey, Dorset, to Margaret Elizabeth, younger daughter of P. Wynter Robinson, of 60, Holland Road, Kensington.

#### SITUATION WANTED.

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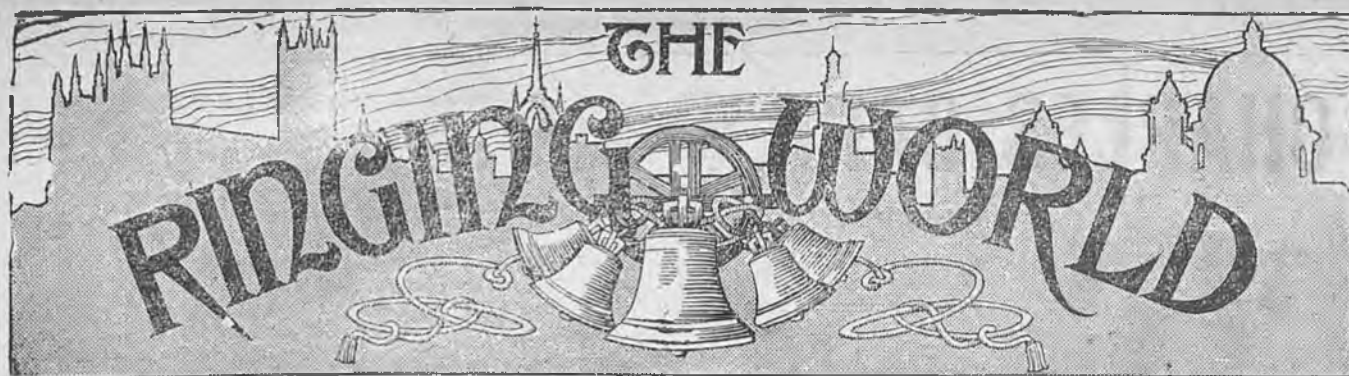
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Guildford, and Published by Messrs. WM. DAWSON & SONS  
LTD., Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.





No. 307. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2nd, 1917.

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

Price 1d.

# GILLETT & JOHNSTON

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Wolverhampton.

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

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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.

### EVENING RINGING RESTRICTIONS.

The regulation under the Defence of the Realm Act, which prevented the ringing of church bells after dusk, on account of hostile aircraft risks, has been modified in the Metropolitan Police District, and permits ringing to take place up to 9 p.m. This much we were able to announce last week. What, at that time, seemed strange was that nothing of the modification was known to the police—who are responsible for seeing that the regulations are carried out—in the City of London and the country generally. With a view to ascertaining what the position actually was in the matter, we communicated with the Home Office, who, of course, are responsible for framing the Defence of the Realm regulations. The prompt and courteous reply which we received will be found in another column, and from this it will be seen that the modification of the order rests with the Competent Military Authority in each district. This accounts for the fact that, up to the present, the extension of the hours for the ringing of church bells has been made in one district only.

The modification that has taken place in London, however, is an encouraging precedent. If it is safe for bells to be rung in the Metropolis up to nine o'clock at night it should be safe for them to be rung up to the same hour in every part of the country, except, perhaps, the easternmost fringe. Indeed, the restrictions on ringing, elsewhere than in those counties exposed to the first attacks of raiding aircraft, have always seemed strange to us. In no instance, we believe, have hostile aircraft come in over the country until a considerable time after dusk; and while everyone is ready to welcome restrictions which would preclude any possibility of bells serving as a guide to the enemy, it is difficult to understand why, say, Worcestershire or Herefordshire, or Lancashire or Dorset, or any of the western or even midland counties, should require the same restrictions in regard to the ringing of bells as counties like Norfolk, or Suffolk, or Lincolnshire, and others on the borders of the North Sea.

But the letter from the Home Office seems to hold out the prospect of a relaxation of the regulations, if only the proper steps are taken. If ringers will get their clergy to write to the Competent Military Authority for their respective districts, and point out what has been done in London, there ought to be a reasonable possibility of getting the same modification in most of the military districts as now prevails in the Metropolitan area. Such a relaxation of the regulations would enable Sunday evening service ringing to be restarted at once, and would also permit evening practices to take place. The clergy generally would be very glad to have the evening service ringing again resumed, and ringers will be rendering good service if they bring this matter to the notice of their incumbents.

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Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS.

Vicar of Broomfield.

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## MEMORIAL TO FALLEN RINGER.

At St. Michael's Church, Maidstone, on Sunday week, a memorial, erected to the memory of the late Lance-Corpl. Percy Hassock, D.C.M., who was a ringer and chorister at the church, was unveiled and dedicated. The tablet, which is in oak, occupies a place in the belfry, and was unveiled by the captain of the ringers, Mr. W. J. Day, in the presence of the other members of the band, the Vicar (the Rev. J. H. Best), the churchwardens and subscribers. The dedication prayer, pronounced by the Vicar, was in the following words: "I solemnly dedicate this memorial to the glory of God and in memory of our dear brother, Lance-Corpl. Percy Hassock, who died the death of honour, fighting for his King and country in the just and noble cause, and who was formerly member of this belfry; also a member of the choir. May we in the same spirit of self-sacrifice and devotion learn to labour and spend ourselves for the good of others, and for the benefit of all mankind."

A short service was also conducted by the Vicar, Psalm cl. being chanted by the choir, and a passage of Scripture read.

The memorial is made of evergreen oak with a panel, with an elliptic Gothic arch in the top, and a shingled roof, carried by two pillars with moulded verges, a cross surmounting the front gable. The inscription reads: "In memory of Lance-Corpl. P. Hassock, D.C.M., who died the death of honour in the Great European War, 1914."

The memorial was designed and executed by Mr. Wm. J. Day.

After the ceremony, six six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung in 28 mins., by: L. Mannering 1, T. Mannering (conductor) 2, A. E. Gasson 3, Pte H. Coast 4, F. Wellard 5, W. J. Day 6. The bells were also rung before the ceremony, while the choir proceeded from the chancel to the belfry.

## THE LATE MR. A. W. GRIMES.

On Sunday week a last tribute was paid to the memory of the late Mr. A. W. Grimes by some of his brother ringers at the Church of St. Margaret, Westminster, S.W., where, for the best part of the last two years, he had acted as towerkeeper, on behalf of Mr. J. E. Davis, who is at present serving with the army in France. The whole pull and stand funeral peal was rung by the following: Chellis F. Winney (conductor) 1, J. Bailey 2, E. F. Pike 3, C. Dean (Croydon) 4, F. Perrin 5, W. A. Alps 6, S. J. Collins (a native of Debenham, and an old school chum of the deceased) 7, W. Hewett 8, R. Sanders 9, T. Langdon 10. Afterwards a short touch of Stedman Caters, conducted by W. Hewett, who was one of the band who first met Mr. Grimes when on a peal trip to Debenham, and who had the pleasure of ringing several peals with him at Debenham and district, and enjoying the hospitality of his father, Mr. W. Grimes. Among other ringers present were: E. Gibbs, H. Springall, T. H. Taffender, H. Ellis.

Undoubtedly, writes an old friend of the deceased, one of Mr. Grimes' best performances was during a tour in the Norwich district, when he rang the tenor at St. Peter Mancroft to Treble Twelve without a fault, and finished "as fresh as a daisy." I think at that time it was the heaviest bell he had rung to a peal. He had also rung Ipswich tenor to Treble Twelve, and he often said he would like to ring Yarmouth tenor, and so complete a peal on the tenor of each of the three towers in the Eastern Counties (at that time). But this he did not live to do.

## THE LATE REV. J. H. PILKINGTON.

On the occasion of the funeral of the late Rev. J. Holme Pilkington, Rector of Framlingham, Suffolk, whose death, at the age of 60 years, we recorded recently, the bells of the parish church of St. Michael were rung deeply muffled as a mark of esteem and regret by David Collins, the veteran of Worlingworth, William and Hector Crickmer and Walter Miller, of Earl Soham; John O'Neill, of Halesworth; Albert J. Cornish and James Wardley, of Dennington; William Flory, Horace C. Howlett, Willoughby E. Maulden, and George E. Symonds, of Framlingham. Touches of Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob and Oxford Treble Bob Major, were brought round after the service, conducted by G. E. Symonds.

The deceased gentleman, who was at one time a member of the Central Council, in addition to having the church and bells at Framlingham restored, always took the keenest interest in maintaining in a high state of efficiency everything pertaining to the belfry, and had the bells periodically overhauled by a firm of experienced bell hangers.

## DEATH OF MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

**VETERAN MASTER OF THE DUDLEY GUILD.**

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Samuel Spittle, which took place at his residence, 6, Great Hill, Dudley, on Friday last.

The deceased had been Master of the Dudley and District Guild since its formation, 18 years ago, and also of the Dudley Parish Church Society. For a number of years, too, he held the position of Master in the Worcestershire and Districts Association.

The funeral took place on Tuesday at the Dudley Parish Church.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

## RINGING RESTRICTIONS AND THEIR FUTURE EFFECT.

A quarterly meeting of the Midland Counties Association was held at Loughborough on Saturday last, when the bells at Stanford-on-Soar and at the Bell Foundry were available for ringing, the methods rung ranging from Grandsire Triples to Superlative Surprise Major. Amongst those present were representatives from Burton-on-Trent, Cotgrave, Dorby, Duffield, Hinckley, Kirby-Muxloe, Leicester, Orston, Quorn, and Stanford-on-Soar, in addition to the local ringers, and at 5.30 these, numbering 37, were entertained to tea at the Temperance Coffee Rooms, by Messrs. Taylor and Co.

At the subsequent general meeting, the President (Mr. J. W. Taylor) occupied the chair, welcomed those present, and asked all to do their best to carry on the work of the Association amid the difficulties of the trying time through which the country was now passing, with the hope that soon the conditions might be more normal, and ringing take the stand it occupied previous to the war.

One new member was elected, and on the proposition of Mr. H. W. Abbott, seconded by Mr. B. Mitchell, the retiring auditors, Messrs. E. D. Taylor and Chas. Draper, were unanimously re-elected.

The President read out particulars of the peals rung during 1916. There were 13 in number, viz., nine on tower bells and four on handbells.

Mr. W. Willson, speaking of the restrictions imposed on ringers and ringing at the present time, and feeling that they might be used as a precedent in the future, by those antagonistic to ringing, said he thought it most desirable that the Central Council, at their next meeting, should consider this matter, and moved that a letter be sent to the secretary of the Central Council to that effect.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector of Stanford-on-Soar for the use of the bells, and to Messrs. Taylor and Co. for the use of the bells at the foundry, and for their kindness in providing tea. This concluded the business, and a social hour or two, with the handbells, pleasantly passed the time until the departure of the trains to the various destinations.

## WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

## PROPOSED SCHEME FOR 'PEACE RINGING.'

The first quarterly meeting for the year of the Northern Branch of the Worcestershire Association was held at Old Hill on Saturday week, and, considering the inclement weather, was very well attended. Ringing at the church commenced soon after 3 p.m., and was continued until service time. The service, which was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. Canon E. Brewer), was attended by about 50 members. Before giving his address, the Rector extended a hearty welcome to the Association. He said he was sure their thoughts would go out to those members who had answered their King and country's call, and he trusted that it would not be long before all of them, when this war was over, would be back in their place again ringing out their beautiful bells.

After the service, the tea, which was kindly provided by Mr. A. E. Parsons and Mr. Harry Mason, was partaken of in the Schools, 58 members being present. Mrs. A. E. Parsons and her lady helpers served the tea, and attended to the wants of the guests.

The Rector presided over the business meeting, when apologies were received from the Master (Mr. S. Grove), the Rev. S. F. Marriott (Rural Dean), Messrs. A. H. and C. W. Bassano, Mr. T. J. Salter (who is happily recovering from a serious attack of pneumonia), Mr. N. Davies, Mr. S. Spittle (Master of the Dudley Guild, who was unfortunately confined to bed), Mr. W. Rock Small, and Mr. W. H. Laight. Three new members were elected.

Arising from the business transacted at a Central Committee meeting, held at Worcester the previous week, Mr. A. E. Parsons put before the district two questions brought forward by the general secretary (Mr. J. R. Newman). The first was a suggestion to reduce the quarterly meetings during the war, and the second a proposal to prepare a scheme for the ringing of bells when peace was declared.

With reference to the first, a very useful discussion took place, and it was eventually decided to hold the next quarterly meeting in June as usual, Selly Oak being selected.

With regard to the second question, it was pointed out that, owing to the number of ringers who had answered their country's call, many hands had been so depleted that it was impossible to get sufficient men to ring for Sunday services. It was suggested that bands be formed by the amalgamation of ringers from the towers who could muster one or two men, and when the happy day of peace came they should give their services, and go from one tower to another, covering as many as could be reasonably done in the day, and ringing for a short time only.

The idea was very favourably received, and it was left to the general secretary to draw up his scheme.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for arranging the service, and for his address, and also to the donors of the tea, was carried unanimously. The Rector, in responding, said he was very grateful for having the opportunity of arranging the service, and he was pleased to see the large attendance of ringers at his church. He also complimented and thanked Mrs. Parsons for the way in which she had put the tea before them. Mr. Harry Mason having also responded, a very pleasant and successful meeting was brought to a close.

## SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

## DEVIZES BRANCH AT POTTERNE.

On Saturday last a monthly meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at St. Mary's Church, Potterne, and was fairly well attended, considering the great number of ringers from this neighbourhood who are now serving their King and country. Ringing commenced at three o'clock, and was kept up until 5 p.m., when the Guild service was held in church, the Vicar of Potterne (the Rev. W. H. Kewley) kindly officiating, while the duty at the organ was performed by one of the lady ringers from Devizes, Miss M. L. Hillier. Tea was afterwards provided in the Parish Room, and 15 sat down and thoroughly enjoyed the repast, for it was a bitterly cold day. The ringers had assembled from the neighbouring towers of St. John's, Devizes; Holt, Southbroom, Potterne, Edington, Erchfont, and Bishop's Cannings.

After tea a short and sociable meeting was held, presided over by the Vicar. There was little business to be transacted, some handbell ringing and a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and the service in church bringing a very pleasant meeting to a close.

## KING'S CLIFFE TENOR.

The contributions during the past week towards the recasting of King's Cliffe tenor are 2s. from Mrs. Johnson (King's Cliffe), and 13s. from the Wyke Regis ringers. Funds are urgently needed to complete the cost of this work, which it is hoped to have carried out by Easter. Donations should be sent to the Rev. H. A. Orlebar, King's Cliffe Rectory, Peterborough.

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

STOKE COVENTRY.—Warwickshire Guild. On Nov. 11th, at St. Michael's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 42 mins.: H. J. Balcome 1, O. J. Hunt 2, H. Argylo (Nuneaton) 3, H. Kettle 4, W. T. Cox 5, J. F. Clarke, junr. (Nuneaton) 6, J. H. White (conductor) 7, W. Clements 8. Arranged for Mr. H. Kettle, who shortly expects to join the colours.

UXBRIDGE, MIDDLESEX.—On Nov. 12th, for the morning service, at St. Margaret's Church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 45 mins.: J. Peddle 1, G. H. Gutteridge 2, P. Jones 3, W. Lawrence 4, E. Hancox 5, T. Smith 6, W. Henley (conductor) 7, P. Kedg 8.

BARNET, HERTS.—At the Parish Church, on Nov. 12th, for morning service, in 46 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: J. F. Chandler 1, R. Sturges 2, C. Dale 3, J. Sumpter (conductor) 4, R. Roffey 5, F. A. Milne 6, W. Soer 7, G. Herbert 8.—On Dec. 25th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. J. Eldred 1, R. Roffey 2, J. F. Chandler 3, R. Sturges 4, J. Sumpter 5, F. A. Milne 6, A. J. Trappitt (conductor) 7, W. Soer 8.—On Dec. 31, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, half-muffled, in 55 mins.: H. J. Eldred 1, W. J. Baldwin 2, R. Sturges 3, W. Childs 4, J. Sumpter 5, F. A. Milne (conductor) 6, A. J. Trappitt 7, W. Soer 8.

STROUD.—Gloucester and Bristol Association.—On Sunday, Nov. 12th, at the Parish Church, a date touch of Grandsire Triples (1,916 changes), in 1 hr. and 9 mins., the ringers being members of the Stroud and Painswick Societies: H. Scrivens 1, A. Cook 2, A. Tatnell 3, W. Faulk 4, W. Hale 5, A. Wright (composer and conductor) 6, E. Paul 7, F. Cole 8.

PENTRE RHONDDA.—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—On Sunday, Nov. 19th, at St. Peter's Church, for evening service, 576 Forward Major: H. Page (conductor) 1, F. Wines 2, F. Lasbury 3, F. Chamberlain 4, G. Cross 5, T. Page 6, W. Page 7, J. Cross 8.—On Sunday, Nov. 26th, for evening service, a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Forward Major, in 49 minutes. First quarter on the bells, and first quarter in the method by all: H. Page (conductor) 1, F. Lasbury 2, F. Wines 3, G. Cross 4, T. Page 5, G. Wines 6, W. Page 7, J. Cross 8.—On Monday, Nov. 27th, 336 Double Norwich: G. Cross 1, W. Page 2, F. Wines 3, F. Lasbury 4, T. Hamlin 5, G. Wines 6, J. Cross 7, T. Page 8.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.—At St. Mary's Church, on Nov. 19th, for morning service, 360 Bob Minor: Driver E. Rivih (of Mansfield, 37th Reserve Battery, R.F.A.) 1, F. Walker 2, T. Floyd, junr., 3, T. Floyd, senr., 4, H. Golding (conductor) 5, W. Floyd 6, E. Watson 8.

WORDSLEY.—On Sunday, Nov. 19th, at Holy Trinity Church, for evensong, 720 Bob Doubles: J. Slater 1, H. Quarry 2, Thos. Heathcock 3, C. W. Cooper 4, J. Bass (conductor) 5, A. W. Dodd 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of Squire Cooper, of South Staffs Regiment, a former ringer at this church, who has been killed at the front.

POTNEY.—At St. Mary's Church, on Nov. 19th, for C.E.M.S. service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins.: Art. Jones 1, H. Barret 2, G. Lee 3, A. Cutmore 4, C. E. Collis 5, T. Bolton 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, C. Collis 8.—On Dec. 3rd, for C.E.M.S. service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: Mrs. F. I. Haire 1, W. Stevens 2, P. Mackrill 3, A. Cutmore 4, C. E. Collis 5, T. Bolton 6, L. Attwater (conductor) 7, W. Elson 8.

STOCKPORT.—On handbells, at 22, Willis Road, on November 24th, in 38 minutes, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (from Holt's Original), 1260 changes: A. Barnes (conductor) 1—2, W. Jackson 3—4, H. Jackson 5—6, E. A. Jackson 7—8.



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## ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

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*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.*

## RINGING AFTER DUSK. HOME OFFICE STATEMENT.

Last week we were able to state that the Defence of the Realm regulations relating to the ringing of church bells after dusk had been modified in the Metropolitan Police area by the extension of the time up to which it is permissible to ring to 9 p.m. This enabled the bells to be rung for Sunday evening service and for practices, and this opportunity the various churches had gladly availed themselves of. There seemed, however, some uncertainty as to the exact extent of the area to which the modification applied, and, with a view to clearing up the question, we wrote to the Home Office asking if some definite information on the subject could be given for publication, so that we might be in a position to make an authoritative statement.

From the reply, which we print below, it will be seen that any extension of the relaxation of the regulations to other districts will have to be secured from the Competent Military Authority—which ought not to be difficult with the precedent of London to back up applications.

The reply by the Under Secretary of the Home Office, dated Jan. 24th, was as follows:—

"Sir,

"In reply to your letter of the 23rd inst., I am directed by the Secretary of State to say that the ringing of church bells up to 9 p.m. in the Metropolitan Police District has been authorised by the Competent Military Authority, under the powers reserved to him by Regulation 12 B of the Defence of the Realm Regulations. The Secretary of State has no jurisdiction in the matter, and if a similar relaxation of the Regulation is desired in other localities, it will be necessary for permission to be obtained from the Competent Military Authority concerned."

## THE PRESIDENCY OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—If I were in Alderman Pritchett's place, I should be inclined to say, "Save me from my friends, and do not let them blow my trumpet too much or too often, in the Press or on the platform." My experience of governing bodies responsible for filling important posts is, that it does not help a candidate to be too much pressed upon their notice, as if they were not capable of judging for themselves. For instance, not very long ago the chances of a likely candidate for a certain headmastership were practically upset by a local dignitary, who pressed him upon the electors with such indiscreet, though well meant, zeal that they thought they scented a "job," and selected someone else.

I have not the honour of Alderman Pritchett's acquaintance, nor have I any axe to grind for anyone else as our new president. Moreover, it is probable that advancing years and high railway fares will make a Whitsuntide journey to Gloucester very difficult for me. — Yours faithfully,

A MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

## WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

A quarterly meeting of the Warwickshire Guild was held at Rugby, on Saturday week, when 18 members from Allesloy, Birmingham, Coventry, Nuneaton and Rugby, put in an appearance, together with Mr. C. C. Mayne, of Beaconsfield. The fine peal of eight bells at the Parish Church were kept going to touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob, and Superlative Surprise Major, until 5.30 p.m.; after which the business meeting was held in the belfry, Mr. James George (the Ringing Master) occupying the chair.

It was decided that the annual meeting be held at Warwick on Easter Monday as usual.

The Chairman expressed regret at the loss of a life member of the Guild, by the death of Mr. Alfred W. Grimes, a letter of condolence having been sent by him to the relatives previous to this meeting.

Four young ladies of the Chilvers Coton tower (Miss Gladys Dodds, Miss Evelyn Dodds, Miss May Godderidge, and Miss Eva Lewis) were made members of the Guild.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector for the use of the bells, and to the tower keeper for having everything in readi-

## LONDON'S VANISHED CHURCHES.

### BELLS WHICH ESCAPED THE GREAT FIRE. ALL HALLOWS, STAINING.

By J. R. JERRAM.

Although the church of All Hallows, Staining, escaped the fire of 1666, it got into such a dilapidated condition that it had to be rebuilt in 1694. It was a plain building with a square tower surmounted by a turret at the north-west corner, and stood until 1870, when it was condemned to be demolished.

The tower contained a peal of six bells, with a tenor of about 9 cwt.; the third being a rare specimen of foreign bell-founding. The inscriptions were as follows:—

#### Treble.

EDWARD GORNELL NATHAN DODSON CHVRCH WARDENS  
1697 I. O. B. [Whitechapel Medallion as used by James Bartlet.]

#### Second.

Iosephus Carter me fecit, 1607

#### Third.

∴ X martine : es : minen : name : mun : gbelant : sy :  
gode : bequame : gbemacret : int : jaer : m : cccc : lviii [i.e.,  
"Martin is my name. May my sound be pleasing to God. Made in  
the year 1458."]

#### Fourth and Fifth.

I. O. B. [James Bartlet's mark as on treble.]  
JAMES BARTLET MADE ME 1682.

#### Tenor.

O [Anthony Bartlet's mark] A. B. MADE MEE. HENRY SWEET  
AND THOMAS BEWLY CHVRCH WARDENS, 1647 [Diameter 37  
inches.]

When the church was pulled down four of the bells are said to have been used to provide part of the metal for casting the peal of six at St. Paul's, Homerton. The third was taken to the Grocer's Hall and preserved as a curiosity. Mr. H. B. Walters, in his *Church Bells of England*, considers this bell to be a Flemish one.

In the churchwardens' accounts for 1587 there appears a payment of one shilling for ringing at the execution of Mary, Queen of Scots.

## CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of the Northampton District was held at Ecton on Saturday week, the following towers being represented: St. Edmund's, St. Giles', St. Peter's and All Saints', Northampton; Kingsthorpe, Boughton, Duston, Weston Fawell, Cogenhoe, Earls Barton, Isham, Easton Neston, Pattishall, Irthlingborough, Finedon, and the local ringers. A short service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. Canon Jephson), and tea was served at the Three Horseshoes, 33 sitting down.

The usual business meeting followed, presided over by Mr. J. Strike, vice-president. It was decided, on the recommendation of the committee, that the next district quarterly meeting be held at Boughton on July 9th.

Ten new members were elected, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded Canon Jephson for the use of the bells, and for the service; also to the local ringers for having the bells ready.

The following methods were rung during the afternoon: Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine and Oxford Treble Bob, Bob Minor, Stedman and Grandsire Doubles.

## WINCHESTER GUILD.

A combined practice for the Yorktown District of the Winchester Guild was held at Horsell, Surrey, on Saturday afternoon, when ringers attended from Yorktown, Pirbright, Hersham, Woking, Bramley, and Cranleigh, as well as some of the local men. Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Bob Minor and Kent Treble Bob were brought round, several of those present being able to attempt something which was new to them. At the conclusion of the ringing, the visitors were very kindly entertained to tea in the Village Institute by the Vicar (the Rev. Norman Pares, R.D.) and Mrs. Pares, the latter adding to the indebtedness of the party by waiting upon them.—A vote of thanks to the Vicar and Mrs. Pares was passed, on the motion of Mr. F. E. Dawe, and afterwards a few short touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung on handbells.

## SURREY ASSOCIATION.

### ANNUAL MEETING AT REIGATE.

Three main causes contributed to a small attendance at the annual meeting of the Surrey Association, at Reigate, on Saturday week. First, the war claims a large number of members, then the weather—a combination of snow and bleak wind, which made some members wish the annual gathering was held in mid-summer instead of mid-winter—kept others away, while some who might have attended were prevented by the present railway facilities. But although small, the meeting was a representative one, the towers from Hersham in the south to Burstow in the west, as well as the Croydon district, supplying members. The ten bells of Reigate Parish Church were utilised during the afternoon, and at 5 p.m. the ringers attended shortened evening prayer, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. F. C. Davies), who gave a brief address, in which a hearty welcome was coupled with words of encouragement for these dark days. He urged all ringers to do their part in the great crisis, not only by keeping church bell ringing going, but also by striving to do their best in whatever sphere each one found himself placed.

A capital meat tea was provided at the Parish Hall, presided over by the Vicar, who took the chair at the business meeting which followed, and was supported by the Master, Mr. J. D. Drawett, of Mitcham, and by one of the churchwardens (Mr. Temple Newell), and the assistant hon. secretary (Mr. Chas. Reading).

### SATISFACTORY FINANCES.

The audited accounts for the two years ended 31st December last were laid upon the table, and showed a balance in hand of £34 odd. Of this £15 is invested in War Loan, and it was resolved not to disturb the balance in the G.P.O. Savings Bank for the sake of investing at an increased rate. The reduced income of the past year had just met the expenses incurred.

Letters were read from the President (the Lord Bishop of Southwark), commending the work of the Association and the individual efforts of the members in their respective parishes, and from the representatives of the late hon. secretary of the Western District (Mr. A. Shepherd) and Mr. A. A. Johnston, of Croydon, returning thanks for sympathy and for funeral flowers.

It was reported that no peals had been rung in the district since the date of the last annual general meeting, and that the number of new members elected during the past year had been four only—against the 50 who had been called to the colours since the outbreak of hostilities. The names of these 50 do not cover the number of ringers of the Association who have exchanged the rifle for the rifle, and the Master appealed to the representatives of the towers to see that a complete record was kept, whether members of the Association or not, in order that a complete and permanent record might hereafter be prepared. It was reported that Gunner Dewdney (Christ Church, Mitcham), and Pte F. Woodiss, Grenadier Guards (Hersham), were both convalescing from wounds—and the names of Ptes W. Streeter and H. Dennis, both of Redhill, and of the Queen's Regiment, were added to that of Alfred Bashford, of Nutfield, all three of whom had made the Supreme Sacrifice.

### OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

The President and Ringing Master were re-elected, as also was the hon. secretary, Mr. Cyril F. Johnston, Grenadier Guards, and the hon. secretary of the Southern District, Mr. H. Ewins, of Reigate.—Mr. W. Shepherd kindly consented to accept the hon. secretaryship of the Western District, held by his late brother. The Rev. A. S. W. Young, the Vicar of Kingston, who for 36 years has acted as hon. treas., was also re-elected, and in like manner the hon. auditors, Messrs. Allan Gomer, Alfred Gear, and F. Brown, were again elected. To all of these the meeting passed a unanimous resolution of thanks.

The Master and Mr. Chas. Dean kindly promised to carry out the duties of the assistant hon. secretary if it should become necessary to "place that office in commission."

The Rev. Donald McDonald, of Christ Church, Mitcham, and the Rev. G. E. G. Hoare, of Godstone, were added to the hon. members of the committee in the room of the late Mr. A. A. Johnston and Mr. Percy Sylvester.

A vote of thanks, none the less real because of custom, was accorded to the Vicar and churchwardens of Reigate for their kindness of the day, as well as for their presence, and to Mr. Ewins for making the local arrangements.

The place of the next annual general meeting was fixed for Croydon, and the question of any quarterly meetings for ringing was left to the discretion of the representatives of each of the three Districts.

### WHY!

"Punch" last week had the following: "The other day a Farnham bell ringer, after cycling seventy miles, rang a peal of 5940 changes. It is not known why." We all enjoy "Punch's" humour, but "Punch" is not a bell ringer.

BRIERLEY HILL. — On Sunday, January 7th, at St. Michael's Church, 720 Bob Minor for the men's afternoon service: W. Stinton 1, J. Slater 2, J. Bass 3, C. Wm. Cooper 4, W. Potter 5, A. E. Whitmore (conductor) 6, E. T. Lloyd 7.

## NOTICES.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The annual general meeting will be held at Pontefract on Saturday, February 3rd, 1917. Bells of both churches available until dusk; service in All Saints' Church at 4.45 p.m.; tea and meeting to follow.—H. Williams, Sec. *pro tem.*, New Wortley Cemetery, Leeds.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Ashford District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Hythe, on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells available from 2 o'clock till sunset. A member will be elected at this meeting to serve on a sub-committee to consider the question of a memorial to all those who will have fallen in the War and who have served in H.M. Forces. A good attendance is hoped for.—C. Tribe, Hon. Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—North Eastern Division.—A district meeting will be held at Coggeshall on February 3rd. Bells ready 2 p.m. until sunset. Tea at W. S. Mount's, 5.30, 9d. each. Subscriptions for 1917 are now due.—B. Redgwell, Dist. Sec., Rayne.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Chew Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Portishead on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells available 2.30; Divine Service 4.30; tea at the Café, 5.30; business meeting to follow.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Weston-super-Mare on Saturday, February 3rd. Service 5.30. Tea and meeting at Glass's Restaurant to follow. Bells (8) from 2 o'clock till service time.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham, Somerset.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on February 8th and 22nd for handbell practice, and on the 13th and 27th for general business. The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members, who seldom attend the meetings, to vote on matters of finance, should be paid before the 28th inst.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Southern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bretforton on Saturday, February 10th. Service in church at 5 p.m. Tea for those who send me their names not later than the previous Tuesday. The bells (6) will be available till service time.—James Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Great Hampton, Evesham.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**—Thrapston District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Raunds on Saturday, February 10th. Bells (8) available 2.30, Service 4.45, tea 5.15 p.m.—F. Stubbs, District Secretary, Bridge Street, Raunds.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch, will be held at Great Marlow, Bucks, on Saturday, February 17th, 1917. Ringing at 2.30 p.m. Ringers' service at the Parish Church at 5 o'clock. Business meeting at St. Peter's Schools at 5.45.—W. H. Fussell, Hon. Sec., Farnburn Avenue, near Slough.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—North Forest Branch.—The annual general meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Mary's Church, Newent, on Saturday, Feb. 3rd. Bells (6) available at 2 p.m. till dusk. Short service in the church at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. in the Parish Room, provided free by the Rector.—Ex-Sergt. Joseph Williams, Acting Sec., Glen Holm, Newent, Glos.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's (Deansgate) on Saturday, February 10th. Bells available from 3 o'clock to dusk. Meeting to follow.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Bristol Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Henbury on February 10th. Bells at 3 p.m. till 5. Tea and meeting to follow. Will those intending to be present notify by February 6th? — Chas. J. Walton, 14, Jamaica Street, Bristol.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guildford District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Shere on Saturday, February 10th, 1917. The bells (8) will be available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5 p.m. Tea at the White Horse Inn at 5.30. Members 6d., visitors 1s. 3d.—J. J. Jones, Honorary Secretary.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The monthly meeting of the above society will be held at Pudsey on Saturday, February 10th, 1917. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. to dusk. Business meeting in the tower after the bells are ceased.—Wm. Barton, Hon. Secretary, 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North and East District.—The annual meeting will be held at Southgate on Saturday, February 10th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Short service, 4 p.m. Tea at 6, and meeting at the Cherry Tree, 6d. each, to members who advise me by Feb. 7th.—W. H. Oram, Honorary Secretary (*pro tem.*), 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late St. James' Society, Established 1824).—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, February 10th, at St. Saviour's Cathedral, Southwark. Ringing from 2.30 to 5 p.m.; also at St. George's, Borough, from 6 to 7.15 p.m. Business meeting at the Southwark Tavern, Southwark Street, S.E., at 7.30 p.m. Ringers and friends welcome.—T. Walker, Honorary Secretary.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHANGE RINGERS.**—South and West District.—The annual meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Vicar (the Rev. J. H. Champion McGill), at Isleworth, on Saturday, February 17th. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Tea, by kind invitation of Mrs. McGill, in the Hartlands Road Mission Hall at 5. Ringing afterwards until 9. The honorary secretary earnestly appeals for all outstanding 1916 subscriptions to be sent to him before the date of the meeting.—H. C. Chandler, Honorary Secretary, Church Road, Heston Hounslow.



**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM** (Established 1755).—The Annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at Ye Olde Royal Hotel, Temple Row, Birmingham, on Saturday, February 24th next, at six o'clock. The chair will be taken by Canon J. W. Willink, M.A., Rector of Birmingham. Tickets free to fully qualified members whose subscriptions are paid up to date, to other members and friends 2s. 6d. each. The bells of St. Martin's (12) will be available from 3.30 to 5 o'clock. — A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

**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.

#### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**BRIDGEND, GLAM.**—Llandaff Association.—At St. Iltyds Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: R. Evans 1, J. Evans 2, A. J. Stanley 3, C. H. Perry 4, A. J. Pittman (Port Talbot) 5, Sapper D. R. James 6, J. Cox (conductor) 7, B. Toby 8. Arranged for Sapper James, who was home on leave from France.

**GLOUCESTER.**—Gloucester and Bristol Association.—At the Church of St. Mary-de-Lode, on Nov. 25th, at a specially arranged practice, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: J. Gillett 1, J. Austin 2, A. A. Waite 3, T. Baldwin 4, J. W. Jones (Newport, Mon.) 5, G. Condie (conductor) 6.

**ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.** — On Sunday, Nov. 26th, at St. Peter's Church, 564 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. Wolstencroft 1, Ben Thorp 2, J. W. Holme 3, H. Holme (H.M.S. Victory) 4, Miss Thorp 5, John Harrison 6, W. W. Wolstencroft (conductor) 7, J. Rolls 8.

**ISHAM.**—Central Northants Association.—On Sunday, Nov. 26th, for Matins, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: E. M. Atkins (conductor) 1, T. Garley 2, F. H. Talbutt 3, W. T. Wilson 4, G. A. Blexley 5, D. Mallett 6.

**BOUGHTON, KENT.**—On Nov. 26th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: E. R. Trondell 1, Pie W. Sadler (Braintree) 2, Corpl. F. Longshaw (Reading) 3, C. Hadlow 4, A. T. W. Bones 5, S. Fox 6, E. Trondell (conductor) 7, P. W. Price 8. Specially arranged for the two soldiers, who were stationed in the district.

**BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER, GLOS.**—On Sunday, November 26th, a quarter-peal of Union Triples, in 45 mins.: H. E. Gillett 1, W. Stratford 2, H. Packer 3, T. Bunning 4, W. Large (conductor) 5, J. Collett 6, H. Gillett 7, J. Buttler 8.

**FAKENHAM, NORFOLK.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Dec. 3rd, 448 Bob Major: G. Beverley 1, A. Baldwin 2, F. Harrison 3, C. Wybrow, senr., 4, C. Tutill 5, J. Godfrey 6, C. Ebberson (conductor) 7, R. Cooke 8.—On Dec. 6th, on handbells, touches of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples by R. Cooke, C. Wybrow, C. Tutill, C. Ebberson, A. Baldwin, J. Godfrey; and on Dec. 9th, touches of Bob Major by W. E. Bason, R. Cooke, C. Wybrow, E. Ebberson, J. Godfrey.—On Dec. 10th, at the Parish Church, for morning service, 704 Bob Major: W. Bason 1, A. Baldwin (Snoring) 2, C. Tutill 3, C. Wybrow, senr., 4, W. Ayres (Syderstone) 5, J. Godfrey 6, C. Ebberson 7, R. Cooke (conductor) 8. The touches were arranged for C. Ebberson, a late member of the company, who was home on a short leave, after being wounded in France.

**LEISTON, SUFFOLK.** — On Dec. 3rd, for men's service, 1088 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. Titterton 1, A. Keeble 2, G. Wilson (conductor) 3, E. S. Bailey 4, H. J. Button 5, J. G. Rumsey 6, C. Sampson 7, J. M. Bailey 8. Also a course of Oxford Treble Bob Major by the same band. — On Dec. 10th, for men's service, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. Titterton 1, A. Keeble 2, H. J. Button 3, G. Wilson 4, J. G. Rumsey 5, C. Sampson 6, J. M. Bailey (conductor) 7, E. S. Bailey 8. Also 624 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: H. J. Button 1, J. M. Bailey 2, C. Sampson 3, A. Keeble 4, E. S. Bailey 5, E. H. Bailey 6, G. Wilson (conductor) 7, J. G. Rumsey 8. These bells can only be rung on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, and soldiers and other friends who may be in the district will be heartily welcomed, by communicating either with Mr. E. S. Bailey, Roberts Road, Leiston, or Mr. G. Wilson, Valley Road, Leiston.

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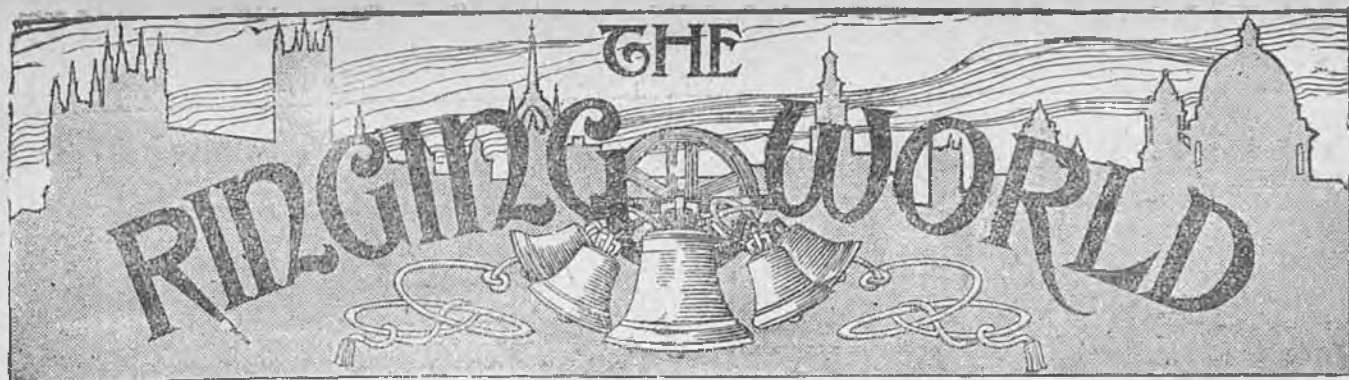
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No. 308. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9th, 1917.

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

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,  
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1915.  
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.**

## "PEACE" RINGING.

It seems, perhaps, early days to talk of arrangements for "peace" ringing, for the end of the struggle does not seem within sight, although everyone is hoping that it is not far distant. On the other hand, there is no reason why schemes should not be formulated so that when the day, to which all of us are looking forward with intense desire, arrives, ringers may be prepared, as they will be expected, to take an effective part in the celebration. That the ringing should be properly organised is essential. As the war goes on, the bands at every tower get more and more depleted, and the new proposals for general national service will dislocate still further the ringing organisations. Already there are few towers where the full complement of ringers is left, and, unless steps are taken to draw up a scheme for the purpose, it is very certain that, when the happy day does arrive, there may be plenty of bell "jangling," but comparatively little good bell ringing.

It is interesting to note that in this matter the Worcestershire Association is taking time by the forelock. A scheme has been put forward by the Hon. Secretary and generally approved, by which arrangements should be made to collect the ringers remaining at the various belfries, form them into bands and let them go from tower to tower in their own neighbourhood, covering as many as they reasonably can in a day. This appears to be a workable plan, and in its general features might be followed by other associations. The first step seems to be to ascertain how many ringers are available at each tower, and what other belfries they could conveniently reach. Then, when this has been done, there would be little difficulty in grouping them together and bringing the various units in touch with one another so that they may settle their own details.

Worked on lines such as this, there would be provision for proper ringing at most of the towers in the country which are affiliated to the different organisations, and it might also be extended, if tactfully handled, even to unaffiliated towers, with, not unlikely, good results. At any rate, there seems no reason why the various associations cannot take the matter up as the Worcestershire Association has already done. It would be a matter well within the scope of district meetings, and probably would be found to be easier of accomplishment through districts than through the central executives of the various organisations. But that is a matter of detail which ringers will have no difficulty in settling. Even if it may seem a little premature to formulate schemes of this kind, there is no possible harm in discussing them, while, if the organisation is made ready, it will keep quite well till the day comes for it to be put into operation.



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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,

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## TEN BELL PEAL.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, February 3, 1917, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANCES;**

GILBERT GUEST ... .. Treble	*HARRY JEAVONS ... .. 6
SAMUEL BAKER ... .. 2	JOHN GOODMAN, Junr. ... 7
WILLIAM MILLS ... .. 3	HARRY GOODMAN ... .. 8
HERBERT SHEPPARD ... .. 4	BENJAMIN GOUGH ... .. 9
JOHN GOODMAN, Senr. ... 5	WILLIAM MEER ... .. Tenor

Composed by the late WILLIAM MICKLEWIGHT, and

Conducted by JOHN GOODMAN, Junr.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the memory of the late Mr. S. Spittle, the honoured and respected Master of the Dudley band and the Dudley and District Guild.

\* First peal of Caters and first attempt. W. Mills and H. Jeavons belong to Sedgley; B. Gough and S. Baker to Coseley; the others to the Dudley band.

## EIGHT BELL PEAL.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 27, 1917, in Three Hours and Thirty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANCES;**

Tenor 23 cwt., in D flat.

*CHARLES H. POULSON ... Treble	WILLIAM FAYERS ... .. 5
ARTHUR SYMONDS ... .. 2	THOMAS W. GARRARD ... 6
HARRY SMITH ... .. 3	LOUIS LEERS ... .. 7
STEDMAN H. SYMONDS ... 4	THOMAS PRYKE ... .. Tenor

Composed by T. HORGOD, and

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

\* First peal on tower bells. Lance-Corpl. T. Pryke was home on leave. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a last tribute of respect to the beloved Rector, the late Rev. W. B. L. Hopkins. The band wish to express their deepest sympathy to Mrs. E. Hopkins in her sad bereavement.

## HANDBELL PEALS.

RETTFORD.

THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 31, 1917, in Two Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT BRACKEN VILLA,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;**

Two 720's of Single Court, two of Oxford Bob and three of Plain Bob.

REV. H. DOBSON ... .. 1—2	JOHN SEAGER, Junr. ... 3—4
JOHN HURST ... .. 5—6	

Conducted by J. SEGAR, Junr.

Witness: DAVID BLAGG.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 3rd, 1917, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD, SHOREDITCH,

**A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANCES;**

Tenor, size 16 in B flat.

WILLIAM T. POWELL ... 1—2	FRANK SMITH ... .. 5—6
JOHN D. MATTHEWS ... 3—4	BENJAMIN THORP ... .. 7—8
WILLIAM J. NUDDS ... .. 9—10	

Composed by E. FRANCIS, and

Conducted by JOHN D. MATTHEWS.

Umpire: MR. J. HUNT.

Arranged for Mr. Thorp, this being his first peal of Royal in hand.

ASHTED.—On December 7th, for Confirmation service, conducted by the Bishop of Guildford, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: J. Wyatt 1, J. Hoyle 2, A. Winch 3, W. H. Corbett 4, W. Marks 5, W. Cook 6, A. Dean (conductor) 7, A. P. Dixon 8. After service, the last 742 from Holt's Original: A. Winch 1, J. Wyatt 2, W. H. Corbett (conductor) 3, W. Cook 4, W. Marks 5, J. Hoyle 6, A. Dean 7, A. P. Dixon 8.

## SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

The Cumberlands once again met for their annual meeting at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, on Saturday week. Some good touches of Stedman Caters and Cinques, and Treble Twelve, were rung up to 5.30, when the members assembled in the ancient Vestry Hall and partook of a splendid tea, kindly provided by the Vicar, who favoured the society by his presence. The inner-man having been satisfied, the Hon. Secretary presented the Society's balance sheet showing a favourable balance to be carried forward.

The election of officers resulted as follows: Master, Mr. J. D. Matthews; hon. secretary, Mr. H. J. Bradley; hon. treasurer, Mr. B. Fokett; senior steward, Mr. James Hunt; junior steward, Mr. Frank Smith; whilst Mr. James Hunt was elected to take the place of the late Mr. Henry Dains, as the society's fourth representative on the Central Council.

Waltham Abbey was chosen as the meeting place for the spring quarterly meeting.

The election of the following new members was ratified: Messrs. Ben Thorp (Ashton-under-Lyne), W. R. Hensher (Canada), G. Twitchen, E. F. Coles and W. Phipps (High Wycombe), and Arthur Harwin (Euston).

The Master, in proposing a very hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar, said it gave the society great pleasure to meet once again at the church, where they had for so many years met for their annual meeting, and it was really a pleasure to work for a Vicar who took an interest in ringing, and could so successfully combat the complaints from "touchy" portions of the public.

### RINGING APPRECIATED BY PUBLIC.

The Vicar, in responding, said he was extremely grateful to the society for the work they were doing, and he looked upon them as real allies to St. Martin's. The ringing, which took place every Sunday morning, was greatly appreciated by the surrounding inhabitants, and no complaints had been received until that very morning, when a gentleman had complained that he could not sleep after 10 o'clock on Sunday mornings owing to the bells. He (the Vicar) had elicited the fact that the complainant went to bed at 10 o'clock on Saturday nights, so he felt that it was quite time for him to be up by 10 o'clock in the morning. The Vicar, proceeding, said the bells were undoubtedly a factor in conjunction with abolition of appropriated seats in the important congregations that were now found at St. Martin's. An old lady living close by had told him that one of the only joys left to her was to wait for the bells to ring, and listen to their music. Two of her sons had made the great sacrifice for the old country; and when the bells now started she would open the window and gladly let the sound of them fill the room. The soldiers, too, lying wounded in Charing Cross Hospital looked forward with pleasure to hearing the bells on Sunday mornings, saying that nothing reminded them so much of dear "old Blighty." In conclusion, he hoped the society would do him the honour of meeting there and partaking of tea with him for many years to come, and he hoped that during the year the society would have the pleasure of ringing in a lasting and abiding peace (applause).

A sad part of the proceedings was the moving of a vote of condolence to the widow of the late Mr. Alfred Grimes; and Mr. J. E. Sykes said he would very much like to propose it, as he rang his first peal of Stedman with Mr. Grimes, and he felt the sad loss very much.—Mr. James Hunt, in seconding, said that he could hardly realise that Mr. Grimes had gone. Mr. Grimes was a well known figure at Shoreditch, where he took a keen interest in the local band, and was always to be found there on practice nights.—The Master, in putting the motion to the meeting, said no words of his could convey his true feelings. The members then stood in silence for a few seconds to signify their approval of the motion.

Votes of condolence were also passed to the relatives of the late Rev. J. Holme Pilkington and Mr. Chas. Lee, both members of the society (the latter being at one time an employe of the Spitalfields foundry, and having been killed in action).

The question of a memorial to the late Mr. Dains was then discussed, and it was resolved to leave the matter to the hon. secretary, who would get the feeling of the family upon the matter.

At the next quarterly meeting an important resolution on financial matters will be discussed, and members are, therefore, requested to turn up in good numbers.

A few touches on handbells brought an excellent meeting to a close. Members are particularly requested to forward to the secretary the names of any members who are serving with His Majesty's Forces, together with the rank, regiment, or ship, they are serving in, so that he may commence compiling the roll of honour.

**IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.**—At St. Margaret's Church, on Saturday, December 9th, by special request of Trumpet-Major Farley, of the North Somerset Yeomanry, of Wells, Somerset, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 40 mins.: R. H. Hayward (Marlesford) 1, W. Motts 2, E. Pemberton 3, W. G. Whitehead 4, J. Motts (conductor) 5, W. Burgess 6, Trumpet-Major Farley 7, W. L. Catchpole 8. Mr. W. G. Whitehead hails from Bushey and kindly took part in the ringing owing to Mr. Hawkins English, of Oddenham, being prevented from attending owing to unfavourable weather.

## DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM BANISTER.

### THE "FATHER" OF CHANGE RINGING.

The death occurred on Wednesday of last week (January 31st), of Mr. William Banister, who may be said to have been the "father" of change ringing.

Born at Woolwich on Feb. 29th, 1824, he would have been 93 years of age had he lived another month, and his death severs the last link with a famous generation of ringers. He was born in a family of ringers, for his father and five brothers were all enthusiasts in the art, and the seven of them rang in peals together. At the tower of St. Mary's Church, Woolwich, they maintained a splendid band between the years 1843 and 1851, their peal of London Surprise being only the second ever rung in that method. This was composed and conducted by the deceased gentleman. In the '40's Mr. Banister joined the College Youths, and was indefatigable in following the art, frequently walking to London and back for practice or peal ringing. In 1858 Mr. Banister became a member of the then St. James's Society (now the London County Association).

In 1865 he was removed to Devonport, where he remained in Government service until 1879, when he retired on a pension. In Devonshire, in conjunction with Colonel Trelawny and Colonel Troyte, he did invaluable work for ringing, and was one of the founders of the Devonshire Guild. He collaborated with Colonel Troyte in publishing a treatise on change ringing, and in other ways he did much to extend the art.

On his retirement from the Dockyard Mr. Banister took up public work, and for 30 years represented the Dockyard district on the Devonport Council, being for the last 16 years an alderman. He was for six years on the School Board, for twelve years a Commissioner of the Poor, and afterwards sat, as a member of the Board of Guardians. He was also Justice of the Peace. About twelve years ago he went to live at Pembroke, and afterwards in London, passing the closing years of his life in the tender and devoted care of his daughter, Mrs. Anderson, at Fulham.

Next week we hope to give a fuller sketch of Mr. Banister's life, together with a portrait.

Muffled ringing, as a last tribute of respect to the veteran, will take place at St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, to-morrow (Saturday), at 2 p.m.

## HERTS ASSOCIATION AT WATFORD.

A meeting of the Western District of the Herts Association was held at Watford Parish Church, members attending from Osley, St. Albans, Aldenham, Stanmore, Watford, and Bushey. Stedman and Grand sire Triples, Double Norwich and Superlative Surprise Major were rung during the afternoon, the Vicar of Watford taking a rope in the Stedman. Over 20 members sat down to tea, at which the Rev. C. F. Ayerst (Vicar of Watford) presided, supported by the Rev. G. M. Hall (Rector of Bushey), and Mr. G. W. Cartmel (hon. secretary of the Association).

At the business meeting Bushey was selected for the next meeting, to be held on March 3rd.—A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar of Watford for the use of the bells was proposed by Mr. G. W. Cartmel, who said how pleased he was that Watford was now affiliated with the Hertfordshire Association.—The Vicar said he was very pleased to welcome the members of the Association, and to have his bells rung as well as they were rung that afternoon.—In responding to a vote of thanks for his presence among the ringers, the Rev. G. M. Hall said he was very pleased to come for where he found ringers there was always good fellowship. The Association would be welcome at Bushey at any time.

## THE LATE MR. A. W. GRIMES.

Mrs. Alfred W. Grimes begs to return her most grateful thanks to all ringers who so kindly subscribed to the funds opened on behalf of herself and six children during her lamented husband's long illness.

The sum raised by members and friends of the Ancient Society of College Youths amounted to £25 14s. The Middlesex Association and London Diocesan Guild also raised the sum of £25 12s. 6d.

As these funds may not have become generally known outside London, any further subscriptions from friends and admirers of the late Mr. A. W. Grimes will be thankfully received and acknowledged by Mr. W. T. Cockerill (hon. secretary of the College Youths), 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W., and Mr. W. Pye (Master of the Middlesex Association), 8, Sanson Road, Lansdown Road, Leytonstone.

**STONY STRATFORD, BUCKS.**—On Sunday, December 3rd, at St. Giles' Church, 720 Bob Minor: P. Dewick 1, C. A. Valentine (conductor) 2, E. Yates 3, W. W. Bonham 4, T. C. Tompkins 5, J. A. Giles 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Rev. J. H. Light, Vicar of Marlow, and formerly for seven years the much-respected and beloved Vicar of the above parish.

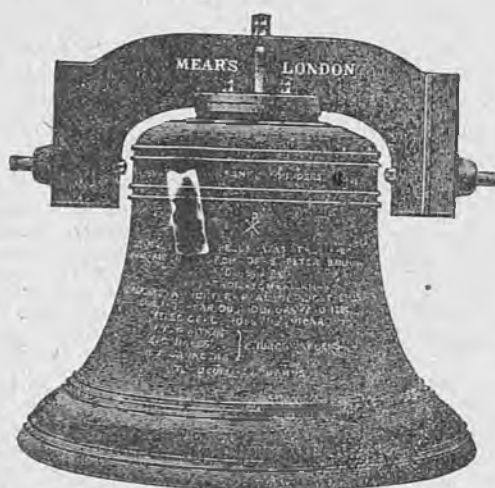
**ERITH.**—At Christ Church, on Sunday, Dec. 10th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grand sire Triples (1260 changes), in 41 mins., by the following: J. Cullum 1, F. J. Cullum, junr. (first with a bob bell) 2, W. J. Aldridge 3, W. Watchorn 4, F. C. Newman 5, W. Evans 6, F. J. Cullum, senr. (conductor) 7, G. Cullum 8. The first quarter-peal rung on the bells.

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

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32 & 34, Whitechapel Road,  
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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.*

## DEATH OF MR. S. SPITTLE.

### PASSING OF AN INTERESTING PERSONALITY.

By the passing of Mr. Samuel Spittle, of Dudley, whose death we recorded last week, the Exercise has lost one of those veterans who have advanced and adorned the art of ringing, and whose departure leaves a gap which only time will bridge. In Worcestershire and the neighbouring counties there was no ringer more honoured and esteemed, and in the Dudley district no figure was better known or more respected. His 80 years had seemed to sit lightly on his shoulders, and Mr. Spittle's death came as something of a shock to his many friends.

Mr. Spittle's career was really a remarkable one, and few men can claim to equal his record of holding a public office for 71 years without a break, for that is what he did as beadle and verger of St. Thomas's Parish Church, Dudley. When he was only nine years old Mr. Spittle, who was then a chorister, was selected to be junior beadle, and when he came to man's estate he was appointed permanently. Altogether he kept this office for 71 years. It was remarkable that, as far as can be ascertained, Mr. Spittle was not absent from his duties more than six Sundays, and during that time he was on a trip to America and back. The picturesque uniform of his office greatly appealed to him. It consisted, when he was a boy, of a coat of green and gold, velvet knickers, white silk stockings, and low shoes. In later years the white silk stockings gave place to gaiters and afterwards to trousers. At his own special request he was buried in this uniform.

### LOCKED PEWS.

Mr. Spittle often used to recall the time when the interior of the Parish Church was filled with the old-fashioned and high-backed pews. He remembered that those who subscribed to the building of the Parish Church were given certain pews, and although many of the subscribers did not hold rigidly to them there were those who looked upon them as their absolute property. Many of the pew holders kept pews locked throughout the week, came to church on Sunday with the key dangling in their hand, and it was one of young Spittle's duties to run forward, obtain the key, open the door, and see the worshippers comfortably seated, finally closing the door and turning the haap, so as to ensure that no molestation took place during the service. Mr. Spittle, when still a boy, was in the choir of Mr. Henry Blunden. It was from this choir that a small glee party was formed, of which Mr. Spittle was a member, and this glee party became quite famous in that part of the Black Country. Vocally Mr. Spittle had a powerful and pleasing voice, and less than two years ago he sang at a social gathering in most acceptable style.

Mr. Spittle was a native of Dudley, and was born at the top of the Inhedge. His father, who died when his son was only ten, was a bell ringer, and his son followed in his father's footsteps and himself became a bell ringer of much prominence. Indeed he seemed to have inherited the art of campanology, and almost as soon as he could pull a bell rope young Samuel was found at work. As a matter of fact he was only 14 years of age when he rang his first peal—a peal rung with the bells muffled on the occasion of the great Duke of Wellington's funeral. It was the first peal rung on the bells by any Dudley ringers. It was conducted by the late Mr. William Micklewright, senr.

In 1855 a rupture occurred between the old and the young ringers, and Dr. Brown "sided" with the "younger end," to the extent of allowing them the use of the church bells on one night per week to practise change ringing. The young band of bell ringers were triumphant, and in 1856 they purchased a peal of 56 handbells, and Mr. Spittle was appointed captain. When the present Vicar of Dudley was married Mr. Spittle composed a special "touch" for the occasion, and on every 23rd of May since, until the war began, that peal was rung, and the ringers afterwards had supper at the Vicarage.

### FOUNDING OF DUDLEY GUILD.

The Worcestershire and District Change Ringing Association was formed in April, 1882, and two years later Mr. Spittle was appointed Master, an office he held for 20 years, during which period the art of change ringing was much improved in the county.

It was felt about that time that some kind of organisation was needed to federate the various ringers in the Dudley district, and in 1899 the St. Thomas's Guild of Change Ringers, with the Rev. A. Gray Maitland, LL.D., as President, and Mr. Spittle, who had been largely instrumental in starting the Guild, as Ringing Master, was formed. This Guild embraces all the bell towers within a radius of five miles of St. Thomas's Church, and it has done much to foster interest in the art of ringing, and to redress any grievances that might arise from time to time.

Unfortunately Mr. Spittle does not seem to have kept any record of his ringing, but he took part in a great many peals his last being Grandsire Caters at Dudley, on December 18th, 1915, in honour of his 79th birthday. The last peal that he conducted was on December 15th, 1911, this also being a birthday peal. Mr. Spittle was the oldest of the "veteran's" band who, in 1914, scored a peal with a company, all of whom were over 60 years of age.

Mr. Spittle was never so happy as when among the children.

He always took a great interest in Sunday School work, and for 30 years was a Superintendent of the Mission Sunday School connected with St. Thomas's, and for 15 years treasurer of the Sunday School Fund. He only resigned these positions when it was decided to close the school.



In 1882 Mr. Spittle arranged a children's concert in connection with the St. Thomas' Band of Hope, and himself wrote several of the dances in the operetta. He was voluntary conductor of these concerts for 24 years.

For 37 years, until Jan. last year, Mr. Spittle was school attendance officer for Dudley and district. It was no uncommon sight to see him walking along the street with a merry troupe of boys and girls at his heels. He did not inspire in them the fear which often attaches to the office of attendance officer. When he retired, the Dudley Education Committee lost a most faithful servant.

Mr. Spittle was also a Freemason, and was initiated in 1883 as Tyler of the Harmonic Lodge. He had been Provincial Grand Tyler for the Province of Worcestershire; Provincial Grand Tyler of the Mark Lodge for the Province of Worcestershire; Provincial Grand Janitor for the Royal Arch Lodge, and Provincial Grand Warden for the Ark Mariners' Lodge.

One of Mr. Spittle's most interesting experiences was a trip to America, which he made in 1910, at the age of 74 years. He visited Quebec and Toronto (where he met his son, who had travelled 3,000 miles from Astoria, Oregon, to meet him), Niagara Falls, Buffalo, and New York.

#### VICAR'S TRIBUTE.

On Sunday week, at St. Thomas's Church, the Vicar (the Rev. A. Gray Maitland) made a special reference to the late Mr. Spittle, and in the place of the Anthem the Dead March in "Saul" was played. The Vicar said:—

"Samuel Spittle passed away peacefully last Friday morning. In



THE LATE MR. S. SPITTLE.

December last he reached the great age of four-score years. When nine years old he was selected from the choristers and appointed door-keeper and junior beadle of the Parish Church of Dudley, and for 71 years he filled the sacred office of beadle and chief beadle with unbroken continuity and unfailing courtesy and fidelity. The quaint uniform worn by beadles of the Parish Church, of which he was proud, was never dishonoured or disgraced by him, and his desire that he should be clothed in that uniform for his burial will be carried out. Such a record of service—three-score years and ten—a beadle or verger of one Parish Church, I imagine, is unique and outstanding, unsurpassed or unequalled in the present or past history of the Christian Church. We remember to-day other aspects of Samuel Spittle's life and work. As school attendance officer he rendered great service to the cause of our elementary education. For many years he was a devoted Superintendent of a large Sunday School. He was a great leader of the Band of Hope; he was a keen and honourable officer in Freemasonry. As a bell ringer he was a great expert. For 20 years he was Master of the Worcestershire Association of Bell Ringers, and he was the leading founder of the Dudley and District Guild of Change Ringers, of which he was Master for 18 years. It is interesting and instructive to remember that he successfully rang his first peal of bells on his 14th birthday.

"At your Vicar's request the family have consented to the burial of our greatly esteemed and beloved friend and devoted Churchman in a selected spot in the churchyard within the sound of the bells and in the sight of the belfry he loved so well. May he rest in peace."

#### THE FUNERAL.

The funeral took place at the St. Thomas's Church, on Tuesday afternoon of last week. The choir were present, and the officiating clergy were the Rev. S. J. Marriott, R.D. (Vicar of Netherton), who read the lesson, Rev. A. Gray Maitland, LL.D., who officiated at the graveside, with the Rev. W. J. Down (Vicar of St. Luke's), who also took the prayers, and Rev. C. M. Stuart-King (St. Thomas's).

Mr. T. W. North presided at the organ, and played "I know that my Redeemer liveth," "O rest in the Lord," and Chopin's Funeral March. The hymns were "Peace, perfect peace," and "Nearer, my God, to Thee."

In the church, besides a large number of children from the Sunday School, there were representatives of various public bodies and a large number of deceased's fellow townsmen, who had come to pay a last tribute of respect. Mr. John Goodman, senr., represented the Dudley Parish Church ringers, and, with Mr. Harry Mason (vice-president), the Dudley and District Guild, and Mr. John Bradney represented the Society for the Archdeaconry of Salop. Wreaths were sent by the Dudley and District Guild; his fellow ringers at St. Thomas's, and St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham.

Our photograph of Mr. Spittle is produced through the courtesy of the "Dudley Herald."

In another column will be found the record of a half-muffled peal of Grandsire Caters, rung at Dudley Parish Church. Peal attempts, with bells half-muffled, were also made at Coseley and Tipton on Saturday last. At Coseley, on Sunday, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 44 mins., for evening service, by: W. Jeavons 1, L. Barnett 2, W. Grinsell 3, Ben Gough 4, J. Roberts 5, S. Baker 6, W. Fisher (conductor) 7, A. E. Law 8.

On Tuesday week, at Evesham, a half-muffled peal of Grandsire Caters was attempted, but owing to a shift course, the bells were brought round after ringing 3,563 changes, in 2 hrs. 32 mins.: J. D. Johnson (conductor) 1, H. Middleton 2, G. Popnell 3, W. Short 4, F. J. Johnson 5, H. J. Phipps 6, F. Jordan 7, C. Camm 8, J. Hemming 9, F. Jinks 10. The bells were also half-muffled, at the special request of the Vicar, Dr. Walker, D.D., in memory of King Charles the Martyr.

It is proposed to erect a memorial tablet in Dudley Parish Church recording Mr. Spittle's work and the muffled peal rung to his memory last Saturday.

#### LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A successful meeting of the Bolton Branch was held at the Saviour's Church on Saturday week when the fine peal of eight bells were kept going from 5.30 to 6 o'clock, in Grandsire, Plain Bob, Sledman, Kent Treble Bob, and Double Norwich Major. There were ringers present from Newchurch, near Warrington, Walkden, Deane, and Bolton, with Mr. H. Chapman and Mr. J. Lowe, from Pendleton.

The business meeting was presided over by the Rev. H. J. Elsee (President of the Association), and Leigh was chosen as the next meeting place.

It was unanimously decided that, in order to curtail expenses, the usual March committee meeting and the half-yearly meeting be cancelled this year.

The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the local ringers for having everything in readiness.

#### ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY.

A quarterly meeting was held at Rushall on Saturday week, which, under existing conditions, was fairly well attended. Here there is a handy ring of six (tenor 7½ cwt.), which were made good use of up to the time of the service. The Rev. A. T. S. Talbot, Vicar, conducted the latter, and gave an interesting address, taking for his text: "Their sound has gone out." During the discourse, he pointed out the wonders of nature: everything seeming to have a voice of God—not the least being the sound of the bells.

An acceptable tea was served in the Schoolroom at "The Butts," to which full justice was done.—A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for his address and the use of the bells, to the organist and choir boys for their services, and to the ladies for their assistance at the tea tables.—In acknowledging the vote, the Vicar gave the members a hearty welcome, with the hope that they would come again ere long.

Handbells were brought into use, upon which were rung a course of Stedman Triples, an attempt at a touch of Grandsire Triples which unfortunately came to an untimely end, and the well worn, yet ever-fresh tune, Blue Bells of Scotland—to the delight of the listeners.

Subject to permission being granted, the next meeting will be held at Wednesbury on April 21st.

LUTON, BEDS.—On Sunday, January 14th, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples: J. Rookwood 1, C. Rollings 2, B. Wilson 3, T. Kendall 4, L. A. Goodenough 5, Pte F. Hunt (Middlesex Regiment) 6, A. King (conductor) 7, H. Shaw 8. Rung as a welcome to Pte F. Hunt, who was home on furlough.—On January 21st, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples: A. E. Smith 1, C. Rollings 2, B. Wilson 3, A. King (conductor) 4, L. A. Goodenough 5, T. Kendall 6, J. Rookwood 7, H. Shaw 8.

## NOTICES.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North and East District.—The annual meeting will be held at Southgate on Saturday, February 10th. Bells available 2.30 p.m.; short service 4 p.m.; tea at the Cherry Tree at 6 p.m., members 6d.; followed by business meeting. Outstanding subscriptions for 1916 should be sent to the Hon. Sec., *pro tem.*, W. H. Oram, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's (Deansgate) on Saturday, February 10th. Bells available from 3 o'clock to dusk. Meeting to follow.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Bristol Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Henbury on February 10th. Bells at 3 p.m. till 5. Tea and meeting to follow. Will those intending to be present notify by February 6th? — Chas. J. Walton, 14, Jamaica Street, Bristol.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late St. James' Society, Established 1824).—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, February 10th, at St. Saviour's Cathedral, Southwark. Ringing from 2.30 to 5 p.m.; also at St. George's, Borough, from 6 to 7.15 p.m. Business meeting at the Southwark Tavern, Southwark Street, S.E., at 7.30 p.m. Ringers and friends welcome. — T. Walker, Honorary Secretary.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Southern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bretforton on Saturday, February 10th. Service in church at 5 p.m. The bells (6) will be available till service time.—James Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Great Hampton, Evesham.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**—Thrapston District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Raunds on Saturday, February 10th. Bells (8) available 2.30. Service 4.45, tea 5.15 p.m.—F. Stubbs, District Secretary, Bridge Street, Raunds.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Winchester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Romsey on Saturday, February 17th, 1917. The Abbey bells will be available from 2.30 to 5.30. Tea in Temperance Hall, 5.45. Members intending to be present will please notify by February 13th, to Jas. W. Elkins, Hon. Sec., 20, Culver Road, Winchester.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**—Wellingborough District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wollaston on Saturday, February 17th. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea at the Fountain, 5.30 p.m.—W. Perkins, District Secretary, 6, Addington Road, Irthlingboro.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Rishton on Saturday, February 17th, 1917. Ringing to commence at 2.30 till dusk, meeting following.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch, will be held at Great Marlow, Bucks, on Saturday, February 17th, 1917. Ringing at 2.30 p.m. Ringers' service at the Parish Church at 5 o'clock. Business meeting at St. Peter's Schools at 5.45.—W. H. Fussell, Hon. Sec., Farnburn Avenue, near Slough.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHANGE RINGERS.**—South and West District.—The annual meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Vicar (the Rev. J. H. Champion McGill), at Isleworth, on Saturday, February 17th. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Tea, by kind invitation of Mrs. McGill, in the Hartlands Road Mission Hall at 5. Ringing afterwards until 9. The honorary secretary earnestly appeals for all outstanding 1916 subscriptions to be sent to him before the date of the meeting. — H. C. Chandler, Honorary Secretary, Church Road, Heston Hounslow.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Rochdale Parish Church on Saturday, February 24th. Ringing from 2 o'clock till dusk, meeting to follow.—T. K. Driver, Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on February 22nd for handbell practice, and on the 13th and 27th for general business. The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members, who seldom attend the meetings, to vote on matters of finance, should be paid before the 28th inst. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM** (Established 1755).—The Annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at Ye Olde Royal Hotel, Temple Row, Birmingham, on Saturday, February 24th next, at six o'clock. The chair will be taken by Canon J. W. Willink, M.A., Rector of Birmingham. Tickets free to fully qualified members whose subscriptions are paid up to date, to other members and friends 2s. 6d. each. The bells of St. Martin's (12) will be available from 3.30 to 5 o'clock. — A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

**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.

## 5008 BOB MAJOR.

By E. MAURICE ATKINS.

23456	W	B	M	H
43652				
63254				
63542		x		
56342				
36245				
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64235		x		
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The last 10 courses to be repeated 3 times.

This peal contains the least possible number of calls, viz., 49, of which the minimum number of singles are employed.

First rung on handbells on November 25th, 1916, conducted by the composer.

**MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.**

**IPSWICH.**—On Sunday, Dec. 3rd, for morning service, at St. Mary-le-Tower Church, a touch of Stedman Cinques: W. J. Catchpole 1, E. Pemberton 2, R. H. Hayward 3, H. O. Gillingham 4, W. Motts 5, H. English 6, J. Rose 7, F. Tillett 8, J. Motts (conductor) 9, W. Burgess 10, W. P. Garratt 11, Sergt. Farley 12. Also a touch of Stedman Caters, with Sergt. Farley ringing the 9th.

**ERITH, KENT.**—At Christ Church, on December 10th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 41 mins.: J. Cullum 1, F. J. Cullum, jun. (1st quarter of Triples with a bob bell) 2, W. J. Aldridge 3, W. Watchorn 4, F. C. Newman 5, W. Evans 6, F. J. Cullum, sen. (cond.) 7, G. Cullum 8. The first quarter-peal on the bells. Ringers of 3, 4 and 6 hail from Woolwich, and the 6 from West Ham, the rest are local men.

**BARNES.**—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday afternoon, December 10th, 720 Bob Minor, containing 42 Singles: C. Collis 1, M. Jacobs 2, H. Cook 3, H. Barrett 4, C. Hunt 5, F. Skevington (conductor) 6.

**LINSLADE, BUCKS.**—On December 10th, for morning service, at St. Barnabas' Church, two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 7-6-8 covering: R. Horton 1, A. Vickers, junr., 2, Pte J. Child 3, F. Vickers 4, A. Vickers 5, W. Duck 6, Sapper S. Watson 7, H. Hunt 8. Pte J. Child was home on leave from the Western front, for the first time after a year and eight months' service there.

**YORK.**—On Sunday, December 10th, for morning service, at the Minster, three courses of Grandsire Cinques (462 changes): T. Haigh 1, A. C. Fearnley 2, T. F. Earnshaw 3, H. Ineson 4, W. Fountain 5, G. Horner 6, E. Rickitt 7, J. Thompson 8, Pte E. Morris (D.L.I., attached A.S.C.), first touch of Cinques as conductor, 9, T. Hodgson 10, A. Haigh 11, W. Hair and P. Firth 12.

**ACTON.**—At St. Mary's Church, on Dec. 17th, for third Sunday afternoon ringing, a quarter-peal Stedman Triples: C. Hunt 1, A. W. Davies 2, J. W. Fruin 3, Robt. Holloway 4, Staff-Sergt. Verralls 5, W. Lawrence 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, C. Edwards 8.—On Dec. 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: R. H. Boddington 1, Reg-Quartermaster-Sergt. J. R. Mackman 2, J. W. Fruin 3, C. Edwards 4, Robt. Holloway 5, W. Lawrence 6, Pte J. A. Trollope (conductor) 7, J. J. Gray 8.—On Christmas morning, 504 Grandsire Triples: A. E. Smith 1, Robt. Holloway (conductor) 2, W. Phillips 3, R. H. Boddington 4, J. W. Fruin 5, C. Edwards 6, Pte Meadows 7, J. J. Gray 8.

**BROMLEY, KENT.**—On Sunday, Dec. 17th, at SS. Peter and Paul's Church, for a confirmation service by the Bishop of Rochester, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: G. Huxley 1, P. J. Spice 2, W. Smith 3, I. Emery 4, F. Terry 5, A. Bygrave 6, G. Durling (conductor) 7, S. Miles (first quarter-peal) 8. Messrs. Smith and Terry kindly came from Beckenham to make up the band.

**CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.**—At the Cathedral, on Sunday, Dec. 24th, for the children's service, 504 Grandsire Triples: J. Poulton 1, W. Newman 2, A. E. Asfield 3, H. Allen 4, P. Timson 5, R. Richell 6, H. F. Cooper (conductor) 7, A. Head 8.

**PORTISHEAD, SOMERSET.**—At St. Peter's Church, on Sunday, Dec. 17th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: Miss M. Jukes 1, Miss D. Sage 2, Miss A. Stokes 3, H. Shire (Clevedon) 4, J. Nisbet 5, Miss E. M. Hole (conductor) 6, W. Gillingham 7, P. Orchard (first quarter-peal) 8. Arranged for Mr. H. Shire, who was leaving the neighbourhood.

**BRAINTREE, ESSEX.**—On December 24th, for Matins, at the Parish Church, 672 Bob Major: F. T. Fuller 1, F. Rudkin 2, H. E. Hammond 3, F. Webb 4, W. H. Dyson 5, G. Lindridge 6, H. Coote 7, C. H. Howard (conductor) 8.

**WEST EALING.**—On Christmas Eve, for the children's service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins.: E. Harris (St. Mary's) 1, Miss E. Jones 2, R. H. Boddington 3, C. Edwards 4, R. Holloway 5, Pte J. A. Trollope (Yorks Regt.) 6, Sergt. J. R. Mackman (conductor) 7, W. Lawrence 8. Looking hardy and well, our "khaki" friends were home for Christmas leave.

**BARNES.**—On Dec. 24th, at St. Mary's Church, in 44 mins., a quarter-peal of Bob Major: M. Jacobs 1, H. Barrett 2, R. Mackrill 3, H. Cook 4, J. Lee 5, Staff-Sergt. Verralls 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, C. Hunt 8. Rung as a compliment to R. Mackrill on the birth of a son and heir.—On Dec. 25th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: M. Jacobs 1, H. Barrett 2, R. Mackrill 3, H. Cook 4, C. Hunt 5, Staff-Sergt. Verralls 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, G. Hunt 8.

**SHIPLEY, YORKS.**—At the Parish Church, on Dec. 24th, for morning service, 840 Grandsire Triples: J. Joyce 1, G. A. Nettleton 2, E. Simpson 3, W. Joyce 4, E. Murgatroyd 5, T. B. Kendall (conductor) 6, J. Ross 7, H. Utley 8.—On Christmas morning, 1088 Kent Treble Bob Major: H. Utley (longest length in the method) 1, T. B. Kendall (conductor) 2, J. Ross 3, W. Joyce 4, E. Murgatroyd 5, J. Joyce 6, E. Simpson 7, G. A. Nettleton 8. Rung as a farewell to E. Murgatroyd, who has joined the forces.

**Clewellins****& James, Ltd.,****CHURCH BELLS SINGLY OR  
IN RINGS.****Bell Frames in Cast Iron, Steel  
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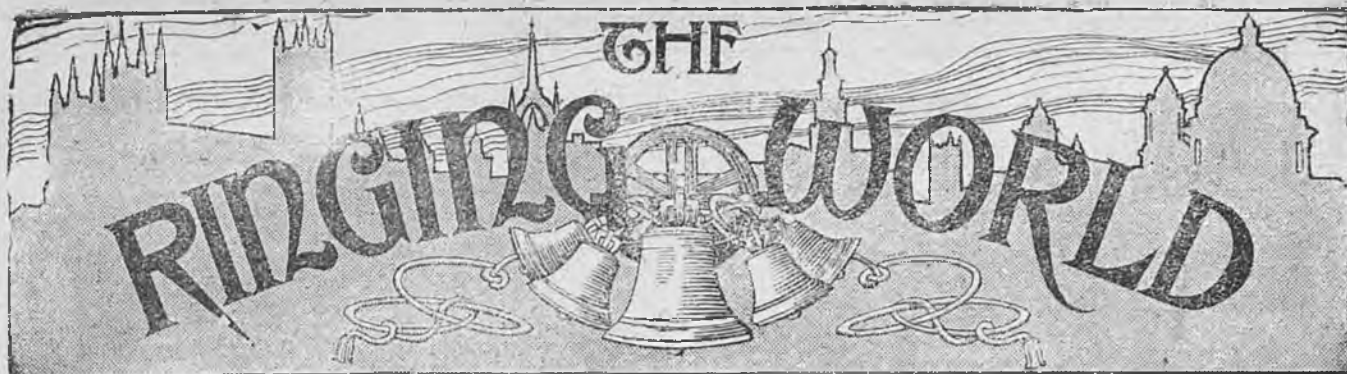
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Guildford, and Published by Messrs. Wm. DAWSON & SONS  
LTD. Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.



No. 309. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16th, 1917.

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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

### WAR MEMORIALS.

The Kent County Association have appointed a committee to consider the question of providing a suitable memorial to those members who have given their lives for King and Country in this great war, and the scheme put forward at the recent meeting of the Lewisham District is one which is likely to commend itself to the Association. Briefly, it is to add two trebles to the ring at Canterbury Cathedral to make the bells there into a peal of twelve, and to place a memorial tablet in the Cathedral, giving the names of the fallen ringers and recording the number from the county who have served in H.M.'s forces. There may be other proposals afoot which will call for consideration, but the provision of twelve bells for the venerable cathedral is surely one which will find general favour whatever else may be done. Up to the present no church in the Kent Association's area possesses a ring of this number, the only peal of twelve in the county being the light ring in the Waterloo Tower, Quex Park.

This question of war memorials raises an interesting subject, and doubtless a good deal will be heard about it in the future. Nearly every village and town will later on be thinking of some method of perpetuating the memory of its fallen heroes, to say nothing of those wealthy families who will wish to record the death of gallant sons. Few forms of commemoration, we think, would be more fitting than the augmentation of the bells in our parish churches. Apart from the sentimental side of the question and the constant reminder which the bells would be of duty nobly done—bells constitute a more lasting memorial than many things. Except for the churches themselves, there are few objects in regular use to-day which can boast the age of our innumerable ancient bells, and, as we are often reminded, there are also few things considered to be more typically English. For centuries bells have played their part in commemorating victory and peace, and nothing could more fittingly preserve the memory of the sacrifices made in securing that victory and peace which we all to-day anticipate than the setting up of bells.

When, as in the case of the Kent Association, ringers are looking round for a suitable memorial for fallen comrades, their thoughts will at once turn in the direction of bells, but with the ordinary public this is not the case. Ringers should, therefore, see that when memorial schemes are discussed, the possibility of the bells is brought to the notice of those in the proper quarter. If it is done tactfully, the idea of restoring or augmenting the bells of the parish church will most certainly receive consideration in many places, and in not a few will doubtless be carried through. But ringers must see to it that they do not lose the opportunity of saying the right word at the right time.

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## ESSEX RINGER'S DEATH.

By the death of Pte Percy Letch, killed in action on November 9th last, by a bursting shell, the Essex Association has sustained a great loss, for he was a most promising ringer. Twenty-five years of age, he was of a genial disposition, and a safe and good striker. He commenced to ring at Boreham, early in 1907, and rang peals in the standard methods on eight bells, up to and including Superlative Surprise, and several in seven methods on six bells. His livelihood took him from his native village, just before the outbreak of war, to Loughton, where he joined the change ringing band. Much sympathy is felt for his young widow.

## "DOING THEIR BIT" IN AMERICA.

**ENGLISH RINGERS HELP AT ALLIED NATIONS' BAZAAR.**

Mr. Richard Newton, well known in Manchester and Lancashire ringing circles, and now at the Merchants' National Bank, Boston, U.S.A., sends us the following account of how he and other English bell ringers helped to raise money for Allied charities. He writes:—

"Dear Mr. Editor.—Just a few lines to accompany my birthday expenses of 15s., which I hope you will add to your War Relief Fund as last year. This is about the amount my birthday celebration usually cost, after ringing on Manchester Town Hall bells, and I send it with wishes for the best of luck to the boys in the trenches."

"Just a few words of what the sons and daughters of St. George did during the great Allied Nations' Bazaar, held here in Boston from December 9th to 20th, 1916. We only had about three weeks' notice, but under the able leadership of Mrs. A. S. Buckle we were got together, and yours truly, along with two other ringers, E. E. Randall and J. F. Laker, were invited on the board of management of ten. After a few meetings, and some running about, we landed at Mechanics Building, all correct, December 7th, 8th and 9th, and opened our stall boldly labelled 'English Booth, No. 128. Daughters and Sons of St. George.' It was stocked with about 1,500 dollars' worth of stuff, all given, from a lucky Indian hat-pin to an aeroplane, and from a man's hat to an home-made yacht, a model of Sir T. Lipton's Shamrock IV., and at the end of the ten days we turned in about five thousand dollars (£1,000), and we were given to understand that all we turned in would be credited to us, and that we should be granted one-half towards our Prince of Wales' Fund for Dependents of British Soldiers and Sailors. Every woman and man worked to their utmost, and everyone seemed glad of the opportunity of being able to do their 'bit.' Although far away from home I myself had a week's holiday due to me, so I got permission of the bank to have it during the bazaar. I had made a hearthrug out of tailors' clippings (getting ready for my home, which is not yet made), and I let it go by subscriptions of 10 cents (5d.) each, and I realised just 10 dollars (£2), and the same by a pillow I had given me, with 'Rule, Britannia,' hand-worked in silk thread. I also realised 10 dollars on a set of bound books I brought with me when I came out, and 'With the Flag to Pretoria, and After,' brought in 13 dollars and 80 cents (£3 15s.). I worked hard from about 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. I am not trying to blow my own horn, but just to let my friends at home see that I am doing my bit here. In everything of this description there is always a smiling side, and we created hundreds of smiles and much laughter."

## GOBBLING SILVER CORN.

One of our ladies originated and perfected an idea of a goose's head. She manipulated it very ingeniously, and the public were invited to 'feed the goose for five cents and get a prize.' Everyone got something, either a child's small toy or a packet of candy, and so I went on for the first two or three days. But the business in this line was only middling, so I got on the opposite side to the lady to help her. We did not do much better, however, but when on the Friday there was a large crowd in, a sudden thought struck me, so I shouted out, 'Feed the goose for tuppence-halfpenny.' The result was magic! I could fairly see the people's ears twitch, and women whispered to one another, 'Hark! tuppence-halfpenny.' There I stood, with my Coronation medal, and my badge of office on, my face as red as a turkey cock, and sweating as I did when I rang the tenor at 'the Cottage' to a peal of Stedman Triples (ask Harry C.). But, never mind, I faced it out. I thought the chaps in the trenches are working harder, so I kept it up, and we got over 30 dollars (£6) that day. Saturday being 'British Day,' I got to it again. I called out, 'Now, you Lancashire lasses, feed the Yorkshire goose with 2d.' Our English corner was crowded all day, and at night we had taken over 52 dollars, about £10 14s. Truly a goose that gobbled the silver corn if it did not lay the golden egg. It was great fun. When I spotted five or six young giggling women coming along, I said, 'Now, you Lancashire lasses, come and feed the Yorkshire goose.' Some would say, 'Hey, how can you tell we are from Lancashire?' Well, sometimes I was right, and sometimes they were from the Midland Counties, but I came across three boys from Bank Lane, Cleyton, Manchester, and they were delighted to have a chat with me, and so was I with them. I had to go to work (Harry Chapman used to ask me how I spent it) on the Monday, but I got off at 3.30, and was at it at the bazaar till 11 p.m., and at the finish we took just over 280 dollars all in five-cent pieces. Five cents are equal to five halfpennies, so you can tell it was no easy job, but we stood the strain to the end."

## A CORRECTION.

The handbell peal at Shoreditch, recorded last week, was rung by the Royal Cumberland Youths, and not the College Youths, as stated.



**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.****BRISTOL BRANCH CONSIDER "PEACE" RINGING.**

A quarterly meeting of the Bristol Branch was held at Henbury on Saturday. The bells (a peal of eight) were available from 3 p.m., and soon after that time were set going to touches of Grandsire, Plain Bob. Stedman and Treble Bob until 5.30. Afterwards 15 members sat down to tea. In the absence of the chairman of the branch (Mr. H. T. Howell), Mr. J. Gould (Henbury) was voted to the chair, and referred to yet another loss which the Association had sustained by the death of Mr. Boutflower, and moved that a letter of condolence be sent to Mrs. Boutflower, the members signifying approval by all standing in silence.

One new member for Henbury was elected, and it was decided to hold the next monthly meeting at St. Luke's, Bristol, on March 17th.

A proposition was brought forward to adopt the suggested system for "peace" ringing outlined in "The Ringing World" of February 9th, and after some considerable discussion the proposition was withdrawn, to be again brought forward at the next monthly meeting, to enable members to consider the matter. It is hoped that members will make a special effort to attend that meeting, so that the matter can be more thoroughly discussed.

For future meetings it was decided to adopt an attendance register. The members were very pleased to hear that Mr. Howell's son was home on ten days' leave from the front, which accounted for his not being present, and no apology was therefore needed for his absence.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to Mr. R. Devenish for getting them ready.—A vote of thanks was also passed to the chairman for presiding, and was accompanied by "For he's a jolly good fellow." A pleasant social half-hour brought to a close another successful meeting.

**WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE BRANCH.**

A meeting of the Wotton-under-Edge and District Branch was held at Stone on Saturday week, when upwards of 20 members attended from the towers of Berkeley, Dursley, St. George's, Bristol, Stroud, Tytherington, Thornbury, Stone, and Slimbridge. The bells were available from 3 p.m., and some good touches were brought round before the service, which was conducted by the Rev. Thomas Veal (Vicar).—The Rev. Walter Greswell gave a short but most appropriate address to the members, and the Master (Mr. J. H. Fussell, of Dursley) presided at the organ. Tea, by the kind invitation of the Vicar, was partaken of in the Schoolroom, after which the business was transacted. The Vicar presided, supported by the Rev. W. Greswell and Mr. C. E. Greswell (churchwarden).

A vote of condolence was passed with the widows of the late Rev. H. A. Cockey and the late Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower, those gentlemen having filled the offices of Master and hon. treasurer of the Gloucester and Bristol Association respectively.

North Nibley was proposed for the next place of meeting, on April 14th.—A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, and for his kind hospitality, and in responding, he said he should be pleased to welcome the Association to Stone again when the time came round for them to make another visit.—The Rev. W. Greswell was thanked for his address, and Mr. C. E. Greswell for the interest he had taken in the meeting.

A short turn on the handbells brought a very pleasant meeting to a close.

**STROUD BRANCH PRESIDENT RETIRES.**

The annual meeting of the Stroud Branch was held at Painswick. The twelve bells were open for ringing from 2 p.m., and 22 members attended from the different towers of the branch, and from Swindon and Gloucester. Grandsire Doubles, Triples and Caters, Bob Major and Royal and Stedman Triples were rung during the afternoon, and afterwards the members attended service, at which the Vicar (the Rev. W. H. Seddon) and the Rev. T. M. William officiated, and the Vicar, who was President of the branch from its formation, gave an excellent address to the ringers on the uses of our church bells in the religious life of the nation.

By the kind invitation of the Vicar all were entertained to tea at the Verlands, and were well catered for by Mrs. and the Misses Russell.

The annual business meeting followed. The Branch Secretary (Mr. William Hale) gave a report of the year's work. Eleven meetings had been held, with an average attendance of 18; two peals of 5,040 changes had been rung; and the Association had done much good work by the ringers constantly meeting together and keeping the ringing going. There were five honorary and 83 performing members, of whom 23 were serving their King and country, and one had sacrificed his life. The financial statement was read and passed as most satisfactory.

The retiring President was most cordially thanked for his great kindness to the Association for over 30 years.—The Vicar responded, and thanked them for their kind words, and regretted leaving them, but said he wished to remain an honorary member.—Mr. H. Workman, of Woodchester, was unanimously elected President, having been an honorary member and staunch supporter of the Diocesan Association for many years. All the retiring officers were thanked for their services, and also the Branch Committee, and were re-elected en bloc.

An interesting discussion followed on the best means to bring the branches in closer touch with the Executive of the whole Association. Stonehouse was unanimously selected for the next quarterly meeting.

**NORTH FOREST BRANCH.**

On Saturday week, the annual meeting of the North Forest Branch was held at Newent. The bells (6) in E sharp, were available during the afternoon, and a short service was held in the Parish Church. The Rev. D. Gethyn Jones officiated, the Rector, the Rev. Canon Connor, being confined to his room with a bad cold. After service a substantial tea was partaken of in the Parish Room, Mr. Jones presiding over a company of 17, which included Messrs. Shepherd and Lang from Swindon, and Mr. J. W. Jones, Newport; Mr. J. W. Davies, Lydney. At the business meeting Mr. John Austin (the Master of the Association) presided. The Rev. Canon Connor was elected President for the year, and ex-Sgt. Joseph Williams was elected hon. secretary. One new member for Newent was elected.

The handbells were then brought into use, and several courses in the various standard methods were rung, and a few tunes well tapped off by Messrs. Austin and Williams. The meeting was the best ever held at Newent.

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

The annual meeting of the Axbridge Branch was held at Weston-super-Mare on Saturday week, some 30 members being present, representing Burnham, Brent Knoll, East Brent, Mark, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare, and Wick St. Lawrence. The bells were kept going during the afternoon to Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and service was held in the Parish Church, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. B. Norton-Thompson), who gave a very appropriate address. Tea was provided at Glass's Restaurant by a lady, whose kindness was much appreciated by all present.—The President (the Rev. Prob. R. Hayes Robinson) opened the meeting by thanking the Rector for giving the branch such a hearty welcome, for arranging the service, and for the address. Also to the lady for her kindness in providing the tea.—The Rector having replied, Mr. E. W. Perret, of Weston-super-Mare, was elected an honorary member, and ten performing members (all of Cheddar) were elected.

Mark was selected for the next quarterly meeting.—The balance sheet was adopted, and the Secretary, in his report, stated that the branch was in a fairly satisfactory state, considering that so many of its members were serving their country. He hoped they would soon be back again in their places in the towers.

All the officers were re-elected, and the President asked all tower correspondents to send the names of their members serving their country to the secretary, so that they may be entered in the report.

**BRIDGWATER DEANERY MEETING.**

The annual meeting of the Bridgwater Deanery Branch of the Bath and Wells Association was held at Bridgwater. The bells of St. Mary's Church were kindly lent by the Vicar (the Rev. J. J. Langham), from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., and the following towers were represented: Bridgewater, Emore, Hunt-pill, Moorlinch and Wembdon. A service was held at Holy Trinity Church, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. E. de Ste Croix), who is also chairman of the branch, and who gave a very inspiring address.

After the service, by the kind invitation of the Chairman, the ringers were entertained to a sumptuous tea at Taylor's Restaurant. The annual meeting followed, the Rev. E. de Ste Croix in the chair. The Hon. Secretary (Mr. A. E. Moulton) presented the annual report, which stated that although many of their towers had been very much depleted by the men of military age being called up, there had been a remarkable spirit of patriotism on the part of the ladies, who had so willingly come forward to learn the art of bell ringing in order that the bells might be rung for the services on Sundays.—Eleven new members had been proposed during the year, and one life member. The balance sheet showed a balance in hand of £21 11s.—The report and balance sheet were unanimously accepted.

The Chairman congratulated the branch on the satisfactory report and balance sheet. He also spoke very feelingly of the sad news received, that Mr. Ernest Stockham, one of the ringers of St. Mary's tower, had been seriously wounded, and one of his legs had been amputated. He was sure that he was voicing the feeling of the members of the Association in expressing their heartfelt sympathy with him and his parents, and hoped that he would soon be restored to health again.

The Rev. E. de Ste Croix was unanimously re-elected chairman for the ensuing year, and Mr. A. E. Moulton was unanimously re-elected secretary, and Mr. A. E. Coles as a member to the Central Committee. The following new members were proposed, viz.: Misses Marindale, Harry Pollard and Wadmore (Wembdon probationers), Messrs. H. Styles (Huntspill) and R. Dibble (Moorlinch), Misses B. Arberry, Burston and Phillips (from probationers to full members). Shapwick was proposed for the next place of meeting.

Mr. Pitman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding, and also for his inspiring address in church, and the Chairman briefly replied.—The Secretary proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman for his kind hospitality, and also coupled with it a vote of thanks to the Rev. J. J. Langham for the use of the bells, and to the organist for presiding at the organ.—Miss Stockham, who was present, said she would like, on behalf of herself and parents, to thank the chairman for the kind expressions of sympathy extended to them in their trouble.

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## PEALS: THEIR LENGTH AND STARTING-POINT.

### OPINIONS FROM A DUGOUT IN FRANCE.

From "A Dugout somewhere in France," C.-Q.-M.-S. W. A. Cave, of Bristol, writes as follows: "I have read Mr. Clayton's views on the subject of (a) the length of peals on eight and upwards; and (b) the legality of starting a touch or peal from any change, instead of, as usual, from rounds.

"I quite agree with him when he says, 'these are eminently practical questions.' They are, and questions that practical ringers will be able to discuss.

"For my part your leading article in the same issue suits my own views admirably; 5,000 changes has been the minimum length to constitute a 'peal' for so long that I am afraid no advocacy, however able, will bring about a reduction. The time may come, of course, when ringers will prefer to ring a musical, historical, or unique composition of anything from, say, 3,000 to 4,999 changes, but for this to happen the practice of giving points for peals will have to cease, and also, Mr. Editor, you will have to stop giving special prominence to peals of 5,000 and over.

"With regard to the second question, I cannot really understand anyone even seriously suggesting such a thing as starting from or finishing with any other change than rounds. Two reasons are adduced for recommending the innovation: (1) Many peals of Stedman Caters and Cinques are lost owing to the turning course; (2) were this allowable, Annable's 'incomparably beautiful cadence' would be the termination of every course.

"With regard to (1) the number of peals of this description rung in ordinary times (these are not ordinary times), and the ease with which they are obtained, makes me incline to the opinion that they should be made more difficult rather than more simple. As to (2) I do not think the course-end any criterion of the musical qualities of any given peal. What is the good of (in Stedman Caters, for instance) having a tittum course-end followed by a bob at 1? The tittum position is gone at once. For this reason I consider Sir A. P. Heywood's short-course plan of bobs at 7, 9 and 10, is infinitely preferable to Henry Johnson's plan at bobs at 1, 3, 5 (or 6), 8 followed by 2, 4, 7, 9. In the former you get the music attached to the position, in the latter you do not.

"I shall look for further views on this subject, but expect they will be, with but few exceptions, in full agreement with what you have already written.

"I am glad to say I am still in the best of health, despite the bitterly cold weather we have been having of late. We are not permitted to put the style of our unit at the end of our letter in the form of an address, but it must appear in the text, and as it has been recently changed (as well as our individual numbers), I give it here: 495007 W. A. Cave, C.-Q.-M.-S., 477 (S. Mid.), Field Co. R.A., B.E.F. My old number was 66, and the unit the 2/1st, so that both have gone up considerably. I should like to tell you where I am, but that also is taboo, but I can tell you where I would be if I could that is home at Bristol attending to my business, and ringing for service at St. Stephen's on Sundays. May that time soon come is the sincere wish of, Yours truly, W. A. CAVE."

## WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A meeting of the Guildford District was held at Shere on Saturday last, and was attended by members from Dorking, Leatherhead, Guildford, Cranleigh, etc. Service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. F. C. Hill, M.A.), who described the condition of the bells and ringers when he came to the parish 24 years ago. Then there were six bells rung from the ground floor, in full view of the congregation, and although it might be picturesque it was hardly reverent to see elderly men in their shirt sleeves in the House of God, and who, when they had done ringing for service, used to shuffle down the aisle as service was about to begin. Now, thanks in a very great measure to that Guild, of which they were all so proud of being members, they had eight bells, rung from a ringing chamber, which he was told was one of the best kept in the Diocese. Although there were so few present that day, as compared with the 70 or 80 present in pre-war days, yet he was not sure that that small meeting did not give him greater pleasure than the larger ones, as it showed the determination of the Guild to "carry on" till the gallant fellows in the trenches returned victorious, and found that their loved bells were still being rung by skilful hands.

Tea took place at the White Horse, and was provided in Mr. R. J. Askew's well-known style.

Mr. A. C. Hazelden was elected Ringing Master, and Mr. J. White representative on the Central Committee, in the place of Mr. C. Edwards, who had left the Diocese to the great loss of the Guild.

Mr. A. H. Finch, Leatherhead, referred in feeling terms to the death of Mr. David Jordan, of Capel, one of the pioneers of change ringing in the early days of the present revival 40 or 50 years ago.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Miss Barlow for her services at the organ, and in response the lady said she could not find the time to learn ringing, but wished to become an honorary member.

A vote of thanks to the Rector, proposed by Mr. Shepherd, of Swindon, brought the meeting to a close.

## THE LATE MR. WILLIAM BANISTER.

### COLLEGE YOUTHS' OLDEST MEMBER.

The passing of Mr. William Banister, who, as we recorded last week, died at Fulham at the advanced age of 92 years, severs the last link with a great school of ringers who were in their prime between 60 and 70 years ago. It seems strange that up to within the last few weeks we should have had amongst us one who was ringing peals of Stedman Cinques well nigh three-quarters of a century ago, yet Mr. Banister in the '40's was a welcome addition to any peal band in the metropolis, and rang several peals on twelve bells at that distant date. It has always seemed to us a pity that he kept no record of his peals, for many of his performances were memorable, he being a pioneer in the ringing of the higher methods.

The company at St. Mary's, Woolwich, of which the deceased gentleman was the leading spirit, and which included his father and five brothers, were among the first to ring peals in Surprise methods in the South of England, the band, between 1843 and 1851, scoring peals of Double Norwich, Superlative and London, while the father and sons, with a tenor man, rang peals both of Grandsire and Stedman Triples. Several of the peals that he rang were composed and conducted by Mr. W. Banister, and on St. Mary's bells he called the very first peal of "real" Double Norwich, i.e., with bobs called when the treble is behind as well as in front. This was on November 18th, 1848. Superlative Surprise was rung a little later at Woolwich, and then followed the crowning triumph of a peal of London Surprise Major, the second ever rung in the method, the first having been achieved at Norwich just a little while before. Mr. Banister's peal—



THE LATE MR. W. BANISTER.

he composed and conducted it—was 5,600 odd, and was longer than the one at Norwich.

### A FAMOUS BAND.

As a member of the College Youths Mr. Banister was very active among the illustrious London company of those days. One of his oldest ringing friends was the late Mr. Matthew Wood and it is interesting to recall the particulars of the first peal of Stedman Cinques which these two rang together. It was at St. Saviour's, Southwark, on Wednesday, December 19th, 1849, in 4 hrs. 9 mins., and comprised 5146 changes. Here are the names, and what a famous band they were! We have no doubt that that peal was a peal worth listening to: John Cox treble, William Cooter 2, James Mash 3, William Banister 4, George Ferris 5, Robert Jameson 6, Robert Haworth 7, Matthew Wood 8, John Bradley 9, Edward Lansdell 10, James Dwight 11, Edward Sawyer tenor. Another of Mr. Banister's peals specially worth recalling is the 7524 Stedman Cinques, rung on January 6th, 1851, at St. Giles', Cripplegate. This was at the time the longest length in the method and ten of the band above mentioned took part in the ringing, the company being completed by H. Littlechild and J. Austin, who replaced Jameson and Sawyer. It is a pity that we are unable to give particulars of other peals, but enough has been said to show that, in his day, Mr. Banister was among the greatest of our practical ringers.

### A BELFRY REFORMER.

It was a severe loss to London ringing when Mr. Banister moved to Plymouth in 1865, but it proved the greatest of good fortune to ringing in Devonshire. When he reached the dockyard town, his services were eagerly sought by Col. Trclawny and Col. Troyte in furthering the art. At the invitation of the Rural Dean he reported upon the

condition of the belfries in the district, and found them in a state which was a disgrace to the church authorities. There was an accumulation of the dirt and rubbish of years, while the ringers were so much adverse to the introduction of any change that they in most cases put all the obstacles possible in the way of the inspection. It was not unusual to find a cask in the belfry, and the worse the bells went, and the better the work, the better the ringers seemed to like it, for it afforded them the greater excuse for drinking the more. But, thanks to the efforts begun in those days, all this has been swept away. Mr. Banister was closely concerned in the formation of the Devon Guild, one of the oldest of the county ringing organisations, and by his indomitable efforts, in face of difficulties and even open opposition, the cause of scientific ringing was spread in the rural parishes in Devonshire, and his work was carried as far as Penzance, in Cornwall.

When he first went to Devonport there were but six bells at the Dockyard Chapel, but Mr. Banister got them augmented to eight, trained a young band, and, within six months, they rang a peal of Grandsire Triples. Mr. Banister supplemented Col. Troyte's treatise on change ringing by carrying on to eight bells the work which had been written for the instruction of ringers on five and six bells.

In addition to his skill as a change ringer, Mr. Banister excelled in tune ringing on handbells. He and his brothers had a magnificent set of over 70 bells which they themselves manufactured, and with which they delighted many audiences and benefited the funds of many a worthy cause.

### PUBLIC SERVICE.

In public life, as we pointed out last week, Mr. Banister played his part on the Council, the School Board, and the Board of Guardians, as well as being a Justice of the Peace. For 30 years he served the public on these different bodies, only giving up active labour when he had passed four-score years, and left Devonport for Pembroke. So highly was he esteemed that even then his colleagues on the Town Council kept his aldermanic seat open for him for five years. His was a long life given to public service, both in the employment of the Government, of whom he was a tried and trusted servant, and in the interests of his fellow citizens, by whom he was respected and beloved.

Among those ringers who knew him he was held in the highest esteem, but few there are to-day who can appraise the value of his services to the art. He was one of the grand old men of the Exercise, and on the two last occasions that the Central Council met in London the members were delighted to honour him. Despite his years, he came among them with evident pleasure, though few, indeed, had previously known him, and the Council accorded him a hearty reception when the late Sir Arthur Heywood introduced him.

But now, after a long and strenuous life, in which ability, integrity, devotion to duty, and an ever-readiness to help others have been among the outstanding traits, William Banister has passed away, and the last link with a seemingly distant age of ringing has been snapped, but with those who had the honour of his acquaintance, his friendship will ever remain a cherished memory.

Mr. Banister's wife predeceased him some 40 years, and he leaves a son and daughter to mourn their loss. It was in the devoted care of his daughter, Mrs. Anderson, that he spent the closing years of his life. His son, Mr. G. H. Banister, is a director of Messrs. Vickers, Ltd., of Barrow-in-Furness.

### FUNERAL RINGING.

The funeral took place on Monday of last week at Woolwich Cemetery, and the following band of College Youths, of which society Mr. Banister was the oldest member, rang a course of Stedman Triples over the grave: T. H. Taffender 1-2, C. F. Winney 3-4, W. A. Alps 5-6, H. R. Passmore 7-8.

On Saturday last a funeral peal was rung by College Youths at the Church of St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside. The "whole pull and stand" was rung to represent the deceased's age, and the majestic roll of the deep-toned and majestic ring was very impressive. Mr. and Mrs. Anderson and other members of the family heard the ringing, and personally thanked the ringers for their services and thoughtfulness. Mr. Anderson kindly defrayed the expenses of the handbell ringers to the cemetery, and also the muffling fees at Bow, as well as adding a donation to that old and honoured institution of the College Youth, the "Gift Box Fund"—a kindness characteristic of the grand old man whose memory had just been honoured. The ringers taking part were: E. Horrex 1, H. R. Newton 2, H. R. Passmore 3, H. Langdon 4, A. Paddon Smith (Birmingham) 5, F. E. Dawe (Guildford) 6, A. B. Peck 7, C. F. Winney (conductor) 8, E. Brett 9, A. A. Hughes (Master) 10, S. E. Joyce 11, S. Pettitt 12.

### MANCHESTER RINGERS IN LONDON.

During the week-end, Feb. 3rd and 4th, Messrs. Harry Chapman and Amos Trippier, of Manchester, paid a visit to London. On Sunday morning courses of Stedman Cinques and one of Bob Maxims were rung at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, and after a visit to St. Paul's in the afternoon a 504 of Stedman Triples was rung at St. Stephen's Westminster, by: H. R. Newton 1, H. R. Passmore 2, Ben Thorp 3, H. S. Ellis 4, J. E. Sykes 5, S. Andrews 6, H. Chapman (conductor) 7, A. Trippier 8.



### KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. A WAR MEMORIAL SUGGESTION.

A quarterly meeting of the Lewisham District was held at Beckenham, when touches were rung during the afternoon, and a short service was held, attended by the twenty members present, Mr. F. W. Richardson presiding at the organ, and the Rev. Canon Arnott (Rector) giving a short and interesting address on bells, their origin and uses. Tea followed in the Church House, after which the business meeting was held, Mr. W. J. Jeffries presiding. Messrs. D. Harvey and E. Martin, of Erith; T. J. Knight and R. Johnson, of Bromley and E. Alexander Young, A.R.I.B.A., of London, were elected members.

Mr. W. J. Jeffries (district representative) read his report of the Central Committee meeting, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him. Mr. Jeffries was then elected to represent the district on the War Memorial Sub-Committee, and was asked to bring forward the following, which had been carried by the meeting, viz.: "That two bells be placed in the tower of Canterbury Cathedral, making a peal of twelve, and a tablet in the Cathedral stating the reason the bells were placed in the tower, with a list of the ringers' names inscribed who fell in the war, also the number of members who served; the cost of same to be raised amongst the members of the Association.

Woolwich was chosen as the place of the next meeting, the last Saturday in April.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells and room and his address, to Mr. and Mrs. W. Dennis for preparing the tea, and Mrs. W. Smith for assisting, brought the meeting to a close. The tower was again visited till 8 p.m.

### CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

The annual meeting of the Wirral Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at Oxtan. The Rev. Canon Sayer conducted the services in St. Thomas's Chapel, and gave a very helpful address. About 35 ringers and friends partook of an excellent tea, after which the business meeting was held. Mr. Milner, of Liscard, was elected President of the branch for 1917, and spoke of the need of ringers keeping together during this upheaval and filling up the gaps in their ranks. There are from 25 to 30 ringers of this branch serving their country in her time of need, and two have made the great sacrifice.

Mr. Brocklebank was re-elected hon. secretary and treasurer, and Mr. Ludken and Mr. Wilcox were re-elected ringing masters for the ensuing year. Mr. Ludken was also elected as representative of the branch on the general committee of the Guild.

As the tower bells were not available for ringing after the meeting, an enjoyable concert, arranged by Mr. Peacock Smith, churchwarden of Oxtan, was given, tunes being played on the handbells, and songs given by some of the ringers and friends.—A hearty vote of thanks was passed, on the proposition of the President, to the Vicar and churchwardens for their hospitality, and to all other friends who had helped to make the concert a success.

### SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

The annual meeting of the Salop Archidiaconal Guild was held at Shrewsbury, the bells of St. Chad's being open for the occasion, and touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Minor being rung, as well as rounds on the twelve for the probationers, who included two ladies from St. Michael's. Dr. Greenwood, the Vicar, also took part. Owing to the war and the bad railway facilities, there was only a poor attendance of members—Shifnal, Wolverhampton, Ighfield, St. Michael's and St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, and Longnor, being represented. Tea was served in St. Chad's Parish Room. The meeting which followed was presided over by the Rev. F. W. T. Greenwood, D.D., Vicar.

The secretary, the Rev. F. Tennison, read the annual report, which was accepted, and it was decided to postpone the business until the annual meeting in 1918, owing to so many members having joined the colours.

The illuminated address, which has recently been presented to the Rev. H. Bockwith, late secretary, by members of the Guild, in recognition of the active interest he took in the Guild when he resided among them, was on view.

One new honorary member, the Rev. L. Newby, Vicar of St. Julian's, was elected.

### ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of the North-Eastern Division of the Essex Association was held at Coggeshall on Saturday week, when ringers were present from Earls Colne, Becking, Chelmsford and Felsted. The bells of the Parish Church were available during the afternoon, when touches of Double Norwich and Kent Treble Bob were rung.

At the business meeting, Mr. W. E. Hawkes, of Rayue, was elected an hon. member. Two ringing members were also elected from Sible Hedingham.—A letter was read from Mr. C. H. Howard, Master of the Association, stating that through pressure of business and shortage of staff, he was sorry that he was not able to be present.—Castle Hedingham was selected for next meeting, to be held in June.—A vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, which brought a small but very successful meeting to a close.

## NOTICES.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Winchester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Romsey on Saturday, February 17th, 1917. The Abbey bells will be available from 2.30 to 5.30. Tea in Temperance Hall, 5.45. Members intending to be present will please notify by February 13th, to Jas. W. Elkins, Hon. Sec., 20, Culver Road, Winchester.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Rishton on Saturday, February 17th, 1917. Ringing to commence at 2.30 till dusk, meeting following.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch, will be held at Great Marlow, Bucks, on Saturday, February 17th, 1917. Ringing at 2.30 p.m. Ringers' service at the Parish Church at 5 o'clock. Business meeting at St. Peter's Schools at 5.45.—W. H. Fussell, Hon. Sec., Farnburn Avenue, near Slough.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHANGE RINGERS.**—South and West District.—The annual meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Vicar (the Rev. J. H. Champion McGill), at Isleworth, on Saturday, February 17th. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Tea, by kind invitation of Mrs. McGill, in the Hartlands Road Mission Hall at 5. Ringing afterwards until 9. The honorary secretary earnestly appeals for all outstanding 1916 subscriptions to be sent to him before the date of the meeting.—H. C. Chandler, Honorary Secretary, Church Road, Heston Hounslow.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Leigh on Saturday, February 17th, 1917. Bells ready at 3 o'clock.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

**ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—The next meeting of the above will be held at Stone in Oxney (6 bells) on Saturday, February 17th. Bells available from 2 o'clock till sunset. Appledore the nearest station (3 miles).—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on February 22nd for handbell practice, and on the 27th for general business. The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members, who seldom attend the meetings, to vote on matters of finance, should be paid before the 28th inst.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

**ST. PETER'S, SOUTH CROYDON.**—A practice meeting at this 10-bell tower will be held on Saturday, 24th February, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. All welcome.—Chas. Dean, 2, Biddulph Road, S. Croydon.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Rochdale Parish Church on Saturday, February 24th. Ringing from 2 o'clock till dusk, meeting to follow.—T. K. Driver, Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM** (Established 1755).—The Annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at Ye Olde Royal Hotel, Temple Row, Birmingham, on Saturday, February 24th next, at six o'clock. The chair will be taken by Canon J. W. Willink, M.A., Rector of Birmingham. Tickets free to fully qualified members whose subscriptions are paid up to date, to other members and friends 2s. 6d. each. The bells of St. Martin's (12) will be available from 3.30 to 5 o'clock. — A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD**.—Yorktown District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Yorktown on Saturday, March 3rd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at the York Restaurant, Frimley Road, at 5.30. All ringing friends welcome.—G. Miles, Hon. Sec., Owlsmoor, Camberley.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION**.—North-Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at Harlow, St. Mary's, on Saturday, March 3rd. Bells available only from 4 to 6 p.m. Business meeting will be held at the Church Room at 6.15 p.m. Subscriptions for 1917 are now due.—William Watts, District Sec., Mont House Cottage, Stansted, Essex.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD** (North Bucks Branch).—The quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Hanslope on Saturday, March 3rd. Bells (6) available from 2 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m., tea and meeting to follow.—L. Sear, Branch Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

**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.

#### R.N.A.S. RINGERS.

At Hoc, Kent, there is at present a band of ringers, all belonging to the Royal Naval Air Service. On the occasion of the wedding of Commander Dano, R.N., they rang three touches of 360 Grandsire Doubles, those taking part being: E. G. Jamieson (Gorleston), A. Strutt (Kingsdon, Surrey), A. W. Gravett (Brighton), conductor, A. Bates (Farningham, Kent), E. Skinner (Barnes), F. Swallow (Little Hadham, Herts), and A. H. Blake (Marrow, Surrey).

It is intended, providing that the band can be kept together, and with permission of the Rev. Walters, Vicar, to attempt a peal of Grandsire Doubles or Bob Minor during the summer evenings.

#### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**HECKINGTON**.—Lincoln Guild.—At St. Andrew's Church, on Dec. 24th, for afternoon service, 872 Grandsire Triples: M. Clark 1, F. Hilton 2, J. T. Holmes 3, C. Ward 4, A. Dixon 5, J. H. Clark (conductor) 6, W. Dickinson 7, W. Woods 8.—On Christmas Day, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. (1260 changes, containing 24 6-7's): M. Clark 1, F. Ekms 2, J. T. Holmes 3, C. Ward 4, A. Dixon 5, W. Woods 6, W. Dickinson (conductor) 7, J. H. Clark 8.—On Boxing Day, 874 changes Bob Major: M. Clark 1, F. Hilton 2, J. T. Holmes 3, C. Ward 4, H. P. Nash 5, T. Humberstone 6, W. Woods 7, W. Dickinson (conductor) 8. Mr. Hilton hails from Old Leake.

**OXTON, BIRKENHEAD**.—Chester Diocesan Guild, Wirral Branch.—On Sunday, Dec. 24th, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples: W. Battle 1, H. Brocklebank 2, J. Owens 3, W. Hughes 4, H. Martin (conductor) 5, J. Evans 6, S. Moston 7, C. Owens 8. For afternoon service, 504 Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Hughes.—On Christmas Day, 546 Grandsire Triples: W. Battle 1, H. Brocklebank 2, J. Owens 3, W. Hughes 4, H. Ludkin (composer and conductor) 5, J. Evans 6, H. Martin 7, H. Samuels 8.

**BRAMLEY, HANTS**.—At St. James' Church, on Christmas Day, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, in 47 mins.: G. Newman 1, Miss Eva Belcher 2, F. Staniford 3, W. Simpson 4, H. Spencer (conductor) 5, W. Lawrence 6.

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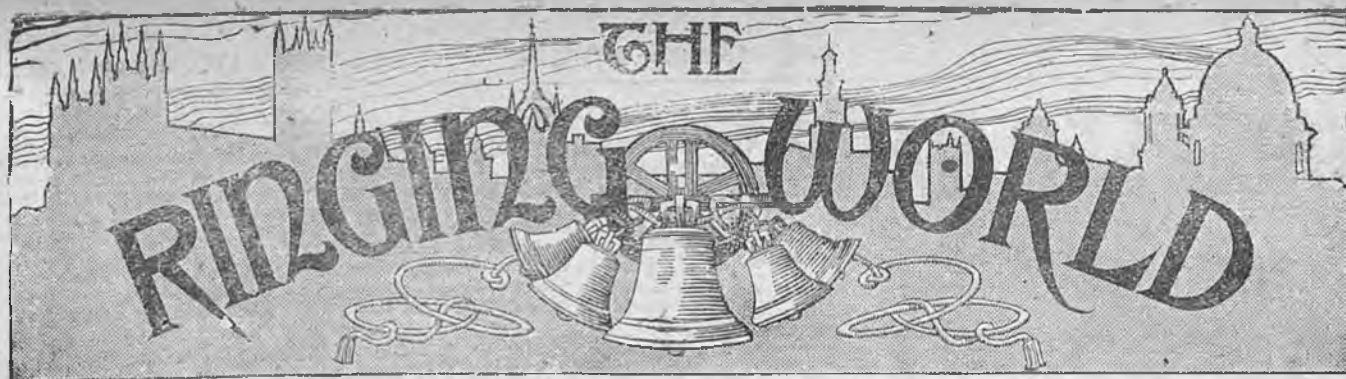
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Guildford, and Published by Messrs. Wm. DAWSON & SONS  
LTD. Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.





No. 310. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd, 1917.

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

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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

### BELL RINGING AFTER DARK.

Three weeks ago we called attention to the permission which had been given by the Competent Military Authority for the ringing of bells until 9 p.m. in the London area, and suggested that, through the clergy, application for similar modifications of the restrictions should be made in other Military Commands. We are glad to be able to state that in the Southern Command, at all events, the regulations which have prevented ringing after dusk have been so modified as to come into line with those in London. This result seems to have been achieved by the action taken through the Vicar of Whitechurch, Hants, who took up the matter at the request of his own band, and backed up his application by submitting to the Competent Authority the copy of "The Ringing World" containing the letter from the Home Office.

There appears to have been no difficulty whatever in the way of the acceding to the request, and the authority for ringing up to 9 p.m. has been granted by a letter from the Headquarters of the Southern Command to the Bishops in the Command Area. It is, of course, possible that applications have been made through the clergy in other parts of the country, and, if so, it would be interesting to know with what result. It seems obvious, however, that, at any rate away from what one may call the danger zone of the East and North-East Coast, the military have no objection to bells being rung until the hour of nine o'clock.

It now rests with the ringers, who desire the privilege, to take action. The result in the Southern Command points to the efficacy of application through the clergy, as we suggested in our previous issue, for although our article only appeared on the 2nd inst., the request to the military was preferred and the authority issued to the Bishop by the 13th. We hope that in all the military areas similar applications will be made, as, even on the North Sea border, it is possible the authorities may see their way to relax in some degree the present restrictions, for, if the Government's action in reducing air raid insurance premiums by 50 per cent. is a true indication, it looks as if the danger from Zeppelin visits is substantially less than it was. To ringers the extension of the hours of ringing is of importance, for, instead of their being practically confined to Sunday mornings and Saturday afternoons, it allows them to ring for all Sunday services and to practise during the evenings of the week. The concession in London was a sure guide to the feelings of the military authorities, and now that there is further confirmation, through the Southern Command, of their willingness to modify the restrictions there is no reason why ringers should not avail themselves of the opportunity.

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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

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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### "WAR LOAN" DAY.

The historic scene in Trafalgar Square, on Thursday week, was an impressive one. When the procession arrived at one o'clock, preceded by the band of the Welsh Guards, it is estimated that nearly 50,000 persons were assembled in the Square. At the time stated the bells of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields were going to a 657 of Grandsire Triples, by: J. D. Matthews (conductor) 1, F. Smith 2, W. T. Powell 3, C. Hare 4, W. Lawrence 5, A. Church 6, J. Hunt 7, W. J. Nudds 8. The London newspapers, in reporting the proceedings, mention the fact that the church bells were rung on the route of the procession.

### KING'S CLIFFE TENOR.

St. Peter's Society, Rhondda, Glamorgan, have contributed 12s. to the fund for recasting King's Cliffe tenor, and other donations received are 2s. 6d. from Mr. E. Dowey, Redhill, Surrey; and 2s. 6d. from Mr. J. F. Blake, Old Fishbourne, Sussex. There are still a good many pounds to be raised, and it is hoped to secure the total amount required (£38) before Easter. Those who wish to help in this good cause, therefore, should send their contributions without delay to the Rev. H. A. Orlebar, King's Cliffe Rectory, near Peterborough.

### DATE TOUCHES.

The year 1917 lends itself to the composition of date touches of Grandsire Triples, as the necessary number is produced by bringing the bells round at hand at the 137th lead. Mr. Arthur Hubbard, of Fulham, has sent us two for publication, which have the merit of simplicity of calling. After the first 12 leads, the remainder in each case is a five part touch by calling the observation bell in each part "in and out" at two five times, the last time with a double. The "going off" portion of the two touches are as follow:—

A.—S2, S1, B3, B1, S5 producing 325476  
B.—B1, B3, B1, B2, B1, S4, producing 325476

In the case of A, the five parts following each consist of bobs at 1, 2, 3, 2, 3, 2, 3, 2, 3, 2, 1, P L 1; and in the case of B, bobs at 2, 3, 2, 3, 2, 3, 2, 3, 2, 1, P L 2. The observation bell presents itself automatically at the part ends in A in 7th's place, in B in 2nd's. A will run home as a shorter touch by calling the 5th before one or more times, each call cutting out the next part.

### THE BELLS IN WAR TIME.

"Therefore should the bells be silent."  
Therefore should the bells be silent?

The war, with all its gore and all its glory,  
Wages from day to day, from year to year,  
And many a sad, sad home can tell the story  
Of missing father, son, or kindred near.

And many a comrade, too, is nobly fighting.  
And many a friend, in every stage of life,  
Is fighting, trusting, hoping—wrongs requiring:  
Doing his best to win in deadly strife.

And many a well-known hand our bells are missing,  
And belfries are deplete in many a place;  
Here bells are silent, while there the shells are hissing,  
Or deadly fumes the gallant lives menace.

But should those ringers who can yet be meeting  
Beneath the sacred spire let bells be banned?  
Do we not know those who the foe are beating  
Would never wish us to proclaim a "Stand."

And, when we meet, what time is so befitting  
To bring to memory, with a heartfelt hope,  
That those now absent, will in peace be quitting—  
Lay down their rifle, to take up a rope.

What would they feel, when to glad home returning,  
To find neglected and unfit to ring,  
Those cherished objects in sad plight discerning,  
While brass bands play and happy children sing?

I would that meetings should be held as ever,  
For enemies are numerous, and would smile  
If they could gain one point in their endeavour  
To stop the bells, as some are stopped meanwhile.

Let Central Council, each Association  
Do well their duty—meet and meet again;  
So may they be prepared for jubilation  
When fighting ends in Peace and joy shall reign!

J. F. P.

At Curdridge, Hants, during 1916, 17 504's of Grandsire Triples, two 720's and eight 360's of Bob Minor and 87 six-scores of Stedman Doubles were rung by the local band with the frequent assistance of ringers from the neighbouring tower of Swanmore.

## YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

### ANNUAL MEETING AT PONTEFRACT.

The annual general meeting of the Yorkshire Association was held at Pontefract on Saturday, February 3rd. The bells of the Parish Church (8) and All Saints' (6) were available for members during the day, the peal at All Saints' proving the greater attraction. The Association has held two meetings at Pontefract in previous years, both in the lovely month of May, when tea was served in the grounds of the old Castle, which, for historic interest, ranks with any fortress in the country. This castle played an important part during the "Pilgrimage of Grace" (1536), when it surrendered to the insurgents under Aske, and again in the Civil Wars (1644 to 1648) it sustained three important sieges, but was compelled to capitulate in 1649, by the loss of four-fifths of its gallant defenders. Pontefract has been called the "loyal borough," and no less so are the thirty-two ringers, enrolled in the county report, both to King and country, and to their Association. Military exigencies make it almost impossible to hold meetings for ringing in any large centre, and it being desirable to hold the annual meeting to get financial matters into order, and the reports distributed, the readiness of this branch to welcome the Association was gladly accepted.

Connected with All Saints' Church is a Church House given to the parish by the wife of a former Vicar, a most excellent place for meetings and general church work. The officers were met here by Mr. T. M. Barker, the genial local secretary, and with the help of Mr. Pickard, borough surveyor, and Mr. Cryer, of Selby, the accounts and books were audited. At one o'clock the tables were cleared for lunch, the caterer being an old friend, in the person of Mr. Wm. Pearson.

### THE SERVICE.

The bells of All Saints' were kept going in various methods during the afternoon, and a good touch of 896 Double Norwich Major was rung for the service by the following members: C. D. Potter (Barnsley), first touch in the method, 1. R. Brook (All Saints', Pontefract) 2. R. Thomas (St. Michael's, Headingley) 3. G. Robinson (Skipton) 4. P. J. Johnson (St. Michael's, Headingley), conductor, 5. Pte J. H. Lenton (St. Giles', Pontefract) 6. H. Lindsay (St. Michael's, Headingley) 7. W. Wood (St. Michael's, Headingley) 8. The Rev. A. G. Shipley conducted the service, and the sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Gill, Vicar of Pontefract, and Vicar-designate of Holm-Cliviger, Lancashire. He is an honorary member of the Association of many years' standing. His text was taken from I. Peter iv. 7, "Watch unto prayer." No doubt the thought uppermost in the Apostle's mind at this time, he said, was the second coming of his Ascended Lord, and the preacher drew a simile between the Apostles waiting in the upper room at Jerusalem for the coming of the Holy Ghost, and the generations of to-day looking forward to the second coming of Jesus Christ. The Apostles of old carried out the instruction to "Watch unto prayer." Were we likewise giving effect to the call? There must be in us also, an earnest desire to watch and pray. You, my brothers, added the preacher, ring the bells to call the people to prayer, to offer God in His house the highest service of prayer and praise. Your numbers here to-day are thin compared with the last time you visited Pontefract, and many of those absent are serving their King and country, and some probably never will be back amongst you. We think of them to-day, and we pray for them and for the cause they represent. We pray for the victory of our arms in a rightful cause, but at the same time we must remember our own imperfections. We must also thank God for the courage with which we are endowed in this struggle, and ask for courage also to combat that deadly sin of indifference. The sacrifices our men are called upon to make are terrible, and we also must meet the call for sacrifice in spiritual matters. Having done so, then day by day we shall know that God's purpose is being fulfilled, and we shall look with confidence for the righteous and abiding peace which God alone can give.

After the sermon, the President of the Association (the Rev. C. C. Marshall, Vicar of St. Chad's, Headingley, Leeds) read a list of the members serving with the forces, and intercessions were made on their behalf.

### THE SNOWDON MEMORIAL.

Tea was served immediately after service, in the Church House, after which the business meeting was held under the chairmanship of the president (the Rev. C. C. Marshall) supported by the Rev. A. G. Shipley and Mr. Geo. Bolland (vice-president). Canon Gill having to leave early, a vote of thanks was passed to him for his inspiring address. In reply, he gave the members a hearty welcome, and recalled the pleasure of previous meetings of the Association at Pontefract. He also expressed a wish to remain a member of the Association when living at his new home in Lancashire.

The Secretary reported some £26 in subscriptions received towards the William Snowdon Memorial, and said that the work was proceeding. The dedication at Ilkley could take place any time this year, and he suggested that June, being the 30th anniversary of the dedication of the Jasper Snowdon Memorial Window, would be a suitable time to dedicate the tablet, especially if the war were finished.

The committee's report was adopted, on the motion of the President, seconded by Mr. P. J. Johnson.

The balance sheet, showing a profit on the year's working, was

passed, on the motion of Mr. Pickard, who congratulated the members on the excellent way the books were kept.

No other nomination having been received, the retiring hon. general secretary, Mr. Clement Glenn (now serving in the navy) was re-elected with acclamation. From its earliest years the Yorkshire Association has been fortunate in having for its chief officers very capable men, and Mr. Glenn has well upheld the tradition of the office of secretary, combined with excellent powers of organisation, and real capacity for clerical work. He is also a brilliant ringer, and possesses a buoyant spirit that overcomes all difficulties, and these qualities the members recognise. They signified their appreciation of his services, and directed that a letter of thanks and good wishes be sent to him.

In reply to a vote of thanks, the Vicar of All Saints', the Rev. A. J. Shipley remarked that muffled peals were a gratifying feature of the ringers' work, the bells voicing the deeper feelings of the people, and expressing honour, affection and gratitude to the gallant men who gave their lives in the service of the country.

The thanks of the visitors were expressed to the local men for their hearty welcome, and also to the Mayoress, and other ladies who served tea.—Mr. Barker, in reply, said that members were dilatory in not sending in their names for tea, and that 50 more had sat down than were expected.

The Mayor sent an apology for not being able to be present, likewise Mr. A. E. West, Mr. James Rew, and Mr. Frank Willey.

A vote of thanks to the chairman, and the singing of a verse of the National Anthem, brought the meeting to a close. Owing to curtailed railway services members had to hurry away to catch trains.

### SALISBURY GUILD.

A monthly meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at the Church of All Saints', Westbury, Wilts, on Saturday, and was attended by over 20 ringers from Swindon, Westbury, Holt, Southbroom, and Edington. The bells, the tenor which is about 35 cwt., were raised at 2.30 p.m., and ringing was kept up until 4.30, when the authorised Guild service was held in the church, at which the Vicar (the Rev. W. H. M. Cann Clarke) kindly officiated, Mr. Jefferies being at his usual place at the organ. The Vicar, from the chancel steps, gave a most interesting and instructive address, to which the whole company listened with great attention. Tea followed in the Parish Room, and was much appreciated, 22 sitting down at the table.—A short business meeting then took place, presided over by the Vicar, supported by Mr. H. Brownlee West, the hon. branch secretary.—Mr. W. Hart proposed, and Mr. Brown seconded, the election of three new ringing members from the Westbury tower, all of whom were duly enrolled as members of the Guild.

The Secretary briefly mentioned that the restrictions on ringing were now relaxed, and the bells could be rung up to nine o'clock in the evening.—A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for the service in church, and also to the organist and organ blower for their kind help in making the meeting successful, brought a very pleasant gathering to a close.

### "MANY HAPPY RETURNS."

On Sunday, Feb. 4th, eight members of the Kent County Association rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins., for evensong, at St. Mary's Church, Lewisham, in honour of Mr. E. J. Pannett's 45th birthday, as it was impossible to attempt a peal: H. Warnett, senr. (conductor) 1. C. H. Walker 2. H. Warnett, junr. 3. E. J. Pannett 4. G. R. Simmonds 5. H. Walker 6. W. W. Fox 7. H. G. Goodwin 8.

Mr. E. J. Pannett has been a ringer since 1888, when he first learnt to manage his bell at Cuckfield, Sussex, under the tuition of Mr. F. Housell, and from that time till 1905 has rung in various parts of the country, although nothing beyond the treble of Grandsire. In 1905 he went to reside at Lewes, Sussex, and began to make a headway in plain methods, but did not have the opportunity of getting with a band who practised anything higher until 1914, when he left Lewes for Lewisham. Then, unfortunately, the war broke out, which, of course, has kept ringing back, but occasional practices held at St. John's, Deptford, and Bromley Parish Church have enabled Mr. Pannett to make more headway, and when things in general get a bit more normal, and ringing is again in full swing, we hope to hear greater things of him, under the guidance of Messrs. I. Emery, of Bromley; H. Warnett, senr., Lewisham; and W. J. Jeffries, of St. John's, Deptford. Up to the present he has rung 18 peals.

### CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday week, the quarterly meeting of the Thrapston District of the Central Northants Association was held at Raunds, 25 members being present from Northampton, Sharnbrook, Finedon, Thrapston, Ringstead, Wellingborough, Irthlingborough, Great Addington, and the local tower. A short service was held, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. O. C. Adred), and tea was provided at the Wheatsheaf Inn, the Vicar presiding. The Vice-President (the Rev. F. H. Lang) was unable to attend owing to an attack of influenza.—Thrapston was chosen for the next place of meeting, and it was also decided to have a practice meeting at Ringstead, on the Saturday in Easter week.—A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, to the organist, and to all who had helped to make the meeting a success, and to this the Vicar suitably replied.



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*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.*

## RINGING UP TO 9 P.M.

### SOUTHERN COMMAND MODIFIES RESTRICTIONS.

On the application of the Vicar of Whitechurch, Hants, permission to ring church bells up to 9 p.m. in the area of the Southern Command has been granted.

A member of the Whitechurch band writes: "Allow me to thank you, on behalf of our band at Whitechurch, for the privilege we have got in being able to ring for all services in the evenings, and also on practice nights until 9 p.m. After reading in 'The Ringing World' of the 2nd inst. of the permission granted to our friends in London, we lost no time in getting our Vicar to intercede for us. He was only too pleased and willing to do so, with the result, as you will see by the letter which I am sending you, that the authority to ring up to 9 p.m. is granted not only to us, but also to all the churches in the Southern Command. You may like to print this in your most valuable paper, as there may be others that would like to know of the modification of the restrictions."

[Copy]

To the Rev. F. N. Harvey, Whitechurch.

For your information, authority is granted for your Church bells to ring up to 9 p.m. until further orders.

The authority is a letter from Headquarters Southern Command to the Bishops in the Command area, dated 13th February, 1917.

I have informed the police of this.

I return copy of "The Ringing World."

(Signed) ERNEST E. G. COCKBURN.

Staff Captain, 214th Infantry Brigade.

Whitechurch, Hants, 14th February, 1917.

## WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

### MEETING AT ROMSEY.

A quarterly meeting of the Winchester District was held at Romsey on Saturday last. The fine ring of eight bells at the Abbey was available from 2.30 p.m. till dusk. Although the muster was not large, the company present included several of the enthusiasts in this part of the diocese, Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major, as well as "rounds" for the young probationers, being rung. Tea followed at the Temperance Hall, adjoining the Abbey, presided over by the Rev. F. J. Pizey (curate-in-charge). There were also present the Rev. E. Bankes James and Messrs. J. B. Williamson and G. Williams (hon. general secretary) and representatives from North Stoneham, Upham, Hursley, Titchfield, Holy Rood and St. Michael's (Southampton), and Romsey.—The Hon. General Secretary apologised for the absence of the district secretary (Mr. Elkins) and other members of the Cathedral band. He was very pleased to welcome the Rev. F. J. Pizey to tea, as it was not always possible to get incumbents to take as much interest in the meetings as was wished for by the members.

The Chairman and five others were elected as probationary members of the Guild.

A vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding and granting use of the bells, was proposed by the hon. general secretary, and seconded by the Rev. E. Bankes James.—The Rev. F. J. Pizey, in reply, said he was only too pleased to be with them that evening, and thanked them for his election to the Guild, and promising to help further their art in Romsey. Unfortunately the Romsey band were very much depleted at the present time.

Touches of Grandsire Triples and a course of Caters on handbells brought the meeting to a close.

## WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

### SOUTHERN BRANCH MEETING.

On Saturday week, a quarterly meeting of the Southern Branch was held at Bretforton, and, considering the inclement weather, was well attended, ringers being present from Evesham, Pershore, Mladbury, Hampton, Hinton, Stanton, Badsey, etc. Apologies were received from the Ven. Archdeacon Peile (Rector of Great Comberton), the Rev. W. Lea (Vicar of Overbury) the Rev. W. Davis Winstone (Vicar of Feckenham), the Rev. T. W. Reynolds (Rector of Stanton), Mr. J. Ashwin, and Sapper T. Hands. The Vicar (the Rev. J. E. H. Blake) officiated at the service, the Rev. D. Fitzmaurice (Vicar of Hampton) also being present. Tea was provided by the Vicar, and between 30 and 40 sat down.—At the business meeting, which followed, a short discussion took place as to the ringing of the bells throughout the branch when the time of peace arrives.

Upon the proposition of Mr. F. J. Johnson, hearty votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicar for presiding, for the use of the bells, and for his address at the service, and also for providing such a good repast; to the organist and choir for their presence at the service, and to the ladies who had kindly waited upon the visitors at tea. Needless to say, these votes were carried unanimously, and the Vicar and the Rev. D. Fitzmaurice having briefly replied, the meeting closed.

Handbells were then brought into use, and various selections given a course of Grandsire Caters being rung by: G. J. Henning 1-2, H. Middleton 3-4, J. D. Johnson 5-6, F. J. Johnson 7-8, J. Henning 9-10; and a touch of Grandsire Triples by: H. Middleton 1-2, J. D. Johnson (conductor) 3-4, F. J. Johnson 5-6, S. O. Annis 7-8.

## LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the London County Association was held at St. Saviour's Cathedral, Southwark, and St. George's Church, Southwark, on Saturday week, when about 30 members attended, and availed themselves of the ringing opportunities afforded. The Cathedral bells were kept going from 2.30 to 5 p.m., and St. George's was afterwards visited, and ringing carried on until 7.30 p.m. At the meeting, which followed at the Southwark Tavern, Mr. H. E. Wills, of Croydon, and Mr. A. G. Harris, steeplekeeper at St. Clement Danes, were elected members.

Reference was made by the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender) to the death of the oldest member of the society, Mr. Wm. Banister, who joined in 1858, and the hon. secretary's action in writing a letter of condolence to his relatives, immediately on receipt of the sad news, was ratified.

The balance sheet was submitted and accepted, and showed an increase on the year. No opposition being offered, Mr. T. H. Taffender was re-elected Master; Mr. T. Walker, hon. secretary; Mr. W. G.



MR. T. H. TAFFENDER.

Matthews, hon. treasurer; Mr. A. E. Reeve, senior steward. Mr. H. Dyas was elected junior steward, in place of Mr. A. D. Barker, who, having joined the army, did not seek re-election. Mr. Taffender and Mr. R. A. Daniell retain the office of trustees.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the officers for their work during the past year, also to the authorities of St. Saviour's and St. George's for their kind permission to ring.

The Hon. Secretary's report showed a decided upward movement, in spite of the continuance of the war and its attendant drawbacks to change ringing. The monthly meetings held since the last annual meeting had been well attended, and progress had been made in the standard methods. Two peals only were rung during the year, one Stedman Triples on tower bells, the other Stedman Triples (Carter's odd bob composition) on handbells.—Eleven new members were elected, and eight had died, Pte Fluck, of Clapham, and Rifleman C. H. Hughes (Southwark) having been killed in action in France.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Saturday, March 10th, due notice of the place of which will appear in "The Ringing World."

Touches and tunes on the handbells brought the proceedings to a close.

## HORLEY RINGERS' SUPPER.

The ringers and choirmen of the Horley Parish Church united for the second time for their annual supper on a recent Wednesday at the Six Bells Inn. A capital repast was placed upon the tables by Host Huey, and to this ample justice was done. The Vicar (the Rev. H. T. Lewis) presided, and those present included the Rev. F. E. Watson (assistant curate), Messrs. A. Tapp (churchwarden), R. L. Norris (deputy churchwarden), J. F. Winn, G. W. Edwards, and A. Martin (sidesmen), S. Corin (organist and choirmaster), D. Tudman (organist of Charlwood Parish Church), with six ringers, all that can be mustered, and seven choirmen, together with several tradesmen.

The loyal toast was submitted from the chair, and was enthusiastically honoured.—Mr. A. Tapp, in a capital speech, proposed the toast of "The Bell Ringers," and remarked that these gentlemen gave their services to the church Sunday after Sunday absolutely without remuneration, and he was glad of the opportunity of tendering to them and to the choirmen their heartfelt recognition of their services.—Mr. A. Songhurst, in responding, said as the authorities had prohibited ringing for evening service they had only rung during the year about 15,000 changes instead of about 80,000, as in former years.

A capital musical programme was admirably sustained by Messrs. G. F. Simmons, R. S. Tobey, S. Huey, G. W. Edwards, A. Songhurst, and W. Parr, the accompaniments being played by Mr. S. Corin and Mr. D. Tudman, and a most enjoyable evening was spent.

## MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

## NORTH AND EAST DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association was held at Southgate on Saturday week, about 40 members being present during the afternoon and evening. The fine peal of bells were kept going to touches of many methods, including Grandsire and Stedman Triples, London, Bristol and Superlative Surprise, and Double Norwich Major.

At the service a short address was given by the Vicar of Southgate (the Rev. C. F. Peploe), in which he welcomed the members of the Association again to Southgate, reminding them of their calling as bell ringers, and exhorting all to do their duty in that office to the Glory of God. The names of the members who had made the supreme sacrifice during the year were read, and sympathetic reference made.

Tea was served at the Cherry Tree, followed by the business meeting, at which the chair was taken by Mr. A. T. King, I.S.O., President, supported by Mr. F. A. Milne, Vice-President, the District Master (Lance-Corpl. J. Armstrong), and the hon. secretary (Sapper C. T. Coles), who was up on short leave before going to Salonica.

The Hon. Secretary presented the balance sheet, showing a balance of about £4 on the year's working, and also gave a short account of the work of the district during the year, in which he stated that six meetings were held, and were well attended. Twenty-two new members were elected, while death removed the names of ten others. The war had further depleted the ranks, and from the district officers, the Master, hon. secretary and assistant hon. secretary were all on service. Mr. Coles had during the year paid visits to Harrow, and encouraging progress had been made there with the handbells.

The retiring officers were then re-elected, with Messrs. G. B. Lucas and J. R. Sharman, Deputy Masters, and Mr. W. H. Oram, hon. secretary pro tem, while others were on service.—Seven new members were also elected.

The President made sympathetic references, and moved votes of condolence with the relatives of Lance-Corpl. W. S. Inwood, of Aldenham; Pte T. E. Loosemore, of Goodmayes; and Pte A. Cain, of the Northaw band, all killed in action; and Messrs. A. W. Grimes and Tom Watson, whose deaths have already been recorded in "The Ringing World."—This was seconded by the hon. secretary, and passed in silence, all members standing.

The President, in moving a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. C. F. Peploe for the warm welcome they had received that day, for the use of the bells and for the helpful address, reminded the meeting that it was the Vicar's birthday, and offered him their congratulation.

A vote of thanks was also given to Mr. J. E. Miller and the local ringers for all they had done to make the meeting a success.—This concluded the business, and the tower was again visited until 9 p.m.

## SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

The beautiful ivy-covered tower of All Saints' Church, Isleworth, which forms a picturesque object from the river, is situated on the left bank of the Thames, and when at high tide the water reaches the wall of the churchyard, the roadway at the side is rendered impassable. The place is mentioned in Domesday Book as "Gestelworde," it being afterwards called "Yhestelworde" and Isleworth; and in Queen Elizabeth's reign "Thistleworde." But for the last two centuries it has been known as Isleworth. The Vicar (the Rev. H. Champion Gill) extended a very hearty welcome to the thirty-four members of the Middlesex Association, who assembled for the annual meeting of the South and West District, and they were invited to tea by the Vicar and Mrs. Gill.

The President (Mr. A. T. King, I.S.O.) braved a cold journey to be present, and everyone was pleased to see him. He thanked the Vicar for his kind and hospitable welcome (by the way, "Welcome" is always written large at Isleworth), and congratulated the members on turning up so well. He alluded to the good management of the Association, which is practically run on the "shillings" of the members, and then referred to the amount that had been subscribed to help members when in need, because it was often help just at the right time that was needed.

In the course of his reply, the Vicar gave an excellent and instructive review of the "Morning Service," pointing out how well it was based on the Bible.

Sympathetic reference was made to the recent death of Mr. Powis Lomas, J.P., and it was proposed that a message of condolence should be sent to the relatives. Since the last meeting two ringing members had also passed away: Messrs. Arthur Shepherd (Hersham) and Thomas Barker (Heston).

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. H. C. Chandler), when reading the minutes, reported that an average of thirty-one members had attended the various meetings held and it was proposed to have the next gathering at Heston.

The officers (including the District Master Mr. T. Beadle) were re-elected, with the exception of Mr. George Spencer, who is serving in the Royal Navy, so in his place Mr. H. W. Lidbetter becomes a member of the Central Committee.

It was thought desirable that the preparation of the annual report should be undertaken without delay, so Messrs. W. Lawrence and R.

Holloway were selected to audit the accounts, and, at the close of the meeting they at once went to work with a will, and accomplished it.

The members present came from Acton, Barnes, Brockley, Camberwell, City, Egham, Erith, Hershham, Heston, Harrow, Hounslow, Isleworth, Shepherd's Bush, Staines, Sunbury, Tunbridge Wells, Walthamstow, Willesden, and West Ealing.

Four new members were elected as follows: Messrs. G. Gigg (Egham), A. Mason (Erith), J. Rayner-Smith (Ealing), and Staff-Sergt. A. T. Verrels.

### PONDOLAND MISSION BELL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have not seen "The Ringing World" recently, but have just heard from a friend that you have made several references to my appeal for a bell for this Mission. So I write at once to tell you that, just before I left Scotland, I was lucky enough to get the offer of a 2 cwt. bell, which had been replaced by a set of tubes, and was lying idle. This I hope to export when the seas are safe and freights lower, and it ought to serve my purpose well. Thanking you again for publishing my appeal.—Yours faithfully,

A. ERSKINE.

St. Barnabas Mission, P.O. Mlangana, South Africa.

### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**EPSOM.**—At Christ Church, for service, a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Triples: T. Newnham 1, T. Miles 2, A. Brown 3, A. Winch 4, H. Boxall 5, R. Kendall 6. A. Dean (conductor) 7. A. P. Dixon (first quarter-peal) 8.

**LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.**—Recently, on handbells, rung in the tower, 720 of Bob Minor: Stanley Smith (first 720) 1, G. Deacon 2, W. W. J. Roper 3, C. H. Poulson 4, A. Symonds (conductor) 5—6. Also 720 Bob Minor: C. H. Poulson 1—2, G. Deacon 3, S. Smith 4, A. Symonds (conductor) 5—6.—At 41, High Street, a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Triples: C. H. Poulson 1—2, S. H. Symonds (conductor) 3—4, A. Symonds 5—6, W. W. J. Roper 7—8. Composed by W. Shipway. Also quarter-peal of same method. Composed by the late J. P. Bradley. The first was rung on a new peal from the Whitechapel Bell Foundry (tenor size 21 in C), a grand-peal; the second on a new peal from the Loughborough Bell Foundry (tenor 2½ inches in diameter), a very musical peal. Both were purchased by Mr. W. W. J. Roper.

**PENTRE RHONDDA.**—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—The following touches were rung at St. Peter's Church, for morning and evening service, on December 24th, 1916, and for Christmas Day services, 336 Stedman Triples, 288 Forward Major, 416 Double Norwich Major, 252 Erin Triples, a course of Cambridge Surprise Major, 560 Bob Major, 252 Oxford Bob Triples, 448 Oxford Treble Bob Major, 420 Grandsire Triples, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major by the following: H. Page, F. Wines, F. Lasbury, G. Cross, B. Davis, T. Hamlin, G. Wines, W. Page, T. Page, J. Cross. The conducting was shared by Tom Page and Harry Page.

**HITCHIN.**—At St. Mary's Church, on Christmas Day, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 49 mins.: J. Hare 1, H. Day 2, C. Cannon 3, F. R. Bacon 4, G. Wolfe 5, F. Furr 6, J. F. Foster (conductor) 7, H. Else 8.

**BURTON LATIMER, NORTHANTS.**—At St. Mary's Church, on Christmas Day, 720 of Bob Doubles: F. Capps (first 720 away from the tenor) 1, J. Hendry 2, H. Meadows 3, G. Lines (conductor) 4, J. Pettit 5, R. Twelvtree (first 720) 6.

**BLACKPOOL, LANCs.**—On Christmas Day, at the Church of the Sacred Heart, 504 Stedman Triples, in 18 mins.: Lance-Corpl. E. J. Mallard 1, Sapper S. J. White 2, Pte T. H. Reeves 3, Pte E. W. Marshall 4, Corpl. J. Lloyd 5, Lance-Corpl. F. Butler 6, Pte M. F. R. Hibbert (conductor) 7, T. Bolton 8.

**WESTON FAVELL, NORTHANTS.**—On Christmas Day, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes): T. Law 1, F. J. Lancaster 2, F. Rollings 3, Sapper A. J. Richardson, R.E., 4, F. Wilford (conductor) 5.

**CHESTERFIELD.**—Midland Counties Association.—On Christmas Day, for morning service, 485 Grandsire Caters: D. Farthing 1, A. Knights 2, G. Hollis 3, G. Davies 4, F. Jacobs 5, Gunner F. Stubbs 6, W. J. Thyng 7, T. W. Gore 8, G. Thompson 9, W. Allwood 10. In the afternoon, 1008 Stedman Triples: W. J. Thyng 1, G. Hollis 2, G. Davies 3, Gunner F. Stubbs, R.G.A., 4, A. Knights 5, T. W. Gore 6, B. A. Knights (conductor) 7, W. Allwood 8. Rung on the occasion of the 70th birthday of Mr. Farthing, an active and respected member of the local company.

**CAERPHILLY, GLAM.**—On Christmas Day, for 11 o'clock service, 336 Grandsire Triples: E. Pike 1, G. Cooke (conductor) 2, D. Stephens 3, A. Addicott 4, F. Evans 5, P. Jones 6, F. Boucher 7, H. Challice 8. Longest touch by all except ringers of 2 and 3.

**HERSHAM, SURREY.**—Winchester Diocesan Guild.—On Christmas Day, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 42 mins.: G. Edser 1, W. Shepherd (conductor) 2, F. J. Shepherd 3, W. A. Woodrow 4, A. Woodrow 5, F. Shepherd 6, J. Emery 7, R. J. Polley 8.

## NOTICES.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM** (Established 1755).—The Annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at Ye Olde Royal Hotel, Temple Row, Birmingham, on Saturday, February 24th next, at six o'clock. The chair will be taken by Canon J. W. Willink, M.A., Rector of Birmingham. Tickets free to fully qualified members whose subscriptions are paid up to date, to other members and friends 2s. 6d. each. The bells of St. Martin's (12) will be available from 3.30 to 5 o'clock. — A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

**ST. PETER'S, SOUTH CROYDON.**—A practice meeting at this 10-bell tower will be held on Saturday, 24th February, from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. All welcome.—Chas. Dean, 2, Biddulph Road, S. Croydon.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Rochdale Parish Church on Saturday, February 24th. Ringing from 2 o'clock till dusk, meeting to follow.—T. K. Driver, Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—A meeting will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on Feb. 27th, for general business. The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members, who seldom attend the meetings, to vote on matters of finance, should be paid before the 28th inst. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Yorktown District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Yorktown on Saturday, March 3rd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at the York Restaurant, Frimley Road, at 5.30. All ringing friends welcome.—G. Miles, Hon. Sec., Owlsmoor, Camberley.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—North-Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at Harlow, St. Mary's, on Saturday, March 3rd. Bells available only from 4 to 6 p.m. Business meeting will be held at the Church Room at 6.15 p.m. Subscriptions for 1917 are now due.—William Watts, District Sec., Mont House Cottage, Stansted, Essex.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD** (North Bucks Branch).—The quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Hanslope on Saturday, March 3rd. Bells (6) available from 2 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m., tea and meeting to follow.—L. Sear, Branch Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—The next meeting of the Eastern District of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Goole on Saturday, March 3rd. Bells available all day. Tea at 5 p.m. for those who notify Mr. J. Drake, 8, Duckels Buildings, Old Goole, on or before Tuesday, February 27th, 1s. 3d. per head.—Thos. Smith, Honorary District Secretary.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The next meeting of the above society will be held at Armley, on Saturday, March 3rd, 1917. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting in the White Horse Hotel after the bells are ceased. The nomination of officers for the ensuing year will take place.—Wm. Barton, Honorary Secretary, 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.



**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Southern District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday, March 3rd. Bells (12) available from 3.30 p.m. till dusk; business meeting to follow in Wolstenholme Hall. Subscriptions are now due. A good attendance is desired.—Leonard Brightman, Dist. Sec., *pro tem.*, 45, St. Stephen's Road, Rotherham.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Nominations for the election of officers and one representative for the Central Council, to be elected at the annual meeting, should reach me by March 9th, in accordance with Rules 7 and 13.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

**DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—The annual meeting of the above Guild will be held at Dudley on Saturday, March 10th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30, which will be conducted by the President, the Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland (Vicar); business meeting afterwards. A free tea will be provided for those who notify me not later than March 6th. All outstanding contributions should be paid at this meeting.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

**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.

#### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**LONDON.**—On Boxing Day, at St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, City, 504 Stedman Triples: E. Horrex 1, E. Gibbs 2, E. Brett 3, J. Scholes 4, C. F. Winney 5, A. B. Peck 6, Sapper R. F. Deal 7, R. Sanders 8. Conducted by Sapper R. F. Deal, R.E., B.E.F., who was on short leave from the Somme.

**NORTON, STAFFS.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, December 31st, for Matins, 720 Worcester Surprise: S. B. Bailey 1, W. P. Dcaue 2, J. E. Wheeldon 3, W. C. Lawrence (conductor) 4, F. T. Dawson 5, J. F. Ryles 6.

**DERBY.**—At St. Andrew's Church, on Sunday, December 31st, for Matins, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins., with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute to the memory of those who have laid down their lives in the war. The band met one short, and so the second was omitted: G. Ward 1, Rev. W. Wilkinson 3, A. Ward 4, B. Mitchell (conductor) 5, S. Maskrey 6, C. E. Hart 7, J. Pagett 8.

**WILLENHALL, STAFFS.**—On Sunday afternoon, Dec. 31st, at St. Giles' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 49 mins., with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. Arthur Turner, who was a member of St. Giles' choir for many years: Isaac Evans (first, quarter-peal) 1, F. W. Perrens 2, W. E. Wathen (first in peal in the method away from treble) 3, E. Horton 4, J. Foster (Darlaston) 5, G. Beech 6, C. Wallater (conductor) 7, A. E. Reed, 8.

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26354	—	1	1	
23664	—	1	2	
25634	—	1	2	
32654	—	1		
54263	2	—		2
36245	2	—	2	1
32465	—		1	2
26435	—		2	
63542	2	—		
46325	—			2
45623	—	1	1	
43526	—	1	1	
26346	—		2	2
54326	1	—		
34256	1	—		1
52436	1	—		2
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# THE RINGING WORLD

No. 311. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, MARCH 2nd, 1917.

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

Price 1d.

## GILLET & 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, 1917.  
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 REASON WHY.

Ever since the war began the troubles of those connected with the publication of newspapers have been increasing, the growing shortage of shipping tonnage having led to the drastic cutting down, from time to time, of the raw material for the manufacture of paper, with a consequent heavy rise in price. Hitherto, so far as the "Ringing World" is concerned, we have met the diminishing paper supply by reducing the number of pages. It was a step as distasteful to ourselves as it must have been to our readers, but it was a matter in which, like many others, there was no choice. But the cutting down of the size by no means counterbalanced the increased cost, for, as Lord Burnham, the proprietor of one of the greatest British daily journals said on Saturday, no other industry has experienced such a rise in the price of its raw material as the paper trade. Up to the present we have borne the additional cost involved. The latest pronouncement of the Prime Minister, further curtailing supplies by one-half of the present amount, makes the position of newspapers, however, more serious still; and if the ringing Exercise is to continue to have a paper to represent its interests and to maintain its cohesion, we must now, reluctant as we feel to do so, ask our readers to share with us the further extra cost which is inevitably before us. The Exercise is in the exceptional position of having only one journal devoted to its work, and we do not think any argument is necessary to show that the maintenance of a paper in the interests of the Art is absolutely vital to the future of ringing. Without a paper, through which individuals and associations can keep in touch with one another, there would be, as one prominent gentleman in the Exercise recently wrote to us, "campanological chaos." It is not only the immediate present that would be affected, but the future would have to be built up on a foundation of confusion arising from the lack of means of intercommunication. The position of the Exercise would be thrown back a generation by the absence of a weekly paper to maintain its interests, and all those who desire to see ringing restored when the war is over, will, we feel sure, be glad to have their share in maintaining the one journal which stands between the Exercise and complete disorganisation.

Commencing with next week, therefore, the charge for the "Ringing World" will be two-pence, but the increase, it should be understood, will be continued only as long as present conditions make it absolutely essential. No one will rejoice more than we shall when we can return to the original price and the original size, and our readers may rest

(Continued on Page 66.)



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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.

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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

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(Continued from page 65.)

assured that it will be done at the earliest possible moment. In the meantime we believe that ringers as a whole will continue loyally to support us through these difficult times, and so enable us, when peace comes, and ringing returns to a more normal condition, to render that service to the Exercise which has been our never-failing aim.

### EIGHT BELL PEALS.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 17, 1917, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANCES;

STEDMAN H. SYMONDS ... Treble	ARTHUR KEEBLE ... 5
CHARLES H. POULSON ... 2	ARTHUR SYMONDS ... 6
HARRY SMITH ... 3	LOUIS LEES ... 7
*WALTER HEAD ... 4	*THEODORE E. SLATER ... Tenor

Composed by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM, and  
Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

\* First peal of Bob Major. Rung as a birthday compliment to Lance-Corpl. Thos. Pryke, of the 3rd Suffolk Regt. Messrs. Head, Keeble and Slater hail from Little Walding, Monks Elcigh, and Glemsford respectively.

WOOLWICH, S.E.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 17, 1917, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' ONE-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.	
HENRY SPRINGALL ... Treble	HARRY R. PASSMORE ... 5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... 2	C. W. ROBERT GRIMWOOD ... 6
WILLIAM J. ALDRIDGE ... 3	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL ... 7
CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... 4	REUBEN SANDERS ... Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. William Banister. Mrs. and Mr. Anderson, daughter and son-in-law of Mr. Banister, with the Rector and others, were attentive listeners to the peal. The band afterwards accepted with thanks the kind hospitality of Mr. Aldridge who provided tea.

HORBURY, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, February 18, 1917, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANCES;

Tenor 13 cwt.	
JAMES WOFFENDEN ... Treble	GEORGE BARSTOW ... 5
*GEORGE HILL ... 2	HERBERT ROWLEY ... 6
GEORGE F. PICKLES ... 3	JAMES SMITH ... 7
GEORGE HUNT ... 4	ROBERT THICKETT ... Tenor

Composed by F. ROBINSON, and  
Conducted by H. ROWLEY.

Rung on the 100th anniversary and in honour of a peal of Treble Bob Minor, 10,080 changes (being 14 Minor extents), in five hours and fifty-eight minutes, as recorded on a tablet in the belfry.

\* First peal of Major.

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND  
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

AND THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 24, 1917, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 19½ cwt.	
WILLIAM PYE ... Treble	GEORGE R. PYE ... 5
LEONARD A. PYE ... 2	STAFF-SERG. A. PYE ... 6
ISAAC G. SHADE ... 3	REUBEN SANDERS ... 7
ERNEST S. BUTLER ... 4	JOHN DALE ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late A. W. Grimes and T. Loosemore, both of whom were much respected members of the above associations.

## OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

### E. BERKS AND S. BUCKS BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch of that strong body of Church workers, the Oxford Diocesan Guild, which totals nearly 2,000 men, spread over the counties of Berks, Bucks and Oxon, was held at Great Marlow, on Saturday week the previous visit to this Thames-side town having taken place in 1911. Proceedings began with evening service in the Parish Church at 5 p.m., conducted by the Rev. F. O. Spearing, M.A., who arrived in the town only the previous day to take up his duties in succession to the late Vicar. He was assisted by the Rev. Michael Graves, R.D., the Rev. G. Clark (Curate of Marlow), and the Rev. J. Frazer-Amies (of Chalfont St. Peter).

An excellent sermon was delivered by the Vicar of Burnham, the Rev. P. P. N. Nott, M.A., who took for his text Ephesians vi. 13, many of his technical allusions being most appropriate to the calling of the change ringer. Dr. Bath, F.R.C.O., presided at the organ, and there was a good muster of choir boys. Two of the hymns were ringers' favourites, "O God, our help," and "Hark, hark, my soul," and a hearty service was enjoyed. If the gathering was smaller than usual in the past, it only served to emphasise the fact that the men of the belfry are patriotically doing their bit; indeed the bell ringers of Great Britain lay claim to unflinching devotion and loyalty to Church and State for more than three centuries.

### OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

The business meeting was afterwards held in the Girls' School, in St. Peter's Street, by kind permission of the managers, at which the Rural Dean presided, the following parishes being represented: Bray, Braywood, Burnham, Woodburn, Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, West Wycombe, High Wycombe, Fulmer, Iwer, Farnham Royal, Slough, Henley-on-Thames, and Cookham. Apologies for absence were sent by the chairman of the branch, owing to illness; the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis (hon. treasurer), Lieut. A. E. Reeves, R.D.C. (general secretary of the Guild, who was on duty) the Rev. J. C. W. Herschel, Mr. Alfred H. Cocks, Mr. R. Holloway, and others.

Canon A. H. Drummond was re-elected chairman for the 36th time, and Canon P. H. Eliot, R.D., Slough, was unanimously appointed to the office of vice-chairman. The branch representatives serving on the General Guild Committee: Messrs. Alder (Burnham), Buckland (Beaconsfield), Martin (Maidenhead), Evans (Hughenden), Leader (Slough), Truss (Marlow), Welling (Old Windsor), and White (Wycombe), and the hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. W. H. Fussell, Slough, were all re-elected, on the proposition of Mr. F. Boraham, seconded by Mr. Henley. It will be seen that the committee form a peal ringing octave in themselves, capable of scoring a 5,000 in either of the standard methods. The election of the Rev. S. T. Bridges (Fulmer), the Rev. Dr. A. W. Batchelor (Cookham), and the Rev. Michael Graves (Marlow), was ratified, and a reference to the lady band of ringers at the former tower was applauded, whilst hopes were expressed that more of the gentry and clergymen of the various parishes would come forward to aid the church ringers in a most worthy cause, especially so if the "bells of peace" are to ring out when in due course the nation celebrates that victory which we are now all working for.

### BRANCH MEMBERSHIP.

The hon. secretary's report showed the same number of towers in union as last year (28); the total membership was 335, made up of life members 8, honorary 26, change ringing 197, unattached 12, non-resident 57, and not yet reported 35. He trusted that the committee would strive during the next year to get six more parishes to come into union with them, and thus place the branch in the premier position for the whole Diocese. The committee was very glad, in these hard war times, to welcome with thanks the return of several old subscribers who had increased the honorary ranks by ten, and the receipt of the arrears of one or two well-known unattached members' fees. Five secretaries in four years was not conducive to the success of the branch—one having given his services as chaplain in H.M. Forces and his successor joined the Royal Engineers. The committee decided, in support of the scheme of National Food Control, to abandon the high tea usually given to the members at this annual assembly; the few remaining ringers also preferred to save up the small balance of funds in hand, so as to be able to feast their comrades when they come home from the war. The Guild's roll of honour gives a list of 71 names of men serving in H.M. Forces from this branch alone. On the outbreak of war the more expert members throughout the Diocese spontaneously gave up their attempts for intricate "joy peals" on occasions of State and festival, but, during the year 1915, five unique performances were brought round successfully with the bells solemnly muffled in each case, viz.: High Wycombe (2), conducted by Mr. F. Hayes; Hillingdon, conducted by Mr. Hancock; Beaconsfield, conducted by Mr. J. J. Parker; and Woodburn, conducted by Mr. W. Welling. One gentleman at Wycombe had most generously promised to erect a permanent record in the former tower in commemoration of the twelve-bell peal rung there. These muffled requiems were particularly organised "in memoriam" for the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the county who had fallen in the war, the sad list including the three sons of the Bishop of Bucks and six change ringing members of the branch killed in action.

### GUILD MATTERS.

The treasurer's statement showed a balance in hand of £7 15s. 3d., out of a total income of only £20 12s., the greater half of which had been forwarded to the general Guild treasury. He desired to build up a better balance to meet future needs, for the tuition of young hands, restorations of bells and belfries, etc. The nation's joy in victory could only be fully rendered by the iron tongues of the loud cymbals that speak out from those ancient peace abiding towers, dotted across the British Isles.

Under the heading of any other business several matters concerning the future welfare of the Guild were discussed, such as an alteration in the proportion of branch funds remitted to the general Guild, or a grant in aid from the Bishop of Oxford's Diocesan Fund. Revision of the present mode of employing and paying for instruction to local companies, and economy in the publication of the annual reports. It was agreed that any change should be well considered by the committee, but not to be taken up till after the war.

The Chairman expressed his regret at being unable to give them a suitable address as part of the agenda for the meeting. He wished the branch prosperity, and happier times with many joy peals, as soon as we had won the war, and trusted that the president would be spared to the branch for some years to come (applause).

The presentation of a tea set then took place to Mr. Wm. Welling upon his recent marriage—consisting of a tea pot, milk jug, and sugar bowl, in nickel silver—in recognition of his useful help at many towers in the branch. The chairman handed the present to Mrs. Welling (who was supported by four lady ringing members), her husband being denied "leave" to come home for the purpose; and in doing so he read the inscription engraved on the tea pot, and a list of 32 subscribers, headed by Canon Drummond and the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, Master of the Guild, whose names were suitably framed and accompanied the gift.

### THANKS.

On the motion of Mr. Leader, seconded by Mr. J. Evans, a vote of thanks was accorded to those who had so willingly helped to make the assembly possible, viz., the Vicar and Curate of Marlow, the Rural Dean, the organist and choir boys, the steeplekeeper (Mr. H. Collins), and the school authorities.—Mr. L. W. Copsey proposed, and Mr. G. Martin seconded, a similar vote to the Rev. Percy Nott for his address, and to the Rev. M. Graves for taking the chair. Both were passed with enthusiasm, and the meeting closed with a prayer by the latter gentleman.

During the afternoon several musical "touches" were rung by mixed hands of ringers, who enjoyed the privilege of a little practice in Stedman, Grandsire, Double Norwich and Superlative, and among these were the Misses Cooper, Gudgeon and Fuller, and Messrs. Horne, Gutteridge, Stilwell, Smith, Alder, Hooper, Flaxman, Davis, L. E. Collins, P. Evans, Mitchell, Austin, J. C. Truss, Hoing, Twitchen, and Johnson, in addition to those previously mentioned.

A Marlow visit would never be considered complete by any ringers, who had once made the acquaintance of one of the three generations of the Truss family at the Two Brewers Inn, without a visit to this hostelry, and here handbells and refreshments passed the hour speedily before time for train was called; the surprise of the evening being the arrival of Pte C. Green, after fighting experience in Egypt, kit bag and all, home for 18 days' furlough from Stockport. Secretarial correspondence shows that certain members who were recently with us are now well in training: Welling at Plymouth, Cropley at Blackpool, Elburn at Chatham, Jones at Sandwich, Wingrove at Bristol, Buckland at Vendome. In this way our branch still continues to bear its share of war demands for men, money, and munitions, and with pride we may add that it can still do a little more for our King and country.

W. H. F.

### DEATH OF MR. THOMAS TAYLOR.

#### AN OCTOGENARIAN RINGER.

We regret to have to record the death of Mr. Thomas Taylor, of Forest Hill, in his 80th year. He was exceedingly regular in his attendance at ringing for Sunday services, both morning and evening, at St. Mary's, Lewisham, up to the end of September last, although he lived at Forest Hill, some distance away. He has been a ringer practically all his life, having first learnt to handle a rope at his native village of Wilby, Suffolk, where there is a peal of six bells, and was a member of the original Trinity Youths. He rang about 120 peals altogether, his favourite method being Treble Bob. The deceased was well known in and about London, and was respected by all who knew him, for he was always genial and bright in disposition. He passed away on February 12th, and was buried at Ladywell Cemetery on February 16th.

The Lewisham band intended to ring a muffled quarter-peal on the latter day, but could not do so, as they met one short and the ringing, therefore, took place on the following Sunday morning, the band standing as follows: G. R. Simmonds 1, C. H. Walker 2, E. J. Pannett 3, E. B. Crowder 4, W. W. Fox 5, H. Warnett junr. 6, H. Warnett, senr. (conductor), 7, H. G. Goodwin 8. In the evening a muffled quarter was attempted at St. John's, Deptford, but failed after half an hour's ringing: R. Forsdyke 1, E. J. Pannett 2, G. R. Simmonds 3, J. Law 4, A. J. Bennington 5, C. H. Walker 6, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 7, J. Crowder 8.

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring  
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.*

## OUR PRICE MUST GO UP.

The article on our front page explains why it has become necessary to increase the price of "The Ringing World" to 2d.

## SHORT COURSE PARS.

Sapper C. T. Coles, hon. secretary of the Middlesex Association, is now en route to Salonica.

The Winchester Diocesan Guild Committee have decided to abandon the annual festival this year. It was to have been held on Whit-Monday.

A paragraph went the rounds of the papers last week, saying that at Dorking, Surrey, all the ringers had joined the army, and that the bells were now rung by ladies. This was not quite the truth. There are still a few men left over military age, and the Vicar has appealed for ladies to fill what gaps there are.

Rifleman Bertram Prewett, so well known throughout the Exercise, has recently crossed the Channel, and is helping with the strafing of the Huns.

A good many papers noted the death of Mr. William Banister, described as the oldest bell ringer in the country. We have no doubt that Mr. Banister had been a ringer longer than any other living man, but Mr. John Heathorn, of Guildford, is a few weeks older than Mr. Banister. He was 93 in January, and rang in a touch of Grandsire on his 90th birthday.

In answer to many inquiries, the Editor of "The Ringing World" has been granted a further three months' exemption from military service.

Not many ringers compose and conduct their first quarter-peal, but this Pte Parrot, of Winchester, did, while billeted at Tiverton, Devon, the other day.

Service ringers at Gillingham are asked to help maintain service ringing at St. Mary's, Gillingham, each Sunday at 5.15 p.m., commencing on Sunday, next.

The one-time inseparables—F. A. Holden (now sergeant, R.M.L.I.) and A. H. Wigh (Leatherhead)—met for a few hours last week, the latter travelling 50 miles to meet his friend, who has been absent from England since war began, and before he himself joined the forces. With Clement Glenn and W. Haigh, touches in standard methods were rung on handbells.

The Winchester Guild Committee have officially recorded their thanks to Mr. C. Edwards, late of Farnham, for his valuable work on the Surrey and Hants border. The success of his spade work in extending ringing was only equalled by spade work in the soil.

"The bells of victory will soon be heard in England," said the Bishop of Barking the other day, "but God forbid that there shall be any revelry, for this is a solemn war."

## WHAT OTHERS THINK.

### MUSICAL REVIEWER'S OPINIONS ON RINGING.

"The Ringing World" was honoured by a lengthy notice in the February issue of "Musical Opinion and Music Trade Review." Naturally, the subject of bells generally, the history, the poetry and the music of bells, gives the writer a theme to enlarge upon, and his readers will find it treated in acceptable form. In regard to the paper itself, we quote the following, and duly make our obeisance:—

"In spite of poetical and practical outpourings in the past, it will probably be news to many that there is a recognised organ of the campanological craft in an established weekly publication entitled 'The Ringing World.' What a vista of overpowering suggestion is conjured up by so simple a phrase, though to some it may seem a trifle too emotional as a newspaper title just now! A copy of 'The Ringing World' came into my hands by chance the other day, and one could but marvel that in times like these it should solemnly continue to record the execution of Oxford bobs, grandsire triples, and Stedman changes. To be just, however, it should be added that it also includes stories of the martyrdom of many heroes from the belfry, those left behind being exclusively men of mature age, although not necessarily so aged as a certain Gloucestershire ringer now in his eighty-second year. . . . Strange prejudice exists in certain English cities, and especially in London at the present time, against bells and bell ringing. It is about time that religion began to reconsider the propriety of using instruments of torture in the twentieth century. That is the argument of the objectors; and, without entering into the controversy, it may be admitted that the practice of ringing church and chapel bells has been much abused in the past, and that in certain places it has become an intolerable nuisance. But the practice is ancient, and, if properly conducted, need not prove a source of annoyance to even the most 'nervy' sort of person. Then, on the other hand, there are those who believe that good bell ringing, especially change ringing, is the finest music that can be produced on this earth. 'Is it possible,' asks one of the greatest of churchmen, 'that that inexhaustible evolution and disposition of notes—so rich, yet so simple, so intricate, yet so regulated, so various, yet so majestic—should be a mere sound, which is gone and perishes?' We marvel and stand appalled at the moment, in the midst of unprecedented outrage and ruin, in 'The Ringing World.'"



## RINGERS' SILVER WEDDING.

MR. AND MRS. WHITTINGTON, OF CRANLEIGH.

On Saturday, for the first time in ringing history, we imagine, husband and wife celebrated their silver wedding by both joining in an attempt for a tower bell peal. This occurred at Cranleigh, Surrey, where Mr. and Mrs. Robert Whittington, whose cycling visits to towers all over the country have made them well known, completed a quarter of a century of married life, and received the congratulations of many friends. A peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted in the afternoon at St. Nicholas Church by members of the Winchester Guild, but it unfortunately came to grief, after ringing about 1,500 changes in good form in 55 minutes. The band was: Percy H. Doick (Pulborough) 1, Mrs. R. Whittington (Cranleigh) 2, Alwyn Charman



MR. AND MRS. WHITTINGTON AND THEIR TANDEM.

(Cranleigh) 3, Robert W. Whittington (Cranleigh) 4, William Shepherd (Hersham) 5, Francis E. Dawe (Bramley), conductor, 6, William Charman (Cranleigh) 7, Thomas Worsfold (Cranleigh) 8. This was Mrs. Whittington's longest length with a working bell.

Afterwards touches of Grandsire, Bob Major and Kent Treble Bob were rung, and the company then adjourned to the "Greyhound" to enjoy the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Whittington, who kindly provided an excellent and substantial tea. The ringers were joined by several friends, and subsequently touches were rung on handbells.

Mr. F. E. Dawe voiced the good feelings of the assembled company towards Mr. and Mrs. Whittington, and thanked them for their kind hospitality. He expressed the hope that the next 25 years of their life would be as happy as they all knew the last 25 had been.

Mr. and Mrs. Whittington are still the only married couple to have taken part in a tower bell peal together, their first together having taken place at Cranleigh five years ago.

### ROLL OF HONOUR.

Pte B. W. York, of Rothwell, Northants, Northamptonshire Regiment, now at Chatham.

Spr. J. Mead, of Blechley, Bucks, R.O.D., R.E., now at Longmore.

From St. Peter's, Caversham:

Pte F. Pounds, 25th Bedfordshire Regiment, now at Darlington.  
2nd Air-Mechanic A. D. Cullum, R.F.C., now at Lympne.

## RINGING RESTRICTIONS RELAXED

IN ALDERSHOT COMMAND AREA.

Application was made to the competent Military Authority of the Aldershot Command for a modification of the restrictions as to ringing after dark, by Mr. G. Miles, of Camberley, hon. secretary of the York Town District of the Winchester Guild, and he has received a reply from the General Commanding-in-Chief, stating that "it has been decided to permit the ringing of church bells until 9 p.m. daily within the Aldershot Command."

The incumbents of the churches in the Aldershot Command have been notified, through the Rural Deans, of the modification of the regulations.

### NO EXTENSION OF HOURS IN EASTERN COMMAND.

Mr. A. E. Austin, of Great Shelford, Cambridge, Acting General Secretary of the Ely Diocesan Association, recently wrote to the competent Military Authority for the area covered by the Ely Association to see if the hours for ringing could be extended, and the following is a copy of his reply:—

I am desired by the competent Military Authority No. 9 Area, Eastern Command, to refer to your letter of the 6th instant regarding the hours during which church bells, etc., may be rung, and to inform you that, after consultation with the Chief Constables of the areas with which he is concerned, and after careful consideration of the matter, he regrets that he cannot at present see his way clear to issue any general permission for bells to be rung at a later hour than that now permitted by 12 B of the Defence of the Realm Regulations, i.e., in the case of the areas in question, half an hour after sunset.

The competent Military Authority would observe that the purpose of the Regulation is to prevent the risk of any bells rung or chimed from guiding hostile aircraft, and it is essential that in the Eastern Counties, which in the nature of things are first reached by hostile aircraft, the prohibited hours shall commence at an earlier time than in counties situated at a greater distance from the East Coast. It has also been pointed out that if any extension of hours were granted considerable difficulty would arise in warning outlying villages of the approach of hostile aircraft and the competent Military Authority could in no circumstances grant extension, whether general or particular, unless assured that adequate warning could in all cases be given and immediately acted upon.

I am, however, to add that there seems small doubt that the Summer Time Act will again be brought into operation this year, and probably (though as to this there is no official information at this office) at the beginning of April. The Act will in effect extend the evening hours for bell ringing by one full hour, and eventually, during the last week in June, up to about 9.50 p.m. by the clock; and the competent Military Authority trusts that you will agree that, having regard to this fact, any extension of time will be not only inadvisable, but in large measure, unnecessary.

(Signed) F. P. WINTER, Captain.

Staff Captain, No. 9 District.

Warley, 13th February, 1917.

We should be glad to hear the result of similar applications in other military areas.

## CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of the Wellingborough District of the Central Northants Association was held at Wollaston on Saturday week, and proved very successful, about 24 members being present from Irthlingborough, Wellingborough, Finedon, Earls Barton, Northampton, Doddington, Raunds, Castle Ashby, Sharnbrook, Higham Ferrers, Easington, and the local ringers.

The bells, a peal of six, were at liberty during the afternoon, and the methods rung were Woodbine and Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob Minor and Grandsire Doubles. A short service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. D. C. McVarish). A splendid tea was served at the "Fountain."

The usual business meeting was afterwards held, presided over by Mr. F. Wilford (general secretary of the Association). Six new members were elected from Wollaston. It was resolved to hold the next quarterly meeting at Finedon in August, and a special meeting at Castle Ashby in April.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the local ringers for their kindly welcome. The handbells were then brought into use, and courses of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples were rung by Messrs. A. Martin, W. Perkins, C. Duffield, F. Wilford, and C. Mawby. Tune-playing by the Wollaston company brought a most successful meeting to a close.

### MAJOR J. H. B. HESSE.

Congratulations will be extended to Capt. J. H. B. Hesse, of the Army Service Corps, vice-president of the Middlesex Association, on his promotion to the acting rank of Major. His address is now 4th M.T. Repair Depot, B.E.F., France. Major Hesse has recently been six weeks off duty, suffering from trench fever and jaundice, and has been convalescing at the Michelham Home for Convalescent British Officers, Cap Martin, Mentone.

## DEATH OF THE REV. C. F. LANGFORD.

## SALISBURY GUILD'S LOSS.

The Exercise in general, and the Salisbury Diocesan Guild in particular, are much poorer by the unexpected death of the Rev. Charles F. Langford, of Bradpole, Dorset, which sad event occurred on Tuesday of last week. So late as Wednesday, the 14th inst., he was present in the belfry, while on the following day he officiated at a funeral. That same evening, however, he took to his bed, and passed away as stated above. The cause of death was pneumonia, accompanied by rheumatic and heart trouble.

Possibly few outside West Dorset knew him as a ringer, for his career as such has been a short one, though during those few (all too few) brief years he proved himself a true ringers' friend.

Appointed to the living of Bradpole in March, 1909, he found in the church an indifferent peal of six bells in bad going order, with an equally indifferent band of ringers. At once he set about remedying matters, first tackling the bells. With such success did he prosecute this object that Easter, 1910, saw the opening of a musical peal of eight, with tenor 13 cwt. in F sharp. The work carried out consisted of recasting the old third and fourth, adding a new treble and tenor, and rehanging the whole in new fittings. This work cost upwards of £300.

Then he gave the old band twelve months in which to reform themselves, not wishing to appear too harsh, for he was a most gentle man in all things. This the band failed to do, so Easter, 1911, saw what might be termed a "big smash up." Still, out of the evil good arose. A new band was formed, of which he became an active member, and commenced to learn to handle a bell. Often has he encouraged a young ringer in his own tower, or when visiting other towers, by telling them that he first rang "rounds" after reaching his 50th year. 'Twas but a step from call changes to "Grandsire," and afterwards to "Plain Bob." Muscular rheumatism around the heart always checked his ardour, and so he never rang but one peal. But he dearly loved a "quarter," being especially fond of one with the twenty-four 6-7's. Never a Sunday went by but that he visited the belfry, and nine times out of ten took a rope.

The writer has known when he has taken five services (two of them a mile from the parish church), acted as his own organist—through illness of the regular one—preached three sermons and rang in two touches, 504 for morning, and 1,260 for evening service. No mean performance this for one day, and one which shows he never spared himself.

When the Sarum Guild was divided into smaller districts he was elected chairman of the West Dorset Branch, and has been re-elected annually since then. He regularly attended the meetings, and made an ideal president for the work.

More than once he had expressed a wish that if he died in Bradpole he should like to be buried just outside the belfry door. Unfortunately for the parish and ringers his wish had to be gratified all too soon. His grave was dug as near as it possibly could be to the belfry door.

The funeral took place on Friday last, when, beside a full muster of the local band, there were fellow ringers from Beaminster, Bridport, Netherbury, Whitechurch, Dorchester, Upwey, Wyke Regis, Bournemouth, and Reading. With the bells deeply muffled short touches were rung before the service. Those chosen to act as bearers were J. and T. Lathey (Bradpole), E. Hansford (Beaminster), T. Kenway (Bridport), H. Jennings (Wyke Regis), and Lieut. A. E. Reeves (Reading). The service, fully choral, was conducted by the Rev. W. J. Coulter, Rector of Bridport, and Rural Dean. More ringing took place after the service, the principal touch being the quarter-peal the Vicar always admired. This was well struck, in 49 minutes, by: Rev. C. A. Phillips 1, T. Horvey Beams (conductor) 2, T. Page 3, Mrs. Reeves 4, Lieut. A. E. Reeves 5, H. Jennings 6, T. Taylor 7, T. Lathey 8.

Thus has passed away one who, in a few short years, did so much for the ringing fraternity.

## SURREY ASSOCIATION.

## SUCCESSFUL PRACTICE MEETING AT SOUTH CROYDON.

A practice meeting of the Surrey Association was held at St. Peter's, South Croydon, on Saturday last, about thirty ringers attending from various parts of the county, and from London and Kent. During the afternoon the ringing included Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Double Norwich and London Surprise.

The ringers afterwards partook of a substantial tea thoughtfully provided by Mr. H. E. Wills, one of the local band, and to this ample justice was done.

A vote of condolence was passed with Mr. Charles Dena, of Croydon, formerly hon. secretary of the Association, on the death of his son in France, the sad news having been received on the previous day. The motion was proposed by Mr. I. Emery, seconded by Mr. Perkins, and passed in silence, the members all standing.

Various touches on handbells—Grandsire, Stedman Caters, Treble Bob, etc.—were brought round until 9 p.m., when a vote of thanks to Mr. Wills for his kindness and generosity, proposed by Mr. Hewett, and seconded by Mr. Brough, brought a very pleasant and successful day to a close.

## NOTICES.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Yorktown District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Yorktown on Saturday, March 3rd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at the York Restaurant, Frimley Road, at 5.30. All ringing friends welcome.—G. Miles, Hon. Sec., Owlsmoor, Camberley.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—North-Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at Harlow, St. Mary's, on Saturday, March 3rd. Bells available only from 4 to 6 p.m. Business meeting will be held at the Church Room at 6.15 p.m. Subscriptions for 1917 are now due.—William Watts, District Sec., Mont House Cottage, Stansted, Essex.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD** (North Bucks Branch).—The quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Hanslope on Saturday, March 3rd. Bells (6) available from 2 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m., tea and meeting to follow.—L. Sear, Branch Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—The next meeting of the Eastern District of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Goole on Saturday, March 3rd. Bells available all day. Tea at 5 p.m.—Thos. Smith, Honorary District Secretary.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Southern District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday, March 3rd. Bells (12) available from 3.30 p.m. till dusk; business meeting to follow in Wolstenholme Hall. Subscriptions are now due. A good attendance is desired.—Leonard Brightman, Dist. Sec., *pro tem.*, 45, St. Stephen's Road, Rotherham.

**BEDDINGTON, SURREY.**—Ringing at St. Mary's on Saturday, March 3rd, at 5 p.m., and every first Saturday in the month. Sunday evening ringing has also been resumed. All ringers welcome.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1537).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on March 8th and 22nd, for handbell practice, and on the 13th and 27th for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 37, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Nominations for the election of officers and one representative for the Central Council, to be elected at the annual meeting, should reach me by March 9th, in accordance with Rules 7 and 13.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

**DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—The annual meeting of the above Guild will be held at Dudley on Saturday, March 10th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30, which will be conducted by the President, the Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland (Vicar); business meeting afterwards. A free tea will be provided for those who notify me not later than March 6th. All outstanding contributions should be paid at this meeting.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The next meeting of this Society will be held at Chesterfield on Saturday, March 10th. Bells (10) available from 3 o'clock until dusk.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Whitefield on Saturday, March 10th. Bells available from 3.30 till dusk, meeting to follow.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late the St. James' Society.—Est. 1824).—The next meeting will be held at St. Ann's, Swains Lane, Highgate, N., on Saturday, March 10th. Tower open from 3.45 to 7.45 p.m. Business meeting to follow at the Bull and Last, Highgate Road. Ringers and friends are welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Western District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Hunslet, on Saturday, March 10th. Bells (8) available 2.30 to 6.30 p.m.; business meeting to follow in Parish Room adjoining Church.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

**HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Western Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bushey Parish Church on Saturday, March 10th. Bells at 2—9 p.m. Tea free in the Institute at 5. Meeting to follow. P.C. will oblige us.—F. Edward, 24, Glencoe Road, Bushey; F. A. Smith, 67, Upper Paddock Road, Oxley, Watford, Branch Secs. *pro tem.*

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Canterbury District.—Spring meeting will be held at Sturry on Saturday, March 17th. Bells available for ringing. Service at 5 p.m. Tea and business meeting after at the Swan Inn. A member will be elected at this meeting to serve on a sub-committee to consider the question of a memorial to all those who have fallen in the war and who have served in H.M. forces. Tea, about 1/- each, for those who send their names to me by Monday, March 12th.—The Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe, Hon. Dist. Sec., Elmsted Vicarage, Ashford, Kent.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, March 17th. Full particulars next week.—E. J. Butter.

**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.

#### BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Chew Deanery Branch took place at Portishead, but, for various reasons, was poorly attended, members attending from Clapton, Long Ashton, Portishead, Yatton, and Bristol. The ringing included a well-struck 504 of Grandsire Triples. At the service a most able address was given by the Rev. E. Robertson.

Tea was provided at The Cafe, High Street, and was followed by the business meeting, presided over by the Rev. E. Robertson.—One honorary and five performing members were elected, including three lady members from Wraxall.

Mr. T. Wyatt was re-elected chairman, and Mr. George Yeo hon. secretary and treasurer for the ensuing year. Yatton was chosen for the place of the next quarterly meeting.

Feeling reference was made to the loss the association had sustained in the death of the late Mr. C. E. D. Boutflower, who for so many years took such a lively interest in the welfare of the association, and especially the Chew Deanery, to which for several years his valued services were given as hon. local secretary and treasurer.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Rector of Portishead for the use of the bells, to the Rev. E. Robertson for giving the address and presiding, brought the meeting to a close.

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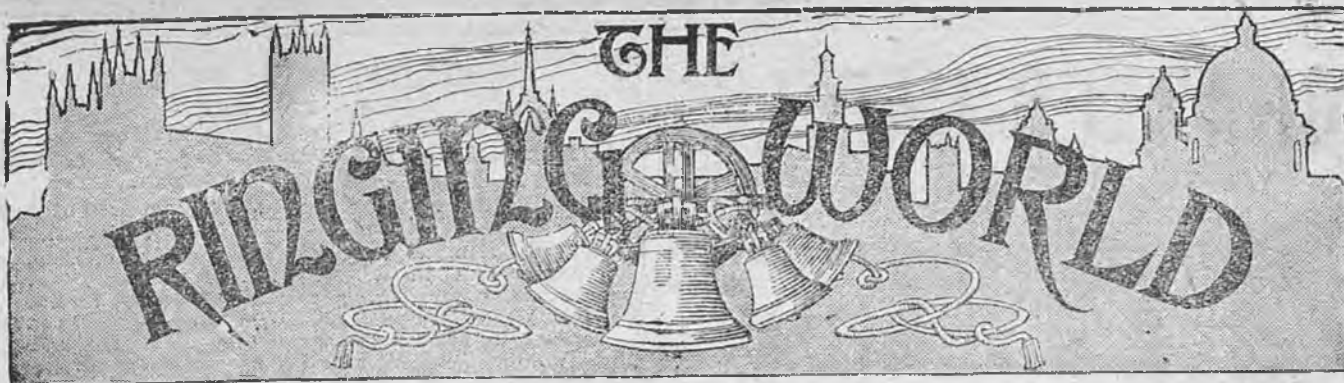


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No. 312. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, MARCH 9th, 1917.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for  
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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 JOHNSON DINNER.

The Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner at Birmingham this year lacked none of its accustomed success through the fact that for the third consecutive year it was a war-time function, and that on this occasion a curtailment of menu—imposed by the Food Controller—was added to previous restrictions in other directions. Indeed the popularity of the event is so well established that it is quite evident that something more than wars and earthquakes are needed to interrupt the annual sequence of gatherings. The attendance this year was very few below that of last year, and the proceedings went off with all the enthusiasm that has marked the occasion in former times.

The first object of the gathering is, of course, to honour the memory of one of the greatest geniuses and the noblest characters that ever ornamented the Exercise. The number of those who enjoyed the acquaintance of Henry Johnson is growing smaller, but the passage of years does not diminish the love and respect they have for the memory of that man of simple, honest life, of gentle nature and of marvellous gifts. We have to remember that what he accomplished for ringing was very largely, if not entirely, the product of his own resourcefulness and unaided work. He had not, as men have in these times, a foundation to build upon that was laid by the labour of others; but with all the strides which have been made since his time, a great deal that he did still stands out pre-eminently. He was one of the greatest men of the Exercise—there is no need to attempt to "place" him more accurately than that—and in keeping green his memory the St. Martin's Guild, not only pays a tribute that is due to a great man, but deserves the thanks of the present generation for giving us an annual reminder of what we owe to the life's work of Henry Johnson. But beyond this, the Birmingham gathering serves another purpose. It draws together, in a way that few other functions do, men who have few other opportunities of meeting from year to year; and if the present restrictions upon travelling had some effect this year upon the number who assembled from a distance, when we return to normal times, we may look for as great a "gathering of the Clans" at Birmingham as ever took place in the past. The St. Martin's Guild, like the College Youths and the Cumberlands—but very few other societies—is an organisation with long history behind it, and its members are scattered wherever ringing is known. But however far a member may be removed from the centre of its activities—St. Martin's Church in the Bull Ring—there is an unbreakable tie which binds them to the Guild, while those who have been privileged to join the happy throng at the annual dinner, cannot fail, as every year the event comes round, to conjure up memories of one of the most delightful of all ringing gatherings.

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Dear Sir,

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 as 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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## EIGHT BELL PEAL.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, March 3, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

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

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN WHEADON ... .. Treble	WILLIAM HEWETT ... .. 5
ISAAC EMERY ... .. 2	JOHN H. CHEERSMAN ... .. 6
EDWIN BARNETT, Junr. ... .. 3	EDWIN BARNETT, Senr. ... .. 7
FREDERICK W. RICHARDSON ... .. 4	WILLIAM J. JEFFERIES ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT, Senr.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Ptes. H. Eames and W. Audsley, killed in action in France, both of whom were members of the Crayford band of ringers. This was E. Barnett, Senr.'s, 500th peal, and the 100th he has rung on Crayford bells.

## HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, February 22, 1917, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,  
At 32, EDGELEY ROAD, CLAPHAM, S.W.,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

CARTER'S ODD BOB ONE-PART.

HARRY R. PASMORE ... .. 1—2	HERBERT LANGDON ... .. 5—6
CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... .. 3—4	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL ... .. 7—8

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

Umpire: EDWIN HORREX,

Edwin Horrex was heartily congratulated by the band on reaching the age of 79 on this day.

## RINGING AFTER DUSK.

NO RELAXATION IN ESSEX.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I have read with pleasure the successful result of the efforts of the Vicar of Whitechurch in his application for the relaxation of the order forbidding the ringing of church bells after dusk in the area of the Southern Command. I should be glad if you would kindly publish in "The Ringing World," for the benefit of members of our Association, the reply I received on February 8th from the competent Military Authority for Essex. It is important that this should be known, because very recently, through some misunderstanding, the bells in one church in the Diocese were rung for evensong, and the incumbent very narrowly escaped a prosecution.—Yours faithfully,

CHAS. H. HOWARD,

Master, The Essex Association.

[Copy.]

To Chas. H. Howard, Esq., J.P., Chairman Braintree Urban District Council.

In reply to your letter of the 4th instant, I have to inform you that, according to the latest information available at this office, there has been no amendment of No. 12B of the Defence of the Realm Regulations governing the hours during which Church bells, etc., may not be rung in the county of Essex (outside the Metropolitan Police District).

(Signed) F. C. WINTER, Captain.

Staff-Captain, No. 9 District.

Warley, February 8th, 1917.

The General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, of the Southern Command, has issued the following letter to the Bishops in the area of his control, and a copy has been sent to all the Chief Constables:—

"With reference to Regulation 12B, Defence of the Realm Regulations, I am directed to inform you that the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Command, has decided, in response to the numerous applications which he has received, to permit the ringing of Church Bells up till 9 p.m., at all places situated in this command. Would you kindly have this information passed on to all whom it may concern in your Diocese? The police have been notified."

Owing to the relaxation of the regulations, the practice meeting of the Winchester Guild, at Cranleigh, on Saturday, March 10th, will begin at 5.30 instead of 3 p.m. The practice arranged for Clendon on the 24th will not be held.

## WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

At the recent meeting of the Central Committee of the Winchester Guild, it was unanimously agreed that the annual festival for this year should be suspended, owing to the war. Last year it was a very small meeting, and this year the prospects are far less, owing to bands being so depleted.

The committee hopes that those who are left to "carry on" will do their utmost to make the quarterly meetings and combined practices as popular as possible.



## 5184 STEDMAN CATERS.

By GEORGE T. CLAYTON.

4	5	6	16	123456789
—	—	—	—	325416878
—	—	—	—	261435
—	—	—	—	651324
—	—	—	—	654123
—	—	—	—	532164
—	—	—	—	234165

Repeat three times, substituting a single for the bob at 5 in the last part, and repeat the whole.

Additional bobs at 1 in courses 1, 47 and 48.

To the best of my knowledge and belief this is the only four-part peal of Stedman Caters with six working bells known to the Exercise. But I am not so sure of this as I should like to be, and if anyone has another peal I shall feel obliged if he will kindly send me the figures under cover to the Editor.

I may mention for the information of those that have not looked into the matter, that in composing from four-part tables, only 60 of the 360 course ends can be used in any one composition, though different sets of 60 may be used in different compositions, either with the same or with different part ends. In composing from five-part tables 120 course ends are available on the same terms. In regard to the only natural course end in each course that requires special consideration, viz., the one of the solid block from sixes 6 to 14, the whole of the 360 course ends are available in all cases alike, but for everyone used two are thereby made false. Of course, everything requires tabulating, and to originate a set of tables for one peal is like, to use an engineering illustration, jamming up an automatic to make a screw. It may be added that four-part tables do not admit of grouping by any one bell, and they are, therefore, somewhat inconvenient to use.

If preferred, a homing course may be fitted in lieu of the last two bobs at 1, and perhaps someone will be able to thereby shorten the peal. It is largely a matter of taste. Calling bells round, for that is what it is, can only be done awkwardly, and I trust that I shall be permitted to say without giving offence to anyone, that I greatly dislike to see highly scientific compositions disfigured by unsightly excrescences. For these excrescences the arbitrary rules of the Central Council are in no small degree responsible, or, as I stand corrected by the Editor, the unthinking conservatism of ringers. Not, however, that I regard the three bobs at 1 with unmixed approval. That solution of the problem has the merit of keeping all the courses the natural length; but the penultimate course is not to my liking, and if I may venture to make another suggestion, the best solution of all would be to commence the ringing with rounds and move the bells into the desired positions, so to speak, by hand, i.e., by call changes. This could be done in four whole pulls, in the extreme case of the 6th being required to be moved into 2nd's place, and the same after the conclusion of the peal. The peal would then be perfectly clean.

In nearly all touches and peals of Stedman the composition is shown as going off from the row 23145. Now, although there is nothing worth naming to be gained by this, there is nothing in the least objectionable in it, provided that the last six is rung out to make 23145, the final row, for the hunting cycle is not broken in the ringing that counts; and the first two rows may be regarded as produced by call changes precisely as I am advocating for Caters and Cinques; or, as the Rev. C. D. P. Davies very reasonably supposes, by Grandsire. Whichever way regarded, the first two rows are clearly not Stedman, because Stedman no more admits of the hunting cycle being broken than does Plain Bob, and if, after starting from 23145, the changes are made to cease when rounds come up, a peal of Stedman is not rung.

## MEMS. ABOUT OUR MILITARY MEMBERS.

A post card sent from Malta to Mr. A. E. Parsons, Master of the Worcestershire Association, indicates that Mr. R. Matthews has left England for active service overseas. He sends kind regards to all old pals.

Sergt. E. Attwater, of Cuckfield, Sussex, who joined the 9th Royal Sussex Regiment early in the war, and has seen considerable service in France, has been gazetted Second-Lieutenant in the Machine Gun Corps, and is now at Grantham. Before going to France he specialised on machine gunnery.

Corpl. Alan Macdonald is now camped with his company well up in the desert, on the edge of the Suez Canal, which, he says, acts as a connecting link with the homeland for them. He adds, "It is a treat to get the 'Ringing World' in such a place, and helps one to wait patiently for the time when we shall get on the old rope's end again. Kind regards to all old friends."

Mr. Fred J. Hardy, late hon. secretary of the London County Association, has been wounded in fighting beyond Salonica, and is now in hospital at Malta. He joined up at the commencement of the war, and was drafted to the 7th Wiltshire Regiment. After twelve months' training he went to France, and shortly afterwards was ordered on to Salonica.

## RINGER'S GOLDEN WEDDING.

On Friday last, March 2nd, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Brownlee West, of "Avalon," Bath Road, Devizes, who were married at St. Mary's Church, on March 2nd, 1867, celebrated their golden wedding; and at a reception, held at their house, a goodly number of friends and neighbours, foremost among whom was the Rev. Canon Gardiner, B.D., E.D., Vicar of St. James', Southbroom, and the Rev. Fredk. Phipps, B.A., Vicar of St. Peter's, Devizes, assembled to offer their hearty congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. West, who have been so well known in Devizes and neighbourhood for a great many years past.

For the last seven years Mr. West has been honorary secretary for the Devizes branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, to which he has rendered yeoman service, and for a still longer period tower master at St. James' Church, at which tower the ringers (assisted by their brethren from St. John's) rang merry peals for over an hour during the evening, Mr. West's son-in-law (Mr. T. Weeks) and grandson (Master A. T. Weeks), a lad of 12 years, taking part in the ringing.

It is the usual thing, twice every Sunday, for the grandfather, son-in-law and grandson to stand in with three others in ringing for morning and evening services at St. James', Southbroom.

## THE SONG OF THE BELLS.

By ALICE L. PRITCHETT, KING'S NORTON.

In an old grey tower, set with gargoyles grim,  
With a fine tall spire above cloister dim,  
Hang eight good bells, in an octave true,  
Full many a peal they thread their way through:  
"And I go behind," says the tenor.

They ring for joy, and they toll for grief;  
For the opening bud, and the falling leaf.  
They ring for youth, and they toll for age,  
From the start of the book to the closing page:  
"The round of life," says the tenor!

They hail the morn of the Holy Birth,  
Good Will to men and peace on earth:  
They welcome the young to Christies fold,  
And the infant cries at the touch of cold:  
"He'll weep more yet," says the tenor!

They usher the Joyous Easter morn:  
The Lord is risen, no longer mourn!  
They ring when pious hands are laid  
On the meek bowed head of youth and maid:  
"God keep them true," says the tenor!

They ring for the golden harvest store,  
When the good earth yields up her fruit once more.  
They peal for bride and groom as they kneel,  
And vow to be steadfast through weal or woe:  
"Amen to that," says the tenor!

They toll for the close of the passing year,  
And softly echo "the end is near";  
They've a dirge for the weary laid to rest  
When they come again to the kind earth's breast:  
"The dead sleep sound," says the tenor!

The octave rounded, they start once more,  
For a new year dawns, and life's at the door!  
"For us," cry fresh voices, "your sweet notes swell!"  
"For us," plead fresh dawns, "the old story tell!"  
"Year out, year in," says the tenor.

Thus ever changing, yet ever the same,  
The bells to the ages life's story proclaim;  
Mingling their voices in ordered refrain  
They weave the tale truly, and tell it again;  
"All as we were," says the tenor.

This striking poem was read by the Chairman at the Johnson Commemoration Dinner.

## OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

A quarterly meeting of the North Bucks branch was held at Hanslope on Saturday last, when about 24 members were present, representing Stony Stratford, Blechley, Olney, Emboston, Fenny Stratford, Old Wolverton, Bradwell, Stoke Golding, and Newport Pagnell, and Mr. J. H. Shepherd, of Swindon. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, and Cambridge Surprise Minor were rung. Service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. — Harkness), when a very suitable address was given. — A vote of thanks was passed to him for the arrangements that had been made. Tea was provided at the "Watts' Arms," followed by the meeting, the chair being taken by the Rev. Mitcheson, of Newport Pagnell, in the absence of the chairman (the Rev. J. R. Vincent). Afterwards a very enjoyable evening was spent. Several courses of Grandsire Triples on the handbells were rung, the following taking part: H. Sear, W. Sear, H. Morris, E. C. Lambert and C. Valentine, thus bringing a very enjoyable meeting to a close.

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

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*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 these occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.*

## TAUNTON RINGER KILLED IN ACTION.

We regret to announce the death of Sergeant W. A. Fowler, aged 31 years, son of Mr. J. Fowler, verger of St. Mary's Church, and Mrs. Fowler, who was killed in action "somewhere in France" on Feb. 5th, leaving a wife and one child at present residing at Plymouth.



SERGEANT FOWLER.

Sergt. Fowler joined the Royal Marines on January 10th, 1905, and was sent to Deal for training. The same year he went to the Plymouth Division, boarding His Majesty's ship Niobe; also serving on the Queen, Indefatigable, Colossus, and Highflyer. On the last-named ship he served about two years in the East Indies. In 1915 he was sent to Egypt, and recalled from there to serve in the Naval Brigade in 1916.

Sergt. Fowler was a very keen campanologist during the period he was a member of St. Mary's Guild, which he joined in 1902, accomplishing his first peals of 5,040 changes the same year, being two peals of Grandsire Doubles at Norton Fitzwarren on November 12th and November 22nd respectively. In 1903 he rang his first peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Mary's, Taunton, and in the same year he rang two peals of Doubles at Norton Fitzwarren.

In 1904 he rang his first peal of Grandsire Triples as conductor at St. James's Church. He was highly respected in many towers of the Bath and Wells Diocese, and other parts of England.

As a last tribute, the ringers of St. Mary's rang, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, consisting of 1,260 changes, in 52 minutes, the following members taking part: S. Wyatt 1, A. Wyatt 2, H. Greed 3, J. Creed 4, E. Lloyd 5, F. Sadd 6, J. Burge (conductor) 7, R. Stanlake 8.

## MR. E. BARNETT, SENR.'S. 500 PEALS.

	Rung.	Conducted.
Minor (4 Methods) .....	2	1
Grandsire Triples .....	89	42
Sledman Triples .....	78	24
Eric Triples .....	1	1
Union Triples .....	14	7
Darlaston Bob Triples .....	3	1
Oxford Bob Triples .....	3	2
Plain Bob Triples .....	2	1
Court Bob Triples .....	1	1
Canterbury Pleasure Triples .....	1	1
Bob Major .....	20	11
Little Bob Major .....	1	1
Waterloo Reverse Bob Major .....	1	
Canterbury Pleasure Major (including a 10,080) .....	17	12
Kent Treble Bob Major .....	60	32
Oxford Treble Bob Major .....	2	1
Double Norwich Major (including a 13,440) .....	85	36
"Real" Double Norwich Major .....	3	1
Double Oxford Major .....	5	4
Superlative Surprise Major .....	23	
Cambridge Surprise Major .....	16	
New Cambridge Surprise Major .....	1	
Norfolk Surprise Major .....	2	
New Cumberland Surprise Major .....	1	
London Surprise Major .....	1	
Bristol Surprise Major .....	1	
Grandsire Caters .....	6	
Stedman Caters .....	17	1
Plain Bob Royal .....	1	1
Kent Treble Bob Royal .....	11	1
Oxford Treble Bob Royal .....	1	
Forward Royal .....	2	
Double Norwich Royal .....	1	
Duffield Royal .....	1	
Cambridge Surprise Royal .....	4	
Stedman Cinques .....	20	
Plain Bob Maximus .....	1	1
Kent Treble Maximus .....	2	
Total .....	500	183

Of the above number, 114 have been rung at St. John the Baptist's, Erith, and exactly 100 at St. Paulinus', Crayford.

## HENRY JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER.

### GREAT GATHERING AT BIRMINGHAM.

The 29th annual "Henry Johnson" Dinner—the third to be held during the great war, and we will hope the last to be so held—took place at Birmingham, on Saturday, February 24th.

This dinner, and the entertainment that follows, might well be called the annual festival of the St. Martin's Guild, for although it is held primarily for the purpose of keeping green the memory of one of the greatest masters of the Art, it is one of the most enjoyable functions that takes place in ringing circles, and is looked forward to by numerous ringers from distant parts, many of whom attend regularly year after year. On this occasion there were one or two present who have attended every one of these dinners since the one held in 1889 at the Colonnade Hotel, on which occasion the G.O.M. was present in person—for the first and last time.

The chair was taken by the Rector of Birmingham (Canon J. W. Willink), the idol of the Birmingham ringers, and a man who has captured the hearts of Midland Church people as no man has ever captured them before.

The belfry of the old church was thronged throughout the afternoon, and many visitors rang for the first time on twelve bells.

The Rector took the chair at six o'clock, and was supported by Mrs. Willink, Miss Willink, Alderman J. S. Pritchett (presiding Ringing Master), Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Taylor, Mr. J. J. Kendall (churchwarden of St. Martin's), Mr. W. H. Godden (vice-president), Mr. A. E. Parsons (Master of the Worcestershire Association), Messrs. Harry Mason, Wm. Cheshire, H. E. Healey, Stanley S. Ready, B. Gough, J. W. Tilley, W. R. Heaton, T. Ediss, and the hon. secretary (Mr. A. Paddon Smith). There were also present the following officers of the Guild: Mr. J. E. Groves (deputy Ringing Master), Messrs. John Carter, B. Faux, W. Kent, and J. H. Shepherd (vice-presidents), Messrs. C. Dickens and T. Russam (trustees), Messrs. G. F. Swann and J. L. Wells (auditors), and Mr. A. Walker (ex-deputy Master).

Apologies were read from the Rector of Sutton Coldfield, Canon Barnard, Dr. Malins, and Mr. J. S. Goldsmith. The secretary received a wire during the evening from Mr. Francis Ed. Dawe, wishing the assembled company a pleasant evening.

### THE EVENING'S ENTERTAINMENT.

During the evening, interspersed with the speeches, a varied musical programme was carried through, to the great, and frequently hoisterously expressed, enjoyment of everyone present. First must be mentioned the one and only Harry Withers, who as usual was prime favourite, and who could without the slightest difficulty provide a whole evening's entertainment himself, and that, too, without boring his listeners. As the Rector said, "he and his dulcimer were as much a part of the dinner as the roast beef itself." His first item was a course of Cambridge Surprise Major—the first he has tapped in public, although he has previously tapped London and other "cramp" methods. Although it is rather a long course, interest was well maintained all through, as was shown by the spontaneous applause the moment he ran into rounds. His second item was a touch of Stedman Triples, conducted by Mr. Albert Walker, a clever performance for both, and successfully brought round. Later he burst forth into tunes, and when the official programme was through, Harry "carried on" to a large group of listeners that gathered round him, and was open to play, and did play, anything and everything that anybody asked for. Mr. Frank Bank's party of instrumentalists was a great success, and the two items rendered were much appreciated. A most versatile man is "little Frank." A pearl-button manufacturer on his own account, some years ago, he is now something in the silversmith line. He is tower-keeper at St. Martin's—and never did bells go better—he has built gas, steam and oil engines for a hobby, owns the best gramophone the writer has ever heard, and can play nearly every kind of musical instrument that has ever been invented.

Miss Rose Kent sang "The Swallows" very sweetly, and Mr. Tom Russam's daughter, Mrs. Davies, was as delightful as ever at the piano. The company is indebted to Mr. Albert Walker for introducing the Misses Showell who rendered two excellent duets, "Mountain Lovers" and "At Break o' Day," and a very appropriate song called "The Bells of Twilight." A good course of Stedman Caters was rung in hand by Messrs. Walker, Kent, Miller, Russam and Neal.

Altogether a most enjoyable evening, and one which, as one of the branch secretaries of the Chester Diocesan Guild (Mr. C. H. Holding) remarked, is "not to be missed in future if it can be helped."

The Chairman submitted the toast of "His Majesty the King." He said they had met for the third time under the shadow of the great war. Please God, when next they met, the war would be over and done with, a grim and dark memory, and yet a time out of which England emerged, as from the furnace of suffering, purified and strengthened. They ran in triples—morning, noon and night; pounds, shillings and pence; the past, the present and the future, and so forth. In this the third year of the war they did not want to break that rule of triples. They hoped, and they longed, and they prayed, and, please God, they were working, every one of them, to the one great end, that

by that time next year, the war would be finished and over. But all through that time of stress and strain, there was one to whom all their thoughts turned, more than to any other in England—their King, who was setting them all a splendid example of devotion to duty. The Queen, the Prince of Wales, and the rest of the Royal Family, were also mentioned in connection with the toast, which was loyally honoured, and the National Anthem was sung.

### PATRIOTIC CLERGY.

Alderman Pritchett then proposed the toast of "Church and State." He said the quotation which the hon. secretary had appended to the toast, was a very appropriate one: "Look that you bind them fast." The Church in England had been bound fast to the State for something like seventeen hundred years—ever since the days of St. Augustine, and he hoped there might be many long centuries to go before it was loosed. There was before the war an agitation for the disestablishment of the Welsh Church, based on party politics. It was an agitation that never went to the heart of the British people, but for party reasons it was supported by many people. They hoped when the war was over that it would not raise its head again. It would be all the better for England if there were no party politics after the war, as at the present time, and if that were so the Church would stand on its merits, and it would have nothing to fear. The nation would appreciate the services rendered to it by the Church during the war, as well as to those who had been in sorrow and suffered loss during this terrible conflict. Chaplains of the Church of England had won the Victoria Cross. They had shown equal bravery with those who had been called upon to fight, and the nation would not forget those things. He did not propose to couple any names with the toast, for it occurred to him they might regard their Rector as representing the Church, and they as laymen as representing the State. He need not say what great affection they had for their chairman, and he hoped that affection would be the kind the nation would have for the Church at large after the war (applause).

The Chairman remarked that Alderman Pritchett had said he was not coupling any names with the toast, and no response was, therefore, to be made, but perhaps they would like to be told of one fact, and that was that he (the Rector) had been entrusted by the Bishop, with the task of collating the return of the clergy who had responded to the national appeal of Mr. Neville Chamberlain. He had not received them all yet, but up to the present he had about 170 names of the clergy who had responded, and there were more to come. Moreover, there were no less than 46 of the clergy of Birmingham who had enrolled as special constables. He thought they would feel with him that was a very large response, made by men who had very large responsibilities at the present time. Some of their clergy had already gone as chaplains to the front, which, of course, greatly increased the task of those remaining behind, and there was ample proof that the clergy were fully alive to their sense of duty as patriotic Englishmen. The Archbishop of Canterbury, in the House of Lords, said that two thousand clergy had been sent out as chaplains, in addition to those serving before the war broke out. He mentioned this with a feeling of pardonable pride in the profession to which he belonged. They wanted to do their duty, both to the souls and bodies of their brethren, and they wanted to show everyone that they were true patriots, as well as true servants of God (applause).

Mr. Churchwarden Kendall said he thought they ought to know something besides what the Rector had told them. Canon Willink had himself become a special constable (loud cheers).

### HENRY JOHNSON.

Mr. W. H. Godden submitted the toast of "The memory of the late Henry Johnson." This, he said, was a subject which had been spoken on for more than 25 years, and as they could imagine, he could not tell them anything new about either the abilities or the good qualities and virtues of the late Henry Johnson. But he often thought, and especially when seeing such a gathering as that, how much good it would have done his heart, could he have been present at one of them, and more still had he known of the tremendous advance made in their science since his time. He (the speaker) recollected on one occasion, after reading Jasper Snoddon's works on Double Norwich and Treble Bob, that he asked Mr. Johnson if he thought it would be possible to invent a sliding rule, by the aid of which composers could be prevented from false peals. There were not many in that room who could recollect Henry Johnson, but if they could, perhaps they could imagine the smile that would pass over his face. Henry Johnson said nothing, but the look of benevolence he bestowed on him was something to wonder at. One evening afterwards he was with Mr. John Carter and Mr. Bradney, and Mr. Carter produced a book from his pocket containing a scale. It was for producing true peals, and by the aid of that book Mr. Bradney, who knew no more about Treble Bob composition than he (the speaker) did, was able there and then to produce a peal of 15,000 Treble Bob Major. He (Mr. Godden) also wondered what Mr. Johnson would have thought had he been privileged to see, with Sir Arthur Heywood, Mr. Carter's wonderful ringing machine (which was really in existence). On the occasion when the late President of the Central Council saw it, the first thing it started was a plain course of Stedman Cinques, rung with absolute truth, and the machine at the same time printed a record of the changes it rang. That showed them



how science had increased since Henry Johnson's time and his pioneer work. It was, he thought, true that very few pioneers—the men who did the spade work—ever lived to see the fruit of their labours. In conclusion, Mr. Godden said he felt more confident than ever that the St. Martin's Guild did well to hold these annual commemorations. It gave so many ringers the opportunity of meeting friends who they did not otherwise meet from year end to year end, and it was also a very good thing indeed that they were enabled to associate those gatherings with the memory of the late Henry Johnson, who was himself the soul of sociability.

The toast was drunk in silence.

Canon Willink having to leave early, Mr. A. E. Parsons proposed "The Health of the Chairman." He said he thought they were all very much like the young man who fell very deeply in love, when he looked into the lady's face once, and told her the more he looked at her, the more he loved her. He felt sure they at that annual gathering were getting almost to love Canon Willink. (A voice: "Quite.") They would find it very difficult indeed to invite a person to preside at that gathering who could command their respect and admiration as Canon Willink did. Any other man occupying the chair for four successive years would, to a certain extent, perhaps, create an atmosphere of monotony. The very reverse was the case when they had Canon Willink. He came there as one of themselves, and in coming he did not degrade the dignity of his high calling. He was ever ready to extend his broad-minded sympathies to their feelings, whatever they were. Mr. Parsons went on to relate an experience which he had at Great Yarmouth, where Canon Willink was rector before going to Birmingham. He (Mr. Parsons) had looked round the church, and went to sign the visitors' book. He asked the old beadle some very pertinent questions about Canon Willink, and he got very fine answers indeed, and the old gentleman, at the end, turned and said, with tears in his eyes, "Great Yarmouth's loss is Birmingham's gain" (cheers). All members of St. Martin's Guild knew the truth of the old man's statement, and he (the speaker) certainly felt that when the time came, as they all hoped it might, when the Rector would be created a bishop, Birmingham people and all members of St. Martin's Guild would be quite as ready to reiterate the statement which the old man made.

The toast was enthusiastically drunk with musical honours.

The Chairman, in responding, said he had been compared to a good many things in his life, but till that night had he ever been compared to a blushing damsel. Did he look like one? (laughter). He did not, he continued, need to be thanked. That was one of the most brotherly gatherings he knew of in the course of the twelve months, and he did appreciate being allowed the pleasure of bringing his wife and daughter also (cheers). He was delighted to think that, perhaps, that very fact of them having accompanied him on more than one occasion had been encouragement to other ladies to come too, and they welcomed that addition to their ranks. The present was the women's opportunity. The war had been bringing them into prominence very much of late, and the last 2½ years had done more for the women's cause than six years of militant suffrage (loud cheers). They welcomed the ladies in every department of life, and they should welcome them at the ringers' dinner very heartily (applause). He thanked the company very much indeed for the way they had honoured the toast. Those four successive chairmanships stood out in his memory as one of the greatest honours they could offer him (applause).

(To be continued.)

#### MILITARY HANDBELL RINGERS.

With so many ringers now in the army it is not surprising that not only have tower bell bands been got together, but handbell companies also. Here are some touches rung recently at Ripon, Yorkshire.—On February 8th, at the premises of Mr. F. Tingle, three 120's of Grandsire Doubles, Sergt. W. Ayre 1–2, Lance-Corpl. H. Washbrook (conductor) 3–4, Gr. R. Clifford 5–6. Also 168 Grandsire Triples: R. Clifford 1–2, H. Washbrook 3–4, W. Ayre (conductor) 5–8, F. Tingle 7–8.—On February 9th, three 120's Grandsire Doubles: W. Ayre (conductor) 1–2, H. Washbrook 3–4, M. Washbrook 5–6.—On Sunday, February 11th, at 8, Christian Terrace, a course of Grandsire Caters: M. Washbrook 1–2, R. Clifford 3–4, H. Washbrook 5–6, W. Ayre 7–8, F. Tingle 9–10. Also 168 Grandsire Triples by the last four, conducted by F. Tingle.—On Sunday, February 25th, at the same place, 1,260 Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins.: Lance-Corpl. M. Washbrook 1, F. Tingle 2, Sergt. W. Ayre (first quarter-peal on handbells) 3–4, Lance-Corpl. H. Washbrook 5–6, Gr. R. Clifford (composer and conductor) 7–8. Rung as a farewell to Gr. R. Clifford, who was leaving Ripon on the 26th, for another E.G.A. Depot "somewhere in England." In the afternoon, at the Cathedral, 504 Stedman Triples: F. Tingle 1, Gr. R. Clifford (Baeston, Notes) 2, E. Motcalfe (Ripon) 3, Gr. J. Harris (Leicester) 4, W. Thorpe (Ripon) 5, Lance-Corpl. H. Washbrook (Pendleton) 6, Gr. Gibson (R.G.A.), conductor, 7, Lce.-Corpl. M. Washbrook (Pendleton) 8.

BOREHAM, ESSEX.—On Christmas Day, for Matins, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major. L. Allison 1, A. Edwards 2, H. Edwards 3, A. Church 4, J. Roots 5, W. R. Thrift 6, W. F. Allen 7, H. W. Kirton (conductor) 8.

#### NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1537).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on March 8th and 22nd, for handbell practice, and on the 13th and 27th for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nominations for the election of officers and one representative for the Central Council, to be elected at the annual meeting, should reach me by March 9th, in accordance with Rules 7 and 13.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting of the above Guild will be held at Dudley on Saturday, March 10th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30, which will be conducted by the President, the Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland (Vicar); business meeting afterwards. All outstanding contributions should be paid at this meeting.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting of this Society will be held at Chesterfield on Saturday, March 10th. Bells (10) available from 3 o'clock until dusk.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Whitefield on Saturday, March 10th. Bells available from 3.30 till dusk, meeting to follow.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late the St. James' Society.—Est. 1824).—The next meeting will be held at St. Ann's, Swains Lane, Highgate, N., on Saturday, March 10th. Tower open from 3.45 to 7.45 p.m. Business meeting to follow at the Bull and Last, Highgate Road. Ringers and friends are welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Hunslet, on Saturday, March 10th. Bells (8) available 2.30 to 6.30 p.m.; business meeting to follow in Parish Room adjoining Church.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bushey Parish Church on Saturday, March 10th. Bells at 2–9 p.m. Tea free in the Institute at 5. Meeting to follow. P.C. will oblige us.—F. Edward, 24, Glencoe Road, Bushey; F. A. Smith, 67, Upper Paddock Road, Oxley, Watford, Branch Secs. *pro tem.*

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL GUILD.—Ringing for Evening Service will recommence on Sunday next, March 11th, at 5.30 p.m. Morning ringing, as usual, at 9.45 p.m. Visitors are always welcome.—C. L. Routledge, Ringing Master.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at St. Luke's, Bristol, on Saturday, 17th March. Bells at 5 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. with ringing after.—Chas. J. Walton, Hon. Sec., 4, Jamaica Street, Bristol.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—Spring meeting will be held at Sturry on Saturday, March 17th. Bells available for ringing. Service at

5 p.m. Tea and business meeting after at the Swan Inn. A member will be elected at this meeting to serve on a sub-committee to consider the question of a memorial to all those who have fallen in the war and who have served in H.M. forces. Tea, about 1/- each, for those who send their names to me by Monday, March 12th.—The Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe, Hon. Dist. Sec., Elmsted Vicarage, Ashford, Kent.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, March 17th. Bells available 3 to 8 p.m. Short service at 5.30. Tea at 6 p.m., 9d. each. Business meeting to follow.—E. J. Butter, Chadwell Heath.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Tyldesley Parish Church on Saturday, March 17th, 1917. Bells ready at 4.30.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Secretary, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Rochester District.—Half-yearly meeting will be held at St. Margaret's Church, Rainham, on Saturday, March 24th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Half rail fares allowed. Please note subscriptions are now due.—E. A. G. Allen, Hon. Dist. Sec., 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, March 24th, at St. Thomas, Newhey. Bells ready at 2 o'clock until dusk. Meeting 6.30.—T. K. Driver, Sec., 95, Hunter Street, Middleton.

**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 A MIDDLETON RINGER.

The funeral of the late Mr. Thos. Oldham, of Rectory Street, Middleton, took place on Saturday afternoon at Middleton Cemetery.

The deceased had for 28 years been a ringer at the Parish Church, and as a mark of respect a deputation of ringers attended the funeral, and a plain course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells over the grave by: D. Renshaw (Middleton) 1—2, I. Schofield (Glodwick) 3—4, S. Stott (Oldham) 5—6, E. B. Shaw (Glodwick) 7—8. Later in the day a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung in 1 hr. 45 mins. on the Parish Church bells, which were deeply muffled, the ringers standing as follows: I. Schofield 1, J. Arrowsmith, senr., 2, S. Stott 3, E. B. Shaw 4, S. Holt 5, T. Ogden 6, D. Renshaw 7, T. Wallens 8.

The late Mr. Oldham was one of the very few handbell ringers in Middleton, and in the tower was noted as a good striker and a safe ringer.

#### ROLL OF HONOUR.

From Erdington Parish Church, Birmingham:—  
Sergt. Thomas W. Dee, 16, Royal Warwickshire Regiment, on active service in France.  
Sapper George F. Garrison, Inland Water Transport Royal Engineers, on active service in Mesopotamia.  
Pte Fred S. Sanders, Coldstream Guards, Windsor.  
From St. Leonard's, Streatham:  
Pte I. J. Attwater, Baker's Section, A.S.C., at Bath.  
From St. Mary's, Harrow:  
Pte G. Dean, A.S.C., M.T.

**PAINSWICK.**—Ancient Society of Painswick Youths.—On Sunday Jan. 7th, 512 Bob Major: C. Owens 1, H. Brocklebank 2, H. Ludkin 3, S. Barnes 4, N. Birchall 5, J. Evans 6, H. Martin 7, J. Turner (conductor) 8.

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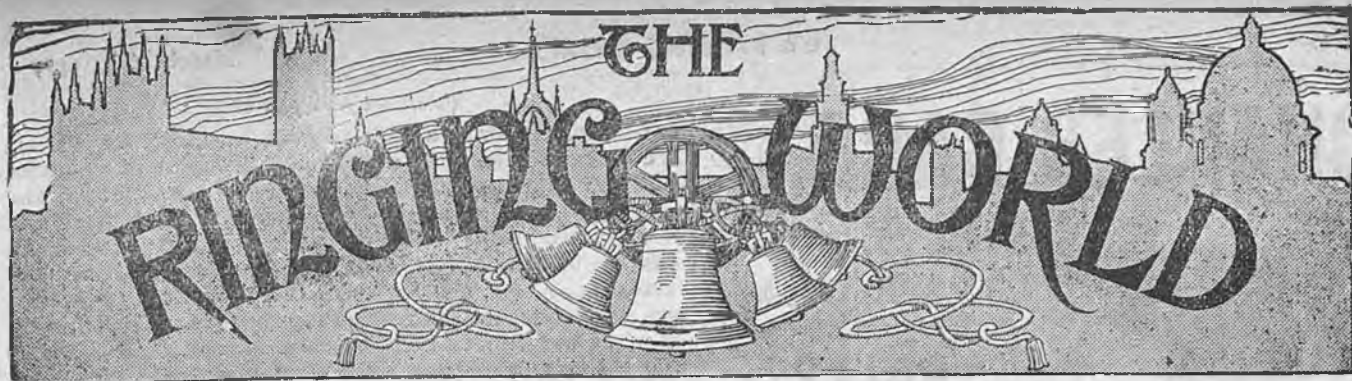
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No. 313. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, MARCH 16th, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

# 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, 1918.  
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 SEVENTH YEAR.

With this issue we enter upon the seventh year of "The Ringing World," and, though there have been occasions when the outlook has been happier, we are going forward with the utmost confidence that, despite the drawbacks of the present, the future holds a bright prospect for ringing and "The Ringing World." Many things have been hard hit by the war, and ringing has been one of them. The ever increasing demands for men has reduced the bands at the majority of towers to the merest skeleton of their former strength, and although in many cases gaps have been filled by young men and ladies, change ringing itself has suffered, because change ringers are not made in five minutes. But those who have been left behind have endeavoured valiantly to "carry on," and the efforts of "The Ringing World" have been directed to maintaining interest and preserving cohesion as far as possible throughout the Exercise.

One effect of the war, so far as newspapers are concerned, has been that many of the smaller journals have had to close down entirely. Increased costs, particularly in regard to the paper itself, and scarcity of labour, put out of the field numbers of papers devoted to special subjects, and even some daily publications have "put up the shutters" till after the war. But "The Ringing World" has held on, for we have realised what general dislocation and chaos, through lack of means of intercommunication, would be caused if ringing had no journal to keep it together during the dark days. The task has been a difficult one, and that our efforts have been appreciated is manifested by the large number of expressions of goodwill and loyalty which we have received since we announced the imperative necessity of increasing the cost of the paper to twopence.

It is true that there have been some who have grumbled, but there are many who have cheered us by their messages. We have not room, of course, to quote all these communications, but here are two that are typical: "We require 'the' paper now more than ever, and I applaud your decision to raise the price." "I am sure you are doing the right thing by increasing the price to twopence, and I hope all the ringers in the United Kingdom will support you." Then, too, there was that spontaneous outburst of approval at the Johnson Dinner at Birmingham when, with prophetic insight, the Hon. Secretary of the St. Martin's Guild said (at a moment when, unknown to him, the decision to charge more for the paper had been made), "the time might arrive when it would be necessary to increase the price of 'The Ringing World.'"

We believe that the feeling expressed in Birmingham is very generally felt throughout the country. The Exercise without a paper of its own, would be, if not a ship without

(Continued on Page 82.)

# CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR  
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,  
Chelmsford.

Dear Sir,

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

**SMETHWICK,  
BIRMINGHAM**

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SINGLY,  
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(Continued from page 81.)

a rudder, certainly a hull without engines; for we are egotistical enough to believe that, through our columns, effort in matters campanological has been directed, and there has been a driving power which has made itself felt. If "The Ringing World" was to go on, and the Exercise was not to be left without an organ, it was imperative to increase the cost; and we feel certain that ringers who have any enthusiasm for the art and any desire to see it continued after the war with as little set-back as possible, will realise that the extra penny per week which they are now asked to pay is only their contribution towards sustaining the future of ringing.

### ROLL OF HONOUR.

From St. Alphege, Solihull:—

Pte John Bragg, Royal Flying Corps.

Pte E. C. Shepherd, 3rd Royal Warwicks

From Ansty, Leicestershire:—

Corpl. W. Bottrill, Military Mounted Police, Stanhope Lines, Aldershot.

### TWICE TORPEDOED.

Mr. Herbert Dransfield, a member of the Earlsheaton band, who helped his company to win the Halifax and District cup six times, has, within the last six months had two alarming experiences at sea. Formerly a member of the West Riding, Dewsbury, and Salford Police Forces, he has recently held an appointment as a police inspector on board the Cunard liners. On Oct. 19th he was on the "Alaunia," when that vessel was torpedoed or mined in the English Channel, and he escaped with the loss of all his clothing and valuables. Immediately after the destruction of this vessel, Mr. Dransfield joined the "Orduna," and in December was transferred to the "Laconia." When the great ship was starting on her voyage at the end of December she collided with another vessel in the Mersey, and had to put back for repairs. On her homeward journey, at the end of February, she was torpedoed by a German submarine, without warning, and with some loss of life, as is already well known. The ship was attacked at 9.20 p.m., and it was nine hours before the boats, in which the passengers and crew got away, were picked up. The cold was intense, and there was a heavy swell on. All the passengers suffered much from the cold, and there were many of the crew who had been injured by the explosion of the first torpedo. Some of the ladies used their boots to bail the water out of the boat in which Mr. Dransfield got away. They were eventually picked up by a patrol boat, and landed in Queenstown about midday. Hero Mr. Dransfield, who had again lost everything, managed to get some fresh clothes, and proceeded to his home in Dewsbury. Ringers will heartily congratulate Mr. Dransfield upon his two happy escapes, while commiserating with him on the losses which he has sustained. Mr. Dransfield served with distinction in the Dewsbury and Salford Police Forces, and in addition to being an excellent ringer, was a keen footballer, being a member of the old Dewsbury Rugby team in its palmy days.

### PEALS: THEIR LENGTH AND STARTING-POINT.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I am much obliged to Mr. Cave for his kindly criticisms and in partial reply thereto, after wishing him good luck, I beg to refer him to the article, under my name, which you were good enough to publish in "The Ringing World" for March 9th, and which left my hands before his letter was written. To this article I should like, with your permission, to make an addition. The plain course of Stedman Triples, as set out in Stedman, goes off from, and ends with, 2314567. In other words, according to no less an authority than the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, the plain course of Stedman Triples is a round block starting from, and ending with, a row other than rounds. Of course, there are other ways of avoiding the complexities of the usual starting and homing courses, but the way I am advocating is the simplest, and I think I have cited a sufficiently high authority for it.

As to the rival merits of peals on the various plans that have been proposed, I am almost entirely without Mr. Cave's experience as a ringer. But I have been an attentive listener to bell music for well over 50 years, and I have a very decided preference for peals with the heavy bells in the tittums position at every 18th six. To this I may add that it is not my opinion, nor ever has been, that peals with six working bells are in any way superior to four and five bell peals. The most that can be said of them is that they are much more difficult to obtain, the liability to internal falseness being so extraordinarily great that anyone attempting to obtain another extent peal without having thoroughly mastered the art of composing such peals, might as well put so much brass, steel, gold, ruby and shellac into a tumbling barrel, and expect them to come out a fuzee-keyless, spring-detent chronometer.

If Mr. Cave's military duties permit, I shall be glad if he will favour me with his further remarks.—Yours truly, GEORGE F. CLAYTON.

## HENRY JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER.

(Continued from page 78.)

### ALDERMAN PRITCHETT'S REVIEW.

Alderman Pritchett, in submitting "Continued Prosperity to St. Martin's Guild," said it had been his usual custom on that occasion to follow rather a beaten track, and to allude to those they had lost, those they had with them, those they would like to have with them, and so on, and be proposed to follow that course again. Unfortunately old Father Time and his scythe had been very busy amongst them, for their casualties had been almost as numerous, comparatively, as those caused by the machine guns amongst their gallant soldiers they had lost. Mr. F. E. Ward, a great ringer at Cheltenham before he came to Birmingham. Next, Mr. Baldwin, who was also for many years an invalid. He was the oldest member of the Guild, having joined it in 1868, so that he was a member for nearly half a century. Very few amongst that gathering ever stood up with him in a peal. He had rung with him, but never a peal, but there were one or two who had done so. The next was Mr. Painter. He was a vice-president of the Guild, and they all remembered how he used to tug away on the tenor at St. Martin's, and get warm on summer evenings. Then they came to the greatest loss of all, the loss of their general, Sir Arthur Heywood. He did not know how to express the feelings of regret at that terrible loss to the Exercise. Sir Arthur was a man, who, "take him all for all, ye shall not look on his like again," as a ringer, a composer, and, above all, an English gentleman. He was without peer, and they never would see such a man amongst them again. Among others who had gone were T. Collinson, H. Pratt, a ringer at Harborne, and Mr. C. E. Boutflower, who occupied the chair at one of their gatherings, and a gentleman for whom he had the highest respect. The next was his old friend Sam Spittle. About a fortnight before he died, he had the pleasure of shaking him by the hand for the last time, when to all appearances he was sound and vigorous, and his death came very suddenly, just before, or after, his 80th birthday. He also, on one occasion occupied the chair at that gathering. He (the speaker) ought also on that occasion to mention the terrible loss that Mr. John Taylor has sustained in the death of his two brave and gallant sons. He had the earnest and sincere sympathy of ringers throughout the country, and they were glad that the two remaining sons, who are also serving their country, were well, and, they prayed, might be preserved to him. Lastly, said Ald. Pritchett, he would like to mention the man who taught him to ring—Mr. F. Palmer. Last year, they might recollect, he told them he was still living, at the age of 87. He died a short time ago at the age of 88.

### A FITTING MEMORIAL.

He had asked him to promise him that they should ring a mourning peal at his funeral. That would have been a sacred obligation, and would have been carried out if the circumstances had permitted. They proposed, however, to commemorate him in another way. It was their intention to fix in the ringing chamber of King's Norton Church a brass tablet bearing his name, the date of his birth, the date of his death, and this simple inscription: "He taught us to ring." In that way they would honour his memory. It was nearly fifty years ago that he first got a notion of bell ringing from Mr. Painter, and at that time it was the custom to ring in the winter at five o'clock in the morning and eight o'clock in the evening. With one exception he had got to the end of his list, and the last was a lady, Miss Instone, one of the donors of the bells at Boldmere, who was buried that day. There was, continued Ald. Pritchett, only one wounded soldier in their ringing army, and that was their old friend, Mr. Jimmy Jones, who was stricken with illness two years ago. This year he missed very few peals. There was just the same number present (21) who knew Henry Johnson as were present last year. He had called to see Mr. John Smith at Tipton, and found him making good progress, and was told by him that Mr. Rock Small was very chary of going out on those dark evenings. He (the speaker) had no doubt that was why he was not there that night, and he made the suggestion that they should have a collection and present him with a flashlight, so that he could find his way there next year (laughter). Amongst those who were present they were delighted to see Mr. John Carter, and he specially desired to mention Mr. Vice-President Faux. He would, they would be interested to know, be 80 years of age on the next Thursday, and on their behalf he heartily wished him many happy returns of the day (applause).

There was not much to be said about ringing achievements, Ald. Pritchett added. There was one little good, however, that the war had done for St. Martin's Guild. It had caused a revival of double-handed change ringing. There were now at least twelve men who could take two bells in a course of Stedman Cinques. Several peals of Stedman Cinques and Caters had been rung during the year, and he thanked Mr. Groves for his perseverance in this direction, and for the efficient manner in which he had carried out his duties, as his (the speaker's) deputy during the year. It was rather wonderful that they should have had such large gatherings throughout the war. That was in it-

self the best augury of the continued prosperity of St. Martin's Guild. He was sure they might look forward to a glorious lease of fresh life, when this war was finished in victory, and peace reigned once more on earth. He coupled with the toast the health of their excellent secretary. He was reading a book the other day, and on the front page was a definition of "a friend." It said, "A friend is a chap what you knows all about, and you likes him all the same." Such a friend to them was Mr. Paddon Smith. He had the greatest pleasure in coupling his name with the toast, and in inviting them to rise and drink continued prosperity to St. Martin's Guild and Mr. Paddon Smith (applause).

Mr. A. Paddon Smith, in replying, thanked the company for the kind manner in which they received his name in connection with the toast. Mr. Alderman Pritchett had been good enough to refer to him as a friend, and to say that the definition of a friend was "A chap what you knows everything about, and you likes him all the same." He (Mr. Smith) did not know that they did know all about him, but he was glad to think that what they did know did not make him disliked. During the past year church bell ringing, except for Sunday services, had been practically abolished, but notwithstanding that their membership still kept good, and the subscriptions were up to the mark. Handbell ringing had prospered marvellously, peal after peal of Stedman Cinques having been rung, and great credit was due to the men who had stuck to it so well. It had undoubtedly helped to keep the Guild together, and it was very creditable that after 24 years of war they could muster like they had that night. It is not quite the largest gathering in their history, 117 sat down, against 121 last year. While they have one of the largest gatherings they sat down to fewer courses, the smallest number they had ever had, but he was told by members in different parts of the room that the quality and quantity of each course left nothing to be desired.

### KINDRED SOCIETIES.

Mr. Harry Mason proposed "Kindred Ringing Societies." He said St. Martin's Guild was in the heart of a nest of ringing societies. Unquestionably the Guild was doing good work, and the good feeling that existed was shown by the fact that so many representatives from other districts were there. The Midland Counties Association was represented by Mr. Taylor, whom they were delighted to see again. They had already heard of the terrible loss he had suffered, so there was no small strain resting upon their friend, but he was sure he was doing the right thing in coming there that night amongst his friends. He trusted one of the results of his visit would be to build him up in the good faith and fellowship, which they all felt towards him and his family. He knew of no society which gave a warmer welcome to any kindred society that came among them, than St. Martin's Guild, which was in touch with the whole of England, and when they were in touch with them they were truly in touch with the whole of the ringing fraternity. Whether they came from north, south, east or west, there was always a hearty welcome to that excellent gathering.

Mr. J. W. Taylor, whose name was coupled with the toast, expressed thanks for the kind reference which had been made to the loss he had sustained. He did feel it, and it was partly for that reason that he came out that evening, as to him a few very old and dear friends would, he thought, to a certain extent, bring his mind back to past times, and very happy times, too. He was very pleased that the St. Martin's Guild continued to hold that annual meeting to the memory of the late Henry Johnson. It was now getting quite an old meeting, and it was one of those meetings which, he hoped, would be continued for many years. It was, he thought, a great pity that the College Youths should have allowed their annual gathering to lapse, for no matter what they suffered in their families, they ought to hold together and keep in touch with other societies, because they must, later on, bring in young blood—it might be both young men and young women. They wanted to keep up the love for ringing, and the older members must help the next generation. If they allowed meetings of that kind to lapse they would really be doing harm. He was very glad to have been able to come amongst them. The whole of the societies he had been in touch with honoured St. Martin's Guild, and particularly their old member, Henry Johnson. They looked up to them always to take the lead in 12-bell ringing, and they were an example for the whole country to follow and emulate.

Mr. A. P. Smith gave the toast of "The Ringing World," and called attention to the quotation he had selected, and which appeared under this toast? "There, take the paper, see it." It expressed everything he wished to say. It was up to everyone of them to support Mr. Goldsmith, for he must be fairly "up against it." Most of them knew that the importation of paper was to be still further restricted, and he thought it quite possible that the price of "The Ringing World" would have to be raised to 2d. If it were found necessary he wanted to be able to tell Mr. Goldsmith from that meeting that he would not lose a single subscriber (loud cheers, and "Not one.") They did not know what they would do without the paper. They in Birmingham would not know what their brother ringers in London, Manchester and Bristol, and the rest of the country, were doing, and quite half the interest would be knocked out of their Exercise. He asked them to drink success to "The Ringing World" and its editor.

This concluded the speeches.



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

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*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.*

## SHORT COURSE PARS.

Two more ringers from St. Alphege's Church, Solihull, have joined the army, making a total of eight from this tower. One has been killed, and one wounded.

Miss Annie Bolland, an enthusiastic member of the St. John's Church band, Devizes, was married on Feb. 27th to Mr. Frederick Romain. The bride and bridegroom left the Church to the music of wedding bells, and on the following day a touch of 336 Grandsire Triples was rung in celebration of the event at Acton, conducted by the bride's old school-fellow and friend, Miss Edith Jones.

Mr. John Heathorn, of Guildford, the oldest ringer in England, has now to keep his bed. But although decrepit in body, his mind is as lucid as ever, and it is interesting to hear him talk with first-hand knowledge of the old school of ringers who were ringing peals in the district well over a hundred years ago. He personally knew Isaac Willson, George Hutton, William Haddwin, and others, who are known to have rung peals at Holy Trinity and St. Nicolas, Guildford, and at Godalming. They probably rang other peals of which no record exists.

Service ringers at Dover and the surrounding district are invited to help maintain service ringing at St. Mary's, Dover (eight bells), commencing Sunday, March 18th, from 5.30 to 6.30 p.m.

Congratulations will be extended to Mr. J. R. Mackman, who has been granted a commission in the Army Service Corps.

The Central Council's Committee's Analysis of Peals for the year 1916 has been completed, and will be published in our next issue.

## LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MANCHESTER BRANCH AGAINST CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING THIS YEAR.

On Saturday last the Manchester branch of the Lancashire Association had a most successful gathering at Whitefield, members being present from the following towers: Ashton-under-Lyne, Manchester, Pendleton, Prestwich, Reddish, Radcliffe, Hyde, etc. Touches of Plain Bob, Grandsire, Stedman, Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major, were rung.

At the business meeting, presided over by the vice-president, Mr. J. Ridyard, a hearty welcome was given to the visiting ringers.

Mr. Sam Wood, one of the Association's representatives, voiced an opinion, which was endorsed by the meeting, that it would be advisable to postpone the Central Council meeting this year, thereby relieving the various associations of what would be probably a hardship as regards expense, owing to decreased subscriptions, through so many men being away, and the increased cost of travelling.

Worsley was chosen as the next meeting-place, on April 14th, when a memorial tablet will be unveiled to the memory of the late Mr. Fred Derbyshire. The President, the Rev. H. J. Elsee, M.A., has kindly promised to be present at the meeting.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector and local company for the use of the bells.

## LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT HIGHGATE.

The monthly meeting held at St. Ann's, Highgate, on Saturday last, was well attended, in spite of the inclement weather, and ringing, in various methods, was carried on from 4 to 7.45 p.m.

At the business meeting at the "Bull and Last," Highgate Road, the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender) presiding, seven new members were elected, viz.: Mr. Albert Diserens, of Sunbury, a youthful exponent of the art with a future; Mr. J. Sykes, of Huddersfield; Staff-Sergt. Verrells, A.S.O., of Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, now quartered at Park Royal; Mr. A. S. Pettett, of Monument Buildings, E.C.; Mr. J. Bruce Williamson, of Ventnor, I.O.W.; Mr. Benjamin Thorne, of Ashton-under-Lyne; and Mr. J. E. Baker, the genial steeplekeeper of St. Ann's, Highgate.

The question of holding the Central Council meeting this year was discussed, and, on a motion being put to the meeting it was unanimously resolved, "that in the opinion of this meeting it is undesirable that the meeting be held this year."

The Master reported that Mr. F. J. Hardy, late hon. secretary of this Association, had been severely wounded in Salonica, and was now lying in hospital at Malta. Two local ringers at St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, had recently been decorated with the military medal for bravery in the field (Messrs. Jones and Morley).

Notice was given that service ringing will be held at St. Luke's, Chelsea, from 6 to 7 p.m. commencing on Sunday, the 18th inst., and on alternate Sundays until further notice; also at St. Ann's, Highgate, from 5 to 6 p.m., the last Sunday in each month, when it is hoped that ringers will take the advantage of these opportunities, thereby assisting where the towers are considerably depleted.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Saturday, 14th April, particulars of which will appear in "The Ringing World" in due course.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the clergy and churchwardens of St. Ann's for their kindness in granting the necessary permission to ring; also to Mr. J. E. Baker, steeplekeeper, for having everything in readiness.

Touches on handbells in various methods concluded the proceedings.

**SURREY RINGER DROWNED IN INDIA.****FATALITY CLOSES PROMISING CAREER.**

News has been received of the death of Pte Henry John Dewey, R.A.M.C., who has been accidentally drowned at Secunderabad, where he was serving as an orderly in a convalescent camp. The deceased was the only surviving son of Mr. and Mrs. E. Dewey, of Earlswood Road, Redhill, with whom much sympathy has been expressed. The gallant soldier, who enlisted in April, 1915, went to France in July of that year, and twice returned to England. In August, 1916, he was transferred to India, after having done duty at Malta, and met his death on February 10th.

Pte Dewey began his ringing career early. When only ten years of age he used to go to Reigate with his father, and he commenced change ringing when he was twelve. He began on January 5th, 1909, at Nutfield Parish Church, where he rang his first 120 of Grandsire on the treble. At Horley, on January 17th, he rang 504 Grandsire Triples. His first touch of Plain Bob Minor was rung at Charlwood on April 4th; his first quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples on May 9th, at Pul-

8219



PTE. H. J. DEWEY.

borough; his first 720 of Plain Bob at Charlwood, on Sept. 26th. His record for 1909 was remarkable for one so young, comprising altogether Grandsire Doubles, 600 changes; Grandsire Triples, 8,346; Plain Bob Minor 1,920; total, 10,866. These changes were rung in twelve different towers. The deceased's first touch of Kent Treble Bob was rung at Nutfield on April 12th, 1910. On April 17th, 1910, he succeeded in ringing his first peal of Grandsire Triples, this being at St. Mary's, Billingshurst. On September 11th, in the same year, at Reigate, he rang his first course of Grandsire Caters. Owing to his work, he was then unable to take part in any further ringing for just on twelve months from this time, but started again on Oct. 1st, 1912, by ringing a peal of Bob Royal at Reigate. On Dec. 29th he rang his first quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples with a bob bell, at Crawley, on the occasion of his 16th birthday. On the Boxing Day he had rung a peal of Grandsire Triples, at Reigate, and on January 27th, 1913, he took part in a peal of Plain Bob Royal in the same tower. Afterwards he rang in touches of Double Norwich, Stedman and Superlative, and his last peal, rung on Whit-Monday, 1913, was his first peal of Double Norwich Major. The last time in which he took part in any ringing was at the Cathedral, Manchester, during July, 1916. The deceased was a member of the Surrey, Sussex and Middlesex Associations, the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, and the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.

He was a prominent member of the Salford's Troop of Boy Scouts before joining the army, being a Patrol Leader, and one of the Salford's contingent which paraded before the King at Windsor Castle.

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED.**

To celebrate the 43rd anniversary of the wedding of Mr. S. Coley, 720 Bob Minor was rung in 26 mins. for evening service on Sunday, March 4th, at Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham, by: S. Coley 1, A. E. Norman 2, A. T. Scrivens 3, W. H. Carrod 4, J. B. Collett 5, J. George (conductor) 6.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

The annual meeting of the Southern District took place in Sheffield on Saturday, March 3rd. The ring of twelve bells at the Cathedral was raised about 3.30 p.m. About 30 visitors attended, and touches of Stedman Cinques, Kent Treble Bob Royal, and Grandsire, were brought round. The towers represented included Doncaster, Rotherham (Parish Church), Sheffield (Cathedral, All Saints', and Rammoor), Ecclesfield, Norton, Chesterfield, etc. The ringing was terminated rather prematurely, by the breaking of a stay and difficulty with the gas, which took a good deal of persuading to keep alight.

The business meeting was afterwards held in the Westenholme Hall. Mr. G. Hawksworth (of Doncaster) presiding.

It was decided to offer Mr. F. Willey (of Sheffield) the vice-presidency of the district, to succeed Mr. T. R. Hensher, who has taken up residence in the North.—Mr. Willey, in accepting the offer, thanked all present for the honour, and said he would do all in his power to further the interests of change ringing at all times, and especially the Yorkshire Association, the magnitude of whose membership he emphasised.

He was unanimously declared duly elected, with applause.

The district secretary (Mr. A. Hague), whose term of office expires this year, and who is at present on active service, was re-elected to office, with Mr. L. Brightman as secretary pro tem.

The nine committee-men were re-elected en bloc, with the addition of Mr. Frank Shackleton, to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. F. Willey being transferred from committee to vice-president.—Mr. J. T. Rew and Mr. D. Brearley were re-elected to serve on the general committee.

As no invitations were forthcoming, it was decided to hold the June meeting at Barnsley, providing the invitation given last year was still open. It was pointed out that ringing and lighting restrictions had unavoidably prevented the meeting being held at the time arranged. Ossett was put down as a reserve tower, the date to be either June 9th or 15th, as found convenient.

Mr. F. Willey moved a hearty vote of thanks to the Ven. Archdeacon Gresford Jones, M.A. (Vicar), and wardens, for the use of bells, and to the local company for necessary arrangements.—This was unanimously adopted.—Mr. J. T. Rew replied on behalf of the Cathedral ringers, and although, as he remarked, he had experienced some little difficulty in getting the meeting fixed up, he was very pleased it had been successfully arranged and enjoyed.—A vote of thanks to the chairman, to which he suitably responded, concluded the meeting.

**DARTMOOR CHURCH BELLS RESTORED.**

The ancient church and tower of Brent Tor is built on one of the highest Tors on Dartmoor, about 1,300 feet high, and visible from the sea at Plymouth, 30 miles off. It is erected on the edge of a cliff, a solid piece of masonry, to withstand the Dartmoor storms that howl around this unsheltered spot. The church has been restored with new oak, roof and seating. The tower, about 40 feet high, contained three mediæval bells, the beams and frames carrying which were rotten. One bell had fallen, and was broken. The three have now been recast, and extra metal added to make a ring of five, hung on new metal frames, mounted on rolled steel joists. The ring is a very pretty little peal, and the work has been admirably carried out by Messrs. Aggett and Sons, of Chingford, Devon. The tenor bears the following inscription, as on the old bell: "Gallus Vocor Ego Solus Super Omnia Sona." The other bells have shields and laver pots. From the church the Cornish and Devon hills can be seen for scores of miles, and we are asked to say that the keys of the church can be obtained at the Stag Inn below, the only one house near.

**ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.**

The February meeting of this Guild was held at Stone-in-Oxney. The attendance was not very numerous, and the methods rung, several points below London Surprise—but he that expecteth much in these times is likely to get disappointed.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Woodchurch, on Saturday, March 24th.

A vote of condolence and deep sympathy was passed to Mr. C. Tribe, of Tenterden, in his sad bereavement through the death of his wife, who had proved herself a warm-hearted friend in entertaining visiting ringers.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of bells and permission for the meeting.

The towers of Aslsford, Rye, Tenterden, and Woodchurch, were represented, and members of the local band were also present.

**DEPTFORD, KENT.**—At St. John's Church, on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 31st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: G. R. Simmonds 1, A. J. Bennington 2, F. W. Richardson (conductor) 3, E. J. Pannett 4, J. Crowder 5, J. Law 6, E. B. Crowder 7, W. J. Jeffries 8.

**MAPLEDURHAM, OXON.**—On Sunday, Dec. 31st 1916, 720 Bob Minor: Air-Mechanic L. C. Griffith, R.F.C. 1, R. T. Hibbert 2, W. Hibbert 3, E. G. Franknum 4, E. J. Menday 5, Air-Mechanic J. Thomas, R.F.C. (conductor), 6.

**DUFFIELD MAXIMUS.**

The anniversary of the only peal of Duffield Maximus ever rung, occurs to-morrow, for it was, on March 17th, 1891, at St. Martin's Church, Birmingham, that this performance took place. The peal (5040), composed and conducted by the late Sir Arthur Heywood, was rung in 3 hrs. 56 mins., by Thomas Reynolds treble, Job Joynes 2, Thomas Russam 3, Henry Bastable 4, William Kent 5, Arthur P. Heywood 6, Joseph Griffin 7, Bernard Wittell 8, John Buffery 9, John Howe 10, Alfred Thomas 11, William Wakley tenor. Of this band no fewer than seven have passed away, viz., the ringers of the treble, 2, 4, 6, 10, 11 and tenor.

**THREE-COURSE QUARTER OF TREBLE BOB.**

A quarter peal of Treble Bob Major, in three courses, composed by York Green, was rung for morning service at St. Mary's, Bow, Stratford, on December 24th, by: A. Scrambler 1, T. Cranfield 2, B. J. Turner 3, Y. Green 4, W. Truss (York and Lancs. Regt.) 5, E. Hall 6, R. Sanders 7, H. Torble (conductor) 8. This 1230 has calls in all positions of the tenor, and is as follows:—

23456	M	In	Out	5th's	W	H
32546	2	1	1	2	1	1
43285	2				2	2
23456	2	4th's	In.		1	1

**MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.**

**CHALFONT ST. PETER.**—Recently, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: C. Johnson 1, J. Stone 2, G. Gutteridge (conductor) 3, E. Burnham 4, F. Bolton 5, J. Blackmore 6.

**TIVERTON, DEVON.**—At St. Peter's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: \*Cpl. Edwards 1, B. Monday 2, \*Pte Parrott (composer and conductor) 3, R. Grater 4, R. Grater 5, J. Elsworth 6, F. Newcombe 7, \*S. Bartlett 8. \* First quarter-peal. Cpl. Edwards is from Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks. Pte T. Parrott, who comes from Winchester, received hearty congratulations at the close, having composed and conducted the first quarter-peal he has taken part in.

**COGGESHALL, ESSEX.**—On Sunday, Dec. 31st, for afternoon service, a touch of Bob Major, with the bells half-muffled, being the last day of the old year, also as a tribute of respect to the fallen heroes: R. Potter 1, W. Havell 2, A. Shuffelbotham 3, F. Claydon 4, J. Sadler 5, C. Norfolk 6, E. Beckwith 7, D. Elliott (conductor) 8.

**BUCKLEBURY, BERKS.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, January 6th, for afternoon service, 504 Grandsire Triples: G. Pickett 1, W. Wigmore 2, B. Davis 3, Miss Stella Davis 4, Rev. E. M. Thorp 5, S. Chapman 6, J. Abery (first 504 as conductor) 7, G. Nailor 8.

**SHREWSBURY.**—Salop Guild and St. Chad's Society.—On January 1st, at St. Chad's Church, 504 Stedman Triples: W. H. Hughes 1, J. Tudor 2, W. Brooks 3, A. Fullick 4, G. Scarratt 5, W. Stockdale 6, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 7, H. Jones 8. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Dr. Pearce and Miss H. Clark.—On Feb. 5th, 238 Kent Treble Bob Major: 207 Stedman Caters. For evening service, 120 Kent Treble Bob Royal: G. Scarratt 1, J. Tudor 2, G. Boylin 3, W. Brooks 4, G. Jones 5, J. Sconce 6, W. Stockdale 7, W. Weatherby 8, A. Fullick 9, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 10. First touch of Treble Bob Royal on the bells.

**OXTON, BIRKENHEAD.**—Chester Diocesan Guild. On Sunday, afternoon, January 7th, at St. Mary's Church, Painswick, a date touch of Grandsire Caters (1917 changes in the tittums and hand-stroke position), in 1 hr. 30 mins.: T. Wright 1, W. Hale 2, W. Ryland 3, A. Wright (conductor) 4, Cornl. W. Ireland 5, G. West 6, T. Chappelow 7, W. Hastings 8, F. Cole 9, J. Singleton 10.

**DAGENHAM.**—On Sunday, Jan. 14th, for Matins, 720 Kent Treble Bob: Miss C. Playle 1, E. Hawkins 2, E. Butler 3, G. Baker 4, G. Playle (conductor) 5, P. Freestone 6. Also touches of Grandsire Doubles and Plain Bob, W. Davis and A. Chaplin taking part. Rung as a farewell to E. Hawkins, who was leaving the next day to join up.

**STOURBRIDGE.**—On Sunday, Jan. 14th, at St. Thomas' Church, 720 Bob Minor, for morning service, by the following: Wm. Hand 1, W. A. Pugh 2, Ralph Moors 3, A. W. Dodd 4, C. Wm. Cooper 5, John Bass (conductor) 6.

**ISLEWORTH.**—At All Saints' Church, on January 14th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: H. W. Lidbetter 1, A. Diserens 2, Seaman G. Spencer (H.M.S. "Vivid") 3, T. Beadle 4, E. F. Coles 5, A. Beckensale 6, W. Tricker (conductor) 7, W. J. Dickens 8. Arranged for A. Diserens (age 15), of Sunbury, this being his first quarter-peal with a bob bell. G. Spencer, of H.M.S. "Vivid," was home on a week-end leave from Devonport.

**BRIDGEND, GLAMORGANSHIRE.**—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—On Saturday, Jan. 20th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (720 changes): J. W. Jones 1, T. J. Evans 2, W. Nulton 3, A. W. Brighton 4, A. J. Pitman (composer and conductor) 5, J. Evans 6, J. Cox 7, B. J. Toby 8.

**NOTICES.**

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Bristol Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at St. Luke's, Bristol, on Saturday, 17th March. Bells at 5 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. with ringing after.—Chas. J. Walton, Hon. Sec., 4, Jamaica Street, Bristol.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Canterbury District.—Spring meeting will be held at Sturry on Saturday, March 17th. Bells available for ringing. Service at 5 p.m. Tea and business meeting after at the Swan Inn. A member will be elected at this meeting to serve on a sub-committee to consider the question of a memorial to all those who have fallen in the war and who have served in H.M. forces.—The Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe, Hon. Dist. Sec., Elmsted Vicarage, Ashford, Kent.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, March 17th. Bells available 3 to 8 p.m. Short service at 5.30. Tea at 6 p.m., 9d. each. Business meeting to follow.—E. J. Butter, Chadwell Heath.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Tyldesley Parish Church on Saturday, March 17th, 1917. Bells ready at 4.30.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Secretary, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on March 22nd, for handbell practice, and on the 27th for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

**ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—A meeting of the above will be held at Woodchurch on Saturday, March 24th. Bells available from 3 o'clock till sunset. All ringing friends will receive a hearty welcome.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Rochester District.—Half-yearly meeting will be held at St. Margaret's Church, Rainham, on Saturday, March 24th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Half rail fares allowed. Please note subscriptions are now due.—E. A. G. Allen, Hon. Dist. Sec., 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, March 24th, at St. Thomas, Newhey. Bells ready at 2 o'clock until dusk. Meeting 6.30.—T. K. Driver, Sec., 95, Hunter Street, Middleton.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, April 9th. Full arrangements will be advertised in due course. All outstanding subscriptions should be paid at once, either to District Secretaries, or to G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., "Duffield," St. Albans.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Leicester on Easter Monday, April 9th. Further particulars in next week's issue.

**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.**

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**THE MISSBOURNE IN BUCKS.**

There is a wonderfully interesting stretch of valley scenery along a fairly level road that begins at Denham and ends at Aylesbury. This road crosses and re-crosses the stream that gives our headline, and both road and river wander side by side at intervals, affording a delightful summer cycle run with plenty of old-world villages to explore and heavy peals of six bells to tackle; that would make up a good long day's programme for an enthusiastic Minor band, if they wished to score the extent at each of the eight towers. After the war here would be an excellent opportunity for a six-bell conductor to revel in ringing every night of the week at a new tower to his heart's content, such a one as would, I believe, suit Mr. George Bolland, of Tong; Mr. Edwards, formerly of Farnham, or Mr. Charles Clarke, of Bedford. The southern members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild have made frequent single visits to belfries in this region in order to keep in touch with their near neighbours as much as possible, but winter's weather conditions have not always helped their attendance.

On a recent Saturday a friendly gathering took place at Chalfont St. Peter, a useful ring of six (tenor 11½ cwt.), a good practice being made from 3 to 5 o'clock, when there were present Messrs. J. Blackmore (an old Petonian), W. Horne, Henley, Jones, Gutteridge, and Fussell, the Misses Cooper and Gudin, and also members of the local company, the Revs. J. Fraser Amies, and C. J. Keet (curates), and Messrs. J. Stone (foreman), F. Bolton, and C. Johnson. Grandsire, Stedman Doubles, Oxford, Plain and Treble Bob Minor were rung, Mr. Amies (a former pupil of Mr. Holding, of Crewe) ringing the treble to a six-score.

Leaving the tower, an agreeable surprise awaited the visitors, an acceptable tea having been set out in the large Church Room (with good fire and light), adjoining the Churchyard. Here all the party put in a jovial couple of hours with a song or two, handbells and billiards. One of the experts at the latter game is now practising trench bagatelle, where balls of another shape and colour are employed in potting the Germans. The bells form part of a fine set belonging to the church (2½ octaves chromatic), and which were well handled by the local company in concert work at one time. A picturesque feature of the amusements was a lap touch of Caters, and the noted "Whittington" position on twelve bells. Letters were read from Messrs. Welling, Buckland and Cropley, all newly joined up with the "More-men Brigade," and each doing well in khaki, as also were three of the local company now on active service—Messrs. Swann, Cox and Leslie. Mr. Amies made a genial host in the absence of the Vicar (the Rev. C. S. A. Whittington), who was in town on duty.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the St. Peter's Society for their kind hospitality, and to Mrs. Stone and Burnham for their homely attendance to our needs.

There comes a time in one's life when "conservation of energy" is as valuable as "concentration of the mind," and owing to the arctic conditions of the roads, I was compelled to forego a 25 miles' spin, in response to an invitation to meet at Amersham on Saturday, Feb. 10th. Here is the brief report sent me by one who was there "beside the roaring fire"—but I hardly know whether I may put all my initials to this contribution or two only: "We had a successful meeting at Amersham, in spite of very bad travelling and the severe weather. Those present were the Revs. J. F. Amies and E. Burnham (Chalfont St. Peter), G. Gutteridge (Fulmer), J. Barnes (Great Missenden), John Evans and Phil Evans (Hughenden), J. Blackmore (Beaconsfield), Wm. Henley (Farnham Royal), W. Horne (High Wycombe), together with Miss Mason, Miss Patrick, Miss Baker, and Mr. E. Redrup, of the local band—eight towers represented. Methods rung: Grandsire Doubles, Oxford Bob, Plain Bob, and Kent Treble Bob Minor. Darkness setting in did not allow anything further being done. Ten of the company, the male section, sat down to tea at the Crown Hotel, and afterwards spent a pleasant hour seated round a roaring fire. George Gutteridge was the hero of the outing, having to bike ten miles each way over frozen snow. Messrs. Henley and Blackmore walked the last two miles to the tower with a punctured bike—the repair being effected not at a cycle shop, but at the brewery, while Mr. John Evans' noble little mare, faithfully hauled three heavy burdens there and back again, the O. St. Peter contingent having lamp trouble previous to the homeward journey. How does that stand towards keeping up the reputation of East Berks and South Bucks boys? I need scarcely add the absence of the genial hon. sec. was regretted."

W.H.—P.

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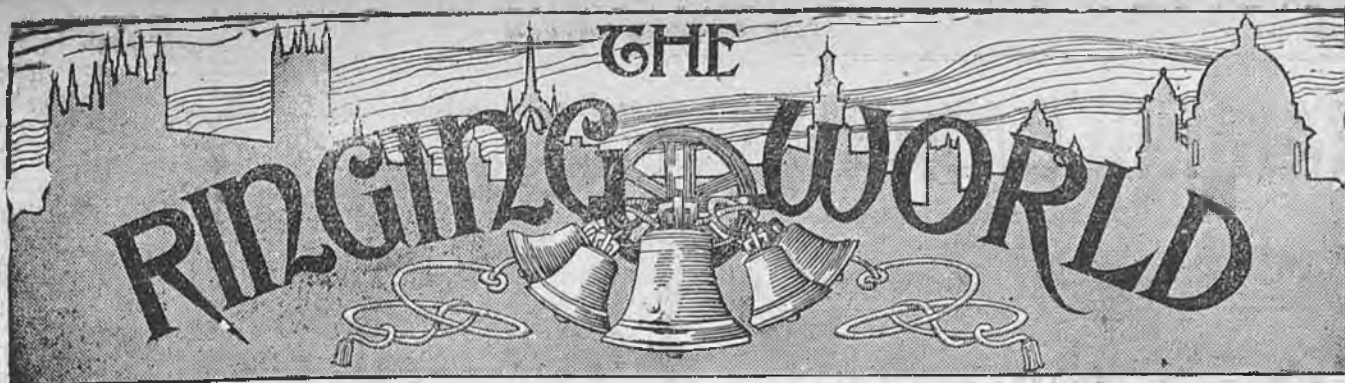


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No. 314. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, MARCH 23rd, 1917.

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

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

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,  
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.  
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

## MODERN WORK

### ASSOCIATIONS AND THE COUNCIL.

Several of the associations have considered the question as to whether or not the Central Council meeting should be held this year, and, so far as we are aware, with one exception, they have decided that it would be best to postpone the meeting. This is the view we expressed two months ago, when the preliminary notice of the meeting at Gloucester was issued, and the reasons which were advanced have not been in any way modified. Since then association meetings in London, Lancashire and other centres have endorsed the arguments put forward; but this week we report a meeting at Bristol which was in favour of the Central Council meeting being held for the election of a president, and a further suggestion was put forward that a scheme of voting by proxy on the various resolutions which the agenda might contain should be adopted.

This would be quite a novel procedure so far as the Council is concerned, and we doubt whether it would be in any way satisfactory. It is not always possible for a person to make up his mind on a resolution until he has heard the arguments on both sides, while it is also quite possible that proxy votes might be used on exactly the opposite side to that which a member might wish if he had the opportunity of hearing a subject discussed. An ordinary postal vote would be equally unsatisfactory, and neither method, we think, is likely to commend itself to the members. Moreover, we doubt if the Council's rules would permit its general business to be disposed of in this way, and until its constitution provides for the adoption of such a method, neither its officials nor its Standing Committee would have power to make the arrangements to transact the business in this way. It seems to us that either the meeting must be held, and the business dealt with by those who attend, or it must be postponed.

As has been pointed out, the preoccupation of practically everyone in the work of the war, or in work which the war has made doubly heavy, and the fact that the expense, now that there is a great additional cost in travelling, would bear unduly on the associations who have to provide the funds, offer strong reasons why the meeting should be postponed this year. The point on which a decision ought to turn, however, is whether a meeting of the Central Council this year is vital to the interests of the Exercise. If it is, then those of the Council who can meet at Gloucester should do so; but if it is not, then, bearing in mind the present circumstances, the meeting, which at best is likely to be only poorly attended, might well be postponed. It is difficult to think that there can be any business pending of such importance that the Standing Committee could not take action, if immediate action is necessary.



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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,

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Vicar of Broomfield.

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## HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, March 13, 1917, in Two Hours and Eighteen Minutes.

AT THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 8040 CHANCES;**

JAMES HUNT...	1-2	FRANK SMITH ...	5-6
EDGAR WIGHTMAN ...	3-4	JOSEPH E. SYKES ...	7-8

Composed and Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

Umpire: W. J. NODDS.

Arranged by Spitalfields Bell Foundry Guild for Mr. J. E. Sykes and it was his first peal on handbells.

## TRING RINGER'S DEATH FROM WOUNDS.

News was received in Tring on the 10th inst. of the death, from wounds received in the Somme Advance last July, of Pte Arthur Davey, at the age of 23. He was brought to London to King George's Hospital, where, after long suffering, he died. He was a promising member of the Tring Parish Church company, and a much respected member of the Church Lads' Brigade. When war broke out he was among the first to join up from Tring.

The funeral took place at Tring Cemetery on Thursday afternoon last week, with full military honours. As the body was brought to the church, and afterwards proceeded to the cemetery, the bells were rung deeply muffled, and again in the evening (by special permission of the Provost Marshal of Halton Camp), to Grandsire Doubles on the back six, the following ringers taking part: F. Minall 1, E. Reeve (junr.) 2, F. Fitkin 3, F. Waterton 4, F. Reeve 5, H. Heley 6, W. Redman 7, E. Noyce 8.

Much sympathy is felt for the mother, a widow, as Pte Davey is the second son she has lost in the war.

## SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

Owing, no doubt, to restricted railway facilities and higher rates of travel, the meeting of the Sheffield District and Old East Derbyshire Society at Chesterfield was not so well attended as used to be the case at this tower in the somewhat remote time of peace. Perhaps this is what ought to be; we begin to realise that there is a deadly struggle going on not only "Somewhere in France," but a places still further away, and none the less serious. However, some twenty of the older hands put in an appearance, and the familiar sound of Chesterfield's ten was heard in Stedman Caters and Treble Ten (like some one or two other towers in the country, this is by no means a weekly occurrence). Double Norwich Major and Superlative also went very well, but nothing beyond was attempted.—Two new members were elected, the auditors checked the books and accounts, and a meeting of the committee was held, after which a short time, all too short indeed, was devoted to handbell practice.

## THE LATE DUCHESS OF CONNAUGHT.

Bagshot, Surrey, was the country home of the late Duchess of Connaught, and on Sunday evening, at St. Anne's Church, which adjoins Bagshot Park, the royal demesne, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triple (1260 changes), was rung by the local band, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to Her Royal Highness: G. Pearce 1, J. Corbet 2, T. J. Gould 3, H. Stapleton 4, F. Nye (conductor) 5, F. Francis 6, H. J. Gould 7, W. Varndell 8.

We are asked to say that any soldier ringers in the district who would like a pull at this church on any Sunday should drop a line to Mr. T. J. Gould, Bagshot.

## SURFLEET JUVENILES CELEBRATE VICTORY.

From Surfleet Church no fewer than fifteen ringers are away serving in the Army, a record which very few towers can equal. But the Rev. H. Law James is not without ringers, and on Monday last, to celebrate the good news from France the bells were rung by the following band: Rev. H. Law James 1, Horace Edinborough (aged 16) 2, J. W. Flowers 3, Fred Flowers (aged 7) 4, Joe Drage (aged 13) 5, Sydney Flowers (aged 12) 6, Ruth Richardson 7, Herbert Flowers (aged 11) 8, Charles Rawding (aged 16) 9, William Welby (aged 16) 10.

SLINFOLD, SUSSEX.—On January 20th, at a practice meeting, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor (1260 changes): L. Paice (Hersham) 1, J. Edwards (Slinfold) 2, W. Short (Warnham) 3, Mrs. R. Whittington (Granleigh) 4, P. Doick (Pulborough) 5, R. Whittington (Granleigh conductor) 6.

SOLIHULL.—On Saturday, Jan. 20th, on handbells, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles: \*E. C. Shepherd (conductor) 1-2, \*J. Bragg 3, \*G. A. Martineau 4, \*V. Rigg 5-6. \* First quarter-peal. This is the first quarter-peal ever rung on handbells in Solihull.

## YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

## WESTERN DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Western District was held at Hunslet on Saturday week, and despite the wet day 30 members attended from 15 towers. The ring of eight were utilised until dusk in touches of Stadman and Grandsire Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, and Plain Bob.

The business meeting was afterwards held in the Parish Room. Mr. G. B. Bolland presided, supported by the Rev. C. C. Marshall (President of the Association), Mr. Cotterell (treasurer), Mr. P. J. Johnson (Ringing Master), etc. A newspaper cutting was read to the members describing the alarming experiences at sea of Mr. Herbert Dransfield (district committee-man), some details of which were given in the last issue of "The Ringing World." — On the motion of Mr. Reuton, seconded by the Rev. C. C. Marshall, the secretary was requested to send Mr. Dransfield a letter congratulating him on his safe return home, etc., and this was carried unanimously.

Mr. P. L. Cooper, of Holbeck St. Matthew's, was re-elected secretary for the next three years, and the following members were voted on the District Committee for the ensuing year: Messrs. Peel (Birstall), Bancroft (Keighley), Dixon (Guiseley), Hardcastle (Bradford), Herbert Dransfield (Earlsheaton), Gill (Bolton), Broadley (Shipley), Lawson (Lightcliffe), and Barton (Pudsey). Of these, Messrs. Peel and Broadley were appointed to serve on the Central Committee of the Association. The place for the next meeting was then discussed, and it was proposed that there should be a general meeting of the whole of the Association at Ilkley, in June, when the tablet erected by the Association in Ilkley Church to the memory of the late Mr. Wm. Snowden will be unveiled.

The members expressed their pleasure in seeing Mr. A. Hudson, of Birstall, and Mr. W. Gage, of Burley, back with them again, both having been on active service for a considerable time, been wounded, and invalided out of the army.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells and parish room, and to the local company for making the necessary arrangements, was passed, on the proposition of Mr. Williams, seconded by Mr. Broadley. — Mr. H. Smith, of the local company, acknowledged the motion. — A hearty vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the business, and afterwards handbell ringing was indulged in and brought a good meeting to a close.

## SILVER WEDDING OF MR. &amp; MRS. J. W. JONES

The genial hon. secretary of the Llandaff Diocesan Association, and his good wife, have just celebrated their silver wedding, and in connection with the event the old Newport ringers on Saturday week attempted a peal at the Church of All Saints, but unfortunately it was one of those days when ringers were all "off," and the peal was a failure. However, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung, conducted by Mr. J. W. Jones, the ringers taking part being: F. Atwell 1, T. Ford 2, J. Bullen 3, C. Greedy 4, J. Buller 5, J. Pippin 6, J. W. Jones 7, H. Forbes 8.

After the ringing, Mr. Jones invited the party to his home, where they were met by Mrs. Jones and daughters, and partook of a lavish repast. The toast of "long life and happiness" to Mr. and Mrs. Jones was drunk with deep sincerity, and the wish expressed that they may live to pass their golden wedding.

Afterwards, with Miss Grace Jones presiding at the piano, Miss Dolly Jones gave a very charming selection of music, and several of the ringers contributed songs. Handbells were also requisitioned, and Grandsire Caters and Triples were rung, and a most delightful time spent.

When Mr. Jones came to Newport, 25 years ago, from Caerleon, only an old six bells, by Bailey, of Bridgwater, were available, and when they were rung the frame used to move at least two inches at each revolution of the bells. Only two years elapsed, however, and they were rehung, and two more added. Twenty years after the eight were taken down and recast, and rehung, and with two more bells, made into a peal of ten. Further, when the Church of All Saints was built, it was Mr. Jones' persistency with the donors that ultimately persuaded them to place a peal of eight bells in the tower. His well-known bonhomie has also served well with the church authorities in the district, as the following new peals in the Diocese during his career as secretary of the Llandaff Association will show: Caerphilly, Llanbradac, Pantypridd, Radyr, Machen, Peterstone and Marshfield, as well as many other restorations. His activities as a teacher are well known to many throughout the Diocese, and his good comradeship is always enjoyed by all who meet him. Hence the wish of all local ringers, that he and his wife may live long and enjoy their happiness together, is also the sincere wish of many ringers in a far wider circle.

F. A.

## THE LATE MR. A. W. GRIMES' HANDBELLS.

In order to assist the widow and young family of the late Mr. A. W. Grimes, the deceased ringer's fine peal of 17 handbells are being disposed of. It is much to be hoped that a good sum will be raised by this means, and those who are willing to try and dispose of tickets, which are 3d. each, should communicate with Mr. W. Pye, 8, Sanson Road, Lansdown Road, Leytonstone.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

## PROXY VOTING BY CENTRAL COUNCIL SUGGESTED.

The monthly meeting of the Bristol Branch was held at St. Luke's on Saturday. The bells (a peal of six) were raised soon after 5 p.m., and set going to touches of Grandsire, Plain Bob, and Kent Treble Bob.

A business meeting was held in the Mission Room at 6 p.m., 15 members attending. — The Chairman (Mr. H. T. Howell) first extended a hearty welcome to their visitor, Mr. W. C. Hunt, of Nottingham, and said they were always pleased to have a ringing visitor at their meetings.

The proposal in regard to "peace" ringing, brought forward from the last meeting, was again discussed, and it was decided to leave the Association out of the matter, it being considered the better method, as far as the branch was concerned, that companies should arrange bands amongst themselves.

It was decided to hold the next monthly meeting at Stapleton, on 14th April.

The question of holding the Central Council meeting was discussed, and the following resolution was proposed, and carried: "That the Central Council meeting be held, and a president elected. The agenda be compiled and posted to all the representatives on the Council who should be permitted to vote by proxy or by post, should they be unable to attend the meeting." It was felt that the high railway fares now ruling would handicap those representatives who live long distances from the meeting-place, and the adoption of the method suggested would place all in an equal position.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed to the Vicar for kindly allowing the use of the bells, and to the steeplekeeper (Mr. A. Tidman) for his part in the arrangements.

Further ringing until 8 p.m. provided a finish to the meeting.

## AN EIGHT-YEAR-OLD'S PERFORMANCE.

It is difficult to find the limits of age between which one may be a change ringer. At the age of eight years, Master E. Webb, son of Mr. H. Webb, of Croft, Leicestershire, has rung 1—2 to a course of Grandsire Triples on handbells. His brother, three years older, also took part in the course, the ringers being: E. Webb 1—2, H. Webb 3—4, H. Briggs 5—6, H. Webb, junr., 7—8. In addition to this a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, with different callings, was rung in 37 mins. by: C. Briggs 1—2, H. Webb 3—4, H. Webb, junr. (conductor) 5—6. The witness to the performance was E. Webb, and the ringing, which took place at Mr. Webb's residence, was a birthday compliment to H. Webb, junr., who reached his 11th year on March 16th.

## "THE FIRST PEAL OF REAL DOUBLE NORWICH."

## To the Editor.

Sir,—In "The Ringing World" of Feb. 16th last, it is stated that the late Mr. William Banister called the very first peal of Real Double Norwich ever rung at Woolwich, in 1848. I beg to say that the first peal of Double Norwich was rung at Irthlingboro, Northamptonshire, on Saturday, December 10th, 1899, in 2 hrs. and 56 mins. The peal was composed by E. Banks James, and conducted by James Houghton, junr. In this peal all the calls are made in pairs. In Mr. Banister's peal there is but one call in each part which is made when the treble is behind as well as in front; therefore, in my humble opinion, ours was the first peal of Real Double Norwich. I have enclosed the figures of both peals. Perhaps we may have the opinion of ringers on the subject, so that it may be definitely settled who is to claim the honour (if any) of the first peal of Real Double Norwich ever rung.—Yours truly,

JAMES HOUGHTON.

5040	6720		
23456 1 6	23456 1	32654 1	
52364 — —	35264 —	52843 S	
26354 —	65243 S	24536 —	
65324 —	54632 —	43265 —	
23564 — —	43526 —	36452 —	
36524 —	32465 —	65324 —	
25634 — —	62453 S	25346 S	
53624 —	52436 S	54263 —	
32654 —		46532 —	
56234 — —	32654	36524 S	
	W. Banister.	26543 S	

First rung on Nov. 16th, 1848.  
at St. Mary's, Woolwich.  
conducted by its composer.

E. Banks James  
Each part twice repeated, substituting a Bob for the last Single in the 3rd and 6th parts. Reduced to 5040 by substituting a Bob for the calls braced in the last 3 parts.

First rung as a 5040 at Irthlingboro', December 10th, 1899.

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry  
Established  
A.D. 1870.

*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

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.*

## GOLDEN WEDDING AT DEVIZES. HUSBAND AND WIFE AS RINGERS.

A paragraph appeared in our issue of March 9th recording the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. H. Brownlee West, of Devizes. Such an occurrence is rare enough on any occasion to call for notice, but this event is of special interest to the Exercise, for both Mr. West and his good partner of half a century are ringers, and this, we imagine, is the first time that man and wife, both active participants of our art, have celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding day.

Although he had been fond of bells and church towers all his life, it was not until about the year 1908 that Mr. West had the opportunity of taking part in any ringing, and it says much for the spirit which animated him, that Mr. West should have taken up the art at the age of 63 years. In the first year of taking an active part in ringing, Mr. West was appointed tower master at St. James', Southbroom, and in 1911 he was elected hon. secretary of the Devizes Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild. The happy choice which the members made in this appointment is reflected in the successful progress of the branch, which, with its monthly meetings and ever-growing membership, is one of the most vigorous of the Salisbury Guild.



MRS. H. B. WEST.



MR. H. B. WEST.

Mr. West devotes a good deal of time to teaching lads and young men to handle a rope and to ring well. He has, of course, had to meet the same experiences as others who work in a similar field—as soon as a youth has developed into a useful member of a band he leaves his native town for some other sphere or the war; and then it is necessary to begin over again. But with the enthusiasm of youth, coupled with the stability of ripe years, Mr. West is never discouraged, and at the present moment has a band of six who are learning half-pull ringing, and making steady progress, ready to give a hearty welcome to the old members when they return home again.

Mrs. West, too, is very much interested in ringing, and although she does not perform on church bells, is very proficient in ringing double-handed on handbells. She is an honorary member of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, and when St. James' bells were rehung in 1909, and augmented to six, was the donor of a new second bell.

Mr. West is the assessor and collector of King's Taxes for his district, which office he has held for the past 41 years.

## HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday week, a meeting of the West Herts District was held at Bushey Parish Church, members attending from Oxley, Watford, Aldenham, Staunmore, Bushey, and Walthamstow, including a lady from the last-named place. Letters of apology were received from Mr. G. Cartmel, St. Albans; Mr. Norris, Berkhamstead; and Mr. Reeves, Tring. Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Double Norwich and Bob Major were rung during the afternoon and evening, and 26 members sat down to tea, presided over by the Rev. G. M. Hall (Rector of Bushey), supported by the Rev. H. H. C. Richardson (curate), and Mr. C. E. Head (churchwarden).

The business meeting followed, at which three new members were elected, and Aldenham chosen for the next meeting to be held in June. A hearty vote of thanks to the Rector of Bushey for the use of bells was proposed by Mr. Hodgetts, and the Rector, in reply, said he was pleased to welcome the Association to Bushey to meet the ringers. Mr. Edwards proposed, and Mr. Smith seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to Miss Harford, Mrs. Head, and Miss Wilkinson for kindly arranging the tea and waiting upon them (applause).—A vote of thanks to the Rector for presiding concluded the meeting.



## ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING 1916.

Compiled by the Committee appointed by the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

## TOWER BELLS.

## HAND BELLS.

Association.	Tower Bells.										Hand Bells.										Total on Handbells.	Total Points.	Average Points per Peal.			
	Stedman Cinques.	Kent Treble Bob Royal.	Caters.		Major.		Triples.		Minor.	Doubles.	Total on Tower Bells.	Stedman Cinques.	Royal.	Caters.	Major.		Triples.		Minor.							
			Stedman	Grandfire	Surprise	Double Norwich	Treble Bob	Plain Bob	Stedman	Grandfire	Minor.			Plain Bob	Treble Bob	Stedman	Grandfire	Treble Bob	Plain Bob	Stedman	Grandfire	Minor.				
Anc. Soc. College Youths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	121	30.186	
Bath and Wells	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7.000	
Bedfordshire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	9.664	
Cambridge Univ.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	13.000	
Central Northants	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	12.800	
Chester Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	9.600	
Cleveland and N. Yorks.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7.000	
Dudley and District	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	8.600	
Durham and Newcastle	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	53	21.000	
Ely Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	69	6.379	
Essex County	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	6.333	
Gloucester and Bristol	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	56	7.000	
Hereford Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3.000	
Hertfordshire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	7.000	
Kent County	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	33	6.350	
Lincolnshire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	169	11.966	
Lincoln Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	8.000	
Llandaff Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	19	9.600	
London County	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	48	24.000	
Middlesex County	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	971	28.562	
Midland Counties	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	175	13.461
North Notts	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	20	5.000
Norwich Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	81	10.393	
Oxford Diocesan	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	109	18.166	
Peterborough and District	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	5.000	
Royal Cumberland Youths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	189	18.260	
St. Martin's Guild, B'ham	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	796	29.440
Salop Archidiaconal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	56	13.200	
Archdeaconry of Stafford	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	116	23.000	
Surrey	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	7.000	
Sussex County	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	26	4.933	
Winchester Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	130	13.000	
Worcestershire and Dist.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	140	14.000
Yorkshire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	329	14.512
Independent Societies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	61	7.985
TOTALS.....	8	1	4	7	8	3	11	6	18	43	20	10	134	8	5	3	19	9	5	9	8	10	14	83	3063	14.359
(a) Little Bob.																										
(b) London.																										
(c) Oxford Bob.																										
(d) 1 Superlative, 1 Yorkshire.																										
(e) Little Bob.																										

The 7 peals rung by Independent Societies were thus distributed: Derbyshire, 1; Essex, 1; Gloucestershire, 1; Staffordshire, 1; Westmoreland, 1; Ireland, 2.

The 19 peals of Treble Bob were rung as follows: In the Kent Variation, Royal 3, Major 15. In the Oxford Variation, Major 1.

The 52 peals of Grandfire Triples may be subdivided as follows:—Holt's Original, 9; Holt's 10-part and variations, 5; Parker's 12-part and variations, 24; Taylor's peals, 4; the Rev. C. D. P. Davies' peals, 2; John Carter's peals, 2; other peals, 6.

The 19 peals in Plain Methods comprised: Bob Royal, 5; Bob Major, 13; Oxford Bob Triples, 1.

The 10 peals of Doubles are shown in the following statement:—

Association	No. of Methods.		Total
	1	2	
Gloucester and Bristol	1	1	2
Hereford Diocesan	1	—	1
Salop Archidiaconal	—	1	1
Sussex County	4	—	4
Worcestershire and Districts	1	—	1
Independent Societies	1	—	1
	8	2	10

The conductors of four peals and over are as follows: J. E. Groves (handbells 11), 15 peals; S. H. Symonds, 9, all on handbells; C. Glenn (H.B. 7), 8; A. H. Pulking (H.B. 6), W. Pye (H.B. 5), 6; J. D. Johnson (H.B. 4), F. D. Matthews (H.B. 4), and G. F. Swann (H.B. 4), 5; J. Austin, A. E. Edwards, E. Wightman (H.B. 4), and C. F. Winney (H.B. 4), 4. There were 9 conductors of 3 peals, 17 of 2 peals, and 79 of one peal. In addition, there was one peal at which three conductors assisted, and one peal was rung without a conductor. One lady appears as a conductor in 1916, Miss E. M. Johnson, who conducted her first peal of Grandfire Caters on handbells for the Worcestershire and Districts Association.

The number of peals rung on Church bells during 1916 was 134; and on handbells, 83. Owing to the continuance of the war, there has been a further drop in the number of peals rung, the total for 1916 being 217 only, as compared with 259 for 1915, 1,415 for 1914, and 2,359 for 1913.

The peals rung month by month in 1915 and 1916 are appended for purposes of comparison:—

	1915	1916		1915	1916
January	26	60	July	10	15
February	16	16	August	21	14
March	19	13	September	18	11
April	29	20	October	19	6
May	24	16	November	27	14
June	18	17	December	32	15
	132	142		127	75

Total for the year 1915, 259; total for the year 1916, 217, being a decrease of 42.

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...1313	1913...2359
1882...244	1890...699	1898...1003	1906...1519	1914...1415
1883...330	1891...878	1899...912	1907...1339	1915...259
1884...419	1892...802	1900...924	1908...1474	1916...217
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, 36,454.

## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1916.

The continuance of the war has once more rendered the work of the Analysis Committee a comparatively light one, and the apportionment

of points has little meaning, though they have again been included in the Analysis.

A notable feature is the number of peals of Stedman Cinques rung by the St. Martin's Guild, viz.: 4 on tower bells and 8 on handbells, a total of 12 peals out of 25 rung by the Guild.

Of the 134 peals rung on tower bells, 94 were muffled peals, the lamented deaths of Sir A. P. Heywood and Mr. H. Dains adding to the number rung on account of the war.

Of the other peals, one was the first on the bells, and three first after restoration. Six were arranged for ringers on leave, and seven for Church Festivals, etc. Five were farewell peals, four wedding and three birthday peals, while no special reasons were given for the other eleven. Six ringers rang their first peal as conductor.

(Signed).—

E. W. CARPENTER, Boothby Rectory, Grantham.

JOSEPH GRIFFIN, 11, Shobnall Street, Burton-on-Trent.

ARTHUR T. KING, 1, Southsea Terrace, Southsea.

GEORGE WILLIAMS, West End, near Southampton.

### DEATH OF A CHESTERFIELD RINGER.

It is with profound regret we have to record the death of Mr. George Davies, which sad event took place on Monday of last week, at 31 Higher Albert Street. Deceased, who was 47 years of age, first learned the art of ringing at Sutton Coldfield, going to Chesterfield about 28 years ago, since which time he had been a most respected member of the Parish Church company.

A ringer of no mean ability, he could always be relied upon when taking part in a peal or touch, to make no mistake, especially in the way of striking, and for Sunday service ringing punctuality was his motto.

Unfortunately, for a number of years, he had not enjoyed the best of health, a fact which kept him out of a number of peals, but although unable to take part, he was such a keen critic of the striking that he would invariably be outside the tower at the finish, having heard most, or the whole of the peal, and if not to his entire satisfaction, each man had to go "through the mill," generally commencing with the "skipper."

Mr. Davies was a great lover of handbell ringing, and was never happier than when seated with a pair, his very last touch of all being one of Stedman Triples, a method which had a fascination for him, and, in his opinion, put all others into oblivion. His last visit to the tower was on Sunday, February 24th, when he took part in the ringing for both services, but he was evidently suffering then, and gradually losing strength, he was obliged to take to his bed on Friday, March 9th, and at last his big, brave heart, and indomitable pluck, which had helped him through many an anxious time, gave in, and the Great Conductor of all called him home.

The deceased leaves a widow and one son, Pte F. Davies, who is at present in hospital in London recovering from wounds.

Mr. Davies had rung 39 peals, made up as follows: Grandsire Triples 2, Grandsire Caters 9, Stedman Triples 3, Stedman Caters 5, Stedman Cinques 1, Canterbury Triples 1, Caters 1, Bob Major 3, Treble Bob Major 1, Treble Bob Royal 3, Double Norwich Major 2, Little Bob Royal 1, Forward Royal 1; and on handbells one each of Bob Major, Bob Royal, and Little Bob Royal, and three of Grandsire Caters, all rung under the Midland Counties or Yorkshire Associations.

The funeral took place on Thursday, when he was carried to his last resting-place by six of his brother ringers: Messrs. Allwood, Gore, Hollis, Thyng, Thompson, and Nuttall, the four first named ringing a course of Grandsire Triples over the grave. The Chesterfield branch of the National Union of Railwaymen, of which the late Mr. Davies was a member, was represented by two of his fellow workmen, and among the floral tributes was a cross from his brother ringers.

On Sunday last, at Chesterfield Parish Church, for morning service, with the bells muffled, as a last tribute of respect, 350 Grandsire Triples: F. Jacobs 1, T. W. Gore 2, W. Nuttall 3, G. Hollis 4, W. J. Thyng (conductor) 5, A. Knights 6, G. Thompson 7, W. Allwood 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: F. Jacobs 1, W. Allwood 2, W. Nuttall 3, A. Knights 4, G. Hollis 5, G. Thompson 6, W. J. Thyng (conductor) 7, T. W. Gore 8.

### THE OLDEST RINGER IN THE WORLD.

#### LOOKING FORWARD TO RINGING FOR PEACE.

A Guildford correspondent writes:—"Seeing your par va Mr. John Heathorn being obliged to keep his bed, I paid him a visit, and found to my surprise that so far from the old veteran, who is 93, keeping his bed, he had just returned from his week's shopping, and his increasing deafness did not interfere with his forcible remarks on the prices of provisions, and his remarks about what ought to be done to profiteers were enlivened by references as to what he would like to do with them and a rope, not a bell-rope. Judging from present appearances the oldest ringer in the world may yet pull a rope on the declaration of peace. I might add that he has twelve grandsons in khaki."

## NOTICES.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1537).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on March 27th for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Rochester District.—Half-yearly meeting will be held at St. Margaret's Church, Rainham, on Saturday, March 24th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Half rail fares allowed. Please note subscriptions are now due.—E. A. G. Allen, Hon. Dist. Sec., 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday March 24th, at St. Thomas, Newhey. Bells ready at 2 o'clock until dusk. Meeting 6.30.—T. K. Driver, Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—The district meeting for the South Eastern Division will be held at All Saints', Writtle, on Easter Monday. Bells available 2.30. Service 5 o'clock, followed by tea and meeting in the Iron Room. Tea, ninepence each. Please notify me not later than Wednesday, April 4th.—F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle.—Subscriptions for 1917 are now due.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Cirencester on Easter Monday, April 9th. The bells of the Parish Church (12) and Holy Trinity, Watermoor (8), will be available throughout the day. Will members and friends who intend to be present kindly notify me as early as possible?—R. W. Hyner, Hon. Sec., 46, Goddard Avenue, Swindon, Wilts.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, April 9th. Full arrangements will be advertised in due course. All outstanding subscriptions should be paid at once, either to District Secretaries, or to G. W. Carmel, Hon. Sec., "Duffield," St. Albans.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Leicester on Easter Monday, April 9th. Ringing at St. Martin's and St. John's from 11 a.m. Tea (1/- each) at 4.15 p.m. at the 'Granby' Restaurant, near the G.P.O. Committee meeting same place at 3.30 p.m. Will those persons who intend being present for tea kindly notify Mr. W. Willson, 23, Hopefield Road, by the Thursday evening previous, as a guarantee must be given to the caterers?—W. E. White, Hon. Secretary.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held at Worksop (8 bells) on Easter Monday. Further particulars next week.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

**HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—The quarterly meeting and six bell contest will be held at Mytholmroyd on Easter Monday, April 9th. Draw for order of ringing in the school at 10.45 a.m. Entries for contest to be sent to me not later than Monday, April 2nd.—F. Salmons, Sec., 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 9th, 1917. Business meeting in the Cathedral Chapter House at 2.30 p.m. prompt. Chairman, The Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., President. Service in the Cathedral at 4.15 p.m. Address by the Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., Dean. Tea will be provided at the Angel Hotel, Tidbury, at 5.15 p.m., for all those who notify me before Wednesday, April 4th, 1917; to cover additional cost, a charge of 6d. per head will be made. Bells available:—Cathedral (12), 1 to 2 p.m.; All Saints' (10), Hallow (8), St. Helens (8), St. Nicholas (6), St. John-in-Bedwardine (6). These bells will be available for short touches until 9 p.m. Subscriptions should be paid, expenses received, and reports obtained, in St. Helen's Church House, between 12 and 1. Peal book on view.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheepcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

**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.

#### HANDBELLS FOR SALE.

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#### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**SHINFIELD, BERKS.**—On Sunday, Jan. 21st, 1917, 720 Bob Minor: Air-Mechanic J. Thomas, R.F.C., 1, Air-Mechanic L. O. Griffiths, R.F.C., 2, W. Hibbert 3, C. Giles 4, A. Wiggins 5, R. T. Hibbert (conductor) 6.

**LONDON.**—On Sunday, January 21st, for evening service, at St. Giles', Camberwell, S.E., 1440 Kent Treble Royal, in 1 hr. 3 mins.: F. Davis 1, E. Gibbs 2, H. Springall 3, W. G. Matthews 4, C. Dean 5, C. F. Winney 6, S. Collins 7, J. Milner 8, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 9, R. Sanders 10.

**BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.**—On Sunday, Jan. 21st, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples: A. Crane 1, F. Stenton 2, J. Mead 3, H. Morris 4, H. Sear 5, F. Hedges 6, W. Sear (conductor) 7, Corpl. H. Taylor, R.E., 8. Also 350 Grandsire Triples, conducted by H. Sear.

**BARNES.**—On Sunday, January 21st, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 44 mins.: W. H. Stevens 1, H. Barrett 2, M. Jacobs 3, R. Mackrill 4, C. Hunt 5, H. Cook 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, G. Hunt 8. Rung as a farewell to R. Mackrill, who was leaving to join the army.

**FULMER.**—On January 26th, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, 600 Oxford Bob Minor, and a 720 of the same method, were rung by: Miss W. M. Cooper 1, J. J. Parker 2, W. H. Fussell 3, G. Gutteridge (conductor) 4, T. Smith 5, Corpl. K. G. Hawkins (2nd Life Guards) 6. Miss E. Fuller and Miss Florrie Cooper also took part in the ringing arranged for Corpl. Hawkins, a member of the local band, home on leave from France.

**TAUNTON.**—On Sunday January 28th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: J. Maddock 1, T. Doble 2, W. Cording 3, F. Millard 4, W. Evans 5, Corpl. H. Bosley 6, E. E. Burgess (conductor) 7, E. Freddle 8. Arranged for Corpl. H. Bosley, who was home on leave.

**FINCHLEY.**—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, 28th January, for morning service, in 23 mins., 720 Bob Minor: F. G. Symonds (conductor) 1, E. G. Hibble 2, W. Webb 3, F. S. Tubb 4, B. Tubb 5, F. Fensom 6.

**PUTEY.**—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, January 28th, for C.E.M.S. service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1280 changes), in 46 mins.: H. Whanslow 1, —, Leo 2, E. A. Reeve 3, A. Outmore 4, C. E. Collis 5, T. Bolton 6, W. T. Elson 7, L. Attwatter (conductor) 8.

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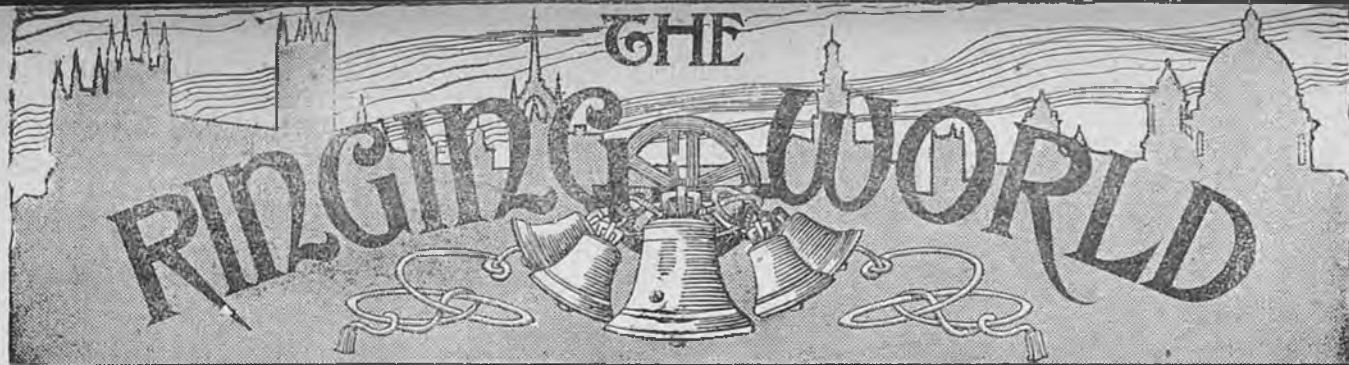


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No. 315. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, MARCH 30th, 1917.

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Wolverhampton.

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WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,  
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1917.  
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.

## THE PEALS ANALYSIS.

The Analysis of Peals made by the Central Council's Committee, and published last week, provided one more illustration of the effect which the war has had upon ringing. In 1916 fewer peals were rung than in any year since 1881—the first year for which there is any authentic record—and if we deduct the large proportion of handbell peals (83) from last year's total of 217, it leaves us with a smaller number of tower bell peals than in any year since statistics have been compiled. Comparison between the present and the pre-war period is, however, useless; but we may turn with interest to a comparison between the peals rung in 1915 and 1916—two complete war years.

In the former, the number of tower bell peals rung from January to December was 173; in the latter the total was 134. But in 1916, largely on account of the muffled ringing at the beginning of the year in memory of fallen heroes, no fewer than 44 tower bell peals were rung in January. Whereas in the corresponding month for 1915 only 19 were rung. Thus we see that for the other eleven months of 1916 90 peals on tower bells were rung; while in the same period of 1915 the number was 154. These are striking figures, and show the growing demands that have been made by the war upon the personnel of the belfries, and the increasing seriousness with which the people have faced the task before the nation. Since the war began there has been little inclination for peal ringing among members of the Exercise, and the steady diminution in the figures shows how nearly complete is the silence of the bells where mere ringing for pleasure is concerned.

In their report the Committee draw attention to the fact that, although points have again been included, the apportionment of these has little meaning. While the Central Council see fit to appraise peals by point value, it is, of course, as well that the table of analysis should be complete, but now that point values have lost their significance, it will give those who disagree with the point system an excellent opening to urge their abandonment altogether. We are not at this moment going to enter on that controversial subject—there is much to be said both for and against the retention of the point system—but we merely suggest that now that the apportionment of points has admittedly reached the stage where it carries little meaning, the opportunity occurs of settling the much-debated question whether the calculation of points at any time conveys any real and substantial advantage. As to the analysis published last week, we think that it will be of much interest to future members of the Exercise when looking back over the records of the past, to see to what an extent ringers in the period of the great war abandoned their cherished art for the sterner duties of the times.

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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 BELLEINGERS 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.

EARLSHEATON, YORKSHIRE.  
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION  
(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 17, 1917, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**

Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES COTTERELL ... .. Treble	DANIEL SENIOR ... .. 5
THOMAS B. KENDALL ... .. 2	JOSEPH BROADLEY ... .. 6
JOHN R. BARTON ... .. 3	HERBERT DRANSFIELD ... .. 7
HEMINGWAY DRANSFIELD ... .. 4	FRED SALMONS ... .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and  
Conducted by JAMES COTTERELL.

\* First peal in the method. First peal on the bells since being tuned and rehung in a new iron frame by Messrs. Taylor & Co. Rung to congratulate the ringer of the seventh on his providential escape from the S.S. "Alonia" and "Laconia," both ships having been torpedoed whilst he was on board.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD  
AND THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, March 24, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 24 cwt. 0 qr. 18 lbs.

JAMES GEORGE ... .. Treble	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ... .. 5
WILLIAM A. COOPER ... .. 2	WILLIAM FISHER ... .. 6
GEORGE PIGOTT ... .. 3	JAMES E. GROVES ... .. 7
BENJAMIN GOUGH ... .. 4	THOMAS HUGHES ... .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM FISHER.

Rung in honour of the recent successes in the Great War; also to congratulate Mr. Harry Mason, on being elected as ringing master of the above Guild; and to Mr. Ben Gough, in honour of his "annual," his colleagues greeting him with the usual good wishes before and after the peal. This is the first peal of Triples on the bells, and was rung after meeting short for Stedman Caters, Mr. Herbert Knight standing down.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION  
(LATE THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 24, 1917, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR, SOUTHWARK,

**A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 7 lbs.

THOMAS WALKER ... .. Treble	WALTER G. MATTHEWS ... .. 5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... .. 2	REUBEN SANDERS ... .. 6
HENRY G. MILES ... .. 3	C. W. ROBERT GRIMWOOD ... .. 7
LOUIS ATTWATER ... .. 4	ARTHUR D. BARKER ... .. Tenor

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

First peal in the method on the bells.

## SIX BELL PEAL.

OSWALDTWISTLE, LANCASHIRE.  
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Sunday, March 25, 1917, in Two Hours and Forty-one Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF IMMANUEL,

**A PEAL OF PLAIN BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Each 720 called differently. Tenor 11½ cwt.

MISS E. SULLIVAN ... .. Treble	J. RAWCLIFFE ... .. 4
MISS E. FIELDING ... .. 2	J. TOMLINSON ... .. 5
MISS R. HOLDING ... .. 3	J. HOULDSWORTH ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JAMES HOULDSWORTH.

First peal for all three ladies. This is probably the first peal in which Lancashire ladies have taken part.

## THE LATE MR. A. W. GRIMES' HANDBELLS.

In order to assist the widow and young family of the late Mr. A. W. Grimes, the deceased ringer's fine peal of 18 handbells are being disposed of. It is much to be hoped that a good sum will be raised by this means, and those who are willing to try and dispose of tickets which are 3d. each, should communicate with Mr. W. Pye, 8, Sanson Road, Lansdown Road, Leytonstone.



## ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.

A meeting of the above was held at Woodchurch, on Saturday, March 24th, and the fine, though keen weather, helped to bring together a fairly good muster of members, the visitors including the Rev. and Mrs. Gatehouse, of Headcorn. Ringing commenced about 3.30, and touches in the Grandsire and Plain Bob methods were brought round. Two soldiers, stationed in the village on outpost duty, the village policeman, the Rector of Woodchurch, and Mrs. Gatehouse all took part in the ringing.

The bells were lowered soon after sunset, when a short business meeting was held. The next meeting was fixed for Rolvenden, in May.

The members were then entertained at the Rectory to tea by the Rector and Mrs. Rendall, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was accorded for their kind hospitality.

The towers represented were: Appledore, Ashford, Headcorn, Rolvenden, Rye, and Tenterden, with Mr. R. Barman, of the local band.

## LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The usual monthly meeting of the Rochdale Branch was held on Saturday last, at Newhey, ringers attending from Newhey, Milnrow, Todmorden, Bacup, Hyde, Glodwick, Oldham, Ashton, and Middleton. The bells were kept going from two o'clock until dusk, in touches of Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, and Plain Bob Major.—A business meeting, presided over by the Vicar (Rev. T. W. Wareham), was held in the tower.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and also the local ringers for having everything in readiness.

The question as to whether or not the Central Council meeting should be held was discussed, and it was decided that the branch secretary should send a recommendation to the general secretary, that the meeting was strongly in favour of the Central Council meeting being postponed for this year.

It was decided that the next meeting of the branch should be held at Moorside, on Saturday, April 21st.

## ST. BOTOLPH'S, BISHOPSGATE.

As the Sunday morning services at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, are to be discontinued for the next five weeks, to enable work to be carried out on the land, there will be no ringing there in the mornings during that period, but the ringing for evening services on the first and third Sundays at 5 p.m. will take place as usual.

## "SUCCESS" DOUBLES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—While looking through an old manuscript book of Doubles, I came across the enclosed interesting method, which is probably unique in its construction, the plain course consisting of the whole 120. The laws of change ringing, as we know them to-day, are somewhat violated, but I thought that the method might interest some of your readers, if only as a curiosity. The six-score is divided into five divisions of 24 changes each, and it has been appropriately named "Success."—Yours faithfully,

Solihull.			E. C. SHEPHERD.
12345	continued	continued	continued
21354	42513	21351	35412
12534	24531	23415	53421
21543	42351	32451	54312
12453	24315	34215	45321
21435	42135	43251	43512
24153	42315	34521	43521
	Four times repeated.		

## 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL.

By JOSEPH W. PARKER.

23456 M W II

45236	—	—
24536	—	—
52436	—	—
42635	—	—
53624	—	—
63425	—	—
43526	—	—
65324	—	—
36524	—	—
52364	—	—
43265	—	—
62534	—	—
35426	—	—
23456	—	—

## WHERE IS LANCASHIRE'S OLDEST BELL?

Mr. Jas. Houldsworth inquires if any of our readers can tell him of an older bell in Lancashire than that at Whalley, dated 1537. This bell is not rung with the peal of six.

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**SLOUGH, BUCKS.**—On January 28th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, for morning service: Miss G. E. Bateman 1, A. Leader 2, G. Bedford 3, G. H. Gutteridge 4, T. Smith 5, W. H. Fussell 6, P. E. Jones (conductor) 7, E. Hooper 8.

**THANET.**—At St. Lawrence's Church, 504 Grandsire Triples, on Sunday, Feb. 4th: T. W. Scott 1, S. G. Twyman (conductor) 2, E. Gibbens 3, W. G. Birch 4, A. E. Jarman 5, F. Philpott 6, H. Marsh 7, J. Jarman 8.

**WEST BROMWICH, STAFFS.**—On Sunday, Feb. 4th, at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins., with bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Rev. R. Hodgson: R. Hall 1, H. Horne 2, T. Horton 3, W. Peart 4, J. Walker 5, J. Screen (conductor) 6, W. A. Cooper 7, A. Mills 8.

**BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.**—On Sunday, Feb. 4th, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples: A. Crane 1, W. Mead 2, J. Mead 3, H. Morris 4, H. Sear 5, F. Hedges 6, W. Sear (conductor) 7, F. Stenton 8. 224 Bob Major: A. Crane 1, W. Mead 2, J. Mead 3, H. Morris 4, W. Sear 5, E. Marks 6, F. Stenton 7, H. Sear (conductor) 8. These were J. Mead's last touches before joining H.M. Forces.

**STOURBRIDGE.**—On Feb. 4th, for evening service, at St. Thomas' Church, 720 Bob Minor: W. Stinton 1, W. Hand 2, G. H. Pagett 3, C. Wm. Cooper 4, A. W. Dodd 5, J. Bass (conductor) 6, W. A. Pugh 8.

**SOLIHULL.**—On Feb. 10th, 1917, on handbells, 720 Grandsire Doubles: V. Rigg 1—2, E. G. Shepherd (conductor) 3—4, H. Bragg 5—6. Rung as a farewell to E. C. Shepherd, who is joining the colours.

**HOLBECK.**—Yorkshire Association.—At the Church of St. Francis of Assisi, on Sunday morning, Feb. 11th, 504 Stedman Triples: T. McHale 1, W. Woodhead 2, F. Renton 3, P. Larvan 4, J. Jessop 5, J. Dixey 6, W. E. H. Ash 7, P. L. Cooper 8.

**WALTHAMSTOW.**—Middlesex County Association.—On Feb. 11th, for morning service, at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. Lucas 1, A. A. Hughes 2, J. H. Wilkins 3, Sapper C. T. Coles, R.E. (conductor) 4, H. F. Hull 5, G. B. Lucas 6, F. C. Maynard 7, Air-Mechanic A. Chapman, R.N.A.S.: 8.

**SHARNBROOK, BEDS.**—On Feb. 11th, for evensong, 720 Bob Minor: C. Allen 1, W. A. Norman 2, G. Bell 3, A. J. Barcock 4 Lance-Corpl. W. Duffield 5, E. P. Duffield (conductor) 6. Rung as a compliment to Lance-Corpl. W. Duffield who was on short leave from a convalescent camp at Eastbourne, where he is now stationed, after being invalided home from France.

**BARNES.**—On Feb. 11th, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: Pte J. Willmott 1, H. Barrett 2, W. H. Stevens 3, M. Jacobs 4, H. Cook 5, F. Skevington (conductor) 6, C. Hunt 7, P. C. Brooks 8.—On March 11th, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1264 changes), in 45 mins.: M. Jacobs 1, H. Barrett 2, W. H. Stevens 3, Pte S. Meadows 4, E. Newell 5, H. Cook 6, F. Skevington 7, C. Hunt (conductor) 8.

**BRAINTREE.**—Essex Association.—On Feb. 18th, at the Parish Church, for C.E.M.S. service, when the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford was the preacher, 720 Bob Major: F. J. Fuller 1, C. H. Howard (conductor) 2, W. H. Hammond 3, H. E. Hammond 4, W. H. Dyson 5, G. Lindridge 6, H. Coote 7, E. F. Slade 8.

**LEISTON, SUFFOLK.**—On Feb. 18th, for morning service, 672 Bob Major: W. Bailey 1, H. J. Button 2, E. H. Bailey 3, J. M. Bailey 4, J. G. Rumsey 5, J. Titterton 6, G. Wilson (conductor) 7, E. S. Bailey 8. In the afternoon, for Men's Service, 576 Bob Major: W. Bailey 1, A. Keeble 2, H. J. Button 3, G. Wilson 4, J. M. Bailey (conductor) 5, E. S. Bailey 6, J. G. Rumsey 7, E. H. Bailey 8. Also 480 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. Titterton 1, J. M. Bailey (conductor) 2, H. J. Button 3, A. Keeble 4, E. S. Bailey 5, J. G. Rumsey 6, E. H. Bailey 7, G. Wilson 8.

**LONDON.**—Royal Cumberland Youths.—On Feb. 18th, at Shore-ditch, for evening service, 1248 Kent Treble Bob Maximus: J. D. Matthews 1, T. Smith 2, H. Burton 3, W. Shimmans 4, B. Foskett 5, W. T. Powell 6, W. H. Theobald 7, H. T. Scarlett 8, G. Card 9, W. Berry 10, J. E. Sykes 11, J. Hunt 12. Rung with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the late organist of the church.

**CHRISTCHURCH, HANTS.**—On Sunday, Feb. 18th, for divine service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1295 changes): E. Waters 1, S. Best 2, Corpl. A. W. Hayward (Somerset L.I.) 3, E. Hinton 4, Pte F. W. Merrett (Wilts Regt.) 5, C. Goodenough 6, Col.-Sergt. E. J. Wyatt (Somerset L.I.) 7, W. Fowler 8, G. Preston (conductor) 9. H. Bagshot 10. Rung as a farewell touch to W. Fowler, who was leaving the district.

**OLDSWINFORD.**—On Feb. 18th, at St. Mary's Church, for evening service, 504 of Bob Triples: Pte D. Heathcock 1, C. Wm. Cooper 2, J. Smith 3, R. Moors 4, T. Heathcock 5, J. Newman 6, A. E. Whatmore (conductor) 7, T. Whitehouse 8. Also a short touch of Bob Minor, with R. Newman on the treble, and J. Newman as conductor.

**TAUNTON.**—On Feb. 24th, for evening service, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: W. Tarr (first quarter-peal) 1, T. Doble 2, J. Matthews 3, F. Millard 4, W. Evans 5, J. Maddock 6, E. Burgess (conductor) 7, W. J. Thorpe 8.



## LONDON'S VETERAN.

## MR. EDWIN HORREX'S INTERESTING RINGING CAREER.

On Wednesday, February 28th last, as already recorded, a handbell peal was rung to celebrate the 79th birthday of Mr. Edwin Horrex, and although this renowned London veteran did not ring a pair of bells, he did the next best thing, and officiated as umpire.

This wonderful ringer seems to lose none of his enthusiasm with advancing years. On the contrary, he is as keen to-day as ever, although, of course, one does not expect to find him at the back end in the lower, as formerly. But if he has gone round to the lighter end, his skill in handling a bell is still with him, and is really remarkable. Neither has he lost any of his old-time accuracy in striking, and worthily maintains the traditions of the famous band of College Youths of a couple of decades ago. Contemporary as he was of Henry Halsey, Matt Wood, William Cooter and James Pettitt, with others of the old school, his reminiscences are most interesting, and frequently provide entertainment for the younger members, for he is now the oldest link with that departed band.

Happily, he still enjoys good health, and is most regular in attendance at St. Paul's Cathedral, in addition to which he has charge of the bells of St. Michael's, Cornhill. Ringers at this church can testify to his care of the bells, and if at times they require a little coaxing, it is not through any inattention on the part of the steeplekeeper.

It was here that he put up a great performance in ringing the eleventh for close upon eight hours in an unsuccessful attempt for the record peal of Stedman Cinques. But in the opinion of many his ringing the eleventh at St. Paul's Cathedral to a peal of Treble Bob Maximus, when approaching his 60th year, was an even greater performance. On this occasion he was called upon in an emergency, and responded with satisfaction to himself and the remainder of the band.

At one time the heavy work was shared between John Murray Hayes and Ted Horrex, and there existed a friendly rivalry between them, which was productive of many fine performances.

Mr. Horrex was the instigator of handbell ringing amongst the younger members of the College

Youths at a time when this branch of the Exercise was considered to be a monopoly of the older members, and he can claim to have discovered that genius, Mr. Challis F. Winney. That he has not lost the handbell touch was proved, when on Feb. 14th last he rang 7-8 to a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples.

Born at Ipswich, Feb. 28th, 1838, Mr. Horrex started his connection with ringing by chiming at St. Margaret's, Ipswich (six bells), for Sunday services. He learnt change ringing under the tuition of Mr. William Garrard, and in three months rang 720 of Plain Bob Minor. Shortly after, he joined the ten-bell band at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, where he practised Grandsire and Stedman. He came to London in 1863, and attended at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green. It was only in the natural course of events that he should join the Ancient Society of College Youths, and he has been a member of the society for 54 years in September next. He particularly remembers Mr. Matthew Wood impressing upon him the importance of ringing by course bell, and the promise the Bethnal Green veteran made to "chalk one out and hang round his (Mr. Horrex's) neck."

Mr. Horrex was in the opening ringing at St. Paul's Cathedral, and has been a member of the band ever since, being the only one remaining of the original company. He has rung a peal at every twelve-bell tower in London, except Shoreditch, and hopes to include that church some day. He has rung the tenor at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, and St. Michael's, Cornhill, to peals of Treble Bob Maximus, and among his peals, which total 262, the following performances call for special note:—

The 15.840 Kent Treble Bob Major at Bethnal Green, in 9 hrs. 12 mins., which, at the time, was the longest peal ever rung by one set of men. This was on April 27th, 1868, so that next year will be the jubilee of the performance. Of the band that rang in the peal, Mr. Horrex is the sole surviving member. His other long peals of Treble Bob include two of 8,448 (one of these on the Spitalfields' heavy peal), and one of 8,896. On November 18th, 1883, at Fulham, Mr. Horrex was one of the band who rang the then record length of 11,111 Stedman Caters, in 7 hrs. 12 mins., after having in the previous month got out after ringing nearly 10,000 changes in 6 hrs. 8 mins. He also took part, on January 19th, 1907, in the first peal of Maximus at Bow. Mr. Horrex's peals are as follow:—

Grandsire Triples	29
Grandsire Major	2
Grandsire Caters	16
Stedman Triples	34
Stedman Caters	44
Stedman Cinques	41
Oxford Treble Bob Major	1
Kent Treble Bob Major	41
Kent Treble Bob Royal	23
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	18
Double Norwich Major	7
Double Norwich Royal	1
Superlative Surprise Major	2
Cambridge Surprise Maximus	3

Total ..... 262

In his well-earned retirement he amuses himself at times with the manufacture of cribbage boards, amongst other things, and one of his boards has only to be seen for its beautiful workmanship to be appreciated. Several ringers are fortunate in the possession of one of his boards which represent the last word in artistic craftsmanship. That he will continue to enjoy the same good health and celebrate many more birthdays, is the wish of his many friends in London and elsewhere.

A MUSEUM OF BELLS.  
CALIFORNIA'S UNIQUE COLLECTION.

In the town of Riverside, near Los Angeles, California, is a unique collection of bells, claimed to be one of the finest in the world, contained in the Mission Inn, or Inn of the Bells. The structure itself is designed to reproduce the outlines of one of the Spanish Mission buildings erected by the monks along the northern trail from San Diego to San Francisco, and generally located from each other by the distance of a day's journey. Of massive construction, the building, with its campanarias, patios and gardens, extends around three sides of an open court. In a lofty, square tower is installed a chime, rung each day at noon and eve. The bells, collected from almost every quarter of the globe, are arranged around a capacious garden, or suspended in the numerous arches of the fabric. While most of the specimens are sanctus or small bells, there are many heavy church and tower bells of quaint contour, elaborately ornamented, and bearing ancient dates and inscriptions.

The museum had its modest origin in a triangle made from a steel drill, used by the father of the present proprietor, to summon the guests to meals in the early days of the original tavern since pulled down. From the descriptive catalogue, enumerating in all 313 instruments, the following selected at random may serve to indicate that to the campanologist are here to be found objects of rare historic interest.

27. Sanctus bell from the church built on the site of the hut of St. Francis of Assisi, Italy.

34. Brass cow bell, shown by inscription to have belonged to Pope Paul III., who excommunicated Henry VIII. in 1535.

46. Bell from Lucerne, dated 1675, made by Hans Jacob Sprungli. Cannons formed by a Spanish Crown decorated with lions' heads.

52. Facsimile of Big Ben of Westminster, from the Whitechapel foundry.

54. A bell of quaint shape, dated 1247. May have come from the parish church of Santiago. The abbreviated word, Christ, is brazen in Greek letters, XPS. In England at least four bells bear a similar Greek inscription: to wit, at Tarrant Hinton, Dorset; Great Waltham, Essex; Assington, Suffolk; and the treble at Madingley, Cambridge.

85. Dutch bell from Haarlem, dated 1370, ornamented. Cannons composed of an old man's head.

86. Temple gong from Tientsin, China, said to be over 1,800 years old.

92. Church bell from a castle in Scotland; cast 1770, in London.

152. Spanish church bell from Xerez, cast 1693.

126. Angelus bell from Zaragoza, dated 1317.

139. Bell from Lutheran Church, Wittenberg, cast 1796, by Schelchshorn, in Eyehstet.

254. Fine-toned bell from the Church of the Ascension, Seville, dated 1753; weight, 700 pounds.

272. Temple bell from Nanking, elaborately inscribed in Chinese characters. Weight, 2,600 pounds; height, 8ft. 5in.; diameter, 4ft. 4in.

274. Korean temple bell of about the tenth century, inscribed with ancient hieratic characters now prohibited by the Japanese Government.

316. Brass model of great bell of Moscow, Tsarine Kolokol, cast in 1753.

The inn possesses moreover a large collection of crosses, crucifixes, ancient fountains, tiles, prayer wheels, rosaries, cannon, battle-flags, coloured-glass panels, and a gallery of paintings. Daily concerts are given in the music room upon a church organ of more than 3,000 pipes. Lovers of bells who may chance to find their way to this Paradise can be assured of receiving a cordial greeting from the proprietor, Mr. F. A. Miller.

Boston, Mass.

A. H. NICHOLS. M.D.



## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

OXTON, BIRKENHEAD.—Chester Guild.—On Sunday, Jan. 7th, 1917, 512 Bob Major: C. Owens 1, H. Brocklebank 2, H. Ludkin 3, S. Barnes 4, R. Birchall 5, J. Evans 6, H. Martin (cond.) 7, J. Turner 8.

LONDON.—London County Association.—On Sunday, January 28th, at St. George-the-Martyr's Church, Southwark, for evening service, 1248 Superlative Surprise Major, in 49 mins., with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the late parish clerk, Miss Cross: T. Walker 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, H. Miles 3, A. Jones 4, W. G. Matthews 5, C. F. Winney 6, A. Harris 7, R. Sanders 8.

WOLLASTON.—On Sunday, January 28th, at St. James's Church, 720 Bob Minor, for morning service: W. Stinton 1, C. Wm. Cooper 2, G. Howells 3, J. Bass (conductor) 4, A. E. Whatmore 5, A. W. Dodd 6.

DAGENHAM.—Essex Association.—On Sunday, January 28th, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob: J. Hawkins 1, Miss C. Playle 2, Leading Stoker A. Playle, R.N., 3, G. Playle 4, A. Chaplin 5, R. G. Miles, R.F.C. (conductor), 6. Arranged for the ringers of the 3rd and 6th, who were on a few days' leave.

BUCKLEBURY, BERKS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, January 28th, for afternoon service, 504 Grandsire Triples: F. Freeman 1, W. Wigmore 2, G. Davis 3, Miss Stella Davis 4, Rev. E. M. Thorp 5, S. Chapman 6, J. Abery (conductor) 7, Miss E. Davis (first 504 with the tenor) 8.

LONDON.—London County Association.—On Sunday, Jan. 28th, at St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, S.E., for evening service, 1248 Superlative Surprise Major: T. Walker 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, H. Miles 3, A. Jones 4, W. G. Matthews 5, C. F. Winney 6, A. F. Harris 7, R. Sanders 8.—On Mar. 11th, at St. Mary's, Woolwich, S.E., for evening service, 1280 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 47 mins.: F. C. Newman 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, G. Watchorne 3, A. J. Neale 4, E. Richards 5, E. Andrews 6, A. Hardy 7, R. Sanders 8.

CHELMSFORD.—At the Cathedral, on January 28th, for children's service, 395 Grandsire Caters: Pte J. A. Trollope 1, Lance-Corpl. J. W. Mallard 2, H. F. Cooper (conductor) 3, P. Timson 4, Sapper S. J. White 5, Pte E. W. Marshall 6, Pte Sharples 7, H. Allen 8, A. E. Acfield 9, A. Head 10.—On Sunday, Feb. 4th, 575 Grandsire Caters: I. Poulton 1, H. F. Cooper (conductor) 2, Lance-Corpl. J. W. Mallard 3, P. Timson 4, H. Allen 5, A. Head 6, Pte E. W. Marshall 7, Pte J. A. Trollope 8, Pte M. H. R. Hibbert 9, H. Richell 10.

FULHAM.—At All Saints' Church, Fulham, on January 28th, for morning service, 1260 Stedman Triples: A. W. Davis 1, W. A. Garrard 2, J. W. Driver 3, H. G. Miles 4, A. Cutmore 5, W. H. Hollier 6, W. E. Garrard (conductor) 7, M. E. Smith 8.—On February 18th, for morning service, 1253 Stedman Caters: W. H. Hollier 1, E. A. Arthurton 2, A. Cutmore 3, H. G. Miles (conductor) 4, E. F. Cole 5, P. J. Miles 6, H. Cook 7, J. W. Driver 8, W. E. Garrard 9, Pte G. F. Edwards, A.S.C., 10. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. W. H. Hollier.

## 5165 GRANDSIRE CATERS.

By GEO. HOLLIS, CHESTERFIELD.

23456789		62534879	
42356978	1—4	43265978	2 S—1
34256	9 in 3	24365	9 in 3
23456	9 in 3	52463	9 in 3 S
35426	8 in 3	45263	9 in 3
43526	9 in 3	24563	9 in 3
54326	9 in 3	32465	9 in 3 S
65423	9 in 3 S	43265879	1—3—4 S
32564	8 in 2	24365	8 in 3
53264	9 in 3	52463	8 in 3 S
45362	9 in 3 S	45263	8 in 3
34562	9 in 3	24563	8 in 3
53462	9 in 3	32465	8 in 3 S
25364	9 in 3 S	23465879	1—3—4
32564879	1—3—4 S	42365	9 in 3
53264	8 in 3	54263	9 in 3 S
45362	8 in 3 S	25463	9 in 3
34562	8 in 3	42563	9 in 3
53462	8 in 3	34265	9 in 3 S
25364	8 in 3 S	23465879	1—3—4 S
52364978	1—3—4	42365	8 in 3
35264	9 in 3	54263	8 in 3 S
43562	9 in 3 S	25463	8 in 3
54362	9 in 3	42563	8 in 3
35462	9 in 3	34265	9 in 3 S
23564	9 in 3 S		
52364879	1—3—4 S		
35264	8 in 3		
43562	8 in 3 S		
54362	8 in 3		
35462	8 in 3		
23564	8 in 3 S		
36524	9 in 3		
62534	9 in 3		

Round lead previous to the last course end. Contains the 6th the extent wrong in the tittums and inverted home positions.  
Rung on handbells, at Chesterfield, on Oct. 22nd, 1916.

## NOTICES.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The district meeting for the South Eastern Division will be held at All Saints', Writtle, on Easter Monday. Bells available 2.30. Service 5 o'clock, followed by tea and meeting in the Iron Room. Tea, ninepence each. Please notify me not later than Wednesday, April 4th.—F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle.—Subscriptions for 1917 are now due.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Cirencester on Easter Monday, April 9th. The bells of the Parish Church (12) and Holy Trinity, Watermoor (8), will be available throughout the day. Will members and friends who intend to be present kindly notify me as early as possible?—R. W. Hyner, Hon. Sec., 46, Goddard Avenue, Swindon, Wilts.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Leicester on Easter Monday, April 9th. Ringing at St. Martin's and St. John's from 11 a.m. Tea (1/- each) at 4.15 p.m. at the 'Granby' Restaurant, near the G.P.O. Committee meeting same place at 3.30 p.m. Will those persons who intend being present for tea kindly notify Mr. W. Willson, 23, Hopefield Road, by the Thursday evening previous, as a guarantee must be given to the caterers?—W. E. White, Hon. Secretary.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting and six bell contest will be held at Mytholmroyd on Easter Monday, April 9th. Draw for order of ringing in the school at 10.45 a.m. Entries for contest to be sent to me not later than Monday, April 2nd. The bells at St. Thomas a Beckett's, Heptonstall, will be open for ringing from noon till dusk.—F. Salmons, Sec., 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 9th, 1917. Business meeting in the Cathedral Chapter House at 2.30 p.m. prompt. Chairman, The Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., President. Service in the Cathedral at 4.15 p.m. Address by the Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., Dean. Tea will be provided at the Angel Hotel, Tidbury, at 5.15 p.m., for all those who notify me before Wednesday, April 4th, 1917; to cover additional cost, a charge of 6d. per head will be made. Bells available:—Cathedral (12), 1 to 2 p.m.; All Saints' (10), Hallow (8), St. Helens (8), St. Nicholas (6), St. John-in-Bedwardine (6). These bells will be available for short touches until 9 p.m. Subscriptions should be paid, expenses received, and reports obtained, in St. Helen's Church House, between 12 and 1. Peal book on view.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheepcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at St. Albans on Easter Monday. Cathedral belfry open from 12—1, and again at 2 p.m. St. Peter's at 1.30. Those who would like a pull on St. Stephen's or St. Michael's bells, a letter to me stating time and number of ringers would be forwarded to the respective conductors. Choral evensong at Cathedral, 5 p.m. (please don't be late), with address by the Rev. C. F. Ayerst, Vicar of Watford. Tea at Abbey Institute, 6 p.m., followed by business meeting. Please notify attendance not later than Monday, April 9th, so that ample arrangements can be made for tea.—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., "Duffield," St. Albans.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at the Church House, St. Paul's Square, Bedford, on Easter Monday, at 3.30. Committee meeting at 3, same place. The bells at St. Paul's and St. Peter's will be available.—A. Rust, Hon. Sec.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held at Worksop (8 bells) on Easter Monday. Bells available from 1.30 p.m. until dusk. Any party of ringers desiring to ring in the morning should communicate with Mr. H. Haigh, 103, Gateford Road, Worksop.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**—The annual meeting will be held at Emscote, Warwick, on Easter Monday. Bells (8) available all day. Committee meeting at 3.30 followed by business meeting in Emscote Schools. Outstanding subscriptions should now be paid.—J. H. White, 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late St. James' Society, established 1824).—The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Hammersmith, on Saturday, 14th April. Ringing from 3.45 to 7.45 p.m., followed by a business meeting at the Devonshire Arms, Queen St. Ringers and friends welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec., 10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate, E.C. (2).

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The 19th annual general meeting will be held at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, W.C., on Saturday, April 14th, 1917. The service will be held at 3.15 p.m. Tea will be provided in the Parish Hall, for which a small charge of 6d. each will be made. Owing to the size of the hall, it will be necessary to have relays at 5.15 and 6.15 p.m., and those who intend to be present are requested to send a notification by postcard, not later than Tuesday, April 10th, to Mr. W. H. Oram, 25, Crown St., Harrow, as tea will only be provided for those who signify their intention to be present. Members should send in their notices early to prevent disappointment. At the business meeting the President will take the chair. The following towers will be open for ringing, St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, 4.15 to 7, except 6 to 6.30, St. Giles-in-the-Fields, 4.30 to 6.—W. H. Oram, 25, Crown St., Harrow, H. C. Chandler, Church Road, Heston, Hon. Secs.

**SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**—Quarterly meeting will be held at Wednesbury on Saturday, April 14th. Bells available at 3. Service in Church at 5.15, with an address by the Vicar (Rev. T. P. H. Hyatt). Tea (1/-) in the Schoolroom at 6. Please send word not later than Tuesday, April 10th.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS.**—Mr. H. F. Cooper has removed from the County Offices, Chelmsford, to the Red Lion, Stisted, near Braintree.

**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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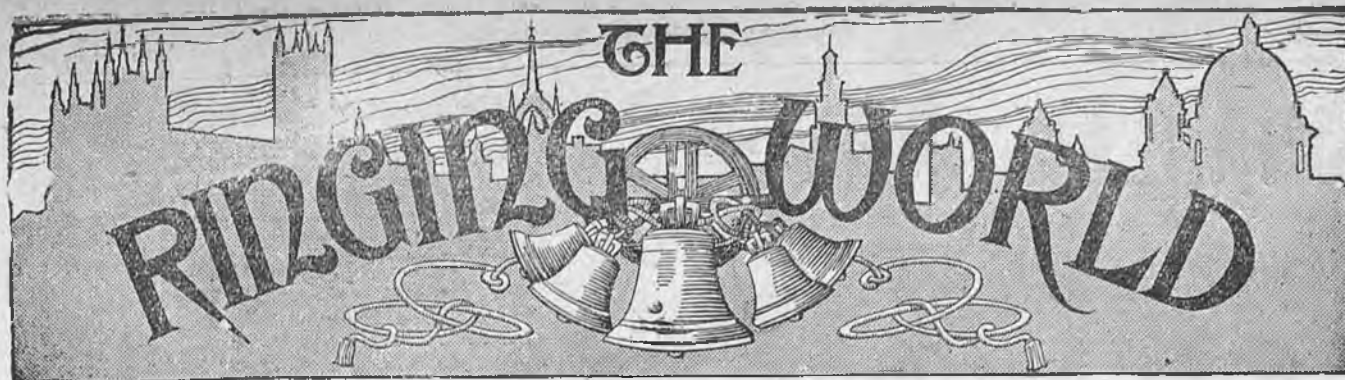
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No. 316. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, APRIL 6th, 1917.

[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, 1918  
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.

The Easter holiday is one which is favoured by several associations for their annual meeting, and under pre-war conditions it was as convenient a day as could be found for those organisations who made up their accounts and reports to the end of the preceding year. Even in the two war years that have gone, Easter Monday gatherings have been attended by considerable success, but the prospects for the meetings to be held next week are less rosy. Since last year a great many more men have been drafted from the belfry into the service of the State, while for those who remain there is an increased handicap in the restrictions on railway travelling brought about by the raising of fares. These two things are bound to tell heavily against the various association gatherings this year.

Annual meetings of associations are more or less essential to the proper carrying on of affairs; but in view of the increased difficulties of members in travelling comparatively long distances to attend them, the necessity of maintaining the district and branch meetings becomes more important. In the case of the Winchester Guild the annual festival has been abandoned for this year, but in making this decision, the committee were emphatic in their desire that the district meetings should be continued. It is of real importance to the future of the Exercise that, in the stress of the present times, members should exert themselves to keep their meetings going; and while long journeys to a central gathering may be out of the question, men can usually find time to put in an hour or two occasionally at a district meeting—unless, of course, the imperative and paramount needs of the State make it impossible—and the best interests of ringing will be served if no effort is lost to make the smaller but more frequent district gatherings of real utility and complete success.

But while these Association affairs are of considerable importance to the maintenance of ringing, the meetings of the Central Council, under circumstances like the present, are on a somewhat different footing; and it was no surprise to learn last week from the Hon. Secretary that, by a very large majority, the Council had decided not to hold any meeting this year. That decision is unquestionably a wise one, for existing conditions would have made it extremely improbable that a representative gathering would have been obtained. As has been so often pointed out, the next meeting of the Council, whenever it is held, will be of much importance to the future of the body—as important to its own existence as any meeting held since its formation—and it is therefore all the more necessary to secure as full an attendance as possible. It will be far better to wait another year, and meet as an adequately representative body, than to attempt to settle important questions through the small proportion of members who would probably be able to attend such a gathering next Whitsun.

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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 PEAL.

SANDHURST, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 31, 1917, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Lawrence,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

JESSE GILLET ... .. Treble	CHARLES DYSON ... .. 5
JOHN AUSTIN ... .. 2	SAMUEL NEWMAN ... .. 6
Ex-SERG. J. WILLIAMS ... 3	THOMAS NEWMAN ... .. 7
GEORGE CONDICK ... .. 4	*WILLIAM DRINKWATER ... Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS NEWMAN.

\* First peal. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to Pte. Joseph Devereux, who died in France from wounds received in action.

## HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS  
AND THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY GUILD.

On Tuesday, March 27, 1917, in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes,

At the SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;**

JAMES HUNT ... .. 1-2	FRANK SMITH ... .. 5-6
EDGAR WIGHTMAN ... .. 3-4	WILLIAM T. POWELL ... 7-8
WILLIAM J. NUDDS ... .. 9-10	

Composed and Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

Witness: MR. W. A. GREENING.

Rung in memory of the late Mr. A. E. Brightman (no tower bells being available).

## ROLL OF HONOUR.

Pte J. Barnes, of Emmanuel Church, Oswaldtwistle, 10th King's Liverpool Regiment.

Cadet W. Kingdon, St. Mary's, Harrow, R.F.C.

Pte Cecil Greenfield, St. Mary's, Pulborough, Sussex, Grenadier Guards.

## WHERE IS LANCASHIRE'S OLDEST BELL?

Sir,—In reply to Mr. Jas. Houldsworth there are at least twenty bells in Lancashire older than the Flemish bell at Whalley, dated 1537. There may be more. Seventeen of these twenty bells are in thirteen churches, two are in private possession, and one (at Clayton Hall) belongs to the Corporation of Manchester. The oldest bell in Lancashire, and probably the oldest dated bell in the Kingdom, is at Cloughton, near Lancaster. It is inscribed ANNO . DNI . M . CC . NONOG . VI (i.e., 1296), and is 21in. diameter. A facsimile of the inscription is given in Mr. H. B. Walker's "Church Bells of England" (p. 22); G. S. Tyack's "Book about Bells" (p. 46); Axon's "Bygone Lancashire" (p. 114); and in the "Palatine Note Book," Vol. iv. (p. 121). The bell is referred to in Raven's "Bells of England" (1906), at page 63; and in Ellacombe's "Bells of the Church" (1872), at page 250.

The other mediæval bells in Lancashire so far noted occur at Aldingham (2), Bolton-le-Sands, Bradshaw, Brindle (2), Colton, Downham (2), Hulton (2), Longridge, Over Kellett, Roby (1512), St. Michael's-on-Wyre (1458), and Urswick. The two bells in private possession belonged to the Churches of Broughton-in-Furness and Samlesbury respectively.

A lengthy account of the Aldingham and Urswick bells will be found in "Furness Lore," being the Transactions of the Barrow Naturalists Field Club for 1900. The Brindle and Roby bells are described in Vol. xxxii. of the Transactions of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society, those at Bradshaw and Clayton Hall, Manchester, in Vol. xxxiii. of the same Transactions, and that at St. Michael's-on-Wyre in Vol. xvi. of the Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire. In all cases facsimiles of the inscriptions are given. The tenor at Ormskirk bears the date 1497, but also that of its recasting in 1576. As probably Mr. Houldsworth is aware, the Whalley bell is from the foundry of Peter van den Gheyn, of Louvain.

54, Sussex Road, Southport.  
March 31st, 1917.

F. H. CHEETHAM.

## CORRECTION.

In the peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, rung at Earlsheaton, Yorkshire, and published in our issue of March 30th, the name of the ringer of the 3rd was Wm. Barton, and not J. R. Barton, as stated.

## PROOF AND COMPOSITION OF TREBLE BOB METHODS.

By GABRIEL LINDOFF.

(Continued from Vol. XI, page 238.)

Setting out a three-part table differs but slightly to that of setting out a five-part, the only difference being that when you have extracted the M leads from the natural course-ends, place them all in the same column, downwards, instead of one in each column as in a five-part.

It will be found that three-part tables containing thirty course-ends are limited to two in number, and as both of these tables have been published I will pass on to two-part tables, they having been the least worked of any of the various tables in parts.

In selecting course-ends for two-part composition, it will be found that thirty course-ends are not available owing to the fact that not more than twenty-four can be got true in the same two-part relation to one another.

Below I append in full the twenty-four natural course-ends selected to build up our two-part table.

1A	2A	3B	4B	5A	6A
23456	25463	43526	45236	36245	53246
35264		32465	53462		34562
56342	2 B	26354	36524	5 B	46325
64523	36452	65243	62345		62453
42635		54632	24653	25346	25634

You will notice that these courses can be selected in pairs and will bear the same relation to one another, that relation being the 6th turned over with the 5th and the 2nd with the 3rd, the 4th being fixed. The partner for 23456 is 32465 and for 35264 is 26354.

In columns 2 and 5 you will notice I have selected in each case one from A and one from B that bear a two-part relation to one another as well as being true to one another.

The following table has been built up from these twenty-four course-ends:—

TWO-PART TABLE.

Col I.	Col II.	Col I.	Col II.
642 35	543 26	564 23	654 32
264 35	354 26	456 23	465 32
426 35	435 26	645 23	546 32
1 563 24	352 46	652 34	263 45
356 24	265 34	235 46	326 45
632 54	523 64	523 46	632 45
263 54	352 64	354 26	264 35
326 54	235 64	435 26	426 35
		543 26	642 35
342 56	243 65	245 36	346 25
234 56	324 65	524 36	634 25
2 645 32	563 24	452 36	463 25
563 42	652 43	6 623 54	365 42
356 42	265 43	532 64	256 43
635 42	526 43	236 54	325 64
		625 34	536 24
523 64	632 54	534 62	624 53
352 64	263 54	246 35	345 26
3 426 53	645 32	623 54	532 46
642 53	543 62	253 46	325 64
264 53	354 62	536 24	625 34
425 63	436 52	625 34	536 24
356 42	265 43	534 62	624 53
635 42	526 43	246 35	345 26
563 42	652 43	623 45	532 46
234 65	426 53	362 45	253 46
423 65	324 56	536 24	625 34
342 65	243 56	534 62	624 53
236 45	325 46	246 35	345 26
		623 45	532 46
		362 45	253 46
		536 24	625 34
		653 24	562 34
		365 24	256 34
4 452 63	246 35	463 52	345 26
245 63	346 52	524 63	634 52
524 63	634 52	456 23	465 32
456 23	465 32	645 23	546 32
645 23	546 32	564 23	654 32

362 45	253 46	423 56	432 65
236 45	325 46	11 635 24	562 43
623 45	532 46	562 34	653 24
9 534 26	452 63	256 34	365 24
453 26	462 35		
342 56	243 65	326 54	235 64
234 56	324 65	12 465 23	542 36
423 56	432 65	542 63	456 32
			643 25
462 53	453 62		
246 53	345 62		
10 365 42	534 26	256 43	624 35
536 42	625 43		
653 42	562 43		
364 52	254 63		

Missing Wrongs and Homes that are not included in the table, but can be used.

Wrongs.	Homes.
564 32	24536
542 36	52436
254 36	45236
425 36	45362
	34562
	53462
	34625
	63425
	46325
	46253
	24653
	62453

From this table the two following peals have been extracted. They constitute for the present the record length for a two-part.

7,616 Treble Bob Major.

23456	M	B	W	H
54326			2	2
26543	2		1	
45362	1		1	
32654	1		1	2
53624	1	—	2	
32546	2		2	
56423	2	—	2	2
25463	1	—	2	
25634	—		1	
25346	—		1	
54263	—			
32465	2	—	1	1
	Repeated.			

7,616 Treble Bob Major.

23456	M	B	W	H
54326			2	2
26543	2		1	
45362	1		1	
32654	1		1	2
25463	1		2	
25634	—			1
53624			2	
32546	2		2	
36245	2			1
64352	—			
56423	2		2	2
32465	1		1	1
	Repeated.			

If these peals are started below the underlined course the 6th will be extent H in each case.

Tracing these peals through the table will give one a greater insight into the working of these tables than anything I know of.

## LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

### CEREMONY AT PENWORTHAM.

On Saturday week, a meeting of the Preston Branch was held at Penwortham Parish Church. Members were present from the surrounding towers, but, owing to the war and the increased difficulties of travelling, the attendance was not so large as usual.

A very interesting ceremony took place in the hanging on the wall of the belfry of a panel containing photographs of five members of the Penwortham band who are on active service abroad in His Majesty's Forces. The photos are beautifully mounted and fixed in a frame of dark oak, with the rank, name and regiment of each below. On the top is inscribed "Penwortham S. Mary's Society of Change Ringers," and below, "Members of His Majesty's Forces on Active Service, February, 1917." The ceremony was performed by the Rev. J. Young, Vicar of S. Paul's, Preston, who is an active member of the Lancashire Association. In a few well-chosen words he complimented the Penwortham band on the way in which they had commemorated their members' response to the call of "King and Country."

A vote of thanks to the Rev. H. Young was proposed by the Vicar (the Rev. O. Burton), and seconded by Mr. E. W. Hutchinson.

Several touches of Bob Minor, College Single and Kent Treble Bob were rung during the afternoon, after which the party were hospitably entertained by Mrs. Burton, whose kindness was thoroughly appreciated.

The Branch meeting was then held, and it was decided that Brindle should be the next meeting-place, in June.

Cordial thanks to Mrs. Burton and the Vicar brought a pleasant afternoon to a close.



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Established  
A.D. 1570.

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

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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.*

## DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

The annual meeting of the Dudley and District Guild was held at Dudley. Although the weather was not all that could be desired, upwards of 70 members availed themselves of the opportunity of being present, and the ring of ten bells was available from 3.30 until 9 o'clock, a fact which was greatly appreciated. The service, which was fairly well attended, was conducted by the President of the Guild (the Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland, LL.D., Vicar of Dudley), who gave a very inspiring address from the words: "He being dead, yet speaketh." He made special reference of the loss the Guild has sustained by the death of its late Ringing Master, Mr. S. Spittle, dwelling upon Mr. Spittle's life's work as a churchman and ringer.

At the close of the service an adjournment was made to the School room, where tea was in readiness, which on such a wet and miserable day was much appreciated and enjoyed. Mrs. Gray Maitland, Mrs. Stuart-King, Mrs. Rawson, Mrs. J. P. Bill and Mrs. Tait presided at the urns, and among those present were the Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland, the Rev. C. M. Stuart-King; Messrs. J. M. Tait (people's warden), J. P. Bill (ex-warden), Councillor H. Wilkes, and Mr. Arthur Spittle. Apologies for non-attendance were received from the Rev. S. J. Marriott, Messrs. F. R. McDowell (Vicar's warden), T. Cooper, John Smith, W. R. Small, H. Mallin, and others. The following towers were represented: Blakenhall, Bliston, Coseley, Dudley, Sedgley, Tipton, Old Hill, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, Wolverhampton, Birmingham, Smethwick, etc.

### THE LATE MASTER'S SERVICES RECOGNISED.

Before commencing the business meeting, the President referred in very feeling terms to the loss the Guild has sustained by the death of their Ringing Master, who for 71 years was a faithful and devout servant of the Parish Church, and was foremost in the formation of the Dudley Guild and its Ringing Master until his death—a period of eighteen years. The Chairman added that he thought they would like to take that, the first, opportunity of expressing their sympathy and condolence to the widow and family of their late Ringing Master, and he believed the widow and family would appreciate that expression.

The motion was carried in silence by the members standing, and the secretary was requested to send a suitable letter.

The following Ringing Masters of Kindred Societies spoke in high terms of Mr. Spittle's work as a change ringer, and in connection with change ringing: Mr. A. E. Parsons (Worcestershire Association), Mr. J. E. Groves (St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham), Mr. J. George (Warwickshire Guild), Mr. J. Bradney (Archdeaconry of Salop), Mr. W. Fisher (Archdeaconry of Stafford), and Mr. H. Mason, the newly-elected Ringing Master of the Dudley Guild. Mr. Parsons spoke upon the work Mr. Spittle had done for the Worcestershire Association, and said that it was partly owing to the work of Mr. Spittle that the Worcestershire Association was formed. It was he who did a lot of spade work, and helped in the "polishing" later. The spirit shown by Mr. Spittle was magnificent, and in recognition of the valuable services which he had rendered to the Association they conferred upon him the honour of Vice-President, which position he had held ever since. The members of the Worcestershire Association revered him, and on their behalf he desired to express the feelings which they felt upon the loss the ringers had sustained by the death of Mr. Spittle, and the deep reverence which he personally held for the memory of the departed veteran.

After the other ringing masters had paid their tribute to Mr. Spittle's work as a ringer, Mr. Arthur Spittle (son), on behalf of the family, thanked the speakers for their kind and sympathetic reference to his father, and at the same time offered to present to the Guild for all time, in the keeping of the Vicar and churchwardens of Dudley, and the Ringing Master of the Dudley company, as soon as a deed of gift could be drawn up, a peal of 56 handbells which had belonged to his late father, for the use of the Dudley and District Guild, a gift which the President gladly accepted.

### THE NEW MASTER.

The Secretary (Mr. H. Sheppard) then read his annual report, which, with the balance sheet, was passed, and ordered to be printed.

All the officers were re-elected, while Mr. Harry Mason, of Old Hill, was unanimously elected Ringing Master, and in him the members realise they have a worthy successor to the late Mr. Spittle.

Several new members were elected, including two ladies, and on the proposition of the Rev. Gray Maitland, seconded by Mr. Mason, Mr. Arthur Spittle and Mr. Councillor H. Wilkes were added to the list of Vice-Presidents.

At the close of the meeting, a vote of thanks was accorded to the President for conducting the service in church, presiding at the meeting, and for the use of the Schoolroom, tower and bells; to the deputy organist, and the choir boys, who had assisted in making the service bright and cheerful; to the donors to the tea fund; to the ladies who presided at the tables, to those who had prepared and served the tea, and had kindly looked after the comforts of those present; and to all who had in any way assisted in making the meeting such a great success.

# HALF-TERM.

## HOW THE MASTER AND HIS BOYS SPENT THEIR HOLIDAY.

I wonder if any of your readers remember the account of our tour in the Isle of Wight—"insolent" (In Solent) behaviour Mr. Boughey called it, but this is believed to have been a joke, and a watery one at that. Still, if there are any who remember us it may interest them to know that we are still going strong, although some of our members are no longer with us, having left in accordance with the natural law of schools. **Willis** is now at Clifton College, and the **B.N.** has departed to Cheltenham Town, where he is believed to be acquiring unthinkable knowledge in Latin and Greek. Still we have tried to fill their places, and are a merry little party, as you may see by the picture. Tommy major's smile is as broad as ever, and if Tommy

we caught the two o'clock boat to Hythe. "Some" boat, that; she has got paddle-wheels and two ends. Now don't begin to say, "Well, we knew that," because if you do, it shows you know nothing at all about it. She really has two ends, or rather a rudder at either end, and she clamps one rudder when she wants to steer with the other, so that it forms her bow. I wonder if that ship in which they went hunting the "Snark" was made on this plan! If so, that might account for the rudder and the bowsprit getting mixed. But our boat had no bowsprit that I could discover, and she carried us safely to Hythe without getting mixed in any way. A two-mile walk brought us to Dibden, where we met the Vicar, who gave us a hearty welcome. The local ringers, too, were very kind; they had raised the bells before our arrival. The party was joined by Mr. George Williams and Mr. Wilks, who had come with a motor cycle and sidecar. Mr. Chambers, also, had come from North Stoneham to assist us, and a very pleasant ring we had. In the evening we returned to Westend, and



ME.  
L. B.

TOMMY MINOR.  
JACKY.

JOHNNIE.  
BIDDY.

TOMMY MAJOR.  
PHIZ.

minor looks serious that is not his fault; the photographer made a weak joke, and "he always looks grave at a pun." I am hard put to it to find a title for this article; someone suggested "'Hims' Ancient and Modern," but I object to the ancient. Suppose we call it "Half-term," for it really is of Half-term that I am going to tell you. We started on Friday evening at 4 o'clock, when Mr. Andrew called for us with a "Tin Lizard," and we all managed to squeeze in—yes; all nine of us, that is, including Mr. Andrew—and made our way safely to Westend, where George and Mrs. Williams were awaiting us with a hearty welcome, and such a tea! Handbell ringing occupied our attention on the Friday night, our most ambitious performance being a 720 of Bob Minor, in which Tommy minor rang 1-2, and George Williams conducted from 5-8. The party then separated to the various quarters provided for them, some staying at the Fleming Arms, Swatling; a house which is not unknown to some of your readers.

On Saturday morning we started early for Southampton, where we spent the time in shopping and facing the camera, and after lunch

enjoyed another pleasant evening with the handbells and vocal music, in which Tommy major greatly distinguished himself.

On Sunday morning we attended service at North Stoneham, where we had a pull with the local ringers, and in the afternoon we visited St. Mary's, Southampton, having received a cordial invitation from Mr. Wilks, who was there to welcome us, as were many others. To all and each of the kind friends who helped to make our outing such a success we would extend our thanks, but above all to Mr. and Mrs. George Williams, who have done so much for us on this and many other occasions.

E. B. J.

P.S.—Last Sunday was Tommy minor's 18th birthday. We tried for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles on the handbells, but came to grief in the 4th six-score. However, he succeeded in ringing the treble for his first six-score for morning service at Titchfield, and we made no mistake about the birthday tea—Buttered eggs, potted lobsters, birthday cake; all the course ends came up true; or, should I say, went down?

## PRESENTATION TO LLANDAFF DIOCESAN SECRETARY.

A presentation of silver, suitably inscribed, was made on Tuesday evening of last week in All Saints' Church Belfry, Newport, to Mr. J. W. Jones, the conductor of All Saints' ringers, and honorary secretary to the Llandaff Diocesan Association ringers. The presentation was made by the Rev. Charles Bennett, on behalf of the Newport ringers, All Saints' Church officials and friends, as a mark of esteem in which Mr. Jones is held, the occasion being Mr. and Mrs. Jones' silver wedding.

CROYDON, SURREY. — At the Parish Church, for Confirmation service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans'): H. W. Willis (first quarter-peal) 1, W. S. Wise (conductor) 2, J. Rumbold 3, C. Dean 4, J. Talbot 5, W. Groves 6, F. Holder 7, W. Pope 8.

## THE LATE MR. A. W. GRIMES' HANDBELLS.

In order to assist the widow and young family of the late Mr. A. W. Grimes, the deceased ringer's fine peal of 18 handbells are being disposed of. It is much to be hoped that a good sum will be raised by this means, and those who are willing to try and dispose of tickets, which are 3d. each, should communicate with Mr. W. Pye, 8, Sanson Road, Lansdown Road, Leytonstone.

ACTON.—On February 28th, 336 Grandsire Triples, by: Miss Edith Jones (conductor) 1, H. Stevens 2, Staff-Sergt. E. T. Verrels 3, C. Edwards 4, H. Chaffey 5, J. Fruin 6, W. Lawrence 7, A. Davis 8. Rung as a compliment to Miss Annie Bolland, whose marriage to Mr. Fredk. Romain took place the previous day at St. John's Church, Devizes. The bride, who is an enthusiastic change ringer at St. John's, is a schoolfellow and friend of the conductor.

## NOTICES.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—The district meeting for the South Eastern Division will be held at All Saints', Writtle, on Easter Monday. Bells available 2.30. Service 5 o'clock, followed by tea and meeting in the Iron Room. Tea, ninepence each. F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle.—Subscriptions for 1917 are now due.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Cirencester on Easter Monday. The bells of the Parish Church (12) will be available for ringing at 11 a.m. The bells of Holy Trinity, Watermoor (8), will also be open for ringing during the day. All ringers are cordially invited.—R. W. Hyner, Hon. Sec., 46, Goddard Street, Swindon, Wilts.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Leicester on Easter Monday, April 9th. Ringing at St. Martin's and St. John's from 11 a.m. Tea (1/- each) at 4.15 p.m. at the 'Granby' Restaurant, near the G.P.O. Committee meeting same place at 3.30 p.m. Will those persons who intend being present for tea kindly notify Mr. W. Willson, 23, Hopefield Road, by the Thursday evening previous, as a guarantee must be given to the caterers?—W. E. White, Hon. Secretary.

**HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—The quarterly meeting and six bell contest will be held at Mytholmroyd on Easter Monday, April 9th. Draw for order of ringing in the school at 10.45 a.m. The bells at St. Thomas a Beckett's, Heptonstall, will be open for ringing from noon till dusk.—F. Salmons, Sec., 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 9th, 1917. Business meeting in the Cathedral Chapter House at 2.30 p.m. prompt. Chairman, The Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., President. Service in the Cathedral at 4.15 p.m. Address by the Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., Dean. Tea will be provided at the Angel Hotel, Tidbury, at 5.15 p.m. Bells available:—Cathedral (12), 1 to 2 p.m.; All Saints' (10), Hallow (8), St. Helens (8), St. Nicholas (6), St. John-in-Bedwardine (6). These bells will be available for short touches until 9 p.m. Subscriptions should be paid, expenses received, and reports obtained, in St. Helen's Church House, between 12 and 1. Peal book on view.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheepcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held at Worksop (8 bells) on Easter Monday. Bells available from 1.30 p.m. until dusk. Any party of ringers desiring to ring in the morning should communicate with Mr. H. Haigh, 103, Gateford Road, Worksop.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**—The annual meeting will be held at Emscote (Warwick) on Easter Monday. Bells available, St. Mary's, Warwick (10), 6 till 7 p.m., Leamington (8) 11 a.m. till 1 p.m., Emscote (8) all day. Service at All Saints', Emscote, 3 o'clock. Committee meeting 3.30, followed by business meeting in Emscote schools. Outstanding subscriptions should now be paid.—J. H. White, 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at the Church House, St. Paul's Square, Bedford, on Easter Monday, at 3.30. Committee meeting at 3, same place. The bells at St. Paul's and St. Peter's will be available.—A. Rust, Hon. Sec.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Annual meeting at St. Albans on Easter Monday. Cathedral belfry open from 12—1, and again at 2 p.m. St. Peter's at 1.30. Those who would like a pull on St. Stephen's or St. Michael's bells, a letter to me stating time and number of ringers would be forwarded to the respective conductors. Choral evensong at Cathedral, 5 p.m. (please don't be late), with address by the Rev. C. F. Ayerst, Vicar of Watford. Tea at Abbey Institute, 6 p.m., followed by business meeting. Please notify attendance not later than Monday, April 9th, so that ample arrangements can be made for tea.—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., "Duffield," St. Albans.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on April 10th and 24th, and for handbell practice on the 19th. There will also be ringing at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Sunday the 15th at 6 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The General meeting of the above Society will be held at Headingley, St. Chad's, on Saturday, April 14th, 1917. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Business meeting in the Parish Room after the bells are ceased. The election of officers will take place.—Wm. Barton, Hon. Sec. 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch. —The next meeting will be held at St. Mark's, Worsley, on April 14th. Unveiling ceremony of tablet to the late Mr. Fred Derbyshire by Rev. H. J. Elsee M.A., at 3.30. Meeting to follow. The bells will be available for ringing afterwards.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late St. James' Society, established 1824).—The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Hammersmith, on Saturday, 14th April. Ringing from 3.45 to 7.45 p.m., followed by a business meeting at the Devonshire Arms, Queen St. Ringers and friends welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec., 10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate, E.C. (2).

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The 19th annual general meeting will be held at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, W.C., on Saturday, April 14th, 1917. The service will be held at 3.15 p.m. Tea will be provided in the Parish Hall, for which a small charge of 6d. each will be made. Owing to the size of the hall, it will be necessary to have relays at 5.15 and 6.15 p.m., and those who intend to be present are requested to send a notification by postcard, not later than Tuesday, April 10th, to Mr. W. H. Oram, 25, Crown St., Harrow, as tea will only be provided for those who signify their intention to be present. Members should send in their notices early to prevent disappointment. At the business meeting the President will take the chair. The following towers will be open for ringing, St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, 4.15 to 7, except 6 to 6.30, St. Giles-in-the-Fields, 4.30 to 6.—W. H. Oram, 25, Crown St., Harrow, H. C. Chandler, Church Road, Heston, Hon. Secs.



**SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**—Quarterly meeting will be held at Wednesday on Saturday, April 14th. Bells available at 3. Service in Church at 5.15, with an address by the Vicar (Rev. T. P. H. Hyatt). Tea (1/-) in the Schoolroom at 6. Please send word not later than Tuesday, April 10th.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Bristol Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Stapleton on Saturday, 14th April. Bells at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., for those notifying by 11th instant.—Chas. J. Walton, 4, Jamaica Street, Bristol.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—South and West District.—A meeting will be held by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. F. W. A. Wilkinson) at Heston, on Saturday, April 21st. Bells available from 3.30. Tea by invitation at 6. Members please note that subscriptions are now due.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

**ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—Quarterly meeting at St. Mary Magdalene, Holloway, Saturday, April 21st. Ringing from 4 to 7. Meeting afterwards, at which important business dealing with the rules will be brought forward.—H. J. Bradley, Hon. Sec.

**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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(1) SIX-PART PEAL.

FIRST 3 PARTS.

2 S1 1 1 S1 2 1 2 1 S4 1 1 S1 3 S3 1 1 S1 5 1 2 5 2 2 5 1 3 1 3 2

LAST 3 PARTS.

1 S1 5 1 2 5 2 2 5 1 3 1 3 2 2 S1 1 1 S1 2 1 2 1 S4 1 1 S1 3 S3 1

Single 3rd and 6th Part-Ends.

(2) THREE-PART PEAL.

4 4 S4 \*1 S1 2 1 5 2 1 3 3 5 1 2 5 3 5 1 4 1 3 5 1 4 1 3 1 3 5 2 1 4 2 1  
5 1 2 3 1 3 1 5 S2 1 1 S1 2 1 2 S2 1. Repeat twice from \*, Single for Bob to finish.

(3) THREE-PART PEAL.

(Containing 2 Holt's Bob-Singles.)

1 3 1 3 1 H.B.S.3 \* 3 1 5 3 1 3 1 5 2 2 4 5 2 1 5 4 5 1 2 5 2 2 1 3 1 2  
5 4 5 4 5 4 2 2 1 3 5 5. Repeat twice from \*, ending with H.B.S.

#### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**DONCASTER.**—On Sunday evening, February 24th, for a memorial service, for Capt. Dr. Sandford, son of Archdeacon Sandford, Vicar of Doncaster, who was killed in France when leading his men, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 55 mins.: H. Fèvre 1, F. Ashe 2, J. Holmes 3, C. Scott 4, G. Clarke 5, A. Ashe 6, G. Halksworth (conductor) 7, W. Howard 8.

**PLYMOUTH.**—At Emmanuel Church, on Sunday, Feb. 24th, for evening service (in 46 mins.), a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A. Kentfield 1, Pte A. Croucher (Aldershot) 2, W. Hobbs 3, W. Richards 4, W. Rundle 5, J. Woodley 6, Pte W. Malins, Rugby (conductor) 7, G. Kerswell 8.

**GORING, OXON.**—Oxford Guild.—On Sunday evening, Feb. 26th, for divine service, 360 Grandsire Minor: L. R. Hayward 1, J. Bower 2, W. Aldridge 3, J. Carter 4, W. Napper (conductor) 5, G. Wilson 6.—On March 1st, 480 Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. W. Napper 1, J. Bower 2, W. Aldridge 3, J. Carter 4, G. Wilson (conductor) 5, G. Goodall 6; and in the evening 720 Grandsire Minor and 720 Bob Minor: G. Goodall (first 720 and first attempt) 1, J. Bower 2, W. Aldridge 3, J. Carter 4, W. Napper 5, G. Wilson 6, W. Napper conducted the Grandsire Minor, and G. Wilson the Bob Minor. This was the first ringing done in the evening at this church for a long time, owing to the restrictions of the use of church bells after dark.—On Sunday, March 11th, for morning service, 360 Grandsire Minor, and 360 in the same method for evening service, both conducted by W. Napper.

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# THE RINGING WORLD

No. 317. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, APRIL 13th, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

## 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, 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. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

## MODERN WORK

### EDUCATING THE PUBLIC.

To the general public the realms of campanology are, as it were, a sphere apart. They are mystified by its technicalities on the rare occasions that they come in contact with them, and they marvel often at the dogged perseverance of the ringers in ringing hours on end, a task which they imagine to be a laborious and monotonous one. Whenever, therefore, anything is done to enlighten the public upon the interest which attaches to the bells themselves, the fascination which surrounds the mathematical side of the science, and the attraction which holds the devotees of the Art, both for the physical and mental exercise which it provides, nothing but good can result. Such information may be imparted in various ways, and one of the most effective, when it can be arranged, is by means of a lecture. Such lectures are, happily, growing in frequency, and just recently the enthusiastic Hon. Secretary of the Hertfordshire Association has been giving a talk on bells to an interested audience; while a gathering of Wykehamists have been listening to a similar lecture by Mr. L. W. Greenwood. We may be sure that the lecturers did not fail to put in a word in season to gather, if possible, recruits for the Exercise.

It is not everyone, it is true, who has the opportunity, or even the ability, to compile sufficient material for a lecture, or the gift to deliver it. To be successful, it goes without saying, the lecture needs to be not only interesting in substance, but attractive in style. There are many, however, who could read, with full effect, a paper prepared for them; and about eighteen months ago we suggested that the Central Council might have such a paper prepared, accompanied, if possible, by a set of lantern slides, which could be lent out for use. We mentioned at the time that there were men on the Council well qualified to prepare such a lecture, and give it a literary finish, and we have reason to believe that the subject would have come before the Council before this had the Council met. The matter was one which appealed to the late President, and would unquestionably have had his support. The only thing to be said against a general lecture of this kind is that it may lack that local "touch" which is often necessary to success, although, of course, even this could be supplied if the reading was in the hands of someone versed in the subject. Some day or other the matter may be dealt with, but in the meantime, wherever a ringer is capable of rendering a service of this kind, which would serve to enlighten the public, and create an outside interest in church bells and bell ringing, opportunity might well be made to read a paper or give a lecture. It might lead not only to wider interest in ringing, but to securing recruits for the belfries, where they are needed to-day more than ever before.



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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 BELLEINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

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## HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

On Monday, April 2, 1917, in Two Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

At THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

JAMES HUNT ... 1—2 | FRANK SMITH ... 5—6  
EDGAR WIGHTMAN ... 3—4 | JOSEPH E. SYKES ... 7—8

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

Umpire: WILLIAM J. NUDDS.

Arranged by the Spitalfields Bell Foundry Guild to oblige Mr. J. E. Sykes.

## KILLED IN ACTION.

YOUNG MITCHAM RINGER'S DEATH.

The Mitcham Society recently received the sad news of the death of Pte Stanley Smith, 4th East Surrey Regiment, who, while in action on the 18th March, was instantly killed by a shell.

The only son of Mr. W. S. Smith (who has been a highly respected member of the Mitcham band, and one of the most active ringers in the Surrey Association for more than 25 years), Stanley was elected a member of the Mitcham band in October, 1916, and had but recently reached his 21st birthday. He had taken deep interest and made rapid progress in the art during the short time he was a member, and his genial, kindly disposition and high character gained the esteem and personal regard of all his friends. His loss is severe and real to the Mitcham band, and much sympathy is felt for Mr., Mrs. and Miss Smith in their great sorrow and bereavement.

For evening service, on Sunday, April 1st, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to his memory: A. J. Lambert 1, J. D. Drewett 2, C. Dean 3, G. W. R. Grimwood 4, A. Calver 5, T. Steers 6, W. H. Joiner (conductor) 7, J. Currell 8.

## SEVERELY WOUNDED.

News has been received that one of the Southgate (Middlesex) band has been badly wounded. Pte H. B. Balaam, by the explosion of a shell, has lost his right arm, his left leg has been shattered, and he has received several other wounds. Ringers throughout the Exercise will deeply sympathise with this promising ringer, and wish him speedy restoration to health.

## ARMY RINGERS AT BLACKPOOL.

There is much coming and going at Blackpool of ringers belonging to the Army. On Sunday evening, March 18th, at St. John's Parish Church, 1260 Grandsire Triples was rung as a farewell to Pte L. W. Jacques, R.A.M.C., on his departure for Mesopotamia: W. Haworth (St. John's) 1, W. Wild (St. John's) 2, J. B. Eckley (St. John's) 3, Pte E. C. Grafton, R.A.M.C. (St. Luke's, Wolverhampton), 4, Pte L. W. Jacques, R.A.M.C. (conductor), Olney, Bucks, 5, Pte J. A. Saunders, R.A.M.C., 6, J. Smith (St. John's) 7, Pte J. H. Cropley, R.A.M.C. (Windsor), 8.

On Thursday afternoon, March 29th, a most impressive service was held, and a tablet unveiled to the memory of the late Lieut. A. Victor Smith, the gallant Blackpool policeman, who lost his life in Gallipoli, by throwing himself upon a live bomb, so saving the lives of his comrades. Prior to the service the church bells rang out a half-muffled quarter-peal of 1274 Grandsire Triples from Holt's Original: E. W. Haworth (St. John's) 1, Pte T. H. Reeves, R.A.M.C. (conductor), Christ Church, West Bromwich, 2, W. Wilkinson (St. John's) 3, Pte E. C. Grafton, R.A.M.C., 4, Cpl. J. Lloyd, R.A.M.C., 5, Pte J. A. Saunders, R.A.M.C., 6, W. Wild (St. John's) 7, Pte J. H. Cropley, R.A.M.C., 8. The memorial is a handsome and striking work, and beautifully wrought. Surmounting the tablet is a medallion portrait of the late lieutenant, flanked on either side by a copy in repoussé of the V.C. and the Croix de Guerre, whilst beneath is the badge and crest of his battalion. The wording on the tablet in raised letters is as follows: "In remembrance of a gallant soldier, pure in heart and ever loyal to duty, A. Victor Smith, V.C., Lieutenant, of the Blackpool Police, this memorial is dedicated. Less than 25 years, but crowned with the love then which no man hath greater, in the words of his commanding officer: 'He gave his life to save others,' at Fusilier Bluff, Gallipoli Peninsula, and was awarded the V.C. and the Croix de Guerre, for his magnificent act of self-sacrifice which saved many lives." At the foot of the memorial is the borough coat of arms.

Dr. Welldon, D.D., Dean of Manchester, unveiled the memorial, and gave an appropriate address; the full orchestra of the R.A.M.C. was present, and played the "Dead March" in "Saul," and eight bugles sounded the "Last Post." The R.A.M.C. choir led the singing of the hymns, and the congregation were deeply moved by the impressive service.

## LANCASHIRE'S OLDEST BELL.

Mr. F. H. Chesterton writes: "In my letter of March 31st for Vol. XVI. of the Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, read Vol. LXVI. (i.e., 86)."

**ROLL OF HONOUR.**

From All Saints' Parish Church, Rotherham:—

Pte Chas. Wright, Royal Field Artillery.

Pte Sydney Briggs, West Yorks Regiment.

From Easton-in-Gordano Somerset:—

Pte G. R. Moore, 4th Reserve Batt. Somerset Light Infantry now at Sutton Veney.

**AUSTRALIAN IN QUARTER PEAL.**

At Christ Church, Erith, for Confirmation service on Palm Sunday a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung in 51 mins. by: R. A. Joynes 1, G. Cullum 2, H. Holden 3, O. L. Twist 4, F. J. Cullum 5, J. Lowrey 6, F. J. Cullum (conductor) 7, E. Martin 8. The ringer of the treble is an Australian from Sydney, and it was his and the fewoman's first quarter-peal.

**BACK TO THE BELFRY.**

On Palm Sunday, at Milton-next-Gravesend, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor was rung by H. Argent 1, G. A. Jones 2, F. M. Mitchell (conductor) 3, G. Morrall 4, G. Ambrose 5, F. Hayes 6. This 720 was arranged, and rung as a birthday compliment to Fred Mitchell, junr. (15), and to welcome back to the belfry Mr. Fred Hayes, who has been absent since Christmas through a broken leg. His many friends will be glad to hear that, although far from being "fit," he is able to climb the belfry steps, and take part in his favourite Exercise. It is interesting to note that the conductor has now called a 720 of Cambridge Minor from every bell.

**LECTURE ON BELLS.**

The following paragraph appears in "The Wykehamist," the organ of Winchester School, and it is interesting to find the subject of bells brought in this way to the notice of scholars at this seat of learning, which has given us men well known in the Exercise, including the Rev. F. W. Carpenter and Mr. A. T. King, I.S.O.—to mention only two:—

"On Sunday, March 11th, L. W. Greenwood read a very interesting paper on 'Church Bells.' He started by telling us how they were made, and then went on to describe certain individual bells of interest with their names. He told us a lot of interesting customs concerning the ringing of the curfew (cover-fire) and sanctus, and others. It is interesting to hear that England is the only country in which bells are pealed. He informed us of the excellence of the exercise (to be obtained in ringing bells, speaking, as he was, from personal experience."

**BIRMINGHAM RINGER DEAD.**

Mr. George A. Taylor (late Staff-Sergeant Armourer, 1st Middlesex Regiment) passed away on March 28th, and was interred in the family grave at Witton on April 3rd. Mr. Taylor was 63 years of age, and a member of Bishop Ryder tower. Mr. J. Collett represented the ringers at the funeral.

A muffled peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted on Saturday afternoon last, but failed about half-way, on account of the tenor man missing his rope. A quarter-peal of Sledman Triples (composed and conducted by Mr. James George) was then attempted, but again ended in disappointment, 1—3—2 coming up at the finish.

Mr. Taylor's record of peals was small, but as a service ringer he was most punctual, and his presence could always be depended upon. Men of this kind are sadly missed under the present condition of things.

**DODDINGTON STEDMAN MAJOR.**

By GEORGE T. CLAYTON.

Plain Course.	5040			
144 Changes.	14	16	18	12345
12345678	—	—	—	12534
21436587	—	—	—	31452
124 578	—	—	—	31245
142 758	—	—	—	21543
412 785	—	—	—	21354
421 875	—	—	—	52431
2416357	—	—	—	45123
42818375	Repeat four times.			
245 735	The calls are "Steds," made by reversing the			
264 753	hunting order of the three back bells.			
624 573				
642 537				
46281357				
64823175				
684 715				
864 751				
846 571				
486 517				
46832157				

Repeat seven times.

**MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.**

**GILLINGHAM, KENT.**—On Feb. 17th, on handbells, 336 Grandsire Triples: Lee-Corpl. J. B. Hessey (Chertsey) 1—2, W. Haigh 3—4, F. A. Holden 5—6, L. Page (Titchfield) 7—8. — On Feb. 24th, by the United Services, 448 Bob Major, 336 Stedman Triples: Corpl. E. G. Buesden (Canterbury), Sapper L. Page, A. Elburn (Amersham, Bucks), B. Soden (Northampton), R.E., C. Glenn (Sheffield), Sgt. F. A. Holden, R.M.L.I., B. M. Targett (Gaywood, Norfolk), J. B. Hessey.

**ABINGDON, BERKS.**—Oxford Guild.—On Feb. 18th, at St. Nicholas' Church, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: F. Juggins 1, J. W. Wilkins 2, Mrs. A. E. Lock 3, A. Fawdry 4, H. Holifield (conductor) 5. — Barratt 6.—At St. Helen's, for evening service, 340 Stedman Triples: A. Fawdry 1, F. Juggins 2, Mrs. A. E. Lock 3, E. Barratt 4, G. Blay 5, J. Juggins 6, J. W. Wilkins (conductor) 7, P. Dyke 8.

**WHITCHURCH, SALOP.**—At the Parish Church, on Feb. 18th, for evening service, 336 Grandsire Triples. Also on Sunday, Feb. 25th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: T. Barker 1, F. Ryder 2, Gnr. W. Welling, R.G.A. (conductor) 3, J. Gibson 4, W. Barron 5, W. Hutchinson 6, T. Barron 7, H. Taylor 8. Arranged for the conductor, who is in camp near Whitechurch.

**HALES, SOMERSET.**—On Feb. 25th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, in 40 mins.: W. Crows 1, L. Pole 2, W. Clapp 3, G. Hancock 4, A. Tout (first quarter as conductor) 5, F. Thorne 6.

**WHITCHURCH, SALOP.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday evening, Feb. 25th, by the kind permission of the Rector, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: E. Barker 1, F. Ryder 2, Pte W. Welling (conductor) 3, J. Gibson 4, W. Barron 5, W. Hutchinson 6, T. Barron 7, H. Taylor 8. Pte W. Welling, R.G.A., is a member of the Windsor band.

**SKIPTON-IN-CRAVEN, YORKS.**—On Sunday, March 4th, at Holy Trinity Church, for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 30 mins. Rung on the middle six: W. Hull 1, J. Horner 2, Pte W. Neesam (D.L.I.) 3, W. Billows (conductor) 4, A. Lawson (first 720), 5, W. Bailey 6, Pte M. Hibbert (D.L.I.), 7, W. D. Hillary 8.

**WEST EALING.**—For the evening service, at St. Stephen's Church, on March 4th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. Harris (St. Mary's), 1, Staff-Sergt. E. T. Verrels 2, Miss E. Jones 3, J. Hunnisett 4, C. Edwards 5, G. M. Kilby (Willesden), 6, W. Lawrence (conductor), 7, A. Davis 8.

**CREWE.**—Chester Diocesan Guild.—At Christ Church, on Sunday, March 4th, for evening service, 526 Stedman Caters: W. T. Holding 1, R. Langford 2, H. Overton 3, G. H. Crawley 4, R. D. Langford 5, A. Crawley 6, J. Dentith 7, C. J. B. Cooke 8, R. T. Holding (conductor), 9, G. Harding 10. Rung as a birthday greeting to Miss K. Bowen Cooke, an honorary member of the Guild, and who had come home for a well earned rest, from France.

**CHARLWOOD, SURREY.**—On Sunday, March 4th, 720 Woodbine: G. Wickens 1, J. Rice 2, A. Wood 3, F. W. Rice 4, B. King 5, A. Ellis (conductor) 6. 720 Oxford Treble Bob: A. Ellis 1, A. Wood 2, J. Rice 3, J. Sherlock 4, B. King 5, F. W. Rice (conductor) 6. 360 College Exercise and 240 Kent Treble Bob, conducted by A. Ellis.

**SHARNFORD, LEICESTERSHIRE.**—At the Parish Church, for evening service, on Sunday, March 4th, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Mr. Thos. Lord, of Sharnford, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 30 mins.: H. Webb (Croft) 1, G. Wood 2, J. Ison 3, E. Chamberlain 4, J. Garratt (Sapcote), conductor, 5, J. Clark (Sapcote) 6. The ringers of the 2nd, 3rd and 4th are local men.

**LUTON, BEDS.**—On March 4th, at the Parish Church, for evening service, 504 Stedman Triples: F. Hunt 1, C. Rollings 2, B. Wilson 3, L. A. Goodenough 4, J. Rookwood 5, T. Kendall 6, A. King (conductor) 7, H. Shaw 8. Rung as a welcome to Craftsman C. R. Wing, R.F.C., one of the local ringers, who was on leave from France, but was unfortunately unable to participate in the touch.

**SKIPTON-IN-CRAVEN, YORKS.**—At Holy Trinity Church, on Sunday, March 4th, for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: W. Hull 1, J. Horner 2, Pte J. Neesam 3, W. Billows (conductor) 4, A. Lawson (first 720) 5, W. Bailey 6, Pte M. F. R. Hibbert 7, W. D. Hillary 8. Rung on the middle six.—On March 11th, for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: W. Hull 1, J. Horner 2, Pte J. Neesam 3, W. Billows (conductor) 4, A. Lawson 5, J. Robinson 6, Pte M. Hibbert 7, W. D. Hillary 8. Rung on the middle six.—On Sunday, March 18th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1288 changes), in 48 mins.: J. Horner (first quarter-peal) 1, J. Robinson 2, W. U. Birtchistle 3, Pte J. Neesam 4, W. Billows 5, A. P. Jones (conductor) 6, Pte M. Hibbert 7, W. D. Hillary 8.

**CARDIFF.**—Llandeff Association.—At St. John's Church, for evening service, on March 4th, 1259 Grandsire Caters, in 49 mins., conducted by W. Coombes. For evening service, on March 11th, 239 308 and 128 Grandsire Triples. The following took part in the touches: H. Day, W. Heath, S. Dave, W. Coombes, F. Chamberlain, W. Bolton, A. Rowley, and S. Barker. Conducted by William Bolton, Wm. Coombes, Fred Chamberlain.

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## LLANDAFF ASSOCIATION'S SECRETARY.



Mr. J. W. JONES.

The genial and enthusiastic Hon. Secretary of the Llandaff Association, Mr. J. W. Jones, and his good wife have just celebrated their silver wedding, and have been the recipients of congratulations from a large circle of friends both in and out of the Exercise, and a present of silver from the ringers of All Saints' Church, Newport.

Mr. Jones's services to ringing in South Wales have been inestimable. Not only has he worked with the greatest enthusiasm to build up the Llandaff Diocesan Association, but his timely and direct efforts have resulted in the restoration and augmentation of several rings of bells in the two counties which form the diocese. He has displayed much energy in the teaching of new bands, and it is not too much to say that South Wales possesses no keener ringer or one more universally esteemed for the good work he has done in promoting the cause of change-ringing.

When he is able to snatch an hour from the demands of the Llandaff Association, he is to be found in the neighbouring dioceses of Gloucester and Bristol, or even further afield, and, wherever he goes, he is always a welcome visitor.

Mr. and Mrs. Jones will have the good wishes of the whole Exercise for their continued health and happiness.

CARSHALTON, SURREY. — On Thursday evening, March 8th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): W. Buck 1, G. Heather 2, A. Boxall 3, A. Bundle 4, W. States 5, A. J. Perkins (conductor) 6, F. Holder 7, F. Boulter 8. The above were representatives of four different parishes.



## HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

### ANNUAL MEETING AT ST. ALBANS. A SUGGESTED NEW DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Hertford County Association took place at St. Albans, as usual, on Easter Monday, when there was a very satisfactory muster of ringers, who, during the day, visited the towers of the Cathedral, St. Stephen and St. Michael's Churches, a great variety of touches being rung. There was choral evensong in the choir of the Cathedral at 5 p.m., with an address by the Rev. C. F. Ayerst, Vicar of Watford, who spoke upon the words: "Of every man, according to his ability" (St. Matthew xxv. 15). He drew a forcible simile between the work of the ringers and the variety of duties of every-day life. He referred to ringing as a Christian work, requiring to be done by Christian men; and so he rejoiced that all over the land they were beginning to find that kind of man. Let them think how much their work was always connected with the deepest things of life and with the deepest feelings of man. If that were so, they should surely carry the truest motive into their work. He preached foreshadowed the time when they would be ringing for victory and for peace.

Tea was partaken of at the Abbey Institute, and the subsequent business meeting was presided over by the Rev. H. Tyrwhitt Drake (president).

Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from the Bishop of St. Albans, Canon the Hon. Robert Grimston, the Vicar of St. Stephen's (the Rev. J. B. Booth), Mr. H. J. Tomlinson, Lord Robert Cecil, Canon Mills (Bennington), Pte Chatley (from France), Rifleman Bert Prewett (from the trenches), and Mr. H. G. Rowe (Cheshunt), F. Reeve, junr., G. Hinton, E. Noyce, F. Menall, and F. Waterton (Tring).

The President said in the expression of the hope when he was elected president, that by this time they would have had the joy of ringing for peace, he had been a false prophet. But God grant that before this time next year peace might have come (hear, hear). As they met on that occasion they could not help thinking of their ringing brethren who were in the trenches (hear, hear). There were countless hosts of them. In the midst of their assembly their thoughts went forth to their absent friends. The President said he desired to take the opportunity of congratulating Mr. H. E. Whitbread, one of their members, on his promotion to commissioned rank, an honour, he was quite sure, he had thoroughly deserved (applause). If he made as good and efficient an officer as he was a change ringer, happy the regiment that numbered him in their midst. The President concluded by explaining that they had been unable, at this festival, to ring on the bells of St. Peter's Church on account of serious illness of Lieut. C. Graham Boys.

The following new members were elected: Messrs. Wm. Hart, Walter Gilks, Fredk. Marsh, of Aldenham; George Southey, Kempson; Arthur Mason, Erith, Kent; and Albert Diserens, Sunbury-on-Thames.

### THE HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT.

In his annual report, the Hon. Secretary said: The hope expressed that the 1917 meeting would be held under conditions of world peace, have not been fulfilled: at the same time it must be nearer, and we can console ourselves that our Church bells have not been put into the melting pot, but are still hanging in their respective belfries waiting for that opportune moment to ring their psalm of joyful praise. Ringing during the year has been carried on intermittently, the lighting and military restrictions stopping practices and evening ringing until quite recently. In many places the full complement of men could not be found to ring the bells for each Sunday service. One thing is certain, that when the war is over there will be many faces missing from the belfries, many having died for their country, others physically defective, and consequently debarred from ringing, and others probably with altered environment. For the moment, many older ringers have returned to tide over the difficulty, and their services have been especially welcome; but this is only a temporary expedient. I am fully convinced that if ringing is to be brought back to the high standard of efficiency prevailing before the war, we must bring into our ranks youths of 15 to 17 years of age. I know that this has been done in many places, yet I would emphasise the point and call upon every band to seek for fresh help from the young life of the Church. Many Associations favour the idea of "grouping bands" in readiness for the declaration of peace, in order that every peal in the land should be rung, and are making necessary preparations. I think such a scheme could be best managed for our county by our district secretaries, who are in touch with the various belfries in their respective areas. When peace is within sight, or even before, enquiries could be made as to whether any help was needed, and arrangements could be made accordingly. So it is up to us who remain at home to use every endeavour to foster interest among our youths, and to assist other bands in ringing, if our help is needed, when God shall again bless this nation and our Allies with peace.

### THE CARE OF BELLS.

One of the objects of our Association is Belfry Reform, admittedly a somewhat elastic term, and under this I would like to touch upon the important subject of the care of our bells. It is conceded that the bells of our steeples are valuable possessions, and it seems to my

mind that we are somewhat lax in seeing that proper care and attention is bestowed upon their upkeep, it being usually left to any one of the ringers, who does it with very few thanks, the service being only known to the ringers themselves. "The Ringing World" says: "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 fund. 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. It is time that the proper recognition of the steeplekeeper as one of the custodians of the Church's possessions should be secured far more widely than it is." I fully agree with the Editor's remarks, and I have no doubt that if the ringers brought the matter before their respective clergy, steps would be taken to put things in proper order. But let the steeplekeeper, or whatever you like to call him, be a bell ringer and not a tinker.

### THE ROLL CALL.

The mortality amongst ringers during the year has been somewhat heavy, and our Association has suffered accordingly. Corpl. W. S. Inwood, of Aldenham, was killed in action in France, on November 14th. He was a keen ringer, and one who believed in putting "first things first." His Christian character, and enthusiasm for ringing, were valuable assets to the Aldenham band. Mr. Alfred W. Grimes, of London (who was with us last Easter), after enduring a somewhat painful illness, died at the beginning of 1917. "The Ringing World" described him as one of those great ringers who are born, and not made. He was in the very first flight of practical exponents of the art, and no man ever did so much ringing in so short a time as he. The sympathy of all goes out to the wife, who is left with a family of six young children (the oldest nine, and the youngest four months old).

Mr. Richard Eden Hammond, of the Cathedral Society (also present last Easter), received the Master's summons on Sept. 13th, 1916. On Sunday, Sept. 3rd, he assisted in ringing for evening service at the Cathedral, and no one present anticipated that it would be the last pull with their old friend "Dick." He had been a member of the Cathedral Society for 25 years, and acted up to the time of his death as treasurer. He was a regular attendant at this annual meeting, and was ever ready to help me in my duties during the day. Dick did his ringing from the highest of motives, and his jovial smile and humorous banter which emanated from an inborn kindness of heart, will be missed by his colleagues. Our friends at Tring have suffered loss in the death of Pte Arthur Davey, who was wounded in the Somme Advance last July, and died in King George's Hospital in London on March 10th. By special permission of the Provost Marshal the Tring company were able to ring the bells half-muffled on the day of the funeral.

### THE DISTRICT SECRETARIES' WORK.

Our district secretaries have each organised quarterly meetings during the year, in spite of many difficulties. The election of Messrs. Smith and Edwards to the Western side, was a happy selection, fully justified by results, as they have jointly arranged four meetings, viz., at King's Langley, Rickmansworth, Watford and Bushey, with an average attendance of 24. Mr. W. H. Lawrence successfully arranged four meetings, one being a joint meeting of North and East, held at Hitchin. I think the idea of a joint meeting an excellent plan. Mr. Bacon was also able to arrange for two meetings in the Northern Division, with happy results. I am deeply grateful to my colleagues for their valuable and indispensable work during the year under review, and this gratitude is shared by every member of the Association. So much depends upon the painstaking and enthusiastic work in the respective divisions of our district secretaries in the success of the Association. The quarterly meeting, besides being a happy meeting ground, is of greatest help to young ringers in making advance in campanology, and arousing in them a determination to become proficient in the science, and also the most useful and practical method of furthering the activities of the Association. Being so convinced that the splitting up of the county into districts or areas is of the utmost importance, I notified the members at our last committee meeting that I would bring the matter forward, with the suggestion that we should form another area, to be called the St. Albans district, which would comprise the parishes of Halford, Essenden, Northaw, Barnet and Elstree, North Mimms, St. Albans, Sandridge, Wheathamstead, Harpenden, Redbourne, and Flamstead. I am convinced this partition would be specially helpful to the Western, and probably also to the Northern, the present areas being unwieldy. This would open up new towers for quarterly meetings, and secure the attendance of many ringers who at present are unable to attend our annual gathering at St. Albans. If we are to keep up our high standard of proficiency we must be more aggressive. Who will volunteer to become its first secretary?

My appeal for filling the photographic album has not met with any response during the year, but I still have hopes of better things. I would make one more suggestion, that is, that all our members on naval and military service should send me their photo for insertion in

our album. When the war is over we hope to have inscribed in our books all the names of our members who have been on active service, and I think a photo of our brave fellows would give additional interest to the book.

Mr. Prewett, our auditor, is away somewhere in France, and at his suggestion his father kindly undertook the auditing of the Association's accounts. We offer him our grateful thanks for stepping into the breach. Since the last meeting a few more contributions have come in towards the Dean Lawrence Memorial, making a total of £6, which has been paid to the treasurer of the fund. In conclusion, grateful thanks are extended to all who have furthered the interests of our Association, both financially and actively, during the past year: may it long continue. To each ringer I would say, put your very best into your ringing, learn your methods outside as well as inside the belfry, and show by regular and punctual attendance both at practice and Sunday ringing that your labours are based upon the truest ideals.

#### THE FINANCES.

Mr. E. P. Debenham, the hon. treasurer, was absent for reasons of health, and the President stated that they rejoiced that Mr. Debenham was to a certain extent restored to health, after a very serious illness, and expressed the hope, on behalf of the Association, that he would long live to look after their funds.

The balance sheet was presented by the Hon. Secretary, who stated that Mr. Debenham had missed only one annual meeting since 1888. The balance sheet showed that the year commenced with a balance in hand of £5 6s. 3d. The income for the year was £23 12s. 6d., and the balance at the end of the year was £10 0s. 4d. These figures, said the Hon. Secretary, were very satisfactory for war time. The was largely attributable to the support which had been rendered by the various towers who had paid the subscriptions of their comrades in the Services. The reserve fund of the Association amounted to £9 12s. 8d., and they also possessed £15 worth of War Loan 4½ per cent stock.

#### ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Mr. W. H. Lawrence proposed, and Mr. E. Whitbread seconded, the re-election of the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake, as president, and this was unanimously agreed to.

The President, in making an acknowledgment of his re-election, said he had hoped, during the past year, to visit the majority of the belfries, but feeling called upon to offer himself for military service, he found it impossible. He could not do worse than he had done as president during the past year, during which he had not entered a single belfry in the county until that day. He would, however, endeavour to do better during the coming year. He endorsed what the hon. secretary had said with regard to the making up of bands to go round and ring for peace when it came. The church bells had been so very silent during the past two and a half years that anyone coming to England could hardly call it "the land of bells." He was sure a great many people had been missing the music of the bells during this sad time. He hoped that the bands to which reference had been made would remain as a permanent part of their constitution; for they were the best means of helping on their young ringers.

Mr. Henry Lewis proposed the re-election of Mr. E. P. Debenham as hon. treasurer, observing that he had rendered splendid service both to the St. Peter's Society and to the County Association for many years past. Mr. Lewis referred to the sale of a bell at an auction in St. Albans Market for the Allies' Farmers' Relief Fund, the price realised being £5 13s. This was much better than using bells for the making of cannon.

The President proposed re-election of Mr. G. W. Cartmel as hon. secretary, and the motion was unanimously agreed to. Mr. Cartmel when returning thanks, stated that he liked the work, and would continue to do it so long as he had the strength, and so long as the members of the Association cared to elect him. He referred to the district secretaries as the mainstay of the Association, and also expressed his gratification at the fact that Watford had at last become affiliated to the Association, and in no half-hearted way. With such an enthusiastic ringer as the Rev. C. F. Ayerst as Vicar, he believed Watford would make a good ringing centre.

Biffeman B. Prewett was re-elected hon. auditor, and the district secretaries were also re-elected—Messrs. F. R. Bacon (Northern District), W. H. Lawrence (Eastern District), and F. Smith and F. Edwards (Western District).

#### VOTES OF THANKS.

The thanks of the members were accorded to the Rev. C. F. Ayerst for his address at the service, and to the Dean of St. Albans, and the Vicars of St. Michael's and St. Stephen's Churches for the use of the bells, the second of the latter vote of thanks stating that they always looked forward to the visits of the Association to St. Albans, and to the pleasure of ringing upon its beautiful bells.

The votes of thanks were briefly acknowledged by the Rev. C. F. Ayerst and the Dean of St. Albans, the latter pointing out how the church bells express some of the deepest things of life, and were concerned also with its everyday happenings. He spoke with pride of the fact that in the Cathedral tower on Easter morning they had a full band to ring for service at 5.30 by the present clock, or 4.30 by the sun.

## NOTICES.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mark's, Worsley, on April 14th. Unveiling ceremony of tablet to the late Mr. Fred Derbyshire by Rev. H. J. Elsee, M.A., at 3.30. Meeting to follow. The bells will be available for ringing afterwards.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late St. James' Society, established 1824).—The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Hammersmith, on Saturday, 14th April. Ringing from 3.45 to 7.45 p.m., followed by a business meeting at the Devonshire Arms, Queen St. Ringers and friends welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec., 10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate, E.C. (2).

**SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**—Quarterly meeting will be held at Wednesbury on Saturday, April 14th. Bells available at 3. Service in Church at 5.15, with an address by the Vicar (Rev. T. P. H. Hyatt). Tea (1/-) in the Schoolroom at 6.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby St., Wolverhampton.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The 19th annual general meeting will be held at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, W.C., on Saturday, April 14th, 1917. The service will be held at 3.15 p.m. Tea will be provided in the Parish Hall, for which a small charge of 6d. each will be made. The President will take the chair at the business meeting about 7 p.m. The following towers will be open for ringing, St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, 4.15 to 7, except from 6 to 6.30, St. Giles-in-the-Fields, 4.30 to 6. Members are reminded that their subscriptions are now due.—W. H. Oram, 25, Crown St., Harrow, H. C. Chandler, Church Road, Heston, Hon. Secs.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Moorside on April 21st. Bells ready at 2 o'clock; meeting at 6.30; practise Double Norwich.—T. K. Driver, Sec., 99, Hunter St., Middleton.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—A meeting will be held at Dunster on Saturday, April 21st, 1917. Service at the Parish Church at 4 p.m. Tea at the Mill at 4.30 p.m. Meeting to follow. Bells available all the afternoon.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Walkden, on Saturday, April 21st, 1917. Bells available from 5 to 9.—Thomas B. Worsley, Br. Sec., 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Maidstone District.—The annual meeting will be held at Harrietsham on Saturday, April 21st. Bells available for ringing at 3 o'clock; a short service at 5 p.m. Tea provided in a large room near the church at 5.45. Brakes will leave from near the Cannon, High Street, Maidstone, at 3 o'clock. The Secretary will be glad to know, not later than Monday, April 16th, of any members intending to be present. All are welcome.—Stephen Hayzelden, Dist. Sec.

**ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY** of Change-ringers, will hold their annual meeting on Saturday, April 21st, 1917. The Bells of St. Peters, Ashton-under-Lyne, will be available from 4 to 6.30 p.m. Business meeting at 7 o'clock. Business urgent.—Charles Bower, Hon. Sec

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—South and West District.—A meeting will be held by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. F. W. A. Wilkinson) at Heston, on Saturday, April 21st. Bells available from 3.30. Tea by invitation at 6. Members please note that subscriptions are now due.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

**ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—Quarterly meeting at St. Mary Magdalene, Holloway, Saturday, April 21st. Ringing from 4 to 7. Meeting afterwards, at which important business dealing with the rules will be brought forward.—H. J. Bradley, Hon. Sec.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Stockport Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bisley, Saturday, April 21st.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Hon. Sec., New Mills.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on April 24th, and for handbell practice on the 19th. There will also be ringing at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Sunday the 15th, at 6 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

**THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Woolwich on Saturday, April 28th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service and address by the Rev. Arthur N. Pickering (Rector), at 5.30 p.m. Tea will be provided by the Rector for those only who send their names to me not later than Tuesday, 24th. Business meeting to follow. I shall be glad to receive all outstanding subscriptions.—T. Groombridge, Hon. District Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM** (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at Edgbaston Old Church, Saturday, April 28th. Bells available from 4 o'clock. The Vicar and Churchwardens are kindly providing tea in the Church Room at 5.30, free for those members who advise me *not later than the 24th inst.* of their intention to be present.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

**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.

#### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**BRADFORD.**—Yorkshire Association.—A quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (composed by York Green, and published in "The Ringing World" on March 16th: H. C. Buckley 1, J. Hardcastle 2, G. Titterton 3, E. Wheeler (conductor) 4, J. W. Gundall 5, J. H. Mawson 6, F. Barker 7, J. W. Wright 8.

**STOURBRIDGE.**—On February 11th, at St. Thomas' Church, Stourbridge, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples (1260 changes), for evening service, in 45 mins.: J. Slater 1, C. W. Cooper 2, R. Moors 3, J. Bass 4, G. Poppell 5, A. W. Dodd 6, A. E. Whatmore (conductor) 7, W. A. Pugh 8.

**STAINES.**—Oxford Diocesan Guild.—At St. Peter's Church, on Feb. 15th, Sir Edward Clark's 76th birthday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins.: A. J. Redman 1, T. S. Smith 2, G. H. Gutteridge 3, W. C. Parker 4, G. Cutts 5, E. T. Hooper (conductor) 6, W. E. Butler 7, A. G. Butler 8. Sir Edward was the donor of the church tower and bells, organ, and the site on which the building stands. It was a farewell touch to the 5th and 7th men, who joined their units the next week.

**SLOUGH.**—On Feb. 18th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins. (the birthday of the steeplekeeper): A. Leader 1, R. Flaxman 2, W. G. Bedford 3, T. S. Smith 4, G. T. Leader 5, W. H. Fussell 6, E. T. Hooper (conductor) 7, Fred Purdue 8.

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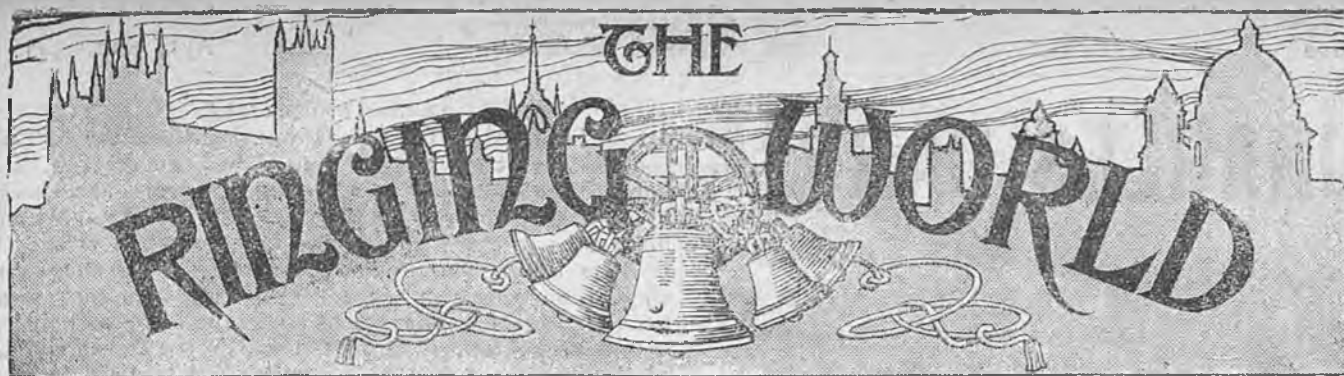
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No. 318. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20th, 1917.

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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.

### BELFRY CONDITIONS IN DEVON.

"Bell-ringing scandals are one of the greatest hindrances to spiritual progress in Devonshire villages" is the sweeping indictment made by a correspondent in the "Church Times" in connection with an offer made to the parish church of Harberton, South Devon, by Sir Robert Harvey, of two large bells to increase the existing ring of six to a peal of eight, together with an endowment of £2,500 in consols to provide £52 per annum for ten ringers and ten guineas a year for the maintenance of the bells, on condition that the bells and the ringers should not be under the "autocratic authority" of the vicar, but under the joint authority of the vicar, churchwardens and chairman of parochial feoffees. The Vicar has pointed out that he cannot legally bind his successors, and Sir Robert Harvey has stated that if his offer is rejected he will make a similar gift elsewhere, where no difficulties are placed in the way. The matter at the moment is left over while the advice of the Archdeacon of Totnes is obtained.

Sir Robert Harvey's offer of the bells and the endowment fund is a munificent one, but whether his conditions can be accepted with legal and binding force is a matter which it is not in our province to discuss. The point which is of more immediate concern to ringers is the scathing condemnation of Devonshire village ringers by the correspondent of the "Church Times." We very seriously doubt whether, in these days, such a statement can be justified—if it can, then Devonshire is the most sadly neglected county in all England in regard to belfry reform. We are rather inclined to believe that the correspondent of the "Church Times" has had one or two instances of the "scandals" to which he refers under his notice, and seeks to tar the majority of Devon ringers with the same brush. Years ago, no one disputes, the condition of things in belfries generally were far from what they should have been; but the action of the various associations which have sprung up all over the country have gone very far to remove the deplorable state of affairs which existed thirty or forty years ago, and it is strange to us if Devon, whose Guild of Ringers was one of the first county associations to be formed in the country, is still a black spot, so far as belfry reform is concerned.

If what is stated in the "Church Times" is true, then we must not only blame the ringers. "Smoking and even drinking and bad language," we are told, "are not yet extinct in Devonshire belfries." Then what are the clergy thinking about? This much is certainly true, that where it has been possible for anything of this kind to go on, it has always been found that the belfry has been neglected by the parson; and if the parson neglects the belfry, he

(Continued on page 122.)

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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.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,  
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*(Continued from page 121.)*

cannot be surprised if the ringers neglect the church. The conditions of the "bad old times," had, we thought, disappeared practically everywhere, and it comes as a shock to read that these "scandals are one of the greatest hindrances to spiritual progress in Devonshire villages." If there be any truth in the indictment, let the clergy set about remedying it at once. They have it in their own hands. Let their influence be felt in the belfry as well as in the chancel, let them bring to their aid the Devon Guild, whose first object is "the promotion of a reverent feeling among church bell-ringers for their sacred office, belfry reform, and the cultivation of change ringing," and they will find that, if improvement is necessary, it can readily be effected. Drastic measures may be necessary, but the past has proved that when the clergy interest themselves in the belfry and, where possible, themselves become ringers, the reformation quickly comes about, a higher moral tone becomes at once apparent and a better class of ringer is obtained. The "undesirable" as a rule "weeds" himself out, and this may be relied upon with all the more certainty if that great bugbear to change-ringing progress is done away with—paid ringing. It is strange that paid ringing has proved the greatest drawback to belfry reform — but such is the case.

## EIGHT BELL PEAL.

**EARLSHEATON, YORKSHIRE.  
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION  
(WESTERN BRANCH.)**

*On Saturday, April 14, 1917, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,*

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES COTTERELL ... .. Treble	THOMAS B. KENDALL ... 5
WILLIAM RHODES ... .. 2	JOSEPH BROADLEY ... 6
WILLIAM CLARK ... .. 3	HERBERT DRANSFIELD ... 7
HEMINGWAY DRANSFIELD ... 4	CARFORTH TAYLOR ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and  
Conducted by JAMES COTTERELL.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Walter Byrom, a local ringer and Association member for 32 years, who was interred April 7th.

## HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**

*On Wednesday, April 4, 1917, in Two Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,  
AT 32, EDGELEY ROAD, CLAPHAM,*

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

CARTER'S ODD BOB ONE-PART.

ALFRED B. PECK ... .. 1-2	CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... 5-6
HERBERT LANGDON ... 3-4	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL 7-8

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

Umpire: EDWIN HORREN.

## ROLL OF HONOUR.

From St. Edmund's, Northampton:—

Sapper B. O. Soden, Royal Engineers.

From All Saints', Northampton:—

Pte W. J. Allen, 12th Royal West Surrey Regiment.

## LECTURES ON BELLS.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—I was interested to see the account of the lecture on bells at Winchester School. I am glad to say it does not stand alone. In the magazine of my old school, Strand School, King's College, the other day, I came across this paragraph: "Last term, on Friday, December 1st, B. Hughes lectured on 'Church Bells.' He gave a short history of bells, which have been used by most religious sects from very early days. He described the making of the moulds, the actual casting of the bell, the methods of tuning and ringing of bells. The lecture was illustrated by diagrams and a working model of a bell." The lecturer, I should add, is a nephew of the late Mr. A. Hughes, of Whitechapel Bell Foundry.—Yours truly,  
H. W. FRIGHT.



## MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

### DISTRICT MEETINGS DESIRABLE.

The 35th annual meeting of the Midland Counties Association was held at Leicester on Easter Monday, when there was ringing at St. John's and St. Martin's Churches, and, considering the very wintry weather, and the restrictions on railway travelling, it was very gratifying to see so many ringers present, representatives being noticed from Barwell, Beeston, Burton-on-Trent, Cotgrave, Croft, Hinckley, Irthlingborough, Loughborough, Melton Mowbray, Nuneaton, Quorn, and Stoney Stanton, in addition to the local men. Arrangements for tea had been made at the "Granby" Restaurant, and from 50 to 55 members and friends sat down, amongst the company being the Rev. Canon Whittingham (Rural Dean of Leicester), Rev. Canon Nugee (of St. Martin's), Rev. W. Payne (of St. Margaret's), Rev. F. W. Warren (of St. Mary's), Mr. John W. Taylor (president), and Mrs. Taylor, Mr. E. D. Taylor, Mr. H. Argyle, and others.

The President took the chair at the subsequent business meeting, when the auditor's report and treasurer's balance sheet were adopted, on the proposition of Mr. C. Draper, seconded by Mr. E. D. Taylor.

The Chairman mentioned that no peals had been rung by members of the Association during the past quarter. He thought it a pity that the Central Council meeting had been abandoned, as in his opinion it was highly important that a president should be elected, and an endeavour made to carry on the business as usual.

Several in the room agreed with this opinion.

A vote of thanks to the retiring officers was accorded, on the proposition of Mr. W. C. Hunt, seconded by Mr. F. H. Dexter, and the secretary reporting that the only nominations received were for their re-election, the President (Mr. John W. Taylor), hon. treasurer (Staff-Serjt. W. C. Wakley), at present with the army in France; and hon. secretary, Mr. W. E. White, were unanimously re-elected, on the proposition of Mr. Wm. Willson, seconded by Mr. J. H. Swinfield.

The Rev. Canon Nugee, of St. Martin's, Leicester, was elected vice-president, and thanked the meeting for electing him. He hoped he might be of use to the Association, as he had had experience of the work of a ringing association, having for 13 years filled the office of secretary to the Framland Society. He was pleased to see the familiar faces of some of its members around the table.

Four new members were elected, viz., Miss M. Clarke, of Nuneaton, Miss M. Wakley, of Burton-on-Trent; Master Henry William Webb (aged 11 years), Croft; and Mr. G. F. Newman, of Burton.

### COMMITTEE'S PROPOSAL TO KEEP UP INTEREST.

The Hon. Secretary said the committee had discussed the question of quarterly meetings, and they suggested that the next three be held at Beeston, Duffield, and Hinckley. The committee also knowing the difficulties of travel at the present time, owing to restricted train service and increased fares, could not expect the general meetings to be so well attended as in the past, and they would like the committees of the various districts to arrange meetings in their own districts when and where possible, and so give their members opportunities for meeting and ringing together, and keep the interest in the Association alive. He proposed that the next three general quarterly meetings should be held at Beeston, Duffield, and Hinckley, respectively, and that the districts should do their best to carry out the suggestions of the committee as to other meetings.

This was seconded by Mr. W. C. Hunt, and carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the clergy for the use of the bells, and to the local members for making the arrangements for the meeting, was passed, on the proposition of Mr. W. E. White, seconded by Mr. R. H. Bartram.—The Rev. F. W. Warren acknowledged the vote on behalf of the clergy.—The Rev. Canon Whittingham also addressed the meeting, and, speaking of the restrictions placed upon the ringing of church bells (in Leicester, in particular), said he was in communication with the authorities, and hoped that in a short time the reasonable ringing of the church bells for Sunday services might be resumed, and also for daylight practices.

A vote of thanks to the chairman, proposed by Mr. C. Draper, and seconded by Mr. J. H. Benstead, terminated the meeting.

The ringing of the church bells was resumed for a short time, and afterwards a social gathering, with piano, songs and handbells, passed away the remainder of the evening.

## BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Bedfordshire Association was held at the Church House, Bedford, on Easter Monday. This year the usual dinner was given up.

Owing to a recent bicycle accident, the President (Canon W. W. C. Baker) was unable to be present, much to the regret of all present.

All the officers of the Association were re-elected, and it was decided to hold the summer meeting at Woburn on a Saturday, either at the end of June or the beginning of July.

A vote of thanks was passed to Canon Speck for kindly allowing the Association to have the use of the Church House and the bells at St. Paul's, and to the Rev. J. E. Gilbert for the use of the bells at St. Peter's, touches being enjoyed by the visitors at both these churches during the day.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

### ANNUAL MEETING AT CIRENCESTER.

The absence of so many of the younger members on active service, the restricted train service, and the unseasonable weather, had a detrimental effect on the attendance at the annual meeting of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, which was held at Cirencester on Easter Monday. A very enjoyable day was spent, however, by those who were present. By kind permission, ringing commenced on the fine bells of the Parish Church at 11 o'clock, and a rare opportunity was afforded some of the ringers to stand in for Grandsire and Stedman Caters, followed by a touch of Grandsire Cinques, to the great satisfaction of the participants. Ringing continued until 1 p.m., when an adjournment was made to Messrs. Viner's Restaurant, where an excellent dinner awaited the visitors, and was thoroughly enjoyed.

The business meeting followed, Mr. John Austin (Gloucester), Master, being in the chair. Amongst those present were the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, Mr. J. W. Jones (hon. secretary of the Llandaff Association), Mr. R. J. Wilkins, Bristol; members from Newent, Stone, Stroud, Swindon, Wanborough, etc., and the hon. secretary, Mr. R. W. Hyner (Swindon).

On the motion of Mr. Frank K. Howell (Thornbury), who made eulogistic reference to the Master's good work, seconded by Mr. J. Williams (Newent), Mr. John Austin was unanimously re-elected Master. He briefly returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him.

The duties of hon. treasurer had been carried on for many years by the Rev. H. A. Cockey, but to the intense regret of the members the reverend gentleman passed away in December last, since which time the duties had been discharged by Mr. Frank K. Howell. The latter gentleman was asked to continue as hon. treasurer, and readily consented to do so.

Mr. R. W. Hyner, of Swindon, was re-appointed hon. secretary.

A balance sheet for the past year was presented by Mr. Howell, showing a substantial balance in hand, together with the sum of £25 invested in the War Loan, which was considered highly satisfactory. Sympathetic reference was made to the death, since the last annual meeting, of two other gentlemen who had in the past rendered invaluable services to the Association. They were Mr. C. E. D. Boulflower, who was formerly Master and hon. secretary, and Mr. F. E. Ward, who had been Master and hon. treasurer.

A vote of thanks to the officers and all who lent assistance in connection with the meeting was carried unanimously. A word of praise is also due to Messrs. S. Moore (President of the Cirencester Branch), H. C. Bond and J. Jefferies for their valuable assistance in arranging the meeting.—The kind offer of Mr. Francis W. Selby, of Swindon, to convey the hon. secretary to any of the branch meetings in the locality, was also gratefully acknowledged.

After the conclusion of the business, several remained behind and spent a pleasant time handbell ringing, whilst others visited Holy Trinity Church, Watermoor, to test the melodious ring of eight bells, which the tower contains. A return visit to the Parish Church tower was made during the evening, when the day's proceedings terminated with a touch of Stedman Triples, and the lowering of the bells.

## WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

The tenth annual meeting of the Warwickshire Guild was held at Emscote, Warwick, on Easter Monday. Members were present from Ailesley, Berkswell, Birmingham, Coventry, and Emscote, and Mr. W. Saunders, of Coalbrookdale, who was paying a visit to the district. The towers of Leamington Parish Church (8), All Saints', Emscote (8), and St. Mary's, Warwick (10), were open to the visitors, and touches of Stedman and Grandsire Doubles, Bob Minor and Stedman and Grandsire Triples were rung. Service was held at All Saints', Emscote, during the afternoon, when the Vicar gave a short address, which was much appreciated.

The business meeting was afterwards held in Emscote Schools, at which the Rev. H. C. A. Bach, President of the Guild, took the chair.—The Secretary read the statement of accounts, and reported that all things considered, the Guild was in a healthy state.

A letter of apology was read from Mr. G. H. Kettle, late secretary, now on active service, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was passed for his past services to the Guild. Letters of apology were also read from Messrs. Argyle, Chapman, and Reader, of Nuneaton, regretting their inability to be present.

The Rev. H. C. A. Bach was re-elected president; Mr. James George, Ringing Master; and Mr. H. Argyle and Mr. A. Roberts (now on active service), representatives on the Central Council; Mr. J. H. White was elected as hon. secretary, and Mr. O. J. Hunt as hon. auditor; the other members of the committee being re-elected en bloc.

It was decided to forgo the annual report, and substitute a short resume of the year's working instead, copies of the latter to be distributed among the different towers and members on active service.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the clergy for the use of the bells, and to the tower keepers for having everything in readiness.

It was decided to hold the next meeting in July, at Berkswell, or, failing there, at Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham.

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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring  
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.*

## WORCESTER ASSOCIATION. ANNUAL FESTIVAL.

The annual meeting of the Worcestershire and Districts Association was held at Worcester on Easter Monday. The Very Rev. W. Moore Edc, D.D., Dean of Worcester (president), occupied the chair at the business meeting, and about 60 members were present. Owing to the illness of the hon. secretary (Mr. J. R. Newman), who was unable to be present, the hon. treasurer (Mr. W. H. Johnson) took his place.

The balance sheet and report were presented and passed. Apologies were read from several members for their absence, and all the officers were re-elected, with the addition of Mr. T. J. Salter as a lay vice-president.

It was proposed that a vote of sympathy from the members should be conveyed to the families of the late Rev. Canon Phillips, Mr. S. Spittle, and Mr. Pestridge.

Four new members were elected.

After some discussion with reference to the trustees of the Association, it was decided that their names be erased from the list of officials, as the members thought there was no need for trustees.

The Dean said how pleased he was to see so many young members and ladies present filling the places of the absent members, and the following resolution was passed: "That this meeting of the Worcestershire and Districts Association of Bell Ringers, assembled in the Chapter House at Worcester on Easter Monday, 1917, desires to convey to all members of the Association who are now serving their country in France, or elsewhere, their friendly greetings and earnest hope that they may be preserved in all the dangers to which they may be exposed, and may be spared to meet us all again at the next annual meeting."

It was decided to ring the annual peal, with the bells half-muffled, Mr. W. Short being the conductor, and to make all arrangements.

It was resolved to hold the next annual meeting at Worcester on Easter Monday, 1918.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Dean for presiding, and to the clergy for the use of the bells at the various churches, this bringing a pleasant meeting to a close.

The members then adjourned to the Cathedral for service, at which an address was given by the Dean, and afterwards they partook of tea, between 60 and 70 sitting down.

During the day ringing was enjoyed on various peals of bells.

## LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

### HON. SECRETARY BECOMES CHURCHWARDEN.

A fairly well attended meeting of the London County Association was held on Saturday last, at St. Paul's, Hammersmith, members and friends putting in an appearance from various parts of the Metropolis and Provinces. Good progress was made in various methods, the ringing of which was carried on from 4 to 8 p.m.

A business meeting followed, at the Devonshire Arms, Queen Street, the Master (Mr. T. H. Taftender) presiding.—Mr. W. A. Robinson, of Cuckfield, Sussex, was elected a member.

Mr. L. Porter announced that news had been received that Mr. A. Turner, of St. Mary Magdalen's, Holloway, was suffering from shell shock, and was now in Hospital at Rouen.

A vote of sympathy with the relatives of the late Mr. A. Brightman, of Highgate, was passed in silence, the hon. secretary having written a letter of condolence to his widow, on receipt of the sad news of his death.

It was proposed by the Master, seconded by Mr. Fardon, that the hearty congratulations of this meeting be accorded to the hon. secretary (Mr. T. Walker) upon his election on the preceding Thursday as churchwarden of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, and this was carried with acclamation.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Saturday, May 12th, full particulars of which will appear in "The Ringing World."

Touches on the handbells brought the proceedings to a close.

## SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

### MEETING AT WORKSOP.

The April meeting of the above society was held at Worksop on Easter Monday, when, after an arctic morning, the weather took a more seasonable turn, and the afternoon proved fine, with plenty of bright sunshine, conditions which contributed towards a successful and enjoyable meeting. The earliest arrivals found an occasional rope moving, which told them that friend Haigh was up aloft doing his best to make the bells run easily, the subsequent ringing, and there was a lot of it, proving the success of the job. Arranging a meeting in these times even, is as easy as ever it was, but getting a good attendance and some good practice is altogether another story. At Worksop, however, there were upwards of 30 ringers from Anston, Ecclesfield, Gainsborough, Norton Slawley, Sheffield, Warsop, and Worksop. The ringing comprised Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain and Treble Boh Major, and Cambridge Surprise Minor.—Three new members were elected, and a hearty vote of thanks accorded the Vicar (the Rev. G. J. A. d'Arcy), an honorary member of the society, for granting the use of the bells.

## MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

### MISUNDERSTANDINGS AT AN END.

The nineteenth annual meeting of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields on Saturday last, when the attendance, though smaller than usual, was good.

The proceedings commenced with a service at St. Martin's, which took the form of a musical service for organ and violin, with an address by Bro. Newlandsmith, warden of the Religious Arts Society, on "How to kindle the fire of the Spirit to the Service of God," through such arts as music, literature and pictures. All were able to join heartily in the singing of the hymns, "Gracious Spirit, Love Divine," and "Jesu, Lover of my Soul."

After service the towers of St. Martin's and St. Giles' were open for ringing, and many good touches in various methods were rung.

Tea was served at the Church House adjoining St. Martin's.

At the business meeting the chair was taken by Mr. Arthur T. King, I.S.O. (president), who was supported by Messrs. F. A. Milne (treasurer), W. Pye (Master), Corpl. J. Armstrong, T. Beadle, and G. B. Lucas (District Masters), the Rev. E. Bankes James, Messrs. J. George, J. Parker, H. J. Bradley, W. Lawrence, J. D. Matthews, etc.

The President, in opening the proceedings, said: This is a red-letter day in the annals of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild, and it is the happy outcome of a long period of misunderstanding between the old London Societies and ourselves, now, happily, let us hope at an end, and soon to be buried in oblivion. We are here to-day by the kind co-operation of the Royal Cumberland Youths, a society we hold in the highest esteem, many of whose members have belonged to us for many years, without our causing them to be less loyal either to the old society of their choice or to our own. There was a time when, much to our regret, the old London Societies looked somewhat askance at us, as though we were an ugly duckling, but we have lived down all that, and just as we are ready to meet them in the spirit of mutual help and goodwill, we are confident that they are ready to meet us in the same spirit, as best becomes those who are privileged to take an active part in the service of the Church. We have passed through many vicissitudes, and we have met with much good fellowship on all sides, but we have never appreciated anything so much as the goodwill which has resulted in the welcome we are now receiving here. So may it always be. We always recognise courtesy where it is offered us, and endeavour to match goodwill with a responsive echo of goodwill. So may we all flourish, old and young societies alike.

A telegram was read from the Rev. H. R. L. Sheppard, regretting his inability to be present that day, through illness, but offering a hearty welcome to St. Martin's.

### THE REPORT.

The committee, in the annual report, said the belfries during the year 1916 had been still further depleted by the demands made upon them in the strenuous work of war. In some few cases the effect has been almost to silence the sound of the bells even for the occasions of Sunday services. It was only here and there that a few ringers above military age were left behind. So far as could be learnt they were doing their best to keep things going, in the absence of their comrades at the front; but they could not do impossibilities, and there were practically no new ringers available. Later on, when the war is over, they would want to welcome their brave soldiers back again; but they would only be able to do it by a well considered scheme of co-operation among available resources of ringers. The number of peals rung in 1916 was twelve, viz., on tower bells four, and on handbells eight. The peals rung on tower bells were in memory of those comrades who had lost their lives in the war. The peals included three of Grandsire Triples, one each of Bob Major, London Surprise and Stedman Triples, and six of Stedman Caters. The tower bell peals comprised the three of Grandsire and the one of London, the others were on handbells. Six of the peals were conducted by W. Pye, and one each by G. R. Pye, Clement Glenn, J. A. Trollope, A. J. Trappitt, H. Kilby, and W. J. Kemp. The membership now stands at 700. New members elected during the year were 49 in number, while death and other causes removed the names of 44. During the year 1916 the Association had had to mourn the loss of many members, of whom six had given their lives in the service of their country, and six others had passed away, leaving behind them a record of true and faithful service for all to remember and value. Those whom the war had claimed were: Corpl. F. T. Martin, of the Oxhey band; Pte G. H. Orford, of St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton; Pte A. Cain, of Northaw; Lance-Corpl. W. S. Inwood, of Aldenham; Pte T. E. Loosemore, of St. Edward's, Romford; and T. J. Barker, of Heston. Death had also removed Mr. W. Foreman, of Greenwich; Mr. Fred Rumens, of St. Mary's, Walthamstow; Mr. Arthur Hughes, of the Whitechapel Foundry; Mr. A. F. Shepherd, of Hershaw; Mr. T. J. Barker, of Heston; Mr. Powis Lomas, an hon. member of Isleworth; and Mr. A. W. Grimes, who died just after the close of 1916. The war roll now numbers 182, and there must be still more names to be entered, especially from the towers where no reply had been made to the appeal for information.

The Master, hon. secretary, and assistant hon. secretary of the North and East District are all on service, and in offering them the best thanks for their splendid work in the past for the Association, the members wish them, as indeed they wish all members on active service, a speedy and safe return.

### RESTORATIONS.

It was with pleasure they were able to report a little more activity this year with regard to bell restoration. Messrs. Mears and Stainbank reported that they had added four smaller bells at St. Peter's, Hammersmith, to the one already there (7½ cwt.) to make the set of five. These were, however, only hung for chiming. The same firm had in hand the rehanging in new fittings of the treble, 3rd, 4th, and tenor at St. Magnus the Martyr, E.C., and the adjustment and overhauling of the 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th. Messrs. Mears and Stainbank also reported that they are recasting the peal of eight at Dartford, and rehanging them with entirely new fittings. Messrs. John Warner and Sons had lifted out and thoroughly overhauled the ring of eight bells at St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, E.C. The bells of St. Mary Magdalene, Holloway, had also been lifted out and thoroughly overhauled, and the tenor rebung.

The report concluded by stating that it was a pleasure to be able to say in these troublous times that the Central Fund of the Association had improved, in spite of the reduced amount received from subscriptions. This was due in the past to the reduction by a number of pages of last year's report, but the coming year would be a greater test of solvency; and in thanking those who so kindly gave extra subscriptions last year, they would once more appeal to all members who could afford to help by ever so trifling a contribution in order that the funds might not suffer while so many were away fighting for their country and their King.

Their thanks were due to the joint hon. secretaries for all that they had done during the past year; and they must not forget the work of Mr. Oram, who had kindly stepped in to carry on the work of Mr. C. T. Coles, with an energy and resource which those who were brought into contact with him could not fail to admire and to appreciate.

The report and balance sheet were presented, and adopted on the proposition of Mr. J. Parker, seconded by Mr. W. Pye.

### OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

Five new members were elected, and the following were appointed officers for 1917: President, Mr. A. T. King, I.S.O.; vice-presidents, Mr. F. A. Milne and Major J. H. B. Hesse; hon. treasurer, Mr. F. A. Milne; Master, Mr. W. Pye; hon. secretaries, Mr. C. T. Coles, Mr. W. H. Oram (pro tem.), Mr. H. C. Chandler.

A vote of thanks was passed to the hon. secs. for their work in connection with the Association, and was ordered to be recorded on the minutes. Messrs. J. E. Miller and W. Pickworth were re-elected auditors, and the President, Messrs. J. R. Sharman, W. Pye and Major J. H. B. Hesse were elected to represent the Association on the Central Council in 1918.

The arrangements for the next annual meeting were left in the hands of the hon. secretary, Hillingdon, Heston, or Ealing, being suggested.

It was reported that the Central Committee had discussed the question of "peace ringing," and had recommended that local arrangements be reported. Some discussion arose, and the matter was referred back to the Central Committee.

The President moved a sincere vote of condolence with the relatives of the late Mr. H. J. Dewey, and of the Rev. H. Champion McGill, a vice-president and Vicar of Isleworth, who had always been a good and true friend to the Middlesex County Association.—This was carried, all standing.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. H. K. L. Sheppard for the kind welcome to St. Martin's, and also for use of the bells with an expression for a speedy recovery from illness; to the Rev. W. H. Davies, of St. Giles-in-the-Fields, for the use of the bells; to Mr. J. D. Matthews, Master of the Royal Cumberland Youths, and to the steeplekeepers of both churches.

Mr. Alps then proposed a vote of thanks to all the officers of the Association for their work during the past year.—This was seconded by Mr. W. A. Pye, and carried with acclamation.

This concluded the business of the meeting. The handbells were then brought into use. Many methods were rung, those taking part including the Rev. E. Bankes James, with "Tommy Minor," to quote the photo in the "Ringing World" of March 30th.

### THE LATE MR. A. W. GRIMES' HANDBELLS.

As we have already announced, the peal of 18 handbells which belonged to the late Mr. A. W. Grimes are to be disposed of. The arrangements are in the hands of Mr. W. Pye, of 8, Sansom Road, Lansdown Road, Leytonstone, and any who would like to dispose of tickets to help the fund, which is for the benefit of the widow and six young children, should communicate with him. The tickets are in books of 25, and those that are unsold by the 30th inst. can be returned. Those who are unable to take a book of tickets can help by purchasing any smaller number (they are 3d. each), enclosing at the same time a stamped addressed envelope.



## BELLS AND ENDOWMENT OFFERED TO DEVON PARISH.

### "BELL RINGING SCANDALS."

Under the heading, "An Embarrassing Offer," the following appeared in last week's "Church Times," from a correspondent:—

"Sir Robert Harvey has made a munificent offer to the parish church of Harberton, South Devon, of two large bells, increasing the peal to eight, and an endowment of £2,500 Consols to provide £52 per annum for ten ringers, and ten guineas per annum for the maintenance of the bells. But the offer is qualified by a condition that the bells and their ringers shall not be under the 'autocratic authority' of the vicar, but under the joint authority of the vicar, churchwardens, and chairman of parochial feoffees. At the Easter vestry the Vicar, the Rev. W. G. Mallett, pointed out that he was unable legally to bind his successors, whilst Sir Robert Harvey tried to argue that the men, some of whom might be Dissenters or Roman Catholics, should not be required to attend church, the vicar's ruling on this subject having resulted in the silence of the bells. If his offer were rejected 'he would make a similar gift elsewhere, where no difficulties were placed in the way.' It was finally resolved that the Archdeacon of Totnes should be asked to advise in the matter.

"Bell ringing scandals are one of the greatest hindrances to spiritual progress in Devonshire villages, and scores of incumbents have been troubled by men who summoned worshippers by ringing the bells, and, instead of remaining for worship themselves, have dispersed, in some instances to a village inn. Smoking and even drinking and bad language are not yet extinct in Devonshire bellfries, and a vicar deprived of the power of dismissing a ringer for bad conduct would be placed in an intolerable position."

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**BRIERLEY HILL.**—On Sunday, March 4th, at St. Michael's Church, for the Confirmation service in the morning, 720 Bob Minor: E. T. Lloyd 1, C. W. Cooper 2, A. Whatmore 3, W. Potter 4, J. Bass 5, A. E. Whatmore (conductor) 6, Pte E. Harley 8. In the afternoon, for the men's service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: C. W. Cooper 1, T. Heathcock 2, J. Bass 3, W. Potter 4, R. Moors 5, E. Perkins 6, A. E. Whatmore (conductor) 7, Pte E. Harley 8. Pte E. Harley was a member of the Brierley Hill band before joining the colours, and was home on a short furlough.

**EYNSFORD.**—Kent County Association. — On March 10th, at St. Martin's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans'), as a farewell to the Rev. M. C. and Mrs. Elphinstone, who were leaving on the 15th for Sowerby Bridge, Yorkshire: H. Blackwell 1, T. Groombridge (conductor) 2, W. Hewett 3, G. Durling 4, I. Emery 5, Ar. Mason 6, W. Smith 7, W. West 8. It was intended to attempt a peal, but four of the band were delayed on the railway, and time would not permit the attempt.

**YORK.**—On Sunday, March 11th, at York Minster, for morning service, 558 Grandsire Caters, conducted by Corpl. E. Morris. For evening service, at SS. Philip and James', Clifton, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: F. Earnshaw 1, G. Horner 2, A. Haigh 3, H. Imeson 4, Sergt. H. Washbrook (Manchesterers) 5, Corpl. E. Morris (D.L.I., attached A.S.C.) conductor, 6.

**TYLDESLEY, LANCASHIRE.**—At St. George's Church, on March 11th, for morning service, 840 Grandsire Triples: H. Watts 1, J. Allred 2, B. Allred 3, Harry Allred 4, W. Hindley 5, R. Allred (conductor) 6, Herbert Allred 7, J. Hampson 8. — On March 25th, for evening service, 800 Bob Major: H. Watts 1, J. Allred 2, F. Banks 3, B. Allred 4, W. Hindley 5, J. T. Allred 6, Harry Allred 7, R. Allred (conductor) 8.

**HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.**—At the Parish Church, on March 11th, for evening service, 459 Stedman Caters: R. Coles 1, G. Twitchen 2, F. K. Biggs 3, E. Markham 4, F. Hayes 5, Gnr. Bidnell 6, G. White 7, J. Gransbury 8, J. W. Wilkins (conductor) 9, W. Phipps 10. — On March 18th, in honour of St. Patrick, patron Saint of Ireland, 1299 Stedman Caters, in 55 mins.: F. Hayes (composer and conductor) 1, G. Twitchen 2, J. W. Wilkins 3, E. Markham 4, Gnr. Hinton (R.F.A.) 5, Gnr. Bidnell, R.F.A. (first quarter-peal of Stedman Caters), 6, J. Gransbury 7, W. Phipps 8, G. White 9, R. Coles 10.

**DALTON-IN-FURNESS.**—Lancashire Association. — At the Parish Church, on March 11th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor: Miss E. M. Suart 1, J. Huddleston 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson 4, W. S. Forshaw 5, J. Burrows (conductor) 6. — On April 1st, for Matins, 672 Bob Major: Miss E. M. Suart 1, Miss Lindsay 2, J. Huddleston 3, T. Watson 4, W. H. Dennison 5, T. Suart 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. Longest touch of Major for Miss Suart and Miss Lindsay. For evening service, 672 Bob Major: Miss E. M. Suart 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist (longest touch of Major) 3, T. Watson 4, J. Huddleston 5, W. H. Dennison 6, T. Suart 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8.

**PLYMOUTH.**—On March 25th, at St. George's Church, Stonehouse, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: A. Kentfield 1, W. Hooper 2, W. Hobbs 3, Pte W. Malins 4, W. Rundle (conductor) 5, W. Richards 6, J. Woodley 7, G. Kerswell 8.

## NOTICES.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Moorside on April 21st. Bells ready at 2 o'clock; meeting at 6.30; practise Double Norwich.—T. K. Driver, Sec., 99, Hunter St., Middleton.

**BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—A meeting will be held at Dunster on Saturday, April 21st, 1917. Service at the Parish Church at 4 p.m. Tea at the Mill at 4.30 p.m. Meeting to follow. Bells available all the afternoon.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Walkden, on Saturday, April 21st, 1917. Bells available from 5 to 9.—Thomas B. Worsley, Br. Sec., 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Maidstone District.—The annual meeting will be held at Harrietsham on Saturday, April 21st. Bells available for ringing at 3 o'clock; a short service at 5 p.m. Tea provided in a large room near the church at 5.45. Brakes will leave from near the Cannon, High Street, Maidstone, at 3 o'clock. The Secretary will be glad to know, not later than Monday, April 16th, of any members intending to be present. All are welcome.—Stephen Hayzelden, Dist. Sec.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—South and West District.—A meeting will be held by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. F. W. A. Wilkinson) at Heston, on Saturday, April 21st. Bells available from 3.30. Tea by invitation at 6. Members please note that subscriptions are now due.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

**ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—Quarterly meeting at St. Mary Magdalene, Holloway, Saturday, April 21st. Ringing from 4 to 7. Meeting afterwards, at which important business dealing with the rules will be brought forward.—H. J. Bradley, Hon. Sec.

**(ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** Established 1637).—A Meeting will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on April 24th.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM** (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at Edgbaston Old Church, Saturday, April 28th. Bells available from 4 o'clock. The Vicar and Churchwardens are kindly providing tea in the Church Room at 5.30, free for those members who advise me *not later than the 24th inst.* of their intention to be present.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Bridgwater Deanery Branch.—A meeting of the above association will be held at Thapwick on Saturday, April 28th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service, 4 p.m. Tea, 5 p.m., meeting to follow.—A. E. Moulton, Hon. Sec.

**THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Woolwich on Saturday, April 28th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service and address by the Rev. Arthur N. Pickering (Rector), at 5.30 p.m. Tea will be provided by the Rector for those only who send their names to me not later than Tuesday, 24th. Business meeting to follow. I shall be glad to receive all outstanding subscriptions.—T. Groombridge, Hon. District Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at Finchley on Saturday, April 28th. Bells available from 2.30 till 9 p.m. Tea, 4.45 p.m., 6d. to members who notify me by April 24th. Short service with address by the Rector (the Rev. W. St. Hill Bourne). Business meeting to follow. A good attendance is essential. Subscriptions for 1917 are now due.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. pro tem., 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—A quarterly meeting of the Portsmouth District will be held at St. Thomas's, Portsmouth, on Saturday, April 28th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea will be served at Madden's Temperance Hotel, Station Street, at a time convenient to the members present. Notice must be sent me by the 25th inst. how many will require tea. Subscriptions for 1917 are now due.—E. J. Harding, Dist. Sec., 76, Carnarvon Road, Portsmouth.

**LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Llanfrechfa, Mon (Pontrhy Station), on Saturday, May 5th, at 4 o'clock. Bells (6) available. Tea provided.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., J. W. Jones, Hon. Secs., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—THE WILLIAM SNOWDON MEMORIAL.**—Subscribers and those interested are asked to note that the Committee have decided to postpone the opening ceremony of the above until after the war.—H. Williams, Hon. Gen. Sec., *pro tem.*

**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.

#### HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. SIX BELL CONTEST.

The quarterly meeting and six bell contest of the Halifax and District Association was held at Mythomroyd on Easter Monday, when the bells and schools were kindly placed at the disposal of the members by the Vicar (the Rev. T. Metcalfe, M.A.). Five companies entered for the contest, each set ringing 720 changes, preceded by a plain course for practice. The judges for the day were Mr. Broadley, of Bradford, and Mr. Wilcox, of Mythomroyd.

The 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 to the local ringers for the way they had catered for the visitors was accorded.

The judges' decision was then announced as follows:—Ripponden, 320 faults; Halifax, 238 faults; Thornhill, 140 faults; Earlsheaton, 78 faults; New Mills, 130 faults. Earlsheaton were, therefore, declared the winners.

A cordial vote of thanks was given to the Vicar for his presence, and for the use of the bells, and the Rev. T. Metcalfe, in reply, expressed his great pleasure at being among the ringers. He then presented the cup to the conductor of the Earlsheaton team.

A vote of thanks to the judges brought the meeting to a close.

#### DEDDINGTON STEDMAN MAJOR.

The above is the correct name of the method published last week by Mr. G. T. Clayton, and not "Doddington," as headed.

#### HELD OVER.

Pressure on our space compels us to hold over until next week the reports of the dedication of Writtle bells, and the Essex Association meeting at that place; an excursion among Middlesex towers; the Lancashire Association meeting at Worsley; and the completion of Clun Bells restoration fund.

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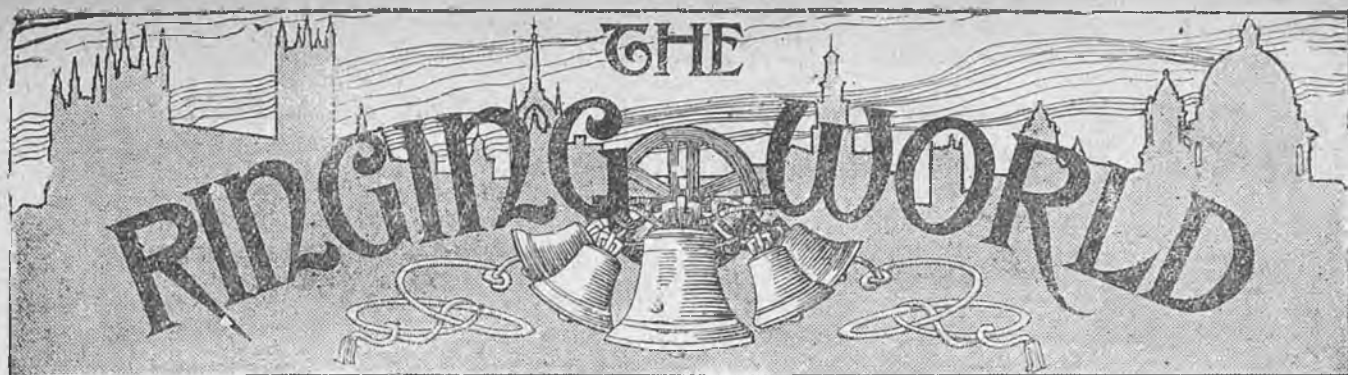
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No. 319. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27th, 1917.

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WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,  
MESSRS GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.  
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.

## REPORTS AND THEIR USES.

The reports presented to the various associations at the annual meetings usually make interesting reading, for in them we get an instructive summary of what has been done during the year, and, if it is put sometimes in a matter of fact style, it does not detract from the utility of the information, which is a guide to the activities of the organisation concerned. But in aiming at conciseness, the writers of these "official" reports sometimes lose valuable opportunity of enlarging upon the good and substantial work that has been done, when a more detailed statement might show that the accomplishments of the year are even more valuable than are generally known. On the other hand, some of the reports presented at annual meetings are very complete in detail, and set a capital standard which other societies might, perhaps, follow with advantage. The fuller the information which is given on points of real interest, the keener are the members on the doings of their society. But there is another side to the use of these reports, whether they come from a committee, a master, or a secretary, which is largely overlooked. Very few of these documents ever contain reference to anything beyond what has been done. That, admittedly, is the first object of a report, but there seems also a valuable opportunity, through this channel, of putting forward matters which would give members food for thought and ideas for action. If we may give an illustration of what we mean, we would point to the way in which the Hon. Secretary of the Herts County Association, in his report at the annual meeting, took up the very important and practical question of the care of bells. By bringing subjects like this to the direct notice of their members, association officials would render a great service to the organisations they serve and to the cause of ringing generally. They can point the way to improvements and probably stir into activity those who may have an inclination to let things drift.

Subjects which are really of vital interest to ringers could be brought before them and kept to the front by this means, while matters for actual discussion at district or branch meetings would be provided. As a rule the business at these gatherings is nearly always very brief and very formal. This may be to the liking of those who desire to spend all their available time in the belfry, but it is not always in the best interests of the organisation by which ringing societies are run. Subjects of interest ought to be discussed at these meetings, when there is more opportunity of getting representative opinion than at an annual general meeting, at which there is usually much to be done and little time to do it in. And it is in the direction of providing suggestive material for these discussions that the reports of committees and others could well be utilised.

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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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## TEN BELL PEAL.

DUDLEY.

THE ST. THOMAS' GUILD FOR DUDLEY AND DISTRICTS  
On Saturday, April 21, 1917, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt., in E flat.

JAMES E. GROVES ... .. Treble	MORRIS J. MORRIS ... .. 6
GEORGE PIGOTT ... .. 2	SAMUEL GROVE ... .. 7
HERBERT KNIGHT ... .. 3	BENJAMIN GOUGH ... .. 8
HARRY MASON ... .. 4	JAMES GEORGE ... .. 9
WILLIAM FISHER ... .. 5	JOHN GOODMAN, JUNR. ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. Harry Mason, it being his first peal as Ringing Master of this Guild. The above band includes the Ringing Masters of five different guilds and societies.

Mr. Mason very kindly entertained the company to tea after the peal.

## HANDBELL PEALS.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 14, 1917, in One Hour and Forty-nine Minutes,  
IN THE BELFRY OF SS. PETER AND PAUL'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's called differently.

ARTHUR SYMONDS ... .. 1—2	*STANLEY SMITH ... .. 4
*FREDERICK BOREHAM ... .. 3	CHARLES POULSON ... .. 5—6

Conducted by A. SYMONDS.

\* First peal.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Monday, April 16, 1917, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH HOUSE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor, 17 size in B flat.

FRANK W. PERRENS ... .. 1—2	JAMES E. GROVES ... .. 7—8
THOMAS RUSSAM ... .. 3—4	GEORGE F. SWANN ... .. 9—10
ALBERT WALKER ... .. 5—6	JAMES GEORGE ... .. 11—12

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Rung on the 60th birthday anniversary of Mr. Joseph Johnson (younger son of the late Mr. Henry Johnson), who acted as referee.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS  
AND THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY GUILD.

On Thursday, April 19, 1917, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,  
AT THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

JAMES HUNT ... .. 1—2	FRANK SMITH ... .. 5—6
EDGAR WIGHTMAN ... .. 3—4	WILLIAM J. NODDS ... .. 7—8

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and  
Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN

Witness: Mr. W. A. GREENING.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

## BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Bedford District of this Association was held at St. Peter's Church, Bedford, on Saturday week, when there was a very satisfactory muster of ringers, including three of the ladies from Willington; Miss Smith, of Elstow; and Misses D. and E. Steel, of Bedford. The bells were raised at 6 p.m., and touches of Grand-sire Doubles, Bob Minor, Kent, Cambridge, and London Surprise Minor, were rung.

Mr. H. L. Harlow was elected as secretary, in place of Mr. W. Stapleton, and it was decided that the committee should remain the same for another year. Willington was selected for the next meeting.

After the business, the handbells were brought into use, and a course of Grandsire Caters was rung by: L. Harlow 1—2, W. Stapleton 3—4, C. W. Clarke 5—6, Pte Widdowson 7—8, E. Tingey 9—10.

**EIGHT BELL PEAL.**

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.  
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND  
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, April 19, 1917, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

WILLIAM H. LIDBETTER ... Treble	CHARLES S. BIRD ... 5
HENRY C. CHANDLER ... 2	*ALBERT BECKENSALE ... 6
CHARLES J. TRICKER ... 3	WILLIAM SHEPHERD ... 7
THOMAS BEADLE ... 4	ALFRED SHEARD ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM SHEPHERD.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the Rev. J. H. Champion McGill, Vicar of Isleworth, who died, after a brief illness, on April 12th, and was buried at Shore, near Chippenham, Wilts, on April 19th. \* First peal away from the tenor.

**RINGING CLERGYMAN MARRIED.**

On Wednesday, the 18th inst., at the Parish Church, Sutton Coldfield, the marriage took place of Miss Dorothy F. Barnard, only child of the Rector and Rural Dean of Sutton Coldfield (Rev. Canon Barnard), and the Rev. Alexander Cory, C.F., only son of the Rev. A. A. Cory, J.P., Rector of Yoxall.

For three years until recently the bridegroom was one of the curates of Portsea, but has just been appointed a Chaplain of the Forces. The reverend gentleman takes a great interest in the ringers and their work in the church, and on more than one occasion, when he has visited Sutton Coldfield, the ringers have been delighted with his presence in the tower, and the able manner in which he can place the 24 cwt. tenor behind Stedman Triples makes those who have had the privilege of ringing with him, feel that the ringing clergy have here an addition to their ranks worthy of the distinguished clergymen past and present, who have done so much for the Exercise, and assisted in raising the tone of our bellfries to the recognised position they hold in the church to-day. The Rev. A. Cory has chosen for his bride a delightful lady, the daughter of parents to whom Midland ringers, and especially those of King's Norton and Sutton Coldfield, owe so much.

The ringers of the latter church decided that a peal suitable for the occasion should be rung, but unfortunately they have had the worst of bad luck. As the bridal party was leaving the church, a touch of 338 Stedman Triples was successfully brought round, conducted by Mr. F. Dickens. After the time-honoured "clanging" had taken place, a start was made for the late Sir A. P. Heywood's "Variation," and all went merrily for 1,850 changes, when the clapper broke out of the tenor. Not to be beaten, 1,008 Stedman Triples were rung on seven, conducted by Mr. G. F. Swann. It was also decided that if the repair could be completed by Saturday, another attempt should be made for the peal. Accordingly, Mr. Godden, of Birmingham, was "rung up," and the situation explained. The energetic Ringing Master of the St. Martin's Guild (Mr. J. E. Groves) was promptly on the scene, and repairs were completed by Friday, enabling another start to be made for the peal on Saturday afternoon. This, however, also ended in disappointment, owing, in the writer's opinion, to overconfidence. It was thought this particular band could not miss Stedman Triples, but (who would have thought it!) after one hour's good ringing, a bell was wanted in 4-5, at the same time another was being told to get out of the slow—the unexpected had happened, with the obvious result.

The ringers were the recipients of a very substantial present from the bridegroom, for which they desire, through "The Ringing World," to express their thanks, and tender the Rev. and Mrs. Cory the best wishes for many years of happiness, some of which, the ringers trust will be spent at Sutton Coldfield.

**ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY.**

The last quarterly meeting of the society's year was held at Wednesbury, on Saturday, April 14th. The attendance, although not large, was fairly representative. The bells were made good use of during the afternoon and evening, and among the methods rung was a touch of Cambridge Surprise Major. A short service was held in church, when the Rev. T. H. P. Hyatt (Vicar) delivered a helpful address, linking for his text, "Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked with us by the way?" Luke xxiv., 32.

Tea was served in the Schoolroom, at which the Vicar presided.—A vote of thanks was accorded him for his address, the use of the bells etc., and to the ladies who assisted at the tea tables.

The question of united practices was discussed, and it was ultimately agreed they should be held fortnightly, at various towers, on Saturday afternoons, beginning with St. Peter's, Wolverhampton (12), on May 5th; Coseley (8), May 19th; Christ Church, West Bromwich (12), June 2nd; Tipton (8), June 16th; all at 4 o'clock. Arrangements are being made for the annual meeting to take place on June 30th, at St. Peter's Wolverhampton.

**AMONG MIDDLESEX TOWERS.****A BANK HOLIDAY EXCURSION.**

Had you mounted the steps of Acton tower shortly after mid-day on Easter Monday you would have found a goodly number of ringers assembled. The occasion was a "trip" organised by a member of St. Stephen's band, West Ealing, where permission had been given to ring, but a case of serious illness quite close to the church prevented any ringing, both on the festival of Easter and the following day. A start was, therefore, made at Acton, where touches were rung in several methods; Grandsire Triples was conducted by R. Holloway (the leader in the tower), with Miss Winifred Cooper ringing the treble in fine style; Stedman by J. Evans (Hugghenden), followed by some Bob Major, and Kent Treble Bob Major. After the ringing, at Acton, an inexpensive journey on the L.U.E.T. took the party to Christ Church, Ealing Broadway, where, by the kind intervention of Mr. C. Phillips, the use of the bells was obtained from the Rural Dean. Further additions to the company were made here—indeed, it reminded one of a river with its tributaries, for as each tower was visited, so did fresh arrivals appear upon the scene. We had now with us Messrs. H. Miles (Kensington) and J. Driver (Fulham), and the result was a good touch of Double Norwich, which was conducted by the last-named ringer. At this tower Miss Gudgeon and the Misses Cooper (2) rang together, but as the ropes are a local production, they are very heavy and stiff, and have unusually large "sallies," so that it is not an easy matter for ladies to handle them.

Another short spin on a framecar, and the "Iron Bridge," which spans the main Uxbridge Road, near Southall, was reached. There was at this point, until the spring of 1906, a bridge, or rather a complication of bridges, a clever design of the famous engineer Brunel. On the south side of the roadway stood three huge octagonal brick pillars, which were felled by the use of a powerful explosive, when the fine new girder bridge, which obliquely spans the roadway, was placed in position. Near by is a very curious and clever piece of construction which is known as the "Triple Bridge." Here the canal and roadway pass over at one point of intersection the railway line; for the canal runs under the roadway and above the G.W.R. branch line to Brentford. This was closely examined as it was passed during the short and pleasant walk to Norwood Green, where the light peal of six (tenor 7 cwt.) was soon afterwards going to Bob Minor and Kent Treble Bob.

After the ringing, and a short spin on "shank's pony," we reached a welcome part of the programme, for ringing and walking sharpen the appetite, and Host Norton, of the Rose and Crown, at Heston, had, as previously arranged, provided tea for the travellers. Thanks are due to W. Emmett for going on his "bike" to let the host know exactly how many to provide for. W. H. Fussell rang some excellent changes on the tea-pots and milk-jugs, and the cups and saucers hunted "up" and "down" the table in true form. Miss Jones arrived about tea-time, and although all the sugar and cakes were gone, she rang the tenor in the church tower just as well afterwards. The usual variety of methods were practised, and we were joined by Mr. S. Carter, of the local band, who conducted a capital touch of Stedman.

The company numbered twenty—good for war time—and included, beyond those already mentioned: Messrs. G. T. Leader and T. S. Smith (Slough), W. Henley (Parnham Royal), W. Horne (Wycombe), Sergt. Verrells (Tunbridge Wells), J. Fruin (Acton), A. Evans (Hugghenden), C. Edwards, A. Harding, and W. Lawrence (West Ealing). We must not forget that the very best thanks are due to the Rural Dean, and the Vicars of Acton, Norwood Green and Heston, for the use of the bells at their respective churches. W. L.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.****A MEMORIAL UNVEILED.**

On Saturday week a gathering of the Manchester Branch took place at Worsley, to do honour to the memory of the late Mr. Fred Derbyshire, by the unveiling of a tablet. The Rector (the Rev. C. B. Hulston, M.A.) opened the proceedings with prayers, after which he paid a fine tribute to the handiwork of Mr. Derbyshire, which was to be seen on the walls of St. Mark's tower.

The President of the Association (the Rev. H. J. Elsee, M.A.), having been introduced by the Rector, said he felt grateful in being asked to perform the duty of unveiling the memorial tablet to the late Mr. Derbyshire, and thought it was doubly fitting in Easter week, to look at the past with affection, but forward in hope of a sure meeting again.—Churchwarden Carr spoke appreciatively of Mr. Derbyshire's work, and Mr. Derbyshire (son) expressed the thanks of the family at the kindness shown to the memory of his father.

Manchester Cathedral was chosen as the next meeting-place, on May 5th.

Ringers were present from the many towers of the branch, and also from the neighbouring branch of Bolton, to pay a last tribute to their departed friend.

Ringings were indulged in afterwards, touches of Grandsire, Kent, Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Superlative, being rung.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector and local ringers for the use of the bells, etc., and the Rector suitably replied.



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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.*

## SERGT. S. A. WRIGHT'S DEATH. BRILLIANT CAREER CUT SHORT.

We regret to have to record the death, from pneumonia, of Sergt. Sidney Arthur Wright, whilst on active service on the Western front, on the 1st March last; and the sympathy of members of the Kent and Surrey Associations especially will go out to Mr. David Wright, who not only thus loses his only son, but who has just sustained a further bereavement in the death of his wife.

Sergt. Wright was born at Aldershot on June 20th, 1882, and was, therefore, in his 35th year. He learned to ring under his father's tuition, at Westerham; but on becoming a student at St. Mark's College, Chelsea, became a member of St. Mary Abbot's Society, Kensington, where, under the guidance of Mr. Garrard, he soon became a first-class ringer, and rang many peals with that excellent company. Soon after leaving college, he was appointed a science master at Morpeth Grammar School, Northumberland, of which he also became head music master, and he was also organist at St. George's Presbyterian Church, Morpeth.



He had been for some years a cyclist in the 25th Middlesex Territorials, attaining the rank of colour-sergeant, and consequently on the outbreak of war he became engaged in dispatch riding for the military authorities. Subsequently he was employed at the War Office, where his linguistic ability found scope for some time. Eventually he joined the regiment of Scots Guards, in which his territorial experience soon gained for him non-commissioned rank; and, after serving in an administrative capacity for some time, he was drafted to France in October last. He leaves a widow and three young children.

The following is a summary of the peals he had rung, so far as they can be ascertained, one of which (Stedman Triples) he conducted: Kent Treble Bob Royal 2, Kent Treble Bob Major 3, Double Norwich Caters 3, Double Norwich Major 4, London Surprise Major 1, Superlative Major 2, Stedman Caters 4, Stedman Triples 9, Grandioso Triples 2: total, 30.

Mr. David Wright desires to thank his many ringing friends who have so kindly sent him messages of sympathy.

## DIED OF WOUNDS.

Christ Church, Erith, band, have lost a fellow member, in Pte Barton Young, who died of wounds on April 10th. Deceased was also a member of the choir, and had just made a start with ringing when he had to "join up." A memorial service was held on Sunday evening, and afterwards a quarter-peal of Grandioso Triples was rung, with the bells half-muffled, by: R.S.M. G. Harris 1, J. Cullum 2, H. Holden 3, F. J. Cullum, junr., 4, G. Cullum 5, J. Lowry 6, F. J. Cullum, senr. (conductor), 7, E. Martin 8.

## WOUNDED.

Corpl. L. H. Moore, of Pill, near Bristol, and serving with the 1st Lincoln Regiment, was wounded in France on the 11th inst. He is now in hospital at Bradford.

## RINGING WYKEHAMISTS.

To the change ringing Wykehamists, mentioned in our paragraph last week, should be added the names of the following: The late Rev. F. E. Robinson, the late Dr. A. B. Carpenter, the Rev. A. Du B. Hill, and Mr. F. A. Milne, hon. treas. of the Middlesex County Association.

## WRITTLE BELLS DEDICATED.

## AN ESSEX RING RESTORED.

The dedication of the bells at All Saints' Church, Writtle, took place on Saturday, April 7th, by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford, but owing to the event falling in Holy Week, there was no ringing except a few rounds immediately following the dedication.

The service was very impressive, consisting of shortened evensong, and part of the service as set out in the Essex Association service paper. During the singing of the hymn, "Lifted high within the steeple," the Bishop and the choir proceeded to the west end of the church below the bells, and the Vicar's warden (Dr. R. N. Arnold Wallinger) handed the ropes to the Bishop, requesting him to dedicate the bells to the Glory of God and for the use of the church. The Bishop, receiving the rope, then dedicated the bells, and while the choir and clergy were returning to their places, the bells were rung in rounds by members of the local company. The Bishop then delivered an address, following which the hymn, "Hark on high the joyful music," was sung.

The work of restoration has been carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and the following inscription on the tenor bell gives the details of the work:—

"Gloria in Excelsis Deo."

"This bell and the 6th were recast in 1811, and again during the great war in 1916, when the other six bells were quarter-turned and rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, London."

E. S. Grover, Vicar; R. N. Arnold Wallinger, Thomas Williams, Churchwardens.

The inscription on 6th is:—

"This bell was recast in 1811, and again in 1916.

"The cost of the belfry work in 1916 was defrayed by accumulated interest from the Church Lands and Mrs. Stackpool's Funds."

## THREE BELLS RECAST AND OLD ONES TUNED.

The work, carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank in a manner that fully maintains the great reputation of the famous firm, and is a happy augury for the future, under the direction of Messrs. A. A. and L. Hughes, includes the recasting of the 2nd, 6th, and tenor, and the tuning of the old peal under the tuning machine. In addition the five old bells were quarter turned, and the whole peal rehung with entirely new fittings. The headstocks are of cast iron, and the bearings on the two tenors are self-lubricating. The old frame, which is of massive construction, has been fitted with vertical bolts, and angle plates have been fitted to the corners of each pit. Steel girders have also been placed under the belfry floor beams as additional support. The excellent manner in which the restoration has been carried out has given the greatest satisfaction to the authorities and all the ringers who have since tried the bells.

On Easter Sunday morning, for the early service, a short touch of Grandsire Triples was rung, and for the 11 o'clock service a long touch of Stedman Triples, whilst for evensong, at 6.30 a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung, by: R. Wood 1, F. W. Edwards 2, T. Lincoln 3, F. G. Radley 4, Pte C. Sharples (24 Yorks) 5, A. Head 6, W. Lincoln (conductor) 7, W. Emery 8. All of these, with the exception of Pte Sharples, who hails from Oswaldtwistle, Lancashire, are members of the local company.

On Easter Monday the district meeting of the Essex Association, South-Eastern Division, was held, and there was a very good attendance, members attending from Boreham, Braintree, Great Bentley, Chelmsford, Kelvedon, London, Great Totham, Leytonstone, Rayne, Rettendon, Wildford, and all the members of the local company. The methods rung during the afternoon and evening included: Double Norwich, Superlative, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob Major, and Stedman and Grandsire Triples.

Service was held at 5 o'clock, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. E. S. Grover), who gave an instructive address on the bells.

The tea and business meeting followed, at which Messrs. S. H. Auger and T. B. Fairhead were elected as probationary ringers to the local company.

Great Waltham was selected as the place for the next meeting to be held in July.—Mr. C. H. Howard explained that so far as he could see, the annual meeting would be held as usual, but due notice would be given in the "Ringing World."

## BELL FOUNDERS CONGRATULATED.

The Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, General Secretary, proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for allowing the use of the bells, for his excellent address, and for presiding at the tea and meeting.—In reply, the Vicar said he was glad to welcome the ringers to Writtle, especially as they were unable to come on the last occasion, owing to the absence of the bells. It was a fitting occasion on which to come, and he trusted they had found the bells the better for the work which had been done to them. He proposed a vote of congratulation to the firm of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank for the excellent manner in which they carried out the work, which was a great success. The bells had been recast in 1811 by the same firm, and since that time nothing had really been done to the bells, which for the past forty years had been in continual use.

Mr. A. A. Hughes, representing the firm, in thanking the Vicar for

his remarks, said he was very sorry that the bells had been so long in hand, but this had been due to war work. He was glad that they were satisfied with the bells, and that the work was a success.

Mr. C. H. Howard, J.P., Master of the Association, proposed a vote of thanks to the churchwardens for their presence. He said it was not often they were able to get them to attend those gatherings. He also endorsed what the Vicar had said regarding the bells and the founders. These bells had always been reckoned as one of the best peals in the county, and Writtle as a place to come to if they wished to improve their ringing. He (Mr. Howard) had often walked over to Writtle on a Sunday evening, and felt it an honour if he had been allowed to ring a few rounds, and anyone was always sure of a hearty welcome. The success of the company was due to the manner in which they had pulled together, and to Mr. W. Lincoln in his ability to instruct the recruits. Writtle had been the birthplace of the Essex Association, and he was glad that such a good muster had been got together on that occasion. The bells were a fine peal of eight, and would make a splendid peal of ten, and the tenor bell would stand two trebles being added, so that if anyone wished to perpetuate their memory, there was a splendid opportunity.

Mr. T. Williams, on behalf of his brother warden and himself, thanked Mr. Howard for his kind words, and endorsed what he had said regarding Mr. Lincoln, and the local company.

The members then adjourned to the tower for further ringing.

Cigarettes were kindly provided for the ringers by Mrs. Grover.

## ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

The spring quarterly meeting was held at St. Mary Magdalene, Holway, on Saturday last, when a good number of members turned up, despite the many other calls on the time of those still left behind to hold the bells in readiness for the return of the "boys." The Vicar, who takes a great interest in the tower of his church, gave a look in shortly after the commencement of ringing, and cordially welcomed the members. Ringing comprised touches of Stedman, Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Superlative, and London.

At the subsequent meeting, held in the Vestry, it was decided to make application for Heston tower for the summer meeting.

A long discussion took place on the rules, dealing with the financial side of the society's operations, and eventually, on the motion of Mr. B. Foskett, seconded by Mr. Bevan, it was decided to defer the matter till the next annual meeting.

Votes of condolence were passed in the usual way with the widow and relatives of the late Mr. Brightman, of Highgate, and the parents of Lance-Corpl. Dewey, of Redhill.

The secretary having to "join up" early in May, the members were hard put to it to find a capable substitute for what is hoped will prove but a short and temporary absence. Eventually Mr. J. Parker, of Edmonton, was prevailed upon to accept the office pro tem.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar for the use of bells, and Mr. F. Smith for having everything in readiness, terminated another successful "war quarterly."

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

There was a very meagre attendance at the meeting of the Swindon Branch, which was held at Stratton St. Margaret last Saturday. Nevertheless those who were present spent a most enjoyable time.—The Vicar, the Rev. S. Denton, gave the visitors a hearty welcome, and was much interested in the ringing, which took place during the afternoon. An excellent tea was provided at the Church Institute, and was greatly appreciated.

A short business meeting followed, Mr. F. W. Selby presiding.—One new member was elected, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Chippenham, on May 19th. It was also arranged to visit Lechlade or Bishopstone on Saturday, May 5th, provided permission to ring is granted.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for his kind welcome, and to Mrs. Moulden, Miss Moulden and Mrs. Sperring, for their kindness in arranging such a splendid tea.

## ST. MAGNUS' RESTORATION.

The well-known peal of ten at St. Magnus-the-Martyr, London Bridge, have just been overhauled by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank and the result is that the bells are now in first-rate going order. The tenor, 4th, 3rd and treble, have been rehung with entirely new fittings, and the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th have been lifted out, and their gudgeons and bearings turned afresh, and refitted. A trial run was given to the bells last Saturday evening, when a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters was rung by the following band of College Youths: E. Horrex 1, C. H. Horion 2, W. T. Cockerell 3, T. Walker 4, H. R. Pasmore (conductor) 5, T. Langdon 6, A. A. Hughes 7, C. Burden 8, R. Sanders 9, A. S. Pettitt 10.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.—Oxford Guild.—At the Parish Church, on Easter Day, for evensong, 1306 Stedman Cinques, in 62 mins.: F. Hayes (conductor) 1, O. C. Mayne 2, Gunner G. Hintou, R.F.A., 3, G. White 4, J. W. Wilkins 5, F. K. Biggs 6, E. Markham 7, W. Phipps 8, W. Horne 9, J. Blackmore 10, J. Gransbury 11, A. J. Hoing (first quarter-peal on twelve bells) 12.

### THE BELLS OF CLUN. RESTORATION FUND COMPLETED.

At the Clun (Shropshire) Vestry meeting last week, the most interesting part of the proceedings was the presentation of the accounts and balance sheet of the restoration of the church tower, clock and bells completed in 1914. The total expenditure had been £1,255 18s. 6d., which included several improvements and a new clock in the Vestry, and also one for the ringing room. The total income from all sources was exactly the same amount as the expenditure, so that the debt of several hundred pounds which remained when the work was finished has now been completely cleared off.

The balance sheet contained several interesting features, among them being the sum of £7 10s. 9d., the proceeds of the sale of "The Story of the Bells," a booklet written by Mr. W. Mead, head ringer and churchwarden, to help the fund, and also £3 6s. 6d. profit on sale of picture post cards of the charming welcome of the bells, an account and illustration of which appeared in our columns at the time. There were about 290 individual donations, not including those of 2s. and under, and donations had come in from all parts of the country. Following the example of their late Vicar (the Rev. C. Warner), who restored the church at a cost of over £7,000 about forty years ago, the parish had raised the amount required without having one penny from bazaars or other amusements.

The Vicar, in expressing his great pleasure on the completion of the work, heartily thanked all who had helped so much in different ways, the farmers in the parish who had carted some hundreds of tons of materials free of charge, the collectors who had done so well. To Mr. Short, their hon. secretary, and Mr. Mead (the retiring warden) they owed a great debt of gratitude for the large amount of time given in getting the debt cleared off. Their energy had never flagged from start to finish, and the completed restoration was their reward. For himself he was almost sorry the work was completed. It had been so very interesting, and the help and encouragement he had received all through was wonderful. There was hardly a day when a donation did not come in from someone.

On Sunday evening special mention was made of the debt being extinguished, and the special bell hymn, "Unchanging God, who livest," and the Te Deum were heartily sung at the close of the service. The bells were also rung for an hour before and after service.

On Sunday evening a special service of thanksgiving was held in the church, and there was a large congregation. The service was intoned by the Rev. F. S. Dutton, and special psalms and hymns were sung, including the bell hymn, "Unchanging God, who livest."

The sermon was preached by the Vicar, who took for his text, "They helped everyone his neighbour, and everyone said to his brother, Be of good courage. So the carpenter encouraged the goldsmith and he that smootheneth with the hammer him that smote the anvil, saying, It is ready for the soldering; and he fastened it with nails, that it should not be moved" (Isaiah xli. 6-7). In the course of his address, he said they were that evening thanking God especially for three things: first, for Easter; secondly, that America had now joined the Allies in the war, and for the glorious progress made during the week in France, and also that the debt on the restored tower and bells was now completely cleared off. He said how thankful they all were that the debt which had been upon them three years was now a thing of the past. It was not well that there should be a debt on their noble old church, and he very much appreciated the help given by their Nonconformist friends, whose ancestors had worshipped in that ancient church.

At the conclusion of the service the "Te Deum" was sung with the choir round the altar, and the bells pealed forth before and after the service, which was of a most impressive character.

### CAVERSHAM RINGER'S DEATH.

It is with deep regret that the St. Peter's, Caversham, band, have to report the death of their respected and dear old friend, Mr. J. F. Tarrant, who passed away on Good Friday, within a few weeks of his 70th birthday. The funeral took place on Thursday, the 12th inst., at Tilehurst, and in the evening a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung, muffled, at Caversham, in 55 mins., by: W. Hibbert 1, G. Essex 2, R. T. Hibbert 3, J. Hands 4, A. Wiggins 5, E. J. Menday 6, E. W. Menday (conductor) 7, H. Simmonds 8.

The deceased, who started ringing well in middle life, was never keen on taking part in peals, but had rung several of Grandsire Triples, also one each of Stedman Triples and Double Norwich Major. A staunch Churchman, a man of strict integrity and upright character, he will be much missed by the St. Peter's company, for he had been, until deafness came upon him, one of the most regular attendants for service ringing, rarely having missed for some twenty years. May he rest in peace.

**WOLVERLEY.**—Worcestershire Association.—On Easter Day, at the Parish Church, in 47 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (128 changes): F. Shaw 1, Keith Salter (age 14 years), first quarter-peal in the method, 2, T. J. Salter 3, W. H. Porter 4, H. Martin (conductor) 5, A. Morris 6.

### NOTICES.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM** (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at Edgbaston Old Church, Saturday, April 28th. Bells available from 4 o'clock. The Vicar and Churchwardens are kindly providing tea in the Church Room at 5.30.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road Handsworth, Birmingham.

**THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Woolwich on Saturday, April 28th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service and address by the Rev. Arthur N. Pickering (Rector), at 5.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow tea. I shall be glad to receive all outstanding subscriptions.—T. Groombridge, Hon. District Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at Finchley on Saturday, April 28th. Bells available from 2.30 till 9 p.m. Tea, 4.45 p.m., 6d. to members who notify me by April 24th. Short service with address by the Rector (the Rev. W. St. Hill Bourne). Business meeting to follow. A good attendance is essential. Subscriptions for 1917 are now due.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. pro tem., 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—A quarterly meeting of the Portsmouth District will be held at St. Thomas's, Portsmouth, on Saturday, April 28th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea will be served at Madden's Temperance Hotel, Station Street, at a time convenient to the members present. Subscriptions for 1917 are now due.—E. J. Harding, Dist. Sec., 76, Carnarvon Road, Portsmouth.

**BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Midsomer Norton and Frome Deanery Branch.—Annual meeting of this branch will be held on April 28th at Midsomer Norton. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. All ringers heartily welcome. Service at 4.30 p.m.—I. B. Holmyard, Hon. Sec.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on May 3rd, 17th and 31st, for handbell practice, and on the 8th and 22nd for general business; all at 8 p.m. Also at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Sunday the 13th, at 6 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The next meeting of the above Society will be held at Guiseley on Saturday, May 5th, 1917. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting at 7 p.m.—Wm. Barton, Hon. Sec., 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The annual meeting will be held at Ranmoor, Sheffield, on Saturday, May 5th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Business meeting in the Parish Room at 6 o'clock.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

**BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Mark on Saturday, May 5th. Service, 5 o'clock; tea and meeting to follow. Bells (6), afternoon and evening.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea.



**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Ashford District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Wye on Saturday, May 5th. Bells available at 2 o'clock. The usual evensong will be held in the church at 7 o'clock, at which all members will be welcomed. The usual travelling allowance will be paid to all members attending, providing their subscription for 1917 has been paid. Owing to a difficulty in catering members will make their own arrangements for tea on arrival.—C. Tribe, Hon. Dist. Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

**BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Yatton on Saturday, May 5th. Bells available, 3.30. Divine service, 5 o'clock. Tea in the Church Hall at 5.30. Business meeting to follow.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

**LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Llanfrechfa, Mon. (Ponthir Station), on Saturday, May 5th, at 4 o'clock. Bells (6) available. Tea provided.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., J. W. Jones, Hon. Secs., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—THE WILLIAM SNOWDON MEMORIAL.—Subscribers and those interested are asked to note that the Committee have decided to postpone the opening ceremony of the above until after the war.—H. Williams, Hon. Gen. Sec., *pro tem*.

**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, Beach House.

#### MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION AT HESTON.

Members and friends, to the number of 24, attended the meeting of the South and West District of the Middlesex Association, held at Heston on Saturday, and they rang Grandsire, Oxford Bob, and Stedman Triples, Bob Major and Kent Treble Bob.—The President (Mr. A. T. King, I.S.O.), was present, as well as ringers from Brockley, Burton-on-Trent, Camberwell, Croydon, Harrow, Heston, Hounslow, Isleworth, Norwood Green, Tunbridge Wells, Twerton (Somerset), and West Ealing.

It was pleasant to have visitors from places so far distant as Burton-on-Trent (Mr. W. Worthington), Twerton, Somerset (Mr. Tom King), and Croydon (Messrs. W. Wise and C. Dean).

Tea (the donors forming a quartette) was partaken of in the Parish Hall; and with kind ladies and an energetic juvenile to assist them, the time proved most enjoyable.

Mr. A. T. King was obliged to leave somewhat early, so the District Master (Mr. T. Beadle) occupied the chair.

Staines was selected as the next tower to visit, and Mr. Hubert Chaffey (of Acton) was elected as a member.

A most hearty welcome was extended to the company by Mr. A. V. Clark (churchwarden), who told how, some years ago, he had looked in at the open door of a small belfry in Suffolk. The conductor was peculiar in appearance, and had a very large beard, and an unusually stentorian voice: when he made the call Mr. Clark thought it would be wise in the "extreme" if the "course" he adopted was a "double." Further, he referred to the fact that in his travels he had often heard the Continental chimes, but, after all, the good old change-ringing of England nipped the very heart of every true Englishman, and it was good that such fellowship existed amongst the ringers of our land.

Mr. Sydney Carter said he was pleased to see so good a meeting for "war-time," and he hoped that ere long we should be ringing the "peal of peace."

The District Master proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar (Rev. F. W. A. Wilkinson) for allowing the use of the bells, to the donors of the tea, and to the ladies who had so kindly assisted.

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Guildford, and Published by Messrs. Wm. DAWSON & SONS  
LTD., Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.

# THE RINGING WORLD

No. 320. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, MAY 4th, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

## 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, 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. BECK.

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

## MODERN WORK.

### DEVON AND BELFRY REFORM.

The letters which we publish this week go to prove that the sweeping statement, made by a correspondent in the "Church Times" to which we have already referred, is, to say the least, an exaggeration, as we suggested that it must be. It is easy to make a general indictment based upon an isolated instance or two, and it is just as absurd to suggest that "bell ringing scandals are one of the greatest hindrances to spiritual progress in Devonshire villages," from a bad example which may have been discovered here or there, as to say that because some clergyman has lapsed from the path of moral rectitude, the whole energies of the Church in that man's diocese are hindered and thwarted. Mr. Marsh's letter, elsewhere in this issue, shows us something of what has been done in those parts of Devon where the influence of the Guild has reached; and if it has not penetrated into every nook and corner of the county, it has not been due entirely to want of energy or initiation on the part of the responsible officers. There are features of difficulty in organising Devonshire for change ringing purposes, which few other counties present: one of the chief being lack of means of intercommunication, and another a cast-iron prejudice against half-pull ringers. These have made the task of the Guild a formidable one.

The movement for raising the tone of the belfries throughout the land came, generally speaking, not from the outside through the clergy, but from inside through the ringers themselves; but now that a high standard has been reached almost everywhere, and incumbents have at their hand the organisation that is ready to help, there is no excuse for those responsible at these "unreformed" places if they permit a state of things to exist which they feel are "a hindrance to spiritual progress." Example, we are told, is better than precept, and if in the cases that give rise to such accusations as that made in the "Church Times," the clergy will take their place among the ringers, or at any rate show sympathy with them in their work, and let them see that they recognise the belfry as a place not apart from the church by visiting it as often as possible, anything in the nature of "scandals" would quickly disappear. As Devonshire has been singled out for attack in regard to the general conduct of its belfries, could not the Devon Guild, in justice to its members, take some action to refute such a comprehensive indictment, which casts an unjustifiable slur upon a body of loyal and devoted church workers, and to point the way by which Incumbents, whose work is being hindered by the behaviour of their ringers, might best effect that reformation which they desire to see?



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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.  
Smethwick.

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

**SMETHWICK,  
BIRMINGHAM**

## BELLS

**FOR CHURCHES,  
SINGLY,  
OR IN PEALS.**

**CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.**

PEALS AUGMENTED,  
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

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**IN BEST SEASONED OAK,  
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**ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON  
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REPAIRS AND REHANGING  
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Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway.

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

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

DEPTFORD.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Friday, April 27, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 14 cwt.

HARRY WARNETT, Senr. ... <i>Treble</i>	FREDERICK W. RICHARDSON ... 5
CHARLES H. WALKER ... 2	ERNEST B. CROWDER ... 6
PTE. WILLOUGHBY E.	WILLIAM J. JEFFRIES ... 7
MAULDEN, A.S.C. 3	GEORGE H. GOODMAN ... <i>Tenor</i>
JOSEPH LAW ... 4	

Conducted by ERNEST B. CROWDER.

Rung to celebrate Mr. J. Law's 75th birthday.

HIGHGATE.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS

On Saturday, April 28, 1917, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. ANNE,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**

Tenor 14½ cwt.

ERNEST BONFIELD ... <i>Treble</i>	EDWARD F. COLE ... 5
CHARLES PRYOR ... 2	ERNEST YOUNG ... 6
WILLIAM J. NUDDS ... 3	JOSEPH E. SYKES ... 7
RICHARD BEVAN ... 4	FRANK SMITH ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by the late H. DAINS, and  
Conducted by FRANK SMITH.

Rung half-muffled (the first time the bells were available) in memory of the late Mr. Albert E. Brightman. The deceased's last peal was rung upon these bells, and the above was the same method and the same composition as upon that occasion.

## HANDBELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tuesday, April 24, 1917, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes.

At THE CHURCH HOUSE, MOOR STREET,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;**

Tenor, 17 size in B flat.

THOMAS RUSSAM ... 1-2	JAMES E. GROVES ... 7-8
WILLIAM KENT ... 3-4	GEORGE F. SWANN ... 9-10
ALBERT WALKER ... 5-6	*JOHN NEAL ... 11-12

Composed by JAMES E. GROVES, and  
Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

Referee: MR. JAMES GEORGE.

\*First peal on handbells. This was Mr. Kent's second peal of Stedman Cinques on handbells, his first having been rung on April 28th, 1888. Five of the above ringers are members of the Sunday band at St. Martin's.

## BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.

MANY NEW LADY MEMBERS.

A quarterly meeting of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held at Dunster on Saturday week, when twelve towers were represented by 26 members, the visitors including Mr. J. H. Shepherd, of Swindon, and several lady members from Bridgwater. The bells were raised soon after 3 p.m., and touches of Grandsire and Stedman rung until 4 p.m., when a short service was held, the Rev. Prob. Hancock, Vicar of Dunster, officiating. After the service a move was made to the Mill, where it had been arranged to have tea and hold the meeting. In the unavoidable absence of the Master, on account of the train service, Prob. Hancock presided.

Eighteen new members, of whom twelve were ladies, were elected. It was announced that the next meeting would be the annual festival, and it was left to the committee to decide where this should be held.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Prob. Hancock for the very kind way in which he had received the members, for arranging the service, for the use of the bells, and for presiding at the meeting.—In reply, he urged on the members the necessity of preserving the many beautiful old bells which were scattered over Somerset, and which were now very valuable, and should never go into the melting pot unless absolutely necessary.

This concluded the business, and some returned to the tower, others preferring to stroll round the town and inspect some of the places of interest, of which the old Yarn Market is one of the principal.

**ROLL OF HONOUR.**

From Flore, Northants:—  
Pte W. C. Stammer, 12th Royal West Kent Regt.  
From Hinton, Wesham:—  
Spr. Joseph D. Johnson, Royal Engineers.

**KILLED IN ACTION.****BROMLEY RINGER FALLEN IN GREAT ADVANCE.**

The Bromley Youths, the society attached to the old Parish Church of SS. Peter and Paul, have sustained a great loss by the death of Pte Alfred James, Royal West Kent Regiment, who had been one of their members for about twelve years. His father had been a ringer at the church before him for a great many years, and he also has a son a member of the band, but who is now in France with the R.F.A.

Pte James was ordered to join H.M. Forces last October, or go to the North to work in a shipyard, but being an old volunteer, and, notwithstanding that he was in his 40th year (he was 40 on March 31st) he preferred to go in the army. He was attached to the Royal West Kent Regiment, and, after training at Tunbridge Wells, where he often rang with the St. Peter's band, who will doubtless be deeply grieved to hear of his death, he was drafted to France on December 31st, and was sent almost immediately to the firing line. All went well with him till the great advance on Easter Monday morning, when he was badly wounded in the shoulder, and, despite his comrades' efforts to staunch the flow of blood, the poor fellow bled to death. His comrades were unable to get him back to a dressing station, so they got him into a dug-out, and there he passed away. One of those who were with him was his own nephew, and another, a lad, a next-door neighbour at home.

The deceased leaves a wife and seven children to mourn their loss and the greatest sympathy is felt with them. His place at home cannot, of course, ever be filled, and his place in the belfry will be filled only with difficulty. He was a capital ringer and striker, always bright and cheerful, always ready to go anywhere or do anything. His happy, jovial face will be missed in Bromley town, in the belfry, and at the meetings of the Kent County Association, of which he had been a member for years, and the meetings of which he always made a point of attending.

He had rung 26 peals of Grandsire, Stedman and Bob Major, and one of Double Norwich on the treble, to which the late Mr. A. W. Grimes rung the tenor. Now alas! both are gone from us for ever. R.I.P.

On Tuesday week, an attempt for a half-muffled peal of Stedman to the memory of the deceased came to grief, the quarter-peal part ending failing to come up correctly. However, a capital quarter was afterwards rung by: P. J. Spice 1, G. Durling 2, A. E. Newick 3, G. Huxley 4, I. Emery (conductor) 5, A. Dygrave 6, T. Groombridge 7, C. Austin 8. The bells were also rung half-muffled for the services on Sunday last.

**COALBROOKDALE'S LOSS.****A SECOND MEMBER KILLED.**

Coalbrookdale has lost a second member of the belfry in the war, Lance-Corpl. William Onions, of the K.S.L.I., having been killed in action on April 8th. He had been a member of the local band for some time, and took part in the ringing for the Coronation of King George and Queen Mary. Coalbrookdale has seven other ringers serving in various parts of the world.

For morning service, at Holy Trinity Church, on Sunday, April 29th, with the bells half-muffled, as a last token of respect to Lance-Corpl. Onions, a touch of 1302 Grandsire Triples, composed by John Carter, was rung in 54 mins., by: William Boden 1, Walter Crawford 2, Thomas Abbott 3, Leonard Hewitt 4, Richard Jones 5, William Saunders (conductor) 6, Walter Lago 7, Jack Aston 8.

**TWICE WOUNDED.**

A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung for evening service on Sunday, at Norton, Derbyshire, in which Pte A. Rose, H.L.I., took part. Pte Rose was leaving, after ten days' leave, and going again to France, where he has been twice wounded. He joined the army in September, 1914, and spent both his 21st and 22nd birthdays in hospital. The quarter-peal was rung by: E. Simpson 1, E. James 2, A. James 3, Pte A. Rose 4, E. Allen 5, W. Biggin (conductor) 6, G. Smith 7, T. Lee 8.

Two other members of the Norton company are also in France; Pte G. Rose, Coldstream Guards, who was in the retreat from Mons, and Sergt. H. Smith, H.L.I., while Pte H. Beardslaw, who joined in 1915, is in India. Miss Elsie Smith took her brother's place at the ropes, and is making good progress, while Miss Allen, sister of another ringer, is also master of a bell. The Norton band contains six members of military age, who are doing their bit in munitions, but the call for other duty may come soon. There are four old ringers in the village, who left the tower through a split some years ago, and who could fill further gaps if they would.

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.****GAINSBOROUGH DISTRICT MEETING.**

A meeting of the Gainsborough District of the Northern Branch was held at Corringham, on Saturday last, and proved most successful, a good number of members being present from Gainsborough, Kilton Lindsey, Scotter, Willingham, Bigby, and Workop, in addition to some of the local company. The bells were available during the afternoon and evening, and were utilised in practising Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Kent, and Oxford Treble Bob. At five o'clock, in response to an invitation from the Rev. R. Thornton (Vicar) and Mrs. Thornton, the members adjourned to the Schoolroom, where tea awaited them, and was very much appreciated by all.

The business meeting followed, and was presided over by the Vicar, who gave a most hearty welcome to the Guild, of which, later on, he was duly elected a honorary member.—Two new performing members (Messrs. Fred Smith and William Naylor), both of Scotter, were also elected.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and also to him and Mrs. Thornton for their very kind hospitality, as well as to the ladies who had so kindly waited at the tables.—These were proposed and seconded by Messrs. J. C. Tinker, Gainsborough, and H. Haigh, Workop, respectively, carried unanimously, and duly responded to by the Rev. R. Thornton.

This concluded the business, after which the members returned to the tower, where further ringing was indulged in until about 7.30, when the bells were lowered, thus bringing to a close another successful and enjoyable meeting, which will for many days to come be looked upon with pleasant recollections by those who were present.

**BOTTESFORD (LEICESTER) RINGER'S DEATH.****KILLED ON THE RAILWAY.**

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Mr. Samuel Baker, captain of the Bottesford Church company, which took place under very sad circumstances on the morning of Tuesday, April 24th. He was a foreman platelayer on the G.N.R., and on the morning in question had started out to inspect his length of line, when, in avoiding one train, he stepped in front of another, the near approach of which he had not noticed, and was instantly cut to pieces. He will be sadly missed by a large circle of friends, and Bottesford belfry for many a long day will not seem the same without his genial and kindly presence.

Although Mr. Baker was not a great peal ringer, having taken part in some seven or eight peals of Triples and Minor, yet he was a good and safe ringer, and, above all, was most regular in his attendance at service and practice ringing, rarely being absent on either occasion. He was of a warm-hearted and unselfish disposition, always ready to extend a hearty welcome to visitors, and to do his utmost in helping on young beginners. He leaves behind him a widow and three married daughters, with whom the utmost sympathy is felt in their most sudden and unexpected bereavement.

The funeral took place on the following Thursday, and was attended by a large number of parishioners and friends, who assembled to pay their last token of respect to one so highly esteemed and respected. At the conclusion of the ceremony the bells were rung, muffled, by members of the Framland Society of Ringers, of which society the deceased had been for many years a member.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.****FIFTEEN YEARS' WORK RECOGNISED.**

A very successful meeting of the Bolton Branch was held at Walkden on Saturday week, over 30 members attending from Deane, Bolton Parish, and St. George's, Leigh, Tyldesley, Pindleton, Chorley, and members of the local company. Mr. W. Pasmore (of London), R.F.C., who is stationed at Bolton, was a visitor. There were good touches of Grandsire Stedman, Bob Major, Double Norwich, and Kent Treble Bob Major rung during the day. The business meeting, with the president (the Rev. H. J. Elsee) in the chair, brought two new members.

A pleasing incident then took place, Mr. Elsee presenting to the late branch secretary (Mr. G. Pincott), a walking stick and a pipe, subscribed for by the ringers in the branch.—The President spoke of the good work, and the long service (15 years) which Mr. Pincott had given to the Bolton Branch, and which had only been terminated by pressing business claims.—Mr. Pincott suitably acknowledged the gift.

The next meeting will be held at Horwich, on May 19th.

**A GREAT OPPORTUNITY.****To the Editor.**

Sir,—Sunday, 6th May, will be the anniversary of His Majesty's Accession to the Throne of this realm. Ringers will then have a great opportunity of giving expression to the loyal sentiments of the nation, and a brief reminder in your columns may be of service in stimulating all brethren of the Exercise to rise to the occasion.—Yours truly,

F. L. EDWARDS.

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry  
Established  
A.D. 1870.

*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

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.*

## BELFRY CONDITIONS IN DEVON. A RINGER'S REPLY.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Will you kindly allow me to reply to your leading article, re Belfry conditions in Devon? As I am assistant secretary to the Devon Guild for the Archdeaconry of Totnes, also a member of that Guild since its inception, and leader of Charles' Church ringers, Plymouth, it will at once be seen that your article hit me pretty badly. First, let me dispose of Sir Robert Harvey's offer. I was present at the induction service of our Vicar of Charles (the Rev. J. P. Baker) by the then Archdeacon of Totnes (the Rev. C. Wilkinson), at which he most emphatically stated, and took infinite pains to instil it into the minds of the congregation, that the Vicar, legally, had exclusive authority over the bells. If this be true, Sir Robert Harvey is out of court, as the Vicar of Harberton cannot give away his successor's rights. In the local papers it is stated the Vicar has stopped the bells, as he will not allow ringers to ring them and not stay to service. This is a mistake on his part. Does the churchwarden never stay away, the Sunday School teacher, the choirman, etc.? They, by so doing, do not stop the work, but if a ringer stays away, more often than not, he does. Service time is like train time, it must go on, and all honour to the man who aims to give the church the best he can. If the minister were to go among his ringers with an encouraging word and sympathetic enquiries, he would not have the least difficulty in getting his ringers to attend service once on Sunday, which works much better than a hard and fast line. At the same time, ringers would do well to remember a little advice, given to me by Mr. Russell, of Slough. When ringers leave the church, after ringing, they should not stand at the church gate, light their pipes, spit about, and engage in loud conversation, but go right away, otherwise it gives them a bad name.

Now for the "Church Times" accusation. I have been engaged in propaganda work for over 40 years, have rung 50 peals for the Devon Guild, have taken bands in all the villages around Harberton, also in Totnes town, and practically all over Devon, leaving ringing literature behind, and heaps of pressing invites, and yet in all this time, I can honestly say, I have never come across one case of swearing or bad language, smoking, or drinking in the belfry. Mine is not an isolated experience. In our band here we have a Reclabite, a keen ringer of long standing, who vowed to me yesterday he had never seen or heard such thing. It may well be asked, What is the Devon Guild doing? My reply is "A noble work." In the 40 odd years I have just quoted, that noble work has been going on. Col. Troyte, William Banister, Rev. Maitland Kelly, and a host of others, sowed the seed which has produced several bands in Exeter, also at Exmouth, at Tiverton, and Plymouth, who can ring the standard methods, and have proved themselves good members of the Church of England. Take, for instance, the case of Ferris Shepherd (now of Hersham). He, single handed, converted several of the stoutest opponents of half-pull ringing to good ringers in the standard methods, which they are now ringing to-day in their extreme old age. Devon and Cornwall have always been strongholds of raising and falling in peal and round ringing, just as Yorkshire, we will say, has been with "tenor in," which makes our task very difficult. Has the reader ever heard it well done? I have, and shall never forget it; so has the Rev. Maitland Kelly, who, if possible, is keener on it than I am. Here is the gist of the whole matter. The minister has exclusive authority over the bells, he should show no lethargy, and should not leave it to Bumblebum, but rout out belfry and bells, put himself in connection with Diocesan Guild who will give him advice and help. When once started, above all things, show a sympathetic and encouraging spirit to the ringers, and be often among them.—Yours faithfully,

8, Channel View Terrace, Plymouth.

WALTER HY. MARSH.

P.S.—May I say that while the boys are away, I myself chime every Sunday morn, sing in the choir at two services, and ring at 5.45 for evening service, when I can get a band. Will the Tommies in training, and others, come along and help?

## LADY RINGER'S TRIBUTE.

Dear Sir,—In reference to the article re "Bell Ringing Scandals in Devonshire Belfries," which appeared in "The Church Times" for April 13th, and to which you referred in the "Ringing World" of April 20th, I should like to say that I have rung in 75 different towers and in only one—and there the company were members of the Guild of Devonshire ringers—was there a prayer said before commencing to ring for the Sunday services. I simply mention this in justice to the kind brother ringers I met in Devonshire. Many more belfries might imitate them in regarding ringing as an offering to God, and as part of the service of His House.—Yours truly,

(Mrs.) MAUD M. GATEHOUSE

The Vicarage, Hendeorn.

STRATFORD—On Easter Day, at St. Mary's Church, Bow, Stratford, for evening service, 1312 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 48 mins.: A. Scrambler 1, T. Cranfield 2, R. J. Turner 3, Y. Green (conductor) 4, E. Hall 5, J. Scholes 6, R. Sanders 7, H. Torble 8.



### LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION'S SECRETARY. POLICEMAN, RINGER AND CHURCHWARDEN.

The honour which has come to Mr. Thomas Walker, hon. secretary of the London County Association, in his unanimous election as churchwarden of St. Botolph's Church, Bishopsgate, with which he has for many years been connected, is a source of congratulation. He was appointed at the Vestry meeting, on Easter Monday, and we feel sure that when his year of office expires St. Botolph's will find that it made a happy choice.

Ringling owes a good deal to such men as Mr. Walker, who bring perseverance and energy to bear in all that they do, and unostentatiously make success certain. Mr. Walker has already rendered good service to St. Botolph's by organising the ringing arrangements there, and the London County Association has never had a more painstaking and efficient secretary.

Born 28th April, 1873, at Marlesford, Suffolk, Mr. Walker removed to Hadleigh at the age of 13, and there it was that he learned to handle a bell. At the age of 17 he took up a position in the well-known firm of Spencer Turner and Boldero, Lisson Grove, N.W., but



MR. THOMAS WALKER.

grew tired of the drapery business, and joined the City of London Police in September, 1894, and for many years was attached to the chief office, in Old Jewry.

He did not take up change ringing seriously until 1899, and since then has rung about 25 peals, consisting of Stedman Triples and Caters, Treble Bob Major and Royal, Plain Bob Major, and the treble to Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major. He rang the tenor to the 7,777 Stedman Caters, at Beddington, Surrey, on Easter Monday, 1914, conducted by F. E. Dawe.

He became hon. secretary of the London County Association, in April, 1916, and by his energy has kept the organisation going most successful during this very difficult period. He is also a member of the College Youths.

A keen supporter of Sunday ringing, he has, while custodian of the bells at St. Botolph's, done much to secure the regular ringing of this peal for Sunday services. He was formerly a sidesman at the church, and his election to the office of churchwarden at the Easter Vestry this year, after many years' residence in the parish, was a unanimous one.

### DARTFORD'S NEW PEAL.

Messrs. Mears and Stainbank have in hand the recasting of the peal of eight at Dartford, tenor 18½ cwt. The bells are to be rehung in the present frame, with entirely new fittings, and it is hoped to have them finished in about two months' time.

### THE LATE SIR A. HEYWOOD'S RINGING BOOKS. GIFTS TO CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD AND COLLEGE YOUTHS.

At a meeting of the Ancient Society of College Youths, held on April 24th, Mr. J. Bruce Williamson informed the members present that according to the will of the late Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., the Cambridge University Guild had received the whole of that gentleman's valuable collection of books on ringing. When they were being looked through, the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey came across a manuscript book, which had been the property of the late Mr. H. W. Haley, on the inside cover of which Sir Arthur had written a request that this book should be handed to the College Youths.

Acting on this request, the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey wrote to the Master, Mr. A. A. Hughes, presenting the book, which was handed over at this meeting by Mr. Bruce Williamson, and received with the society's most grateful thanks as a very valuable addition to its collection of ringing matter.

The book appears to be a record of peals rung by Mr. Haley, and a collection of peals composed by that famous author.

### MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT FINCHLEY.

A very pleasant and successful meeting of the North and East District was held at Finchley on Saturday last, 32 members and friends being present. Many short fouches were rung, the methods practised including Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Cambridge and London Surprise Major. Tea was served at the Church Hall adjoining, and in the service which followed all were heartily able to join. Of the three hymns sung, one was the composition of the Rector. In a very helpful address the Rev. W. St. Hill Bourne (Rector) said how pleased he was to see the Association meeting at Finchley once again. He went on to point out that the sound of the bells was for the summoning of people to the service of God, and warned those who did this work that it was a high calling, and one in which those who call should also attend. He was glad to think that things were much improved nowadays, but still isolated cases were heard of, and it was for all to work to remove noticeable instances of that sort.

At the business meeting the chair was taken by Mr. A. T. King, I.S.O. (President of the Association), who was supported by Mr. J. A. Milne (vice-president).—Five new members were elected, and St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, was suggested as the place for the next meeting, in June, it being left with the hon. secretary to make necessary arrangements.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed by the President to the Rev. W. St. Hill Bourne for the kind welcome extended to the Association, for the use of the bells, the service, and helpful address given.—This was seconded by the Hon. Secretary (Mr. W. Oram), who stated that the additional cost of the tea was being paid by the Rector. To the vote was also added the name of Mr. W. E. Farr and the Finchley band, and the organist, who had all given such splendid help to make the meeting such a success.

The business over, the tower was again visited until 9 p.m., and the handbells were also brought into use.

### ILLUSTRATED LECTURES ON BELLS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Your leader on "Educating the Public," in your issue of 14th April last, has a good ring to it, for it brings before ringers as a body the good that may be done by means of lectures in educating the public to appreciate good bell ringing. Now I am fully convinced that scattered up and down the country there are many practical ringers quite able to give a most interesting lecture on bells, bell ringing and bell ringers. Doubtless this is already done much more frequently than many are aware of. But how much more interesting such lectures would be to a non-ringing audience if they could be suitably illustrated. Lantern slides of interesting bells—ancient, modern and historical—different classes of inscriptions and lettering; the various ways bells are hung; and views of famous bell towers would certainly add much to the subject matter given.

Then again it is well nigh impossible to get a party of change ringers in many a country district who are able to illustrate the fascination of well-struck changes on handbells. That being the case, why not have a number of gramophone records, each reproducing a short, complete touch on various numbers of bells, and in various methods?

Now it could not be expected that an amateur lecturer should go to the expense of procuring such a set (or sets) of slides as I have indicated, or even the records. But for the sake of ringing in general it ought to be done, and in what more practical way could the Central Council devote some of its energies and time? They ought to be able to secure such slides and records, and by letting them out on hire at the usual rates, partly, if not wholly, recover the initial expense, while at the same time they would be conferring a boon to many. Of course there may be already in existence slides or records such as I have referred to—but can one have them on hire, and if so, who are the fortunate owners?—Yours truly,

Bradpole.

T. HERVEY BEAMS.

### WILTSHIRE RINGERS' EXCURSION.

On Saturday, April 14th, a company of bell ringers from Swindon, Wootton Bassett, and Purton, Wilts., and, with the kind permission of the Vicar (the Rev. R. B. Harrison), had the privilege of testing the fine ring of five bells at the Parish Church. They were met at the tower by Capt. A. P. Richardson and the local ringers, who were greatly interested in the proceedings. After the visitors had raised the bells and rung the "twenty-fours," several six-scores of Grandsire and Bob Doubles were successfully accomplished, everyone who took part expressing admiration for the beautiful tone of the bells. After the bells had been lowered the party went over to Lydiard Millicent, and, permission being readily granted by the Rev. D. P. Harrison, the church bells were soon raised and set going in the same methods that were rung at Purton. Lydiard Tregoze Church was the next place visited. The bells here go rather heavily, but after a little preliminary attention the visitors had the pleasure of satisfactorily repeating their ringing programme. Afterwards, accompanied by Viscountess Bolingbroke, they inspected the beautiful old church, where they greatly admired the handsome monuments of the Bolingbroke family, the famous east window, filled with painted glass by Van Eyck, of the time of Charles II., representing St. John the Baptist and the Evangelists and a genealogical tree of the Bolingbroke and St. John family, together with a view of the splendidly illuminated pedigree of the same family from the Conquest. A further tour of inspection through the old mansion and a view of the ancient paintings, the famous white Carrara marble fire-place (which was critically examined) and other objects of historic interest were also greatly appreciated. Before departing Viscountess Bolingbroke very kindly provided the visitors with refreshments, which were gratefully acknowledged, and everyone agreed that a most pleasant day had been spent.

H.

### WELL-KNOWN OLDHAM RINGER DEAD.

It is with deep regret that the St. Mary's Church company, Oldham, have to announce the death of an old and esteemed member, in the person of Mr. James Priestley, who passed away at the age of 65 years, the sad event occurring at Oldham on April 6th, after a protracted illness.

The deceased was one of the oldest ringers in the district, and was a member of the Lancashire Association. Always steady and reliable, he was ever ready to help and encourage any young ringer with untiring devotion, and was never more happy than when instructing beginners. He had rung over 100 peals in various methods, but unfortunately no correct record seems to have been kept. He rang his first peal as far back as Whit-Sunday, 1872, at Leesfield Church, and he was a member of the Oldham Church company for 20 years.

The interment took place at Lees Cemetery, on April 11th, when the handbells were rung at the graveside by the following old friends: S. Stott, E. B. Shaw, C. Marsland and J. Schofield. The bells of Oldham Church were rung, muffled, in the evening, and on the following Sunday.

### WINCHESTER GUILD.

A very successful meeting of the Portsmouth District of the Winchester Guild was held at St. Thomas', Portsmouth, on Saturday, when, by kind permission of the Vicar, the bells were placed at the members' disposal. During the afternoon ringers attended from Southampton, North Stoneham, Bishop's Waltham, Swanmore, Fareham, Gosport, Newport, Wickham, Curdridge, Brighton, Portsea, and the local band, while the Forces were represented by members from the Royal Flying Corps, Royal Naval Barracks, Royal Marines, and Oxford and Bucks Regiment. Many touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major and Double Norwich Major, were rung, and the ringers, who had not heard the grand peal before, expressed much pleasure at the "go" and beauty of the tone of the bells. In the evening the ringers adjourned to Madden's Temperance Hotel, where ample justice was done to a knife and fork tea.

### FIGURES FROM A DUG-OUT.

The following compositions have come to hand from a dug-out in France. The author is Q.-M.-S. W. A. Cuvo, of Bristol, and the first has been composed in the hope that opportunity may occur to utilise it as a fitting "peace" touch.

1917 Stedman Caters.				1260 Stedman Triples.			
231456	5	16		231456	S	H	L Q
315462 *				345261	x		x
312665		2		125346		x	x
412365	—	2		215364	x		
215364	—	3		132654	x	x	x
514362	—	3		312645		x	
415263	—	1		Twice repeated.			
413265	—	1	8				
312465	—	2					
214365	—	2					

Round at hand by 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 11, 13s.

\* 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 17, 18.

### NOTICES.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on May 17th and 31st, for handbell practice, and on the 8th and 22nd for general business; all at 8 p.m. Also at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Sunday the 13th, at 6 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The annual meeting will be held at Ranmoor, Sheffield, on Saturday, May 5th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Business meeting in the Parish Room at 6 o'clock.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

**BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Mark on Saturday, May 5th. Service, 5 o'clock; tea and meeting to follow. Bells (6), afternoon and evening.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Ashford District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Wye on Saturday, May 5th. Bells available at 2 o'clock. The usual evensong will be held in the church at 7 o'clock, at which all members will be welcomed. The usual travelling allowance will be paid to all members attending, providing their subscription for 1917 has been paid. Owing to a difficulty in catering members will make their own arrangements for tea on arrival.—C. Tribe, Hon. Dist. Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

**BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Yatton on Saturday, May 5th. Bells available, 3.30. Divine service, 5 o'clock. Tea in the Church Hall at 5.30. Business meeting to follow.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

**LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Llanfrechfa, Mon. (Ponther Station), on Saturday, May 5th, at 4 o'clock. Bells (6) available. Tea provided.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., J. W. Jones, Hon. Secs., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rossendale Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Thomas', Helmshore, on Saturday, May 5th. Bells ready at 2.30 till dusk. Meeting at 7. Subscriptions are due. Annual reports to hand. A good attendance is requested.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary, 31, St. Paul's St., Ramsbottom.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Cathedral on Saturday, May 5th. Bells available at 5. Meeting at 7. W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late St. James' Society, Estd. 1824).—A meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Wells St., Oxford St., W., on Saturday, May 12th. Bells available at 4 p.m. Business meeting to follow at headquarters, the "Edinburgh," Milford Lane, Strand, at 8 p.m. All ringers welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Bristol Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Bitton on Saturday, 12th May. Bells (6) available from 5 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m. Ringing after. Kindly notify Chas. J. Walton, 4, Jamaica Street, Bristol.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—It has been decided by the Committee that in view of present difficulties the Annual Meeting be postponed indefinitely, but that the Master and Secretary be empowered to convene such a meeting at their discretion: all officers to retain their posts until such meeting be held.—F. Ll. Edwards, Secretary.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—THE WILLIAM SNOWDON MEMORIAL.**—Subscribers and those interested are asked to note that the Committee have decided to postpone the opening ceremony of the above until after the war.—H. Williams, Hon. Gen. Sec., *pro tem*.

**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.

#### SOLDIERS INVITED.

Any ringer stationed at Park Royal Camp, London, N., will be heartily welcomed at St. Mary's Parish Church, Acton, which is the nearest peal to the camp. Wednesday, practices 7 to 8; Sunday, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

#### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**CALVERTON.**—At All Saints' Church, for evening service, on Easter Day, 720 Grandsire Doubles, in 25 mins.: J. Tompkins, junr. 1, W. G. Edwards (conductor) 2, J. Taylor 3, H. Tompkins 4, R. Underwood 5, R. Tompkins 6.

**DALTON-IN-FURNESS.**—At the Parish Church, on Easter Day, for morning service, 560 Bob Major: Miss E. M. Stuart 1, J. Huddleston 2, T. Stuart 3, T. Watson 4, W. H. Dennison 5, T. R. Jackson 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. For evening service, 608 Bob Major: Miss E. M. Stuart 1, Miss A. Lindsay 2, Miss A. Gilchrist 3, T. Watson 4, T. Stuart 5, T. R. Jackson 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, F. Burrows (conductor) 8.

**GARGRAVE.**—Yorkshire Association.—At St. Andrew's Church, 640 Kent Treble Bob Major, for Easter morning service: C. Langstroth 1, W. H. Birtwhistle 2, W. Bradley 3, H. Birtwhistle 4, J. Langstroth 5, G. Wane 6, J. Wane 7, A. R. Jones (conductor) 8. Also 1260 Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins., for evening service, by the following: C. Langstroth 1, W. H. Birtwhistle 2, J. H. Lofthouse 3, W. Bradley 4, J. Langstroth 5, G. Wane 6, A. R. Jones (conductor) 7, H. Birtwhistle 8.

**BRAINTREE.**—Essex Association.—On Easter Day, for evensong, at the Parish Church, 800 Bob Major: F. J. Fuller 1, H. J. Collins 2, W. H. Hammond 3, H. E. Hammond 4, W. Lindridge 5, C. H. Howard (conductor) 6, H. Coots 7, E. F. Slade 8.

**OLDSWINFORD.**—On Easter Day, at St. Mary's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): C. W. Cooper 1, R. Moors 2, J. G. Orford 3, A. W. Dodd 4, J. Smith 5, T. Heathcock 6, A. E. Whatmore (conductor) 7, T. Whitehouse 8.

**BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER, GLOUCESTER.**—On Easter Day, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): H. E. Gillett 1, W. Stratford 2, H. Gillett 3, T. Banning 4, J. Collett 5, F. Pitts 6, W. Large (conductor) 7, J. Buttler 8.

**SHARNBROOK, BEDS.**—On Easter Monday, 720 Bob Minor: A. Robinson 1, W. A. Norman 2, H. Gayton (conductor) 3, W. Stock 4, G. Bell 5, E. P. Duffield 6. Also 720 Oxford Bob and 180 Canterbury Pleasure: C. Allen 1, W. A. Norman 2, H. Gayton 3, W. Stock 4, H. Robinson 5, E. P. Duffield (conductor) 6. The above touches were rung with the bells deeply muffled, in memory of Pte Harry W. Barcock, a chorister, and eldest son of Mr. A. J. Barcock, a sidesman and ringer at St. Peter's Church. Deceased, who was only 18 years of age, and died of spotted fever, was buried at Dover on the above date. He had not completed quite one month's service in the army, and much sympathy is felt for Mr. and Mrs. Barcock in their sad loss.

**READING, BERKS.**—At St. Giles' Church, on March 30th, 504 Grandsire Triples: G. Cook 1, G. Boddington 2, N. Cox 3, Miss E. Goodship 4, W. Hibbert 5, A. Wiggins 6, A. W. Osborne (conductor) 7, Corp'l. W. Heal, D.C.L.I., 8. For evensong, on April 1st, 504 in the same method, with Second Air-Mechanic F. Gilbert ringing 3rd. For evensong, on Easter Day, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins.: G. Cook 1, G. Boddington 2, Corp'l. E. Haynes 3, N. Cox 4, Miss E. Goodship 5, H. Neighbour 6, A. W. Osborne (conductor) 7, L. Leach 8.

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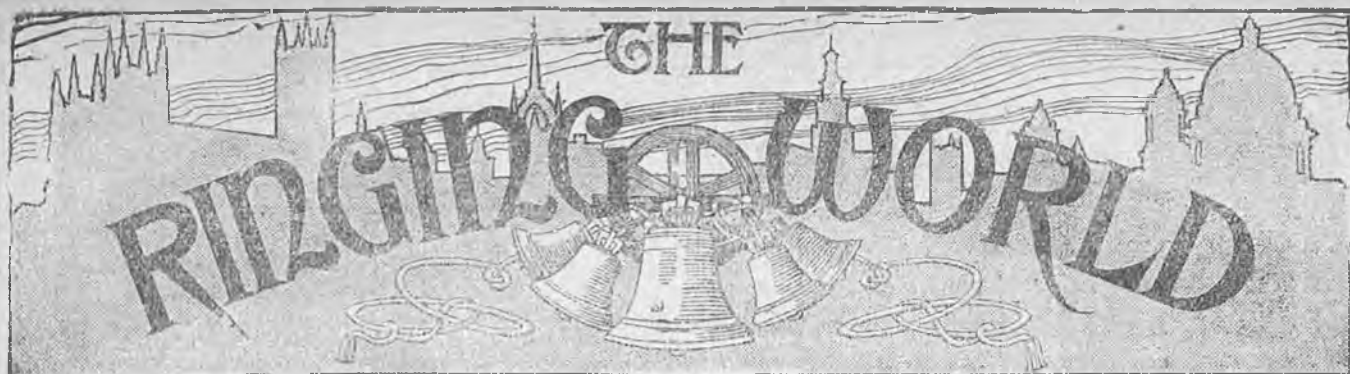
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Guildford, and Published by Messrs. Wm. Dawson & Sons  
LTD., Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.



No. 321. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, MAY 11th, 1917.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for  
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Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

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 authorized 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.

## WHITSUN MEETINGS.

The Llandaff Diocesan Association is one of the few organisations which have expressed themselves in favour of the holding of the Central Council meeting this year, and when the matter came before the Association last Saturday a resolution was passed regretting the abandonment of the proceedings which were to have been held at Gloucester. The decision not to hold the meeting this year was, of course, made by the members of the Council themselves, few of whom could have had the opportunity of consulting their societies on the subject; but we think most of the associations will fully endorse the action taken by the majority in putting off the meeting to a time when conditions call for less strain and preoccupation in national concerns, and when the convenience and cost of travelling are more normal. The obstacles last year would not have been so great as those which presented themselves this year, yet there was little or no disagreement on the abandonment of the 1916 meeting. Everyone devoutly hopes that there will be nothing to prevent the holding of next year's Council, which, it will be learnt through the Llandaff Association meeting, is to take place in London. Had matters followed the ordinary course, the Council in 1918 would have met in London for its first session of a new triennial period, and under all the circumstances, if the meeting is to be held at all, London seems decidedly the best place for the purpose.

Ringing affairs, like other things, have been much upset by the war, and must be subordinated willingly to the demands of these stressful times. At the moment the officials of various associations are in somewhat of a dilemma. Whit-Monday is one of the favourite days for annual meetings, but those in the habit of holding their gatherings on that occasion are faced by the fact that up to the present the public have not been informed whether the bank holiday will be observed or not. Last year the holiday was abandoned almost at the last moment, and arrangements made for ringing meetings had to be hastily cancelled. This year those who have announced their meetings for Whit-Monday have taken the precaution of inserting a qualifying clause, although it is rather inconvenient when catering and other accommodation has to be arranged, to be driven up to almost the last minute before knowing what is going to happen. There may be reasons why the Government do not announce their decision long beforehand, but for those responsible for organising meetings and suchlike gatherings, the position is certainly awkward. However, the conditions are accepted in the best spirit, and members of associations whose meetings may have to be postponed at short notice will find consolation in the fact that it is but pleasure deferred.

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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 BELLEINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,  
Vicar of Broomfield.

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## HANDBELL PEAL.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 28, 1917, in One Hour and Fifty Minutes.

IN THE TOWER OF SS. PETER AND PAUL'S CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;**

Being seven 720's called differently.

CHARLES POULSON ... .. 1—2	FREDERICK BOREHAM ... .. 4
STANLEY SMITH ... .. 3	ARTHUR SYMONDS... .. 5—6

Conducted by A. SYMONDS.

## WINDSOR CELEBRATES ST. GEORGE'S DAY.

At the Parish Church of St. John-the-Baptist, which stands immediately under the castle walls, a series of excellent touches of Triples was rung during the afternoon of Saturday, April 21st, in connection with the borough's official celebration of St. George's Day, when Her Majesty Queen Mary, accompanied by Princess Mary, Prince Henry, and Prince George, drove through the principal thoroughfares, visited the King Edward XII. Hospital for wounded soldiers, and graciously received an address from the Mayor (Councillor W. Carter) at the Town Hall, adjoining the church. The handsome sum of £330 was raised by means of flag selling, market stall sales, box collections, and subscriptions. Streets were be-flagged, the Coldstream Guards and the 2nd Life Guards bands gave selections during the day on the Castle Hill, and, to quote a paragraph from the local Press, "the sun shone, the bands played, the bells rang, and everything was as joyous as it could be in this time of stress and anxiety."

Of course the bells were ceased whilst the address of thanks was made to Her Majesty by His Worship, the Queen expressing her pleasure to do anything she could to add to the success of the day.

During Her Majesty's progress through the town, the bells were rung, and greatly added to the joyousness of the occasion. An old lady who heard them said to her companion, "They used to have these days in Berlin at the beginning of the war, but they don't now"—she evidently thought Windsor was celebrating a victory.

Those taking part in the ringing were selected members of the local branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, organised by the Rev. G. S. Deacon (curate), formerly of Wallingford, and some well-struck short flourishes were brought home by Messrs. Parker (cond. Stedman), Hooper (cond. Oxford Bob), Henley (cond. Grandsire), G. T. Leader, T. S. Smith, R. Flaxman, G. H. Gutteridge, and W. H. Fussell. Messrs. Hill and Hunt, two beginners, who promise well to augment the local society, rang their first "rounds" in Windsor: Messrs. Deacon and A. Patch also rang. The latter is steeplekeeper, and is now in his 72nd year, and spent the previous afternoon among the bells getting them ready. One of the Abbey ringers from Bath, Second Air-Mechanic H. D. Taylor, R.F.C., now stationed at Virginia Water, took part in Stedman. The bells have been silent for nearly two years, except for a little Sunday service chiming, and it was the Mayor's wish to have a little ringing for the Queen, after consultation with the Vicar, Canon E. M. Blackie, and the Castle authorities. It appears to have met with hearty appreciation all round.

The Mayor afterwards entertained the bandsmen and bell ringers to tea at Thames Street Restaurant, and among the latter were several ringers from Slough and district, for whose assistance the Mayor was grateful.

W. H. F.

## KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LEWISHAM DISTRICT MEETING.

The quarterly meeting of the Lewisham District was held at Woolwich, on Saturday week. The bells were available at 3 p.m., and various touches were rung till 5.15 p.m., when a short service took place, at which an address was given by the Rev. A. N. Pickering (Rector). A move was then made to the Rectory, where a meat tea was kindly provided by the Rector, over thirty sitting down. After tea, the Rector had to leave to take a Boy Scouts' service, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded him for the use of the bells, arranging the service, and providing the tea, and, in reply, he said it had given him great pleasure to entertain the members, it being a long time since their last visit.

The business meeting followed, Mr. W. J. Jeffries being voted to the chair.—Fourteen new members were elected, and Dartford was selected as the next meeting-place, if the bells were available, on the third Saturday in July. Failing that tower Shoreham was decided on. Votes of condolence were passed with the widow and family of the late Private Alfred James, of Bromley, and the parents of late Lance-Corpl. John Henry Mitcham, of Christchurch, both killed in France, and with Mr. D. Wright, of Croydon, in his triple bereavement.

Mr. J. Law of St. John's, Deptford, was heartily congratulated on ringing a peal of Grandsire Triples on his 75th birthday.

A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the business, and the tower was again visited till 9 p.m.

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## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. SUNDAY VISITS TO REPLACE MONTHLY MEETINGS.

A quarterly meeting of the Stroud and District Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held at Stonehouse, and a fine afternoon contributed towards a successful and enjoyable meeting. In these times it is not easy to get a good attendance, but sixteen members were present from the different towers in the branch and from Dursley, and some good touches of Stedman and Grandsire were rung on the fine peal of bells (tenor 17 cwt.). A service was held at 5.30 p.m., at which the Vicar gave an excellent address, and said when the bells rang out the glorious message of peace it would be the finest and most historic message they had ever sent forth from the church tower.

The Vicar kindly invited all to tea at the Church Rooms, and business meeting followed at which the Vicar presided.

One new member was elected, and Bisley was unanimously selected for the next quarterly meeting; and instead of the monthly meetings, as there was so much to do of national importance on Saturday afternoons, friendly visits would be arranged to ring at the different towers on Sunday afternoons, especially where there was a shortage of ringers.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for his great kindness and excellent address and for granting the use of the bells, and to the local band for their capital attendance.

## SHORT-COURSE PARS.

The village of Cuckfield, Sussex, has lost, through military service, ten out of its fifteen bell ringers.

Under the heading of "The Wedding Bells," a London paper records the fact that the Misses Humbercrofts, daughters of the Rector of Waldron, Sussex, assisted in ringing the wedding peal at the neighbouring village of Hellingly, at the marriage of the Rev. F. C. Smith, Vicar of Hellingly.

The tower of Great Missenden, Bucks, has come into union with the East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Six new members, under the leadership of Mr. J. H. Barnes (an old member of the branch), have joined the ringers' brotherhood, and the Vicar, the Rev. Alfred M. Littlehales, M.A.—a nephew of the late Master of the Guild—has kindly backed them up by becoming an honorary subscriber.

By a slip of the pen we stated last week that Triples and Major were rung at Finchley, at the meeting of the Middlesex Association held there on the 28th ult. As Finchley has only six bells the methods should, of course, have been Doubles and Minor.

## PONTEFRAC TINGER'S DEATH.

Mr. Samuel Brock, the oldest member of the Pontefract band of the Yorkshire Association, died on Sunday, April 15th, at the age of 62 years, after a short attack of pneumonia. He had been a bell ringer for 50 years, first at All Saints', Pontefract, and latterly at St. Giles', Pontefract. He took part in a number of peals, including 18 for the Yorkshire Association.

Several of the local ringers attended the funeral, which took place on April 19th, and in the evening a muffled touch of 1008 Grandsire Triples was rung on the bells of St. Giles', by J. E. Pickard 1, W. Brock 2, J. Carter 3, A. Walker (conductor) 4, W. Pearson 5, J. Jackson 6, F. Moody 7, T. Houlder 8.

## GERMANY'S DISAPPEARING BELLS.

For some time past it has been reported that the Germans were melting down a proportion of their church bells for munitions, and now we read in the Government-controlled "Local Advertiser" that a Berlin pastor began a Good Friday special article with the lamentation that it would be the last Good Friday on which many Prussian churches could ring their present bells. "For many a bell," he mournfully points out, "must now be melted down, and metal which has throughout so many years pealed forth glad tidings of peace and goodwill will soon be chiming death to the foe in the form of shot and shell."

## ACCESSION DAY TOUCHES.

At St. James' Church, Milnrow, Lancs, for morning service, on Sunday, to celebrate the anniversary of the King's Accession, a date touch of Bob Major, in 1 hr. 14 mins., composed by Lance-Corpl. Berry, of Middleton: R. Buckley 1, G. Staff (conductor) 2, J. Fittion 3, E. Schofield 4, E. Bennett (longest length) 5, C. Fielding 6, J. C. Mussey 7, H. Buckley 8.

At Caversham, on Sunday evening in honour of Accession Day, 1344 Double Norwich Major in 50 mins.: G. Essex 1, W. Hibbert 2, R. T. Hibbert (conductor) 3, J. Hands 4, H. Smith 5, G. J. Menday 6, H. Simmonds 7, Second Air-Mechanic W. H. Pasmore, R.F.C., 8.

LONDON.—At St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, on Easter Day, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 49 mins.: W. J. Nelder 1, F. Andrews 2, F. Davis 3, T. Walker 4, W. A. Alps (conductor) 5, W. Buckingham 6, T. H. Taffender 7, H. Dyns 8.

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

WEST EALING.—On Saturday, March 31st, at St. Stephen's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Miss Jones 1, A. W. Davis 2, J. Hunnissett 3, C. Edwards 4, G. M. Wilby 5, R. Holloway (conductor) 6, R. Harris 7, W. Lawrence 8.—On Palm Sunday, for evening service, a quarter-peal in the same method: J. Hunnissett 1, Pts H. Stevens 2, Miss Edith Jones 3, C. Edwards 4, Hubert Chaffey 5, R. Holloway 6, W. Lawrence 7, Staff-Sergt. Verrels 8.

SHREWSBURY.—Salop Guild and St. Chad's Society.—On Sunday evening, April 1st, at St. Chad's Church, 288 Kent Treble Bob Major, and 381 Stedman Caters: G. Byolin (conductor) 1, G. Scarratt 2, W. Brooks 3, J. Tudor 4, W. Seance 5, C. R. Lilley 6, W. Stockdale 7, G. Jones 8, A. Fullick 9, H. Jones 10, on Tuesday evening.—On April 10th, at the Church of St. Julian, in honour of the election of churchwardens 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: G. Scarratt 1, J. Tudor 2, W. Brooks 3, W. R. Stockdale 4, A. E. Fullick 5, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 6.—On Easter Day, at St. Chad's Church, 504 Stedman Triples: W. Brooks 1, J. Tudor 2, G. Scarratt 3, G. Jones 4, W. Stockdale 5, A. Fullick 6, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 7, R. F. Turner 8. For evening service, touches of Kent Treble Bob Major and Stedman Triples, with G. Byolin and H. Jones taking part.—On April 15th 518 Grandsire Triples: R. F. Turner 1, W. Brooks 2, J. Tudor 3, G. Scarratt 4, W. Stockdale 5, A. Fullick 6, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 7, H. Jones 8.

BARKING, ESSEX.—On April 8th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: C. Fenn (conductor) 1, R. Fenn 2, A. Worboys 3, E. Andrews 4, A. Neal 5, J. Norris 6, A. C. Hardy 7, H. C. Fry (Stafford Yeomanry) 8. First quarter-peal by the tenorman, who hails from Dorset.—On April 15th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1312 changes), in 48 mins.: C. Fenn (conductor) 1, F. G. Newman 2, A. Worboys 3, E. Andrews 4, A. Neal 5, Pte G. W. Faulkner, R.A.M.C., 6, R. Saunders 7, A. C. Hardy (composer) 8.—On April 22nd, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1280 changes), in 47 mins.: C. Fenn 1, J. Waghorn 2, A. Worboys 3, E. Andrews 4, A. Neal 5, R. Saunders 6, A. C. Hardy 7, B. Thorp (conductor and composer) 8.

LONDON.—Royal Cumberland Youths.—At St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, on Easter Eve, three courses and two courses of Stedman Cinques, and a course of Treble Twelve.—On Easter Sunday morning, two three-course touches of Stedman Cinques. For evening service, 1061 Stedman Cinques: J. D. Matthews (conductor) 1, W. J. Nudds 2, J. Hunt 3, H. Burton 4, B. Foskett 5, W. T. Powell 6, W. Shimmans 7, F. Wilford 8, T. Card 9, W. Berry 10, J. E. Sykes 11, B. Thorp 12. Mr. F. Wilford, of Northampton, took part in all the above.

COTGRAVE, NOTTS.—On Easter Sunday, to celebrate the 21st birthday of Miss Dorothy White (one of the local ringers), quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Minor (1260 changes): G. Nowell 1, Walter White (conductor) 2, T. H. Kirkby 3, A. Barratt 4, William E. White 5, T. Squires 6. For evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob: W. Hickling 1, William E. White (conductor) 2, T. H. Kirkby 3, A. Barratt 4, T. Squires 5, Walter White 6.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—On Easter Day, at the Parish Church, before evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), the first on the bells since they have been increased to eight: J. Stubbins 1, J. Blackmore 2, W. Tanner 3, B. Stokes 4, E. Parker (conductor) 5, W. Munday 6, W. Pitman 7, J. Webb 8.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.—On April 9th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): A. D. Mills 1, A. E. Mitchell 2, S. Songhurst (Horley) 3, T. Beadle (Isleworth) 4, G. Illman (Horley) 5, J. Rice (conductor) 6, P. Doick (Pulborough) 7, F. W. Rice (Reigate) 8. Rung with the bells deeply muffled, in memory of Pte Henry John Dewey, R.A.M.C., who was accidentally drowned on February 10th in a lake close to Secunderabad, India.

LONDON.—At St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, on Saturday, April 14th, the whole peal and stand was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect and esteem for the late Dr. R. Beswick, for many years churchwarden of the above church, and who passed away on the 12th April at the ripe age of 74. The late doctor was greatly esteemed and respected in Bishopsgate, where he had an extensive practice, and carried out his duties until shortly before his death: H. G. Miles 1, Rev. J. A. S. Bullock 2, W. J. Nelder 3, T. Walker 4, W. A. Alps (conductor) 5, W. Buckingham 6, J. Hunt 7, A. S. Pettitt 8.

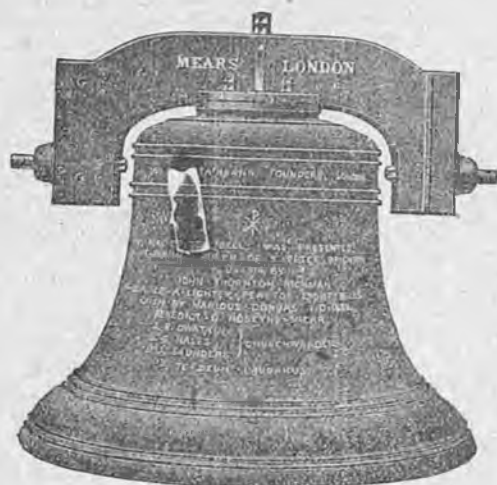
CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, April 15th, for evening service, and as a birthday compliment to E. Dewey, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. Dewey 1, A. E. Mitchell 2, J. Rice (conductor) 3, W. Claydon 4, Pte T. Hoggis (Q.W.M.R.) 5, G. Illman 6, F. W. Rice 7, W. Vincent 8.

YORK.—On Sunday, April 15th, for morning service, at the Minster, 485 Grandsire Caters, conducted by Corpl. E. Morris. For evening service, at St. Mary Senior, Bishophill, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: H. Imeson 1, P. Firth 2, A. Horner 3, E. Rickitt 4, W. Ayre 5, Cpl. E. Morris (conductor) 6.

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## ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

### ENJOYABLE GATHERING AT EDGBASTON.

The spring meeting of St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held at Edgbaston on Saturday week, in real spring-like weather, and was attended by about forty members, including Mr. W. Rock Small, of Tipton and Mr. R. Faux, of Handsworth, whom it was pleasant to see present. These gentlemen are 77 and 80 years of age respectively, both hale and hearty, and regular in their attendance at meetings, setting an example in this respect to many of their juniors. The Parish Church of St. Bartholomew—commonly known as Edgbaston Old Church—is hidden from view by groves of stately trees from whatever direction it is approached, until you are quite close to it. Its tower is not by any means a prominent feature in the landscape, for it is only about 50 feet high, of the ordinary embattled style of architecture, with four pinnacles. The church itself has been rebuilt and enlarged several times to meet the growing requirements of this well-favoured suburb, and has about 600 sittings, several monuments to members of the Calthorpe family—the living is in the gift of the Hon. Mrs. Anstruther Gough-Calthorpe—and many stained windows.

Not very many years ago Edgbaston was a peaceful country village, quite remote from its grimy neighbour Birmingham, but the city grew and grew, reaching ever further out on all sides, until at last, with other "desirable localities" Edgbaston was incorporated in the city, and made into one of its "best bedrooms." Among those who sleep here may be mentioned the Rector of Birmingham, Canon Willink whose rectory house is quite close to the church.

The church possesses a light ring of six, tenor about 9 cwt., the four back bells being by Matthew Bagley, dated 1684. Originally they were a ring of five, but a treble was added in 1900 by Carr's, who at the same time recast the 2nd.

Tea for those who attended the meeting was very generously provided by the Vicar (Canon Reader-Smith) and wardens, Messrs. Achurch and Goodman, in the Churchroom, at which the Vicar and Canon Willink, and Mr. Churchwarden Goodman, were present. Unfortunately Mr. Churchwarden Achurch had met with a slight accident, which prevented his attendance, but the secretary read a letter from him hoping that everyone would spend a pleasant afternoon.

Neither of the clergymen could remain for the business meeting which followed the tea, but Canon Reader-Smith spoke a few words of welcome, as did also Mr. Goodman.

Canon Willink very kindly invited the members to spend an evening with him at the Rectory in July, as guests of Mrs. Willink and himself, an invitation which, needless to say, was very gladly accepted. It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at St. Martin's, and to proceed to the Rectory for the evening, when there will doubtless be great doings with the "Ancient Royal Game of Bowls."

The Guild's Presiding Ringing Master, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, took the chair at the business meeting, at which three new ordinary members and one honorary member were elected. Among the new members was Mr. Harry Mason, of Old Hill, Master of the Dudley and District Guild, whom St. Martin's Guild are delighted to have as a full subscribing member. The honorary member elected was Mr. F. B. Goodman, and afterwards, for this gentleman's benefit, the musical superiority of eight bells over six was demonstrated on the handbells, with the result that it is possible steps may be taken to consult an authority as to whether Edgbaston tower would hold two more bells.

On the proposition of Mr. Alderman Pritchett, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for the use of his bells, to the Vicar and wardens for providing the tea, and to Miss Reader-Smith and the other ladies who assisted at table.

Later, Mr. Pritchett, referring to the fact that the "Ringing World" had been increased in price since the last meeting, expressed the hope that everyone would continue to support the paper, as he did not doubt for one moment that without a paper we should be hopelessly at sea.

After the meeting some adjourned to the lower for further ringing, where many and various methods were rung during the afternoon, while the handbells were brought out by others, and touches were rung, ranging from Grandsire Doubles to Stedman Cinques. A. P. S.

## DISPOSAL OF MR. A. W. GRIMES' HANDBELLS

Arranged by Mr. W. Pye, Master of the Middlesex Association, the disposal of the late Mr. A. W. Grimes' fine peal of eighteen handbells has resulted in the realisation of a very substantial sum for the benefit of the widow and family of six young children left by the deceased ringer. The draw took place on Saturday, in the presence of Messrs. A. A. Hughes (Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths), R. Sanders, H. Torble, G. M. Kilby, E. S. Butler, G. R. Pye and W. Pye. Over two hours elapsed before the winning ticket was drawn, and this proved to be No. 5, purchased by Mr. Crowe, of Blackfriars. The amount raised will be published next week.

**FLORE, NORTHANTS.**—On April 22nd, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: A. T. Stammer 1, H. Clarke 2, J. Dunkley 3, W. Parker 4, F. Hopper (conductor) 5, T. Law 6.

## THE FIRST RINGER D.S.O.

### MAJOR C. F. JERRAM'S DECORATION.

The war has brought decorations to a number of ringers, and the Distinguished Service Order has now to be added to the list. The first member of the Exercise to secure the award is Major C. F. Jerram, Royal Marine Light Infantry, who, we believe, was also the first Regular Officer to become a ringer.

Major Jerram gained the D.S.O. by continuous meritorious service, having been actively engaged in important work from the outset of the war. He was at sea in the early fighting in the North Sea, and was right through the Gallipoli campaign without setting foot off the peninsula, and leaving amongst the last on the final night. Thence he went to France and was through the battle of the Ancre, after which it was that he received the D.S.O. and a higher appointment, being now attached to Divisional headquarters.



One who takes up the profession of arms has really little time for ringing, especially when his branch of the service takes him to sea, sometimes for three or four years at a spell, to places abroad where bells are not; but Major Jerram is extremely enthusiastic, and loses no opportunity of ringing when occasion permits. He was taught by his old friend, Mr. W. H. Marsh, of Charles Church, Plymouth, and has rung two peals of Grandsire Triples, both at St. George's Church, Stonehouse, Plymouth, under the Devon Guild; he is also a member of the Truro Diocesan Guild.

In replying to congratulations, which we had the pleasure of extending to the gallant officer and in which all members of the Exercise will join, Major Jerram says: "I am indeed glad to have had the honour to bring the D.S.O. into the ranks of a Society from whom I have always received the greatest courtesy and kindness."

### RINGER CHURCHWARDEN.

Mr. William Bibby, who for the past 25 years has been a ringer at Frodsham, Cheshire, where for the last two years he has acted as a sidesman, and has held the office of head ringer, was elected churchwarden at the Easter Vestry meeting.

## LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

### THE ABANDONED CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING.

Favoured with beautiful summer weather, a very pleasant and enjoyable meeting was held at Llanfrecifa on Saturday last, members attending from a number of towers in the Diocese. The bells, which are a light ring of six, cast in 1874, by Blews and Sons, Birmingham, were available for ringing all the afternoon and evening. Commencing at about 3 o'clock the bells were raised, and struck off to Grandsire Doubles, the locals taking part, included very small boys, who, nevertheless, could strike their bells and ring the method with the older members. They proved quite an answer to those who, having light rings, complain their bells are idle, owing to the members being absent on war service.

At 5 o'clock a move was made to the Schoolroom, where a capital ment tea was in readiness, very kindly provided by local friends. At the subsequent business meeting, the Vicar (the Rev. T. Reynolds) occupied the chair.

The next quarterly meeting will take place at Whitechurch, in the Llandaff Archdeaconry, and the following meeting at Chepstow in the Monmouth Archdeaconry.

New members were elected from Peterston, Llandaff, Newport, and Llanfrecifa.

The Hon. Secretary read the circular letter which he had received from the hon. secretary to the Central Council, showing the analysis of the voting on the question of holding or abandoning the meeting of the Council this year, the result being that by a large majority it was decided to abandon the meeting for 1917, and to hold it on Whitsun Tuesday, 21st May, 1918, at the Church House, Westminster.

Mr. F. Atwell, of St. Woolos, Newport, said that although the majority had favoured the abandonment of the Council meeting, he thought it was very much against the interest of ringing and ringers to abandon any meeting, and moved the following resolution, which was carried: "That we, as members of the Llandaff Diocesan Association affiliated to the Central Council, regret the abandoning of the annual Council meeting, and think that, being the parliament, as it were, of the ringers of this country, the Council should set the example by holding its meeting, and thus encouraging all Associations and Guilds to do their utmost to watch the interests of ringers and ringing, and hope that in future no meetings will be abandoned."

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the ladies for their exceptional kindness, and also to the Vicar for presiding.—The Vicar replied, saying that when the time arrived again for Llanfrecifa to be visited he would be happy to accord the same welcome.

The tower was afterwards again visited, and the bells rung during the evening.

## LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PRESIDENT.

On Saturday last, members of the Manchester Branch together with several from the Bolton Branch, including the esteemed President (the Rev. H. J. Elsee, M.A.), met at the Cathedral, where ringing in the following methods was indulged in: Grandsire, Plain Bob, Stedman, Kent Treble Bob and Superlative. Messrs. S. Harrison, S. Hilton, and O. Gudgeon, of Worsley, and Fred Metcalfe, of Manchester, were elected members of that Association. Flixton was agreed upon as the meeting-place for next month, the gathering to be held on Whit-Saturday.

Hearty congratulations were extended to the Rev. H. J. Elsee on his completion, as Vicar of St. George's, Bolton, of 21 years in the ministry of the church.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Dean and wardens of the Cathedral, and local ringers, for providing for the visitors' comforts.

To commemorate the 21st anniversary of the induction of the Rev. H. J. Elsee, as Vicar of St. George's, Bolton, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on Saturday, April 28th, by: W. Mort 1, W. Rushton 2, W. Tobay 3, T. B. Worsley 4, G. Pincott 5, P. Crook (conductor) 6, W. H. Pasmore (London) 7, R. Young 8.

### ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

A very successful meeting of the Rosendale Branch was held at St. Thomas', Helmshore, on Saturday, when, by permission of the Vicar, the bells were placed at the disposal of the members, who attended from Christ Church and St. Saviour's, Bacup; St. Nicholas', Newchurch; St. James', Haslingden; St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, in addition to the local ringers. Touches of Grandsire, Treble Bob, Stedman, and various Minor methods, were rung. At the meeting which followed, Mr. J. H. Banks was voted to the chair, and the usual votes of thanks to the Vicar and wardens for use of bells, and to the ringers for having all in readiness, were passed.—It was unanimously decided to hold the next branch meeting at Christ Church, on May 26th.

The meeting was one of the most successful that has been held in the Rosendale Branch for a considerable time.

**SALEHURST, SUSSEX.**—At St. Mary's Church, for evensong, on April 15th, 1344 Grandsire Triples (composed by J. Carter), in 47 mins.: J. Goodsell 1, F. Morgan 2, W. Cramp 3, W. H. Perry 4, T. Booth 5, A. E. Edwards (conductor) 6, W. Hoad 7, L. French 8.



## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**SHARNFORD, LEICESTERSHIRE.**—At the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor (1260 changes), in 46 mins.: G. Wood 1, J. Ison 2, C. Brown 3, E. Chamberlain 4, H. Wright 5, J. Garratt (conductor) 6. Rung with bells half-muffled, in memory of the late Mr. S. Moisy, who was 23 years churchwarden. To commemorate the 23rd anniversary of the opening of the bells on January 7th, 1894, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: C. Brown 1, J. Ison 2, H. Wright 3, G. Wood 4, E. Chamberlain 5, J. Garratt (conductor) 6. J. Garratt was one of the band chosen to ring the opening peal. Messrs. Wright, Brown and Garratt, are of the Sepcote company; the others are local ringers.

**NORTHAMPTON.**—At All Saints' Church, on Feb. 25th, for divine service, a quarter-peal of Superlative Surprise Major: H. Rainbow 1, A. P. Hensman 2, T. Law 3, F. Hopper 4, J. Hensman 5, H. Blundell 6, W. Farcy 7, W. J. Allen (conductor) 8. It was also rung as a birthday compliment to H. Blundell, and a farewell to W. J. Allen, who has been called up under the Derby Scheme.

**BEESTON, NOTTS.**—On March 18th, 448 Superlative Surprise: W. Clifford, senr., 1, Pte A. Coppock 2, W. J. Bowden (Edmonton) 3, A. Lowe 4, J. C. Dicken 5, W. Clifford, junr., 6, E. J. Boot 7, F. S. Price 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Superlative: L. Price 1, Pte A. Coppock, D.L.I. (conductor), 2, W. Clifford, senr., 3, A. Lowe 4, J. C. Dicken 5, W. Clifford, junr., 6, E. J. Boot 7, F. S. Price 8. Rung as a farewell touch to the conductor, who was leaving for France.

**PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.**—On Sunday, March 18th, on the occasion of the visit of the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, to hold a Confirmation service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: P. H. Doick 1, Mrs. R. Whittington 2, S. Stone 3, S. W. Corden 4, G. H. Lee 5, R. Whittington 6, A. Greenfield (conductor) 7, F. J. Killick 8. Thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. Whittington for coming from Cranleigh—about 20 miles—to help the local men. Incidentally, March 18th was Mr. Whittington's birthday, and he was the recipient of hearty congratulations.

**GARGRAVE, YORKS.**—On March 24th, at St. Andrew's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1288 changes), in 47 mins.: C. Langstrongth 1, W. H. Birtwhistle 2, A. R. Jones (conductor) 3, H. Birtwhistle (first quarter-peal of Grandsire) 4, W. Billows 5, J. McKell 6, M. F. R. Hibbert 7, W. D. Hillary 8. Rung at a practice meeting of the Skipton and Gargrave bands.

**ABERAYON, GLAM.**—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—At St. Mary's Church, on March 25th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, for evening service: E. Stitch 1, A. Perry 2, W. Nurlon 3, J. Perfect 4, D. Frankcom 5, H. Perry 6, A. J. Pitman (composer and conductor) 7, J. Wethersby 8. This composition is in six parts without singles, and contains 12 7-4s, 12 4-6s and 12 6-7s, at both hand and back stroke. Arranged for J. Perfect, who hails from Bingley.

**NORTON-LE-MOORS, STAFFS.**—On March 25th, for Matins, 720 Cambridge Surprise: S. B. Bailey 1, G. E. Lawrence 2, J. E. Wheelton 3, W. C. Lawrence (conductor) 4, J. F. Ryles 5, W. P. Deane 6.

**LONDON.**—On Sunday, March 25th, at St. Giles', Camberwell, for evening service, 1440 of Kent Treble Bob Royal, in 1 hr. 2 mins.: F. Davis 1, W. G. Matthews 2, Rev. H. S. T. Richardson 3, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 4, A. J. Neale 5, F. C. Newman 6, E. Andrews 7, J. Milner 8, A. F. Harris 9, Albert Hardy 10.

**PUTNEY.**—On Sunday, March 25th, for C.E.M.S. service, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Major (1264 changes), in 50 mins.: \*H. Whanslow 1, Art. Jones 2, \*E. A. Reeve 3, L. Attwater 4, \*C. E. Collis 5, W. S. Smith 6, W. T. Elson (conductor) 7, \*C. Hunt 8. \* First quarter in the method.

**MIDDLETON, LANCASHIRE.**—On March 25th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: J. Hollows 1, Pte W. Berry 2, J. Fitton 3, G. Staff (conductor) 4, J. C. Bennett 5, C. Fielding 6, S. Holt 7, E. Schofield 8.

**PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.**—On March 25th, for evening service, 720 Stedman Doubles: P. H. Doick 1, S. Stone 2, G. H. Lee 3, S. W. Corden 4, A. Greenfield (conductor) 5, F. J. Killick 6.

**COALBROOKDALE.**—At the Church of the Holy Trinity, on Sunday, March 25th, 1917, for Confirmation service, conducted by Bishop Hine, assistant to the Bishop of Hereford, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: William Boden 1, Walter Crawford 2, Thomas Abbott 3, Leonard Hewitt 4, Richard Jones 5, Walter Lago 6, William Saunders 7, Philip Shaw 8. Composed by J. E. Groves, and conducted by Wm. Saunders. First quarter-peal for the ringers of the 2nd and 3rd, and tenor. The conductor's only child, Dorothy, was one of the candidates confirmed. Also 336 Grandsire Triples for morning service, Corpl. Jack Garbett, R.A.M.C., from Royal Victoria Hospital, Netley, taking part, he being home on a few days' leave.

**PENTICE, RHONDDA.**—Llandaff Association.—On March 29th, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1280 changes), in 50 mins.: H. Page (conductor) 1, B. Davies 2, W. Page 3, F. Wince 4, F. Lasbury 5, G. Wines 6, T. Page 7, J. Cross 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.—On April 1st, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: H. Page 1, F. Lasbury 2, F. Wines 3, B. Davies 4, T. Hamlin 5, G. Wines 6, T. Page (conductor) 7, W. Page 8.

## NOTICES.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on May 17th and 31st, for handbell practice, and on the 22nd for general business; all at 8 p.m. Also at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Sunday the 13th, at 6 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late St. James' Society, Estd. 1824).—A meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Wells St., Oxford St., W., on Saturday, May 12th. Bells available at 4 p.m. Business meeting to follow at headquarters, the "Edinburgh," Milford Lane, Strand, at 8 p.m. All ringers welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

**ST. PETER'S, CROYDON.**—The bells (10) will be available for all ringers on Saturday, the 19th May, from 4 to 8 p.m.—Chas. Dean, 2, Biddulph Road, Croydon.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Romford on Whit-Monday. If Bank Holiday is cancelled, arrangements will be made to hold it at a later date of which due notice will be given. Divine service at 4 p.m. Address by Rev. G. M. Bell, Vicar of Romford. Tea at 5 p.m., to be followed by the annual meeting. Towers open for ringing: Romford, Hornchurch, Brentwood, Shenfield, Dagenham and Little Heath. Members requiring tea should send notice to the Hon. Sec. not later than Thursday, May 24th, to ensure provision being made.—C. H. Howard, Master; H. T. W. Eyre, Hon. Sec., Great Totham Vicarage.

**CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Rothwell on Whit-Monday, May 28th. Bells available at 10 o'clock. Service at 12 noon. Meat tea in Church Rooms at 1 o'clock. Meeting to follow. It is most important that members let me know if they require tea, on or before Monday, May 19th. Committee meeting at 10.30.—Fred Wilford, Gen. Sec., 149, Ashburnham Road, Northampton.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Horwich Parish Church on Saturday, May 19th. Bells available from 4 p.m.; meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Secretary, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at East Crompton on Saturday, May 19th. Bells ready at 2 o'clock till dusk; meeting at 6.30.—T. K. Driver, Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Penshurst on Saturday, May 19th, at 17. Tower open at 3. Service in church at 5. Tea at 5.45, followed by general meeting. A representative of the district will be elected to serve on the sub-committee to consider the subject of a memorial to those members who have fallen in the war. Threepence per head will be charged for tea. All members intending to be present must notify the District Secretary not later than Monday, May 14th. Subscriptions are now due and should be paid at the meeting or sent to W. Latter, Hon. District Secretary, 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Christ Church, Bacup, on Saturday, May 26th. Bells ready at 2.30; meeting at 6.30. Subscriptions due. Reports to hand.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—It has been decided by the Committee that in view of present difficulties the Annual Meeting be postponed indefinitely, but that the Master and Secretary be empowered to convene such a meeting at their discretion: all officers to retain their posts until such meeting be held.—F. Ll. Edwards, Secretary.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS.**—Mr. T. J. Salter has removed from Queen's Head, Wolverley, to 5, Habberley Street, Kidderminster.

**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.

#### MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

At the annual meeting of the Dudley and District Guild, held on Saturday, March 10th, 1917, it was unanimously decided to erect in the Parish Church, Dudley (the Vicar and wardens having consented to the same), a tablet recording the half-muffled peal of Grandsire Caters rung on Saturday, February 3rd, at St. Thomas's Church, Dudley, to the memory of the late Mr. Samuel Spittle, who had been its ringing master ever since the Guild was formed, and had held other important offices at the Parish Church for upwards of 70 years. It was further decided to appeal to the members of the Guild for subscriptions, and it was thought that many of the late Mr. Spittle's ringing friends and acquaintances would like the opportunity of contributing something towards perpetuating the memory of so devoted and honoured a ringer and church worker. The work has already been put in hand, and subscriptions should be forwarded without delay to the Ringing Master, Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, Staffs, or to the Hon. Secretary, Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley, who will in due course acknowledge the same in "The Ringing World."

Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland, LL.D., Vicar and President.

Harry Mason, Ringing Master.  
Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec.

#### HANDBELLS WANTED.

**WANTED.**—HANDBELLS (secondhand), any notes. Send full particulars to Rev. G. Elwell, The Vicarage, St. George, Bristol.

#### HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

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

**BEDDINGTON, SURREY.**—On Palm Sunday, April 1st, at St. Mary's Church, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): H. E. Wills 1, A. J. Perkins (conductor) 2, A. Arnold 3, J. Trappitt 4, A. J. Plowman 5, C. Gordon 6, W. Groves 7, S. Godin 8. The tenor ringer is one of Beddington's youngsters, and this was his first quarter-peal.

**TENTERDEN, KENT.**—On April 4th, for a Confirmation service, by the Bishop of Croydon, 518 Grandsire Triples: H. Baker 1, G. Cramp 2, W. Perry (Salehurst) 3, C. Tribe (conductor) 4, W. H. Lambert 5, C. W. Player 6, G. Neve 7, A. Snelling 8. Also 336: H. Baker 1, G. Cramp 2, J. Manklelow 3, W. Perry 4, W. H. Lambert 5, C. Tribe 6, C. W. Player 7, A. Blackman 8.

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New Bells supplied, Ropes of the best make.  
Ellacombe's Chiming Apparatus fixed, Hand-  
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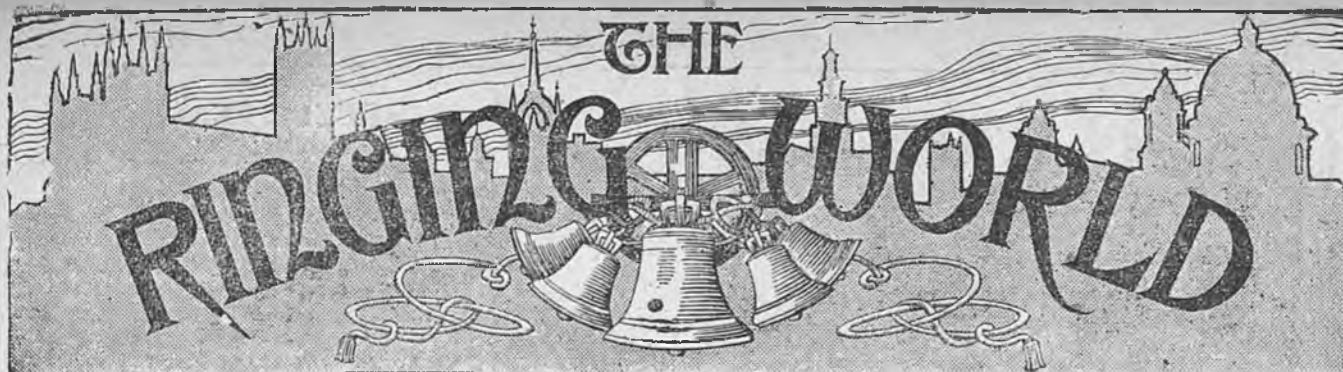
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No. 322. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, MAY 18th, 1917.

[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, 1918.  
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.

## NO SLACKERS.

With the increasing strain of the war, in its demands for more men and upon the energies of those left at home, makes the carrying on of ringing a very difficult task, and there is growing evidence not only of the great trouble that exists in many parishes of keeping the bells going for Sunday services, but also of organising successful meetings. But it is characteristic of the British temperament to hang on doggedly in face of adversity and to meet obstacles only as something to be surmounted. As long as that spirit prevails in the ranks of ringers, the present drawbacks will only serve as an incentive to greater effort to maintain ringing at such a level that it will but need the stimulus that will come with the return of peace to send it forward with a bound.

In the meantime, however, there ought to be no slacking on the part of those left to the various belfries. Among the half-hearted ringers there is always a tendency to desert or, at least, to become very unreliable and irregular, as soon as their band suffer losses which temporarily set back progress. What little interest they have evaporates when circumstances ought to dictate increased energy in the direction of helping on others to fill gaps or maintaining efficiency. Such ringers, and they are numerous, unfortunately, are great stumbling-blocks at the best of times, and in these days are a serious handicap where men are struggling to keep things going till the brighter days dawn. It is always difficult to make men of this type realise the importance of individual effort, and in ordinary times a belfry is often better without them. But nowadays there ought to be no slackers, and even if meetings and practices are difficult to attend, the Sunday service ringing, which ought to hold as great a claim as ever upon their services, should be maintained as a duty.

The difficulties in regard to meetings are accentuated by the restricted travel facilities and the long hours which war work imposes, and there are districts where it has been found necessary to abandon association meetings to a large extent. It seems a great pity that this should be so, for even if the attendance be small these gatherings do, at any rate, help to maintain the standard of ringing and keep the ringers in close touch. But where even Saturday meetings are out of the question, the decision of the Stroud Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Association might well be followed. There it has been resolved to have friendly visits to different towers, especially where there is a shortage of ringers, on Sunday afternoons, and if these are arranged, as they could be, so that the ringing will terminate with a good touch for evening service, there is no doubt the visits would prove acceptable to the church folk as well as to the ringers.

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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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## HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND  
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 9, 1917, in Two Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,  
IN THE BELFRY OF ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH, SHOREDITCH,  
**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

GEORGE R. PYE ... .. 1-2	JAMES HUNT ... .. 5-6
WILLIAM PYE ... .. 3-4	*JOSEPH E. SYKES ... .. 7-8

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Umpire: W. T. POWELL.

\* First peal of Stedman "in hand."

## MILITARY MEN AT MARLOW.

"Ah, music, sacred tongues of God,  
I hear them calling and I come!"

A friendly gathering of members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild took place at Marlow, on Saturday, when about 20 ringers took part in touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Treble Bob, Double Norwich, and Superlative, the conductors being Messrs. Henley, Evans, Truss and Martin. The Vicar (the Rev. O. F. Spearing) kindly gave consent for the use of the bells to enable ringing members of the Royal Engineers quartered in the town to have a "pull" upon this renowned river-side peal of eight before leaving for active service abroad, and they were kept going at intervals from 5 to 7.30 p.m., the steeplekeeper, Mr. H. Collins, having given due attention to the bearings, ropes, etc.

At the conclusion of the change ringing, the bells were lowered "in peal," the assembly joining in belfry prayers, the Rev. J. Frazer Amies officiating as the ringers' chaplain.

Those taking part in the afternoon's proceedings included Messrs. J. Evans, C.C., and P. Evans, W. Horne, J. Blackmore, J. L. Copey and Son, W. Henley, J. L. Kirk, T. S. Smith, J. C. Truss, H. and L. E. Collins, four R.E. khaki boys (Sappers W. Darlow, of Thurlough, Beds; W. D. Tanner, Wold, Northants; F. Duncombe, Luton; and G. Martin, Boyne Hill), also Pte A. Walker, 13th Durham L.I. (of Boyne Hill).

Afterwards, social harmony, with sundry flowing cups and humming handbells, was enjoyed in the long room at the local ringers' hotel, the Two Brewers' Inn, which many of the London ringers will readily recall with interesting recollections of pre-war times. Here Grandsire Caters, double-handed, by Messrs. Evans, Horne, Truss, Fussell, and Henley, was interspersed with the "Blue Bells of Scotland," and other familiar airs, quadrupled, by Messrs. Walker, Truss, and Martin, not forgetting a repeat, with variations per the Sheffield version. Marlow's dilution of bread, with war substitutes, has not at present been overdone, and the art of pickling onions "like mother does 'em" had been well instilled into her son, so that supper was thoroughly enjoyed, thanks to the kind invitation of the chairman (Mr. Amies). Good wishes for their health and luck were tendered to the late branch secretary (Mr. Martin) and his chums, to which suitable reply was made before the restricted hour for breaking up was called—"Nine," gentlemen, the ever fortunate number and the one that secured the Grimes' set of handbells.

W. H. F.

Meetings for combined practice have been proposed as follows, members intending to be present will kindly notify the secretary at an early date: Slough, Saturday, May 26th, at 6.30 p.m.; High Wycombe, Whit-Monday, 28th May, 4 o'clock, peal board ceremony; Chalfont St. Peter, Saturday, June 2nd, at 4 p.m., Minor and Doubles; Amersham, Saturday, June 9th, at 4 p.m.

## COMPLIMENT TO Q.-M.-S. W. A. CAVE.

As a compliment to Q.-M.-S. W. A. Cave, of Bristol whose present habitat is a dug-out, somewhere in France, members of the St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, arranged to meet on Saturday to ring his date touch of Stedman Caters, published in our issue of May 4th. The figures, on investigation, had, however, proved false, there being repetition in the courses 413562 and 413265. Both Messrs. Groves and Swann had corrected the figures to eliminate the falseness, and the band rang the date touch as adjusted by Mr. Swann, who was the conductor: A. Walker 1-2, W. Kent 3-4, G. F. Swan 5-6, J. E. Groves 7-8, J. George 9-10. Mr. Tom Russam was the referee. The composition as rung was as follows:—

231456	5	16
315462 *		
314265	—	2
415263	—	3
512463	—	2
514263	8	2
413265	—	3
312465	—	2
214365	—	2

Round at hand by 1, 2, 4, 6, 9, 11, 13s

\* 1, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 17, 18.

## TOWER ACCIDENTS.

### CAUSES AND RESULTS.

By Dr. A. H. NICHOLS, M.D.

It is recognised that certain trades and professions may cause characteristic injuries to many who follow them, and among these the bell ringer is not exempt from danger. Accidents in towers, though infrequent, are, as a rule, serious in character, and, at times, fatal. They may result from various causes: of these the most frequent is entanglement in a coil of rope, or being drawn upward by breaking or slipping of a stay, thus resulting in the going over of the bell. While, to beginners, the above sources of danger are ever present, it has happened that even practised ringers have come to grief by losing control of their rope or bell. In this connection it is pertinent to suggest that bells should not be left mouth upward; for fatal accidents have occurred to visitors in towers who have inadvertently pulled upon the ropes, and thus been drawn upward. If in the design of the tower the architect has substituted for convenience in installing the ring a fragile hatch in place of a substantial floor, a bell which had become separated from headstock, gudgeons, crown, or canons, would be pretty sure to dash downward with increasing impetus to the discomfiture of the ringers. Clock weights also form a menace when their supporting ropes, or wires, are neglected.

At times when at work in the belfry an incautious victim has slipped by a single mis-step from frame to pit. Then the raised bell, if tipped upon him with overwhelming violence, may crush chest or abdomen, with fatal result. Obviously the introduction of the steel cage, whose narrow girders provide a less secure foothold than the former wooden framework, have increased this factor of danger. Nor does the exercise of care in his movements render the ringer immune, provided raised bells are not secured; for at any moment some thoughtless intruder may pull at a rope. We are warned, too, by architects that in certain towers, especially those ancient structures built with flint and rubble, that disintegrating mortar has impaired the binding force of walls to such an extent that the lateral thrust of swinging bells may cause a sudden collapse of the fabric; for the pressure thus exerted may exceed even that of the most violent gale of wind.

Finally, ringers advanced in years should realise that, owing to the probable condition of their heart, the strain of undue, or prolonged, exertion may be attended with fatal result. Nature lets us know in manifold ways when the time is approaching to "shut up shop." Impairment of vision and hearing, common to all, should be recognised as the prelude to other disorders incident to senility, among which is a weakened heart. Of the latter development, the frequent cause of syncope, or heart failure, in the event of certain acts of imprudence, we are warned by unequivocal, characteristic signs. The writer was told by that honoured veteran, Matthew Wood, months before his decease, and then in his 83rd year, that the condition of his heart precluded his ever again taking part in a complete peal.

The following illustrative instances collated from the columns of ringing journals will serve to show the reality of each form of accident above detailed.

### ACCIDENTS FROM ENTANGLEMENT.

T. Maclean, sexton of St. Nicholas', Whitehaven, while ringing for service, September, 1819, was caught around the thigh by a coil of the rope and dashed twice with terrific force to the ceiling. In addition to local injuries to neck and shoulder he suffered a profound nervous shock.

In March, 1905, Mr. Godden, secretary of the local Guild, while ringing the eleventh bell at St. Martin's, Birmingham, slipped from the block. Becoming entangled around the legs, he was drawn upward, and fell unconscious to the floor. He sustained a broken shoulder blade and severe shock.

The antics of an uncontrolled bell rope, as erratic as the performance of a pea upon a hot shovel, defy all calculation. It has formed a half-hitch around the thumb of an expert ringer and taken the end clean off. Clutching a gas bracket it has wrenched it from its support to be hurled dauntling around the room. Indeed, any part of the human frame may be seized by a dancing rope. A ringer, for example, has been caught by a coil beneath the foot to be lifted feet upward and thrown to the floor with grave results. It seems a marvel that such cases of extreme head violence have not been known to involve fracture of the skull.

### ACCIDENTS FROM BREAKING, OR SLIPPING, OF STAY.

While ringing in the tower of St. Edmund's, Southwold, August, 1831, a visitor, attempting to raise a bell, broke the stay. Drawn to the ceiling, he fell to the floor, a distance of fourteen feet, causing fracture of the wrist with severe injury to head and neck.

In July, 1902, J. Allen, having gone with the band of Norton, Derbyshire, to Scarborough, was ringing the sixth bell when the stay slipped over the block. Held by a knot at the rope's end, he was drawn upward to the floor above, a distance of eighteen feet striking the crown of his head and falling with a dreadful thud to the floor. Upon regaining consciousness, he was removed to the Royal Hospital.

### CRUSHED IN RINGING CHAMBER, OR BELFRY.

While ringing a bell in Swardston tower, 15th February, 1806, James Cloeman, a bricklayer, was suddenly killed. The bell, when raised about half-way, became detached from the crown and canons. Breaking through the hatchway, it crashed downward through two floors upon the unfortunate victim, whose death was instantaneous.

At Dandrum, County Down, September, 1805, a bell, weighing 25 cwt., fell from the belfry through two floors, in consequence of defective fittings. The sexton, who involuntarily accompanied the instrument from the ringing chamber to the ground, was badly injured.

Joseph McDermott, a contractor, while adjusting a bell in the tower of Derry Cathedral, 17th October, 1895, was crushed to death by a 17 cwt. bell, which, by mistake, was let down upon him.

Thomas Rose, steeplekeeper at Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, while oiling the bearings of the fourth bell, 14th January, 1905 slipped from the frame. To save himself he grabbed the rim of the bell, which, being mouth upward, crashed down upon him, causing instantaneous death. When discovered he was standing inside the pit with head and hands inside the mouth of the bell, and chest forced against the frame. Deceased was 44 years of age, and had been a ringer for twenty-two years, for fifteen of which he had served as steeplekeeper.

In December, 1911, at the Parish Church of Barnboro, near Doncaster, W. Staples, one of the ringers, mounted the tower to muffle the bells. While thus engaged, the bell upon which he was working, one-half ton in weight, fell over, pinning him by the chest to a beam. His companion seeing his predicament pulled the bell back, releasing him barely in time to save his life. When removed he was still unconscious.

### ACCIDENT FROM FALLING CLOCKWEIGHT.

While a band of the Middlesex Association were attempting a peal of Bristol Surprise, at Spitalfields, London, 19th September, 1913, a mass of mortar, rubbish and fragments of wood came down with a crash upon the ringers of the treble and second bells. It transpired that one of the clockweights, weighing about 4 cwt., had become detached and smashed through the floor and ceiling beneath. By a stroke of luck this mass of metal was arrested in its fall by a projection; otherwise it might have killed the ringer of the second, who was standing directly beneath.

### CATASTROPHE FROM COLLAPSE OF STEEPLE.

The most appalling accident in the history of the Exercise occurred at St. Nicholas', Liverpool, in February, 1810. Of the varying accounts the following seems the most authentic, though some details may be inaccurate. On a Sunday morning, while the local Guild were ringing for service, a stone fell upon the fifth bell, and stopped its course. The ringers, apprehending danger, made a hurried escape from the ringing chamber, which was on the ground floor. The next moment the entire steeple and the greater part of the tower came down with a crash, overwhelming a body of school children just entering the church. Twenty-three persons were killed outright, of whom sixteen were girls under twelve years of age, while a still larger number of parishioners were seriously injured.

### DEATH FROM SYNCOPE.

Mr. Sandover, of Heavitrees, 68 years old, while taking part in a peal at St. Charles', Plymouth, suddenly fell forward to the belfry floor, dying instantly.

Incidentally, it may be mentioned that in Boston, Mass. (U.S.A.), a belfry was the site of the shocking murder of a young girl by one Piper, a degenerate wretch, who took pleasure in witnessing the death agony of his several victims. Convicted, after two trials he was ultimately executed by hanging.

In the year 1893, a bell ringer, belonging to the Franciscan Order in Austria, committed suicide in a belfry under peculiar circumstances. While occupied in tolling for a funeral, he mounted a chair and made a slip knot in the end of the rope. Then placing his head in the noose he kicked the chair away, and later was found by the monks, suspended lifeless in the middle of the chamber.

A. H. NICHOLS, M.D.

55, Mount Vernon Street, Boston, U.S.A.

### WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

#### SUCCESSFUL PRACTICE MEETING AT NORTH STONEHAM.

A very successful meeting for combined practice was held at St. Nicholas' Church, North Stoneham, last Saturday, when in addition to Messrs. G. Williams, C. J. Tray, W. T. Tucker, E. Dumper, and W. H. George, of the local band, there were present the Rev. F. Banks James and three of his ringing pupils from Lee-on-the-Solent: Bomb. S. Hector, R.G.A. (Trowbridge), who had cycled down from Morn Hill Camp; Captain Bennett, C.A. (Stockport), and now stationed at Winchester; A. A. Jones, A.S.C. (Swynthing Remount), and W. Keeble, A.C.G. (Kelvedon, Essex), who had been in the rest camp, Southampton Common, for a fortnight, awaiting orders. The methods rung during the evening were: Grandire and Stedman Triples, Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major. This meeting was arranged by the North Stoneham band as a substitute for a district meeting, which should have been held at Cheriton on the same date. It is hoped to hold similar meetings during the summer, when all visitors will be welcome.



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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.*

## BELLS AND BELFRY REFORM. CHURCH AUTHORITIES' LACK OF INTEREST.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Your leader in the issue of May 4th, in which you say the belfries have been reformed by the ringers themselves from the inside of the belfry, rather than from outside, is very true. What authority has "The Church Times" in making such a scathing denunciation of ringers? Why do they not, instead, denounce the clergy for their inability to reform, or, I might say, set their own house in order? I know of a case where the tower and bells of the Rural Dean's own Parish Church is in one of the dirtiest and most dilapidated states I ever saw, and I may say his living is one of the best in the district. I believe this is a case which might be put right with outside help, but then the question arises, "Why should the outside public be asked to pay for the restoration of the bells when the Vicar or Rector alone (as is so often said) has the sole right to them?" Personally, I believe the churchwardens have an equal right; but their right has been usurped so long by the incumbents that it is generally believed to be the parson's entire right, and it is a well-known fact that the incumbent is careful to choose a churchwarden who will say 'yea' or 'nay' to his own liking. I have had three years' experience of being parish churchwarden, and I find the only thing many Vicars care for is to set up a graven image in the chancel, with candlesticks, thus driving away the congregation. Some clergy make such a fetish of Eucharistic services that the people, including the ringers, dislike it and stay away. I do not think a ringer should ring the bells and then walk away always. A man should be a churchman first and a ringer afterwards. He ought also to be a communicant, but some clergy think of nothing else but Eucharist services. At Margate, where I used to ring, we had some good rules, e.g., ringers should be communicants, and were expected to attend service at least once on Sundays; and I believe these rules were acted upon better than any hard and fast rules would have been. We also had a fine Vicar, who appreciated our voluntary services, and made it his business to come into the belfry among us at times. Admittedly, there is among us, like the clergy, much room for improvement, as also with ringing generally. Mr. Fussell's advice, quoted by Mr. Marsh, is very good; and when I started ringing at Margate, now some 17 years ago, I received from Mr. Wm. Newell, of Reading, some excellent advice on handling a bell rope. I have tried to pass on this knowledge to many of my acquaintances, and I believe, if it were acted upon it would result in much greater accuracy in striking, and easier work to the ringers themselves, to say nothing about the results to anyone who had to listen to the music outside the tower.

I have been to many meetings where it has been positively a disgrace to see change ringers handle their bells so badly, especially in raising or falling in peal, whereas the old school of round ringers make no trouble of it, and strike much more accurately. There is too much "don't care" in ringers and ringing, save in few cases, where, by contrast, the ringers do their utmost to advance the art. But theirs is an uphill game, and a little encouragement from the authorities of the church would help them a lot.

I often read of Easter Vestry meetings being held where the organist and choir (paid as a rule for what they do) are thanked for their services; but I do not see any thanks rendered to the ringers, who, as a rule, are unpaid, unthanked, and unseen, and often condemned. I have personally attended many meetings and practices to help advance the cause of ringing, and I believe if the clergy would help, where possible, and by their example bring in the wardens, sidesmen, etc., and assist in the work of bell ringing, there would be more fellowship between each other, and the incumbents would find their ringers at church oftener. As things now are, it would be better, in many instances, that the bells should hang in secular towers rather than in those of our parish churches, where no interest is taken in either bells or ringers.

There are instances, as at Headcorn in Kent, where the Vicar's good wife, Mrs. Gatehouse, is setting a noble example, and a few other isolated towers where the clergy are doing likewise; but many of the clergy would prefer the cricket or football field, or, to be like the choristers, where they are to be seen and feted, rather than shut away in the belfry, unseen, uncared for, and only abused. — Yours very truly,

C. W. PLAYER.

"Cameron," Stone, Ashford, Kent.

## A RINGING JUBILEE.

On Sunday, May 6th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins., was rung for evening service, at Sedgely Parish Church, by: J. Ray 1, F. Evans 2, T. Griffiths 3, J. Jaggard 4, T. Watten 5, Jess Screen (conductor) 6, W. Mills 7, B. Fullwood 8. After service, a short touch of Grandsire, conducted by J. Jaggard. This ringing was to celebrate the 80th birthday of Mr. Jaggard's mother, who is still well and hearty, and residing in Burton-on-Trent, and the 50th anniversary of Mr. Jaggard's ringing career, he having started ringing on May 6th, 1867, at St. Thomas's, Oxford. "What a many 'changes' have gone by since then!"

**FALLEN IN ACTION.****ROTHERHAM RINGER KILLED.**

The news has come to hand that the esteemed secretary of the Rotherham Parish Church (All Saints' Company), Sgt. Leonard Garrison, has been killed in action. By his death the ringers have sustained a sad loss, deceased was an excellent ringer, and possessed a most cheerful and affectionate disposition. As a Sunday service ringer, before joining the colours, he was very regular in his attendance.

He joined the Yorkshire Association in 1912, but had only taken part in one peal. He had several invitations to ring in peals, at St. Stephen's Church (Rotherham), but had declined, saying he intended to ring his first peal on the bells on which he had learnt and always rung; and his only peal was, therefore, secured on the Parish Church bells on January 20th, 1914 (5004 Grandsire Caters). The Parish Church Sunday School will feel the loss of Mr. Garrison keenly, as he had been a member of the Bible Class for many years, and acted as secretary to the Cricket Club, and held several other offices in connection with the class.

Sergt. Garrison, who belonged to the York and Lancs Regiment, was killed in France by a bomb on May 1st. In a letter to his parents, the commanding officer spoke highly of his work, and much deplored his loss, adding that he was buried in the cemetery at Arras, and that a cross had been erected to mark his grave. As a last token of respect the bells of the Parish Church were half-muffled, on Saturday, May 12th, and touches in the standard methods were rung, the following ringers taking part: L. Brightman, W. E. Unstead, S. Bagle, H. North, H. Taylor, C. Ryder, L. Littlewood, J. W. G. Cottam, A. Kettell, W. Froggath, and A. Hague. On the following day (Sunday) the bells were again rung half-muffled, and the Vicar made reference to the death of Sergt. Garrison from the pulpit. Miss Hague assisted in the ringing, being home after thirteen months' work in the V.A.D. at Dover Military Hospital. Capt. Froggath (Y. and L.) was on leave from France, and Pte A. Hague (R.A.M.C.) from one of H.M. hospital ships.

**DEVONSHIRE RINGER KILLED AT SALONICA.**

Ringling in Devonshire has suffered a severe loss by the death of Rifleman Julius Algernon Snow, of Exmouth, who died at the age of 36, in hospital at Salonica, on March 26th, from wounds received during a bombardment by enemy aircraft.

Coming from a ringing family, Rifleman Snow, who was the 6th son of Mr. and Mrs. John Snow, of Withycombe Raleigh, Exmouth, soon won renown, not only as a peal ringer, but also as a steady, careful and painstaking exponent of the art in whatever ringing he could get. He also did a good deal of instructing, and his loss in South Devon will be keenly felt.

He was a member of the Lymington Volunteer Artillery for some years, and afterwards joined the National Reserve. When war was declared he was posted for guarding the G.W. Railway, and was afterwards transferred to the Wessex and Welsh Battalion of the Rifle Brigade.

He leaves a widow and one daughter, aged 4. The sad news, coming so quickly after the death of his brother, Sergt. Louis Snow, who died of wounds in France, has been a cruel blow to the relatives, and the sympathy of the Exercise will go out to them in their double loss.

**CHISLEHURST RINGER KILLED BY A SHELL.**

It is with deep regret we have to record the death of Lieut. Cpl. John H. Mitcham, of the 27th London Regiment (Machine Gun Section). Deceased was engaged with his company on April 7th on salvage work, collecting into "dumps" the debris of one of last year's battlefields. One of the shells he was handling proved to be fuzed, and, when it was allowed to drop, it exploded, and killed him and seven of his comrades. It was considered impossible by the salvage officer in charge that any fuzed shell of this particular type should be met with.

Lance-Corpl. Mitcham was 22 years of age. He joined the colours in February, 1916, and went to France in January, 1917. His captain has written expressing the profoundest sympathy which was shown by all who knew him. He died on the field of honour, serving his country equally as though he had met his death at the hands of the enemy.

Deceased had been a ringer at St. Nicholas' Church, Chislehurst, for six years, and a member of the Kent County Association for five years. He had rung the treble to two peals of Grandsire Triples, his last being a half-muffled peal in January, 1916, for those who had fallen in the war.

On Monday, April 30th, as a last token of respect, a half-muffled peal of Stedman Triples was attempted, but failed, but a quarter-peal was rung by: I. Emery 1, G. Durling 2, A. E. Newick 3, P. Spice 4, W. Martin 5, W. J. Jeffries 6, T. Groombridge, snr. (conductor) 7, H. Durling 8. "Gone, but not forgotten, beloved by all who knew him."

**KILLED LAST JULY.**

Rifleman T. Shepherd, one of the ringers of Milnrow Parish Church, Lancs, was last week officially reported killed in the great advance last July, and on Sunday evening, May 13th, the local band rang a date touch of 1917 Grandsire Triples, in 1 hr. 10 mins., with the bells half-muffled, as a tribute to his memory: R. Buckley 1, G. Staff 2, J. Rhodes 3, E. Schofield 4, J. C. Bennett 5, C. Fielding 6, J. H. C. Massey 7, H. Buckley 8.

**MUFFLED PEAL ATTEMPT.**

At St. Helen's Church, Worcester, on Saturday, a peal of Stedman Triples was attempted with the bells muffled, in memory of the soldiers and sailors who have fallen in the war, but, unfortunately, "stand" had to be called at the end of the 49th course, reached in 2 hrs. 20 mins., owing to a shift.

**ROLL OF HONOUR.**

Pte R. W. Collier, of Rotherham, 2nd Battalion, K.O.Y.L.I., stationed at Sheffield.

Pte A. Burton, of St. Paul's, Walkden, R.A.M.C., now in Mesopotamia.

From Islip, Northants:—

Pte R. C. Loveday, 3rd Norfolk Regt.

From St. Peter's, Northampton:—

Driver A. J. Mawby, R.F.A.

**LANTERN SLIDES ON CHURCH BELLS.**

*To the Editor.*

Apologos of Mr. Beams' letter on the subject of an illustrated lecture on bells and ringing, may I say that I have a set of about 70 lantern slides, made by myself, with an accompanying lecture on the subject of Church bells? These are at the disposal of anyone who cares to borrow them, if they will pay for carriage. As I am only an amateur photographer, the slides are not, perhaps, of the best; but they are, I think, interesting.—Yours truly,

H. SHIRE.

18, Kingsley Road, Pinner, Middlesex.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—The above subject has caused some correspondence, also inquiries in the columns of "The Ringing World." One correspondent asks if any lantern slides are available.

Some time ago, I was an interested spectator of a lecture on bells suitably illustrated with slides, given by Mr. W. Willson, in Leicester; I was so struck with the novelty of the thing that I borrowed the slides, and personally gave a lecture myself in our own town before the C.E.M.S. This was so successful that I was requested to repeat it later to another branch of the society also in our own town.

I had two sets of slides, one of which was kindly lent me by Mr. Cyril F. Johnstone, of the Bell Foundry, Croydon; the other set, of course, was the property of Mr. Wm. Willson, 23, Hopefield Road, Leicester. Both of these sets make a fine collection, and, with suitable memoranda of the history of bells, ancient and modern, make a very educational lecture possible, which will amply repay anyone who takes the trouble to search up the necessary data.

The notes I made, I passed on to Mr. A. Coppock, of Nottingham, who was going to give the lecture in that town, but the war put an end to it for the time being, and he is now in France.

Whether these slides can be hired out or not, I cannot say. Mr. Johnston, of course, is in France, but a letter from your correspondent to Mr. Willson will bring him the necessary information. The slides I used were augmented by local views of our own bells and church, the Vicar and myself, by one of our local ringers who is interested in photography.—Yours, etc.,

E. A. RIDGWAY.

Leek.

**RINGERS' RAMBLE.**

**VISIT TO MOTTRAM.**

On Saturday last, the ringers of St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, with a number of friends, had the first of a series of rambles to be held during the spring and summer months, the famous church and village of Mottram-in-Longdendale being chosen as the rendezvous. Leaving Ashton by car, a happy party arrived at the famous cutting made during the memorable cotton panic of the sixties, after which they emerged in full view of the beautiful scenery by which Mottram is surrounded, the majestic hills of the Pennine chain standing out in bold relief. Reaching the church, which commands a fine view for miles around, they were met by the tower keeper, Mr. Joe Goddard, who had made all preparations for their comfort, and one of the churchwardens, Mr. Wagstaffe, who gave them a cordial welcome. The bells (which are at present not regularly rung owing to the ringers being depleted in numbers by deaths and circumstances relating to the war) were set merrily going by Mrs. Wolstencroft, Miss Ethel Grimshaw, Miss Edith Williams, Miss Ada Wolstencroft, Miss Sarah Holt, Miss M. E. Thorp, W. W. Wolstencroft and Mr. John Rolls, to the tune of Grandsire. Other courses of Grandsire were also successfully brought round, with Miss E. Crabtree, Miss Doris Ogden, and Mr. Joe Goddard and Mr. John Harrison taking part.

Before leaving the tower a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the authorities for the use of the bells, and also to Mr. Goddard for adding to the visitors' comfort.—Churchwarden Wagstaffe, in reply, remarked upon how marvellously well the ladies could manipulate the ropes.

Tea was afterwards partaken of at Mrs. Hobson's, whose house is at the foot of the church, where she has lived for a great many years.

After tea the party rambled over hill, dale and woodland, enjoying themselves to the full, as only happy hearts can. Arrived at Gee Cross they boarded the car, which brought them safely home, tired, but conscious of having had a happy, glorious, and beautiful outing, which, it is hoped, is but a forerunner of others to follow (D.V.).

W. W. W.

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**WEST EALING.**—On Saturday, March 31st, at St. Stephen's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: Miss Edith Jones 1, A. W. Davis 2, J. Hunnisett 3, C. Edwards 4, G. M. Kilby 5, R. Holloway (conductor) 6, E. Harris 7, W. Lawrence 8.—On Palm Sunday, for the evening service, another quarter-peal in the same method, in 44 minutes: J. Hunnisett 1, Pte R. H. Stevens 2, Miss Edith Jones 3, C. Edwards 4, H. Chaffey 5, R. Holloway (conductor) 6, W. Lawrence 7, Staff-Sergt. E. T. Verrills 8.

**BARNES.**—At St. Mary's Church, on Palm Sunday, 1264 Bob Major, in 44 mins.: M. Jacobs 1, H. Barrett 2, W. H. Stevens 3, Pte S. Meadows 4, F. Skevington 5, C. Collis 6, H. Cook 7, C. Hunt (conductor) 8.—On Easter Sunday, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 42 mins.: M. Jacobs 1, H. Barrett 2, W. H. Stevens 3, F. Skevington 4, Pte S. Meadows 5, H. Cook 6, C. Hunt (first in the method as conductor) 7, P. C. Brooks 8.

**DEPTFORD.**—On Easter Sunday, for morning service, at St. John's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: T. A. Easterby 1, F. W. Richardson (conductor) 2, A. G. Bennington 3, A. E. Goddard 4, E. J. Pannett 5, W. J. Jeffries 6, J. Law 7, C. D. Letzer 8.

**MILNROW, LANCs.**—On Easter Day, for evening service, at St. James' Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1440 changes), in 55 mins.: R. Buckley 1, G. Staff (conductor) 2, W. Staff (first quarter-peal) 3, E. Schofield 4, J. Fitton 5, C. Fielding 6, J. C. Massey 7, H. Buckley 8.

**ACTON.**—At St. Mary's Church, for morning service, on April 15th, 336 Grandsire Triples and some Stedman, conducted by J. Parker and Miss Edith Parker. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major: C. Edwards 1, Staff-Sergt. Verrills 2, E. Newell 3, H. Chaffey, R.N.A.S., 4, R. Holloway (conductor) 5, W. Vickery 6, A. Davies 7, W. Lawrence 8. For evening service, on Sunday, April 22nd, as a welcome to Second Air-Mechanic H. Holloway, on leave from "somewhere in France," a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A.-M. H. Holloway 1, Miss Jones 2, J. W. Fruin 3, C. Edwards 4, H. Chaffey 5, R. Holloway (conductor) 6, W. Vickery 7, W. Lawrence 8.

**NORTHAMPTON.**—At All Saints' Church, on April 22nd, for evening service; also as a birthday compliment to A. P. Hensman, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Major (1280 changes): J. White 1, A. P. Hensman (composer and conductor) 2, T. Law (first quarter in the method) 3, F. Hopper 4, W. Farey 5, H. Rainbow 6, J. Hensman 7, H. Blundell 8.

## THREE GENERATIONS OF VETERANS.

The death is announced at Tiffoulme, Devon, of Thomas Hellier, a veteran ringer, whose father and grandfather each rang for half a century.

## MEMORIAL BELL ROPES.

A gift of eight bell ropes has been made to Crawley Parish Church by Mr. Dewey, in memory of his son, Pte Henry John Dewey, R.A.M.C., who, as we recently recorded, was accidentally drowned in India. Private Dewey was an enthusiastic ringer, and began to ring when only 12 years of age.

## 5016 BOB MAXIMUS.

By C. R. LILLEY.

23456	W	M	H	23645	W	M	H
45276	—	—	—	64235	—	—	—
25634	—	—	—	24536	—	—	—
63254	—	—	—	53246	—	—	—
26354	—	—	—	25346	—	—	—
35264	—	—	—	43256	—	S	—
23564	—	—	—	24356	—	—	—
Repeated produces				23456	—	S	—
23645							

## 5036 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By G. CROSS.

23456	1	4	5	6	35264	1	4	5	6
32654	—	—	—	—	34256	—	—	—	—
26354	—	—	—	—	42536	S	—	—	—
32465	—	—	—	—	25436	—	—	—	—
24365	—	—	—	—	54236	—	—	—	—
43265	—	—	—	—	32456	—	—	—	—
62345	—	—	—	—	24356	—	—	—	—
23645	—	—	—	—	43256	—	—	—	—
36245	—	—	—	—	52346	—	—	—	—
42635	—	—	—	—	23546	—	—	—	—
26435	—	—	—	—					
25463	—	—	—	—	Repeated.				
45362	—	—	—	—	Has the 2nd only				
52364	—	—	—	—	twice in 5—8.				
23564	—	—	—	—					
35264	—	—	—	—					

## 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).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on May 31st, 1917, for handbell practice, and on the 22nd for general business; all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

**ST. PETER'S, CROYDON.**—The bells (10) will be available for all ringers on Saturday, the 19th May, from 4 to 8 p.m.—Chas. Dean, 2, Biddulph Road, Croydon.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Penshurst on Saturday, May 19th, 1917. Tower open at 3. Service in church at 5. Tea at 5.45, followed by general meeting. A representative of the district will be elected to serve on the sub-committee to consider the subject of a memorial to those members who have fallen in the war. Three pence per head will be charged for tea. Subscriptions are now due and should be paid at the meeting or sent to W. Latter, Hon. District Secretary, 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Horwich Parish Church on Saturday, May 19th. Bells available from 4 p.m.; meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Secretary, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at East Crompton on Saturday, May 19th. Bells ready at 2 o'clock till dusk; meeting at 6.30.—T. K. Driver, Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Christ Church, Bacup, on Saturday, May 26th. Bells ready at 2.30; meeting at 6.30. Subscriptions due. Reports to hand.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Flixton on Whit-Saturday. Bells available during the afternoon and evening. Meeting at 6 o'clock.—W. W. Woistencroft, Branch Secretary.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Romford on Whit-Monday. Divine service at 4 p.m. Address by Rev. G. M. Bell, Vicar of Romford. Tea at 5 p.m., to be followed by the annual meeting. Towers open for ringing: Romford, Hornchurch, Dagenham, Shenfield, Little Heath (Brentwood for 20 minutes' touches, 1½ hours in all). Members intending to take tea must send me notice not later than previous Tuesday on account of the difficulties of catering.—H. T. W. Eyre, Hon. Sec., Great Totham Vicarage.

**CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Rothwell on Whit-Monday, May 28th. Bells available at 10 o'clock. Service at 12 noon. Meeting to follow. Committee meeting at 10.30.—Fred Willford, Gen. Sec., 149, Ashburnham Road, Northampton.



**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Staines, on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells available from 3.30. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Shenley on Saturday, June 2nd. Service, 3 p.m.; meeting to follow. Owing to difficulty in getting provisions no tea will be provided. Bells (6) available 2 p.m.—W. Sear, Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION**—It has been decided to abandon the Whit-Monday meeting which was to have been held at Bishop Auckland, owing to the excessive railway fares and the food restrictions. The annual meeting, however, will (D.V.) be held as appointed at Sunderland on Saturday, October 27th.—G. T. Potter, 13, Park Parade, Whitley Bay, Northumberland.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**—It has been decided by the Committee that in view of present difficulties the Annual Meeting be postponed indefinitely, but that the Master and Secretary be empowered to convene such a meeting at their discretion: all officers to retain their posts until such meeting be held.—F. L. Edwards, 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.

#### **MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.**

At the annual meeting of the Dudley and District Guild, held on Saturday, March 10th, 1917, it was unanimously decided to erect in the Parish Church, Dudley (the Vicar and wardens having consented to the same), a tablet recording the half-muffled peal of Grandsire Caters rung on Saturday, February 3rd, at St. Thomas's Church, Dudley, to the memory of the late Mr. Samuel Spittle, who had been its ringing master ever since the Guild was formed, and had held other important offices at the Parish Church for upwards of 70 years. It was further decided to appeal to the members of the Guild for subscriptions, and it was thought that many of the late Mr. Spittle's ringing friends and acquaintances would like the opportunity of contributing something towards perpetuating the memory of so devoted and honoured a ringer and church worker. The work has already been put in hand, and subscriptions should be forwarded without delay to the Ringing Master, Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, Staffs, or to the Hon. Secretary, Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley, who will in due course acknowledge the same in "The Ringing World."

Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland, LL.D., Vicar and President.

Harry Mason, Ringing Master.

Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec.

#### **HANDBELLS WANTED.**

**WANTED.**—HANDBELLS (secondhand), any notes. Send full particulars to Rev. G. Elwell, The Vicarage, St. George, Bristol.

#### **HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.**

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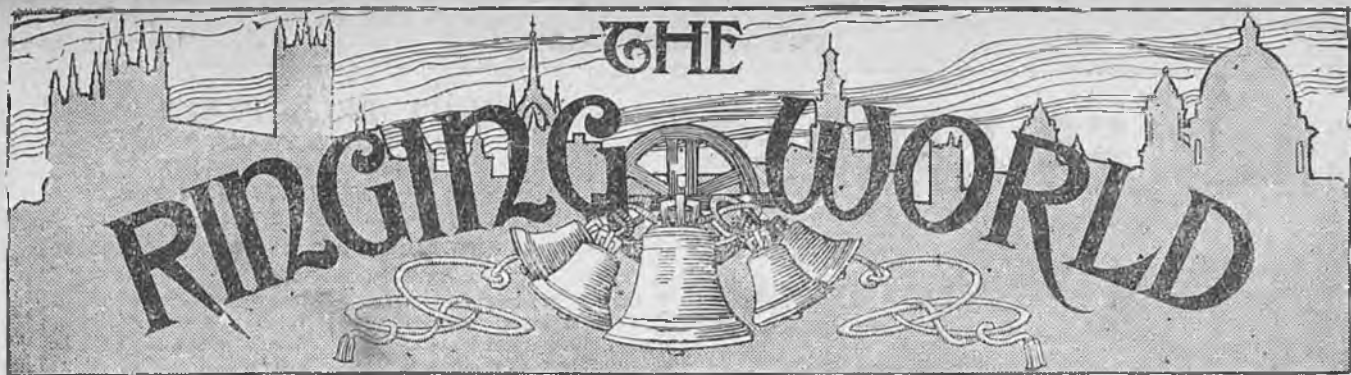
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Guildford, and Published by Messrs. Wm. Dawson & Sons  
LTD. Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.



No. 323. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, MAY 25th, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

# 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, 1911.  
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.

## RINGERS AND THE CHURCH.

"Belfry Reform," although it stands first in the objects of ringing associations generally, and, in the early days of these organisations particularly, was a very necessary feature of organised work, is in these times a somewhat delicate matter to handle. Happily, where the influence of the various associations has been able to permeate, there are few places in which the "scandals," common thirty or forty years ago, now exist. Drinking, smoking and such like irreverent behaviour no longer obtain, the belfry has become recognised by the ringers as part of the church, and within its sacred precincts the ringers realise that their conduct must be as decorous as in any other portion of the building. The part of the "reform" movement that is most acute at the present time is really the question of church-going. This is the rock upon which clergy and ringers now most often split, and it is practically the only one vexed question between them. In quite the majority of cases, it is gratifying to know that even this peace-disturbing element does not jar upon the good relations between the clergy and the ringers, for the latter realise their duties and privileges, and act up to them.

But there are two sides to this, as to every other question. Mr. Player, in his letter last week, showed the failings of some of the clergy; this week that champion of ringers' causes, Canon Papillon, writing from his wide experience, gives us the other view, and we think that he will not find himself alone when he advances the opinion that ringers are sometimes difficult to deal with, touchy and easily offended. Another writer, Mr. George Gutteridge, in his letter, strikes a balance by quoting the old saying that it is "six of one and half a dozen of the other." We think many of the troubles that arise on this question might be avoided if there were more tact shown on both sides. Ringers, like some animals we have heard of, may be led, but they won't be driven; and the tactful clergyman seldom has difficulty in leading the way from the belfry to the pew, even when there has not previously been a full realisation of the proprieties of the matter—to say nothing of the privileges of attending public worship in the church—among those who ring the bells. Perhaps there might be less heard of the absence of ringers from the services if a little more care were exercised in some places in selecting the recruits for a band. If a man comes in merely for the sake of the ringing and without any desire to promote what should be the first object of all ringers, it can hardly be expected that he will at once become a regular church-goer, if he is not already one. But if the selection were made only from among those who are first of all church-goers, and who would take up ringing as an act of service to the church, we think most, if not all, of the difficulties in this matter would vanish.

## 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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PEALS AUGMENTED,  
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

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IN BEST SEASONED OAK,  
STEEL OR IRON.

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Satisfaction Guaranteed.

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OF ALL KINDS.

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## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

CALVERLEY, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, April 28th, 1917, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRED,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 10½ cwt.

WALTER POPPLEWELL... ..Treble	JOSEPH BROADLEY ... .. 5
WILLIAM BARTON ... .. 2	WILFRID LEE ... .. 6
SAMUEL WHEATLEY ... .. 3	WILLIE CORDINGLEY ... .. 7
SYDNEY KNIGHTLEY ... .. 4	PRATT CORDINGLEY ... ..Tenor

Conducted by WALTER POPPLEWELL.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Private Harold Wheatley, who fell in action on July 1st, 1916. He was a ringer at this church before joining His Majesty's Forces.

The ringers of the 2nd, 7th and tenor belong to Pudsey, 5th to Shipley, the rest to Calverley.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, May 17, 1917, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

CARTER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

PETER INCE ... ..Treble	JOHN MAKIN ... .. 5
TITUS BARLOW, JUNR. ... .. 2	GEORGE PINCOTT ... .. 6
THOMAS B. WORSLEY ... .. 3	WILLIAM PENNINGTON ... .. 7
SERG. JOHN NUTTAL... .. 4	PETER NUTTAL... ..Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS B. WORSLEY.

Rung at the request of Sergt. John Nuttal, who was on leave, after having been abroad in Egypt, the Dardanelles, and France since August, 1914.

SELLY OAK, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 19, 1917, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

JOHN CARTER'S No. 35.

Tenor 12 cwt. 0 qrs. 13 lbs.

JOHN E. EATON ... ..Treble	OLIVER NORMAN ... .. 5
*ALBERT SCRIVENS ... .. 2	LIONEL LONGNEY ... .. 6
*WILLIAM RANFORD ... .. 3	SAMUEL GROVE ... .. 7
HARRY WITHERS ... .. 4	EDWARD MANNERS ... ..Tenor

Conducted by SAMUEL GROVE.

\* First peal of Stedman.

## SIX BELL PEAL.

OSWALDTWISTLE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

(BLACKBURN BRANCH).

On Monday, May 14, 1917, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE TOWER OF IMMANUEL CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being seven 720's called differently.

MISS EDITH SULLIVAN ...Treble	JOE RAWCLIFFE ... .. 4
JAMES HOULDSWORTH ... .. 2	JIM TOMLINSON ... .. 5
*MISS MARY ELIZA BARNES 3	JOHN BENTLEY... ..Tenor

Conducted by JAMES HOULDSWORTH.

\* First peal. Rung as a farewell to Joe Rawcliffe, who joined the colours the following morning. John Bentley, of Hoylake, was on a visit. James Houldsworth has now rung peals on everyone of the eight bells in the tower.

## BIRMINGHAM OCTOGENARIAN HONOURED.

On Sunday evening of last week, at Handsworth Parish Church, Birmingham, ringers from St. Martin's, Aston, and Perry Barr, met to show their respect to Mr. R. Faux (a vice-president of St. Martin's Guild), who attained the age of 80 years a short time ago. Mr. William Godden, an honorary member of the Handsworth band, on behalf of his fellow ringers, presented Mr. Faux with a pipe and pouch. On the latter was a bell-shaped mount, suitably engraved. Mr. Godden conveyed the best wishes to Mr. Faux in a felicitous speech, and afterwards a touch of 1008 Grandsire Triples was rung by: E. Wood 1, W. G. Ellis (conductor) 2, J. E. Groves 3, T. Verry 4, M. J. Morris 5, W. Kent 6, O. Williams 7, R. Speakman 8.

**RINGER'S GIFT OF A WAR SHRINE.**

Mr. J. Slarke, of Towcester, the president of the Towcester and District Association, who a few years ago, with other members of his family, gave two trebles to augment the Easton Neston peal, has presented a war shrine to the church. It has been erected in the belfry, and was unveiled on Sunday week, after the morning service. It comprises the record of a muffled peal rung as a tribute to the memory of those who have fallen in the war, special mention being made of Lance-Corpl. Charles Faulkner, one of the ringers at the church, who has made the supreme sacrifice.

After the service the Vicar, churchwardens, and a large number of the congregation made their way to the belfry. The Vicar read some suitable prayers, and then took down the Union Jack which covered the shrine. In the course of an eloquent address, the Vicar said it was meant to be an outward and visible sign to those who had fallen in the war. They were deeply indebted to Mr. J. Slarke for putting up this memorial to their fallen brothers.

Mr. Slarke thanked the Vicar for giving him permission to erect the shrine, saying it was a pleasure, mingled with sadness, to do so. He made special mention of the late Lance-Corpl. Faulkner, of his untiring energy in ringing the bells for the services of the church, and of his thoroughness in everything he undertook for the good of the cause.

Mr. F. Wilford, hon. secretary of the Central Northants Association, on behalf of the ringers, made feeling remarks on the number of ringers who have fallen in the war. The following ringers were present and took part in the ringing: Messrs. F. Wilford, F. Hopper, R. Christian, W. Rogers, W. Farey, S. Lawrence, J. Hensman, T. Law, P. Rollings, W. Lambert, W. Roberts, J. Slarke, J. W. Unwin, J. W. Haynes, and H. Key.

After the service the ringers were kindly entertained by Mr. Slarke.

**KILLED IN ACTION.**

The War Office have recently notified his relatives that it must now be presumed that Pte A. G. Webber, of Brent Knoll, Somerset, who was serving in the Devon Regiment, and has been missing since July 1st last, was killed in action. His death is a heavy loss to the ringers of St. Michael's Church, Brent Knoll, where he was a staunch member of the belfry, a good ringer, and a member of the choir. On Saturday week a half-muffled quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung to his memory by: C. Bird 1, J. Baker 2, J. Steer 3, F. Iley (conductor) 4, C. Hancock 5, H. Hobbs 6.

**THE LATE SERGT. GARRISON.**

On Saturday week, at All Saints' Church, Rotherham, a touch of 434 Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled, to the memory of Sergt. L. Garrison, late secretary of the All Saints' company, who, as recorded in our last issue, was killed in action on May 1st. The ringers were: H. Taylor 1, L. Brightman 2, J. W. Cottam 3, T. C. Ryder 4, A. Hague 5, A. Kettell 6, L. Littlewood 7, H. North 8. Touches of Grandsire Caters, Stedman Triples and Bob Major were also rung, and the bells were kept muffled for both services on the following day.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**

The busy market town of Chippenham (Wilts) is singularly fortunate in possessing two very fine rings of eight, but their cheering tones are now seldom heard, as many of the local ringers are engaged in much sterner duties than bell ringing, but on Saturday last these bells once more pealed forth their music, the occasion being a meeting of the Swindon Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. A large attendance was not anticipated, but the depleted band of local ringers was augmented by enthusiasts from Marshfield, Swindon, and Warborough, who met at St. Paul's in the afternoon, where several touches of Grandsire Triples were successfully accomplished. The "rationing" of the party was undertaken in a most thoroughly efficient manner by Mrs. B. Hunt, at the New Inn.

Mr. T. Daniels presided at the business meeting which followed, and it was decided to pay a visit to Kingston St. Michael, on Saturday, June 16th.

Votes of thanks were accorded the Rev. D. B. Barclay, Rector of St. Paul's, and the Rev. L. E. Parsons, Vicar of St. Andrew's, for the use of the bells at their respective churches, a privilege highly appreciated by the visitors.

In the evening further ringing took place at St. Andrew's, bringing to a close a pleasant and enjoyable day's gathering.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

A successful meeting of the Bolton Branch was held at Horwich on Saturday last, about 20 members attending from Walkden, Leigh, Tyldesley, Deane, Chorley, Bolton (Parish Church and St. George's), with the local men. Touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major were rung. Two new members were elected. The next meeting will be held at Newchurch on June 23rd.

**LADY RINGERS WANTED.**

The Rev. R. L. Allwork, Vicar of Epping, has issued an appeal to his parish asking for women bell ringers.

Ladies have come forward very readily in many parishes, so there ought not to be much difficulty in filling the gaps at Epping.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.****SATISFACTORY WAR-TIME POSITION.**

Only a comparatively small number of ringers attended the annual meeting of the Sheffield District and Old East Derbyshire Amalgamated Society, at headquarters, on Saturday, May 5th, some 25 or 30 being present from Barnsley, Bolsterstone, Chesterfield, North Wingfield, Rammoor, Sheffield Cathedral, and Slaveley. The ringing during the afternoon and evening did not, however, suffer from this, lack of numbers and plenty of good practice, with some capital striking, was obtained in quite a variety of methods, including Grandsire, Stedman and Erin Triples, Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Superlative Surprise, Original, and Forward Major.

The business meeting was held in the Parish Room, the Vicar (the Rev. J. R. Lee Nicholls), who had taken part in the ringing during the afternoon, being in the chair.

The Hon. Secretary pro tem. (Mr. Sam Thomas) presented the balance sheet for 1916, which showed the finances of the society to be standing the strain for war-time difficulties in a satisfactory manner. Although the year's working showed a small adverse balance, owing to some non-recurring expenditure, the total funds of the society at the close of the year were £15 13s. 1d., compared with £15 8s. 8d. in the previous year.—This was considered satisfactory by the meeting, and unanimously accepted.

The Hon. Secretary's report, the third as locum tenens, disclosed a slight increase in the membership roll, eleven new members having been elected during the year, while two had been lost through death. The number serving their country in the forces of the Crown kept growing steadily, and the subscriptions as a consequence grew less. The number of affiliated towers remain at twenty, the same as last year. For the ensuing year the committee had made a sensible alteration in the fixing of meetings; instead of the bi-monthly plan which had been adopted during the war, meetings are to be held only during the lightest months of the year, viz.: June, July, August, September, March, April and May. The number of peals rung during the year was eight, three being muffled peals on tower bells, and five on hand-bells.

With one exception, the officers were re-elected, Mr. John Holman taking the place of Mr. Wm. Biggin (vice-president), who resigned owing to lack of time to attend to the society's affairs, and for whose services a hearty vote of thanks was accorded.

Replying to a vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for use of bells and room, Mr. F. M. Tindall, Vicar's warden, gave the members a hearty welcome, and expressed the wish that the society would continue to prosper and keep up the work which it was doing so well.

The Vicar, who also replied, reminded the members of their duties as well as privileges, and then closed the meeting with prayer.

After the meeting more ringing followed, until nine o'clock finally put the closure on what all hope will be the last annual meeting to be held during this strife of nations.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

On Saturday week, St. Andrew's, Wells Street, Oxford Street, W., was visited by a large number of members of the London County Association and friends, who took the opportunity of having a pull upon this splendid ring of eight. The bells were raised at 4 p.m., and touches in Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Major, were indulged in until 7.45 p.m.

At the business meeting, held in the Parish Hall adjoining, presided over by the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender), the Rev. J. K. Knight, Vicar of St. Andrew's, kindly attended, and extended a very hearty welcome to the visitors, and also tendered his grateful thanks for the ringing, of which he was a great lover. Although not proficient in the art of change ringing, he had, he said, passed through the preliminary stages prior to taking up his duties at St. Andrew's.

Miss Edith K. Parker, of Enfield, and Mr. Arthur W. Davis, of Shepherd's Bush, were elected members.

The date of the next meeting was fixed for Saturday, June 9th, particulars of which will appear in the "Ringing World" in due course.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and churchwardens of St. Andrew's for their kind welcome, and for the use of the bells.

**BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.**

A quarterly meeting of the Axbridge Branch was held at Mark recently, 37 members being present from Badgworth, Brent Knoll, East Brent, Burnham, Bridgwater, Ware, Weston-super-Mare, Huntspill and Worle. The bells were kept going during the afternoon and evening to Grandsire, Stedman, and Plain Bob. Service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. J. F. Turner), who also gave a very appropriate address. Tea was partaken of on the vicarage lawn.

At the meeting which followed, presided over by the Rev. Prob. R. Hayes Robinson, twelve new members (all of Worle) were elected, and Cheddar was selected for the next meeting.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for arranging the service, and for the use of the bells.

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry  
Established  
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.**

## 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.*

## BELLS AND BELFRY REFORM. RINGERS DIFFICULT TO HANDLE.

*To the Editor.*

The letter of Mr. C. W. Player, in your last issue, invites some comment. With its main contention—that neglect of church bells and belfries is too often the fault of clergy and church authorities—I am compelled to agree. It is they who are responsible to the parishioners for the proper care of valuable church property; and sometimes, I fear, they neglect their trust. But parishioners who take no interest in their bells, and make no attempt to keep their church authorities up to the mark, are at least participes criminis; and ringers themselves so far as my experience goes, do not always make things easy for the clergy and churchwardens. Some clergy, I admit, are too exacting, and seem to forget that ringers are grown men, who cannot be treated like children, and must be led, not driven. But ringers are sometimes difficult to deal with, touchy and easily offended, terribly irregular and unpunctual, with (apparently) no consideration for other people's convenience. My own personal relations with them for 25 years were generally pleasant and friendly; but early in my ringing career I was nearly driven to cut my connection with it altogether, in despair at their casualness and unpunctuality. I was glad that I "stuck it out"; but had I not done so, the fault would have been theirs, not mine.

With respect to "rights" in the bells, the case (I believe) is this: The incumbent and churchwardens are jointly responsible to the parish for care of the bells, as of other "goods of the church"; but control of the belfry and of admission thereto is by law vested in the incumbent, who can exclude anyone, even a churchwarden, subject to an appeal against his action before the Bishop and Archdeacon. Churchwardens, in their turn, may (and sometimes do) object to provide funds for keeping belfry and bells in proper order and repair. But incumbent and churchwardens alike are only trustees for the parishioners, who are the real owners of the bells and other "goods of the church." The pity is that they do not always recognise the obligations of their trusteeship; and that through neglect or personal friction, aided by indifference on the part of those for whom they are trustees, a state of things should arise which deserves Mr. Player's strictures. If ever it is necessary for men to "be of one mind in an house," it is so for those who live side by side in a parish, and share common duties and responsibilities towards their fellow parishioners.—Yours faithfully,

T. L. PAPILLON,

Formerly Master of the Essex Association.

## SIX OF ONE, HALF A DOZEN OF THE OTHER.

Dear Sir,—Will you be good enough to spare me a little space, wherein to say a few words upon "Bells and Belfry Reform," as I have read with interest the letters appearing in the "Ringing World" recently. I have been a church bell ringer about 20 years, and I fear I cannot quite agree with Mr. Player's letter, as it is obviously unfair to the clergy generally. It always seems to me (to put it in as few words as possible), "Six of one and half a dozen of the other," as, if ringers were to take more interest in the church services, I am quite sure most of the clergy would take more interest in them and their ringing. The Vicar in one of the parishes in the East Berks and South Bucks branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild told me some few weeks ago, when refusing us the use of his bells for some ringing, that his experience was that the men who invariably never came to church were the ringers. I might add that the services at this particular church on Sundays are as well attended as any in the district. It has never been my experience to see round ringers handle their bells better than change ringers, or strike more accurately, but rather the reverse.

We all know quite well that the help of the clergy in securing probationary members for the belfry would be much appreciated, and their presence at the practices, quarterly meetings, etc., would be an incentive to the youngsters to try and improve, but we can hardly make comparisons in the ringing of our church bells, to playing cricket or football, as surely our primary motive in ringing is (or ought to be) the love of our Church. Let us strive to persevere steadily under whatever difficulties may present themselves, rather than to be discouraged, because those in authority do not appear to take the amount of interest in our doings which we think it their duty to do.—Yours, etc.,

Iver Heath, Uxbridge.

G. H. GUTTERIDGE.

## HIGH WYCOMBE PEAL BOARD UNVEILING.

The Bishop of Bucks has kindly consented to dedicate the peal tablet recording Stedman Cinques rung at High Wycombe last New Year's Eve, at 2 p.m. on Monday instead of 4, as mentioned last week. The belfry will be open by consent of the Rev. Canon Ridsdale, Rector, from 1 to 5 for touches, when London "unattached" members and visitors will be welcomed by the steeplekeeper. A neighbouring tower will be available for the evening at 6.30, if required.

## SOLDIERS INVITED.

Any ringer stationed at Morfa Camp, Conway, North Wales, will be heartily welcomed at the Parish Church, Llandudno, which is the nearest peal. Practices, Monday, 7.30 to 9 p.m.; Sundays, 10.15 a.m. and 5.45 p.m. If ringers will kindly communicate with R. W. Thompson, bookseller, Mostyn Street, Llandudno, ringing can be arranged.



## HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION'S PRESIDENT.

THE REV. B. H. TYRWHITT DRAKE.

The Hertford County Association have been fortunate in their succession of Presidents, and in the selection of the Rev. Barnard Halsey Tyrwhitt Drake, who has been re-elected this year, they have one who is a keen ringer, and who, had the times been different, would without doubt have done much to further the interests of the Association in the belfries of the county. His first election to office was in 1916, but the call to service as a Chaplain of the Forces prevented him from going about among the towers, and it was the hope that during the coming year Mr. Drake would be able to carry out his great wish to visit all the belfries in the Association that prompted his re-election at Easter.

Born at Great Gaddesden Vicarage, on August 22nd, 1882, the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake was the third son of the Rev. W. T. Tyrwhitt Drake; and it was at Great Gaddesden that he had his first ringing lesson, although his real instruction in the art was received from the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, President of the Cambridge University Guild, when Mr. Drake was at Cambridge in 1901, after being at school at Tyttenhanger Lodge, St.



THE REV. B. H. TYRWHITT DRAKE.

Albans, and Haileybury College. While an Undergraduate at Pembroke College he joined the University Guild, and took part in handbell ringing with the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, F. S. Poole, H. S. T. Richardson and E. H. Lewis. His first peal was of Bob Major at St. Andrew's, Cambridge, on June 17th, 1903, and on October 8th of the same year he rang his first handbell peal. This was also Bob Major and took place at Southwell. Before leaving Cambridge, Mr. Drake took part in peals of Bob Royal and Maximus, Kent Treble Bob Major and Royal and Grandsire Caters in hand and Stedman Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major on tower bells.

Mr. Drake took his B.A. degree in 1904, and was at Wells Theological College 1904-1905. On December 21st of the latter year he was ordained Deacon in Wakefield Cathedral, Priest in the same Cathedral exactly a year later, and was Curate of Almondbury, Huddersfield. He

became M.A. in 1908, and in 1909 went to South Africa to the work of the Railway Mission. Returning to England the following year he became Curate at Hitchin, and in 1912 Curate at Sandy. In 1915 he was given the Vicarage of Thundridge, a church where there are four bells, which it is his great desire to see augmented. Last year the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake, who in 1915 married Miss D. Doncaster, at Ewell, Surrey, took up a Chaplaincy with the Forces, and was stationed first at Clipstone and then at Newark.

His peals number 63, and include the first clerical peal of Double Norwich, at Drayton on September 1st, 1909. They are made up as follows:—

	Tower Bell.	Handbells.
Bob Maximus ... ..	—	1
Bob Royal ... ..	1	2
Kent Treble Bob Royal ... ..	—	2
Stedman Caters ... ..	1	—
Grandsire Caters ... ..	—	2
Bob Major ... ..	5	8
Kent Treble Bob Major ... ..	4	4
Little Bob Major ... ..	—	1
Cambridge Surprise Major ... ..	1	—
Double Norwich Major ... ..	4	—
Oxford Treble Bob Major ... ..	1	—
Stedman Triples ... ..	15	1
Grandsire Triples ... ..	1	—
Minor ... ..	9	—
	42	21

These peals have been rung for the Cambridge University Guild (32); Hertford County Association (7); Bedford County Association (6); Ely Diocesan Association (7); Yorkshire Association (4); Lancashire Association (4); College Youths (2); Midland Counties Association (1).

## THE ABANDONED CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING.

### FRESH ELECTIONS FOR NEXT YEAR.

A circular issued by the Hon. Sec. (the Rev. C. D. P. Davies) gives the following analysis of voting on the question of holding or abandoning the meeting of the Central Council for this year: For abandonment 83, for holding 15—majority for abandonment 68. Card duly signed but no vote recorded 1, reply disqualified 1, no reply received 11. The hon. secretary did not vote, and thus the whole of the 113 members on the Council list are accounted for. After the analysis was published one reply came in for abandonment, bringing the number against holding the meeting to 84, and the majority to 69. It is pointed out that of those who had not replied most were absent on active service.

As the meeting due next year will be the first of the tenth Council, it will be held, in accordance with custom, in the Small Hall of the Church House, Westminster, and affiliated associations will have to make their triennial appointment of representatives before that meeting.

## ILLUSTRATED LECTURES ON BELLS.

### GRAMOPHONE RECORDS.

Dear Sir,—The replies of Messrs. Shires and Ridgway to my letter are welcomed, and I feel sure the information they give will be made use of by others than myself.

Now cannot someone go a step further and tell us if there are any gramophone records illustrating change ringing? I only know of one which consists of an incomplete course of "Grandsire Caters," tapped by Mr. H. Withers on the carillon at Bourneville, but, of course, there may be others.

If there are no others in existence, then I am sure there are most capable bands amongst the College Youths, the Cumberlands, the St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, or the Middlesex Association, who could ring, double-handed, short touches in various methods—Double and Minor, Triples and Major, Caters and Royal, Cinques and Maximus—to illustrate the meanings of these terms and what change ringing is really like.

Nor need they be put to any expense, for there are two or three noted firms, specialising in gramophone records, who would be only too pleased to have the opportunity of recording, with a view to reproduction, such a novelty; for any record reproducing the sounds of bells finds a ready sale amongst the public.—Yours truly,

Bradpole.

T. HERVEY BEAMS.

## 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).—A Meeting will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on May 31st, 1917, for handbell practice, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Christ Church, Bacup, on Saturday, May 26th. Bells ready at 2.30; meeting at 6.30. Subscriptions due. Reports to hand.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Flixton on Whit-Saturday. Bells available during the afternoon and evening. Meeting at 6 o'clock.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The May meeting will be held at Bennington to-morrow, Saturday, May 26th, when the bells will be available during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be held in the Parochial Hall at 6d. each. I should be glad if all those who can will notify me by the morning of the 26th. All ringers welcome, members or non-members.—W. H. Lawrence, District Secretary, Little Munden.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Romford on Whit-Monday. Divine service at 4 p.m. Address by Rev. G. M. Bell, Vicar of Romford. Tea at 5 p.m., to be followed by the annual meeting. Towers open for ringing: Romford, Hornchurch, Dagenham, Shenfield, Little Heath (Brentwood for 20 minutes' touches, 1½ hours in all). Members intending to take tea must send me notice not later than previous Tuesday on account of the difficulties of catering.—H. T. W. Eyre, Hon. Sec., Great Totham Vicarage.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Rothwell on Whit-Monday, May 28th. Bells available at 10 o'clock. Service at 12 noon. Meeting to follow. Committee meeting at 10.30.—Fred Wilford, Gen. Sec., 149, Ashburnham Road, Northampton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—North Forest Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Ashleworth on Whit-Monday. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Short business meeting to follow. All outstanding subscriptions should be now paid.—Jos. Williams, Hon. Sec.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A meeting of the above will be held at Tenterden on Whit-Monday. Bells available from 6 till 9. Several members and friends will also ring at Benenden in the morning from 10 till 12, and at Rolvenden in the afternoon from 2 till 4. All ringing friends will be heartily welcomed at all the towers.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Staines, on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells available from 3.30. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Shenley on Saturday, June 2nd. Service, 3 p.m.; meeting to follow. Owing to difficulty in getting provisions no tea will be provided. Bells (6) available 2 p.m.—W. Sear, Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at East Retford on Saturday, June 2nd. The bells of East Retford (10), West Retford and Ordsall (6) will be at the disposal of ringers from 2 p.m. until 9. Business meeting in Parish Room 3.30. Divine Service 4.20 p.m. in Parish Church. Owing to food restrictions there will be no public tea catered for this year. Every ringer must make his own arrangements. A good attendance is desired.—H. Haigh, Hon. Sec.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next monthly meeting of the above Society will be held at Tong on Saturday, June 2nd, 1917. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting at 7.30 p.m.—Wm. Barton, Hon. Sec., 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Bolsover on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 19, Stanhope Road, Abbeydale Road, Sheffield.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—It has been decided to abandon the Whit-Monday meeting which was to have been held at Bishop Auckland, owing to the excessive railway fares and the food restrictions. The annual meeting, however, will (D.V.) be held as appointed at Sunderland on Saturday, October 27th.—G. T. Potter, 13, Park Parade, Whitley Bay, Northumberland.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—It has been decided by the Committee that in view of present difficulties the Annual Meeting be postponed indefinitely, but that the Master and Secretary be empowered to convene such a meeting at their discretion: all officers to retain their posts until such meeting be held.—F. Ll. Edwards, 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.

## MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

At the annual meeting of the Dudley and District Guild, held on Saturday, March 10th, 1917, it was unanimously decided to erect in the Parish Church, Dudley (the Vicar and wardens having consented to the same), a tablet recording the half-muffled peal of Grandsire Caters rung on Saturday, February 3rd, at St. Thomas's Church, Dudley, to the memory of the late Mr. Samuel Spittle, who had been its ringing master ever since the Guild was formed, and had held other important offices at the Parish Church for upwards of 70 years. It was further decided to appeal to the members of the Guild for subscriptions, and it was thought that many of the late Mr. Spittle's ringing friends and acquaintances would like the opportunity of contributing something towards perpetuating the memory of so devoted and honoured a ringer and church worker. The work has already been put in hand, and subscriptions should be forwarded without delay to the Ringing Master, Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, Staffs, or to the Hon.

Secretary, Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley, who will in due course acknowledge the same in "The Ringing World."

Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland, LL.D., Vicar and President.

Harry Mason, Ringing Master.  
Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec.

#### SITUATIONS VACANT.

WOOD MACHINIST and WOOD WORKERS wanted for Government work; also men for riveting fittings on poles.—Apply, H. E. Wills, Wilton Carriage Co., 107, Waddon New Road, Croydon.

#### HANDBELLS WANTED.

WANTED.—HANDBELLS (secondhand), any notes. Send full particulars to Rev. G. Elwell, The Vicarage, St. George, Bristol.

#### HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

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

#### PRACTICE MEETING AT CROYDON.

On Saturday last, a practice meeting was held at Croydon, and, as is usual at St. Peter's, a good gathering was the result. The ten bells were available during the afternoon and evening, and were kept going to a variety of methods, the ringers including the renowned Mr. William Pye to "Tommy Major," who took part in both tower and handbell ringing. Tea, thoughtfully provided by Mr. H. Wills, was partaken of by nearly 40, at Thornbury's Tea Rooms, and was much appreciated.—Mr. W. A. Alps (the man of few words), on behalf of the visitors, thanked Mr. Wills for his kindness.—This was seconded by Mr. A. J. Perkins, and, needless to say, carried unanimously.—Votes of thanks were accorded to Mr. Dean for making all the arrangements, and to the Vicar for the use of the bells. The tower was then again visited until 8 p.m., the ringers afterwards adjoining to Thornbury's, where a social hour or two with the handbells were pleasantly passed.

#### RINGER'S GOLDEN WEDDING.

On Wednesday, May 16th, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Naunton, of Wrentham, Suffolk, celebrated their golden wedding. Mr. Naunton is, and has been for many years, secretary of the Southwold district of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and he has been Ringing Master at Wrentham Parish Church for upwards of 40 years. It was arranged, in celebration of his golden wedding, to attempt a peal in which he was to have taken part, but owing to the war it had to be postponed, as there are only two other ringers left beside himself at Wrentham to chime the bells for Sunday services. The remainder of the band are serving with the colours, but it is still hoped that the peal will be rung at the first opportunity, and recorded on a board in the belfry. Both Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Naunton are 73 years of age, and the congratulations and good wishes of the Exercise will go out to them.

#### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

HAMMERSMITH.—At St. Paul's Church, on Sunday, April 22nd, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: W. H. Stevens 1, A. Diserens 2, Pte S. Meadows, A.S.O., 3, A. W. Davis 4, H. Cook 5, C. Hunt 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, P. C. Brooks 8.

SELBY, YORKSHIRE.—At Selby Abbey, on Sunday, April 22nd, for evening service, 882 Grandsire Triples: J. W. Hall (longest touch) 1, J. Jackson 2, E. Storr 3, W. A. Hall 4, F. Cryer 5, W. Hinton 6, H. Fairlam (conductor) 7, G. Rippon 8. First touch of this length on the bells since nine members joined the force.

OLDHAM.—On Sunday, April 22nd, at the Parish Church, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, on the occasion of unveiling of a memorial tablet to the late Mrs. A. Broadbent, wife of one of the churchwardens: H. Wright 1, S. Eison 2, S. Stott (conductor) 3, A. Waites 4, M. Newton 5, C. Marsland 6, W. Hodgson 7, J. Garlick 8.

STREATHAM.—At St. Leonard's Church, on Sunday, April 22nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: Lieut. F. J. L. Mitchell 1, J. C. Mitchell 2, E. Horrex 3, Pte I. J. Attwater 4, G. N. Price 5, P. H. Smith 6, L. Attwater (conductor) 7, H. Smith 8. Arranged for Lieut. Mitchell, who was shortly proceeding to France.

NUTFIELD, SURREY.—On Sunday, April 22nd, for evening service, at the Parish Church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 24 mins.: A. Wood 1, F. W. Rice 2, Rifeman J. T. Hogg, of North Shields, 3, W. Claydon 4, G. Bourne 5, F. Hawkins (conductor) 6. Also 120 Kent Treble Bob by the same band.

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TREBLE BOB. Part I. 1s. 6d.; second ed.; with appendix; 100 closely printed pages. Part II, suited for Conductors only; very scarce; 2s. 1½d.; 236 pages.

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Guildford, and Published by Messrs. Wm. Dawson & Sons  
LTD. Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.

# THE RINGING WORLD

No. 324. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, JUNE 1st, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

## 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, 1918.  
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.

### WARTIME LEEWAY.

The manner in which ringing societies generally are suffering through the war was reflected in the annual report, presented on Monday to the members of the Essex Association, who met at Romford. During the year there was a decrease of 63 in the membership, which follows upon a falling off of 64 in the year 1915. This shrinkage is not due to the fact that 156 ringers from the affiliated towers are serving in the Forces of the Crown—a most creditable record—but, we presume, principally to the lapses of those left at home, and which the stress of the present time prevents being made good by the bringing in of new members, owing to the extremely limited facilities for teaching beginners. Those ringers who are serving their country are retained in membership without the payment of their annual subscriptions, and the net loss in numbers is but an illustration of the difficulty which the various organisations have of keeping within the fold that section of ringers who are only, what one may term, of the half-hearted type. Unless somebody else is continually doing something to keep up their interest they soon get slack, and, by falling into arrears, automatically drop out of their association.

This is always regrettable, but it is one of the difficulties which associations can never get rid of. In normal times the lapses from this cause are not so numerous, because there are more opportunities of keeping in touch with members and sustaining their interest, as well as of making up the wastage by new enlistments. In wartime, however, there is a double handicap. There is less time and fewer chances of keeping the indifferent up to the mark, and there is less opportunity of filling the gaps. In the year before the war the Essex Association made an increase of 62 members, but since that time there has been a net decrease of 132, although the number of towers affiliated remains about the same.

To a large extent, we imagine, the experience of the Essex Association is but the experience of others; and it behoves those who are still left at home, and who have the interests of their ringing organisations at heart, to consider how best they may make up the leeway when peace is again restored. It is a matter to which attention should be turned without delay, for the sooner plans are laid, the better. In the case of Essex, although there was a falling off in receipts, careful management has enabled the balance in hand to be increased, in addition to carrying a sum to the reserve fund, and the report expresses the hope that opportunity will arise after the war to utilise the accrued sum for propagation work. This decision is wise and timely, and other organisations would do well so to arrange their finances that, when the moment arrives, they will be able to begin operations, instead of having to lament delay for lack of funds.

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Broomfield Vicarage,  
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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 PEAL.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD  
On Whit-Monday, May 28, 1917, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,  
AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,  
**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

THURSTANS' ONE-PART.

ISAAC PURSER ... .. Treble	WILLIAM FISHER ... .. 5
JAMES GEORGE ... .. 2	WILLIAM A. COOPER ... .. 6
*EDWARD F. MITCHELL ... 3	HERBERT KNIGHT ... .. 7
DANIEL JONES ... .. 4	BENJAMIN GOUGH ... .. Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT KNIGHT.

\* First peal with a bob bell. Rung on the occasion of the Whitsun Festival. This was the first peal of Triples on the bells, and was rung after meeting short for Caters. The indefatigable Mr. James George, who arrived to listen to the peal, kindly took a rope.

## SIX BELL PEAL.

LANGPORT, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.  
On Whit-Monday, May 28, 1917, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,  
**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

Tenor 16 cwt.

*STAFF-SERGT. G. R. MILLS... Treble	*JAMES DOUGHERTY ... 4
TOM W. CREED ... .. 2	*FREDERICK LOCKE... .. 5
THOMAS J. LLOYD ... .. 3	*ALBERT CASE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by T. J. LLOYD.

\* First peal. Rung as a farewell to A. Case, who is shortly joining up, on attaining his 18th year. The ringers of 4th and 5th are in their 50th year.

## HANDBELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sunday, May 20, 1917, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,  
AT 189, CHAPTER ROAD, WILLESDEN GREEN, N.W.,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

CARTER'S ODD BOB ONE-PART COMPOSITION. Size 14 in D.

HERBERT LANGDON... .. 1—2	CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... 5—6
MRS. FRANK I. HAIRS ... 3—4	CHARLES H. HORTON ... 7—8

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

Umpire: J. BRUCE WILLIAMSON.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tuesday, May 22, 1917, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,  
IN THE BELFRY OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5005 CHANCES;**

Tenor, 17 size in B flat.

FRANK W. PERRENS ... .. 1—2	JAMES E. GROVES ... .. 7—8
THOMAS RUSSAM... .. 3—4	GEORGE F. SWANN ... .. 9—10
ALBERT WALKER ... .. 5—6	*JAMES GEORGE... .. 11—12

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Referee: WILLIAM KENT.

The figures of the peal, believed to be the first composed and rung on this plan, will be found on another page.

## SERVICE RINGERS WELCOME.

Sergt. B. Thompson, 6th (Res.) Battalion Rifle Brigade, writes: "It may perhaps be of interest to any ringers now serving in His Majesty's forces in the Isle of Sheppey, that ringing takes place at Queenborough (six bells), on Tuesday evenings, 7.45 p.m. till 9 p.m., and for evening service on Sundays at 5.30 p.m. Queenborough is easy of access from Sheerness by frequent bus service."

## A DWINDLING BAND.

The Southover Guild, at Lewes, Sussex, has been further depleted by Mr. G. Richardson, who has been a ringer for nearly twenty years, being called to the colours. There are ten bells; only six of the band (including three ladies) are left. Pte Richardson is in the A.S.C., and stationed at Park Royal.



GLANDUDNO, N. WALES.—On April 29th, for evening service, at the Parish Church, 720 Gransire Doubles: \*T. Lodge 1. T. Barrow 2. A.W. Brighton (London), conductor 3. \*J. Pritchard 4. R. W. Thompson 5. \*W. Dunn 6. \*First 720.—On Sunday, May 6th, for morning service, 600 Gransire Doubles: T. Barrow 1. A. W. Brighton 2. T. King 3. J. Pritchard 4. R. W. Thompson (conductor) 5. W. Dunn 6: and for evening service, several touches of Gransire Triples: T. Barrow 1. A. W. Brighton 2. Sapper A. Mitchellmore, R.E.. 3. J. Pritchard 4. S. Cullington 5. Sapper J. Thorpe, R.E., 6. R. W. Thompson 7. Sapper W. H. Mills, R.E.. 8. T. King, T. Lodge and Sapper J. Clark, R.E., also took part; conducted by A. W. Brighton.

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LONDON, E.**



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

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION. WORK IN ANOTHER YEAR OF WAR.

The annual meeting of the Essex Association at Romford, on Monday, was, in view of the prevailing conditions, a very successful gathering. Appended are extracts from the report presented by the Master (Mr. C. H. Howard), and they illustrate some of the difficulties under which work is now carried on:—

The report for the past year reflects the continued effect of the great war upon ringing, and our Association has suffered in common with all others in the country. The demand for men for the forces has led to a further depletion in our numbers, the total standing at 774, showing a decrease of 63 in the year, compared with 64 in the previous year. It is worthy of note that there are now 156 members serving in the army, and in addition ten have made the supreme sacrifice. This record is distinctly creditable to the Association, and it should prove an incentive to those members who from reasons of age or otherwise are permitted to remain at home to continue their efforts unselfishly to keep ringing alive in the diocese, ready for the time when we hope to welcome home again our brave sailor and soldier ringers who have been serving.

It is a matter of regret that it has not been possible to do more active work in the past year, but a great number of those who have remained at home have patriotically taken up work of national importance, which has prevented them devoting so much time to the practice of the art and instructing beginners as they would otherwise have desired.

We may congratulate ourselves that with a depleted membership and a decreased income, due to the members on active service remaining on the books without paying subscriptions, that the financial report shows an increased balance in hand. This position has been attained through the careful management of the officers, and by the general economy which has been practised. The year commenced with a balance of £17 6s. 11d., and after meeting all expenses and placing £5 to the reserve fund, the balance standing to our credit in general account amounts to £18 7s. 11d. We hope that the opportunity will arise after the war to utilise the accrued balance for the purpose of propagating our work.

It is with regret that I have to report the death during the year of the Rev. H. A. Cockey, M.A., who was for several years the secretary to the Association, and who by his active and practical interest in ringing took a very prominent part in placing the Association upon a permanent basis. He succeeded the Rev. J. B. Seaman who was the first secretary, and himself held office till 1886, when he removed to the West of England. During all the years since he went from Essex he never lost interest in our Association and work, very frequently attended our meetings, and was present at the annual meeting in 1915 at Chelmsford, where the warm reception he received testified to the high esteem in which he was held by the members, some of whom had known him in bygone years, and others had heard of his work for ringing in Essex. The report of his death and funeral, as published in the "Ringing World," showed that in the West of England he had gained the esteem and respect of all who knew him.

The only work of restoration to record is the rehangings and retuning of the ring of eight at Writtle. Although the order was placed in 1916, the firm of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, who were entrusted with the work, were unable through pressure of Government orders to execute it before Easter of the present year. This delay was unavoidable, but the parishioners of Writtle have now the satisfaction of hearing their bells again greatly improved in tone, and the "go" of them is excellent. Only two peals have been recorded during the year, both at Widford, and were rung half-muffled in honour of fallen heroes. Mr. H. F. Cooper conducted upon each occasion. The thanks of the Association are due to the officers for their unflinching efforts to maintain the work during these trying times.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last, several members of the Midland Counties Association from Beeston, Cotgrave, Daybrook, Nottingham, Orston, and Radcliffe-on-Trent, spent a very pleasant afternoon at East Bridgford. Some nice touches in various methods were rung on the six bells, the most noteworthy being a 720 of Kent Treble Bob, in which the Rector rang his first 720 in the method, the ringers standing as follows: W. E. White, Cotgrave (conductor), 1, Rev. A. D. Hill, East Bridgford, 2, Rev. C. J. Sturton, Orston, 3, A. Barratt, Daybrook, 4, C. J. Dicken, Beeston, 5, W. C. Hunt, Beeston, 6; and 120 of Grandsire Doubles for one who liked to hear the tenor behind.

Mr. Frank Spencer, of Radcliffe-on-Trent, was elected a member of the Association.

The visitors all join in thanking the Rector for his kind welcome. Providing arrangements can be made, the next afternoon's ringing will be at Radcliffe-on-Trent, on Saturday, June 9th.

**CHESTERFIELD.**—Midland Counties Association.—On Sunday, May 13th, for evening service, 1264 Bob Major, in 47 mins.: W. J. Thyng 1, W. Allwood 2, F. Jacobs 3, G. Hollis 4, Pte F. E. Smith (A.S.C.) 5, A. Knights (conductor) 6, T. W. Gore 7, G. A. Thompson 8.

## BELLS OF IRISH CHURCHES.

### ST. AUDOEN'S, HIGH STREET, DUBLIN.

By C. MURRAY.

A visit to St. Audoen's Church produces a feeling of indescribable sadness. Everything reminds one of departed greatness. Of a noble church, divided in the centre by a row of Gothic arches, three-fourths is unroofed and in a state of decay. One sees monuments from which all traces of inscription have faded. In one the kneeling figures are falling to pieces. The brass of one monument has been removed from its matrix. In this portion of the church is seen a marble tablet to the memory of William Molyneux, the friend of Locke, and immediately the philosopher's pathetic words describing the decay of human memory are recalled: "... The ideas as well as children of our youth often die before us; and our minds represent to us those tombs to which we are approaching: where, though the brass and marble remain, yet the inscriptions are effaced by time, and the imagery moulders away." The memorial is not the original monument. It was erected in 1869 to replace another which was lost.

The church is named after a Norman Saint, Ouen, from the Latinised form of which the present name is derived. He was an Archbishop of Rouen, where a church called after him is to be seen.

One-fourth of the church has been kept for public worship. This has been done by filling up the arches with brick and building a brick wall across part of the centre.

At the western end is the tower. It is not considered safe for ringing, and, owing to damage done by a storm, the four picturesque pinnacles at its corners have recently been removed.

There is a ring of six bells—very interesting bells, too, as their inscriptions show—but, alas! there are no ringers. There have been none for many years. Ropes and fittings are in position, but everything betokens desertion and loneliness. And what is most remarkable is that one of the bells was recast as late as 1880.

The inscriptions in Roman capitals on the treble, 2nd and tenor, and in beautiful Lombardic capitals on the other bells, are—

Treble. The Rev. Thomas Craddock, Prebendary.  
Lewis Hodgson, Thos. Hackett, Churchwardens, 1790.  
(This inscription is cut into the bell.)

II. D.O.M.  
Rev. Alexander Leeper, D.D., Prebendary and Canon.  
Rev. Christopher T. Macready, M.A., Curate Assistant.

John W. Queale } Churchwardens.  
George F. Wright }  
J. Murphy, Founder, Dublin, 1880.

III. + CAMPANA : SANCTI : ADOENI.

IV. + CAMPANA : BEATE : MARIE : VIRGINIS.

V. (Four large fleurs-de-lys alternate with four smaller ones, then follows) ✠ AN : DOMINI : Mo : CCCCo : XXo : IIIo :  
(This is on the shoulder of the bell.)

Beneath we read—

+ IHC + CAMPANA : SANCTE : TRINITATIS : ET :  
OMNIUM : SANCTORUM :

VI. D.O.M.  
Rev. Alexander Leeper, D.D., Prebendary.  
Rev. Edmund Childs, A.B., Curate Assistant.  
M. B. Lacey, Esq. } Churchwardens.  
G. F. Wright, Esq. }

J. Murphy, Founder, Dublin, 1864.

As the lettering on the 3rd, 4th and 5th is of the same type, it is probable that they were all cast in the same year, 1423, the date given on the 5th. The fact that they are

dedicated to the saint after whom the church is named, the Virgin Mary and the Holy Trinity respectively, supports this conjecture—old rings of three bells being thus named elsewhere.

An old record says that one of the six bells had the inscription—

Soli Deo Detur Gloria, 1628.

Daniel Welde, Verger and Sexton of Christ Church.

This must have been a bell which has been recast. The keeping of the old inscription was often neglected in cases like this.

Some of the bells must have been frequently recast. We read in the church records—

1654. Two bells are newly cast and hung in the steeple.

1694. Henry Lord Viscount Sydney, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, gives to the Church Wardens and parishioners 25cwt. of brass metal for the founding of a bell for the use of the church. The metal was cast into two bells, one tenor and one treble, by Major Matthew Paris.

1732. A bell is recast.

1841. Stand of six bells put into thorough repair.

(Chiefly by the energy of the Rev. Thomas Scott.)

Perhaps some time in the future High Street may again become the High Street of the city, and some of its former greatness be restored to St. Audoen's, but things do not seem to point in this direction.

### £66 FOR HANDBELLS.

The disposal of the peal of eighteen handbells, which was the property of the late Mr. A. W. Grimes, for the benefit of the widow and six young children, has had a splendid financial result. No fewer than 5,100 tickets were disposed of at 3d. each, and the total amount raised was £64 14s. The expenses were only £3 18s. 8d., with the result that a net amount of £60 15s. 4d. was realised. The draw, which has had so successful a termination, was organised by Mr. W. Pye, the Master of the Middlesex County Association, who had the active assistance of the officials of other London Societies with which the late Mr. Grimes was connected, and ringers throughout the country gave their hearty co-operation. The balance shows £63 15s. received from the disposal of 5,100 tickets; donations of 10s. from Corpl. A. R. Macdonald; 5s. from Mr. A. A. Hughes; and 4s. from the Dorking (Surrey) ringers, per Mr. E. E. Dodd, making up, as already mentioned, a total of £64 14s. The sum of £2 19s. 6d. was expended in printing, and 19s. 2d. in postages, leaving the sum, to be handed to the widow and family of £60 15s. 4d. Mr. Pye asks us to state that he tenders his sincere thanks to all those gentlemen, too numerous to mention, who assisted in the sale of tickets, as, needless to say, without their help, the draw could not have been a success.

Since the above was written a further sum of 30s. has been received from Rifleman B. Prewett, making the total received £66 4s., and the net result £62 5s. 4d.

### ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE CELEBRATION.

On May 24th, Empire Day was celebrated at Ashton-under-Lyne. After the Royal Proclamation had been read by his Worship the Mayor to a large concourse of people, including the school children of the borough, the band of the 1st Manchester Regiment, whose headquarters are at Ashton-under-Lyne, gave selections of music. The National Anthem was sung by the people. The bells of St. Peter's Church were rung during the evening, and were "fired" in honour of the day. The following took part in a 504 of Grandsire Triples: Mrs. Wolstencroft 1, Miss Ethel Grimshaw (first 504) 2, J. W. Holme 3, J. Harrison 4, Miss Sarah Holt 5, Pte H. Palmer 6, W. Wolstencroft (conductor) 7, J. Rolls 8.

For service, on Whit-Sunday, as well as in honour of the coming of age of Miss Ada Wolstencroft. 700 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. Wolstencroft 1, Pte H. Palmer 2, J. W. Holme 3, Miss A. Wolstencroft 4, Miss S. Holt 5, Miss M. E. Thorp 6, W. W. Wolstencroft (conductor) 7, J. Rolls 8; also 336, with Miss E. Grimshaw 2, Miss E. Williams 3, Miss E. Crabtree 4, J. Harrison 6, the rest as before.

WINCHESTER.—Winchester Guild.—Recently, at the Cathedral, for evening service 504 Grandsire Caters: Driver J. H. Brittan (R.G.A.) 1, Pte Lampard (A.P.C.) 2, C. Russell 3, F. Smith 4, G. Prideaux 5, J. W. Elkins 6, Pte W. Wyatt (Queen's) 7, Bomb. S. Hector (R.G.A.) 8, W. C. Lampard (conductor) 9, Bandsman H. Borley (Devons) 10. Also 504 Grandsire Triples: W. C. Lampard 1, Driver J. H. Brittan 2, Pte R. Snow (Devons) 3, Bandsman H. Borley 4, Pte W. Wyatt 5, Gnr. H. Head (R.G.A.) 6, Bomb. S. Hector (R.G.A.), conductor, 7, Pte W. H. Prophet (Devons) 8.



## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**MALVERN LINK, WORCESTERSHIRE.**—On Feb. 11th, for evening service, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1280 changes), from Holt's Original, in 46 mins.: E. W. Lubbock (H.M.S. Hibernia) 1, J. Morris (aged 70) 2, R. G. Knowles 3, F. Stanton 4, W. Ranford 5, F. Bryan 6, C. Camm 7, A. W. Brighton (London), conductor, 8. Also touches of Bob Major, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, in which E. E. Barber and A. Richings took part.

**ALL SAINTS', NORTHAMPTON.**—On Sunday, Feb. 25th, a quarter-peal of Superlative Surprise Major (1280 changes): H. Rainbow 1, A. P. Hensman 2, T. Law 3, F. Hopper 4, J. Hensman 5, H. Blundell 6, W. Farey 7, W. J. Allen (conductor) 8; also rung as a birthday compliment to H. Blundell, and a farewell to W. J. Allen, who was called up under the Derby Scheme.

**MITCHAM, SURREY.**—On Sunday, April 22nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: J. A. Lambert 1, J. D. Drewett 2, W. H. Joiner 3, C. W. R. Grimwood 4, C. Bance 5, A. Calver 6, W. S. Smith (conductor) 7, J. Currell 8.

**OXHEY.**—On April 25th, at St. Matthew's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles: \*B. Dell 1, \*H. Dix 2, C. Leman 3, \*F. Codling 4, F. W. Brinklow (conductor) 5, \*C. Kayser 6. \*1st quarter-peal.

**ST. ALBANS.**—On April 28th, at the Cathedral, as a ringers' tribute to the memory of the late Mr. Churchwarden T. Kent (who for over 40 years had been a churchwarden of the Abbey), a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, half-muffled, in 58 mins.: F. Whiteman 1, G. W. Cartmel 2, Corp'l. A. G. Arnell 3, Serg't. F. N. Allwater 4, E. Whitbread 5, H. Goodenough 6, F. Jeffs 7, T. Seymour 8.

**HECKINGTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.**—At St. Andrew's Church, on Saturday, April 28th, 504 Stedman Triples and 504 Grandsire Triples, the following taking part: J. H. Clark, W. Dickinson, C. Ward, W. Wood, H. P. Nash, F. I. Hairs (R.N.A.S.), C. W. Smith (A.M.C.), L. Batting (P.O.), W. Townsend. At St. John's Church, Great Hale, touches of Bob Minor, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, were brought round. Specially arranged for the last named ringers, who were present from Cranwell.

**SHIPLEY.**—Yorkshire Association.—At the Parish Church, for afternoon service, on the occasion of the Munition Workers Church Parade, on April 29th, 12802 Kent Treble Bob Major: H. Hutly 1, J. Broadley 2, A. Gill 3, W. Joyce 4, H. Haigh (longest length in the method) 5, T. B. Kendall (conductor) 6, J. A. Ross 7, G. A. Nettleton 8. — For evening service, 1260 Grandsire Triples: J. Joyce 1, G. A. Nettleton 2, T. B. Kendall (conductor) 3, W. Joyce 4, H. Haigh (longest in the method) 5, J. Broadley 6, J. A. Ross 7, H. Hutly 8. — On Sunday, May 13th, for evening service, 1040 Bob Major: H. Hutly 1, J. A. Ross 2, T. B. Kendall 3, W. Joyce 4, H. Haigh (longest length in the method) 5, J. Joyce 6, J. Broadley (conductor) 7, G. A. Nettleton 8. — On Sunday, May 20th, for the anniversary services, 672 Grandsire Triples: J. Joyce 1, G. A. Nettleton 2, W. Waland 3, W. Joyce 4, H. Haigh 5, T. B. Kendall (conductor) 6, J. Broadley 7, H. Hutly 8. For evening service, 1280 Kent Treble Bob Major: H. Hutly 1, J. A. Ross 2, T. B. Kendall (conductor) 3, W. Joyce 4, H. Haigh 5, J. Joyce 6, J. Broadley 7, G. A. Nettleton 8.

**WORCESTER.**—On Sunday, April 29th, at St. Helen's Church, Worcester, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples: W. Powell 1, E. E. Barber 2, J. Bretell 3, C. Jones 4, W. Ranford 5, L. Longuey (conductor) 6, R. G. Knowles 7, J. H. Hill 8.

**NUNEATON.**—On Sunday, April 29th, for evening service, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: H. Argyle 1, H. J. Balcombe 2, J. Clarke, junr., 3, W. Horton 4, T. W. Chapman 5, D. H. Argyle (conductor) 6, J. Clarke, senr., 7, J. Ballard 8. This was taken from Mr. J. O. Lancashire's peal (No. 820 in the Midland Counties report), and contains 40 Singles and 70 Bobs, and has 6—7 at home every course end.

**CROYDON, SURREY.**—On Sunday, April 29th, at 135, Brighton Road, on handbells, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): W. Hewitt 1—2, A. J. Perkins (composer and conductor) 3—4, W. S. Wise 5—6, Joe Sykes 7—8. This quarter is in three parts of 30 leads each, and each one called differently. It was Mr. Hewitt's first quarter "in hand," and Mr. Sykes' first of Grandsire Triples.

**LLANDAFF.**—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—At the Cathedral, on April 29th, for evening service, 1280 Bob Major, in 48 mins.: S. Dawe 1, J. Harris 2, W. Bolton 3, W. Biss 4, T. Woods 5, F. Chamberlain 6, W. Coombes (conductor) 7, J. Aldridge 8.

**LONDON.**—For evening service, at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, on April 29th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins.: C. Kennedy 1, T. Taffender (conductor) 2, A. Diserens 3, W. A. Alps 4, J. B. Williamson 5, J. Milner 6, A. Harris 7, G. L. Dorrington 8.

**BOLTON.**—On Sunday, April 29th, at the Parish Church, for afternoon service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 43 mins.: G. Pincott 1, T. Barlow 2, T. B. Worsley 3, W. H. Passmore 4, J. Lowe (conductor) 5, W. Pennington 6, J. Ridyard 7, P. Nuttall 8.

**WESTON FAVELL, NORTHANTS.**—On Saturday, May 5th, 720 Grandsire Doubles: Miss Lily Law 1, F. Rollings 2, W. T. Law 3, F. J. Lancaster 4, T. Law (conductor) 5. Rung as a birthday compliment to W. T. Law, on attaining his majority.

## NOTICES.

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

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Staines, on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells available from 3.30. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Shenley on Saturday, June 2nd. Service, 3 p.m.; meeting to follow. Owing to difficulty in getting provisions no tea will be provided. Bells (6) available 2 p.m.—W. Sear, Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

**NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.**—The annual general meeting will be held at East Retford on Saturday, June 2nd. The bells of East Retford (10), West Retford and Ordsall (6) will be at the disposal of ringers from 2 p.m. until 9. Business meeting in Parish Room 3.30. Divine Service 4.20 p.m. in Parish Church. Owing to food restrictions there will be no public tea catered for this year. Every ringer must make his own arrangements. A good attendance is desired.—H. Haigh, Hon. Sec.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held at Bolsover on Saturday, June 2nd. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 19, Stanhope Road, Abbeydale Road, Sheffield.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on June 5th and 19th, and on the 14th and 28th for handbell practice—all at 8 p.m. Also at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Sunday the 10th, at 6 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Slimbridge on Saturday, June 9th. Bells (6) available during the afternoon and evening. Visitors welcomed.—W. A. Lewis, Branch Hon. Sec., Ham, Berkeley, Gloucester.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late St. James' Society) Est. 1824.—The next meeting will be held at the Church of all Saints, Isleworth, on Saturday, June 9th. Ringing from 3 to 9 p.m. Short business meeting at the "London Apprentice," opposite the Church, at 6 p.m., followed by tea at 8d. per head to those who notify me not later than Wednesday, 6th June.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec., 10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate, E.C. 2.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Michael's Church, Blackburn on Saturday, June 16th, 1917. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

**HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting and 8 bell contest will be held at Heptonstall on Saturday, June 16th, 1917. Ballot for order of ringing at 3 p.m. in the school. Entries for contest to be sent to me not later than Monday, June 11th.—F. Salmons, Sec., 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Nottingham District.—Mr. Thomas H. Kirkby, 7, Selkirk Street, Corrington, Nottingham, has been appointed Local Hon. Secretary. It is hoped that every encouragement will be given him, so that the work connected with the office may be successfully carried on to the mutual benefit of the members and the Association. The General Hon. Sec. and Treasurer will be pleased if all outstanding subscriptions are paid to Mr. Kirkby as early as possible.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS.**—Mrs. Frank I. Hairs has removed to 189, Chapter Road, Willesden Green, N.W. 2.

**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.

#### IN MEMORIAM.

In affectionate remembrance of Ernest E. Huntley, of Bushey, late President of the Hertfordshire Association of Changeringers, founder and for 21 years Master of the Bushey Society, who died 3rd June, 1915.

#### MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

At the annual meeting of the Dudley and District Guild, held on Saturday, March 10th, 1917, it was unanimously decided to erect in the Parish Church, Dudley (the Vicar and wardens having consented to the same), a tablet recording the half-muffled peal of Grandsire Caters rung on Saturday, February 3rd, at St. Thomas's Church, Dudley, to the memory of the late Mr. Samuel Spittle, who had been its ringing master ever since the Guild was formed, and had held other important offices at the Parish Church for upwards of 70 years. It was further decided to appeal to the members of the Guild for subscriptions, and it was thought that many of the late Mr. Spittle's ringing friends and acquaintances would like the opportunity of contributing something towards perpetuating the memory of so devoted and honoured a ringer and church worker. The work has already been put in hand, and subscriptions should be forwarded without delay to the Ringing Master, Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, Staffs, or to the Hon. Secretary, Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley, who will in due course acknowledge the same in "The Ringing World."

Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland, LL.D., Vicar and President.

Harry Mason, Ringing Master.  
Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec.

#### SITUATIONS VACANT.

**WOOD MACHINIST and WOOD WORKERS** wanted for Government work; also men for riveting fittings on poles.—Apply, H. E. Wills, Wilton Carriage Co., 107, Waddon New Road, Croydon.

#### HANDBELLS WANTED.

**WANTED.**—HANDBELLS (secondhand), any notes. Send full particulars to Rev. G. Elwell, The Vicarage, St. George, Bristol.

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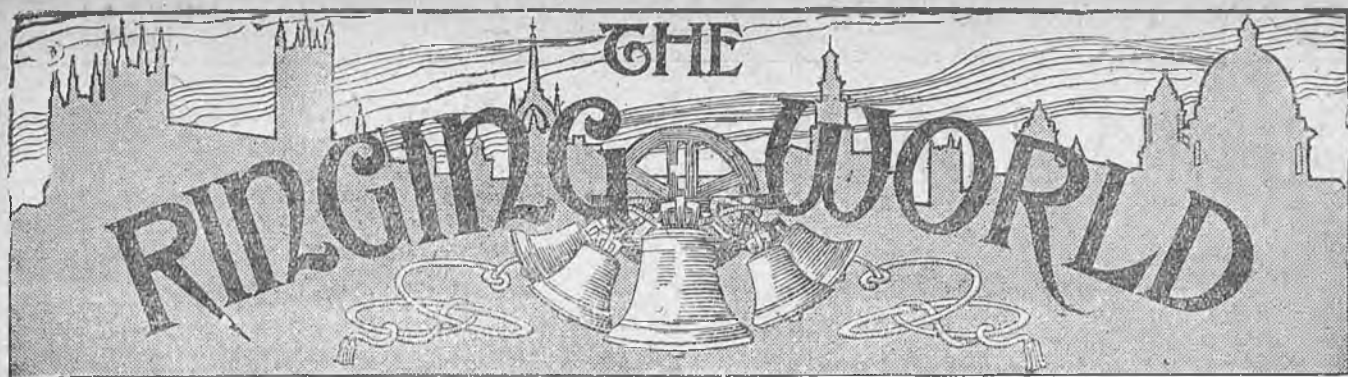
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LTD., Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.





No. 325. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, JUNE 8th, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

# GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.  
BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



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

WOLFRUN 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

### AN ABANDONED MEETING.

Following the action which has been taken by some of the other ringing organisations, the Committee of the Sussex Association has decided to abandon the annual meeting this year; but the decision has aroused a strong protest among the members of the Central Division, who have not only recorded their feelings in a resolution and suggested that the meeting should be held on August Bank Holiday, but have resolved to withhold the district balance, which should be passed over to the Association's Central Fund, pending the issue of the notice calling the meeting. Whether, in face of this action, the Committee will continue in their decision remains to be seen. At the moment we have only one side of the argument before us, but on the face of it there appear to be the makings of a domestic storm in Sussex.

War-time conditions upset many preconceived notions, and provide unforeseen difficulties, but we doubt whether this justifies committees in setting aside rules without consulting the members. Last year the members decided that this year they would hold their annual meeting at Brighton, and the Committee, in cancelling that arrangement and overriding the rule which provides for an annual meeting to be held in April or May, seem to have misjudged the feeling of the members on the subject.

Strictly, we suppose, it is questionable whether the officers of the Association, other than the members of the committee who are elected triennially, can remain in office without re-election; and, in the absence of any vote from the members, we can, at any rate, see difficulties ahead in regard to the future representation of Sussex on the Central Council—a question which was warmly discussed last year and adjourned for twelve months. A new Council has now to be elected, and, as those who served in the last triennial period have gone out of office, Sussex will be without representation when next the Council meet, unless special steps are taken to appoint delegates. In view of the feeling on this subject in the county, we doubt if the Committee would care to take the responsibility of sending members to the next Council meeting without consulting the desire of the Association. One of the difficulties of the present situation is that district meetings are largely suspended in Sussex, and opportunities of taking the opinion of members are thus more limited. However, in view of the protest of the Central Division, it is unlikely the Committee will fail to meet the wishes so strongly expressed, and in due course, we have little doubt, we shall hear that Sussex is to have its annual meeting after all. In any case, we imagine, it is within the power of the members to call a special meeting at which they can transact any business of which formal notice is given.

# 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 write 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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## EIGHT BELL PEAL.

TYLDESLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, June 2, 1917, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the PARISH CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt., in G.

TITUS BARLOW, SENR. ... Treble	HARRY ALLRED ... 5
JAMES ALLRED ... 2	TOMAS B. WORSLEY ... 6
BENJAMIN ALLRED ... 3	HERBERT ALLRED ... 7
HENRY SMITH ... 4	ROBERT ALLRED ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN R. PRITCHARD, and  
Conducted by ROBERT ALLRED.

\* First peal in the method. Rung, by permission of the Vicar (the Rev. J. Lund, M.A.), to celebrate the conductor's thirty years' service as a ringer of this parish, and also as a compliment on the coming-of-age of his only daughter.

## SIX BELL PEAL.

DUSTON, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, June 2, 1917, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,

At the CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Double Court, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 8½ cwt

JOHN W. METHERELL ... Treble	WILLIAM ROGERS ... 4
FRED WILFORD ... 2	FRANK ROLLINGS ... 5
SIDNEY J. LAWRENCE ... 3	FRED HOPPER ... Tenor

Conducted by FRED HOPPER.

Rung in honour of King George's birthday.

## THE KING'S BIRTHDAY.

The following were among the touches rung to celebrate the King's birthday, which fell on Sunday last.

DEPTFORD, KENT.—At St. John's Church, on Sunday, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 39 mins.: E. B. Crowder 1, F. W. Richardson 2, Alf. Bennington 3, T. Easterby 4, E. J. Pannett 5, J. Law 6, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 7, Arch. Bennington 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 41 mins.: Alf. Bennington 1, F. W. Richardson (conductor) 2, E. J. Pannett 3, T. Easterby 4, Pto W. E. Mauden, A.S.C. (Framlingham) 5, Pto E. Mounter, A.S.C. (Curry Rivel) 6, W. J. Jeffries 7, Arch. Bennington 8.

NORTH STONEHAM, HANTS.—On Sunday, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: W. Chambers 1, W. Edwards 2, W. Rowe 3, C. Fray 4, W. H. George (conductor) 5, W. T. Tucker 6.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: J. Huddleston 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss E. M. Stuart (first 720 with a bob bell) 4, T. R. Jackson (conductor) 5, T. Stuart 6, J. Burrows 8 (cover). For evening service, 720 Bob Minor: F. Burrows 1, J. Huddleston 2, T. Watson (conductor) 3, T. Stuart 4, T. R. Jackson 5, W. S. Forshaw 6, W. H. Dennison 8 (cover).

HERSHAM, SURREY.—On Sunday, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: G. Edser, senr., 1, W. Shepherd (conductor) 2, J. Emery 3, P. L. Miles (Kensington) 4, A. Woodrow 5, F. Shepherd, senr., 6, F. J. Shepherd 7, R. J. Polley 8. Also rung as a farewell to Sapper W. Woodrow, who is shortly leaving for foreign service.

ACTON.—On Sunday, 672 Bob Major: A. Smith 1, W. Lidbetter 2, J. W. Fruin 3, C. Edwards 4, F. Skevington 5, W. Lawrence 6, R. Holloway (conductor) 7, C. Hunt 8.

LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.—On Sunday, for morning service, 180 Oxford Bob Minor: W. Greenaway 1, B. Miller 2, S. Game 3, F. Williams 4, W. H. Lawrence 5, Pto E. A. Overall 6. For evening service, 720 Doubles Oxford: S. Game 1, F. Williams 2, Pto E. A. Overall (Buffs) 3, B. Patmore 4, N. Patmore 5, W. H. Lawrence (conductor) 6.

WEST EALING.—On Sunday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins.: C. Edwards 1, E. Vicary 2, W. Emmett 3, W. Lawrence 4, W. W. Worthington (Richmond) 5, R. Holloway (conductor) 6, A. Harding 7, A. E. Smith 8.—On May 26th, in honour of the anniversary of the birthday of Her Majesty the Queen, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung by: Miss Edith Jones, Messrs. T. Beadle, G. M. Kilby, R. Holloway, E. Harris, A. Harding, C. Edwards, C. Brown, and W. Lawrence.

## BELLS AND BELFRY REFORM.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In answer to Mr. Player's interesting letter, I will, with your permission, make a few remarks. First of all, on the question of fact, the control of the church bells is vested in the incumbent, with the exception that he cannot forbid their use to call the people to worship for Sunday services.

Now, as to some of the other questions raised by your correspondent, may I venture to set against his three years' experience as churchwarden my own 34 years' experience as a ringer, six of those as a layman? I think Mr. Player's experience of the clergy must be rather exceptional—it is certainly not universal. In this neighbourhood, for instance, two of us are ringers, and as district secretary of the local Diocesan Association, I have found that, without exception, where there are bells, the clergy are interested in their ringers, and anxious to do all they can for their advancement. If Mr. Player will pursue his investigations a little further, I think he will find that the real enemies of ringing are not the clergy, but people who are hostile to the church, and often to every form of religion and worship. It is against these that the clergy often have to defend their ringers. I know the Vicar of a prominent town in Kent (not very far from Ashford), who has to deal with many complaints of this nature, but, though not a ringer himself, he manfully stands up for the Exercise—so the ringing goes merrily on, while the care of responsibility falls on the Vicar in his study.

To show the difficulties of the clergy in this matter, a few years ago I asked for the use of a tower in a country town in this neighbourhood for a district meeting of the Ringers' Association—here, also, as in the case mentioned above, is a low tower right on the street. The incumbent replied, "Certainly, but please not another peal, or I shall be murdered!"

I think, if Mr. Player will go back a little in the history of belfry reform, he will find that the movement certainly did originate with the clergy, as one of the results of the "Tractarian Movement," although, of course, they could have effected but little without the loyal co-operation of ringers as a whole. There are, of course, clergy and clergy, and ringers and ringers, and it is impossible to generalise beyond certain limits.

Oh, why does your good correspondent suppose that Eucharistic worship is antagonistic to ringing? Is it necessary to neglect the East End of the Church in order to have a case for the West End? I should like, if possible, to disabuse his mind of this fallacious idea. Take, e.g., the case of our church here: we have vestments, lights, and choral eucharists on festivals, but I doubt whether more interest could be taken in the ringers anywhere. I have myself taught about half the parish to ring: some stick to it, and others do not, but I am always ready to give them a chance: and there are very few services indeed for which I do not personally assist in the ringing. Moreover, I oil the bells regularly once a week, and sometimes more frequently, in all weathers, and splice the ropes and paint the frame when required—in fact, I am my own steeplekeeper—not a paid official!

As to the attendance of ringers at the services they ring for, I think it should be a *sine qua non*, and we have an "iron" rule to this effect here. How does it work out in practice? Well, sir, the population of our village is about 320, and we have five of our best ringers, including the conductor, at the war, but on Whitsun Day we had six bells going for the Choral Eucharist at 7.30 a.m., seven bells for Matins, the whole eight for children's service, and six again for evening-song, three of the ringers, besides myself, being present on all four occasions. I have only to add that it was the coming of the bells here a few years ago which helped to bring our village lads to the Communion service, and it was the Choral Eucharist that did it, for they turned out to ring for it. Lately one of them, home on leave before going to the front, came to the Communion service twice in one week by his own request. "I find it such a help," he said simply, in explanation of his request that he might come again. Such lads as he do not make the worst soldiers or the worst ringers.

I cannot disclose my identity for obvious reasons, but I should like to assure Mr. Player of my hearty goodwill, and express the hope that he will be spared for many a long year to carry on the good work in which we are both engaged. I note his address with interest, for it was at Kennington, near Ashford, that I first laid hands on a salter in 1876.—Yours very truly,

A CLERICAL RINGER.

## BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Bedford District was held at Willington on Saturday week, when members were present from Bedford, Elstow, Sharnbrook, Sandy, Northill, and Biggleswade, as well as the local ringers. The bells were kept going during the afternoon and evening, and various touches were rung. Tea was partaken of on the Vicarage lawn, and at the meeting, which followed in the tower presided over by Miss Dorothy D. Steel, four new members were elected.—It was unanimously decided to hold a joint meeting with the Biggleswade district, and Sandy was the place selected.

## CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

## SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Central Northamptonshire Association was held at Rothwell on Whit-Monday, and the day's proceedings began with touches on the bells, which were open from 10 a.m. Divine service was held at noon, in the Parish Church, at which the lesson was read by the Rev. R. Copeman (vice-president), and an address given by the Vicar (the Rev. J. A. M. Morley). Owing to the food economy campaign the usual luncheon was omitted.

The business meeting was held in the Church House at 2.30, when the Rev. R. Copeman (Rector of Stoke Albany) was elected president, and took the chair.

Speeches were made eulogising the interest shown by the retiring president, the Rev. W. St. George Coldwell, Rector of Islip, who had held the office for nine years.

Mr. Owen Parker, J.P., of Higham Ferrers, was re-elected treasurer, and Mr. F. Wilford, of Northampton, hon. secretary.

The balance sheet was presented, and showed a balance in hand on the year's working of upwards of £12, which was considered very satisfactory.

The annual report showed that eight peals had been rung during the year, five of them being half-muffled for men who had fallen in the war, special mention being made of the peal rung at Easton Neston, recording which a tablet had been put in the belfry by Mr. James Clarke, of Towcester. Fourteen meetings were held during the year, and these were well attended.—Cordial thanks were given to the clergy for granting the use of the bells where these meetings had taken place. One hon. member had died during the year, and one had left, and there were now 356 ringing members, and 34 hon. members. There were 100 members on the roll of honour, five had been killed, six wounded, and one was a prisoner of war.

A large number of apologies for absence from the meeting were sent: those who wrote included the late president, the Rev. F. Lang, the Rev. A. J. Greaves, and Mr. James Clarke (vice-presidents), the last named being under the care of the doctor, and confined to his bed.

Messrs. F. Wilford and W. Perkins were elected as representatives on the Central Council.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rev. J. A. M. Morley for the use of the bells, and the Vicar's reply concluded the business.

About 50 members were present from Northampton, Kettering, Raunds, Wellingborough, Irthlingborough, Earls Barton, Weston Favell, Kingshorpe, Burton Latimer, Desborough, Isham, Stoke Albany, Finedon, Higham Ferrers, and the local ringers. London, Cambridge, Superlative Surprise, Double Norwich and Bob Major, Sledman and Grandsire Triples, were rung on the bells during the day.

The meeting was very successful considering the present difficulties.

## LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

A most successful and enjoyable meeting of the Gainsborough District was held at Kirton Lindsey, on Saturday last, and was well attended, the following towers being represented: Gainsborough, Scotter, Kirton Lindsey, Bigby, and Scunthorpe. The bells, a ring of six, were available during the afternoon and evening, and were kept going to the standard methods. Tea was provided at the Vicarage long room, 21 sitting down, and was followed by the business meeting, over which the Rev. H. R. Garvey (Vicar of Kirton Lindsey) presided.—One new member (Mr. Frank Hill, of Scotter) was elected.

The Ringing Master made reference to the loss which the Gainsborough District had sustained through the death of Mr. G. Hill, of Stow, who was a very much respected member of the Guild.

A letter, received from the Lincoln District Secretary, was read stating that some of their members would like to hold a meeting at Stow, and suggesting a combined meeting of the two districts.—A resolution, showing the full approval of those present, in regard to a combined meeting, was proposed by Mr. J. G. Tinker (Gainsborough), seconded by Mr. T. H. Parkin (Scunthorpe), and unanimously carried.

In response to the usual vote of thanks, the Rev. H. R. Garvey gave a most hearty welcome to the Guild, and some very good advice to those present. In his remarks, he touched upon two sad incidents, respecting the Kirton Lindsey ringers. One was in regard to Mr. A. Triffett (captain), who was suffering from a serious bodily affliction, and the other in reference to Mr. Atkinson, who had made the supreme sacrifice for his King and country.—A vote of condolence with the friends and relatives was carried by those present standing in silence.

This concluded the business, after which, in response to an invitation from the Vicar, some of the members enjoyed a game of bowls on the lawn, while others returned to the church, where further ringing was indulged in until about 7.30, when a very pleasant meeting was brought to a close.

NEWARK.—On Sunday, May 6th, at the Parish Church of St. Mary Magdalene, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 52 mins.: W. C. Woodhouse 1, Corpl. C. H. Watts, R.E., 2, C. Chawman 3, G. L. English 4, Sapper T. R. Brown, R.E., 5, Sapper F. W. Nanton, R.E., 6, L. Bullock (conductor) 7, H. Thrale 8.



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Established  
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*Bellfounders & Bellhangers,*

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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring  
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.*

## SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

### PROTEST AGAINST ABANDONMENT OF ANNUAL MEETING.

A meeting was held at St. Peter's, Brighton, on Whit-Monday, and was well attended, 35 being present. Ringing commenced at two o'clock, and continued until four. The usual business meeting followed in the Parish Room, when the secretary of the division (Mr. A. D. Stone) stated that the general secretary and officers of the Association had overruled the resolution of the members at the last annual meeting, and had postponed the annual meetings until after the war, which he considered they had no right to do. He (Mr. Stone) had withheld the books and balance of the division as a protest against this high-handed action of the officers. He invited discussion on the subject, and also instructions as to whether the books and balance should be forwarded or not, leaving the matter entirely in the hands of the meeting.—The Divisional Secretary also stated that, as they had lost one of the committeemen representing the division (the late Mr. F. Morris Bacon), by death, and as another was abroad, the division could only give two votes instead of four at the committee meeting.

A lengthy discussion followed, which showed very clearly how much the members resented the discontinuance of the annual meeting. The Association not being poor some members asked what they paid their subscriptions for, and the discussion ended in a unanimous resolution of protest, and the suggestion that the annual meeting be now held at Brighton, on August Bank Holiday.

The divisional secretary was instructed by another unanimous resolution to hold all moneys in hand until notice is given that the general meeting is to be held.

The tower was afterwards again visited, and the bells set going to Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Treble Bob and Surprise Methods.

The following towers were represented: Central Division: Henfield, Ditchling, Balcombe, Aldrington, Burgess Hill, Hurstpierpoint, St. Peter's and St. Nicholas', Brighton; Western Division: Heene and Shoreham; Eastern Division: Rotherfield; and there were also several independent members present.

## OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

### NORTH BUCKS BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the North Bucks Branch was held at Shenley, on Saturday last, when about 40 members attended representing Blechley, Newport Pagnell, Stony Stratford, Maids Moreton, Bradwell, Linslade, Loughton, Milton Keynes, and the local ringers. The falling off in the attendance is, of course, chiefly owing to so many members having joined the colours. The service was conducted by the chairman of the branch (the Rev. J. R. Vincent), and an excellent address was given by him.

After service, the usual business meeting was held, the Rev. J. R. Vincent being in the chair. The balance sheet, presented by the Hon. Secretary (Mr. W. Sear), showed an increase in the funds compared with the previous year, which was very satisfactory considering the difficulty of the times.

A general discussion took place on how best to keep the meetings going and get new members to fill up the depleted ranks until the time comes when those who are spared to come back will be welcomed home, and will help to bring the branch up to the flourishing state of pre-war days.

The Secretary mentioned that he wanted to keep up the financial position of the branch while so many were away, those absent numbering at least 70.—A resolution was passed that the contributions for men on service should, if possible, be raised by their respective towers, as was done last year with great success. No doubt the same response will be made this year.

After the meeting, the bells were set going to Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Cambridge Surprise Minor, but owing to the food rationing no tea could be provided, which was very much regretted. The meeting was very successful, and all went away satisfied, "if hungry," and not downhearted, for there was every evidence of the members' loyalty to the Guild and their determination to "keep the flag flying" through this disturbing period.

## KING'S CLIFFE TENOR RECAST.

On Tuesday week the King's Cliffe tenor bell, which has been recast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, was dedicated by the Rector (the Rev. H. C. Orlebar). After the dedication service the bells were rung by the following: The Misses M. and D. E. Orlebar, F. Featherstone, S. Adams, and Messrs. H. Bailey and H. Hoar, of Woodston. Owing to a heavy thunderstorm several friends were prevented from coming from a distance.

Readers of "The Ringing World" will remember that the tenor cracked about five months after the bells had been rehung and tuned by Messrs. Warner. Through the appeals made in these columns, and the generosity of readers of the "Ringing World," £16 1s., of the total £38, was subscribed.

ISLEWORTH.—On Sunday afternoon, May 6th, a quarter-peat of Stedman Triples, in 47 mins.: Pte S. Meadows, A.S.C., 1, C. Tricker 2, C. Hunt 3, T. Beadle 4, E. F. Cole 5, J. E. Sykes 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, A. Beckensale 8.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.****ANNUAL MEETING AT ROMFORD.**

The annual meeting of the Essex Association was held on Whit-Monday, at Romford, where there was an attendance of ringers from the county, and the proceedings passed off very successfully. The ringers came principally from the Metropolitan part of Essex, and it was noticeable that practically all were men over military age. Indeed, the assembly was an exemplification of the way in which the older ringers have banded themselves together in loyalty to the Association, determined to keep it going until the war shall be over, and the younger members be welcomed home again. The toll of the war among the ranks of Essex ringers was plainly indicated in the annual report, which stated that 156 members are serving in the army, and already 10 have made the supreme sacrifice. The war and its consequences had a subduing effect upon the proceedings, but there was a determined intention to keep the Essex Association going, whatever the sacrifice that had to be made in the time to come, and there was a keenness to assure the future arrangements and meetings, in anticipation of the time when peace shall be restored, and normal conditions prevail in the practice of the art of change ringing.

**THE WITNESS OF THE BELLS.**

Service was held at Romford Parish Church at four o'clock, and was largely attended, the Rev. G. M. Bell, Vicar of Romford, officiating, and the ringers' form of service being used. The lesson was read by the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, Vicar of Great Totham, and hon. secretary to the Association, and special mention was made in the prayers of those members serving in the Forces.

The Vicar of Romford preached from 1 Corinthians xiii. 1, "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal." He spoke of the sound of bells as one of the spiritual forces of the unseen world, akin to other harmony and music, and urged ringers to become perfect in their art. The message of the bells, flung aloft from tall church towers, spread abroad over the country, and often entered homes where no other message from God was received. The bells from their high region proclaimed far and wide their invitation, and were a witness in the world of the presence of God. In many districts of Essex, where the art was practised, no one could tell what good might spring from the bell ringers' efforts in town and village. The ringers of Essex had met on that occasion to consecrate themselves again for the peculiar work which was their own. The Association deplored the loss of those members who had gone forth to serve their country in the war, and it prepared to gird itself for the future. In many towns and villages of Essex half the ringers had gone away, but still the Association carried on in the hope of peace, and Sunday by Sunday made their contribution to English life.

**THE BUSINESS MEETING.**

After service tea was served at the Hare and Hounds, where there was a crowded attendance, many more ringers than the number arranged for arriving, due largely to the fine weather which prevailed. Mr. C. H. Howard, J.P., Braintree, Master of the Association, presided, supported by the Rev. G. M. Bell, Vicar of Romford; the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre; the Rev. H. Dale, chaplain and Vicar Temporal of Hornchurch; Mr. H. Chapman, of Hindhead, Surrey; Messrs. G. A. Black, W. H. Dyson, W. J. Nevard, T. Faulkner, W. and G. R. Pye; W. A. Alps; Messrs. Groombridge and Emery, of the Kent Association; Messrs. W. Lincoln and F. W. Edwards, Master and secretary respectively of the S.E. Division of the Essex Association, and Mr. E. J. Butler, Master of the S.W. Division.

The Master read the annual report and balance sheet, printed at the office of the "Ringing World," and extracts from which were published in our last issue. He said it was quite a war report. The income of the Association had been decreased, and the expenditure had been decreased even more, with the result that there was a very satisfactory balance in hand. This was entirely due to the action of the district officers, who had cut their expenses to a very low margin. Upon the proposition of Mr. W. H. Dyson, Braintree, the report and balance sheet were unanimously adopted.

**OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.**

Upon the proposition of Mr. Fenn, Barking, Mr. C. H. Howard was re-elected Master for the next year. In accepting office again, the Master said he was extremely obliged to the members for the honour paid him. He should have liked to ask for someone else to be nominated as Master, but in war times it was not felt advisable to make a change, and he should be pleased to do his best to carry out the duties for another year (applause).

Upon the proposition of Mr. G. A. Black, the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre was re-elected hon. secretary and treasurer, and in consenting to fill the offices for another year, he stated that the present officers would have to carry on until the war was over, when new blood would be required to be introduced to the offices.

The Peal Committee was again appointed, on the proposition of Mr. Fenn.—A proposition was made that the two auditors Messrs. G. A. Black and T. Faulkner, be re-elected.—Mr. Black stated that he had to join the army that week.

The Master: We all hope Mr. Black will be back again by next Whitsuntide in time to audit our accounts, and even if he is not, it would be a mistake to appoint anyone else as auditor. We have an excellent auditor in Mr. Black; if the country needs his services, we hope he will be equal to settling that business, and be back again for our next annual meeting (applause).

The meeting re-elected Messrs. Black and Faulkner, and Mr. Black said he hoped the war would be over so that he could attend to the duties of auditor for the next annual meeting (hear, hear).

Messrs. G. R. Pye, C. H. Howard, W. Butler, and W. J. Nevard, were elected representatives of the Essex Association to the Central Council.

The Master said the next meeting of the Central Council would be held in London, when the Council would be reconstructed, and its proceedings would be more important than before.

Mr. A. Sorrell, Romford was re-elected a member of the Association, and Master Charles Norman Howard, Braintree, was elected a probationer.

The Master said the next annual meeting of the Association would be held in the North Western District, and the committee would like the meeting to decide whether it should be at Bishop's Stortford or Saffron Walden. An invitation had been received from Bishop's Stortford, but the committee was divided, and wished the meeting to decide.

Upon a vote being taken there was an overwhelming majority in favour of Saffron Walden for the annual meeting next Whitsuntide, and the Master expressed the hope that on the assembly there the members would be able to ring for a victorious peace (applause).

**"CARRYING ON."**

Mr. W. A. Alps moved a hearty vote of thanks to the officers for their services during the past year, and this was carried with acclamation.

The Master, in reply, thanked the members for their kind expressions, and said the Association was indebted to the district officers for the way they had attended to their duties. Mr. Butler was doing the work of Master and secretary in his district, and in others strenuous efforts were being made to keep the organisation of the Association going. "We have not dropped the meetings, and we don't intend to," he said. "In rural parishes it is a very difficult matter to keep ringing going. In some places the bells have not been rung for a year, where formerly the bells were rung regularly, but now the ringers have all gone. Some joined up voluntarily early in the war, and others have since been taken, so that in some places the ringing bands have entirely disappeared. Arrangements have been made for ringers from one district to help the parishes where ringers are few, but in the rural districts it is very difficult to carry this out. Even with a combination of four rural parishes in some places it is not possible to get a band to ring. But still we are determined to do our best to keep the Association alive, and we have succeeded very well up to the present."

Speaking of his own appointment, the Master mentioned that he had again to undertake the office of chairman of the Braintree Urban Council, which made demands upon his time, but he would attend all the district meetings he could.

The Rev. H. T. W. Eyre proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar of Romford for the service he had arranged for the ringers, and the Vicar of Hornchurch for his assistance.—The vote was carried, and both these gentlemen suitably responded.

The Master proposed a vote of thanks to the local committee for the arrangements made for the meeting at Romford. He said Romford had one of the best bands in the Kingdom for ringing, and some of the most intricate methods were practised at that tower. He congratulated the Romford ringers on the fact that they were still ringing regularly. There were times when things were not quite so satisfactory at Romford, but since the bells there had been rehung, Romford had become one of the best towers in the district, and Barking was not far off.—The Master said he always felt when he came to Romford he was in a tower where it was possible to ring methods of the very highest order. The members were greatly indebted to the Romford ringers for their successful arrangements for that meeting (applause).

Mr. Alps, seconding, said the ladies were a valuable acquisition in some towers, and some of them were clever with the bells. If all the men were taken away, then the ringing would have to be done by women, and he suggested that mixed company would be quite as pleasing in the ringing world (hear, hear).

The motion was carried, and Mr. Butler suitably replied.

After the meeting touches of Superlative and London Surprise, Double Norwich, Sledman, etc., were rung upon the bells of Romford and Hornchurch.

**MR. R. T. HIBBERT'S LOSS.**

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Hibbert, of Caversham, will learn with the deepest regret that Miss Bessie Hibbert passed away after a long illness, on the morning of Saturday, the 26th May. Had she lived until the 18th of June, she and her twin sister, would have completed their 19th year. All ringers will extend their sincere sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. Hibbert, and the members of their family, in their sad bereavement.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

On Whit-Monday the quarterly meeting of the North Forest Branch was held at the pretty little village of Ashleworth, on the banks of the River Severn. At 3 p.m. the bells, a nice ring of six in E sharp, were set going and kept in full swing till about 7.30. Ringers were present from Gloucester, Staunton, Newport, Tibberton, Bristol, The Leigh, and the six from Newent, including two young ladies, who rang their first 120.

A business meeting was held, at which the Master of the Association (Mr. John Austin) presided, but there was no business of importance to transact.

The usual service had to be put off, the Vicar having left the parish, and no successor having been appointed.

Minsterworth was the place suggested for the next meeting, the date being left to the hon. secretary to fix, and of which due notice will be given.

The methods rung during the afternoon were Grandsire, Bob Minor, Kent Treble Bob, Stedman Doubles, and Cambridge Minor. A few tunes on the handbells and a course of Grandsire Triples, by Messrs. Austin and Williams, brought a very pleasant afternoon to a close.

## YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Whit-Monday a quarterly meeting of the Eastern District was held at Selby, and was very well attended. The bells were placed at the disposal of the ringers by the Vicar (the Rev. J. Solloway, D.D.), and were taken advantage of during the afternoon and evening. There were members present from Birstall, Dewsbury, Earlsheaton, Howden, Hemingbrough, Pontefract, Sherburn-in-Elmet, York, etc., and several touches of Bob Major, Stedman Caters and Triples, Grandsire Caters, Bob Minor, and Kent Treble Bob Minor, were brought round, and a special touch of 576 Bob Major was rung in honour of a Selby ringer, G. A. Morley, who was home on leave from the front, by: T. F. Earnshaw (York) 1. G. A. Morley (Selby) 2. H. Horner (York) 3. G. Horner (York) 4. F. Cryer (Selby) 5. H. N. Ineson (York) 6. H. Fairlam (Selby) 7. E. Morris (Leicester), conductor, 8.

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

LEIGH, LANCASHIRE.—At St. Mary's Parish Church, for men's service, on May 6th, 672 Grandsire Triples: H. Waits 1, Herbert Allred 2, H. Smith 3, J. Smith 4, W. Hayes 5, Robert Allred (conductor) 6, W. Smith 7, J. Waits 8. The ringers of 1, 2, 6, 8, hail from Tyldesley, the rest belong to the local band. For evening service, on Accession Day, 1008 Grandsire Triples, in 36 mins.: S. Hayes 1, Herbert Allred 2, R. Allred (conductor) 3, Harry Allred 4, W. Hindley 5, J. Smith 6, W. Smith 7, J. Waits 8.

HARBORNE, BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, May 6th, for evening service, 504 Stedman Triples: G. Hitchman 1, G. Piggott 2, H. Withers (conductor) 3, H. Grosvenor 4, J. Eaton 5, L. Longuey 6, H. Beecham 7, C. Webb 8.

WALKDEN.—Lancashire Association.—At St. Paul's Church, on May 6th, for the Sunday School anniversary sermons, the following touches: For the early celebration, 392 Grandsire Triples: J. Denner 1, J. Worthington 2, A. Potter 3, Jas. Denner 4, J. Welsby 5, B. Welsby 6, J. Potter (conductor) 7, R. Denner 8. The same band rang 546 Grandsire Triples for morning service. In the afternoon 1008 Stedman Triples: T. Barlow (Deane) 1, J. Lowe (Pendleton) 2, T. Worsley (Bolton) 3, J. Welsby 4, F. Grundy (Worsley) 5, W. Pennington (Bolton) 6, J. Ridyard, conductor (Worsley) 7, J. Potter 8. After service, 504 Stedman Triples, with W. Lever (Farnworth) and A. Potter, in place of J. Ridyard and J. Lowe, conducted by J. Potter. For evening service, an attempt was made for a quarter-peal, but the 7th clapper came out, but 504 was rung by: J. Potter 1, J. Denner 2, T. Worsley (conductor) 3, A. Potter 4, J. Welsby 5, W. Pennington 6, J. T. Potter 7, T. Barlow 8. After evening service, 422 Stedman Triples, conducted by J. Potter, with J. Lowe and S. Oakes, in place of J. Denner and J. T. Potter.

CARDIFF.—Llandaff Association.—At St. John's Church, for evening service, on May 6th, 360 Bob Royal: H. Day 1, J. Harris 2, E. Coles 3, W. Heath 4, S. Dawe 5, F. Chamberlain 6, A. Rowley 7, J. Clutterbuck 8, W. Coombes (conductor) 9, W. Bolton 10. 305 Grandsire Caters: Sam Williams 1, J. Harris 2, E. Coles 3, T. Rodman 4, W. Heath 5, H. Day 6, W. Coombes 7, J. Clutterbuck 8, W. Bolton (conductor) 9, S. Barker 10.

FULHAM.—On Sunday, May 13th, at All Saints' Church, for evening service, 1320 Kent Treble Bob Royal, composed by A. J. Perkins: A. W. Davis 1, H. Langdon (conductor) 2, W. E. Garrard 3, A. W. Darlington 4, Rfm. J. T. Hogg (Q.W.R.), of North Shields, 5, P. Miles 6, A. V. Selby 7, E. F. Cole 8, A. F. Harris 9, C. Charge 10.

LEEDS.—At St. Chad's Church, on Sunday, May 13th, for evening service, 720 Bob Major: J. Backhouse 1, W. Whitaker 2, D. Swift 3, L. Stokoe 4, F. Hutchinson 5, D. Poyser 6, E. Petty 7, W. Child (conductor) 8. Rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the late Lord Grimthorpe.

## NOTICES.

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

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society) Est. 1824.—The next meeting will be held at the Church of All Saints, Isleworth, on Saturday, June 9th, Ringing from 3 to 9 p.m. Short business meeting at the "London Apprentice," opposite the Church, at 6 p.m.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec., 10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate, E.C. 2.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Michael's Church, Blackburn on Saturday, June 16th, 1917. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting and 8 bell contest will be held at Heptonstall on Saturday, June 16th, 1917. Ballot for order of ringing at 3 p.m. in the school. Entries for contest to be sent to me not later than Monday, June 11th.—F. Salmons, Sec., 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, June 16th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. till dusk. Those requiring tea (9d. each) must notify Mr. C. D. Potter, 119, Doncaster Road, by Tuesday, June 12th.—Leonard Brightman, Dist. Sec. *pro tem.*, 45, St. Stephen's Road, Rotherham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Oldham Parish Church on Saturday, June 16th, at 6 o'clock. Bells ready from 2 o'clock until dusk.—T. K. Driver, Sec., Middleton.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—The next meeting of the branch will (D.V.) be held at Bowdon on Saturday, June 16th.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Hon. Sec., New Mills.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at Chilham on Saturday, June 16th, 1917. Tower open for ringing. Service in church, 5 p.m. A plain tea at 5.45 p.m. at the Woolpack Hotel, at 3d. a head to members, and general meeting after. Names for tea must be sent to reach me by Monday, June 11th, at the latest. As arrangements for tea are difficult this must be adhered to. All subscriptions should now be paid.—Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe, Elmsted Vicarage, Ashford.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Heene on Saturday, June 16th. Bells available from 2.30; meeting, 5.30. Subscriptions due.—A. W. Groves, Sec., 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on June 19th, and on the 14th and 28th for handbell practice—all at 8 p.m. Also at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Sunday the 10th, at 6 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, June 23rd, 1917, at St. Nicholas, Rodmersham, near Sittingbourne.—Edward A. G. Allen, Hon. Sec.



**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Western District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Shipley on Saturday, June 23rd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Business meeting in the Schools at 6 p.m.—All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cocper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

**HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Barkway, eight bells, recently rehung and two trebles added by Bowell, on June 23rd. Bells available during afternoon and evening. Tea will be provided; members 6d., others 9d. All will be heartily welcomed. Nearest station, Royston, 3 miles, G.N.R.; Buntingford, 5, G.E.R.—W. H. Lawrence, District Sec., Little Munden.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Yorktown Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Hersham on Saturday, June 23rd. Ringing 3.15 to 8.30 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. for those who notify me not later than the 18th. All ringers welcome.—F. J. Shepherd, Assistant Sec., 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Surrey.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Nottingham District.—Mr. Thomas H. Kirkby, 7, Selkirk Street, Corrington, Nottingham, has been appointed Local Hon. Secretary. It is hoped that every encouragement will be given him, so that the work connected with the office may be successfully carried on to the mutual benefit of the members and the Association. The General Hon. Sec. and Treasurer will be pleased if all outstanding subscriptions are paid to Mr. Kirkby as early as possible.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

**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.

#### **MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.**

At the annual meeting of the Dudley and District Guild, held on Saturday, March 10th, 1917, it was unanimously decided to erect in the Parish Church, Dudley (the Vicar and wardens having consented to the same), a tablet recording the half-muffled peal of Grandsire Caters rung on Saturday, February 3rd, at St. Thomas's Church, Dudley, to the memory of the late Mr. Samuel Spittle, who had been its ringing master ever since the Guild was formed, and had held other important offices at the Parish Church for upwards of 70 years. It was further decided to appeal to the members of the Guild for subscriptions, and it was thought that many of the late Mr. Spittle's ringing friends and acquaintances would like the opportunity of contributing something towards perpetuating the memory of so devoted and honoured a ringer and church worker. The work has already been put in hand, and subscriptions should be forwarded without delay to the Ringing Master, Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, Staffs, or to the Hon. Secretary, Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley, who will in due course acknowledge the same in "The Ringing World."

Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland, LL.D., Vicar and President.

Harry Mason, Ringing Master.

Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec.

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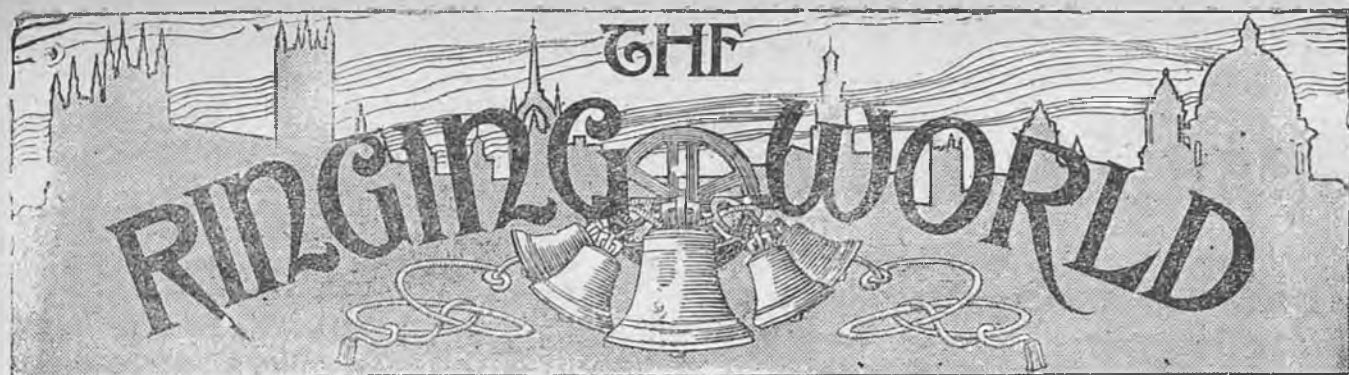
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Guildford, and Published by Messrs. Wm. DAWSON & SONS  
LTD., Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.



No. 326. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, JUNE 15th, 1917.

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**Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12**  
**WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON.**  
**MESSES GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1916**  
**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

### PROMOTING THE NEW SPIRIT.

The last few years have witnessed a great change in the spirit which exists between the various societies whose spheres of operations extend over the London district. There was a time, not so very long ago, when the old ringing societies watched one another with extreme jealousy, and viewed with suspicion the activities of the younger organisations in their midst and on their borders. The feeling between the ancient societies was one which had grown out of long-standing rivalry, and their attitude towards the new associations was that with which stolid old age sometimes looks upon enterprising youth. The result was that individuals, as well as societies, found jarring notes in the harmony of their relations.

The progress of time has, however, brought with it a spirit of conciliation, and wrought a gratifying change. There is to-day fraternisation between the various organisations in their official capacity such as there never was before, and proof of the friendly feeling which is displacing the old bitterness that used to underlie the relationship, is to be found in the holding of meetings by one society at towers which formerly were looked upon as the special preserves of another. Thus we have seen the Middlesex Association meeting at the headquarters of the Royal Cumberlands at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, and the London County Association, as last week, going out into Middlesex territory to hold a gathering at Isleworth. These are only two of many instances that might be quoted, and what makes them the more satisfactory is the genuine cordiality which marks this intermingling. The same feeling of good fellowship has grown up in the relationship of the members themselves, indeed, it is out of this changed attitude that the more "official" *rapprochement* has sprung. It is by no means a war-time development, but one which the commonsense of the ringers concerned has gradually brought about. In a fraternity in which all are seeking to advance the same cause, there is no room for petty jealousies, and everything which tends to remove such feelings is all to the good. Meeting at each other's towers is one of the very best means of promoting the new spirit which has sprung up, and the more frequent and wider this intercourse becomes the better for ringing. The spirit of rivalry will remain, but it will be that friendly rivalry which leads to the advancement of the art. College Youths, Cumberlands, London County, Middlesex, Kent, Surrey and Essex Associations all spread their operations over Greater London or a portion of it, and, with a feeling of cordial good will existing and each striving, as they are, with the highest aim, to propagate and foster the art of ringing, the future of the Exercise in and around London will be even brighter than the past has been. Once the war is over, the effects of this new spirit will be more marked than ever, and we hope to see it continue to grow.



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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 PEAL.

**SOUTHAM, WARWICKSHIRE.  
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**

*On Saturday, June 2, 1917, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,*

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;**

**TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.**

**Tenor 15½ cwt., in E.**

WILLIAM PRYCE ... .. Treble	WILLIAM H. BRUNSDON ... 5
OSWALD J. HUNT ... .. 2	WILLIAM T. COX ... .. 6
WILLIAM J. SMITH ... .. 3	JOSEPH H. W. WHITE ... 7
HARRY THORPE ... .. 4	ALFRED WILSON ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH H. W. WHITE.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells; also the first peal on eight bells by the ringer of the tenor. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect and esteem for the late Rev. J. Hart Davis, for 22 years rector of the parish.

## HANDBELL PEAL.

**BIRMINGHAM.**

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

*On Tuesday, June 5, 1917, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,  
IN ST. MARTIN'S BELFRY,*

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;**

**Tenor, 15 size in C.**

ALBERT WALKER ... .. 1-2	JAMES E. GROVES ... 7-8
THOMAS RUSSAM ... .. 3-4	GEORGE F. SWANN ... 9-10
FRANK PERRENS ... .. 5-6	WILLIAM KENT ... 11-12

Composed by the late C. H. HATTERSLEY, and

Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

Referee: MR. MORRIS J. MORRIS.

Witness: MR. JAMES GEORGE.

## ROLL OF HONOUR.

From Kettering, Northants:—

Pte F. W. Sawfoot, 29th Middlesex, A.S.C.

Gnr. D. J. Nichols, R.F.A., France.

From Rothwell, Northants:—

Pte H. Peet, A.S.C., M.T.

From Easton Neston, Towcester:—

Spr. J. W. Unwin, R.E., Signal Section, Bedford.

From Goole Parish Church:—

Gunner H. Briggs, R.G.A., now at Gattrick.

**CLENTS REMARKABLE LIST.**

There can be few towers which can claim such a list of ringers serving with the colours as St. Leonard's, Clent, Worcestershire. No fewer than 17 have done, or are doing "their bit," one of them having made the supreme sacrifice, and another having been wounded and discharged:—

B. Ashford, A.S.C.

F. Boughton, Australians.

W. Boughton, R.E.

J. Barber, Royal Irish.

F. Breakwell, Worcesters

(wounded and discharged).

A. Davies, R.F.A.

W. Davies, R.F.A.

J. Houghton, 2nd Sussex.

H. Popnell, Motor Transport.

G. Popnell, R.F.A.

M. Roberts, R. Fus. (killed).

C. Sheriff, Motor Transport.

J. Sheriff, 2nd Sussex.

J. Shilcock, Machine Gun Corps.

W. H. Short, Australians.

F. Waldron, Motor Transport.

G. Worrall, Worcesters.

Pte William Keeble, No. 24104, A.V.C., is now at No. 7, Veterinary Hospital, France. He sends kind regards to all ringing friends.

## KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Ashford District of the Kent Association was held at Wye recently, when about 25 members attended, and some good ringing was done in all the four standard methods. The Vicar (the Rev. E. Lambert) kindly provided a tea for the visitors, who extended their grateful thanks for the hospitality shown them. The business meeting was held in the belfry, Mr. C. Tribe, the district secretary, being elected to serve on the Association's War Memorial Committee. —A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for his permission to hold the meeting, and for his kind hospitality, and also to the Rev. Lawrence E. Browne (Fellow of St. Augustine's College, Canterbury), who presided at the meeting, in the absence of the Vicar, and who also conducted the service in church. The following towers sent representatives: Appledore, Ashford, Brabourne, Headcorn, Mersham, Rolvenden, Stone-in-Oxney, Tenterden, and Willesborough. The visitors included Mr. Spice, of Tunstall, and Mr. D. Hodgkin, of Marden.

**PEAL TABLETS AT HIGH WYCOMBE.****DEDICATION BY THE BISHOP OF BUCKINGHAM.**

An interesting little ceremony, mingled with feelings of sorrow and sympathy, took place in the tower of the Parish Church, High Wycombe, on Whit-Monday afternoon, when the Bishop of Buckingham dedicated two handsome peal boards, which have been presented to the belfry to perpetuate the memory of those who have valiantly sacrificed their lives in the war. Few belfries in the county possess a larger number of peal tablets, the oldest of which records a peal rung more than a century ago. The two additions have been given by the generosity of the Bishop of Buckingham, and Mr. Chas. E. Skull. One is dedicated to the memory of three of the Bishop's sons, who have fallen in the war, and records two muffled peals of Stedman Caters, rung on December 26th, 1914, and October 18th, 1916; while the other is in faithful memory of Buckinghamshire men who have given their lives in the war. Both boards are suitably designed and inscribed; one being made by Mr. E. Bailey, and the other at the factory of Messrs. W. Skull and Son.

**THE BOARDS.**

The peal boards are inscribed as follows:—

Bernard H. G. Shaw, Lieut., West Yorkshire Regiment, Dec. 19th, 1914. Arthur C. Shaw, Lieut., Sherwood Foresters, Dec. 24th, 1915. Edward A. Shaw, Capt., Oxford and Bucks L.I., Oct. 7th, 1916. For King and Country. Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers. In honour of the beloved sons of Edward Domett Shaw, Lord Bishop of Buckingham, and Agnes Shaw, who gallantly gave their lives in the European War. Two muffled peals of Stedman Caters, each containing 5,019 changes, were rung on these bells on Saturday, Dec. 24th, 1914, in 3 hours 29 mins.; on Wednesday, Oct. 18th, 1916, in 3 hours 45mins.: Fred Hayes, treble; Edward R. Coles, 2; Ralph Coles, 3; Cecil E. Maynes, 4; Edward Markham, 5; Geo. White, 6; John Evans, 7; Benjamin Page, 8; John Gransbury, 9; Frank W. Boxell, tenor. Fred Hayes, treble; Percy E. Jones, 2; W. H. Fussell, 3; John C. Truss, 4; Wm. T. Horne, 5; Wm. Henley, 6; John Evans, 7; Jas. Blackmore, 8; John Gransbury, 9; Ralph Coles, tenor. Composed and conducted by Fred Hayes.

The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths and O.D.G. On Sunday, Dec. 31st, 1916, in 3 hours 48 mins., a peal of Stedman Cinques, containing 5,002 changes, was rung in this tower, with the bells solemnly muffled, in faithful memory of Buckinghamshire men who had fallen in the great war. F. Hayes, treble; E. R. Coles, 2; R. Coles, 3; J. H. Matthews, 4; W. H. Fussell, 5; F. Smith, 6; B. Thorpe, 7; G. Twitchen, 8; W. T. Horne, 9; W. Phipps, 10; W. J. Nudds, 11; H. T. Scarlett, tenor. Composed by F. Dench. Conducted by F. Hayes. Wardens—L. W. R. Reynolds, G. Welch, W. H. Rolls, S. Titch. Presented by C. E. Skull, Esq., J.P.

At the dedicatory ceremony, at half-past two, the Bishop of Buckingham was accompanied by the Vicar (the Rev. C. H. Ridsdale); and among those also present were the Rev. A. L. Whitfield (Vicar of Hughenden), the Rev. G. Fry, Dr. Lewis W. Reynolds, J.P., Mr. C. E. Skull J.P., Miss M. Skull, Mr. and Mrs. E. Bailey, the Misses Evans, and others. The Wycombe ringers present were: Messrs. Ralph Coles (foreman), Fred Hayes (deputy foreman), Geo. Twitchen (hon. secretary and treasurer), E. Coles, E. Markham, F. K. Biggs, W. T. Horne, Wm. Phipps, and Harry Butler; while the members of other towers comprised Messrs. Evans, sen. and jun. (Hughenden), W. H. Fussell, Smith, Hooper (Slough), J. Blackmore (Beaconsfield), B. Foskett, J. B. Williamson (London), Barnes (Great Missenden), Rev. J. F. Amies and Master T. Major (Chalfont St. Peter), W. Henley (Farnham Royal), and Miss E. M. Goodship (Reading).

**REMINDERS OF GALLANT MBN.**

After the peal boards (covered with the Union Jack) had been respectively unveiled by the Bishop and Miss M. Skull, prayers appropriate to the occasion were said by the Bishop, and the dedication having been finished, a touch of Stedman Cinques was rung on the twelve bells.

The Vicar afterwards said that he should like to acknowledge the gift of the two peal boards, which they took into safe keeping, and would always cherish as reminders of the service of the gallant men who had given their lives to their country, and whose memory was very dear to the hearts and lives of many in that place and the neighbourhood. He should also like to express their gratitude to the Bishop of Buckingham for coming there to dedicate the peal boards, and also to the donors of the peal boards. He should like to add that the Bishop of the Diocese was in Wycombe that morning, and he was very interested to hear about the dedication of the peal boards, and expressed a wish to see them. The Bishop came and tried to get into the belfry, but could not do so, as unfortunately the short time that remained before his train left rendered it impossible.

The Bishop of Buckingham, in briefly replying, remarked that ringing had very much developed in the last twenty years. He thought that when he first came there, there were only two peal boards in the tower, but now there were quite a number. One of the peal boards was put up more than a hundred years ago, to commemorate a peal rung by the College Youths; and another was erected about a hundred years later, in honour of the marriage of the then Vicar's daughter.

He did not know how long it would be before they had to record the marriage of another Vicar's daughter (laughter).

During the afternoon a large number of parishioners and visitors ascended the steps to the belfry, and were greatly interested in the tablets displayed there. Many also availed themselves of the opportunity of gaining a bird's-eye view of the town from the summit of the church tower.

During the afternoon and early evening ringing was indulged in. The methods performed (in which the local and visiting ringers took part), comprised Stedman Cinques, Stedman Caters and Kent Treble Bob Royal, and Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob. Later on, several of the ringers visited Beaconsfield tower for the purpose of ringing on the eight bells of the church.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

A very successful meeting of the Wirral Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at St. Peter's, Rock Ferry, on Saturday week. This was the first meeting held there since the bells were rehung and augmented, and about 40 ringers were present to try the new bells, the tone and go of them being all that could be desired, and a credit to Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who carried out the work. Service, held in the church at 5.30, was conducted by the Vicar of Rock Ferry, and the Rev. Dr. Bond (of St. Luke's, Lower Tranmere) gave an appropriate address, which was full of interest, and was appreciated by all who were present.

Tea was provided in St. Peter's Hall, and the meeting was held afterwards in the large hall, the Vicar of St. Peter's (the Rev. A. Ball) being in the chair.—Mr. Ludkin gave a report of the business transacted by the general committee meeting of the Guild, and stated that the annual meeting of the Guild is to be held at Stockport on July 28th next.

The Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. Brocklebank was elected to represent the Wirral branch on the Central Council.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and for the service, and also providing tea.

The Rock Ferry ringers were made members of the Guild. The bells were kept going by different bands until 8.30, when they were rung down, and the company dispersed after having spent an enjoyable time. The methods rung were Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor, Plain Bob Minor, and Stedman and Grandsire Doubles.

**ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.****WHITSUNTIDE MANOEUVRES.**

A meeting of this Guild was held at Tenterden on Whit-Monday. By previous arrangements, several members and friends rang at Benenden in the morning, where they had the pleasure of meeting the former Master of the Guild, Mr. G. Billenness, who is now in khaki, and stationed at Lowestoft, but who was home on a short leave (some of the company had also met at Hawkhurst on the Sunday morning to ring a quarter-peal for service, under his conductorship, but it came to grief half-way).—The Vicar (the Rev. W. H. Noble) gave the members a hearty welcome, and invited them to take a stroll in the Vicarage grounds, not much ringing being possible, as the bells are sadly out of order, and require the attention of an experienced bell hanger before they can be made good use of. When the visitors saw the steeple-keeper appear with a carpenter's basket filled with tools, they guessed there was something "in the wind," and soon ropes and wheels were getting a bit mixed up aloft, and so, like certain other individuals, they "withdrew according to plan." Like the policeman, we then "proceeded" to Rolvenden in the afternoon, where they were also welcomed by the new Vicar, who had the pleasure for the first time of hearing his bells rung in changes, and who hoped they would pay him another visit later on and be his guests at tea. Several touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples were rung under the conductorship of Mr. J. H. Shepherd, of Swindon, who was spending the day with the Guild, and whose company and services were greatly appreciated.

The Cyclist Battalion then advanced on Tenterden, and successfully raided a tea shop in the town, setting a strong guard outside to see that no Food Controller put in an appearance.

Then, like giants refreshed, they mounted the 75 circular steps to the belfry, and were soon sending out Grandsire Triples by wireless to the surrounding country. Mrs. Gatehouse, the lady member, rang some 120's of Grandsire Doubles, and some courses of Grandsire Triples, and Mr. Fairhead, from Adisham, rang his first touch of Grandsire Triples, a 560 conducted by Mr. C. W. Player. Several other touches were rung, and the bells then lowered in peal.

A short business meeting was held, the principal items being the election of one or two new members, and a proposition that the next meeting be held at High Halden (six bells), on Saturday, June 16th.—This was duly carried, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar (the Rev. J. A. Babington) for permission for use of tower and bells.

The towers represented during the day were: Appledore, Benenden, Biddenden, Hawkhurst, Headcorn, Rolvenden, Rye, Stone-in-Oxney, Tonbridge, and Tenterden.

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry  
Established  
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

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.*

## NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION. ANNUAL MEETING.

The 30th annual meeting of this Association was held at East Retford, on Saturday week, when members were present from Anston, East and West Retford, Blyth, Worksop, and Laughlerton, and the Rev. C. J. Sturton, Vicar of Orston, was also present.

The business meeting was held in the Parish Room, presided over by the Rev. Canon Gray, Rector of West Retford, but there was only a moderate attendance of members—more than half of the belfries being depleted in numbers, through the claims of active service.

At the commencement, the Hon. Secretary made allusion to the deaths of W. England, of Misson; J. J. Hakes, of Norton Cuckney; and George Turner, of West Retford, all young members of the Association, who had laid down their lives for King and country, and moved a vote of condolence with the bereaved families. This was carried in silence, the members standing up a few moments.

The annual report and balance sheet, which showed a small loss on the year's working of 14s. 7d., was presented, and was considered very satisfactory in view of the number of ringers who are away on active service and not paying any contributions.

The officers were re-elected en bloc, with the addition of Mr. S. C. Walker, of Worksop, acting assistant hon. secretary (pro tem.) and Mr. A. Beck returns from active service.

The new Vicar of East Retford (the Rev. C. Bailey) was elected a vice-president, and Messrs. E. Plowright and S. Eastland were elected performing members of the Worksop tower.

During the afternoon and evening, the bells of East Retford and Ordsall were kept in motion, the methods rung including Kent Treble Bob Minor (two 720's, rung at Ordsall and East Retford on the heavy six), Grandsire and Stedman Triples.

The meeting concluded with the warmest votes of thanks to the incumbents for the use of bells, and to the Rev. Howard Dobson, of Ordsall, for his practical and interesting address at the service.

The Rev. Canon Gray and the Rev. C. Bailey made suitable replies, and both hoping for a speedy termination of the war, when they might hear the bells ring out again a joyful peal.

## LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. PLEASANT MEETING AT ISLEWORTH.

Under glorious weather conditions several members and friends assembled at the ancient Church of All Saints', Isleworth, on Saturday last for the periodical meeting. The methods rung included Stedman Triples, Treble and Plain Bob Major, Double Norwich, and Cambridge Surprise Major. Tea was partaken of at the "London Apprentice," overlooking the river, at 6 p.m., when a company of 21 sat down. Mrs. Wills, wife of an esteemed member, Mr. H. E. Wills, of Croydon, kindly undertook the duties of ministering to the wants of the visitors, and grateful thanks are due to this lady for the able manner in which she kept time with the many requirements of the inner man.

A business meeting followed, presided over by the Master, when Miss G. M. Orlebar, of King's Cliffe Rectory, Peterborough, now staying in London, was elected a member. A course of Grandsire Triples was accomplished by this lady, who rang the treble, being her first attempt on eight bells.

The next meeting of the Association will be held on Saturday, 14th July. The arrangements as to tower, etc., were left in the hands of the hon. secretary, and due notice will appear in the "Ringing World."

At the conclusion of tower bell ringing a pleasant half-hour was spent at the "London Apprentice," when good practice was obtained in handbell ringing.

A hearty vote of thanks was moved by Mr. G. Fardon, and seconded by Mr. R. Bevan, for the admirable arrangements made by Mr. Tom Beadle for the comfort of everyone.—Mr. Beadle, in responding, said it was a great pleasure to welcome the members of the London County Association; in fact, he made a point of doing his best for all who applied for the tower which he represented, and would continue to do so as long as he was able.

## SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

The Sheffield District and Old East Derbyshire Amalgamated Society held its June meeting at Bolsover, on Saturday week, when the attendance totalled rather less than a score, six towers being represented, viz.: Bolsover, Chesterfield, Mansfield, North Wingfield, Sheffield Cathedral, and Staveley—quite sufficient to keep up a "working acquaintance" with change ringing, "lest we forget." Double Norwich, Stedman and Superlative went fairly well, but Cambridge was found rather rusty, from some cause or other—probably lack of practice might have had something to do with it, one never knows; or, perhaps, the bells had forgotten the tune, because, at one time, it was only a matter of standing under them about three hours, and they would ring a peal in a great variety of methods. But times have changed. However, those present at the meeting had a crowded three hours of touches, and if only the ensuing meetings are as successful a few more very pleasant Saturday afternoons may be confidently counted on.



## MIDLAND COUNTIES' SECRETARY.

### SILVER WEDDING CELEBRATION AT COTGRAVE.

White—Rhodes.—On June 6th, 1892, at All Saints', Cotgrave, by the Rev. Alfred Hensley, William Edward White to Adelaide Marson Rhodes.

As the above notice taken from the "Nottingham Post" testifies, Wednesday, June 6th, was the 25th anniversary of the wedding of Mr. W. E. White, who, since the year 1899, has been the energetic and much respected secretary of the Midland Counties Association of change ringers. The auspicious occasion was not allowed to pass by without due and proper celebration. In the evening six of Mr. White's friends from Cotgrave and neighbouring belfries visited the tower and rang a date touch of 1917 changes, which had been specially arranged for the occasion by Mr. Walter White, the secretary's brother. The touch consisted of 477 Plain Bob and 360 each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Single Court and Oxford Bob. It was rung in 1hr. 13 mins., by: William Hickling (Cotgrave) 1, Walter White (Cotgrave), conductor, 2, Rev. C. J. Sturton (Orston) 3, Thomas Kirkby (Nottingham) 4, Alfred Barratt (Daybrook) 5, Thomas Squires (Cotgrave) 6.

At the conclusion of the touch, on the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. White, the ringers adjourned to Mr. White's residence, where, after extending their congratulations to the happy pair and their three

practically any method on the five bells then in the tower. Mr. White was elected captain of the band in 1887, and in the same year joined the Midland Counties Association. In 1889—the year in which he rang his first peal—he was elected a member of the committee, and became local hon. secretary for the Nottingham district in 1893. On the retirement of Mr. J. O. Lancashire from the secretaryship of the Association in 1899, Mr. White was unanimously elected to fill the office, which he has continued to hold with such success, and to the complete satisfaction of the members up to the present time. Mr. White has also served the Association on the Central Council at various times. A staunch Churchman, Mr. White has been a member of the Ruri-Decanal Conference for the Bingham Deanery, and he holds strong views upon the desirability of ringers being sound Churchmen.

## KILLED IN ACTION.

### BLACKBURN RINGER FALLEN AT SALONICA.

Pte F. C. Billows, of the 10th Devons (Signalling Section), was, we regret to say, killed in action on the Salonica front on April 24th. He joined the forces in October, 1914, and saw service in France, and was afterwards transferred to the East.

He was a member of the Parish Church belfry, Blackburn, and also of the Men's Bible Class. A native of Skipton, Yorks, he was connected with the choir and belfry of the Parish Church of that town prior to going to Blackburn.

The bells of the Blackburn Parish Church were rung deeply muffled on Thursday, June 7th, as a last token of respect to his memory, and the Vicar (the Rev. T. R. Sale, M.A.) showed his sympathy by his presence in the belfry during the ringing.

### DIED OF WOUNDS.

All Hallows' Society, Tottenham, has lost a highly esteemed member by the death, from wounds received in France, on May 26th, of Walter Harding Lewis, B.A. The deceased, who was 25 years of age, was the second son of Mr. and Mrs. S. Charles Lewis, of 26, Vicarage Road, Tottenham, and early in the war relinquished a promising career to join the Honourable Artillery Company. He had previously been severely wounded, and only returned to the front on Christmas Eve, 1916.

Had he been spared he would no doubt have become a first-class ringer, for he loved the art. He took his degree at King's College, London, and obtained a position as master in a school in Co. Galway, where he made himself very popular, and was a great help in the church choir. Afterwards he secured another appointment at Windermere, and it was this post that he gave up to take his part in the war. Whenever he was home on holiday from his scholastic duties he could always be depended on to be present for morning and evening service ringing, and the members of the All Hallows' Society feel his loss very keenly. The deceased has two brothers (one older and one younger) also serving in the H.A.C. The sympathy of the Middlesex Association, of which the deceased was a member, has been sent to the parents by the President.

### IRTHLINGBOROUGH RINGER MISSING.

Official news has been received by Mrs. Ward, of Finedon Road, Irtlingborough, Northants, that her son, Pte James Thomas Ward, of the Suffolk Regiment, has been missing since April 28th last. He enlisted in February, 1916, and has been in France about nine months. He is 28 years of age and exceptionally well known and respected in the district. An enthusiastic ringer, he was a capital striker, and an able exponent of the art. He had taken part in about 30 peals, the methods including Superlative, Cambridge, London and Bristol Surprise. In addition to his interest in ringing, he was a member of the Church Lads' Brigade, and an ardent football and cricket enthusiast, being a regular playing member of the Town Football and Cricket Clubs. Much sympathy has been extended to Mrs. Ward in her anxiety, she having already lost one son in the war.

### FAREWELL TO CHAPLAIN.

Captain the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake, Chaplain of the Forces, and President of the Hertford County Association, is proceeding to France for duty with troops on the 19th inst., and on Sunday evening, at Newark Parish Church, Notts, where there is a ring of ten bells (tenor 33 cwt.), a farewell quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on the back eight in 53 mins., by: C. Woodhouse 1, Captain B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake 2, C. Chapman 3, G. L. English 4, Corpl. C. H. Watts, R.E., 5, Spr. F. W. Naunton, R.E., 6, L. Bullock (conductor) 7, Sergt. C. C. Orland, R.E., 8.

### RINGING INVITATION TO SOLDIERS.

Soldiers stationed at any of the camps in the Dorchester or Weymouth District will be heartily welcomed at the following towers (which ring for Sunday services), Dorchester (8), Wyke Regis (8), Fordington (6). If members of the ringing fraternity who are in any of the hospitals in the above district will kindly communicate with the hon. secretary of the Dorchester Branch (Mr. C. H. Jennings, Sunnyside, Wyke Regis, Weymouth), arrangements will be made for the ringers of the above towers to visit them.



MR. W. E. WHITE.

daughters, and inspecting the beautiful array of silver presents, were most hospitably entertained to a bountiful supper, which, needless to say, was greatly appreciated.

After supper a pleasant hour was spent with tobacco and talk, many interesting reminiscences of the early days of ringing in Cotgrave and district being brought to light. It is interesting to note that two of the ladies who so kindly waited on their guests, Miss Dorothy White, and her friend, Miss Thompson, are regular church bell ringers, and can take the trebles on handbells through a course of Grandsire Triples. It was also a coincidence that the occasion was the anniversary of the wedding of Mr. Barratt, who rang in the above touch.

May Mr. and Mrs. White long be spared to enjoy climbing the hill of life together is the hearty wish of all their friends and neighbours, campanological and otherwise.

Mr. White, who is a native of Bingham, Notts, served several years of his early life on a sailing ship, but subsequently he settled down in the lace trade in Nottingham. Always fond of the sound of bells, he took up ringing in 1886, when a band was formed at Cotgrave, where he was then living. Not one in all the band could ring a bell when the company was got together, and, as they had no instructor, the early difficulties can well be imagined. But by great perseverance the initial obstacles were overcome, and by 1890 they were able to ring

## 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).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on June 19th, and on the 28th for handbell practice—all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, June 23rd, 1917, at St. Nicholas, Rodmersham, near Sittingbourne.—Edward A. G. Allen, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Shipley on Saturday, June 23rd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Business meeting in the Schools at 6 p.m.—All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Barkway, eight bells, recently rehung and two trebles added by Bowell, on June 23rd. Bells available during afternoon and evening. Tea will be provided; members 6d., others 9d. All will be heartily welcomed. Nearest station, Royston, 3 miles, G.N.R.; Buntingford, 5, G.E.R.—W. H. Lawrence, District Sec., Little Munden.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Yorktown Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Hersham on Saturday, June 23rd. Ringing 3.15 to 8.30 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. for those who notify me not later than the 18th. All ringers welcome.—F. J. Shepherd, Assistant Sec., 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Surrey.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Whitchurch, near Cardiff, on Saturday, June 23rd, at 4 o'clock. Bells (6) available. Tea will be provided. St. John's bells (10), Cardiff, will be available from 7 to 8 p.m., if required.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., John W. Jones, 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon., Hon. Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Newchurch, near Warrington, on Saturday, June 23rd, 1917. Bells ready at 2.30. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton, Branch Sec.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—The church bells will be at the disposal of visiting ringers on Saturday, June 23rd, 1917, from 12.30 p.m. till 9 p.m.—A. Symonds.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rosendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Ranesborough, on Saturday, June 23rd. Bells ready at 3. Meeting, 6.30 p.m. A good attendance is earnestly requested. Subscriptions due. Reports to hand.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's Street, Ranesborough.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY. — Established 1623.—The 294th anniversary of the above society will be held on Wednesday, June 27th. Ringing commences at 9 a.m. All visitors are welcome. — R. A. Strong, Hon. Secretary.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Beeston on Saturday, June 30th. Bells available from 3 until 8 o'clock (excepting during tea and meeting). Committee meeting at 4.30. Tea at 5, followed by general meeting, all in the church schoolroom. Tea (1/- each) will only be provided for those who notify Mr. Wm. Clifford, 29, Enfield Street, Bellevue Park, Beeston, by the previous Wednesday, of their intention to be present.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North Eastern Division.—A district meeting will be held at Castle Hedingham on June 30th. Bells, 2 p.m. until 9 p.m. Short service, with address by the Rev. E. N. Powell, Vicar, at 4.30. Tea, followed by meeting, at the Bell Inn (Castle Hedingham), 1/3 per head. The bells of Sible Hedingham will also be open for ringing. All those who intend to be present must notify me not later than Tuesday, June 26th, first post. I shall be pleased to receive subscriptions for the current year.—B. Redgwell, The Street, Rayne.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Selly Oak on Saturday, June 30th. Service in the church at 5 p.m. Tea will be provided on the vicarage lawn if fine—in the schools if wet—at 5.45. Business meeting to follow. On account of the food restrictions, it is most important that all those intending to be present should let me know by Tuesday, June 26th. Bells available from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.—E. J. Dowler, 11, St. Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham, Branch Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The annual meeting will be held at Wolverhampton on Saturday, June 30th. Bells (12) available at 3. Short service in St. Peter's Church at 4.45, with an address by the Rev. Preb. Penny, M.A. (Rector). Meat tea at the Seven Stars Hotel, John Street, at 5.30 (1/- to fully-paid members; to others, 1/6), followed by the general meeting. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than Monday, 25th inst.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD (North and East District).—A meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, on Saturday, June 30th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Short service and address by the Vicar (Rev. O. R. Dawson) at 6 p.m., to be followed by the business meeting. Any ringers and friends welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*), 25, Crown St., Harrow.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James', Birch, on Saturday, June 30th. Bells available at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m.—W. Woistencroft, 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.

## HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

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

### MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

At the annual meeting of the Dudley and District Guild, held on Saturday, March 10th, 1917, it was unanimously decided to erect in the Parish Church, Dudley (the Vicar and wardens having consented to the same), a tablet recording the half-muffled peal of Grandsire Caters rung on Saturday, February 3rd, at St. Thomas's Church, Dudley, to the memory of the late Mr. Samuel Spittle, who had been its ringing master ever since the Guild was formed, and had held other important offices at the Parish Church for upwards of 70 years. It was further decided to appeal to the members of the Guild for subscriptions, and it was thought that many of the late Mr. Spittle's ringing friends and acquaintances would like the opportunity of contributing something towards perpetuating the memory of so devoted and honoured a ringer and church worker. The work has already been put in hand, and subscriptions should be forwarded without delay to the Ringing Master, Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, Staffs, or to the Hon. Secretary, Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley, who will in due course acknowledge the same in "The Ringing World."

Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland, LL.D., Vicar and President.

Harry Mason, Ringing Master.

Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec.

Subscriptions promised and duly received:—Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland, LL.D., £1 1s. od.; The Dudley Company, £1; Mr. J. W. Jones, Newport (Mon.), 2s.

### LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday week the Manchester Branch met at the beautiful village of Flixton, and, despite the unsettled state of the elements, a goodly muster of ringers turned up from the four corners of the district. The bells were set merrily ringing early in the afternoon to the tune of Grandsire, and various other methods were also rung during the day.

Mr. W. E. Ryder who, on the previous Thursday had celebrated his 71st birthday, took part in a 629 Grandsire Triples, and presided at the business meeting. He welcomed the visitors on behalf of the Flixton ringers, and hoped they would have an enjoyable time.

Mr. John Rolls, of Ashton-under-Lyne, was elected a member of the Association.

St. James's, Birch, was chosen as the next meeting place, on June 30th.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector and ringers for their kindness in making arrangements.

### KING'S BIRTHDAY TOUCHES.

CHIPSTABLE, SOMERSET.—On Sunday afternoon, June 3rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles in honour of the King's birthday, by: G. Jones (Chipstable), first-quarter, 1, G. Hancock (Halse) 2, W. Clapp (Halse) 3, W. Crews (Halse) 4, A. Tout (Milverton), conductor, 5, A. G. Smith (Chipstable) 6.

NEWCASTLE.—At the Cathedral, on the King's birthday, June 4th, two touches of Stedman Cinques, 500 and 600, were rung, in which Warrant Officer W. A. Cooke, R.N., of Gillingham, Kent, scored his first touches on twelve bells. During the day there were rung touches of Stedman Caters (651), three courses of Erin Cinques (the first in the method by the above visitors), and short touches of Caters and Triples in the same method, Forward Royal and Major, and Double Norwich Major. The following members of the Guild took part in the ringing: W. H. Barber, A. Dalton, B. C. Dixon, E. E. Ferry, A. E. Hillier, A. Holmes, B. Horton, J. E. Keen, R. Richards, C. L. Routledge, W. Story, and W. Sinclair. The conducting was divided between Messrs. Barber and Routledge. — On Sunday evening, May 27th, 859 Stedman Caters was rung for service by members of the Cathedral Guild, assisted by Warrant Officer W. A. Cooke, R.N., and Mr. W. J. Hazell, late of London.

COTGRAVE, NOTTS.—Recently, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: Wm. White 1, T. H. Kirkby 2, Rev. C. J. Sturton 3, W. J. Sevier 4, T. Squires 5, W. C. Hunt (conductor) 6.

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Bell Frames in Cast Iron, Steel and Oak.

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ROPE-SIGHT. 1s. 8d.; sixth ed. 150 pages; treats Plain Bob, commencing on three bells.

GRANDSIRE. 2s. 6d.; second ed.; 284 pages; commencing on five bells; complete with the Thompson Charts, etc., etc.

STANDARD METHODS 6th Edition Now Ready, 2s. 6d.

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

TREBLE BOB. Part I. 1s. 6d.; second ed.; with appendix; 100 closely printed pages. Part II., suited for Conductors only; very scarce; 2s. 1½d.; 236 pages.

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Beverley Minster, Selby Abbey, Truro  
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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 ...	10/6	18/-	21/-	26/6	32/6	42/-	55/-

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(MAKER OF THE RINGERS' BADGE.)

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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

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LTD., Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.

# THE RINGING WORLD

No. 327. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, JUNE 22nd, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

## 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.

## THE STARTING-POINT FOR PEALS.

In another column will be found an article by Mr. George Clayton on the subject of the starting-point for touches and peals of Stedman. We publish the communication, not because we agree with the writer's contentions, but because we are always willing to ventilate any views which may be of interest, although they may not be generally acceptable to the Exercise. The point of Mr. Clayton's argument is that touches and peals should not necessarily begin from and end with rounds, and, in order to establish this, he endeavours to show the desirability of varying the definitions of peals, etc., set up by the Central Council. There is no necessity here to follow Mr. Clayton through all his line of reasoning, but we join issue with him on the broad ground that, in our opinion, it would be a retrograde step if the Exercise were to recognise anything but rounds as the starting-point of peals and touches.

It happens that the general practice in ringing Stedman, from the very commencement of the Art, has been to start from a row which is not the beginning of a six, and it is this breaking of the hunting cycle which seems the bugbear to Mr. Clayton. But Stedman is the only method, at any rate of standing, in which the ringing does not start at the beginning of the constructional block, the rounds being the first row in some cases, and the first handstroke change the first in methods with two hunts. Therefore, if there is any advantage at all in Mr. Clayton's contentions, it is only Stedman that would benefit. But if one is allowed to start from any other change than rounds, where would be the necessity even for ending with the same row as that from which the bells started? The argument in favour of one is as strong as that of the other, and the adoption of either would reduce composition to a farce and peal ringing to an absurdity. The task in both directions should be made harder and not easier in days when peals, but for the war, would be almost as plentiful as blackberries in autumn.

The natural as well as the convenient starting order in ringing bells is the diatonic scale, and to start into a peal or touch from any other point would mean putting them into position by call changes. To do this merely to simplify the work of a composer would be ridiculous. In laying down the definition that peals and touches should begin from rounds, the Central Council have not made any rule that is not in accordance with the natural laws of ringing and common sense, and to besmear a change-ringing performance with a few preliminary call changes would be a much more serious blemish in practice than starting half-way through a Stedman six is in theory. And it should be remembered that the purist has the matter in

(Continued on page 194.)

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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.

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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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.

(Continued from page 193.)

his own hands. Stedman can be started with the first change of a six and end with the last row of another six, and those who are so anxious to ensure a complete "hunting cycle" to start and end the peal with, would be more advantageously occupied in producing compositions on this plan than in attempting to persuade the Exercise that it is better to start a peal from some other row than rounds.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.  
THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

On Wednesday, June 13, 1917, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qrs. 10 lbs.

*WALTER S. CRAWFORD ... Treble	RICHARD JONES ... 5
*THOMAS ABBOTT ... 2	WILLIAM SAUNDERS ... 6
JAMES L. YORK ... 3	WALTER LAGO ... 7
LEONARD HEWITT ... 4	JACK ASTON ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and  
Conducted by WILLIAM SAUNDERS.

\* First peal. Specially arranged for the silver wedding of the Rev. C. B. and Mrs. Crowe, also as a farewell peal to W. S. Crawford, who joined the army, June 15th. The ringers are all members of the local company. It is interesting to know that W. S. Crawford is the eleventh member to join the colours or leave the neighbourhood to do substitutional work. Two have been killed in France.

OLDSWINFORD, WORCESTERSHIRE.  
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, June 16, 1917, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt. in F.

CHARLES W. COOPER ... Treble	RALPH MOORE ... 5
JOHN G. ORFORD ... 2	ALFRED E. WHATMORE ... 6
JOHN BASS ... 3	WILLIAM SHORT ... 7
THOMAS HEATHCOTE ... 4	THOMAS WHITEHOUSE ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

Rung with the bells half-muffled for Pte. Hugh Chapman Nash, a former bellringer and chorister, who died in hospital at Baghdad from appendicitis on May 29th.

## ROLL OF HONOUR.

From Calverton, Bucks:—

Gnr. R. Underwood, R.F.A., High Wycombe.

From St. Mary's, Blatchley:—

Spr. H. Morris, R.O.D., R.E., Longmoor, Hants.

From Hadlow:—

Pte A. H. Reader, R.G.A.

## DAMAGED BELLS IN FRANCE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Since I have been in France, I have inspected every church possible with the object of picking up anything interesting to the Exercise. Until quite recently no success attended my efforts, but to-day I have seen an original method of mending a crack. The bell lies in a churchyard close to where I am at present staying, and the crack or break extends from the waist diagonally to the lip. A piece, an inch across, has been sawn out, and a new piece inserted, kept in its place by two flush dovetails and a patch on the lip inside about ten inches by eight. The effect on the tone I could not determine, because the bell was effectually deadened by the fallen masonry round it. The casting of this bell is poor, compared to the other bell belonging to the church, and at present used as a gas alarm. This one, by a Douai founder, is a really pretty bell, with lovely floral decorations at the crown, and a fine medallion on the lip. Another bell in a city close by, also used as a gas alarm, has a shot hole clean through the waist, and one or two other evidences of attention on the part of the Germans. I have met no ringers out here yet, my address being: Bandman A. Coppock, No. 49925, 10th D.L.I., B.E.F. Anyone wishing to communicate with me need only use the above. I get the "Ringing World" regularly, and have not by any means lost interest in it.—Yours sincerely,  
ALBERT COPPOCK.



### SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. DEVIZES BRANCH MEETING AT ROWDE.

A monthly meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at St. Matthew's Church, Rowde, on Saturday week, but owing to so many of the ringers being away from home, and others so busy on the land, and in the gardens, the number of those assembled was not so large as on pre-war occasions. However, friends from Southbroom, St. John's, Devizes; Seend and Rowde, with Mrs. H. Brownlee West, of "Avalon," Devizes (an honorary member of the Guild), made up a nice little party, and ringing commenced soon after three o'clock. The authorised Guild service was held in the church, kindly conducted by the Rector, the Rev. A. J. Clarke, with Miss Amy Butler at the organ.

Ten was afterwards served at the George and Dragon Inn, by Host Rutt, and was much enjoyed by all present, the afternoon being warm.

The bells at Rowde are rung on the ground floor, with a very long draught, and no sally guides, making the ringing of them somewhat tricky, to those unaccustomed to such a length of rope, but all went well, and everyone was much pleased.

At the business meeting following the tea, the chair was taken by Mr. S. Hillier (branch chairman), supported by Mr. H. Brownlee West (honorary secretary), who brought forward three new members for election from Southbroom tower, all of whom were kindly received and duly elected. — Hearty votes of thanks were duly accorded the Rector for the use of the bells, and the service in church, and also to the organist and steeple keeper for their kind services on this occasion. The ringers then adjourned to the church for more ringing and the lowering of the bells, thus bringing a most pleasant meeting to a close.

### GREENWICH RINGERS' LOSS. DEATH OF MISS CHRISTABEL AIRY.

St. Alphege, Greenwich, ringers mourn the loss of Miss Christabel Airy, who during the last 26 years has contributed in a large measure, by her benevolence and influence, to converting the belfry from the bare board style to its present covered and cushioned condition, and the ringers from the "stony" to London stage, while she has promoted their comfort by providing help whenever financial assistance was requisite for bell ropes, teas, and the like. She had always the same reply, "Let me know how much is required, I should so like to help you," and it was always forthcoming. Her place will indeed be hard to fill; in fact, it is doubtful if it can be filled.

Miss Airy was the third daughter of the late Sir George Airy, K.C.B., who was Astronomer Royal from 1835 to 1881. In the public life of Greenwich she played a particularly active part, being prominently associated with many charitable institutions, of which she was a generous supporter, and labouring unceasingly in Church affairs in St. Alphege parish under five Vicars. In 1891, when her father was in his 90th year, she took an interest in campanology, and was for 25 years a member of the Kent County Association. She was a frequent and welcome visitor to the belfry of St. Alphege Church, and became an adept ringer. A few years ago she was presented by her colleagues with an illuminated address in appreciation of her services. She passed away somewhat suddenly on June 8th, at the age of 75 years. On the day of the funeral the bells of St. Alphege Church were rung muffled to touches of Grandsire Triples, by: C. T. Clarke (Cubitt Town) 1, A. S. Beer 2, E. E. Richards 3, F. W. Thornton 4, I. G. Shade (conductor) 5, J. J. Lamb 6, H. Hoskins 7, D. Hodgson (Cubitt Town) 8.

### IN THE CRAY VALLEY.

On Saturday last, a party of cycling ringers paid a visit to the towers of Fools Cray and St. Mary Cray, Kent. At Fools Cray, where there is a light peal of five, several 120's were rung, including Stedman, Grandsire, and Bob Doubles, by Messrs. Hewett, Pike, Williamson, Smith, Durling, Emery, and a local ringer (Mr. J. Browning). These bells are a nice little ring, and worth a visit, if only for the novelty of the arrangements, as the ringing takes place on the ground floor in the centre of the church, and the ringer of the tenor may actually stand in the pews, or sit on the end of one and ring, if he desires.

After lowering the bells in peal, a move was made to St. Mary Cray, where after tea the main object of the trip, which was to ring the first 720 of Surprise on the splendid ring of six bells, was attempted. All went well, and 720 of Cambridge was brought round in good style in 25 mins., by: G. Durling 1, W. Hewett 2, W. Smith 3, E. F. Pike 4, T. Groombridge, senr., 5, I. Emery (conductor) 6. Then a 720 of Kent Treble Bob for A. Mason, of Erith, which was his first, was rung by: W. Hewett (conductor) 1, E. F. Pike 2, G. Durling 3, W. Smith 4, J. B. Williamson 5, A. G. Mason 6. A six-score of Stedman Doubles for a local man who rang tenor; and two courses of Cambridge by: A. G. Mason 1, W. Smith 2, W. Hewett 3, J. B. Williamson 4, E. F. Pike 5, I. Emery (conductor) 6, and a course of Grandsire Caters on the local handbells concluded the ringing for the day; and, after the bells had been lowered in peal, the party gradually dispersed to their respective homes, all agreeing that a successful and very pleasant time had been spent in the Valley of the Cray. I. E.

### BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. JOINT DISTRICT MEETING.

A joint meeting of the Bedford and Biggleswade Districts was held at Sandy, on Saturday week. Mr. C. W. Clark presided over the business proceedings, and members were present from St. Paul's and St. Peter's, Bedford, Elstow, Biggleswade, Northill, Potton, and the local tower. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Northill, on Saturday, June 23rd, and also annually to hold joint meetings of the two districts, at Willington, in May, and at Sandy in June. — One new member was elected. The bells were kept going during the afternoon and evening, and various touches were rung.

### RINGERS' FESTIVAL.

At Bucknall, Staffs, the ringers have a festival Sunday every year and this event occurred on June 10th, when the following touches were rung: For Holy Eucharist, 720 of Duke of York Minor: W. Wheeldon, junr., 1, C. Preston 2, T. Shaw 3, J. E. Wheeldon 4, D. Preston 5, W. Wheeldon, senr. (conductor), 6. For Matins, 720 Violet Treble Bob: W. Wheeldon, junr., 1, W. Wheeldon, senr., 2, T. Shaw 3, C. Preston 4, J. E. Wheeldon (conductor) 5, D. Preston 6. For evensong, 720 Woodbine: C. Preston 1, W. Wheeldon, junr., 2, T. Shaw 3, J. E. Wheeldon 4, W. Wheeldon, senr., 5, D. Preston (conductor) 6. After evensong, 240 Bob Minor. The above were rung on the occasion of the ringers' annual festival Sunday.

### ST. PAUL'S GREAT BELL AS RAID ALARM.

After consulting with the military authorities, the Lord Mayor of London has made the following official communication:—

"The Lord Mayor has decided to give the citizens of London immediate notice when he receives news of impending air raids, and he is in communication with the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's as to the practicability of ringing the great bell of the Cathedral with that object."

### BRAUGHING FESTIVAL ABANDONED.

After being held continuously for 138 years, the bell ringing festival at Braughing, Herts, has been abandoned owing to most of the ringers having joined the colours.

### A FALSE COMPOSITION.

Mr. G. Clayton points out that his peal of Leytonstone Stedman Caters, published in the "Ringing World" on July 23rd, 1915, is false.

### TWO QUARTER PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By A. J. PERKINS, BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

1280

23456	M.	In.	Fifths.	W.	H.
56234	2	1	1	2	2
52364				1	2
23456	2	Fourths & In.		2	2

Rung to Oxford and Kent at the Churches of Immanuel and St. Leonard's, Streatham, respectively.

1280	M.	B.	In.	Fifths.	W.	H.
52364	—				2	
43265	1		1	1	2	
52436			Fourths & In.		1	
23456				2		

Rung at St. Leonard's, Streatham, on February 6th, 1916. Conducted by A. J. Perkins.

### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BRIDGNORTH, SHROPSHIRE. — On Sunday, April 22nd, at St. Leonard's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): J. W. Howard 1, A. T. Baker 2, J. Overton 3, J. T. Tyler 4, Q.-M.-S. B. Head 5, W. Overton (conductor) 6, H. W. Overton 7, H. Jones 8. — On Whit-Sunday, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1264 changes): J. W. Howard 1, J. Overton 2, J. T. Tyler 3, J. Elcock 4, Q.-M.-S. B. Head 5, E. Foxall 6, W. Overton (conductor) 7, H. W. Overton 8. Arranged for Messrs. Head, Elcock and Foxall.

ERITH. — On April 29th, after evening service, at St. John's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung as a welcome to the new Vicar: D. Harvey (first quarter-peal) 1, H. Holden 2, J. Lowry 3, F. Cullum, junr., 4, A. Mason 5, G. Cullum 6, F. Cullum, senr., 7, E. Martin 8. A farewell touch to the Rev. Adams was rung after evening service on April 15th by the same band.

ACTON. — On Sunday morning, May 21st, at the Parish Church, 840 Grandsire Triples: J. W. Frain 1, R. H. Beddington 2, W. Vickery 3, W. Lawrence 4, C. Edwards 5, Robt. Holloway 6, Pte J. Arniger Trollope (conductor) 7, A. E. Smith 8. — For evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins.: Staff-Sergt. Verralls 1, H. Chaffey, R.N.A.S., 2, C. Edwards 3, Miss E. Jones 4, W. Vickery 5, Robt. Holloway 6, W. Lawrence (conductor) 7, A. W. Davies 8.

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*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.*

### ESSEX RINGER SHOT BY SNIPER.

We regret to announce the death of Pte Alfred Gozzett, of Maldon, Essex, who was attached to the Middlesex Regiment, and was killed in France by a sniper on May 7th whilst leaving the trenches.

He was a member of the St. Mary's Company, and had been their conductor since the band was formed about 12 years ago. He will be greatly missed, for he was seldom away from the Sunday service ringing, or on practice nights.

He had rung 16 peals in all, one of Grandsire Triples, one of Treble Bob Major, and 14 of Minor, several of the latter having been in seven methods. A printer by trade, he had been employed by a local firm from the time he left school.

He was 32 years of age, and leaves a widow and two sons to mourn their loss, and the sympathy of the Exercise will go out to the bereaved family.

### OSSETT RINGER KILLED IN ACTION.

We regret to record that Gunner Herbert Gordon Gee, R.G.A., was killed on April 24th by shell fire. He was a promising young ringer, and rendered yeoman service to the Ossett Holy Trinity Parish Church band for about six years before the war broke out. He had only rung one peal owing to so many of the ringers dropping out just after he had started, so that practically a fresh band had to be taught. Always of a cheerful disposition, Gunner Gee was a man of whom it could be said by those who enjoyed his friendship, that he was the staunchest comrade they had. He had not been married very long, and had been in the army since August, 1916. He went out early this year, and soon got into the thick of it. His colleagues, writing home, said that they would feel his loss deeply because he was one who was always bright and cheerful, and a very trusty comrade.

On Sunday, May 13th, two of his fellow ringers and a few from a neighbouring tower rang a few muffled touches of Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, and Stedman Triples, to his memory.

### Q.-M.-S. CAVE'S THANKS.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I must apologise for sending you the figures of the date touch of Stedman Caters with such an obvious mistake in them. The single in the 13th course should have been shown at 5, not at 16. I composed it in March, 1916, and proved it at the time, and the mistake must have crept in when copying it from the sheet of paper I used into my pocket book. I must thank, through you, the St. Martin's Guild for the compliment paid me. I hardly expected it to be rung so soon.

I notice you still refer to me as living in a "dug-out." The mistake is, of course, natural, as that was the last address I gave you but to tell the truth I have had several different classes of residence since then: Schoolhouse, barn, canvas hut, elephant hut, and ruined houses. I am in one of the latter at present. It is all right as long as the weather keeps fine, because "the roof lets in the sunshine and the rain." (The said roof consists merely of the rafters; the tiles are all off, and broken in small pieces, and made to form a wet weathervane path from the house to the road), but a couple of large tarpaulins help to keep the rain out.—Yours faithfully,

W. A. CAVE.

Since we received the above, a postcard has informed us that Q.-M.-S. Cave has reached England on well-deserved leave.

### THE ABANDONED SUSSEX MEETING.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I should like to add my denunciation of the action of the officers and committee of the Sussex Association, which prompted you to place your editorial remarks of June 8th, under the heading of "An abandoned meeting." I have read with interest those remarks; also the account of the meeting held on Whit-Monday at Brighton on the subject.

Let it be clearly understood that the decision arrived at was not the unanimous vote of the committee appointed to look after the Association's best interests.

As one of the committee, I neither approved of the abandonment of the annual meeting, nor the way which led up to it. I am of opinion that the committee ought to have been summoned to Brighton as hitherto, where it would have been much better to have discussed all points of importance, instead of a vote taken by our own fireside, which was the case. I voted for the meeting to be held, as did three others, I believe. Previous "war time" meetings justified this action, as the meetings last year and in 1915 were well attended.

Money matters ought not to have been taken as an excuse. I sincerely hope the officers and committee will see that a mistake has been made, and hold the meeting and put things right, as suggested, in the spirit of the meeting held at Brighton on Whit-Monday.

Just one word more, Mr. Editor, if you will allow me. As two wrongs cannot make a right, I do not approve of the unanimous vote at the Brighton meeting to hold all moneys till the general meeting is held. Let us get on with the meeting, and "no reprisals."—Yours very truly,

Battle,

WALTER FRANK

## STEDMAN CINQUES.

## THE START AND FINISH.

By GEORGE T. CLAYTON.

The only definition of the words "touch" and "peal" that is not liable to involve the ruling authority in hopeless difficulties is "A round block of so many changes in an approved method." In "Rules and Decisions" it is enacted that on all numbers of bells a true peal shall in all cases start from and end with rounds. The prepositions should be carefully noted. Prepositions are often used wrongly, and before proceeding further, example of the correct use of these important words had better be given. In the undernoted rows the start is from rounds with 21354, and it will surprise some ringers to find on inspection that this goes off is not Stedman, but Grandsire.

12345

21354

In "Legitimate Methods," issued under the authority of the Central Council, Stedman is shown as starting with rounds at the fourth row of a quick six, and, of course, ending with the row immediately preceding rounds. It is clear that these pronouncements cannot be reconciled with one another unless the former be read as not applying to Stedman. But the first pronouncement requires to be redrawn, for it invalidates every peal of Duffield, and the peals in other even-bell methods are only valid because they do not comply with another pronouncement of the Council. The last-mentioned pronouncement, which, unlike the one under notice, rests upon an unshakeable foundation, enjoins that the divisions between the leads in methods with one hunt shall be between the first and second blows of the hunt. This means that in nearly all Plain, and in quite all Treble Bob methods, rounds, instead of being the final row, is the initial row. In Stedman's Tintinnalogia, dated 1668, Plain Bob is set out in accordance with this pronouncement, which has everything to recommend it excepting that it causes the musical cadences to come up at the beginning of the divisions instead of at the end.

## THE CHOICE OF THE STARTING ROW.

Ordinarily, Stedman should start from and end with rounds for the sufficient reason that nothing is to be gained by doing otherwise, though, as I have previously pointed out, there is no objection to starting from and ending with 21345, or any other row; but in Cinques great advantages are to be gained by starting from other rows. Now, I most respectfully submit for the consideration of the Council that ringers should be free, not only to choose the row from which the start is made, but to produce the row in any way that they may find convenient. Also that in selecting 5,000 rows out of the forty millions or so that eleven bells afford, no attempt should be made to compel them to include any particular row in the selection 213456578901, is a much better fundamental row than rounds.

I should now like, if I may be permitted to do so, to call the attention of the Council to what appears to be a serious fault in the second pronouncement. I see nothing wrong in starting with rounds, though so doing is inadvisable, but it is surely wrong to ring part of a six at the beginning of a composition, and the remainder at the end. The Stedman six, like a lead of Plain Bob, is a hunting cycle, and if one cycle may be broken without doing violence to the method, fifty may be broken. In regard to homing courses, not consisting of whole sixes, when only part of a six is required it can hardly be said that the cycle is broken; but peals ending, say, at the first row of a six are obviously not round blocks in the sense that the peals appended to this article are round blocks. A gas engine can stop at any part of the cycle, but it can only start after the compression stroke, and two strokes of the same nature cannot be together. It, therefore, appears that such homing courses should not be encouraged.

## STEDMAN CINQUES.

5016				5016			
5	6	19	123456	5	6	7	18 19
—	—	—	6354	—	—	—	263514
—	—	—	4653	—	—	—	643125
—	—	—	421356	—	—	—	453261
—	—	—	6153	—	—	—	513642
—	—	—	3651	—	—	—	124653
—	—	—	324156	—	—	—	235614
—	—	—	6451	—	—	—	341625
—	—	—	623154	—	—	—	453126
—	—	—	4351	—	—	—	415326
—	—	—	1453	—	—	—	165243
—	—	—	521364	—	—	—	635412
—	—	—	4163	—	—	—	531462
—	—	—	425361	—	—	—	326451
—	—	—	1563	—	—	—	621534
—	—	—	3165	—	—	—	124365
—	—	—	324561	—	—	—	426315
—	—	—	1465	—	—	—	235146
—	—	—	123564	—	—	—	512346
8	—	—	3465	—	—	—	214356

Repeat.

Repeat.

The ringing to begin and end with a row to be selected by the conductor.

## BELLS AND BELFRY REFORM.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I had intended taking up no more of your valuable space, but your clerical correspondent's very nice letter rather suggests otherwise; therefore, I will, with your kind permission, thank my incognito friend for his letter, which, I am sure, all ringers read with pleasure. As to the attitude of the clergy towards ringers, we are all aware that many of the former do their utmost for bells and ringers—all thanks to them—but there is the other very painful side. Many do not care, otherwise denunciatory remarks such as those in the "Church Times" would not appear. The old saw runs, "Give a dog a bad name and it will stick to him." Now we all know that ringers and belfries used to have a bad record. That was at the same time that the incident took place when two dogs were fighting in church, and the clergyman leaned over the pulpit and offered to bet a "bob" on the long-tailed one. I am afraid the bad name, once attached to ringers, is even now encouraged by such remarks as were published in the "Church Times."

I have very recently been told by a leading man in the town in which are situate the tower and bells referred to in my last letter, that the bells and ringers were "thought precious little of," and about ten days ago I was informed by a business man from a county town that the ringers were not recognised, and were usually coming out of church as the congregation were going in. He also disagreed with me when I told him there was "something in change ringing." His idea was that one man shouted out the numbers, etc., from a book when the bells were ringing. I believe I convinced him (after showing him a book on standard methods, and explaining that ringers did not have their "music" in front of them when performing), that there was a little to learn, even in ringing.

I do not know if Ashford itself is the town to which our clerical friend refers, where the Vicar stands up so manfully for the Exercise, but we all know the present Vicar there is deeply interested in bells and ringers. This fine peal, situated in a lofty tower in the centre of the town, is very noisy, and I believe much is due to the position of the bells in the chamber, the louvres of which require filling up to a certain height with ragstone, not bricks, as I have seen recommended in many cases. The position had better be left as it is rather than place bricks in a fine old stone tower. Here is a case for the locals to recommend to their Vicar, and at the same time hang the other two bells, at present hung dead.

There is much improvement yet needed in towers, and even in bells, to make them more agreeable to the outside public. Hanging bells in iron frames has, in my opinion, aggravated the noise, and I fear, when these new frames corrode in course of time, that many of our church towers will be cracked thereby. The spire of St. Bride's, Fleet Street, has recently had to be rebuilt, owing to the incorporation of iron into the stonework. We all know that bell hangers dislike using anything but iron or steel, so easy to mould and rivet up together. And could not the sound of bells be modified by fitting springs to the clappers, as used on handbells?

As regards control of church bells, to my mind, it is much the same as where pew rents are charged—the incumbent has assumed more control of the bells than he is entitled to. Pew rents are illegal in parish churches, but exist, nevertheless, in many cases.

I must congratulate our friend on his long ringing experience against his short term of office as churchwarden. I can honestly say the latter might have been longer, but the office of parish churchwarden has lately gone begging in my district, for I know of two vacancies near here which were not filled at the Easter vestry, owing to the reasons stated in my last letter.

As to Eucharist services and the east and west ends, I may say, in many cases, where the east is overdone the west is undone. In my own village church the tower end was converted into a coke, paraffin, and rubbish hole generally, while the chancel grew into the sanctuary. The west end has been rectified since, to a certain extent by our parish churchwarden and our east end is not overdone, for, being a poor parish of about 250 souls, mostly all working people, we can scarcely get together enough money to pay for necessities.

I trust your reverend contributor will not be offended by my remarks, for he is helping our art of ringing in a way that I wish and would suggest other clergy should do, where possible. They should bring in other leading men, so that our calling may be thought more of, and recognised as an honourable one.—Yours truly,

"Cameron," Stone, Ashford.

C. W. PLAYER

## THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE DISASTER.

We are happy to be able to state that all ringing friends at Ashton-under-Lyne escaped harm in the recent disastrous munitions explosion, which took place in the populous parish of St. Peter's. The young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Wolstencroft had a miraculous escape, her playmate being killed.

CREWE.—Chester Diocesan Guild.—On Sunday, May 13th, at Christ Church, for evening service, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major, on the middle eight: F. Moore 1, W. Holding 2, G. Crawley 3, R. Langford 4, A. Crawley 5, H. Overton (longest length) 6, R. D. Langford 7, J. Dentith 8, R. T. Holding (conductor) 9, G. Harding 10.



## 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).—A Meeting will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on June 28th, at 8 p.m., for handbell practice.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, June 23rd, 1917, at St. Nicholas, Rodmersham, near Sittingbourne.—Edward A. G. Allen, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Shipley on Saturday, June 23rd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Business meeting in the Schools at 6 p.m.—All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cocper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Hersham on Saturday, June 23rd. Ringing 3.15 to 8.30 p.m. Short service (full choir), 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—F. J. Shepherd, Assistant Sec., 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Surrey.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Whitchurch, near Cardiff, on Saturday, June 23rd, at 4 o'clock. Bells (6) available. Tea will be provided. St. John's bells (10), Cardiff, will be available from 7 to 8 p.m., if required.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., John W. Jones, 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon., Hon. Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Newchurch, near Warrington, on Saturday, June 23rd, 1917. Bells ready at 2.30. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton, Branch Sec.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—The church bells will be at the disposal of visiting ringers on Saturday, June 23rd, 1917, from 12.30 p.m. till 9 p.m.—A. Symonds.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rosendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Raneshorough, on Saturday, June 23rd. Bells ready at 3. Meeting, 6.30 p.m. A good attendance is earnestly requested. Subscriptions due. Reports to hand.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's Street, Raneshorough.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY.—Established 1623.—The 294th anniversary of the above society will be held on Wednesday, June 27th. Ringing commences at 9 a.m. All visitors are welcome.—R. A. Strong, Hon. Secretary.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Beeston on Saturday, June 30th. Bells available from 3 until 8 o'clock (excepting during tea and meeting). Committee meeting at 4.30. Tea at 5, followed by general meeting, all in the church schoolroom. Tea (1/- each) will only be provided for those who notify Mr. Wm. Clifford, 29, Enfield Street, Bellevue Park, Beeston, by the previous Wednesday, of their intention to be present.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North Eastern Division.—A district meeting will be held at Castle Hedingham on June 30th. Bells, 2 p.m. until 9 p.m. Short service, with address by the Rev. E. N. Powell, Bishop, at 4.30. Tea, followed by meeting, at the Bell Inn (Castle Hedingham), 1/3 per head. The bells of Sible Hedingham will also be open for ringing. All those who intend to be present must notify me not later than Tuesday, June 26th, first post. I shall be pleased to receive subscriptions for the current year.—B. Redgwell, The Street, Rayne.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Selly Oak on Saturday, June 30th. Service in the church at 5 p.m. Tea will be provided on the vicarage lawn if fine—in the schools if wet—at 5.45. Business meeting to follow. On account of the food restrictions, it is most important that all those intending to be present should let me know by Tuesday, June 26th. Bells available from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.—E. J. Dowler, 11, St. Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham, Branch Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The annual meeting will be held at Wolverhampton on Saturday, June 30th. Bells (12) available at 3. Short service in St. Peter's Church at 4.45, with an address by the Rev. Preb. Penny, M.A. (Rector). Meal tea at the Seven Stars Hotel, John Street, at 5.30 (1/- to fully-paid members; to others, 1/6), followed by the general meeting. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than Monday, 25th inst.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD (North and East District).—A meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, on Saturday, June 30th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Short service and address by the Vicar (Rev. O. R. Dawson) at 6 p.m., to be followed by the business meeting. Any ringers and friends welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*), 25, Crown St., Harrow.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James', Birch, on Saturday, June 30th. Bells available at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bridgewater Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting of this branch will be held at North Petherton on Saturday, June 30th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—A. E. Moulton, Hon. Sec.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting of the Kettering district will be held at Kettering on Saturday, June 30th. Bells open from 3.30 until 7.30. Meeting in belfry, 5.30. Election of Officers.—Robt. F. Turner, Hon. Dist. Sec., 160, S. Peter's Avenue, Kettering.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at North Wingfield (8 bells), on Saturday, July 7th. By kind permission of Canon Boden the Vicarage grounds will be open to ringers for games, etc., during the afternoon. Clay Cross station, Midland railway.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

**ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.—**

The 50th anniversary of the present peal of bells of St. Mary-le-Tower Church, Ipswich, which were augmented to 12 in 1867, will be celebrated on Saturday, July 7th. The bells will be available from 3.30 until 5.30 p.m.—William Motts, Secretary, 25, Orchard Street, Ipswich.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—**

The next meeting will be held by kind permission of the Rector (Rev. H. Wilson) at Haslington, on Saturday, July 7th. Ringing from 3.30. Tea at a nominal charge at 6. All ringing friends welcome. Members intending to be present kindly notify me seven days prior to meeting.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—**The Summer Festival will be held at Woburn, on Saturday, July 7th. The bells will be available from 2.30. Service in the Church at 4. Preacher, the Rev. Canon Parr. Tea at 5 at King's Tea Rooms.—A. Rust, Hon. Sec.

**HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—**Eastern District.—The meeting at Barkway is cancelled.—W. H. Lawrence, Dist. Sec.

**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.

**MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.**

At the annual meeting of the Dudley and District Guild, held on Saturday, March 10th, 1917, it was unanimously decided to erect in the Parish Church, Dudley (the Vicar and wardens having consented to the same), a tablet recording the half-muffled peal of Grandsire Caters rung on Saturday, February 3rd, at St. Thomas's Church, Dudley, to the memory of the late Mr. Samuel Spittle, who had been its ringing master ever since the Guild was formed, and had held other important offices at the Parish Church for upwards of 70 years. It was further decided to appeal to the members of the Guild for subscriptions, and it was thought that many of the late Mr. Spittle's ringing friends and acquaintances would like the opportunity of contributing something towards perpetuating the memory of so devoted and honoured a ringer and church worker. The work has already been put in hand, and subscriptions should be forwarded without delay to the Ringing Master, Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, Staffs, or to the Hon. Secretary, Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley, who will in due course acknowledge the same in "The Ringing World."

Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland, LL.D., Vicar and President.

Harry Mason, Ringing Master.

Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec.

Subscriptions promised and duly received:—Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland, LL.D., £1 1s. od.; The Dudley Company, £1; Mr. J. W. Jones, Newport (Mon.), 2s.

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# THE RINGING WORLD

No. 328. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, JUNE 29th, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

## 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, 1917.

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 authorized 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. DEOK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

### PREPARING FOR PEACE.

Throughout the land, when peace is declared, the people of this country will expect to hear their church bells rung. Ever since bells have hung in the "grey and ivied towers" of England one of their important functions has been to proclaim victories and peace, and, while in this great and calamitous war they have often been silent—for sympathy with those who have lost their nearest and dearest—when they might well have pealed forth to celebrate the success of our arms, there is likely to be no curbing of their iron tongues when at last peace reigns over the world. When that is likely to be no one can say, but it is not too soon for ringers to look ahead in order that arrangements may be made so that the ringing may be as adequate as possible.

Already in some areas plans are being laid in order that the bells in those towers where the ringers have been depleted by the great call for men, shall not hang idle, and we believe a scheme is on foot in London with the object of organising peace ringing in the metropolis. The great difficulty is going to be found in the shortage of ringers. Therefore, even at some inconvenience, those companies whose numbers have become so small that the bells have now perforce to remain unring, ought to make a special effort to raise at once enough recruits so that, when the war ends, the bells may, at least, be rung in rounds. In some cases there may be men who, years ago, were ringers, but who gave up from some cause or another. An endeavour might well be made to induce these to return, if only temporarily, for they would not, at any rate, need quite rudimentary instruction, although, perhaps, some little practice might be necessary. In a large number of towers youths and ladies are being pressed into service, and Surfleet, with a goodly proportion of juveniles in the band, furnishes a splendid example of what may be done by teaching quite young boys to handle a bell. But, however a band is raised, the important point is to have enough ringers for the bells on the day when peace will be welcomed; and while each church can best decide how to find the necessary recruits to fulfil its requirements, there ought to be no place where the bells will remain silent merely for lack of foresight in obtaining enough ringers.

Then there is the question of the bells themselves. They need to be ready for the purpose in view, and doubtless there are many places like Tregare in Monmouthshire, where, we learn, special efforts are to be made to have the ring of five rehung to take their part in the rejoicings. But those who contemplate putting their house in order in this way must remember that there are now very few firms of competent bell-bangers able to undertake such work. All are more or less engaged on important national

(Continued on page 202.)

## 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 write 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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and report on Bells and Towers.

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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.

(Continued from page 201.)

tasks, and delay in the execution of private contracts is therefore inevitable. It will consequently be of no use to leave restorations until peace is actually in sight. Like Tregare, those who intend having their bells put into proper trim, should take Time by the forelock, or they may find to their chagrin that they are "still waiting" when the peace celebrations do arrive. It is up to the ringers to keep this view of the matter before their respective church authorities.

### SIX BELL PEAL.

ALLESLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.  
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, June 23, 1917, in Three Hours and One Minute,  
At the Church of All Saints,

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;**

Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

HARRY THORPE ... .. Treble	JOHN TAYLOR ... .. 4
OSWALD J. HUNT ... .. 2	WILLIAM T. COX ... .. 5
ALFRED WILSON ... .. 3	JOSEPH H. W. WHITE ... Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH H. W. WHITE.

Rung to welcome the Rev. A. D. Perrott, who has recently been inducted to the living of Allesley. The ringers were most hospitably entertained by the Rector after the peal.

### MILITARY RINGERS AT ALDERSHOT.

There are a number of ringers now stationed at the great military camp at Aldershot, and for practice, on June 12th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung at the Parish Church, by: Pte R. George, A.S.C. 1, Corpl. J. T. Bartram, R.F.A., 2, J. Mann (conductor), 3, Trooper H. Hale, 4th Res. Cavalry, 4, Corpl. E. Bennett, M.F.P., 5, Pte H. W. Kirtton, A.O.C., 6.—On Sunday, June 17th, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor, by: Pte Laphthorne, A.O.C., 1, Corpl. J. T. Bartram, R.F.A., 2, J. Mann (conductor), 3, Trooper H. Hale, 4th Res. Cavalry, 4, Corpl. E. Bennett, M.F.P., 5, Pte H. W. Kirtton, A.O.C., 6.

### ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.

The meeting of the Romney Marsh and District Guild, held at High Halden, was not very well attended, and the weather could not possibly be made the excuse on this occasion, unless it was a little too warm for some of the members. A 720 of Grandsire Doubles was rung, muffled, by: R. Curd (Rye) 1, A. C. Thay (Ashford) 2, W. H. Lambert (Benenden) 3, L. Honess (Biddenden) 4, C. Tribe, conductor (Tenterden), 5, and A. Blackman (Rolvenden) 6, as a last tribute of respect to one of the local ringers, H. Hawkins, junr., who was a member of the Kent County Association, and who died while serving his country. He was suddenly taken ill while on the Quay at Southampton waiting to go on board a transport for service abroad, and, although taken to hospital and an operation performed, he passed away in a few days, and was brought home and buried in the church, near which he had spent the greater part of his life.

The ringers' sympathy was conveyed to his parents.

A few more six-scores were afterwards rung, and the bells lowered in peal. The Vicar (the Rev. Gilpin) visited the belfry, and gave the members a hearty welcome.

It was proposed to hold the next meeting in July, at Ashford, when it is hoped the attendance will be more numerous.

### CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

A special ringing meeting of the Northampton District was held at Cogenhoe, members being present from St. Peter's, All Saints', St. Giles' and Holy Sepulchre, Northampton; Weston Favell, Kingshorpe, Boughton, Ecton, Moulton, and the local band, a very pleasant afternoon being spent, the younger members, including five ladies, being especially pleased. Nearly the whole available time was devoted to helping beginners over the first fence, which seems such a formidable obstacle to the would-be change ringer. Service was held, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. C. F. Stebbins), during which a collection was made for a fund which it was decided at the annual meeting of the Association at Rothwell to establish, to be called the "Belfry Repair Fund."

Tea was served in the Schoolroom, 21 sitting down, and the Sec. announced that the amount collected during the service was 6s.—Mr. F. Hopper proposed a vote of sympathy with Mr. J. Clarke (vice-president) in his illness, and the hope was expressed that he would soon be restored to his usual health. A donation of 2s. 6d. has since been received from Mr. Clarke for the belfry repair fund.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector for the service and the use of the bells, to the local ringers for having the bells in such good order, and to the ladies for the tea.

**OXFORD GUILD ACTIVITIES.****OPERATIONS IN E. BERKS AND S. BUCKS.**

The intimation in "The Ringing World" of one or two meetings at Whitsuntide was the means of helping visitors to attend practices in the East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, and here is a brief record of what was done.

At Stoke Poges, on Empiro Day, May 24th, good practice was made in rounds, Doubles and Minor, with several "colts" and lady ringers taking part. This meeting was repeated on 31st inst., "Union Day, South Africa," when six ladies, representing four towers (Windsor, Burnham, Fulmer and Stoke), rang the six bells in peal without the aid of mere man. Miss Cooper also took a rope in Stedman, and Miss Bateman one in Oxford Bob Minor. A good evening's work was put in by the 14 members present, the conductors being Messrs. Parker and Gutteridge.

At Slough, May 26th, was the County of Bucks Red Cross Day, for which the local committee, under the presidency of Mrs. Herbert Eliot (wife of the Rector of Slough) made special efforts, the collections and sales realising nearly £180. The bells of St. Mary's were rung during the evening in Grandsire, Stedman and Oxford Bob Triples, Plain Treble Bob, and Double Norwich Major, some twenty ringers attending. Messrs. J. Bruce Williamson (I.O.W.) and Horace Thompson (better known as Thompson Major) were elected members of the Guild; Mr. and Mrs. Melville, of Guildford, paid a visit to the belfry on their way to see Mr. W. R. Melville, at Wooburn; Mr. C. J. Tricker, of Hounslow, cycled down for the evening; and Mr. E. T. Brown (Clewering) also paid a visit. Thanks to "The Ringing World," all these ringing friends were able to make their first acquaintance with the tower and bells of Slough. The following members who, in war time, may be termed the "old stagers" took part in the several touches. The Rev. J. Fraser Amies, the Misses Cooper, Gudgeon and Bateman, Messrs. Blackmore, Horne, Alder, Henley, Smith, Leader, Hooper, Flaxman, Fussell and J. Brant, of Winkfield, the last named looking his old self again after a serious operation in Windsor Hospital early this year.

At Beaconsfield, on Whit-Monday, there was another good muster, 18 being present. Three Triple and Major methods were practised, and the bells kept going from 7 till 9 p.m. Most of the band had spent the afternoon at High Wycombe, and after a long cycle run were glad to partake of tea at the Plough Inn. Those taking part included the Misses Gudgeon, Cooper and Bateman, and Messrs. Alder, Horne, Blackmore, Barnes (Great Missenden), Phil Evans, Hooper, Henley, Williamson, Thompson, Gutteridge, W. Bateman, Fussell, J. L. Kirk (Cookham), F. J. Reeve (of Tring), who cycled in Bucks just T'-ring, and the Rev. J. F. Amies, of Chalfont.

Nineteen ringers attended the practice at Chalfont St. Peter's, on Saturday, June 2nd. Ringing began at 4.30, and there was an interval at six o'clock for tea, served in a large room adjoining the Churchyard. The practice was continued until 9 p.m. Doubles and Minor in two methods each were rung by mixed bands, a full team of local ringers was furnished for one spell of six scores, although the local society has sent three or four men to join up "elsewhere," where the practice is mostly "doubling." Tea was kindly provided by the Vicar. The Rev. C. S. A. Whittington, who also presided, the company greatly appreciating his thoughtful refresher on a hot summer's day, and the Branch Secretary voicing their thanks to the donor. It was interesting to learn that the Vicar made some progress with double-handed change ringing whilst at the Wells Theological College, and that his forefathers claim descent from Sir Richard Whittington, thrice Lord Mayor of London. There were present Messrs. C. Chapman (Chalfont St. Giles), Barnes, Williamson, Thompson, Gutteridge, E. Harding (Fulmer), Horne, Blackmore, Fussell, the Misses Bateman, Cooper and Gudgeon—and the Rev. J. F. Amies, with Messrs. Stone, Bolton, Burnham, and Winkfield, local men. Mr. J. H. Shepherd, of Swindon, arrived in time to take a cup, a pull, and the tenor's diameter, and has added yet another tower to the 1248 already invaded by him. Readers will be happy to learn that Mr. Whittington, of Cranleigh, is somewhat better, after a severe illness, brought on by war work at Ipswich.

Being a royal parish, the King's birthday was observed at Farnham Royal, June 4th by the ringing of the church bells in honour of the event. June 4th is also the day of days at Eton College, where the Eton students formerly celebrated an ancient custom, "Collecting Salt" (money) for special use of the Collegers. Exactly a century ago £821 was raised, the King and Queen contributing £80 of this sum. Long since discontinued, the festivities were held at a place near Eton, known as "Montem," giving the name of Salt Hill to a part of Slough which is still visited by Old Etonians. A round dozen members attended Farnham Royal for this meeting, three methods being rung. The numerous friends of the under-mentioned members of the branch serving in H.M. forces will be glad to hear that recent letters show them to be fit and well: A. Bateman and R. Buckland, R.N.A.S.; A. Elburn, P. Jones, G. Martin, R.E.'s; W. Burden, G. Cutts, Royal Berks; W. Welling, G. F. Williams, R.G.A.; E. Hancox, Middlesex; J. H. Cropley, R.A.M.C. W. H. F.

**QUEENBOROUGH, KENT.**—On Sunday, 20th May, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor: W. Wood, junr., 1. E. Wellard 2. Sergt. B. Thompson (Rifle Brigade), conductor, 3. J. Spooner 4. R. Staines 5. W. Wood, senr., 6.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.****SOUTHERN DISTRICT.**

The quarterly meeting of the Southern District was held on Saturday week, at Barnsley, where a good company assembled from Sheffield (Cathedral and All Saints'), Doncaster, Rotherham (Parish Church), Wortley, Bolsterstone, Horbury, South Kirkby, Ecclesfield, Penistone, etc. The bells were raised about 4 p.m., and the methods rung included Grandsire Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, Stedman Triples, etc. The visitors were provided with a splendid tea during the afternoon, Mr. C. D. Potter, of the local company, very kindly bearing a big percentage of the cost. Following this, the tower was again visited, and good ringing was enjoyed until 7.30 p.m., when, owing to service being held, it had to be curtailed.

A short business meeting was afterwards held in the churchyard, Mr. J. Willey (the newly-appointed vice-president) being in the chair.

It was unanimously decided, following upon the discussion at the last meeting, that a payment of 1s. be granted to the steeplekeeper of the tower visited on the occasion of all meetings.

A resolution was passed requesting the hon. secretary to write to Mr. C. D. Potter, intimating how very sorry all the members were that he could not be present at the meeting, to which he had looked forward for a long time. Mr. Holmes, who was present on behalf of Mr. Potter, said that he was at present suffering very acutely from rheumatism, and Mr. L. Brightman (district secretary pro tem.), who had visited Mr. Potter during the afternoon, conveyed the latter's very kindest wishes to the members for a successful gathering.—All present wished Mr. Potter a speedy recovery, and expressed their gratitude for his generosity and for undertaking the arrangements.

A very hearty vote of thanks was also accorded the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and to the local company for carrying out all arrangements. Mr. Holmes and Mr. Richardson (steeplekeeper) were specially mentioned, as they spared no effort throughout the visit to ensure everything running smoothly and comfortably for the ringers.

Three new members were elected from Rotherham, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Wentworth, near Rotherham, if permission were granted, and that the date should be either September 8th or 22nd.

**SOUTH BARROW BELLS REDEDICATED.**

The beautiful little Somerset Church of St. Peter, South Barrow, which dates from the 15th century, has recently had its bells tuned, quarter turned and rehung. This important and necessary work was made possible by a generous bequest of the late Rev. George Mills who for thirty years was Vicar of South Barrow, and also Rector of North Barrow, and through his munificence the bells in both towers are now in splendid order. The work in both churches was entrusted by the executors to Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and that firm carried the work through with completeness and perfection.

Great interest was shown in the ceremony of dedication, which took place recently at Sunday service. So full was the church for the occasion that it was not possible to take in another dozen people. Parishioners of North and South Barrow, and friends from other parishes, constituted a congregation as large as the old church had ever held before. The ceremony of dedication was performed by the Rev. H. E. Wake, Vicar of Castle Cary, and Rural Dean, and accompanying him were the Rev. H. A. Boys (Rector of North Cadbury) and the Vicar (the Rev. H. C. Dobie). The authorised service for the dedication of the bells was gone through in the belfry, and at the request of the Rural Dean, the ringers from North Barrow "opened" the bells by ringing a short joyous peal. Evening service followed, and the special Psalms and hymns were heartily joined in by all, the lessons being read by the Rev. H. A. Boys. An admirable sermon was preached by the Rev. H. E. Wake.

After the service the bells were sending their sweet notes over hill and dale for a long time, and great admiration was expressed at their rich tones. One bell is of the date 1620, while the others are pre-Reformation. The church of South Barrow deserves notice, and a visit by anyone going to the neighbourhood, as it contains some ancient carved oak panels to the pews, Jacobean altar rails, an old oak pulpit, and a curious brass dated 1594, which, formerly in the aisle, is now mounted on oak, and placed on the north wall of the nave.

**DEATH OF A STOKE RINGER.**

The death took place on Thursday of last week of Mr. G. Woods, who passed away at the age of 62 years. He had been a ringer at Stoke-on-Trent just over ten years, and was well known in the Midlands, having been a ringer at Burton-on-Trent. He had taken part in about 30 peals.

The funeral, which took place at Hanley Cemetery, on Sunday last, was attended by the ringers from Stoke belfry, and Mr. D. Preston from Bucknall. Four of the deceased's brother ringers acted as bearers, viz., Messrs. G. Bloor, C. Page, F. Landon, J. Simister. A floral tribute, in the shape of a bell, was sent from the members of the Stoke tower, whose deepest sympathy has been extended to the bereaved family.

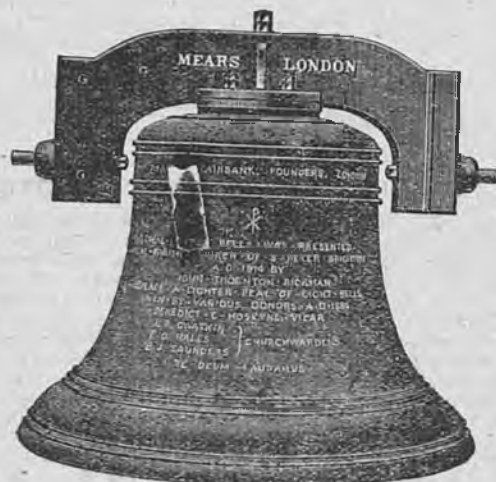


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**Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring  
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.**

## 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.*

## SUSSEX ASSOCIATION'S ANNUAL MEETING.

WESTERN DIVISION SUPPORTS CENTRAL DIVISION'S PROTEST.

A quarterly meeting was held at Hoene on Saturday week, when a good number of members were present from Brighton (St. Peter's and St. Nicholas'), Aldrington, Shoreham, Steyning, Shipley, Pulborough, Angmering, Tarring, and the local band. Touches of Steadman Triples, Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob, Cambridge, Superlative, and Bristol Surprise Major were rung, and Mr. J. H. Shepard, of Swindon, arrived just in time for London Surprise.

About 20 sat down to tea, kindly provided by the Rector (the Rev. J. P. Fallows), and at the business meeting Mr. K. Hart was voted to the chair.

Mr. Lindup, on behalf of the Rector, gave the members a hearty welcome, and he also undertook to thank him for his kindness in providing the tea and granting the use of the bells.

The following resolution was then passed unanimously: "That this meeting strongly opposes the decision of the general secretary and officers of the Association in discontinuing the annual meetings until after the war; that the officers have no power to overrule the resolution of the annual meeting of 1916; that the annual meeting be held on August Bank Holiday, at Brighton, and that this meeting hereby requests the general secretary to arrange the same."

It was suggested that the next quarterly meeting be held at Steyning in September, and there will be a combined practice at Shoreham on Saturday next in the afternoon.—Mr. K. Hart was thanked for presiding.

The members then again visited the tower, and some also went to Tarring, to ring Cambridge Surprise, etc.

## CENTRAL DIVISION SECRETARY'S REPLY TO MR. FRANKS.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—In reply to Mr. Franks' letter, in your last issue, the reasons the Central Division decided to withhold its balance until notice of the annual meeting is given are:—

1. Because the general secretary and treasurer are starving the Association in order to hoard. They wish to rake in the subscriptions and give nothing in return.
2. Because they usurp the rights of the members in not carrying out the rules and resolutions. Therefore, the division must retain its own funds and cater for itself until the reckoning comes.
3. The members of the division are not content to pay in their subscriptions merely to be handed over to the treasurer, they want some return for what they pay.
4. The balance really withheld is only just over one-half, the other part having been paid to the treasurer last year.

We know quite well that two wrongs do not make a right, but is it wrong for the Division to safeguard its own interests?—Yours faithfully,

A. D. STONE.

Hon. Sec., Central Division.

## HANDBELL RINGING OVERSEAS.

### INTERESTING PERFORMANCE BY SERVICE MEN.

On Wednesday, 20th June 1917, at "An Overseas Port," 720 Grand-sire Doubles, each six-score called differently: Lance-Corpl. Claude I. Davies (1st Monmouths), 1—2, 3rd Writer Clement Glenn, R.N. (conductor), 3—4, Sergt. Herbert Blake (12th W. Yorks), 5—6. Credit is due to the ringers of 1—2 and 5—6 for their good striking and few faults, this being their first 720 "in hand," especially as opportunities for practice have necessarily been very irregular and few in number. The name or locality of the "overseas port" cannot, for obvious reasons, be given at present, and, whilst nothing in the way of a "record" is claimed, it is anticipated that the above will prove to be at any rate the "longest length" yet rung in the country referred to. On one or two occasions, when Pte. Arthur Hague, R.A.M.C., of one of H.M. Ambulance Transports, has been able to be present, courses and short touches of Grand-sire Triples and Bob Minor have also been rung.

## RINGING AT NEWPORT.

Owing to the very serious illness of the Vicar there will be no practice for the next few weeks at All Saints' Church, Newport, Mon. The bells were idle last Sunday week, and the Vicar, ascertaining the cause, asked that the bells be not stopped for him, especially for the Sunday services. Sergt. Frank Morgan, being home on leave, a touch of 336 Steadman Triples was rung for the evening service on June 24th by the following: T. Ford, F. Morgan, J. Rullen, M. Selby, H. Morgan, C. Greedy, H. Ridout and J. W. Jones.

The practice night at All Saints' is Monday, and at St. Woolos on Tuesday. Visitors are always welcome at either tower.

## TO PREPARE FOR PEACE.

An effort is being made in the agricultural parish of Tregar, situated in North Monmouthshire, to have the five bells rehung so that when peace is declared they can take their share in the rejoicings.

**KILLED IN ACTION.****PTE. D. I. BREARLEY, OF BOLSTERSTONE.**

Another of our fine young fellows has paid the supreme sacrifice, David Ivor Brearley, the third son of Mr. David Brearley, of Bolsterstone, near Sheffield, having been killed in action on May 14th, in France. The deceased joined the forces in March, 1916, and belonged to the 2/4 Yorks and Lancaster Regiment. He was drafted in France last January.

He belonged to the Bolsterstone Company, being the youngest of three sons of Mr. David Brearley, the captain of the tower. Deceased's eldest brother Archie has been in France since April, 1916. Pte D. I. Brearley was of fine physique, being six feet two inches tall, and, in the words of one of his officers, in a letter to his father, was a fine soldier and a favourite with both officers and men.

The bells of Bolsterstone tower were rung, muffled, on Sunday last as a tribute to his memory. He will be greatly missed by the ringers, and, needless to say, his death is a sad blow to his parents. Before joining the army he assisted his father in his business of builder and contractor.

**FREDERICK GILBERT, OF TENTERDEN.**

The ringers of St. Mildred's Church, Tenterden, rang the bells muffled, on Wednesday week as a last tribute of respect to one of their number, Pte Fredk. Gilbert (more familiarly known as "Wiggie") who was killed in action in France recently, and who is the first to meet death on the field of honour, out of the eight who have joined up from this tower.

It was intended to ring a muffled quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples on this occasion, but as in the case of so many other towers, the Tenterden band are short-handed, and three friends who were to have helped them were prevented owing to the weather, so that only rounds and the whole pull and stand could be rung. A note conveying their deepest sympathy has been sent to Pte Gilbert's sorrowing mother and sisters, who are left to mourn the loss of a good son and brother.

**PTE. H. HAWKINS, OF HIGH HALDEN.**

Although not killed in action, Pte H. Hawkins, junr., of High Halden, Kent, and a member of the Kent County Association, has died in the service of his country. While waiting at Southampton to embark on a transport for service overseas, he was taken ill, and removed to hospital, where he passed away a few days after an operation. He was buried at High Halden, near the tower in which he had spent so many happy hours, and at the recent meeting at that church of the Romney Marsh Guild, 720 Grandsire Doubles was rung to his memory, with the bells half-muffled.

**HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.****CONTEST AT HEPTONSTALL.**

The annual meeting and eight-bell contest of the Halifax and District Association was held at St. Thomas-a-Beckett's Church, Heptonstall, on Saturday week, when the bells and schools were kindly placed at the disposal of the Association by the Vicar and churchwardens. Only two companies entered for the contest, Earlsheaton and Halifax, each company ringing 800 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major; the judges for the day being Mr. Broadley and Mr. Robertshaw.

The annual meeting was held in the School, after the close of the ringing, the President (Mr. Cotterell) being in the chair, supported by the Vicar and the society's officers.

The balance sheet, which was adopted, was presented by the hon. treasurer (Mr. J. S. Ambler), and showed a gain on the year's working of £1 3s. 4d., which, in view of the times through which we are passing, was considered fairly good. There is now a balance in the bank of £24 14s. 9d.

On the recommendation of the committee, the officers were re-elected en bloc.

When the meeting was called upon to decide the place of the next contest, it was moved that all contests be stopped till after the war, but after discussion it was decided to hold the next contest in due course, but in the meantime to notify the members that the question of abandoning them until peace is restored would be brought up at the next meeting.

The judges' decision was then announced by Mr. Broadley, Earlsheaton being again declared the winners.

The Vicar, in presenting the cup to Mr. Hardy, said he had listened with pleasure to the ringing, and had also been interested in the way the judges put the faults down. He was very pleased that they had decided not to abandon the ringing, because, as ringing was supposed to frighten the devils from the church, he hoped they should be able to frighten the Hun "devils" from our land.

A vote of thanks to the officers and the judges brought the meeting to a close.

**ST. PAUL'S GREAT BELL.**

It is reported that the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's do not see their way to allowing the great bell of the Cathedral to be rung as a warning to Londoners of any impending air raid.

**LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.****PROPOSED AUGMENTATION OF WHITCHURCH BELLS.**

A quarterly meeting of the Llandaff Diocesan Association was held at Whitchurch, near Cardiff, on Saturday last, when a good muster of members from the various affiliated towers were present, while the visitors included Mr. Booker, of the St. Patrick's Cathedral band, Dublin. The bells were raised about 3.30, and kept going until five o'clock, when an excellent meal tea, very kindly provided by the Vicar and churchwardens, was served in the Church Room.

The subsequent business meeting was presided over by the Vicar (the Rev. Hy. Williams).—The question of instruction at Llanganoyd was discussed, and Mr. Pitman, of Aberavon, promised he would go there as instructor.

Mention was made by the hon. secretary that one of the members, Mr. Tucker, of Caerphilly, had recently won the Military Cross.

The next Monmouthshire meeting will be held at Chepstow, and it was decided to hold a ringing meeting at Llanganoyd.

Mr. Dawe gave notice that he would, at the next annual meeting, move that the rule referring to meetings be amended, so that in future there should be four quarterly meetings exclusive of the annual meeting, two to be held in each Archdeaconry.

New members were elected from Whitchurch and Llanganoyd.

A presentation was then made to Mr. A. Chew, a member of the local band, and took the form of a framed photograph of the ringers, suitably inscribed. The Vicar made the presentation, which Mr. Chew felicitously acknowledged.—A vote of thanks, which was heartily carried by acclamation, was accorded the Vicar and the churchwardens for their kindness and their hospitable welcome, and to the ladies who so ably attended to their wants.—The Vicar replied by saying that, if at any future time the Association visited Whitchurch, he would be pleased to give them a similar welcome. He then mentioned that the question of completing the octave by adding two more bells had been brought to his notice, and he promised that, when the war was over, he would do his level best to have the suggestion carried out.

The tower was afterwards again visited, and some of the members went back to Cardiff for a pull on St. John's bells, which were available for one hour's ringing.

The meeting proved a great success, and the best thanks are due to Mr. J. Bailey, the local leader, for his personal efforts.

**WINCHESTER GUILD.****YORKTOWN DISTRICT'S RECORD MEETING.**

A successful gathering of ringers took place at Hersham, Surrey, on Saturday, when the members of the somewhat scattered Yorktown District of the Winchester Diocesan Guild held their quarterly meeting at this tower, where there is a delightful little ring of eight. Upwards of fifty ringers were present (a goodly sprinkling consisting of ladies) from London, Hersham, Guildford, Chertsey, Otlands, Walton, Epsom, Isleworth, etc., and at 3.30 p.m. the bells were going to the tune of Stedman Triples, followed by Double Norwich, Treble Bob, etc.

A special service for the ringers was held at 5 p.m., and the attendance of the organist and choir was greatly appreciated.—The Vicar of Hersham (the Rev. E. P. Pelloc, M.A.) officiated, and, in the course of an interesting address on bells and bell ringers, besought ringers to be worthy of their calling. He also laid stress on the great difference between ringers of bygone days and the modern ringers, who, he thought, were better Churchmen, and realised how high a calling theirs was.

Fifty sat down to tea in the Church House, and all enjoyed the refreshing cup and the viands.—The Rev. E. P. Pelloc presided at the business meeting, and was supported by the Vicar of Otlands (the Rev. de V. Leigh), Mr. W. A. Wigram, Mr. F. L. Vaux, Mr. L. Felgate (Horsham), Mr. G. Miles (secretary), Mr. F. J. Shepherd (assistant secretary), and Mr. W. Shepherd (Ringing Master). After courses of Stedman and Grandsire Caters on the handbells, the Vicar stated that after enjoying the excellent tea provided, they must thank the one who had gone out of his way to secure it for them, viz., Mr. F. J. Shepherd. It was not an easy matter in present times, especially when it was in addition to his other duties in organising the meeting, Mr. Miles (the secretary) having joined the army in April last. He (the Vicar) welcomed that gentleman there with them that day, and wished him a safe and speedy return from active service.

The Assistant Secretary proposed that the two officers who were now in the army, Mr. Miles (secretary) and Mr. W. A. Woodrow (auditor), be retained in their posts for the present, and that deputies be found to carry on their work until they returned.—It was unanimously resolved that Mr. F. J. Shepherd carry on the secretarial work and that Mr. A. Woodrow be deputy auditor.

After the remainder of the business had been disposed of, the Vicar, organist, choir, etc., were thanked for services, and a further visit was paid to the tower, the bells being kept going in various methods until 8.30 p.m.

This meeting provided a record attendance for the Yorktown Branch of the Guild, and many new members were made at the meeting, including the band of new lady recruits now in training at Otlands, and also the Vicar of that pretty little village.

## NOTICES.

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

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—A quarterly meeting will be held at Beeston on Saturday, June 30th. Bells available from 3 until 8 o'clock (excepting during tea and meeting). Committee meeting at 4.30. Tea at 5, followed by general meeting, all in the church schoolroom.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—North Eastern Division.—A district meeting will be held at Castle Hedingham on June 30th. Bells, 2 p.m. until 9 p.m. Short service, with address by the Rev. E. N. Powell, Bishop, at 4.30. Tea, followed by meeting, at the Bell Inn (Castle Hedingham), 1/3 per head. The bells of Sible Hedingham will also be open for ringing. I shall be pleased to receive subscriptions for the current year.—B. Redgwell, The Street, Rayne.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Selly Oak on Saturday, June 30th. Service in the church at 5 p.m. Tea will be provided on the vicarage lawn if fine—in the schools if wet—at 5.45. Business meeting to follow. Bells available from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.—E. J. Dowler, 11, St. Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham, Branch Hon. Sec.

**SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**—The annual meeting will be held at Wolverhampton on Saturday, June 30th. Bells (12) available at 3. Short service in St. Peter's Church at 4.45, with an address by the Rev. Preb. Penny, M.A. (Rector). Meat tea at the Seven Stars Hotel, John Street, at 5.30 (1/- to fully-paid members; to others, 1/6), followed by the general meeting.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD** (North and East District).—A meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, on Saturday, June 30th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Short service and address by the Vicar (Rev. O. R. Dawson) at 6 p.m., to be followed by the business meeting. Any ringers and friends welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*), 25, Crown St., Harrow.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James', Birch, on Saturday, June 30th. Bells available at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Bridgewater Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting of this branch will be held at North Petherton on Saturday, June 30th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—A. E. Moulton, Hon. Sec.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**—A quarterly meeting of the Kettering district will be held at Kettering on Saturday, June 30th. Bells open from 3.30 until 7.30. Meeting in belfry, 5.30. Election of Officers.—Robt. F. Turner, Hon. Dist. Sec., 160, S. Peter's Avenue, Kettering.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Gt. Crosby on Saturday, June 30. Bells ready at 4.—Rev. E. C. Collier, Walter Hughes, Secs.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Sunday, July 1st, and every first Sunday in the month at 6 p.m.; and at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on July 3rd, 17th and 31st, for general business, also on the 12th and 26th for handbell practice, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held at North Wingfield (8 bells), on Saturday, July 7th. By kind permission of Canon Boden the Vicarage grounds will be open to ringers for games, etc., during the afternoon. Clay Cross station, Midland railway.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held by kind permission of the Rector (Rev. H. Wilson) at Haslington, on Saturday, July 7th. Ringing from 3.30. Tea at a nominal charge at 6. All ringing friends welcome. Members intending to be present kindly notify me seven days prior to meeting.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The Summer Festival will be held at Woburn, on Saturday, July 7th. The bells will be available from 2.30. Service in the Church at 4. Preacher, the Rev. Canon Parr. Tea at 5 at King's Tea Rooms.—A. Rust, Hon. Sec.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**—The meeting members are invited by Mr. Young for a handbell practice at 277, Stanstead Road, Forest Hill, S.E., on Saturday, July 7th, at 4 p.m. Car service 58 (by the door) or 66.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—The summer meeting of the S.E. Division will be held at Great Waltham on Saturday, July 14th. Bells available, 3.30. Service, 5.30. Tea, 1/- per head, at the Six Bells, at 6 p.m., followed by meeting. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than Wednesday, July 11th, first post.—F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**—Northampton District.—The quarterly ringing meeting will be held at Boughton, Saturday, July 7th. Bells ready 3 p.m., service 5 p.m., tea 6 p.m.—T. Law, Dist. Sec., St. Peter's Cottages, Weston Favell.

**ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.**—The 50th anniversary of the present peal of bells of St. Mary-le-Tower Church, Ipswich, which were augmented to 12 in 1867, will be celebrated on Saturday, July 7th. The bells will be available from 3.30 until 5.30 p.m. A meat tea at a nominal charge will be provided at 5.30 p.m. Ringing friends should notify me of their intention to be present by Tuesday, July 3rd.—William Motts, Secretary, 25, Orchard Street, Ipswich.



**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guildford District.—A meeting will be held at Ewhurst on Saturday, July 7th. Bells (6) available from 3 o'clock. Service 5.15. Tea at "The Crown Inn" at 6—6d. to members, visitors 1s. 3d. Will those intending to be present at tea kindly drop a postcard, not later than July 3rd, to Mr. R. Whittington, Winterfold, Cranleigh?—J. J. Jones, Hon. Sec., Bridge Street, Guildford.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Bristol Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Abbots Leigh on the 7th July. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, 5 p.m., to those notifying by 3rd July.—Chas. J. Walton, 4, Jamaica St., Bristol.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Maidstone District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Barming on Sat., July 14th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m.; tea provided by churchwardens at 5.45. All ringers welcome. The Secretary would be glad to know of those who intend to be present not later than Monday, July 9th.—Stephen Hayzelden, District Secretary, Lower Street, East Farley.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Yeovil on Saturday, July 14th. Service at 3.30. Meeting in St. John's School at 4 p.m. Tea at Maynard's Restaurant at 5 p.m. Bells available from 1 p.m.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS.**—The address of Mr. R. T. Hibbert is now The Lodge, Warren House, St. Peter's Avenue, Caversham, Oxon.

**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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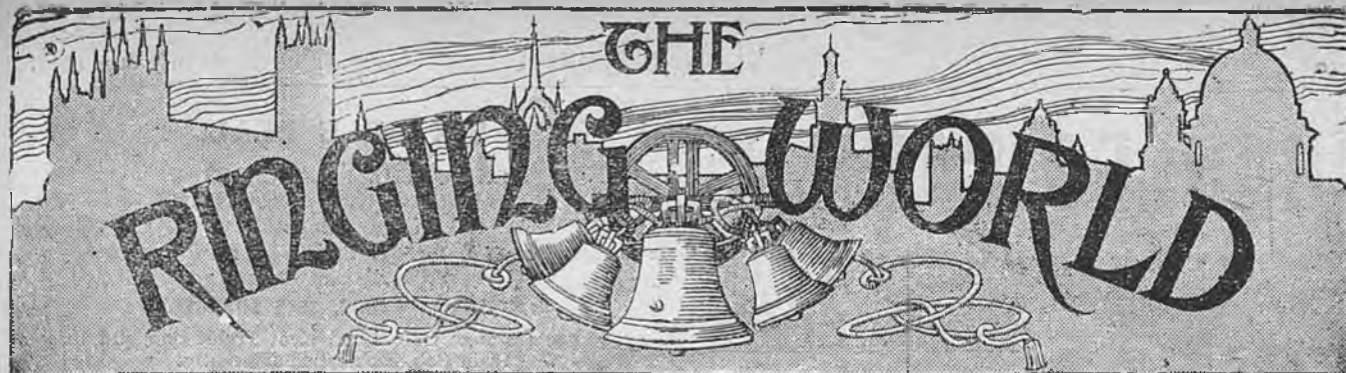
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No. 329. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, JULY 6th, 1917.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for  
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Senior (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,  
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1911  
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.

## MODERN WORK

### NOISY BELLS.

In a letter in another column, the Rev. H. Drake raises anew the question of noisy bells—noisy, that is to say, to the annoyance of the public living in the immediate vicinity of the church; and, if repetition of facts and the reiteration of remedies can do good, then the oftener the matter is brought to the notice of the right people, the better. It is the ringers' duty, where their tower is so constructed as to be likely to give the parishioners a genuine cause of complaint when the bells are rung, to bring to the notice of the church authorities the methods by which the trouble may be eliminated. It is generally recognised that the chief cause of the noise is the erection of the bells in such a position that the sound bows when ringing swing above the sills of the louvres. In consequence, the noise is driven down into the street below.

The perfect tower is the one which has no louvres in the walls, but which is constructed so that the sound escapes through openings in the roof. But if the bells are some feet below the louvres, the softening effect is most marked, and the added charm to the sound of the bells is appreciated by all. Unfortunately, however, we have to take the towers as we find them, and, in the vast majority of cases, the bells are hung on a level with or above the louvres, and the consequent noise around the church when the bells are going is such that, in many cases, there is genuine reason for complaint when ringing proceeds for long periods. It is the duty of the church authorities in such instances as these to mitigate the nuisance, and their usual course is to restrict the ringing or stop it altogether. Ringers, in their own interests, therefore, should see that the remedy takes the other and more sensible course that is open.

It is, to say the least, absurd that costly instruments like church bells should remain silent when the expenditure of a few pounds would effect such an alteration that the cause of complaint would vanish. It is now generally recognised that the closing up of the openings by brickwork or in some other equally satisfactory manner, at any rate, to a height above the lip of the bell when ringing, is the best means of stopping the noise. Very often among the ringers there are men well able and quite willing to do the actual work, if the church authorities would provide the materials, and the actual cost of effecting the improvement would then be very small. But even where the labour has to be paid for, there is no comparison in the cost and the permanent benefit that would ensue, and we can only urge that, where there is the least ground for genuine complaint by outsiders, that the ringers should show their vicar and churchwardens the simple way in which it might be obviated.



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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 write to 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.

**PENWORTHAM, LANCASHIRE.  
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION  
(PRESTON BRANCH).**

*On Sunday, June 24th, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,*

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and three of Plain Bob, each called differently.

† J. R. TAYLOR ... .. Treble	* J. GORWALL ... .. 4
D. SANDERSON ... .. 2	* W. LOXHAM ... .. 5
R. SANDERSON ... .. 3	A. E. WOODHOUSE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by J. R. TAYLOR.

\* First peal. † First peal as conductor. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of Gunner Ernest Fox, R.F.A., who died in France after being buried in a dugout for 20 minutes. He was one of five ringers from this tower who joined H.M. Forces, the others being now on active service abroad.

## ROLL OF HONOUR.

From Chorley Parish Church, Lancs:—

Pte. G. W. Brindle, R.A.M.C., Blackpool.

Gunner H. Marsden, R.F.A., France.

From Christ Church, Kildown:—

Driver H. Blunt, R.G.A., France.

From Crayford, Kent:—

Frederick W. Brough, R.N.A.S.

## KILLED IN ACTION.

**SWINDON STEEPLEKEEPER KILLED.**

News has been received that Pte. John H. Odey, of Swindon, has met his death in France, and for his wife and two children, who are left, sincere sympathy will be felt. Pte. Odey, who, before joining up last September, worked for Messrs Chandler Bros., as upholsterer, came to Swindon from Bath about five years ago. Soon after his arrival in the town he was elected a member of Christ Church Guild, having had previous experience in the art of campanology at Bath. Needless to say, his services will be greatly missed by his fellow ringers, with whom his quiet, unassuming disposition made him very popular. For some time Mr. Odey had been steeplekeeper, and here again he carried out the duties entrusted to him in a painstaking and thorough manner. As a last token of respect to a departed comrade, members of Christ Church Guild, with sympathising ringing friends from neighbouring towers, met at the tower on Wednesday evening in last week and rang touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major, with the bells muffled.

## TROWBRIDGE TOWER LOSES TWO MEMBERS.

It is with much regret we have to announce the death of Pte. H. Butcher, of the Royal Warwickshire Regt., who died on the 4th June as the result of serious wounds to the head received in action in France. Pte. Butcher was a member of the Trowbridge band and of the Salisbury Guild. He was a promising young ringer. The sad news has also been received that Pte. Jesse Francis, of the Royal Marines, has been missing since April 28th last. Pte. Francis was also a member of the Trowbridge band, and was well known in the Salisbury Guild, and Bath and Wells Diocesan Association. Pte. Francis has rung 14 peals in all. He has a wife and five children.

These two ringers took part in the peal in St. James' tower, Trowbridge, in 1912, with an entirely local band, and it was the first peal by all Trowbridge men for 87 years. Out of the former nine members of the Trowbridge company eight are serving their King and country. The only member left of the original band is Mr. W. MacCaffery, but ringing is still carried on every Sunday and on practice nights (Wednesdays and Saturdays at 6.30) by Sunday School lads, who Mr. S. Hector taught before being called up. Any ringers visiting Trowbridge would be welcomed to the tower, and would be a help to the young ringers.

## IN MEMORY OF FALLEN WORCESTERS.

On Saturday week, at St. Helen's Church, Worcester, a muffled peal of Stedman Triples was attempted in memory of the gallant Worcesters, who have so nobly given their lives in the cause of freedom on the battlefields of the world. Unfortunately, with the end in sight, "Mr. Slowman" had a serious lapse, which brought a full stop in the 59th course. Time: 2 hrs. 57 mins.; W. Powell (Worcester) 1, W. Rantford (Suckley) 2, L. Longney (Worcester) 3, J. Brettell (Worcester) 4, J. Eaton (Selly Oak) 5, R. G. Knowles (Madresfield) 6, S. Grove (Selly Oak), conductor, 7, C. Camm (Upton-on-Severn) 8. It is hoped to make another attempt at an early date.

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## THE SALISBURY GUILD. ANNUAL REPORT.

Although existing conditions have made it necessary to postpone indefinitely the annual meeting of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, the annual report has been issued, and we take the following extracts from the Hon. Secretary's remarks: At the annual meeting for 1916, held at Warminster, a proposal for the subdivision of the Marlborough Branch was referred to a special committee, with power to act. Later in the year the matter was carefully considered, and it was decided to authorise the formation of a new branch, if officers could be found to work it. Since that date the Rev. A. E. G. Peters, who has rendered such eminent service to the Guild as Chairman of the Marlborough Branch, has been appointed Vicar of Bremhill, and it is confidently hoped that his removal to this district will both facilitate the formation and ensure the success of the new branch. The roll of honour shows that thirteen of our ringers have made the supreme sacrifice in the cause of King and country. Our long roll of service, though it no longer furnishes an index of patriotism, is yet significant in its witness to the large number of men in the full vigour of youth, who have devoted themselves to the service of the Church in the bellcotes of our Diocese. During the past year stringent orders—imposed under the powers of that political octopus, the Defence of the Realm Act—have silenced the bells on winter evenings; and in spite of an appeal made by the Guild to the Competent Military Authority, Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve passed, for the first time on record, without the traditional peals from the towers of our parish churches. By the death of the Rev. C. F. Langford, chairman of the Bridport Branch, the Guild has lost one of its most valued members, whose active participation in its work, both in the belfry and elsewhere, was a powerful aid in the furtherance of its cause. An honoured and distinguished life member has also passed away in the person of Mr. A. Hughes of the White-chapel Foundry, whose genial presence will be sadly missed at many a gathering of ringers. Several cases brought to our notice make it evident that a word of caution will be in place as to the extremely dangerous practice of "clocking" the bells, or sounding them by means of a rope attached to the clapper. It is the surest way to crack a bell, and many a fine example of the founder's art has been ruined by this illicit treatment. Nor is there the slightest need or excuse for it. Any bell of ordinary weight can be legitimately chimed by a boy or girl after a little instruction. We trust that this publication will be the means of calling the attention of incumbents and churchwardens to a most serious matter. We may take occasion to add a word on a kindred subject. One result of the war has been practically to create a revival of the mid-day Angelus in this Diocese. There is a world of difference between the feeble tap of a chiming machine and the strong, vibrant stroke of a bell in full—or half—swing. Care should be taken, wherever it is feasible, to have the bell properly rung.

The Master (the Rev. H. E. Tilney Bassett) in his "notes" says: The committee wisely postponed the annual meeting (1917) to a more convenient season. Very little ringing has obtained throughout the Guild during the year, owing to the depletion of companies by members on service with the forces, and the restrictions on ringing by the Defence of the Realm Act. It would be quite appropriate to have touches of muffled ringing on November 2nd in memory of members who have fallen in the war. When peace arrives there will be considerable scarcity of ringers to handle the bells in our towers: knowing this, it would be wise for clergy, churchwardens and sleep keepers to obtain and instruct youths under military age in the art of ringing. Of our members, 360 are serving their King and country—13 have already made the great sacrifice. Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori. Perhaps it may be possible later to erect a fitting memorial to them somewhere in the Diocese. We may hope the day is not far distant when we can take our part in ringing the bells to the glory of God in thankfulness for the restoration of peace on an honourable and lasting basis.

The balance sheet shows that the year was begun with a balance in hand of £37 11s. 2d., and that the receipts have been £29 10s. 6d. The expenditure, including a grant of £1 1s. to the bells of St. Mary's, Devizes, was £23 17s., leaving a balance of £42 4s. 8d. to carry forward.

## EXCURSION TO UPWEY.

On Saturday last members of the Dorchester and Wyke Regis bands accompanied by the soldier ringers in the district, paid their annual visit to the beautiful village of Upwey, which is situated under the famous Dorset Downs. They were met by the local men, who had everything in readiness, and the light peal of six were soon set going to the tune of Grandsire Doubles, followed by Bob Minor, and further touches were rung during the afternoon. "Strawberry tea" was partaken at the noted strawberry gardens, and here a pleasant time was spent. Thoughts went out to the absent brethren who joined in the trip last year, some of whom are now doing duty on the Western front, and one (T. H. Hardy, of St. Margaret's, Leicester) who is now in hospital at Stratford-on-Avon. More ringing followed the tea, some of the local men being piloted through their first course of change ringing. Altogether a most pleasant time was spent, and good was done.

## MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

### RINGERS' RESPONSE TO THE COUNTRY'S CALL.

A meeting of the North and East District was held at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, on Saturday last. The attendance was very good, nearly 40 members being present during the afternoon and evening. Many good touches were rung, including Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Superlative Surprise Major. A well-tapped course of Stedman Triples on the handbells was much appreciated.

The service took the form of evensong and war intercession, followed by an address by the Vicar (the Rev. O. R. Dawson), who said how pleased he was to hear the bells rung again, and extended a hearty welcome to the Middlesex Association, hoping the time would soon come when the large enthusiastic gatherings of the past would be resumed. He referred to the great response made by ringers in general to the country's call, especially mentioning his own (St. Matthew's) band, who went practically in bulk at the beginning. Two had laid down their lives, Capt. Sudell, to whose memory the chiming apparatus and a tablet had been placed in the church, and Pte. G. Orford, to whose memory a sanctuary lamp had been placed in the Lady Chapel and a tablet erected. Referring to the great service ringers rendered to their church, the Vicar stated that he had only to ask for the bells to be rung on special occasions, and great willingness was always shown. He exhorted all ringers to make their service and example worthy of the church which they represented, for the greatest service to God was that which cost something, even if it be early morning rising.

The business meeting followed in the Church Hall, the chair being taken by Mr. F. A. Milne (vice-president). Mr. King's best wishes to the meeting were conveyed by the chairman, and votes of condolence were passed with Mr. W. Pye and other members of the family on the death of their eldest brother (whom they were burying that day), and with the relatives of the late Mr. W. H. Lewis, B.A., of All Hallows', Tottenham.

The Hon. Secretary read an interesting letter he had received that day from Dr. A. H. Nicholls, M.D., of Boston, U.S.A., and which is referred to elsewhere.

For the place of the next meeting Cubitt Town or St. Mary's, Walthamstow, was suggested, to be held on July 21st, if possible.

Hearty votes of thanks were accorded to the Rev. O. R. Dawson for the use of the bells and the service, to the organist, and to Mr. S. S. Dunwell for arrangements made.

It was a great pleasure to see Corpl. W. J. Kemp, former assistant secretary, present, he being on short leave.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

The members of the Swindon Branch held a meeting at Bishopstone, Wilts, on Saturday last. There was a fair attendance, seven towers being represented. The meeting was an encouraging one for the beginners, some of whom had their first experience of ringing on a peal of eight bells, whilst others succeeded in accomplishing their first course of Grandsire Triples. Several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles and touches of Plain Bob Minor were also rung. An excellent tea was provided by Mrs. F. Stone.

A short business meeting was held immediately afterwards, at which the Rev. W. L. Stubbs (Vicar) presided. The Rev. C. F. Burgess, Vicar of Wanborough, was also present. The chairman, who was elected an honorary member, gave the visitors a cordial welcome to Bishopstone, and expressed great pleasure at hearing the bells rung, and hoped the members of the Swindon Branch would pay another visit at an early date.—It was decided to hold the next meeting at Purlton (Wilts), on July 14th.—The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar.

## OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

### A STAYLESS EXPERIENCE.

On Saturday week some members of the Oxford Guild, hailing from High Wycombe, with Driver A. J. Mawby, R.F.A., paid a visit to Cockham tower for the purpose of ringing touches, with the bells half-muffled, in honour of, and as a solemn requiem for, the souls of those gallant heroes who have made the supreme sacrifice for King and country. On arrival, the Wycombe men were met by several members of the local band, who imparted the news that another party, who carried their methods with them on boards, had been given permission to ring till the arrival of the Wycombe visitors. They had, however, left an unwelcome legacy, in the shape of a broken stay to the treble, but to their credit, also, it must be said that they had left the necessary money to cover the cost of a new stay. Nothing daunted, a 720 of Minor was gone through in good style, under the conductorship of Mr. W. T. Horne. Other touches were also rung, Mr. J. W. Wilkins conducting. After the bells had been lowered the party took a quiet stroll by the side of the "briny," and reached Bourne End in time for the 9.24 p.m. train. The party included Messrs. Johnson, Horne, and Kirk (Cockham), Driver A. J. Mawby, R.F.A., and Messrs. Wm. T. Horne, J. W. Wilkins, J. Grantham, R. Coles, E. Markham, A. J. Hoing, and G. Twitcheon (Wycombe). To Mr. J. W. Wilkins is due the credit not only of ringing the bell with no stay through the touches, but holding it on the balance in the intervals between the ringing.

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## NOISY BELLS.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—This is a subject of perennial interest to ringers. No one likes their best efforts to be a trouble to others when they might easily be a pleasure. And it would be well for all ringers to make themselves familiar with the causes which make ringing sound well.

The main idea is that the sound should not be allowed to escape until it is well blended. This is best attained by hanging the bells so that the highest lip of any bell when rung up is below the sill of the belfry windows. This not only throws the sound upwards (a most important point), but places the swinging weight of the bells well below the weakest part of the tower building.

If this cannot be done, the only way is to fill up the windows to the height mentioned. The best way of doing this is a wall of brickwork inside the louvres, so as not to show outside, or interfere with the architectural arrangements. This may be of 4½, 9, or even 18 inch thickness. The latter was employed at All Saints', Loughborough; and now in the churchyard and neighbouring streets the sound is beautifully softened, while one or two miles away the sound is much clearer and more even than before. When I was at St. Mark's, Leicester, we ringers put in a wall a single brick thick, with the result that a ring which was the most painfully noisy I have ever heard, was for the first time since it was hung, much admired by everyone.

An important point is that the wall, whether brick, wood, or other material, should be the same height all round. I am told that at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, all the windows were bricked right up but one, and that the result is that they are worse than before.

Braisworth Rectory.

H. DRAKE.

## "RINGING WORLD" BANNED BY CENSOR.

The "Ringing World" is under the ban of the Censor, not, of course, because of disloyal utterances, but, according to Dr. Nichols of Boston, U.S.A., because somebody thinks that the compositions which the paper contains may be a vehicle for the use of German spies. The result is that our ringing friends on the other side of the Atlantic are unable to get the paper as they used to do. But we wonder whether other technical journals, which print arithmetical formulas, are similarly banned. It is, of course, of no use to complain, but we wish the Censor understood change ringing. If he did he would have a key to all the "cyphers" which from time to time appear in our columns.

Dr. Nichols, writing to the Hon. Secretary of the Middlesex Association, in a letter read at a meeting of the North and East District, held on Saturday, says: "We are unable to get the 'Ringing World' now, owing to the action of the Censor, who thinks the figures contained in it may be a dangerous vehicle for German spies." He adds: "We are all delighted at the prospect of extending help to our British kinsmen, and, if we came late, you may rest assured that we shall stay with you till the end."

## LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last, a very successful meeting of the Manchester Branch was held at Birch, members being present from Ashton-under-Lyne, Barlow Moor, Denton, Eccles, Flixton, Gorton, Manchester, Pendleton, and Prestwich.—The Rector gave a hearty welcome to the visitors, expressing pleasure in meeting such a body of men, and said he felt sure that they, like his own company of ringers, were worthy of the calling in which they were placed as officers and co-workers in the church.

Pendlebury was chosen as the next meeting-place, on August 4th, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector for presiding over the business proceedings, and granting the use of the bells, and also to the local company for having things in readiness.

Ringings were indulged in in various methods until a late hour.

## MORE HANDBELL RINGING OVERSEAS.

The handbell band, who are practising overseas, are progressing, as shown by the following paragraph received this week:—

On Monday, 25th June, at "an overseas port," 720 Bob Miner, 364 and 265 Grandshire Triples: Sergt. H. Blake, Lance-Corpl. Claude I. Davies, Plt. Arthur Hague, 3rd Writer C. Glenn, R.N. First 720 "in hand" in the method by Lance-Corpl. Davies, and longest length of Triples "in hand" by him and Sergt. Blake.

What a memorable performance it would be if a peal were scored in this, at present, unmentioned country!

## MRS. A. W. GRIMES' THANKS.

Through the medium of the "Ringing World," Mrs. Grimes begs to tender her most grateful thanks to all the kind friends of her late husband, Mr. A. W. Grimes, who have in any way assisted and subscribed to the funds organised on behalf of herself and her little ones. The number is so large that it is quite impossible for her to thank each one individually, the addresses of the majority being quite unknown to her.



## DEATH OF MR. JAMES SLARKE.

## CENTRAL NORTHANTS LOSES A PROMINENT FIGURE.

The death of Mr. James Slarke, of Towcester, which took place at his residence, the Cemetery Lodge, on the morning of Sunday week, will be received with widespread regret throughout the ringing world, especially in Northamptonshire, where he was well known and highly respected. Mr. Slarke, who was 76 years of age, was a wonderful example of a well preserved life. Up to a very short time before his decease he was of untiring energy, and frequently walked many miles in pursuit of his business.

Born at Cottesbrook, Mr. Slarke had been a ringer for 64 years, having learnt to ring at his native village when twelve years of age, and his interest in bells and ringing has never for a moment waned. He has worked enthusiastically in the cause of ringing, and has never missed an opportunity of furthering the art.

He was one of the founders of the Towcester and District Association in 1894, an organisation which has now grown into a society embracing some 25 villages, amongst whose members Mr. Slarke was looked up to with reverence and respect.

Of his great love for bells and bell ringing ample evidence is to be found in more than one church belfry in South Northants, particularly at Easton Neston, where the deceased was a regular worshipper, and of whose ringers he was the highly respected head. Here there is a beautiful peal of eight bells, one of which was a gift from Mr. Slarke.



THE LATE MR. JAMES SLARKE.

and another the gift of Mr. Slarke's family, both being in memory of the deceased's brother, Mr. Eli Slarke, who died some years ago. In other belfries many proofs of Mr. Slarke's generosity are to be found. Another gift of Mr. Slarke to Easton Neston Church is a war shrine, dedicated only a month since to the memory of the ringers of the church who have fallen in the war. This proved the last Sunday on which Mr. Slarke was able to be out. In addition to his connection with the Towcester District Association, he was also the Vice-President of the Northampton District of the Central Northamptonshire Association, never missing one of its meetings until recently, when his health failed him, and, as a mark of the high esteem in which the members held him, a valuable presentation was made to him some time ago. His loss will be a serious one to the Association, as well as to a large circle of friends and acquaintances, whom he had gathered round him during his 30 years' citizenship in Towcester.

The funeral took place at Towcester on Wednesday week, amidst many signs of respect and sympathy. The first part of the service was held at the Parish Church, Towcester. In addition to the family mourners there were in the cortege representatives from the Towcester Parish Council, the Burial Board, the Cemetery Committee, the Conservative Club, Towcester and District Bell Ringers' Association, and

the Central Northamptonshire Association, Messrs. F. Wilford, F. Hopper, T. Law, and S. J. Lawrence, acting as bearers. In accordance with a wish which had been expressed by Mr. Slarke, his handbells were hung on a rail, which was attached to the coffin, and were carried with him to his last resting-place. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave by: Messrs. T. Law 1—2, F. Wilford 3—4, S. J. Lawrence 5—6, F. Hopper 7—8; and two old friends of the deceased, Mr. G. Blunt, of Gayton, and Mr. J. Basford, of Finedon, were among those present.

Muffled ringing was done at Easton Neston and Towcester Churches in the evening, and on Thursday, at the Church of St. Giles', Northampton, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,257 changes) was rung with the bells half-muffled by the following local members of the Central Northamptonshire Association: W. Rogers (conductor) 1, W. Farey 2, F. Wilford 3, S. J. Lawrence 4, J. Hensman 5, H. Key 6, F. Hopper 7, H. Blundell 8, G. Flavel 9, E. James 10.

By his will, Mr. Slarke has left the sum of £50 to the churchwardens of Towcester Parish Church for the repair of the bells, and £10 to the Towcester and District Bell Ringers' Association.

## WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

## THE PEACE RINGING SCHEME.

The second quarterly meeting of the year, in connection with the Northern Branch of the Worcestershire Association, was held at Selly Oak, on Saturday. Ringing commenced at 3 o'clock, and was continued until 5 p.m., when choral service was held, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. K. D. Mackenzie), who prefaced his address by giving a hearty welcome to the Association, it being the first to be held at the church since he became Vicar. In his address, he referred to the different uses of bells, and to the meaning of their ringing at different times of the day, and impressed upon his hearers the reasons why bells should be rung not only for the ringers' pleasure, but to warn others that service was about to take place in the House of God. The address was very much appreciated by those privileged to be present.

After the service a move was made to the Vicarage close by for tea, which had been invitingly laid out on the lawn by some of the local ringers' wives and friends. Happily, the weather kept fine, although a little chilly. After doing full justice to the good things allowed by the Food Controller, the business meeting was held. In the absence of the Vicar, Mr. A. E. Parsons (the Master of the Association) presided for a time.—A discussion arose, out of the minutes of the last meeting, with reference to ringing for peace, when that happy day comes. It was pointed out that many towers had not returned the printed forms which had been sent out, and the members were urged to see their incumbents and get them filled in, so that when the time came arrangements would be complete, and as many bells as could be dealt with in the day should be rung.

The Master called attention to the notice appearing in the "Ringing World," about the proposed memorial tablet to the late Mr. Samuel Spittle, of Dudley, who had helped to form the Association, and Mr. Harry Mason, Master of the Dudley Guild, also referred to the subject, and asked all who could to give something, however small or large, so as to make the subscription list as representative as possible, and show their appreciation of one who had done so much good work for their Association, and for ringers generally.

Six new performing members and one hon. member, the Vicar of Selly Oak, were elected.

Bromsgrove was selected for the next quarterly meeting, on Sept. 22nd.

On the proposition of Mr. W. Page, a very hearty vote of thanks was given to the Vicar for arranging the service and giving the address, and also for the use of the Vicarage and grounds for the meeting and tea. He also coupled with it the thanks of the meeting to the ladies who had attended to their wants, for the admirable way in which they had looked after them.—The Vicar, in responding, said it gave him the greatest pleasure to welcome the Association there, and it was the first time he had met such a large body of ringers. Wherever he had been before he came to Selly Oak there had only been one or two bells, and he was always delighted to hear the bells ringing out. They at Selly Oak had suffered, in common with others, in having so many of their ringers away, doing their duty for their King and country, and he should be glad when the war was over and the boys were at home once again. He added that six members of the company were serving. He hoped, when the time came round again, that he would once more have the opportunity of welcoming the Association to Selly Oak.

A further visit was then made to the tower, where Grandsire Doubles, and touches in the four standard methods, and Superlative, Cambridge and London Surprise were successfully brought round.

STOURBRIDGE.—On Sunday, May 13th, at St. Thomas' Church, a quarter peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), for evening service, in 45 mins.: O. W. Cooper 1, G. Popnell 2, G. H. Pagett 3, A. W. Doid 4, W. Short (conductor) 5, A. E. Whatmore 6, J. Bass 7, W. A. Pugh 8. Arranged for and rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Geo. H. Pagett, conductor of the local band, on his 60th birthday.

## NOTICES.

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

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on every first Sunday in the month at 6 p.m.; and at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on July 17th and 31st, for general business, also on the 12th and 26th for handbell practice, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham S.W.4.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held at North Wingfield (8 bells), on Saturday, July 7th. By kind permission of Canon Boden the Vicarage grounds will be open to ringers for games, etc., during the afternoon. Clay Cross station, Midland railway.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held by kind permission of the Rector (Rev. H. Wilson) at Haslington, on Saturday, July 7th. Ringing from 3.30. Tea at a nominal charge at 6. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The Summer Festival will be held at Woburn, on Saturday, July 7th. The bells will be available from 2.30. Service in the Church at 4. Preacher, the Rev. Canon Parr. Tea at 5 at King's Tea Rooms.—A. Rust, Hon. Sec.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**—The meeting members are invited by Mr. Young for a handbell practice at 277, Stanstead Road, Forest Hill, S.E., on Saturday, July 7th, at 4 p.m. Car service 58 (by the door) or 66.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**—Northampton District.—The quarterly ringing meeting will be held at Boughton, Saturday, July 7th. Bells ready 3 p.m., service 5 p.m., tea 6 p.m.—T. Law, Dist. Sec., St. Peter's Cottages, Weston Favell.

**ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.**—The 50th anniversary of the present peal of bells of St. Mary-le-Tower Church, Ipswich, which were augmented to 12 in 1857, will be celebrated on Saturday, July 7th. The bells will be available from 3.30 until 5.30 p.m. A meat tea at a nominal charge will be provided at 5.30 p.m. Ringing friends should notify me of their intention to be present by Tuesday, July 3rd.—William Motts, Secretary, 25, Orchard Street, Ipswich.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Bristol Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Abbots Leigh on the 7th July. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, 5 p.m., to those notifying by 3rd July.—Chas. J. Walton, 4, Jamaica St., Bristol.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The next monthly meeting of the above society will be held at Rothwell tomorrow, Saturday, July 7th, 1917. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Business meeting in the White Swan Hotel at 7.30 p.m.—William Barton, Hon. Sec., 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guildford District.—A meeting will be held at Ewhurst on Saturday, July 7th. Bells (6) available from 3 o'clock. Service 5.15. Tea at "The Crown Inn" at 6—6d. to members, visitors 1s. 3d. Will those intending to be present at tea kindly drop a postcard, not later than July 3rd, to Mr. R. Whittington, Winterfold, Cranleigh?—J. J. Jones, Hon. Sec., Bridge Street, Guildford.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—The summer meeting of the S.E. Division will be held at Great Waltham on Saturday, July 14th. Bells available, 3.30. Service, 5.30. Tea, 1s. per head, at the Six Bells, at 6 p.m., followed by meeting. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than Wednesday, July 11th, first post.—F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Maidstone District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Barning on Sat., July 14th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m.; tea provided by churchwardens at 5.45. All ringers welcome. The Secretary would be glad to know of those who intend to be present not later than Monday, July 9th.—Stephen Hayzelden, District Secretary, Lower Street, East Farley.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Yeovil on Saturday, July 14th. Service at 3.30. Meeting in St. John's School at 4 p.m. Tea at Maynard's Restaurant at 5 p.m. Bells available from 1 p.m.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

**GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—North Forest Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Churcham on Saturday the 14th July. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. for those who will kindly notify me not later than the 10th July. All bell ringers welcome.—Joseph Williams, Hon. Sec., Glen Holm, Newent, Glos.

**SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Southgate on Saturday, July 14. Bells available at 4 o'clock. Tea will be arranged if sufficient members let me know by July 10th.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 97, Edenbridge Road, Rush Hill Park, Enfield.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**—A special general meeting will be held at Berkswell on Saturday, July 21st. Bells available all afternoon and evening. Committee meeting at 4.15. Service at 4.45. It is important that I should be notified by those intending to be present not later than July 15th. Business meeting after tea.—Joseph H. White, Hon. Secretary, 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Todmorden Unitarian on Saturday, July 21st. Bells ready at 3 o'clock till dusk. Meeting at six.—T. K. Driver, Middleton.

**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.

### MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

Subscriptions to the above should be forwarded at once to the Ringing Master, Mr. Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, or to the Hon. Sec., Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

### BELLS RING THEIR OWN KNELL.

#### HAMBURG CARILLONS FOR MUNITIONS.

According to German papers, the Hamburg Church bells have solemnly rung their own knell in the presence of large multitudes. They are now to be removed and melted down.

Of the 34 bells in the Nikolai Church, the largest, which is known as the "Kaiser Bell," weighs six tons and a quarter, and as a contribution to its casting the Emperor William I. presented 600 kilogrammes of bronze from captured French guns. Only one small bell of the 34 is now left, whilst of the 50 bells of the Petri Church only three remain.

### BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday week, members met at the fine old Church at Northill, where the good ring of five bells was at their disposal. Ringing started with a six-score of Bob Doubles, and then five of the lady ringers took part in Grandsire and Bob Doubles. Tea and meeting took place at the house of Mr. Humphries, Mr. C. W. Clarke being in the chair. Members were present from Bedford, Sandy, Biggleswade, Elstow, Willington, Old Warden, and the local tower, and it was proposed to hold the next meeting at Cardington, on July 21st.—A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the local men. The members then returned to the tower, and Stedman Grandsire and Bob Doubles were rung until 8.30 p.m.

### KING'S VISIT TO TYNESIDE.

On Saturday, June 17th, to celebrate the visit of King George and Queen Mary to Tyneside, touches of 594 and 660 of Erin Cinques, 713 and 581 Stedman Cinques, and 576 Forward Maximus, were rung at Newcastle Cathedral, in which nearly all the members of the Cathedral Guild took part, including Warrant Officer W. A. Cooke, R.N., and W. J. Hazell, who were unanimously elected members of the Guild in the belfry, according to rules.

Their Majesties visited the Cathedral the next day and attended morning service, when several short touches of Stedman and Erin Cinques were rung.

Mr. Tom Goflon, of Whitley Bay, was present on the first day, and assisted in touches of 713 Stedman and 660 Erin Cinques.

### WILTSHIRE RINGER'S DEATH.

An old and respected resident of Upper Wanborough, Wilts, has passed away, in the person of Mr. Charles Lawrence. Deceased was an enthusiastic bell ringer and a regular worshipper at the church. For many years he was captain of the local Guild of ringers. The funeral took place on Saturday week, the Rev. C. F. Burgess, Vicar, officiating. During the evening members of the Swindon Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Association rang the bells, muffled, as a last token of respect to the memory of deceased.

### SAILOR-RINGER'S WEDDING AT BURNLEY.

The wedding took place at Holy Trinity Church, Burnley, on June 26th, of Seaman Edwin Ogden, A.B. (H.M.S. Dublin), son of Mrs. E. Ogden, of Mossley, and Miss Elizabeth Holgate, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Holgate, of the Wheat Sheaf Hotel, Garstang (formerly of Burnley). The bridegroom, who was a ringer at this church before he joined the navy, had the hearty congratulations of his former colleagues, who attended and gave him a rousing welcome through the medium of the bells. The Vicar (the Rev. E. W. Wallis) officiated and a large number of parishioners attended in the happy event.

### DEATH OF C.S.M. HARRY WAKLEY.

#### ONE OF A FAMOUS BAND.

It is with the deepest regret we have to record the death of Comv.-Sergeant Major Wakley, of Burton-on-Trent, who passed away, after only a short illness, on June 14th, at Colchester General Hospital. The deceased ringer, who was 54 years of age, was one of the band that made Burton-on-Trent famous in ringing annals in the eighties, and was one of the original members of the Midland Counties Association. He had been connected with the Volunteers and Territorials since 1881, and was serving with the 21st Notts and Derby Regiment at the time of his death.

Next week we hope to give a sketch of his career.

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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.

TREBLE BOB. Part I. 1s. 6d.; second ed.; with appendix; 100 closely printed pages. Part II., suited for Conductors only; very scarce; 2s. 1½d.; 236 pages.

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This charming model in Solid Hall Marked Silver  
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It can be supplied in the following sizes:—

Diameter	2½in.	2¾in.	3¼in.	3½in.	4in.	4½in.	5in.
Price ...	10/6	16/-	21/-	26/6	32/6	42/-	55/-

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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-  
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Ltd., Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.

# THE RINGING WORLD

No. 330. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, JULY 13th, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

## 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, 1917  
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.

### CONTROL OF THE BELFRY.

A good many ringers, we think, will be indebted to the Rev. H. Drake for his clear statement of the case with regard to the management of belfries. It is generally realised that the incumbent is the final court of appeal, as it were, with regard to ringing of church bells; but probably there are few who were aware of the reason by which rectors and vicars became vested in the power which they have in the matter. As Mr. Drake shows, there is only one ringer recognised by the law, and he is the incumbent, and, as the ringers act as his deputies, it is obvious that it lies exclusively with him to say "yea" or "nay" where ringing is concerned. The churchwardens, who are thought by some to share the right with the incumbent to refuse or grant the use of the bells, have a very limited legal voice in the matter. All that they appear to be concerned with is the proper upkeep of the bells and belfry, and they can only step in if the ringing is likely to be injurious to the bells, the fittings, or the fabric of the church. Their control, therefore, over the actual ringing is only such as might be exercised by way of refusal.

It is interesting to have this plain statement of the case, because there are ringers who sometimes imagine that the incumbent is exceeding his real powers in deciding, without consulting the churchwardens, to refuse permission to ring. From Mr. Drake's explanation of the position, it is quite obvious that the incumbent has the matter in his own hands. That being so, it is perfectly clear that a vicar or rector, whatever he may be willing personally to do, cannot assign the rights of future incumbents to some other body—such as was made the condition of a proffered gift to the Devon church of Harberton a few months ago, when Sir Robert Harvey offered two new tenor bells, and an endowment of £2,500 for the maintenance of the bells and payment of the ringers, on condition that both the latter should not be under the "autocratic authority" of the vicar, but under the joint authority of the vicar, churchwardens and chairman of the parochial feoffees.

Happily in the large majority of belfries the ringers are on the best of terms with the incumbents, and a spirit of the keenest loyalty exists. The result is that reasonable requests for permission to ring are not refused by the clergy; and, on the other hand, as the Vicar of St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, took the opportunity of pointing out last week in regard to his own ringers, there is always great willingness displayed by the ringers—even at inconvenience—to fall in with the desires of the clergy when the bells are required for special occasions. It is sometimes said that ringers cannot be got to the belfry except for

Continued on pag 278.

# CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR  
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,  
Chelmsford.

Dear Sir,

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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Continued from page 217.

their own pleasure. But that is an accusation which applies in exceedingly few instances to-day. In the vast majority of cases, the Sunday ringing is looked upon as a serious duty, which has the first claim upon the ringer as such. If he sometimes enjoys a peal for his own gratification, it is not that he is concerned only with his own pleasure, and, after all, a peal is only the highest form of that practice which is essential for the proper discharge of ringing on Sundays. The man who rings well in a peal can be depended upon to ring well for service, and it is a pleasing fact that incumbents, although invested with an arbitrary power, are usually perfectly ready to grant the wishes of the ringers when they are desirous of exercising their art beyond the strict limits of Sunday duties. It shows how happy are the relations between the "one lawful ringer" and his deputies.

### EIGHT BELL PEAL.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, July 7, 1917, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5068 CHANCES;**

Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM SHORT... .. Treble	WILLIAM A. PUGH... .. 5
*CHARLES W. COOPER ... 2	WILLIAM POTTER ... 6
RALPH MOORS ... .. 3	CHARLES E. PERKINS ... 7
ALFRED DODD ... .. 4	JOHN BASS... .. Tenor

Composed by the late J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

\*First peal of Major away from treble. Rung as a birthday compliment to W. A. Pugh, who attained the age of 60 the day previous, and he has been a ringer at St. Thomas' Church, Stourbridge, for 47 years.

### HANDBELL PEALS.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, June 26, 1917, in One Hour and Forty-seven Minutes,

IN THE TOWER OF THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;**

Seven 720's, each called differently.

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

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

Rung as a farewell to C. Poulson, who attained his 18th birthday in May last, and has now been called to the Colours. He is at present in Edinburgh, and is the fourth brother from this tower that has joined up.

MILVERTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday Evening, July 7, 1917, in Two Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT LA STACIO, MILVERTON,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

Being 42 extents.

Tapped on six handbells by

A. TOUT.

Witnesses: A. C. HARVEY and W. KNIGHT.

First attempt. First peal so rung for the Association.

### WEDDING AT HIGH WYCOMBE.

On Sunday last, for evening service, and also to mark the occasion of the wedding, which took place on that day at the Parish Church, between Miss Dorothy Wilkins, the youngest daughter of Mr. J. W. Wilkins, and Mr. Reginald Wilkins, his nephew, 1083 Stedman. Caters was rung by the following local ringers: F. Hayes 1, R. Coles 2, G. White 3, J. W. Wilkins (composer and conductor) 4, F. Biggs 5, G. Twitchen 6, E. Markham 7, W. Horne 8, J. Gransbury 9, A. Hoing 10. The bridegroom is an Australian, but is attached to the Royal Engineers in France.



### ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH. JUBILEE CELEBRATION.

The 50th anniversary of the opening of the present peal of twelve bells was celebrated on Saturday last with a successful gathering of ringers, who included Mr. Edwin Horrex, whose presence is ever welcome at his native town of Ipswich, and who is the only remaining member of the opening band. He was given a hearty reception, and expressed his pleasure at being the representative of the Ancient Society of College Youths on that occasion. Ringing commenced at 3.30 p.m., with two courses of Stedman Cinques, followed by touches in various methods, the visitors taking part including Messrs. Edwin Horrex, J. F. Sheppard, of St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham; W. J. Nevard, of Great Bentley; Mr. Fred Day, and Mr. E. F. Poppy, of Ely; Mr. Arthur Symonds, of Lavenham; Mr. Hawkins English of Coddenhams; Mr. W. Souer, of Stowmarket; Mr. F. Whitting, of Saxmundham; Mr. R. H. Hayward, of Muresford. One of the guests was Mr. Edwin C. Sayer, Inspector of Weights and Measures for the Borough of Ipswich, under whom Mr. William Motts, the secretary of the Society, has served as assistant for a period of 22 years. Tea, under the restrictions of the Food Controller, was admirably supplied by a well-known caterer. —Mr. Edwin Horrex was voted to the chair, and a welcome having been extended to the visitors, Mr. Horrex once again expressed his pleasure at being present. He could well remember, he said, the occasion of the opening, and the early life of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society 40 years ago. He had always been proud of the work the society had done, and hoped it would continue to maintain its good position.

Messrs. Sheppard, W. J. Nevard and E. F. Poppy also expressed their pleasure at being present.

It was pointed out that that occasion was also the 105th anniversary of the peal as a ring of ten, two trebles being added to the old octave by John Naunton, and opened on July 7th, 1812. The society has accomplished peals in seven methods on ten and twelve bells, and nine on eight bells during these years.

It is interesting also to recall that about 140 peals for the Norwich Diocesan Association have been rung at St. Mary-le-Tower Church, and Debenham is the only tower in the diocese where a greater number have been accomplished. It was at St. Mary-le-Tower that the following first peals in the methods were rung for the Association: Grandsire and Stedman Caters, and Cinques: Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Royal and Maximus, Double Norwich Major, Royal and Maximus, and Cambridge Royal and Maximus. The last named was the first on record in the method.

### MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

#### BISHOP OF PETERBOROUGH AS PATRON.

A quarterly meeting of the Midland Counties Association was held at Beeston on Saturday afternoon, June 30th, the bells being available for ringing from three until eight o'clock, and amongst those present were representatives from Burton-on-Trent, Cotgrave, Derby, Duffield, Lenton, Nottingham, Orston, Radcliffe-on-Trent, and Sandiacre, in addition to the local ringers. Tea was served in the church schoolroom at five o'clock, and was a credit to all who had taken part in the arranging and preparing of the meal. Thirty-three ringers and friends sat down, and immediately after tea the president, Mr. J. W. Taylor, took the chair, supported by the Rev. Cole-Shenne (Vicar), the Rev. Gooch and the Rev. Fry (curates of Beeston), Mr. H. A. Price (churchwarden), and others, and the usual routine business was carried through. Six new members were elected.

The President briefly addressed the meeting, alluding to the recent death of Mr. Harry Wakley, of Burton-on-Trent, and deploring the loss of one of the original members of the Association.

He forcibly brought to notice the necessity of increasing the interest in the Association (especially amongst the clergy and churchwardens) and asked the members to do all they could to obtain honorary members. The President said he was pleased to know that the Bishop of Peterborough would become a patron of the Association and read the following letter from him which had been sent on through the vice-president (Canon F. E. Nugee, who was unfortunately unable to be present): "My dear Canon,—I shall be glad to be a patron of the Midland Counties Association of Change Ringers in accordance with the kind invitation of their secretary. I am sure these Associations are worthy of encouragement, and should be kept in touch with the church as far as possible."

Thanks to the Vicar of Beeston for the use of the bells and schoolroom were unanimously accorded and acknowledged. Thanks were also given to the local members for making the excellent arrangements for the meeting, and to the President for his attendance.

After the meeting a return was made to the tower, where further ringing in various methods was done, and a helping hand lent to several beginners in the art.

**NOTTINGHAM.**—At St. Peter's Church, on May 13th, for morning service, 518 Grandsire Triples: Miss M. Woolley 1, J. Pagett (Derby), conductor, 2, E. Hughes 3, T. H. Kirkby 4, W. J. Senior 5, J. Barrett 6, Mr. H. B. Cobbin 7, W. Flanders 8.

### SOCIETY FOR ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

The annual meeting was held under favourable weather conditions at Wolverhampton, on Saturday week. A short service was held in the Leveson Chapel of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, at which the Rev. Preb. Penny (Rector) delivered an inspiring address to his many hearers. Tea was served at the "Seven Stars" Hotel, at which more than 50 were present, and was much enjoyed by all. The Rev. T. W. Wilkes, M.A. (at one time clerical secretary and treasurer of the society), presided at the business meeting which followed and later was re-elected an honorary member.

The report and balance sheet were presented by the clerical secretary, and passed, both being considered very satisfactory. The balance in hand showed an increase of £2 13s. 2d. over last year's.

The report was as follows: "Our annual meeting takes place once more under the cloud of war. During the past year many more of our members have joined the forces, and the majority of those left at home are working such long hours that little time is left them for the practice of the noble art. The last annual meeting was fairly well attended, especially so when it is remembered that Tamworth is situated some considerable distance from the ringing centre of the Archdeaconry and the existing railway fares being high, many familiar faces at these gatherings were conspicuous by their absence. However, the local band mustered well, together with many from the surrounding district. Six members of St. Martin's (Birmingham) Guild put in an appearance, and delighted those who were fortunate enough to hear them with a capitally struck touch of Stedman Cinques on the handbells. The Hon. the Rev. Maurice Peel delivered an inspiring address, and gave the members a warm welcome. At a later date the reverend gentleman rejoined H.M. Forces as Chaplain, and, alas! the sad news of his recent death on the battlefield has come as a shock to all. The quarterly meetings held at Coseley, Rushall and Wednesbury were on the whole moderately well attended. At the last-named place it was arranged to hold combined practices fortnightly, and the following towers have been visited: St. Peter's, Wolverhampton; Coseley; Christ Church, West Bromwich; and Tipton. Much good must result from such meetings, as at present there appears to be a waning of interest in the art now that weekly practices of the respective bands are postponed. As might be expected, the number of peals rung is small, though several attempts were made which came to an untimely end. The successes are as follows: Grandsire Triples, 1; Stedman Triples, 2. During the year seven new members joined the society, which brings the total membership to 377."

The following were elected as officers: Treasurer, Rev. C. H. Barker, L.Th.; secretaries, Rev. C. H. Barker and H. Knight; Ringing Master, Mr. W. Fisher; auditors, Messrs. E. F. Mitchell and B. Gough; Central Council Representatives, Messrs. W. Fisher and H. Knight; honorary committee, Rev. W. Solly, Rev. T. W. Wilkes, and Mr. W. W. Worthington.

The places chosen for meetings are Brierley Hill (September), Bilston (January), Penn (April), and Penkridge (June), for the annual gathering.

It was agreed to continue the combined practices, which are to be held at Walsall (10 bells), July 14th; Pattingham (8), August 11th; Penn (8), August 25th; and Trysull (6), September 8th; all at 4 p.m.

It was resolved that the sum of one guinea should be handed over to the "Samuel Spittle Memorial Fund," and Mrs. Jas. George advocated the better support of "The Ringing World."

A vote of thanks was accorded the chairman, who expressed his pleasure at being fit and well enough to be present. The bells were made use of during the afternoon, as well as after the meeting.

### BOUGHTON RINGER KILLED IN ACTION.

News has been received that Pte. R. Earl, of Boughton, who was serving in the Warwickshire Regiment, has met his death in France, and for his wife and five young children who are left the deepest sympathy is felt. Pte. Earl, before joining up, worked for Mr. Kimbell, churchwarden and fellow chorister for many years. It is as a ringer that the members of the Central Northants Association will miss him most, but in the parish of Boughton the choir, as well as the ringers, have suffered a heavy loss, for Pte. Earl was possessed of a fine bass voice.

A memorial service was held at the Parish Church on Sunday evening, June 24th, when the Rector spoke feelingly of the many good works of Mr. Earl in his native village, and especially of his services to the Church. After the service a 720 Grandsire Doubles was rung, muffled, on the lovely light ring of bells: H. Wright 1, O. Dickens 2, C. Ringrove 3, G. Parker 4, H. Clarke (conductor) 5.

### OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The 40th anniversary of the formation of an Association of Ringers (which gave the title to the East Berks and South Bucks branch of the aid friends, on Saturday, July 14th. By kind invitation of the Pres-Guild in 1881) will be celebrated by a special meeting of the committee dent, the Rev. Canon Drummond, M.A., tea will be provided at Boyne Hill Schools at 5.30 p.m.; business meeting to follow. The Vicar of Burnham will be pleased to allow visitors and members the use of St. Peter's Bells, Burnham, from 3 to 5 o'clock the same afternoon.

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

*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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**Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.**

*At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 15 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.*

**Foundry  
Established  
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## THE MANAGEMENT OF BELFRIES.

BY THE REV. H. DRAKE.

There has often been much discussion on this matter, but I have never seen the real reason for the present state of affairs explained. By Canon Law (which by the Submission Act is now Law of the Land) there is only one lawful ringer for a church, and he is the incumbent. That he is always supposed to act by deputy does not alter this fact; and, besides being law, it is also common sense; for, after all, the bells are always put into the tower to help in the arrangement of the services; and as long as one person has the unchallenged right to the arrangement of the services, he must also have the unchallenged right to the arrangements for the sounding of the bells.

Complications have, however, arisen on both sides. Ringers should be always keen Churchmen: if they were, no trouble would arise. But there are men who get paid for ringing, and this sometimes upsets matters; and there are others who only ring because it is a hobby, and care little or nothing about the Church otherwise. These latter are usually most excellent men, and very desirable ringers.

On the other side one must remember that change ringing towers are, and probably always will be, in a very small minority. And as most of us change ringing parsons get appointed to churches with only one bell, and probably no tower, it follows that practically all the incumbents of parishes where there are change ringers, know nothing about these matters, are too old to learn, and perhaps even consider bells and ringers a nuisance. I am only surprised that as a rule matters settle down as well as they do. But it would always be a help, if both parson and ringers remembered that they act as his deputy when ringing for service, and at other times that they are only practising for service ringing.

While being far from thinking that church towers are not the right place for change ringing, one might point out, that men who are ringers first, and Churchmen afterwards (if at all), should try to get more rings of bells hung in town halls, as there they would be free from these difficulties. I fear, however, that this is decidedly a "counsel of perfection."

As to the Churchwardens, they are trustees of the property of the Church, and, as such, the bells and their fittings belong to them. But their duty only extends to seeing that they are kept in good condition for assisting at the services in the Church. They have no right to any voice in the matter of the actual ringing, so long as it is not injurious to the bells, their fittings, or the fabric of the Church.

## ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

CASTLE HEDINGHAM REVISITED AFTER 20 YEARS.

The quarterly meeting of the North Essex District of the Essex Association was held at Castle Hedingham on Saturday afternoon in beautiful weather, and there was a very good attendance. The towers represented were Braintree, Bocking, St. Saviour's, Walthamstow; Stelbing, Dunmow, Thetford, Earls Colne, Castle Hedingham, Sible Hedingham, Lavenham, Felstead, Rayne, Stisted and Great Yeldham, between 40 and 50 members being present. It is an interesting fact that the Association has not paid a visit to Castle Hedingham for a period of 20 years, and on Saturday the members were cordially welcomed by the Vicar, the Right Rev. Bishop Powell.

In the afternoon a service was held in the Parish Church, which was conducted by the Vicar, the lesson being read by the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, of Great Totham, general secretary of the Association. A special form of service was used, and special hymns sung, the surpliced choir being present, and Mr. A. Turner at the organ. An appropriate address was given by Bishop Powell, who dwelt upon the importance of the message of the bells.

During the afternoon and evening various touches were rung on the bells, including Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob, Grandsire, Oxford, and New London. The bells at Sible Hedingham Church were also open, and some of the ringers availed themselves of the opportunity to visit the church.

Tea was held at the Bell Hotel, Castle Hedingham. Bishop Powell presided, and was supported by the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, Mr. C. H. Howard, J.P., of Braintree, Master of the Association; Mr. H. B. Baines, of Sible Hedingham; Mr. B. Redgewell, of Rayne, the district secretary, and others.

After the tea, the usual business meeting was held, and several new members were elected from the parish of Felstead. It was also decided to hold the next meeting of the Association at Felstead.

The Rev. H. T. W. Eyre proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for inviting them to Castle Hedingham, remarking that coming to that village was something to be thankful for, as it had opened up a new avenue. He should also like to thank him for his splendid address which had made them look upon bell ringing in a new light.

This was seconded by Mr. Howard, who remarked that the Hedinghams were now looked upon as a stronghold for ringing in the district. He appreciated the Bishop's address, and expressed the opinion that there was scarcely a Sunday when the message of the bells did not go out to somebody who appreciated it.—The motion having been carried unanimously, the Vicar assured them he was grateful to the Association for coming to Castle Hedingham.

## THE DEATH OF C.-S.-M. WAKLEY.

ONE OF BURTON-ON-TRENT'S CELEBRATED BAND.

As briefly announced in our last issue, Company-Sergt.-Major Harry Wakley, of Burton-on-Trent, passed away at Colchester Hospital on June 9th, and with his death another gap has been made in the ranks of the band that made Burton-on-Trent a place of celebrity in the ringing world between 30 and 40 years ago. The deceased was an accomplished ringer, and was one of the original members of the Midland Counties Association. In addition to his enthusiastic interest in ringing, he became, in 1881, a Volunteer, joining the corps that afterwards became the 6th Battalion North Staffordshire Regiment, Territorial Force. In this he held the rank of sergeant for many years, and when the war broke out he was mobilised with the regiment, and was with the second line of that battalion up to March, 1916, when he was transferred as company-sergeant-major to a Provisional Battalion, and, after doing duty with an Aircraft Observation Company for some time, rejoined the Provisional Battalion, now the 21st North and Derbyshire Regiment, early in the present war. He was only seriously ill five days, being admitted to the Colchester General Hospital on Saturday, June 9th, operated upon for gastric ulcer on the 10th, and died in the afternoon of the 14th.



THE LATE C.-S.-M. H. WAKLEY.

The funeral took place at Colchester on Monday, June 18th, the gun-carriage being preceded by the band of the Norfolk Regiment stationed there. The hearers were five company-sergeant-majors and his own senior sergeant, the guard of honour consisting of a company of the Norfolks, with a party from the Notts and Derby Regiment under an officer. There was also the usual firing party, and the bugles sounded the Last Post at the conclusion of the service. The only mourners able to be present were his widow, Miss Wakley, of Tonbridge (sister), and Lance-Corporal Albert P. Wakley (nephew).

With reference to his ringing career, Mr. Wakley joined the St. Paul's Company, at Burton-on-Trent, in 1881, and rang the tenor to his first peal of Grandsire Triples on April 27th, 1882, this being Holt's Original, conducted by Joseph Griffin. His first peal with a bob bell was also Grandsire Triples, rung on Thursday, November 9th, 1882, this being "Pensing's One-Part," then rung for the second time, with the same conductor as before. These two peals with the following, viz.: November 18th, 1882—7,200 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, rung at Beeston, Notts (the longest length in the method at that time, in which the late Jasper W. Snowdon took part, conducted by the late William Wakley); December 8th, 1882—5,024 Kent Treble Bob Major; December 9th, 1882—5,040 Grandsire Triples at Colcorton, Leicestershire; March 28th, 1883—5,024 Kent Treble Bob Major; April 7th, 1883—5,088 Bulo; June 21st, 1883—5,040 Grandsire Triples, were all rung at the

first attempt. It was a unique performance for a young ringer to score his first eight peals in three methods without a break, so that it began to be a joke amongst the members of the band, when arrangements were being made for a peal attempt, for one or other to say: "Oh, let Harry be in and you are sure to get it."

The deceased also took part in another fine achievement by ringing in four out of five peals accomplished within eight days (the last four being rung half-muffled on the occasion of the death of Michael Thomas Bass, founder of St. Paul's and St. Margaret's Churches, Burton-on-Trent), viz.: April 28th, 1884; Stedman Triples, conducted by the late Charles H. Hattersley; April 30th, 1884; Grandsire Triples; May 2nd, 1884; 5,056 Double Norwich Court Bob Major; May 3rd, 1884; 5,088 Kent Treble Bob Major; May 5th, 1884; 5,120 Superlative Surprise Major, all conducted by his late brother William Wakley.

The latter peal was the first in the method by all, and the first recorded in the "Bell News." Mr. Bass died on Tuesday, April 29th, and was buried on Monday, May 5th, at Rangemore, near Burton-on-Trent, and the peal of Superlative was rung in the morning to enable the ringers to attend the funeral. With reference to these peals, the "Bell News" of May 10th, 1884, said: "The remarkable feats of the Burton-on-Trent gentlemen will establish them as the most skilful company of eight-bell ringers in existence at the present time."

Mr. Wakley's 50th peal was completed on Saturday, October 24th, 1885, being a peal of 5,056 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, composed and conducted by his friend and colleague, John Jaggan.

As a conductor it was not until some years later that he took up the duty, but the band always had every confidence in his abilities, and he was very successful.

Mr. Wakley's 100th peal was the second of two peals rung on April 3rd, 1888, a peal of Duffield Royal, at All Saints', Duffield, composed and conducted by the late Sir Arthur Heywood. It was the second peal that had been rung in the method. Amongst the deceased's interesting performances were 6,720 Superlative, the longest length in the method achieved up to that time, on January 24th, 1885; three peals of Superlative rung on December 28th, 29th and 30th in the same year—a noteworthy feat for those days—and in which Joseph Field, Charles Hounslow and James W. Washbrook, took part; the first peal of New Cumberland Surprise Major ever rung, and rung moreover at the first attempt; three peals of Cambridge Surprise Major in three consecutive attempts within a fortnight, in February, 1887; the first peal of Cambridge in the "Burton" variation (now known as New Cambridge); a peal of London Surprise Major on September 1st, 1887, the fourth ever rung, and the first by all the band. Other interesting incidents in his ringing career could be noted did space permit, but sufficient has been said to show that Harry Wakley was among the pioneers of ringing in Surprise Methods, and that to the enterprise of the Burton men was due to no small extent the foundation of "Surprise" ringing that was laid in the eighties, and upon which so great an advance was built up in the years that followed.

At this period the most famous ringers of the day visited Burton, and consequently Mr. Wakley met and rang with a great number of the celebrities, many of whom have now gone to their last rest. Among these may be numbered the late Rev. F. E. Robinson, Sir Arthur Heywood, Jasper Snowdon, Henry Dains, Nathan Pitstow, Harry Bastable, Joseph Field, Charles Hounslow, H. D. Bettridge, Rowland Cartwright, and others, to say nothing of many famous ringers who are happily still with us.

He joined the Midland Counties Association at its inauguration when known as the Derby and District Association, and rang in the "Original Members' " peal of Stedman Triples on Monday, April 1st, 1907, at St. Andrew's, Derby, conducted by Joseph Griffin, in celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Association, and also filled the position of local honorary secretary of the Burton-on-Trent district from 1899 to 1902, and 1911 to 1914.

In addition to his first peal 235 peals in various methods on eight bells were rung under the auspices of this society.

On Sunday, June 17th, for Divine service, the bells of St. Paul's Church, Burton-on-Trent, were rung half-muffled as a token of love and respect to a loyal comrade and fellow church worker.

The association of C.-S.-M. Wakley with St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, recalls the great advance in the art of ringing that was made in the eighties by that company, and we hope next week to give some details of those early performances.

### YARMOUTH RINGERS' OUTING.

Four Great Yarmouth ringers paid a visit to Theberton on June 30th, and also made an excursion to Saxmundham, where the following rang 720 Bob Minor: C. Harding 1, F. Walling (conductor) 2, J. Avis 3, D. Hayward 4, H. Wright 5, F. Pestall 6. The visitors from Yarmouth were the ringers of 1, 4, 5 and 6, and they wish to thank Mr. Walling for entertaining them to tea, arranging for a pull, and also the trap, to take them to Theberton from Saxmundham.

**TODMORDEN, LANCASHIRE.**—On July 1st, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: L. Holroyd 1, J. E. Rowland 2, J. Richards 3, H. Barker 4, E. Cheetham 5, H. Davenport 6, W. Crabtree (conductor) 7, S. Hartley 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.—Meetings will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on every first Sunday in the month at 6 p.m.; and at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on July 17th and 31st, for general business, also on the 26th for handbell practice, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—The summer meeting of the S.E. Division will be held at Great Waltham on Saturday, July 14th. Bells available, 3.30. Service, 5.30. Tea, 1/- per head, at the Six Bells, at 6 p.m., followed by meeting.—F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Maidstone District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Barming on Sat., July 14th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m.; tea provided by churchwardens at 5.45. All ringers welcome.—Stephen Hayzelden, District Secretary, Lower Street, East Farley.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Yeovil on Saturday, July 14th. Service at 3.30. Meeting in St. John's School at 4 p.m. Tea at Maynard's Restaurant at 5 p.m. Bells available from 1 p.m.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

**GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—North Forest Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Churcham on Saturday the 14th July. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. All bell ringers welcome.—Joseph Williams, Hon. Sec., Glen Holm, Newent, Glos.

**SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Southgate on Saturday, July 14. Bells available at 4 o'clock. Tea will be arranged if sufficient members let me know by July 10th.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**—A special general meeting will be held at Berkswell on Saturday, July 21st. Bells available all afternoon and evening. Committee meeting at 4.15. Service at 4.45. It is important that I should be notified by those intending to be present not later than July 15th. Business meeting after tea.—Joseph H. White, Hon. Secretary, 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Todmorden Unitarian on Saturday, July 21st. Bells ready at 3 o'clock till dusk. Meeting at six.—T. K. Driver, Middleton.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The annual business meeting will be held at the King's Road Institute, King's Road, Reading, on Saturday, July 21st, at 3 p.m.—A. E. Reeves, Lieut., R.D.C., Guild Secretary, 16, Mansfield Road, Reading.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Deane Parish Church on Saturday, July 21st, 1917. Bells ready at 4. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late St. James' Society, established 1824).—Owing to unforeseen circumstances, the next meeting will be held at All Saints, Edmonton, on Saturday, July 21st (not 14th as previously stated). Ringing from 4 p.m., business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**—Thrapston District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Thrapston on Saturday, July 21st. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m.; meeting to follow in Church Room. Election of officers.—F. Stubbs, Dis. Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Raunds.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD** (North and East District).—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, July 21st. Ringing from 3.30 p.m. Tea, 6 p.m. (at moderate price to all who inform me by Wednesday, July 18th), followed by business meeting. All ringers welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown St., Harrow.

**ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.**—A meeting of the above will be held at Ashford, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. E. K. Sopwith), on Saturday, July 21st. Bells available at 3 o'clock. All ringers will receive a hearty welcome, and it is hoped that a good number will avail themselves of this opportunity of meeting to ring in such a central position. If those requiring tea will kindly notify me not later than Wednesday, July 13th, I shall be pleased to make the necessary arrangements.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Secretary, The Priory, Appledore, Ashford, Kent.

**SUSSEX ASSOCIATION** (Eastern Division).—The next meeting will be held at Mayfield on Saturday, July 21st. Ringing from 2 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock. Members wishing to be present at tea must let me know not later than Tuesday, 17th.—Geo. H. Howse, Div. Secretary, Kenilworth, Latimer Road, Eastbourne.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Nottingham District.—There will be ringing at Holy Trinity Church, Lenton, on Saturday afternoon, July 21st, from 3 to 6 o'clock. Important business meeting afterwards for the election of district officers.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

**NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Shireoaks on Saturday, July 21st. Bells (6) available from 2 to 9 p.m.—H. Haigh, Hon. Sec., 103, Gateford Road, Worksop.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Lewisham District.—The next meeting will be held at Dartford, by kind permission of the Rev. Leonard Savill (Vicar), on Saturday, July 28th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. Service and address at 4.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow in the Church Hall, Lowfield Street. Half rail fares allowed.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.** Established 1755.—Quarterly Meeting will be held on Saturday, July 28th, at St. Martin's. Bells (12) available from 3.30 to 5 o'clock. Canon Willink has very kindly invited members to tea at the Rectory, Sir Harry's Road, and tea will be provided at 5.30 for those who send in their names, *not later than the 25th inst.*, to A. Paddon-Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The annual festival will be held at St. Mary's, Stockport, on Saturday, July 28th. Service at 3.45. Preacher: The Rev. F. C. L. Hamilton, Rector of Northenden. Other particulars by circular.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Hon. Sec., New Mills.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at the Burnley Parish Church on Saturday, July 28th, 1917. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting, 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

**PETERBOROUGH AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Peterborough on Monday, August 6th. Service at St. John's Church at 4 o'clock; business meeting after. St. John's, St. Mary's and Woodston's bells will be available. No arrangements for tea, but all ringers welcome.—John J. Jutson, Hon. Sec., St. Mary's School House, Peterborough.

**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.

#### MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

Subscriptions to the above should be forwarded at once to the Ringing Master, Mr. Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, or to the Hon. Sec., Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

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Subscriptions already acknowledged ...	5	18	0
Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford ...	1	1	0
Mr. J. Smith, Tipton ...	0	2	6
Mr. W. Newell (St. Laurence's, Reading)...	0	2	6

**CORRECTION.**—St. Martin's Sunday ringers should be one guinea, not £1 as reported, and Mr. Edgar Marlow, Wood Green, Wednesbury, 1/6, not 1/- as stated. This makes a total up to date of £7 5s. 6d.

#### LADY CHURCHWARDEN RAISES HANDBELL FUND.

A ringing meeting for the purpose of assisting the local ringers took place at Llangonoyd, Glamorganshire, on Saturday last, ringers attending from Aberavon, Bridgend, and Newport. It will be remembered that a few months ago a similar meeting was held, the result of which was that the locals became anxious to become change ringers, and joined the Llandaff Association. Progress is being made under the tuition of Mr. Pitman, of Aberavon. On the first occasion it was suggested that a set of handbells should be obtained for the purpose of starting change ringing. The ringers approached their esteemed lady churchwarden, Miss Thomas, and she came to their assistance admirably by collecting sufficient funds to enable a new set to be purchased, and also a new set of ropes for the tower bells, with a useful surplus in hand for any minor repairs which may be needed in the belfry. The handbells, which are a very musical ring by Barwell, were first used on Saturday, Grandfire Triples being rung.

**LITTLE MUNDEN.**—Herts County Association.—On Sunday, April 1st, 360 Bob Doubles: W. H. Lawrence 1—2, S. Game 3, Pte A. Smith, A.S.C., 4, F. Williams (conductor) 5, W. Williams 6.—On April 29th, for evening service, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: J. J. Pratt, R.G.A., 1, N. Patmore 2, F. Williams 3, B. Patmore 4, A. Lawrence 5, W. H. Lawrence (conductor) 6.—On May 13th, for evening service, 120 Grandfire Doubles. Also 240 Bob Minor: W. Greenaway 1, F. Williams 2, S. Game 3, B. Patmore 4, N. Patmore 5, W. H. Lawrence (conductor) 6.—On May 27th, for evening service, three leads of Oxford Treble Bob: W. H. Lawrence 1—2, S. Game 3, B. Patmore 4, N. Patmore 5, Pte E. A. Overall (Buffs) 6.

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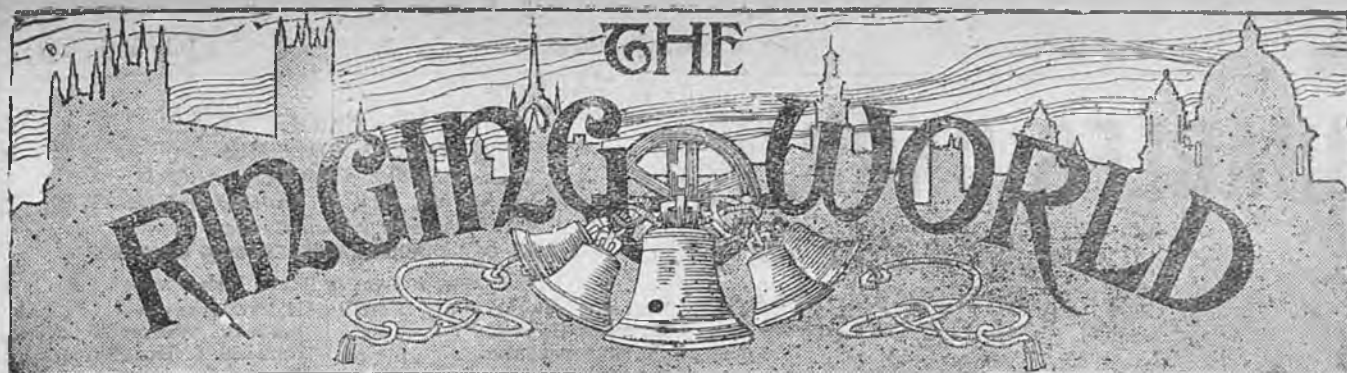
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No. 331. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, JULY 20th, 1917.

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

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MESSRS GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.  
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. BUCK,  
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

## MODERN WORK.

### THE NEED OF HONORARY MEMBERS.

Last week we reported, in the account of the Midland Counties' Association meeting, that the President "brought to notice the necessity of increasing the interest in the Association (especially amongst the clergy and churchwardens), and asked the members to do all they could to obtain honorary members." This advice tendered to the members of the Midland Counties' Association might well be taken to heart by many of the other ringing organisations throughout the country. The question of extending interest in the work of the various associations is one which has a direct bearing upon their financial position, and we have more than once in this column urged the importance of the members of ringing societies doing their best to build up the stability of their respective associations by bringing in those who would increase the honorary roll. The return which many societies give to their practising members for the annual subscription paid would be out of the question were it not for the assistance received from the honorary members, and the tendency in later years has been, generally, for the latter numerically to decrease. There are many causes which lead from year to year to the non-renewal of honorary subscriptions, and it is admittedly difficult, when a shrinkage has to be made good, to show an actual net gain. It is generally felt that the field for recruiting honorary members of ringing societies is somewhat limited, and it is usual to look more or less exclusively to the clergy and churchwardens for this class of support. Is it not likely, however, that there are well-to-do members of congregations who, if approached in the right way, would readily help? Such individuals could, of course, only be reached through local bands, and they could perhaps achieve the best results by calling in the aid of the incumbent.

If members of congregations in a position to help could be thus approached, the result would indeed be a happy one for the Associations concerned. Two new honorary members brought in in this way through each tower would be a splendid asset to the finances of any organisation, and by making an effort to achieve this end, local companies would be rendering invaluable aid. The point we would emphasize, however, is, that this is essentially work for individual towers, for it could not be accomplished with anything like the same chances of success through the central officers of a society. Local men applying to members of the congregation of their own church would have far more influence, and those who value their Ringing Associations ought to be willing and ready to make this little effort. At the same time one may very pertinently ask whether the majority of the associations do all that they might to retain the interest of the honorary members.

# CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**SMETHWICK,  
BIRMINGHAM**

## BELLS

**FOR CHURCHES,**

**SINGLY,  
OR IN PEALS.**

**CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.**

**PEALS AUGMENTED,  
CRACKED BELLS RECAST**

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**IN BEST SEASONED OAK,  
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**Chiming Machines.**

**Best Workmanship and  
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**OF ALL KINDS.**

**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 Tower**

**SEND FOR CATALOGUE**

**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.

**ESTABLISHED 1760.**

## JOHN NICOLL,

**Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope  
Manufacturer.**

**80, 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.

## EIGHT BELL PEAL.

**MALPAS, CHESHIRE.**

**THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Saturday, July 16th, 1917, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,  
At the Parish Church,*

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

**J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.**

*ARTHUR NEWALL ... .. Treble	*HARRY OVERTON ... .. 5
EDWARD HARRISON ... .. 2	JAMES V. WRIGHT ... .. 6
ROBERT SPERRING ... .. 3	†RICHARD T. HOLDING ... .. 7
GEORGE JONES ... .. 4	THOMAS ROWLAND ... .. Tenor

**Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.**

\*First peal. †Fiftieth peal. First peal on the bells since they were augmented to eight.

## HANDBELL PEAL.

**LONDON.**

**THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**

*On Tuesday, July 10th, 1917, in Two Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,  
At 32, EDGELEY ROAD, CLAPHAM, S.W.4.*

**A NON-CONDUCTED**

**PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

**CARTER'S ODD BOB ONE-PART.**

HERBERT LANGDON... .. 1-2	CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... .. 5-6
HARRY R. PASMORE ... .. 3-4	WILLIAM T. COCKERILL ... .. 7-8

**Umpires: ARTHUR HUBBARD and HENRY R. NEWTON.**

## MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

**MEETING AT HARLINGTON.**

When in July of last year some of the members of the Middlesex Association met at Harlington, the account given of it in this paper was headed: "A Strawberry Meeting." This year it was "Cherries," fruit in plenty, and of the finest description. The Rector (the Rev. J. H. Wilson) gave the company a hearty welcome at the tea table, and one of the West Ealing ringers replied. Of the fair sex with the party were: Mrs. Wm. Shepherd and Miss A. M. Emery from Horsham; Misses D. G. Feltham and E. A. Gorham from Hillingdon; Miss E. Fuller, Fulmer; and Miss C. M. Orlebar, King's Cliffe, Peterborough; the last-named lady, together with the Rev. J. Fraser Amies (Chalfont St. Peter) and Mr. G. T. Leader (Slough) being elected members. The Rector presided (as Mr. F. Beadle, the District Master, was obliged to leave early), and the routine business was transacted.—Mr. C. Edwards (West Ealing) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector, and Mr. W. H. Fussell, who seconded, said he considered that it was a very great concession on the part of the Rector and Mrs. Wilson to allow them to have the use of the bells for so long a time on account of the illness of the lady. He expressed a hope—which all those present shared—that Mrs. Wilson might have a speedy return to good health.—In reply, the Rector said it was most kind to allude to the illness of Mrs. Wilson, whose wish it was that the meeting should not be postponed, and he expressed his appreciation. Further, he explained that a considerable area of ground had this year been used for potatoes, or the strawberries would have been forthcoming instead of cherries.

Mr. Wm. Shepherd thought Sunbury would be a convenient place for the next meeting, and his suggestion met with approval. He referred to the bereavement sustained by the Master (Mr. Wm. Pyel) and proposed a vote of sympathy.

Thirty-two members were present (as against 26 last year), and the following towers were represented: Bucklebury, Chalfont St. Peter, Fulmer, Harrow, Heston, Horsham, Harlington, Hillingdon, Isleworth, King's Cliffe, Norwood Green, Slough, Staines, Tunbridge Wells, Ventnor, Windsor, and West Ealing. After the meeting the Rector invited all to see, and roam in, his garden, and in a cosy nook with overhanging foliage the handbells were soon going to touches of Grandsire and a course of Stedman Triples by A. W. Davis, W. H. Fussell, W. Shepherd (conductor), and W. L.

## MEETING OF NORTANTS AND BEDS RINGERS.

On Saturday last a very pleasant gathering was held at Sharnbrook Beds, at which ringers were present from Bedford, and the local tower, and the following Northants belfries, viz.: Wellingborough, Northampton, Higham Ferrers, Finedon, Burton Latimer, and Isham. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m., and included Cambridge, Woodbine, Kent, Oxford, Double Court, Oxford Bob, and Bob Minor, and Stedman Doubles. A capital tea was served in very pleasant surroundings at the "Elms," and was much appreciated. The handbells were brought into use, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples being rung by some of the company. A return was then made to the tower, and further touches brought round, this concluding a very successful meeting.

## OUTINGS.

## WORKSOP PRIORY CHURCH COMPANY.

On Saturday last, the members of the Worksop Priory Church band had their annual outing, the places selected being Harworth and Tickhill. Accompanied by Mr. J. Kelk, assistant organist, and a few other churchworkers, the party drove by char-a-banc, and arrived a little before 3 p.m. at Harworth, where the Vicar (the Rev. F. d'Arhlay Burney) was waiting to welcome them. Permission was readily given to Mr. Kelk to make good use of the organ, and the proceedings, therefore, opened with a few verses of the beautiful hymn, "We love the place, O God," after which some excellent selections of other music followed. Ringing on the mellow-toned ring of six bells was next indulged in, and touches of Grandsire, Plain Bob, Cambridge Surprise were rung, and 720 Oxford Treble Bob brought round by: S. C. Walker 1, T. Bartholomew 2, H. Stenton 3, C. F. Fowler (conductor) 4, J. T. Wilson 5, H. Haigh 6, this being the first 720 in the method by the ringers of the 5th. While the ringing was in progress some of the company obtained permission, and proceeded to view the new coal pit, formerly in the hands of a German syndicate, and also other places of interest, but as the stay was only a short one, were soon again on the way to Tickhill, where they arrived a little after 5 p.m., and were met by Mr. A. Winn, the leader of the local ringers, and Mr. Ellis. Mr. Kelk was soon on the keyboard of the organ, and after a few suitable hymns had been sung, and another brief recital given, the beautiful ring of eight bells were pulled up in peal, and a short touch of Grandsire Triples rung as a "feeler" before tea, which took place at the Millstone Hotel. Subsequently the party returned to the tower, where some good touches of Grandsire Triples Kent Treble Bob Major, and Violet Minor were rung, the bells being lowered in peal a little after 8 p.m., and the carillon put in working order to play three verses of "Home, sweet Home," which everyone enjoyed listening to, especially Arnold, who was in khaki, and home on soldier's leave. A beautiful bird's-eye view from the top of the tower, through the field glasses, revealed many interesting peeps, which will not readily be forgotten. The company are grateful to Messrs. C. F. Fowler and H. Stenton, of Angton; J. H. Brothwell, of Treeton; and Mr. McKell, of Rotherham, for joining them at different intervals during the day, and taking part in the ringing. Warmest thanks are given, through the medium of "The Ringing World," to the Vicars of Harworth and Tickhill for placing the organs and bells at the disposal of the party.

## LADY RINGERS RAISE INTEREST AT PRESTBURY.

On Saturday last the ringers of St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, had their annual outing to Prestbury, via Macclesfield, at which latter place the party were met by several of the local company, including Messrs. Walmsley, Mothershead, Ankinson, and Norbury, who had kindly arranged for a pull on the bells of the historic Church of St. Michael. Before ascending the tower, Mr. J. Norbury conducted the party round the church, pointing out the many items of interest associated with the edifice. In the tower the visitors saw several notable vessels with a history, which a former company of Ashton ringers well remember in 1891. Several courses of Grandsire were rung, the local men being pleased to take part with the first ladies to ring in this tower. After visiting various places of interest in the town, the party proceeded through beautiful country, in lovely weather and in joyous spirits, till they reached the old, quaint and historic village of Prestbury, where they were met by Mr. Wm. Mayers, the tower keeper, who had made preparations which left no one in doubt that he intended that the ringers of Ashton should not forget for a long time to come their visit to Prestbury. A bountiful tea had been provided, and was much enjoyed. One of the Macclesfield ringers cycled over to join in the subsequent ringing, which was heartily enjoyed by all. Mr. Mayers had allowed it to leak out that some ladies were to ring the bells, consequently many of the villagers had assembled in the church to witness what was to them a unique and interesting performance, and no doubt it will be the means of many more taking to the art. The visitors extend to the ringers and friends of Macclesfield, and Mr. Mayers, of Prestbury, their hearty thanks for the efforts bestowed on making the outing so enjoyable, and to the incumbents for giving permission to ring on the bells.

## A BIRMINGHAM OUTING.

On Saturday afternoon last the ringers of the Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham, held their annual outing at Solihull. On arrival the party proceeded to the tower, where they were met by Mr. J. H. White (secretary of the Warwickshire Guild) and other friends from Coventry, and Mr. Ben Gough from Tipton. Mr. Bragg had everything in readiness, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Stedman Caters and Bob Royal, were rung.

An excellent tea was provided by Host Walker at the Mason's Arms. The Rector of Solihull gave the visitors a hearty welcome, and thanked them for ringing the bells. He stated that some of the wounded soldiers in the neighbourhood were delighted to hear them, and longed for the time when they would hear them rung for peace. He hoped the party would have a pleasant time, and invited them to visit the Rectory Grounds, and expressed the wish that the ladies would take a few roses back with them.

At the conclusion of tea, Mr. Carrod (the hon. secretary) said how

pleased he was to be able to be with the members again, and thanked them for their sympathy with him in his long illness. He would like to say that they had not been asleep during the past year. They had by voluntary contributions raised about £2 10s., which had been spent in parcels for their ringers at the front, who had gratefully acknowledged them. The Ringing Master (Mr. James George) had collected about £8, and had had a new entrance to the belfry made. Continuing, Mr. Carrod proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar (the Rev. G. E. Badger) for his hospitality, and for the interest he always takes in the welfare of the ringers; also to the Rector of Solihull for the use of the bells and his hearty welcome, and to Mr. Bragg for having the bells ready.—Mr. George, in seconding, said he hoped that the present cordial relations would always exist among the members, for they had a Vicar who took great interest in the ringers, and there were few non-ringing clergy who did so. So far as he was personally concerned he was only too pleased to do all he could for the benefit of the tower and ringers.

The Vicar, in replying, said how pleased he was to see Mr. Carrod again with them, and thanked the ringers for their services. He hoped they would continue to keep the bells going. The new entrance was a great improvement, and he felt deeply indebted to Mr. George. He hoped shortly to see a band of lady ringers.

The party then betook themselves to the Rectory grounds, and afterwards a few more touches on the bells brought the visit to a close.

## GLOUCESTER &amp; BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

## BRISTOL BRANCH.

A successful meeting of the Bristol branch took place at the pretty little village of Dyrham, some ten miles from Bristol. The majority of the members and friends who attended left Bristol by brake, the weather being beautifully fine. The outward journey was greatly appreciated, a peal of handbells, on which tunes were rung and change ringing practised, adding to the pleasure. On arrival at Dyrham the tower was immediately visited, and touches of Grandsire, Plain Bob, Stedman and Kent Treble Bob on the pretty peal of six, were brought round.

At the kind invitation of the Rector (Rev. W. E. Blathwayt, M.A.), the company, which now numbered 34, adjourned to the Rectory lawn, where a splendid tea was provided.

A short business meeting followed, the Rector being voted to the chair.—One new member was elected, and Abbots Leigh was proposed as the next meeting-place (particulars will be advertised in due course). Mr. F. K. Howell (hon. treasurer of the Association) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for so kindly providing tea, and also to the ladies for their part in the arrangements.—This was carried with applause.—The Rector, in responding, mentioned that he was pleased to see the Association there again, and would also be pleased to welcome them in future. He stated that last year they had with them the late Rev. H. A. Cockey, and he would like to take the opportunity of associating himself with the Association in the great loss sustained by the death of their treasurer.

A short service in the church followed, after which all were graciously invited by the lord of the manor, Mr. Robert Wynter Blathwayt, J.P., to view the house and grounds of Dyrham Park, where the visitors were able to admire the magnificent paintings, the tapestry, etc., and the beautiful plants contained in the conservatory. The visitors were conducted through the gardens, and spent an enjoyable time wandering amongst the trees and flowers. The park is some 250 acres in extent, and it was on this spot that a battle was fought between the Saxons and the Britons in the year 577, and called "The Battle of Dearham."

That the visit was thoroughly enjoyed need hardly be stated, and a pleasant return journey in the cool evening provided a delightful conclusion to the outing.

One of the company was Pto. J. Nicholls, of Leighton Buzzard, Beds, who has been visiting several towers at different times during his stay in the district.

## STROUD BRANCH SUNDAY VISITS.

In place of the usual monthly practice meetings, on Saturdays, the members of the Stroud and District branch have held three Sunday afternoon visits to Haresfield on May 20th, Frocester on June 10th, and Bisley on July 1st, with an attendance of 14, 19 and 10 members respectively. There has been some good ringing at all the towers visited, and every member has put forth his best efforts, much of the ringing being for the Sunday services at all the places visited. Both the clergy and local societies of ringers have received the visitors most cordially, and it is hoped to visit all the towers during the summer and autumn months, and thus to stimulate ringing where there is, as in most belfries, a shortage of ringers.

## LADY RINGERS AT ALDERSHOT.

A band of lady bell ringers has been formed at Aldershot. Their instructor is a well-known Essex ringer. "Determined to Succeed" is stamped on each fair brow, and rapid progress is being made.

## HELD OVER.

Owing to pressure on our present limited space, several reports are unavoidably held over until next week.



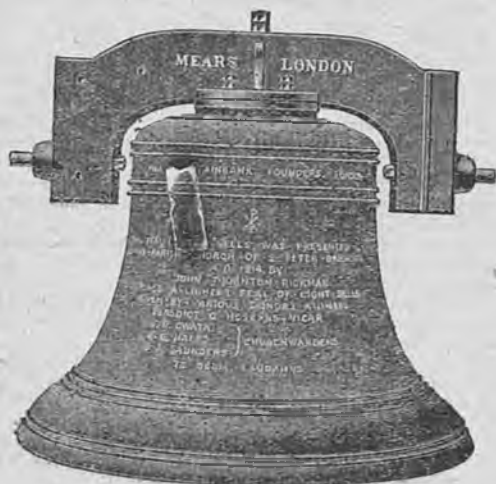
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*Bellfounders & Bellhangers,*

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**Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring  
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.*

## BELLS AND Belfry REFORM.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Mr. Player's letter in your issue of June 22nd raises a number of interesting questions, to which I should have replied before had I not been away from home. Now, with your permission, I will ask his pardon for a somewhat belated answer.

I think his opening remarks about clergy and ringers are covered by what I wrote before, viz., that there are clergy and clergy and ringers and ringers, and I will add, also, that with regard to the general public there are sympathisers and non-sympathisers; and human nature being what it is, I think we must be content to leave it at that.

No, it was not the Vicar of Ashford to whom I alluded. I have not the pleasure of his acquaintance, but am very glad to hear that he is such a good friend of the "Exercise." The two extra bells at Ashford, by the way, are not both in peal for ringing purposes, one being a flut 2nd, added in 1887 to enable the "National Anthem" to be played on the carillon.

The question of wood versus iron frames is a thorny one. Personally, I have never seen a wooden frame in which the bells have preserved their "go" for any length of time in the perfection that they do in a first-class iron frame, wood being always pervious to extremes of damp and drought, and inclined to "give" at the corners. Possibly your correspondent has not heard of Mr. F. H. Lewis's investigations and experiments, as reported in the "Ringing World" about two years since. (I write from memory.)

It is quite a common practice to cramp stone buildings with iron, as witness the familiar crosses and circular plates so often seen in walls. I myself saw some in a church tower the other day; but, of course, it requires doing with care and knowledge, and like all work of its kind it needs occasional oversight.

I quite agree with Mr. Player in thinking that bells are more noisy in iron than in wood, but the remedy has meanwhile been pointed out in your issue of July 6th. Here, we have wooden boards covered on both sides with waterproof felt, and they are quite effective. I suppose the only way to actually prove who has the control of the bells and ringing would be to bring a test case into court. If this were done, I think it would be found that custom, the basis of all legal right, has given it from time immemorial to the incumbent.

I confess that I cannot understand your correspondent when he speaks of the east end being "overdone," an expression which, to my mind, is more suggestive of a leg of mutton than a chancel. If, however, he means that too much is made of the Holy Eucharist, the chief service of Christianity, I must, with whatever reluctance, say that I am quite unable to agree with him in this point. As a ringer, I sincerely hope that I shall never have to choose between the east and west ends of the church. I love them both, but if it came to a choice between the central act of Christian worship, and the partial custom of a local church (for not one per cent. of the Churches of Christianity have peals of bells hung for ringing), there could be no question as to which would "have to go." But why raise such a question? Long may ringing be the handmaid and ally of religion, and may it never be forced by misdirected enthusiasm into the position of a rival and an enemy!

Trusting that Mr. Player will in his turn take these remarks in good part, and thanking you, sir, in anticipation for your courtesy in inserting this somewhat lengthy rejoinder, I am, yours truly,

A CLERICAL RINGER.

P.S.—Since writing the above I see that the question of the control of the bells and their use has been lifted out of the region of controversy in the "Ringing World" for July 6th by Mr. Drake, who has earned the gratitude of the Exercise for his lucid exposition of the canon law on the subject.

## THE SUSSEX ANNUAL MEETING.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I am much obliged to Mr. Stone for his very lucid explanation to the last paragraph of my letter, and I am sure he will forgive me if I say I am not quite sure now that he is right. I think we should all do our duty, and when the "reckoning comes," of which he speaks, we shall not be found "six to one and half a dozen to the other." The unfortunate fact of the annual meeting being postponed cannot, that I see, place any of the divisions in jeopardy.

With paragraph 3 of Mr. Stone's letter I am in total agreement. I have always been an advocate of spending as much for the members' benefit as possible. Unlike friendly society work, we have not to pile up money for old age, as most of our ringing is done in our young days.

Paragraph No. 1 comes as a surprise to me. I was not aware the gentlemen in question were guilty of taking upon themselves the responsibility of "hoarding" the Association's funds. I believe at the last annual meeting, through advice from the committee, the general secretary did move that so much of the funds should be invested in Exchequer Bonds, and this was agreed to. Beyond this I do not propose to go. What these gentlemen have to say in defence is another matter. Trusting I shall yet be able to meet all old friends at the annual this year. Yours faithfully,

Lower Lake, Battle.

WALTER FRANKS.



## HEROES FROM THE BELFRY.

The left-hand photograph is that of Pte. Alfred Gozzell, of Meldon, Essex, who was attached to the Middlesex Regiment, and was killed in France by a sniper whilst leaving the trenches on May 7th.

The centre picture is of Pte. James Thomas Ward, of Irthlingborough, Northants, serving in the Suffolk Regiment, who has been missing since April 28th last.

The right-hand photograph is of Pte. D. I. Brearley, of Bolsterstone, 24th York and Lancaster Regt., killed in action on May 14th, in France.

## KILLED IN ACTION.

Corporal Sidney Franklin, a member of the band at St. Augustine's belfry, Woodstone, Peterborough, has, to the great regret of all, been killed in action in France. He is the first of the local band to fall. He was a promising ringer, and much respected by all who knew him.

On Sunday week, in the afternoon, a quarter-peal of Bob Doubles was rung on the bells at Woodstone Church as a last tribute of respect to his memory. The quarter, the first on the bells, was also the first by a Woodstone band, the ringers being: H. Hoare, senr., 1, F. T. Hoare 2, C. H. Hoare 3, E. Martin 4, H. Hoare, junr. (conductor), 5, W. Beeton 6.

The bells were opened on June 27th, 1914, and the ringers, like those at other towers, have been much depleted by claims of the war. None of the band could ring more than rounds when the bells were opened, and of those who took part in the quarter-peal some have only recently taken up ringing. The progress made, in face of great handicaps, is, therefore, highly creditable.

## CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

### NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT'S NEW VICE-PRESIDENT.

The annual meeting of the Northampton District was held at Boughton, on Saturday week, the following towers being represented: St. Edmund's, St. Giles', and St. Peter's, Northampton; Kingsthorpe, Weston Favell, Cogenhoe, Ecton, Moulton, Great Brington, and Boughton. Stedman, Grandsire and Bob Doubles were rung. The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. J. Johnstone Walker), Sergt. F. T. Slater, one of the organists at Winchester Cathedral, who has been wounded, and was in the village, kindly volunteering his services at the organ. The collection for the Association's Belfry Repair Fund amounted to 5s. 6d.

Tea was served at "The Griffin," 25 sitting down. Before the business meeting commenced, the Hon. Secretary (Mr. T. Law), in some well-chosen remarks, moved that a letter of condolence be sent to the relatives of the late Mr. James Clarke, who had been vice-president of the district during the past two years, and whose death was reported in "The Ringing World" a week or two ago. He also proposed that letters of condolence be sent to the relatives of Lance-Corpl. C. S. Faulkner, Easton Neston; Pte. A. Warren, Moulton, and Pte. R. Earl, Boughton, three ringing members who have made the supreme sacrifice.—The vote was passed by the members rising in silence.

Mr. F. Hopper was unanimously elected vice-president; Messrs. B. Soden and H. Clarke were appointed to represent the district on the Central Committee; Messrs. J. Melherell, W. Rogers and H. Busby, were elected on the District Committee; and Mr. T. Law was re-elected district secretary.

Three new ringing members were elected.—It was reported that during the past year three quarterly meetings and four special meetings had been held and 15 ringing members elected. The roll of honour now numbers 52.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector for the service and use of the bells, the organist, the local ringers, Rev. F. D. Massey (Kingsthorpe) for presiding until the election of vice-president, and Host and Hostess Dickens for the tea.

## YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

### PRACTICE IN HIGHER METHODS.

The quarterly meeting of the Western District of the Yorkshire Association was held at Shipley on Saturday, June 23rd, and was attended by about 50 members from sixteen towers. The bells, a nice peal of eight (tenor 15½ cwt.), were rung to touches, Stedman, Grandsire, Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob. Owing to the increased price of foodstuffs no tea was provided, so that members had to make their own arrangements, those who had tea before 6 p.m. having to get as much as possible for the regulation sixpence.

The committee meeting was held in the School Rooms at 6.30 p.m. Miss Olive Lumley, of Burley, and Mr. Geo. Wintersgill, of Holbeck, were elected as members.

The general meeting followed, with the vice-president (Mr. G. B. Bolland) in the chair.—It was proposed to approach Otley for the use of the bells for the September meeting.

Mr. Dransfield suggested that the ringers in different districts should band together, and practise higher methods than were being rung in some of the districts at the present time. He felt that too many ringers in the West Riding of Yorkshire only rang Kent Treble Bob Major, and never tried to ring any other methods.—The suggestion was agreed to by most of the members present, and it is to be hoped that success will attend their efforts in trying to raise the ringing standard to a higher degree.

The Rev. C. C. Marshall proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens of Shipley for the use of the bells, this was seconded by Mr. P. J. Johnson, and carried unanimously.—The Vicar of Shipley, in responding, said that he welcomed the society to Shipley, and was sorry that he himself had not time to learn to ring, but he had given three days a week to the help of his country, in assisting to make shells, the other three days his curate filled his place in the same factory, and used the same number. He hoped the time was not far off when the peace bells would be ringing throughout the country.

A hearty vote of thanks to the local company for making the necessary arrangements for the visitors' comfort, was proposed by Mr. Bolland, and seconded by Mr. Maude, Mr. Kendall, of the local band, responding.—A vote of thanks to Mr. Bolland for occupying the chair concluded the meeting.

The handbells were then brought into use, and afterwards the tower was visited, and the bells set in motion to various methods until 9.30 p.m.

## WEST EALING GATHERING.

A united practice was held at St. Stephen's, West Ealing, on Friday, July 6th, and the touches that were rung consisted of Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob. The latter was conducted by G. M. Kilby (Willesden), and the attendance included visitors from afar: Miss C. M. Orlebar (King's Cliffe), and Mr. J. Bruce Williamson (Ventnor). Some handbell ringing was done at Wimborne Gardens (after the tower practice) on a peal with a tenor size 20; Mr. A. W. Davis kindly assisting.

## DEATH IN THE BELFRY.

The death took place in the belfry at Cheshunt, on Sunday evening, of Mr. Henry G. Rowe, an active and esteemed member of the Hertford County Association. Mr. Rowe had taken part in the ringing for service, when he was seized with illness, and died almost immediately.

## 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.—Meetings will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on every first Sunday in the month at 6 p.m.; and at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on July 31st, for general business, also on the 26th for handbell practice, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**—A special general meeting will be held at Berkswell on Saturday, July 21st. Bells available all afternoon and evening. Committee meeting at 4.15. Service at 4.45. It is important that I should be notified by those intending to be present not later than July 15th. Business meeting after tea.—Joseph H. White, Hon. Secretary, 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Todmorden Unitarian on Saturday, July 21st. Bells ready at 3 o'clock till dusk. Meeting at six.—T. K. Driver, Middleton.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The annual business meeting will be held at the King's Road Institute, King's Road, Reading, on Saturday, July 21st, at 3 p.m.—A. E. Reeves, Lieut., R.D.C., Guild Secretary, 16, Mansfield Road, Reading.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Deane Parish Church on Saturday, July 21st, 1917. Bells ready at 4. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late St. James' Society, established 1824).—Owing to unforeseen circumstances, the next meeting will be held at All Saints', Edmonton, on Saturday, July 21st (not 14th as previously stated). Ringing from 4 p.m., business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**—Thrapston District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Thrapston on Saturday, July 21st. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m.; meeting to follow in Church Room. Election of officers.—F. Stubbs, Dis. Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Raunds.

**SUSSEX ASSOCIATION** (Eastern Division).—The next meeting will be held at Mayfield on Saturday, July 21st. Ringing from 2 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock. Members wishing to be present at tea must let me know not later than Tuesday, 17th.—Geo. H. Howse, Div. Secretary, Kenilworth, Latimer Road, Eastbourne.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Nottingham District.—There will be ringing at Holy Trinity Church, Lenton, on Saturday afternoon, July 21st, from 3 to 6 o'clock. Important business meeting afterwards for the election of district officers.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, July 21st. Ringing from 3.30 p.m. Tea, 6 p.m., followed by business meeting. All ringers welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

**NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Shireoaks on Saturday, July 21st. Bells (6) available from 2 to 9 p.m.—H. Haigh, Hon. Sec., 103, Gateford Road, Worksop.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—Owing to a serious illness near the church at Cheddar the quarterly meeting will be held at Worle on Saturday, July 28th. Service 5. Tea and meeting after. Bells (6) afternoon and evening.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**—Wellingborough District.—The next meeting will be held at Finedon on Saturday, July 28th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea at the Star Hall, 5.30.—W. Perkins, Dis. Sec., 6, Addington Road, Irthlingborough.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Easton-in-Gordano on Saturday, July 28th. Bells available, 3.30. Divine Service, 4.30. Tea and business meeting, 5.30.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Lewisham District.—The next meeting will be held at Dartford, by kind permission of the Rev. Leonard Savill (Vicar), on Saturday, July 28th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. Service and address at 4.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow in the Church Hall, Lowfield Street. Half rail fares allowed. Tea will be provided by the vicar and churchwardens to follow the service, but notice of those intending to be present must reach me not later than first post on Tuesday, July 24th.—T. Groombridge, Hon. District Secretary, 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Woolton on Saturday, July 28th. Bells ready at 4. Meeting 5.30. Service 6.30.—Rev. E. C. Collier, Walter Hughes, Secs.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.** Established 1755.—Quarterly Meeting will be held on Saturday, July 28th, at St. Martin's. Bells (12) available from 3.30 to 5 o'clock. Canon Willink has very kindly invited members to tea at the Rectory, Sir Harry's Road, and tea will be provided at 5.30 for those who send in their names, *not later than the 25th inst.*, to A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The annual festival will be held at St. Mary's, Stockport, on Saturday, July 28th. Service at 3.45. Preacher: The Rev. F. C. L. Hamilton, Rector of Northenden. Other particulars by circular.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Hon. Sec., New Mills.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at the Burnley Parish Church on Saturday, July 28th, 1917. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting, 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—North Eastern Division.—A bye-meeting will be held at Stisted on Saturday, August 4th. Short service with address at 4.30. Tea at moderate charge at the Red Lion Inn, at 5.30. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than July 31st.—B. Redgwell, The Street, Rayne, Essex.



**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Pendlebury on Saturday, August 4th. Bells available from 4 p.m. Meeting at 6. Any alterations for the ringing calendar to be given in at once.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

**PETERBOROUGH AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Peterborough on Monday, August 6th. Service at St. John's Church at 4 o'clock; business meeting after. St. John's, St. Mary's and Woodston's bells will be available. No arrangements for tea, but all ringers welcome.—John J. Jutson, Hon. Sec., St. Mary's School House, Peterborough.

**HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Hertford on August Bank Holiday, when the bells of All Saints' (10) and St. Andrew's (8) will be opened for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be prepared at the Castle Cabin; members 9d., others 1/-. Business meeting after. All ringing friends will be made welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, District 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.

#### DEATH.

**HUNT.**—On July 15th, 1917, Lottie Edith (Cissy), aged 16 years and 9 months, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Hunt, of 98, Clyde Road, Tottenham.

#### HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

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

#### MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

Subscriptions to the above should be forwarded at once to the Ringing Master, Mr. Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, or to the Hon. Sec., Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

#### SALISBURY GUILD.

##### DEVIZES BRANCH MEETING AT SEEND.

A most successful and enjoyable meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at the beautiful Church of the Holy Cross, at Seend, on Saturday afternoon last, and the day being fine, was well attended by ringers from St. John's, Devizes; Southbroom, Westbury, Trowbridge, Seend, Potterne, Bromham, Winchester, and Steeple Ashton, about 32 attending the meeting, amongst whom the members were pleased to welcome their old friend Bombardier S. J. Hector (formerly of Trowbridge), now hailing from Winchester. Some good touches of Grand-sire Doubles, Stedman Doubles and Plain Bob Minor were successfully brought round in the afternoon, and a good spell of call changes was also indulged in for those not quite so far advanced. In all cases the striking was very good.

The authorised Guild service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. H. Cromwell Bush), with organ and surpliced choir, the singing being well sustained, and the address from the Vicar most encouraging.

Tea was very kindly provided for the company by the Rev. E. S. and Mrs. Awdry in a large room upon their own premises, and afterwards the members were invited to walk round the gardens and admire the beautiful flowers, and also the grand scenery obtainable from their elevated position. Handbell ringing also took place on the lawn.

The business meeting which followed was presided over by the Branch Chairman (Mr. Sidney Hillier), supported by the honorary secretary (Mr. H. Brownlee West). The places of the next three meetings were decided upon as follows: August 4th, Pittleton with Netheravon; September 1st, Bratton; October 6th, Bradford-on-Avon.

Very hearty votes of thanks were given to the Vicar of Seend for the use of the bells and the service in church, and also to the Rev. E. S. and Mrs. Awdry for their great kindness in providing for the temporary requirements of the company, both the reverend gentlemen replying in kind and encouraging speeches which were much appreciated. The ringers then returned to the tower for more ringing, and it was nearly nine o'clock when the long array of bicycles, left just outside the churchyard wall, began to disappear and make their way to their various homes.

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# THE RINGING WORLD

No. 332. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, JULY 27th, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

## 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, 1918.  
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

### "CLOCKING."

Wherever there are experienced ringers in a tower it seems strange that the mischievous practice of "clocking" the bells should be permitted. It is, unfortunately, a practice which creeps in in belfries where there are no ringers, so that the bells may be chimed for service; but it is done often in ignorance of the damage which is likely to be caused to the bells themselves. People who are not practical ringers get the idea, and perhaps not unnaturally, that there is no more likelihood of cracking a bell by pulling the clapper against it with a rope, than there is in allowing the clapper to strike the sound bow as the bell turns in the process of legitimate ringing. Yet there is all the difference in the world. The striking of the clapper against the bell hanging dead has been a prolific source of damage, and many valuable examples of founding have had to go into the melting-pot through this cause.

Where, however, there are practical ringers, it ought to be well-known by now what danger arises from "clocking," and even if it is impossible to find ringers sufficient to ring all the bells, chiming by attaching the ropes to the clappers ought to be absolutely prohibited. We are led to these remarks by the information which reaches us that "clocking" is now taking place at a Sussex tower where, up to recently, there was a capable change-ringing band. That the company is depleted by the claims of war service is no excuse for taking risk of damaging the bells by a process which is condemned by everyone with the slightest practical knowledge of the subject. The late Sir Arthur Heywood, in his book on the subject of "Bell Towers and Bell Hanging," says "'clocking' is a most dangerous as well as slovenly practice which should be sternly prohibited by churchwardens, and for allowing which, after such prohibition, any sexton or steeple-keeper deserves dismissal." Attention is also called to this "illicit treatment" of bells, for which there is not the slightest excuse, in the recently published annual report of the Salisbury Guild.

Where "clocking" takes place the fault must lay with the person who has charge of the bells, although, of course, the ultimate responsibility rests with the Incumbent and churchwardens. Ringing associations would be doing invaluable service in the preservation of bells if they would bring to the notice of church authorities the danger arising from "clocking," and ringers themselves should do their best to prevent the continuance of the practice wherever it comes to their knowledge. If those responsible for the preservation of the bells are only made aware of the damage likely to ensue from this method of chiming, they would not, we are sure, permit its continuance for another day; but, unfortunately, the danger is only usually realised when a bell is cracked.



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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 PEAL.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 14th, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,  
At the Church of St. Mary, Deane,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

Day's Six-Part.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

TITUS BARLOW, SENR. ... Treble	RICHARD P. HEALD... .. 5
TITUS BARLOW, JUNR. ... 2	P.C. PETER CROOK... .. 6
ROBERT ALLRED ... .. 3	THOMAS B. WORSLEY ... 7
GEORGE PINCOTT... .. 4	SAMUEL MORRIS ... .. Tenor

Conducted by PETER CROOK.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Alderman John Miles, organist at the above church for 53 years, also ex-mayor of the town. He was laid to rest in the churchyard on the previous Monday.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

SWINDON BRANCH MEETING.

A meeting of the Swindon Branch was held at Purton, Wilts, on Saturday week, the attendance of ringers being very satisfactory. The Vicar (the Rev. R. B. Harrison) and Capt. A. P. Richardson, who are keenly interested in the welfare of the local ringers were elected honorary members. A new company of ringers has recently been formed at Purton, and six of them have joined the Association.

Castle Eaton was selected for the next meeting.

The bells were available during the evening, when several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung by the visitors.

A combined practice meeting was held at Wroughton, Wilts, last Saturday evening by members of the Swindon Branch from Purton, Wanborough, and Swindon, assisted by the local ringers. A pleasant and instructive time was spent in the belfry, Grandsire Doubles being well struck, and the beginners were given a good drilling in round ringing and Bob Singles.

## LYDNEY FEAST.

SALMON, GREEN PEAS, AND RINGING.

This feast, so well organised and arranged by the genial leader, Mr. J. W. Davies, and in which salmon and green peas are the leading items, took place on Saturday last, and proved quite the equal of those of the past. The visitors this year included Messrs. R. J. Wilkins and C. Gordon, of Bristol; Messrs. J. Austin and J. Gillett, of Gloucester; Mr. Coates, St. Briavels; Mr. J. Williams, of Newent; Messrs. H. Morgan and J. W. Jones, Newport, Mon.; and six of the Ruardean ringers, with Mr. Matthews, their leader.

The Lydney bells were available during the afternoon, and touches in various methods were rung. Supper was served at the Queen's Head Hotel, where an excellent repast was partaken of.

At the conclusion of the meal the usual toasts were submitted, and the rest of the evening was spent in a very pleasant manner, with songs and handbell ringing. Touches of Triples and Caters were rung, and tune ringing was performed in fine style, the latter especially by Sergt. J. Williams and Mr. J. Austin, who also amused the company by ringing courses of Triples "four-in-hand." A parody on the House that Jack built (new and old style), by Mr. H. Morgan, was much enjoyed.

At eight o'clock next morning the party were off by brako to ring on the musical and easy-going eight at St. Briavels. Arriving there just before ten o'clock, the whole Wye Valley below was found enveloped in fog. The bells were quickly raised, touches of Triples and Major were rung for the morning service, and by the time the descent was made from the tower, the fog had cleared, and a beautiful view obtained of the famed valley. Refreshments, kindly arranged for by the local leader, were much enjoyed, and after a brief stay, the drive was continued, the first halt being made at Hewelsfield, where there is a ring of five, the tenor being a supposed pre-Reformation bell of about 14 cwt. Permission had been given to ring, and the bells were found to be a very musical lot. Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were brought round, and the journey then continued. Lydney was reached in time for a late dinner, which had been prepared by the genial proprietress, of the Queen's Head Hotel, Mrs. May.

The Gloucester and Bristol contingent had to leave a little too soon for them to take part for the evening service ringing, but the locals, with the assistance of the Newent and Newport contingent, mustered a Triple band.

The weather on both Saturday and Sunday was delightfully fine and warm, and all the party are looking forward to next year to meet once more, and enjoy a similarly good time. The best thanks are due to the various incumbents for allowing the use of the bells, and especially is the party grateful to Mr. J. W. Davies, who arranges this annual function so well.

### TRAGIC DEATH OF MR. H. G. ROWE.

"He died in harness," these words can be truly said of the late Henry George Rowe, of Cheshunt, Herts, who after having conducted a touch of Grandsire Triples for evening service on Sunday, July 15th sat down in the belfry and passed away within three minutes of calling the words familiar to change ringers, "This is all."

Mr. Rowe was born at Hatfield in 1871. Having learned the art of ringing, he had the distinction of ringing and conducting his first peal (Grandsire Triples), this being on the bells of St. Ethelreda's Church, Hatfield, at the early age of 18 years. By a singular coincidence, Mr. Rowe conducted his 100th quarter-peal for evening service only on the Sunday previous to his death at Broxbourne Church. Going to reside at Cheshunt about 20 years ago, deceased became a very active member of the Hoddesdon Society, being a regular ringer at St. Paul's Church until the restoration of the bells of St. Mary's, Cheshunt, in 1911, when he became conductor and secretary of the St. Mary's band, offices which he continued to hold up to the time of his death.

Mr. Rowe's death is a sad loss to the Hertford County Association, for in addition to having organised the band at Cheshunt, and raised it to an excellent change ringing status, he gave very valuable assistance in many towers in the neighbourhood. He never tired of helping beginners, and was one of the men to whom the Exercise owes so much for the spade work that they do.

Mr. Rowe took a large interest in the various societies in the district, being grand master and sick steward of the Cromwell Lodge of the Independent Order of Oddfellows, Manchester Unity Friendly Society, a handman in the Waltham Cross Temperance band, and an active worker of the Cheshunt Hospital Carnival Committee.

The funeral took place at Cheshunt on Thursday of last week, the first part of the service being held in St. Mary's Church, the Rev. G. B. Law (Vicar of Cheshunt) officiating. Mr. W. H. Lawrence represented the Herts County Association; Messrs. S. Knights and W. Mumford, Hoddesdon Society; and Mr. and Mrs. G. Radley, Broxbourne Society. Members of the local band were also present, and fourteen members of the Oddfellows Friendly Society, wearing their regalia, attended the obsequies. The Rev. G. B. Law read the committal prayers, after which a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells over the grave by: F. Jeff 1-2, A. C. Darnell 3-4, S. Proctor 5-6, G. Maxim 7-8. The funeral oration of the Oddfellows' Society was afterwards read by Bro. P. Burgess, district secretary.

The bells of St. Mary's Church were rung half-muffled during the afternoon, when touches of Grandsire Triples were brought round by Messrs. Andrews, Darlington, Maxim, Jeff, Warnor, Darnell, Smith, Proctor, Radley, Knights, Lawrence and C. Dilley.

Mrs. Rowe desires to tender, through "The Ringing World," her sincere thanks to the various Association secretaries, and to the many ringing friends of her late husband, for the kind letters of sympathy which she has received, they being too numerous for her to answer individually at the present time.

### LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

A successful meeting of the Leeds and District Amalgamated Society was held at Rothwell on Saturday, July 7th, when the ring of eight (tenor 15 cwt.) were kept going to touches of Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob Minor, by ringers from Armley, Burley, Guiseley, Headingley, Leeds Parish Church, Pudsey, Shipley, and the local company.

The business meeting was held at the White Swan Hotel, with the President (Mr. J. Peacock) in the chair.—Mr. Sidney Sadler, of Burley, was made a member of the society.—A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens of Rothwell for the use of the bells and to the local company for their kind arrangements was proposed by Mr. Woodhead, seconded by Mr. Smith, and unanimously carried, Mr. Copley, of the local company, responding.

Handbells were then brought into use, and touches of Grandsire Caters, Major and Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Minor, were rung on them. The members present from Leeds Parish Church attended the meeting after having rung their bells for the induction of the new Vicar of Leeds, and it is pleasing to note that after having been idle for seven months, by order of the late Vicar, the bells are now to be rung as usual for Sunday services.

### SUCCESSFUL PRACTICE AT HILLINGDON.

Two hours' good practice proved very enjoyable at St. John's, Hillingdon, on Saturday last. Four ladies—all change ringers, who acquitted themselves well on the somewhat heavy ring (tenor 22 cwt., E flat)—favoured the party with their company; they were the Misses Williams and Feltham, of the local band; Miss G. M. Orlibar (King's Cliffe), whose first experience it was to ring on ten bells; and Miss J. Jones (West Baling). Although no higher methods than Grandsire and Stedman were rung, it may be said that progress was made. Mr. J. Pratt conducted a good touch in the first named method, in which the following took part: Miss Orlibar 1, G. M. Kilby (Wilkesdon) 2, Miss E. Jones 3, C. Edwards 4, J. Pratt 5, A. W. Davis 6, H. H. Chandler 7, W. Lawrence 8. Messrs. G. Iles (Shepherd's Bush) and H. Honor also rung, and the very best thanks are due to the latter for his kind reception, which was appreciated by everyone present.

### WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

#### THE DOINGS OF THE GUILDFORD DISTRICT.

A meeting of the Guildford District was held in lovely weather, among the Surrey hills at Ewhurst, and members attended from Hersham, Cranleigh, Ewhurst, and Guildford. Upon the interesting peal of six bells, touches in various methods were rung during the afternoon, the service touch being by W. R. Melville (Guildford) 1, J. Francis (Ewhurst) 2, Mrs. Whittington (Cranleigh) 3, W. Tidy (Ewhurst) 4, C. Hazelden (Guildford) 5, F. J. Shepherd (Hersham, conductor) 6. The service was conducted by the Rector of Ewhurst (the Rev. A. J. Hamlyn), the Guild form being used, and the address was based upon the words of Isaiah, "Ye that bear the vessels of the Lord; be clean."

Tea was prepared at the Crown Inn, the Rector presiding. He was supported by the Ringing Master (Mr. C. Hazelden), Mr. R. Whittington, Mr. F. J. Shepherd, Mr. W. Chairman, Mr. F. E. Dawe, and 16 members. The short business meeting followed, at which a letter of apology for absence was read from Mr. J. J. Jones (hon. secretary), who pointed out that it was the first district meeting he had missed during the whole period he had held the office of district secretary.—The Ringing Master (Mr. C. Hazelden) presented his report, the first since he succeeded to office. After alluding to the effects of the war, the report stated: Since our last meeting at Shore, in February, one attempt has been made for a peal, Grandsire Triples, at Cranleigh. The attempt was made by the kind permission of the Rector, to honour the silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Whittington, who were together in the attempt. I feel sure that everyone present will share our regret that the attempt did not meet with success, and will also join in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Whittington many more years of wedded happiness. Although the war has caused a number of village towers to close down, there are welcome signs of an awakening in some quarters, notably at Clandon, where, I understand, a new company, mainly ladies, are receiving instruction. Such instances as have been brought to my notice convince me that a complete "shut down" can be avoided in many cases by foresight and energy. In nearly every place there are one or two capable ringers left, and I would very strongly urge every tower leader, whom my words may reach, to begin at once to teach, and to keep on teaching, teaching, teaching. It doesn't sound very amusing, but really it is surprising what satisfaction can be obtained from teaching learners to ring Grandsire Doubles. Last winter we arranged a series of practices at various churches by the kindness of the incumbents. The meetings were, on the whole, well attended, but it would have been very nice to have seen some fresh faces sometimes, while in some cases the local men themselves failed to appear. This was notable at Shalford tower, which we visited on the direct invitation of a local leader. At that meeting not a single local man was present. As regards the future, we have received the consent of the Rector of Worplesdon for a practice there on one Saturday in each month. We make a start at Worplesdon on Saturday, July 28th. Let me close this perhaps rather doleful report with a ray of cheerful hope for the future. It is, I suppose, quite true that if we searched the district through we could not find a company to ring a plain course of anything beyond the four standard methods, but our strength is not measured by this standard. The strength of a band or a district is represented, not by the few who can ring the Surprise Methods, but by the many who are either learning, or who ring the standard methods.

Two new members were elected, viz., Mr. E. Edwards, of Slinfold, a compounding member, and Mr. J. Scott, Holy Trinity, Guildford, an ordinary member.

The question then arose regarding the advisability or otherwise of adhering strictly to the programme of meetings laid down at the annual meeting, in view of the changed conditions. The meeting was, however, unanimously of opinion that the success of the meetings already held quite justified the district in carrying out its programme, and instructed the hon. secretary to proceed with the arrangements for the next meeting, which is to be held in August at Christ Church, Epsom.—A vote of thanks to the Rector for presiding, and for his address, proposed by Mr. F. E. Dawe, and carried by acclamation, concluded the proceedings.

### LAVENHAM CELEBRATION.

On Saturday, June 23rd, the 106th anniversary of the erection of two little bells to complete the octave was celebrated. Ringing commenced at 1 p.m., with half-muffled clappers, a touch of 714 Grandsire Triples being brought round as a mark of respect and sympathy for our sailors and soldiers who had given their lives in the war, and on the tower the flag of St. George was hoisted half-mast. After removing the muffles and hoisting the flag to full mast, the next touch was rung to celebrate the birthday of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. The methods rung during the afternoon were Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Major, and Double Norwich. The visitors included Messrs. W. Burst and F. Claydon (Earls Colne), E. Beckwith (Great Coggeshall), D. Elliott (Little Coggeshall), P. Langston (Feering), A. Shufflebotham (Baintree), L. Wiseman and A. Wash (Sible Hedingham), T. Fitzjohn (Thetford), C. Woodcock (St. James', Bury St. Edmunds), W. Head (Little Waldingfield), E. F. Pike and W. Hewitt (London). The conductors were Messrs. Elliott, Howitt, Wiseman, and Symonds, junr.



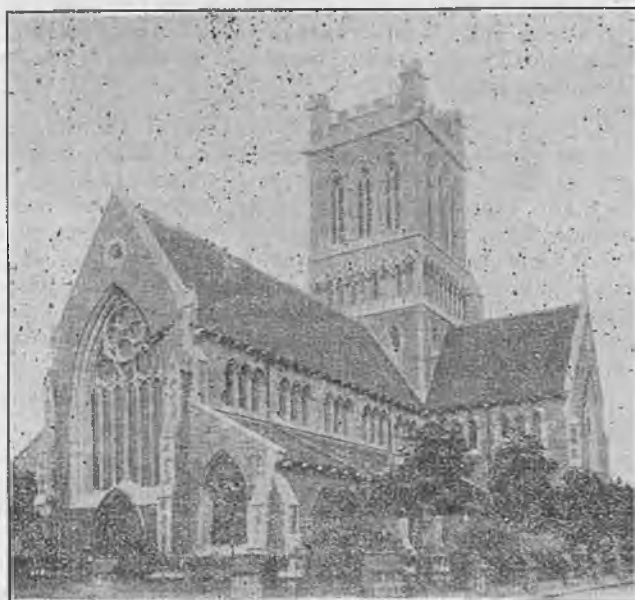


## ST. PAUL'S, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

### THE STORY OF A FAMOUS SOCIETY.

St. Paul's Society, Burton-on-Trent, is one of the bands which has helped to make ringing history. The older school of ringers of to-day will well remember their great activities of the eighties, when they were unquestionably among the foremost companies in the provinces, and proved themselves pioneers in popularising ringing in the higher methods. Undoubtedly the general practice of the more difficult methods would have come in any case, but many of the "terrors" which Surprise methods had for ringers of those days were dispelled by the successful accomplishments of the Burton men, the death of one of whose early members the Exercise has just had to mourn in the passing of Harry Wakley. He and his gifted brother William have both crossed the bourne whence no man returns; but it is a source of gratification that to-day there are still with us, active and enthusiastic in the pursuit of the art, such men as Joseph Griffin, John Jaggard, Edward Stone, and a few others who participated in those early triumphs.

In those celebrated days Burton was the Mecca of all those famed in the Exercise, and they, as well as lesser lights, counted it an honour to take part in a peal with the Burton men, whose bells were hung in the handsome church given by Mr. Michael Thomas Bass. Unfortunately at first Burton was one of the towers where the structural arrangements made the belfry exceedingly noisy. This was after-



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

wards remedied, much to the comfort of the ringers; but Sir Arthur Heywood, who was a not infrequent visitor, records that "although the church was built regardless of expense, the belfry was, from the noise of the bells, the worst adapted for ringing of any in which I have ever rung, and I have rung in some bad ones."

But this drawback did not damp the enthusiasm of the Burton band for change ringing, and step by step they progressed up the campanological ladder until they reached the zenith of their fame in the years 1885-1888. Grandsire and Stedman Triples came in quite the early stages; in fact, the first peal of Stedman Triples was rung in May, 1883, but it was with the ringing of Double Norwich Major that the Burton men really stepped into the limelight of success. They had made splendid progress in the standard methods, but when they left the beaten track and scored peal after peal in this little practised method, they lifted themselves from the ruck and began to make the name of Burton what it is in the Exercise. They began practising Double Norwich early in 1882, at a time when five years had elapsed since the previous accomplishment of a peal in the method, and although they did not score the next—that fell to the College Youths during Lent—they were successful just after Easter, and peals of Double Norwich became quite a common occurrence.

On November 18th, 1882, they rang the longest length in the method achieved up to that time, 7,200, at Beeston, Nottingham. The names of that band are worth recalling: Harry Wakley, Edward I. Stone, John Jaggard, Joseph Griffin, A. Wakley, George Appleby, Jasper W. Snowden, and William Wakley. For some years, Double Norwich was a favourite method at Burton; in fact, in the year 1885 they rang eleven

peals in the method in succession, seven of them within the space of about six weeks. Superlative Surprise followed the practice of Double Norwich, and in peals in this method, attempted up to then on only rare occasions, they were equally successful, and were the first band to achieve the extent with the tenors together, this being rung on January 24th, 1885. At the end of the same year they rang, with Joseph Field, Charles Hounslow and James W. Washbrook, of Oxford, three peals of Superlative in three successive days, a unique performance at that time. In 1886 they gained another distinction by ringing the first peal of New Cumberland Surprise Major ever rung, and scoring it at the first attempt. Cambridge Surprise was also at that time well practised at Burton, and three peals were rung in three attempts in 12 days in February, 1887, including the full 5,600, which was William Wakley's 100th peal, of which number he had conducted 53. In April, the Burton men rang the first peal of Cambridge in the Burton variation (New Cambridge as it is now known), and on September 1st of the same year came the crowning triumph, a peal of London Surprise, the first by all the band and the fourth ever rung. About twelve months afterwards the extent of London, with the tenors together, was rung at Burton.

The Burton band also rang the first peal of London Surprise Major ever rung in London, this being at All Saints', Fulham, and it was further to their credit that it was the first time a peal of London had been rung by any band on bells other than those on which they were accustomed to practise. This was on December 8th, 1888, and they rang another peal of London before the year was out. We have before us a list of the peals rung by the band in the years from 1885 and 1888, and something of the performances of the society may be judged from the fact that in those four years 85 peals were scored, made up of Double Norwich 18, Stedman Triples 18, Stedman Caters 1, Kent Treble Bob Royal 1, Major 1, Grandsire Triples 2, Duffield Royal 1, Superlative Surprise 28, New Cumberland Surprise 2, Cambridge Surprise 4, New Cambridge Surprise 4, London Surprise 5.

An illustration of the manner in which the band hung together may be found in the fact that within about a year four of them rang their one-hundredth peal, William Wakley, on February 14th, 1887; John Jaggard, Holt's Original, conducted by him on October 13th, 1887; Joseph Griffin, the second peal of New Cumberland ever rung, conducted by him on January 12th, 1888; and Harry Wakley, the second peal of Duffield Royal ever rung, on April 3rd, 1888.

St. Paul's has seen many new records for the Midland Counties Association established, including the first peals for the Association of Stedman Triples, Double Norwich Major, Superlative, New Cumberland, Cambridge, New Cambridge and London Surprise Major. Burton is still also an easy first in the number of peals rung on its bells for the Midland Counties Association, the total being 225. Of later years peal ringing has not been so frequent, for loss of old members, and other calls upon the time of the men, as well as the inevitable "easing up" which comes to almost every band sooner or later, no matter how successful they may have been, have had their effect; but enough has been said to remind old ringers of the famous days of Burton, and to show the younger generation what was done by dint of perseverance and enthusiasm in days when there was little but men's own brains and initiative to help them.

### DARTFORD BELLS.

The recast peal of eight bells at Dartford Parish Church, Kent, were dedicated on Sunday week by the Bishop of Rochester. The new tenor is 18 cwt. 3 qrs. 1 lb. in E flat, and the restoration has been carried out with characteristic efficiency by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry. A large number of ringers were present for the ceremony, and the greatest satisfaction was expressed at the tone and "go" of the bells, which have been rehung with new fittings, the old oak frame having been strengthened with tie bolts and angle plates.

### SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.

#### EASTERN DIVISION SUPPORTS REQUEST FOR ANNUAL MEETING.

A very pleasant time was spent by the members attending the meeting of the Eastern Division, at Mayfield, on Saturday last. The following towers were represented: Battle, Brighton (St. Peter's), Rotherfield, Christ Church, Eastbourne; Shoreham, Rye, Mayfield, etc.

During the afternoon and evening touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Double Norwich Major, etc., were rung.

An excellent tea was provided by Host Farrer at the Royal Oak Hotel, and at the business meeting Mr. H. R. Butcher (churchwarden of St. Denis', Rotherfield) was voted to the chair.

Messrs. C. R. Carter and R. W. Curtis, of the Battle branch, were elected members.—It was proposed that the divisional hon. secretary try and arrange a meeting at Sudehurst for September 1st or 8th.

The meeting also carried a resolution, asking the general hon. secretary to arrange for the annual meeting of the Association to be held at Brighton on Bank Holiday, August 6th.

After votes of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, to Mr. A. R. Miles for making the local arrangements, to Host Farrer for his catering, and to Mr. H. R. Butcher for presiding, the company returned to the tower.

## 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.—Meetings will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on every first Sunday in the month at 6 p.m.; and at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on July 31st, for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—Owing to a serious illness near the church at Cheddar the quarterly meeting will be held at Worle on Saturday, July 28th. Service 5. Tea and meeting after. Bells (6) afternoon and evening.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**—Wellingborough District.—The next meeting will be held at Finedon on Saturday, July 28th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea at the Star Hall, 5.30.—W. Perkins, Dis. Sec., 6, Addington Road, Irthlingborough.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Easton-in-Gordano on Saturday, July 28th. Bells available, 3.30. Divine Service, 4.30. Tea and business meeting, 5.30.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Lewisham District.—The next meeting will be held at Dartford, by kind permission of the Rev. Leonard Savill (Vicar), on Saturday, July 28th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. Service and address at 4.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow in the Church Hall, Lowfield Street. Half rail fares allowed.—T. Groombridge, Hon. District Secretary, 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Woolton on Saturday, July 28th. Bells ready at 4. Meeting 5.30. Service 6.30.—Rev. E. C. Collier, Walter Hughes, Secs.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.** Established 1755.—Quarterly Meeting will be held on Saturday, July 28th, at St. Martin's. Bells (12) available from 3.30 to 5 o'clock. Canon Willink has very kindly invited members to tea at the Rectory, Sir Harry's Road, and tea will be provided at 5.30 for those who send in their names, *not later than the 25th inst.*, to A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The annual festival will be held at St. Mary's, Stockport, on Saturday, July 28th. Service at 3.45. Preacher: The Rev. F. C. L. Hamilton, Rector of Northenden. Other particulars by circular.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Hon. Sec., New Mills.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at the Burnley Parish Church on Saturday, July 28th, 1917. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting, 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guildford District.—Practices have been arranged to be held monthly at Worplesdon, the first to be held on Saturday, July 28th, at 6.30 p.m. and continuing until dusk, and until further notice on the last Saturday in each month. All ringers welcome.—A. C. Hazelden, St. Michael's, Joseph Road, Guildford.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—North Eastern Division.—A bye-meeting will be held at Stisted on Saturday, August 4th. Short service with address at 4.30. Tea at moderate charge at the Red Lion Inn, at 5.30. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than July 31st.—B. Redgwell, The Street, Rayne, Essex.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Pendlebury on Saturday, August 4th. Bells available from 4 p.m. Meeting at 6. Any alterations for the ringing calendar to be given in at once.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The next monthly meeting of the above Society will be held at Calverley on Saturday, August 4th, 1917. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting in the "Thornhill Arms" at 7.30 p.m.—Wm. Barton, Hon. Sec., 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held at Dronfield (6 bells) on Saturday, August 4th. Members are requested to note Secretary's change of address.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec. *pro tem*, 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—Central District.—The summer meeting will be held on Bank Holiday, Aug. 6th, 1917, at Mitcham. The bells at the Parish Church, SS. Peter and Paul (8), and the six at Christ Church will be available from 3 to 5 and from 7 to 9 p.m. Service at the Parish Church at 5 p.m. Tea at 6 p.m. (members 3d. and visitors at 1/-), and business meeting after. Ringers intending to be present at the tea are asked to send a post card not later than Friday, the 3rd August, to Mr. Charles Bance, The Queen's Head, Lower Green, Mitcham.

**PETERBOROUGH AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Peterborough on Monday, August 6th. Service at St. John's Church at 4 o'clock; business meeting after. St. John's, St. Mary's and Woodston's bells will be available. No arrangements for tea, but all ringers welcome.—John J. Jutson, Hon. Sec., St. Mary's School House, Peterborough.

**HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Hertford on August Bank Holiday, when the bells of All Saints' (10) and St. Andrew's (8) will be opened for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be prepared at the Castle Cabin; members 9d., others 1/-. Business meeting after. All ringing friends will be made welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, District Secretary.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Milnrow Parish Church on Saturday, August 11th. Bells ready at 2 o'clock. Meeting at 6 o'clock.—T. K. Driver, Sec., Middleton.

**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.

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### MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

Subscriptions to the above should be forwarded at once to the Ringing Master, Mr. Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, or to the Hon. Sec., Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions already acknowledged	7	5	6
Mr. H. Williams, late Kidderminster Co., now Wortley, Leeds	0	2	6
St. John's Sunday Ringers, Deritend, Bir- mingham	0	2	6
Mr. John Jagger (Oldbury)	0	2	6
Mr. John B. Ashton (Holmfirth)	0	2	6
Sedgley Company (per Mr. W. Mills)	0	12	0
Smethwick Company (per Miss S. Pigott)	0	5	0
Mr. Thomas Cattell, Tipton St. Martin's	0	1	6
Mr. Reuben Hall, West Bromwich and Oldbury	0	1	0
Rev. J. Arthur Price, Coseley Vicarage	0	5	0
William Cheshire, Esq., Erdington and Coseley Church	0	10	6
Mr. William Fisher, Coseley Church	0	2	6
Mr. Albert E. Law, Coseley Church	0	1	0
Mr. Samuel Baker, Coseley Church	0	2	0
Mr. Samuel Pearce, Coseley Church	0	1	0
Mr. William A. Javons, Coseley Church	0	0	6
Mr. William Short, Clent	0	1	0

Total to date £9 18 6

### C.-S.-M. WAKLEY'S LAST PEAL.

Pte. A. E. Sharman, of the Northants Regiment, writes: "It was with the greatest regret that I, and I'm sure of many other ringers in the Dunstable and Luton district, read of the death of C.-S.-M. Harry Wakley, as during the early days of the war, when stationed in the neighbourhood, he was a very welcome visitor to the towers. It might interest your many readers to know that the last peal the deceased rang was at the Priory Church, Dunstable, on August 4th, 1915. The peal was Thurstans' four-part, which he conducted from the 6th, and I, personally, and I'm sure the rest of the band, although now separated far and wide, will always look back with pride to that peal. I know the deceased was highly elated with the ringing. In spite of the many striking successes which he achieved, I venture to think that his last peal gave him as much pleasure as any."

### DEATH OF MR. R. MINGAY, OF FOXEARTH.

A much respected Essex ringer has passed away, in the person of Mr. Robert Mingay, of Foxearth, who died on June 29th, at the age of 70 years.

The late Mr. Mingay was a good six and eight bell ringer, and took part in several peals of Kent Treble Bob Major at Foxearth, one at St. Gregory's, Sunbury, a peal in four Minor methods at Stanstead, and also a peal on the original six bells at Foxearth prior to their augmentation to eight. He was a Cumberland Youth, and some time a member of the Essex Association, and was highly respected by all who knew him.

Owing to the young members of the local band being at the war a company to ring the full peal of eight bells could not be got together on the occasion of the funeral on July 3rd, but touches of Kent Treble Bob Minor were rung with muffled clappers as a last tribute of respect, by: J. Taylor 1, T. E. Slater (Glensford) 2, A. Maxim 3, F. Inch 4, A. Taylor 5, S. Evans (conductor) 6.

### ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

The summer quarterly meeting was held at Southgate on Saturday week, when touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Double Norwich, Superlative and London Surprise were rung on the beautiful peal of bells at Christ Church. Tea and the business meeting took place at the "Cherry Tree," and a vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar and the local band. The members then returned to the tower, and rang touches until 9 p.m.

PUTNEY.—St. Mary's Church, on Accession Day, Thursday, May 17th, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1264 changes), in 49 mins.: H. Adams 1, T. Bolton 2, A. Reevo 3, E. Cassel 4, C. C. Collis 5, A. Darlington 6, W. T. Elson (conductor) 7, C. Hunt 8.

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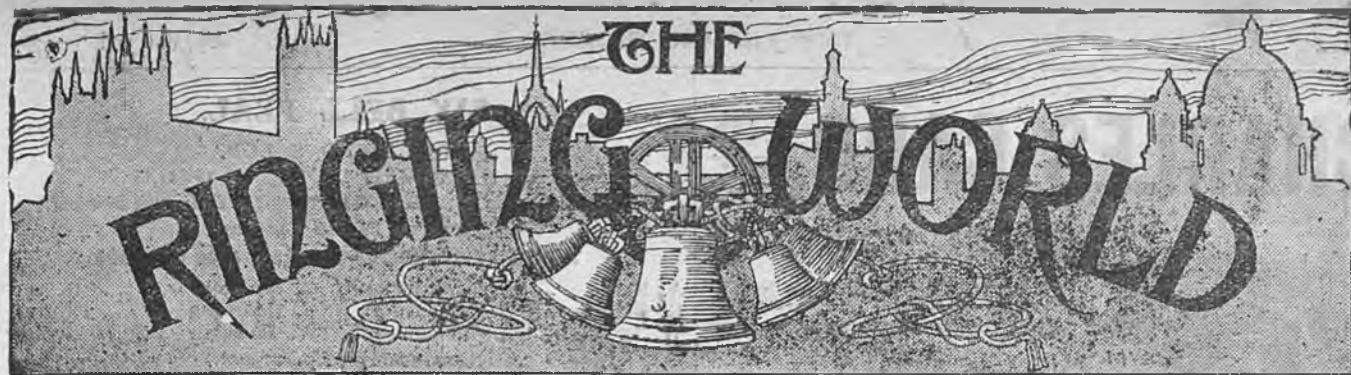
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Guildford, and Published by Messrs. Wm. Dawson & Sons  
LTD., Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.



No. 383. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3rd, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

# GILLETT & JOHNSTON

## CROYDON, Surrey.

### BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,  
Wolverhampton.

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

MESSES. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1916.  
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.

## MODERN WORK.

### "CLOCKING" AND CHIMING.

The subject of "clocking," raised in our article last week, has brought an interesting letter, which puts, what one may term, the other side of the question. Our correspondent's experience has been a fortunate one, and so has that of many other people in regard to this method of chiming; but, unhappily, the day has come to not a few when, despite long immunity, a cracked bell has resulted from the process which is so emphatically condemned by those who speak with authority. A good deal may, in all likelihood, depend upon the manner in which the "clocking" is done, and there is very probably less danger in it when, as our correspondent points out, it is operated by an "expert chimer, with fair knowledge and experience and a tender consideration for the bell." But the unfortunate part of it is that, when "clocking" is resorted to, it is generally in order to simplify the chiming for some inexperienced person, who knows nothing whatever about bells, and possibly cares less.

We are unable to speak from first-hand knowledge of the methods adopted in Belgium, but we believe that, though the bells are sometimes struck by pulling the clapper against them, as in "clocking," there is a spring to each, one object of which is to ensure the clapper immediately dropping away from the bell—and this makes all the difference. Moreover, there are (or were) many cases, as at Bruges, where the bells are struck by separate hammers operating on the outside. Chiming hammers, as everyone knows, are fitted in many English towers, and, if chiming is to be done, this is unquestionably the best method to adopt. The installation of these hammers is not really costly, and removes the danger that arises from "clocking," although it gives rise to another risk, which needs to be specially guarded against, viz., damage to bells through the apparatus being left in gear.

With all that may be said to the contrary, it seems to us that the opinion of experts is heavily against "clocking," and that the practice should not only be discouraged but prohibited. At the same time, we are only too pleased to put the experience of our valued correspondent before our readers. It has to be recognised, of course, that there are many occasions when the bells are required, particularly on week days, when the services of ringers are not available, and provision must be made for the chiming to take place. The swinging of the lighter bells for this purpose is not an arduous task, and requires no more "knack" than "clocking" with care would do. But the swinging of the bells for this purpose eliminates the risk of damage—even if it be only remote—and church authorities, we hope, will see to it that "clocking" is banned.

# 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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OR IN PEALS.

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BRACKETS.**

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BEST BELL ROPES.  
REPAIRS AND REHANGING  
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## SIX BELL PEAL.

BROMFIELD, SALOP.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 21, 1917 (the Eve of the Dedication Festival),

At THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

A. NASEN ... .. Treble	C. MINTON ... .. 4
E. BEDDOES ... .. 2	G. ROBINSON ... .. 5
W. R. NASH ... .. 3	*W. HABERLY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by C. MINTON.

\* First peal. The ringers of the 2nd, 4th and 5th hail from Bishops Castle, Treble, 3rd and Tenor from Ludlow. Thanks were given to the Vicar for the use of the bells.

## ROLL OF HONOUR.

From St. Peter's Northampton:—

William R. Parker, Royal Navy, Portsmouth.

From Milton-next-Gravesend:

Fred M. Mitchell, Air Craftsman, R.N.A.S., at Battersea.

Aubrey Livermore, Air Craftsman, R.N.A.S., at Pullham, Norfolk.

## HOME FROM THE FRONT.

The members of St. Stephen's Company, Bristol, have been very pleased to have amongst them Q.-M.-S. W. A. Cave, who was on leave from the front. He paid a surprise visit to his old company on Sunday morning, June 17th, when a touch of Stedman Caters was brought round. During his visit, also, the following touches were rung at St. Mary, Redcliffe: On the occasion of the Prince of Wales' birthday, 516 Stedman Cinques: R. J. Wilkins 1, H. Porch 2, A. Pearce 3, C. H. Tomkins 4, R. Clark 5, C. H. Gordon 6, W. Knight 7, F. Leaker 8, H. Pring 9, H. Tucker 10, W. A. Cave (conductor) 11, G. Tomkins 12. Also two courses, in which A. E. Wilkins (1st touch of Cinques) and F. Porch took part. On Sunday evening, June 24th, two courses of Cambridge Surprise Royal: S. Thomas 1, G. Tomkins 2, C. H. Tomkins 3, R. J. Wilkins 4, R. Clark 5, C. H. Gordon 6, W. Knight 7, J. Condict 8, J. Burford 9, W. A. Cave (conductor) 10. On the following Sunday, another two courses of Cambridge Royal, conducted by W. A. Cave, were rung. On handbells, 800 Stedman Caters: R. J. Wilkins 1—2, J. Burford 3—4, G. Condict 5—6, E. Guise 7—8, W. A. Cave (conductor) 9—10. It seemed like old times to see Q.-M.-S. Cave on the tenor once again, and with the old Royal band at the rope ends, some good ringing was accomplished. Mr. Cave left again for the front on Friday, July 6th, and does not expect to be home again before the war is over, which everyone hopes will not be long.

## RINGERS WELCOME NEW VICAR.

The Ancient Society of Painswick Youths, and ringers from Gloucester, Stroud and Dursley, rang several touches of Grandsire Triples for the induction and institution of the Rev. Cecil Verey to the living of Painswick, on June 23rd. The Bishop of the Diocese preached, and after the service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes) was rung, and also a 503, conducted by Albert Wright. The new Vicar visited the belfry, and thanked the ringers for their kindness in giving him such a hearty welcome. The twelve bells were rung in rounds, in the presence of the Vicar, to whom all present extended the heartiest wishes. The veteran, Mr. William Hale (who has been a ringer now for 37 years), being Vicar's churchwarden, had the honour of taking part in the induction service.

## CEREMONY AT ELLAND.

On Saturday, July 7th, the Rev. Morris Arthur Maddocks, M.A., was inducted to the living of Elland, Yorks. The institution ceremony was performed at the Parish Church (St. Mary's) by the Bishop of Wakefield (Dr. Eden), and that of the induction by the Ven. H. Walsham How, Archbishop of Halifax, before a crowded congregation. It was exactly six months, to the day, since the tragic death of the late Canon Ernest Winter, whilst preaching for evening service, and a high tribute was paid by the Bishop to the life and work of the late Vicar.

Previous to the induction ceremony the local ringers rang several touches of Kent Treble Bob Major: J. W. Hallas 1, Joe Brearley 2, G. H. Simon 3, C. Hallas 4, T. Robinson 5, J. R. Eastwood 6, J. Hallas 7, Saville Brearley 8.

**BIRMINGHAM.**—Recently, at Edgbaston, 720 Bob Minor: J. Johnson 1, W. Bryant 2, H. Withers (conductor) 3, J. Eaton 4, C. Webb 5, G. Pigott 6.—At Bishop Ryder's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: C. Webb 1, W. Bryant 2, G. Pigott 3, H. Withers (conductor) 4, J. Eaton 5, J. George 6, J. Groves 7, J. Johnson 8. Rung as a compliment to Mr. Joseph Johnson (son of the late Mr. Henry Johnson), on attaining his 60th birthday.



### OXFORD GUILD VISIT TO AMERSHAM.

The ringing rendezvous at this old English town on a June Saturday afternoon enticed a muster of 22 ringers from a dozen surrounding parishes, the evensong timed for 6.30 having been graciously cancelled so that the bells were kept going in touches of Minor and Doubles from 4.30 to 8.30 p.m. Everyone took a rope with pleasure, notwithstanding the tropical condition of the weather, and groups of twos and threes came and went as suited their war-time convenience during the four hours that the tower was open, thanks to the willing permission of the Vicar, the Rev. O. E. Briggs, M.A.

Sapper A. Elburn, R.E., and Pte. R. Fornam, of the Oxford Hussars, were home on leave, hence the fixture, and fellow members of the branch were able to "pass the time of day" with them once more. The former is a son of the late well-known "Amersham Jack," foreman of the tower 50 years ago, and a respected tenor man amongst Guild ringers in 1881, when he would think lightly of carrying a half hundred-weight bag of tools some 20 miles to a ringers' meeting in case "any little tinkering" was needed among the bells.

Adjournment for tea, partaken of at various establishments, was made by sections, and it was possible to have Stedman Doubles with bread, butter and watercress, my own repast being regaled with some good Treble Bob Minor. In this part of the county charges are still reasonable, and I find ringers object to "water-beer," at double the usual price, however thirsty the fine spell of summer may make them.

To quote the words of one of the party with a megaphone voice, "Old John Evans was there with his shaggy little pony that took the hills splendidly." A neighbouring six-bell parish, Chenies, was well represented by the foreman, Mr. Wm. Howells, his son (Herbert Howells, R.N.A.S., on leave), and Mr. W. Kilby. Discussing the Guild's roll of honour, it was found that six of the Chenies men had joined the services, and those left at home thought it advisable to take in a few lady members and join up with the East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Guild. The other parishes represented were: Missenden (Mr. Barnes), Chalfont St. Giles (Mr. Johnson), Chalfont St. Peter (Rev. Amies and Mr. Thompson), Beaconsfield (Mr. Blackmore), High Wycombe (Mr. Horne), Farnham Royal (Mr. Henley), Slough (Messrs. Leader and Smith), London (Mr. Williamson), Tring (Mr. Reeves), Hughenden (Messrs. J. and P. Evans), Fulmer (Messrs. Gutteridge and Gudgein), Amersham (Mr. Vicary and Mr. E. Redrup, now acting foreman).

The meeting was voted a success because old ground had been freshly gone over, and old hands were kept in touch. A trip to Chesham was proposed for the autumn, and perhaps the important eight-bell tower of the county town (Aylesbury) may be stormed. Before breaking up, arrangements were made for two practices on the following Saturday, and those, I hear, were well attended, with good results for the ladies, and with Slough's help at Fulmer. To Hughenden for the Wycombe district, half a dozen towers sent their members.

### HONOURING OCTOGENARIAN VICAR.

At St. Stephen's, Clewer, Berks, on Sunday evening, June 10th, after service, by permission of the Vicar, the Rev. A. T. C. Cowie, the bells were rung in touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Oxford and Treble Bob Minor. The foreman, Mr. E. T. Brown, and his son, were present, and had prepared the bells for the visitors from Slough. Inquiry as to the reason of this ringing in war-time elicited the information that 44 years ago the Rev. G. D. Nicholas, M.A., took up Sunday duty as the first Vicar of St. Stephen's—a new church built to meet the needs of a growing part of the parish adjoining the overflowing borough of Windsor. The ringers present, members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, were: Messrs. Leader, Smith, Hooper, Henley, Russell, Bedford, Thompson, Williamson, and Miss Bateman.

The life-long services of the octogenarian gentleman was further acknowledged by the presentation in the vestry, after morning service, of an illuminated address, a nurse of £100 and an annuity of similar value subscribed for by parishioners and friends. W. H. F.

### NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

The first quarterly meeting of this Association for 1917 was held on Saturday week at Shireoaks, where there is a nice light ring of six bells. But with the claims of the war upon the men, the hay harvest still uncompleted, and a very hot day, there was only a small company of veteran ringers at the gathering, the attendance being less than twenty. The ringers, however, thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and were successful in bringing round two 720's of Kent and Woodbine Treble Bob. The methods of London and York Surprise, and even Oxford Treble Bob would not "do." The following took part in the 720's: Woodbine: H. Mills 1, R. Hall 2, G. W. Lancaster (Swindon), Wills 3, H. Stenton (conductor) 4, T. Bartholomew 5, C. F. Fowler 6. Kent: E. Clark 1, J. Flint (Rolsover) 2, H. Hall 3, A. Johnson 4, J. S. Wilson 5, F. Harcourt (conductor) 6.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at East Markham, in September.—The usual vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar of Shireoaks for the use of the bells.

The ringers present came from Anston, Workop, Norton Cuckney, and from neighbouring Associations there attended Mr. John Flint, of Rolsover, and Mr. G. W. Lancaster, of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, and formerly of Essex, who is now a private at the Welbeck Camp, Workop. One face that was missed was that of Billy B., of Bedford.

### W'BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

#### ANNUAL MEETING AT YEOVIL.

The 27th annual meeting was held at Yeovil on July 14th, when 19 towers were represented by 65 members. Visitors were also present from Bridport, Wyke Regis, Dorchester, and Newport. The splendid peal of ten bells (with tenor 45 cwt.) were raised in peal soon after 2 p.m., and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters rung until 3.30 p.m., when a short service was held in the church, at which Preb. G. G. Monck, of Stoke-under-Ham, officiated, and gave an address.

The business meeting was held in St. John's Schools, the Master (the Rev. C. C. Parker) presiding.

The Master read his report, in which it was stated that the Association was making progress, in spite of the difficult times in which we are living. During the year eight honorary and no less than 134 performing members have joined the Association. Of these latter 43 were ladies. There were three new towers added to the list, viz.: Huish Episcopi (6 bells), Tintinhull (5), North Barrow (5). The list of those serving with the forces numbered 310 members. Several had been killed, some wounded, and some discharged sick. He regretted to say that the Association had lost a very staunch supporter by the death of Archdeacon Brymer, of Charlton Mackrell, who was always willing to give a helping hand whenever the opportunity presented itself, and took a keen interest in bells and ringers. Only one peal had been rung, and that by members of the Association at Bath, who had all attested under the Derby scheme, and were expecting to be called up.

The Secretary (Mr. E. E. Burgess) then read the balance sheet, which showed receipts for the year £48 3s. 5d., and an expenditure of £38 2s. 10d. The report and balance sheet were adopted, and Mr. D. G. Taylor, of Ilminster, was thanked for auditing the accounts, the elected auditor (the Rev. A. J. Hook) having gone as chaplain to the forces.

An honorarium of £10 10s. was granted to the secretary, who was congratulated on the very favourable balance sheet.

The Rev. C. C. Parker was unanimously re-elected Master, and a vote of thanks was added for the very able way he had conducted the business of the Association during the past year, and Mr. Parker thanked the members for the honour they had done him in re-electing him.—Mr. Burgess was re-elected secretary and treasurer.—The Rev. A. J. Hook was re-elected auditor, and Mr. Taylor promised to audit the accounts if he should not have returned in time to discharge the duties.

Three new members were elected, and the places for quarterly meetings were selected as follows: Corston, in September; Curry Rivel, in December; and Wrington, after Easter.

The representatives on the Central Council were also re-elected, and are as follows: Rev. C. C. Parker, Messrs. A. E. Coles, J. Maddock, and E. E. Burgess.

The Master then proposed a vote of thanks to Preb. Monck for officiating at the service, to the Vicar of Yeovil for granting the use of the bells, church and schoolroom, and to the organist for assisting at the service.—Preb. Monck replied, and apologised for the absence of the Vicar of Yeovil.

A move was afterwards made to Maynard's Restaurant, where tea, which was on war rations' scale, was partaken of, and the tower was then again visited, and touches in various methods rung, several ladies taking part.

### CHEW DEANERY MEETING.

On Saturday last the Chew Deanery Branch held their quarterly meeting at Easton-in-Gordano, where there is a splendid ring of six in good going order. This deanery has for some time broken away from its usual routine of holding all the quarterly meetings at eight-bell towers, and is making a round of the six-bell towers, with marked success, Saturday last proving what a delightful time can be spent in a six-bell tower. By 3.30, the time fixed for the bells to be available, members began to arrive from Abbots Leigh, Clapton, Easton, Long Ashton, Portishead, Wraxall and Bristol. The bells were raised in peal, and were kept going to Grandsire Double and Bob Minor until service time. The special form of service was used, and an excellent address was given by the Rector (the Rev. Palmer Bath), who heartily welcomed the members of the Association to his parish, and extended an invitation to them to partake of tea. This was splendidly served in the school, and the Rector's kindness was much appreciated by the members.

A short business meeting followed the tea. Two new members were elected, and it was proposed to hold the next quarterly meeting at another six-bell tower, Backwell being the place chosen. It was also proposed to hold an intermediate meeting for practice only at Chew, Stoke.

Heartly votes of thanks were accorded the Rector for his kindly welcome and use of the bells, and to the organist and choir for their services.

The tower was again visited, and the bells were soon going to the tune of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles. A splendidly struck 360 of Bob Minor afterwards brought to an end a delightful afternoon spent in a country parish.

ACTON.—For the evening service, at St. Mary's Church, on May 20th, 1064 Grandsire Triples: Sergt. E. T. Verrels 1, Miss Edith Jones 2, C. Edwards 3, H. Chaffey 4, E. Vicary 5, R. Holloway 6, W. Lawrence (conductor) 7, A. W. Davis 8.

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry  
Established  
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

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.

## THE "CLOCKING" OF BELLS. A CLERICAL RINGER'S EXPERIENCE. To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have read with great interest the article on "clocking" in this week's "Ringing World." With its main contention I am in hearty agreement, viz., that it is not in the interests of bells and ringing that the practice of clocking should increase. There can be no doubt that many bells have been cracked by this process in England. On the other hand, when we turn to a country renowned for its bells, Belgium, we find that "clocking" is almost the universal method of sounding them! In Rice's "Carillons of Belgium and Holland," a book which I procured lately on the recommendation of Mr. J. W. Taylor, and which I heartily recommend to all lovers of bells—facing page 136 is an illustration of the bells of Mechlin (evidently taken from a photograph). All are "clocked," and, moreover, the clappers have very large "balls," and appear to be much heavier than they would be in bells of corresponding size in England.

I remember when an undergraduate at Cambridge some 34 years ago, listening to the bells of Great St. Mary's, Cambridge. The back ten were chimed for Sunday services in those days by the late Mr. George Taylor, the then steepkeeper. No one hearing their subdued musical "hum" could ever dream of them being cracked in the process, although they were clocked also. You may remember, about five years ago publishing a letter in the "Ringing World" from the Rev. T. L. Papillon, about the recasting of our tenor, in which "clocking" was mentioned. About that time I happened to meet George Taylor among his bells at Great St. Mary's, and our conversation naturally turned upon clocking. "It depends on how it's done, George," I said; and never shall I forget the tone of conviction with which he replied, "That's just it, sir!"

And now with regard to our own tenor. She has to be tolled for funerals as a minute bell. To begin with, she was tolled with the rope and wheel, but this necessitated the constant keeping her on a gentle swing with a sudden check at intervals to make her speak. The obvious wearing of gudgeons and bearings which an hour of this kind of thing suggested, drove me to think of a fresh expedient. The plan eventually adopted was as follows: The clapper is hitched to a cross-bar of the frame by a piece of cord, so as to bring the ball of the clapper within two or three inches of the sound bow. To the middle of this cord is tied a thin rope (in this case a superannuated piece from the flagstaff). This rope is then taken through the mouseholes of the tenor rope to the belfry floor beneath. It requires a sharp jerk to make the bell sound at all, and such is the elasticity obtained by the thinness of the ropes and the indirect pull, that it is next to impossible to pull the clapper too hard, and (a very great point) it cannot be held against the side of the bell—making a soft melodious note.

I must confess to being rather puzzled by the very positive statements of Mr. Papillon, the late Sir A. P. Heywood, and others, upon this question. It seems to me that they require modification in the light of the above considerations. With an expert chimmer, i.e., one of fair knowledge and experience, and who has a tender consideration for the bell as a musical instrument, I cannot myself see that there is any danger in "clocking," much as I prefer ringing or swinging as a means of producing the sounds. However, I know what the village sexton is capable of, and have no wish to hinder the effect of your "leader" in thwarting his designs.—Yours faithfully,

Long Stanton.

H. B. WOOLLEY.

## 5008 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By W. HYDE INGLESANT.				Continued			
23456	1	4	6		1	5	6
53624	—	—	—	54326	—	—	—
36524	—	—	—	43256	S	—	—
25634	—	—	—	32456	—	—	—
56234	—	—	—	24356	—	—	—
62534	—	—	—	53426	—	—	—
35264	—	—	—	34526	—	—	—
52364	—	—	—	25436	—	—	—
53264	—	S	—	54236	—	—	—
32564	—	—	—	42536	—	—	—
25364	—	—	—	35246	—	—	—
23564	—	S	—	52346	—	—	—
63425	—	—	—	23546	—	—	—
34625	—	—	—				
26435	—	—	—	Repeat last 12 courses, calling "Bobs" at 1 and 6 in first course for "Bob" at 5, produces rounds.			
64235	—	—	—				
32465	—	—	—				
34265	—	S	—				
42365	—	—	—				
23465	—	—	—				
24365	—	S	—				
42563	—	—	—				

EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, May 20th, at the Parish Church, for morning service, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: J. Eaton 1, W. Bryant 2, G. Pigott 3, W. Ranford 4, L. Longney 5, H. Withers (conductor) 6. Also some Stedman and Grandsire Doubles.

**SOLDIER-RINGER'S DEATH.**

LANC-CORPL. J. THOMAS BOTTRILL, R.M.L.I. (OF ANSTEY).

Broken in the wars, in the Dardanelles and Gallipoli "Tommy" Bottrill—as he was affectionately called by his friends—found a soldier's grave at the early age of 26. He was one of a remarkable ringing band that started to study the art when Anstey (Leicestershire) bells were rehung and augmented to eight in 1907. Mr. W. Willson, of Leicester, was their instructor, and the deceased was the youngest lad. Within twelve months they rang their first peal—Grandsire Triples. The second year came Bob Major and Treble Bob, in which were peals of 7,056 and 10,192. The next saw Double Norwich, in each case the first peal in the method by all (except the conductor). When Stedman and Superlative were reached the band began to fall to pieces through unemployment. One went to, and remains in, Canada. "Tommy" himself migrated to Manchester, where, at Pendleton, with Mr. Harry Chapman, he rang several peals for the Lancashire Association, including one of 6,000 Maximus at Ashton-under-Lyne, and a peal of Cinques at Liverpool.

When war broke out Tom Bottrill offered himself at once, joined the Royal Marines, and went east. The result of privation in the ever memorable Gallipoli Expedition brought the deceased to Plymouth Hospital, where he passed away, emaciation and brain fever being the immediate cause of death.

The body was brought to its native place for burial, and on Sunday, July 22nd, was laid to rest, being accorded the last honours due to a soldier by a firing party and buglers of the "Leicesters" from Wigston Barracks. Covered by a Union Jack, the coffin was borne into the parish church, where Tommy rang his first peal, and the Rector (the Rev. J. Kerry Williams, M.A.) conducted the service. After the ceremony the route to the cemetery was lined with sympathetic on-lookers, and when the three volleys were fired, the "last post" sounded, and the lads in khaki had marched away, the bells, with clappers muffled, added their tribute. There is a stern grandeur about a military funeral, and the volume of respect accorded the deceased would be unthought of in civil life. It is a glorious finish to a life given in the service of one's country, and, methinks, not a few who looked on the scene with swelling hearts echoed the words of the Psalmist, "May my last end be like his."

It should be mentioned that even while stationed at Plymouth the deceased did what he could to advance the art of ringing in that neighbourhood, and assisted the ringers at Tavistock, and other places in the vicinity, till ill-health stopped what might have been a brilliant career. Two of the deceased's brothers, also ringers, are "out there"—one in France, and one in Mesopotamia; but although the Anstey band is broken up, its memory is sweet. What it did in its day is written in the records of the Midland Counties Association, and the sound of Anstey bells will ever keep green the memory of one of its leading spirits. Requiescat in pace. W. W.

On Sunday, July 22nd, for evening service, at St. Thomas' Church, Pendleton, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, by: F. Smith 1, J. Winterbottom 2, W. E. Clark 3, G. Pincott 4, J. Lowe 5, W. H. Shaker 6, H. Chapman (conductor) 7, E. Smethurst 8; and some touches of Grandsire in the morning, were rung with the bells half-muffled, as a last tribute of respect to Corpl. J. T. Bottrill, who was formerly a member of this tower.

**"A MAGIC SPELL."**

From A.J.P.

The bells of St. Mary's, Beddington, were rung half-muffled on a recent Sunday and Tuesday evening by the local ringers, assisted by Croydon ringers on Tuesday evening, in memory of one of the sons of the Rector, fallen in the war. Bells tell a wondrous tale, and play their part both in our sorrows and our joys. Perhaps the following lines will express more fully that which the writer means:—

They are ringing gaily now as they rang so long ago—  
Silver tones that we know so well.  
And what is it that they say to our inner lives to-day?  
And what is the tale that they tell?

They whisper first of all in the quiet ev'ning's fall,  
Of the happy days of childhood that we pass'd,  
When each garland that we made seemed too beautiful to fade,  
And each butterfly more radiant than the last.

Of awak'ning up to life, of a long and bitter strife;  
Of a restless spirit fretting in its pain;  
Of a season when the bells only rack'd us with their spells—  
Only mocked us with old memories again.

Of a peaceful life at last; of a sense of peril past;  
Of a future left in safer hands than ours;  
Of a sweet refreshing dew falling on our lives anew,  
As the raindrops fall and satisfy the flowers.

Like a story that is told seem those memories of old—  
Haunting still with a magic spell.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**

The twenty-seventh quarterly meeting of the Warwickshire Guild was held at Berkswell, on Saturday week, when about 30 members attended, representing Allesley, Birmingham, Berkswell, Chivers Coton, Coventry, Emscote, Grendon, Knowle, Nuneaton, and Warwick. The bells, a fine-toned ring of six (tenor 17 cwt.), were utilised during the afternoon, and touches in various methods were rung. A short service, with an address by the Rector (the Rev. H. C. A. Bach), took place in the church, after which the members adjourned to the Rectory for tea, kindly provided by the Rector and Mrs. Bach.

The business meeting followed, the Rector (who is President of the Guild) being in the chair.—Six new members were elected, and Solihull was selected as the place for the next quarterly meeting.

Mr. James George (Ringing Master) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector and Mrs. Bach for so kindly providing tea, and the motion was carried with applause.—The Rector, in responding, expressed the pleasure it gave him to welcome the members to Berkswell, especially upon that occasion, it being his silver wedding day.

The handbells were then brought into use, and Grandsire Triples and tunes were tapped off, while other members strolled through the Rectory grounds. The tower was afterwards again visited, and touches of Kent Minor, Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were brought round until 8 p.m., when the bells were lowered, and an enjoyable meeting brought to a close.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**

A successful meeting of the Thrapston District was held at Thrapston on Saturday week, when ringers were present from Raunds, Ringstead, Addington, Tichmarsh, Twywell, Burton Latimer, Lowick, Wellingborough, Irthlingborough, Higham Ferrers, Peterborough, and the local band. A service was held, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. H. E. Fitzherbert), and the amount collected for the Belfry Repair Fund was 6s. 4d.

The business meeting followed, the Rev. F. H. Lang (who was elected vice-president), presiding, supported by the Rector, the General Secretary (Mr. F. Wilford), and about 30 members.

The report showed there were 48 members on the books, and 14 on the Roll of Honour. Mr. F. Stubbs was re-elected district secretary, and the following committee were appointed: D. Redhead, E. Mayes, G. Jeffs, J. Ball, and E. Curtis, the first two to serve on the Central Committee.

The Rector was elected an honorary member, and three ringing members were also elected.—Tichmarsh was chosen as the next place of meeting in September, and Addington was selected for the practice meeting on August 18th.

The usual votes of thanks were passed, and the Rector, in replying, said it gave him much pleasure to welcome the members. The tower was then again visited, touches of Double Norwich, Stedman Grandsire Triples and Bob Major were run during the day.

**WILLENHALL VICAR DIES ON SERVICE.**

Half-muffled ringing has taken place at Willenhall, Staffs, as a tribute of respect to the late Rev. A. M. Pratt, M.A., Vicar of St. Giles' Church (1909-1917), who died in France, on June 29th, whilst serving his King and country as chaplain to the 6th Battalion South Staffs Regiment. The news of his death came as a great shock to the people of Willenhall, among whom he was held in great respect, and the church was packed for the memorial service on July 12th, when the Bishop of Lichfield preached.

An attempt for a half-muffled peal of Stedman Triples was made on July 10th, but came to grief after ringing 1½ hours, through a change course, the band being: B. Gough 1, E. Hortin 2, W. E. Wathen 3, E. Marlow 4, C. Wallater 5, J. George 6, W. Fisher (conductor) 7, A. E. Reed 8. A second attempt was made on July 13th by: E. Marlow 1, E. Hortin 2, T. Hill 3, D. Jones 4, W. E. Wathen 5, J. Malpass 6, C. Wallater (conductor) 7, A. E. Reed 8. This also came to grief after 1½ hours. A third attempt was made on July 19th, 1917, but came to an end after 1 hour 40 minutes, through the same cause as in each of the other attempts. The band on this occasion was: B. Gough 1, E. Hortin 2, T. Hill 3, D. Jones 4, E. Marlow 5, J. George 6, C. Wallater (conductor) 7, A. E. Reed 8. The local ringers wish to take this opportunity of thanking all who have helped them in these attempts, viz., Messrs. W. Fisher and B. Gough, of Coseley; James George, of Birmingham; D. Jones, Blakenhall; and E. Marlow, T. Hill and J. Malpass, of Wood Green.

**J. H. RIDYARD HELPING HAND FUND.**

The following amounts are acknowledged: —St. Thomas', Pendleton, £1 1s.; Christ Church, Pendlebury, 4s. 6d.; St. Bartholomew's, Radcliffe, 3s. 0d.; St. Michael's, Flixton, 13s.; St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, 5s.; St. James', Rusholme, 3s.; Christ Church, Barlow Moor, 2s. 6d.; St. Peter's, Swinton, 6s.; Mr. A. Barnes, 2s. 6d.; Mr. W. Brammer, 2s.; Preston Branch, £1 1s.; Bolton Branch, £1 12s. 6d.; total, £25 16s.



## NOTICES.

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

THE LADIES' GUILD.—The Committee have decided to abandon the Annual Meeting of the above Guild, which was to have been held in London.—Edith K. Parker, Hon. Sec., Carlton House, Bridge Street, Per-shore, Worcestershire.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the first Sunday in the month at 6 p.m.; and at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on August 9th and 23rd; and for general business on the 14th and 28th, all at 8 p.m. Also at St. Mary's, Beddington, on Saturday, August 18th, at 4.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North Eastern Division.—A bye-meeting will be held at Stisted on Saturday, August 4th. Short service with address at 4.30. Tea at moderate charge at the Red Lion Inn, at 5.30. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than July 31st.—B. Redgwell, The Street, Rayne, Essex.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Pendlebury on Saturday, August 4th. Bells available from 4 p.m. Meeting at 6. Any alterations for the ringing calendar to be given in at once.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next monthly meeting of the above Society will be held at Calverley on Saturday, August 4th, 1917. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting in the "Thornhill Arms" at 7.30 p.m.—Wm. Barton, Hon. Sec., 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Dronfield (6 bells) on Saturday, August 4th. Members are requested to note Secretary's change of address.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Bury, on Saturday, August 4th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 7 o'clock. A good attendance earnestly requested. Business important.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Brighton, on August 6th (Bank Holiday). Tower open from 11 till 1, and from 2 till 4. Service at 4. Business meeting at 4.30 in Parish Room (adjoining church). Half railway fares, without limit.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Central District.—The summer meeting will be held on Bank Holiday, Aug. 6th, 1917, at Mitcham. The bells at the Parish Church, SS. Peter and Paul (8), and the six at Christ Church will be available from 3 to 5 and from 7 to 9 p.m. Service at the Parish Church at 5 p.m. Tea at 6 p.m. (members 3d. and visitors at 1/-), and business meeting after. Ringers intending to be present at the tea are asked to send a post card not later than Friday, the 3rd August, to Mr. Charles Bance, The Queen's Head, Lower Green, Mitcham.

PETERBOROUGH AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Peterborough on Monday, August 6th. Service at St. John's Church at 4 o'clock; business meeting after. St. John's, St. Mary's and Woodstone's bells will be available. No arrangements for tea, but all ringers welcome.—John J. Jutson, Hon. Sec., St. Mary's School House, Peterborough.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Hertford on August Bank Holiday, when the bells of All Saints' (10) and St. Andrew's (8) will be opened for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be prepared at the Castle Cabin; members 9d., others 1/-. Business meeting after. All ringing friends will be made welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, District Secretary.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A meeting of the above will be held at New Romney on Saturday, August 11th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock. A free tea for all members and ringing friends provided by the Vicar, the Rev. South. Will those intending to be present please notify me not later than Aug. 8th?—H. Balcomb, Hon. Secretary, The Priory, Appledore, Kent.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—A combined practice will be held at Wombourne on Saturday, August 11th, at 4 o'clock, instead of at Pattingham as previously arranged.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society. Established 1824).—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Mortlake, on Saturday, August 11th. Bells available from 5.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Thornbury on Saturday, August 11th. Bells available from 3.30. Tea by kind invitation of the Vicar, Canon Cornwall. Those intending to be present please notify not later than August 6th.—W. A. Lewis, Branch Secretary, Ham, Berkeley, Glos.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Milnrow Parish Church on Saturday, August 11th. Bells ready at 2 o'clock. Meeting at 6 o'clock.—T. K. Driver, Sec., Middleton.

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.

## MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

Subscriptions to the above should be forwarded at once to the Ringing Master, Mr. Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, or to the Hon. Sec., Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

MAPLEDURHAM, OXON.—Recently, at St. Margaret's Church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 23 mins.: R. T. Hibbert (conductor) 1, 2nd Air-Mechanic W. H. Pasmore 2, W. Hibbert 3, A. Wiggins 4, E. J. Menday 5, H. Simmonds 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins.: Ex-Sergt.-Major W. Hibbert, R.H.A., 1, 2nd Air-Mechanic W. H. Pasmore 2, R. T. Hibbert (conductor) 3, W. Hibbert, junr., 4, E. G. Frankum 5, Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, C.F., 6.

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**WESTERHAM, KENT.**—On Sunday, May 13th, at St. Mary's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans'), in 46 mins.: H. J. Selby 1, H. E. Wills 2, F. Pike 3, C. Dean 4, W. S. Wise (conductor) 5, A. J. Lewes 6, D. Wright 7, R. Stone 8. Messrs. Dean, Wills, Wright and Wise, hail from Croydon; F. Pike from London.

**NORTHAMPTON.**—At All Saints' Church, on Sunday, May 20th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: H. Blundell 1, A. Hensman 2, W. J. Unwin 3, E. C. Lambert 4, F. Hopper 5, H. Rainbow 6, W. Farey (conductor) 7, J. Hensman 8. Rung as a farewell to W. J. Unwin, who was shortly joining the colours.

**BARKING, ESSEX.**—On Sunday, May 20th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Superlative Surprise Major (1280 changes), in 48 mins.: T. Cranfield 1, R. Fenn 2, C. Fenn (conductor) 3, E. Andrews 4, A. J. Neal 5, J. Moule 6, H. Torbie 7, A. C. Hardy, R.F.C. (composer), 8. —On June 3rd, for evening service, and King's birthday, a quarter-peal of Superlative Surprise Major (1280 changes), in 47 mins.: F. G. Newman 1, C. Fenn (conductor) 2, T. Faulkner 3, L. Pye, R.F.A., 4, A. J. Neal 5, E. Andrews 6, R. Fenn 7, H. Flanders 8.

**CARDIFF.**—Llandaff Association.—At St. John's Church, on Empire Day, May 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes), in 55 mins., composed by C. Charge: H. Day 1, J. Harris 2, E. Coles 3, W. Biss 4, W. Heath 5, J. W. Jones 6, A. Rowley 7, S. Dawe 8, F. Chamberlain (conductor) 9, Wm. Bolton 10. Also 168 of Grandsire Triples: H. Day 1, J. Harris 2, Rev. F. Hatford 3, E. Coles 4, Wm. Heath 5, A. Rowley 6, Wm. Bolton (conductor) 7, Fred Chamberlain 8. The first touch with an inside bell by the Rev. F. Hatford for 15 years.

**SEELY OAK.**—Worcestershire Association.—On Empire Day, on May 24th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): E. J. Dowler 1, S. Grove 2, A. E. Norman 3, G. Pigott 4, O. Norman 5, L. Longney 6, H. Withers (conductor) 7, J. Eaton 8.

**WORSLEY.**—On Sunday evening, May 27th, 504 Grandsire Triples, as a farewell touch for Wilfred Grundy, who was joining His Majesty's forces on the 30th inst.: J. Ridyard 1, W. Grundy 2, \*S. Harrison 3, —. Tickle 4, W. Jones 5, P. Derbyshire 6, F. Grundy 7, \*S. Hilton 8. \* First 504.

**WORKSOP.**—North Notts Association.—On Sunday, May 27th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: Sergt. T. Anderson, 28 Sherwood Rangers, 1, H. Haigh (conductor) 2, S. C. Walker 3, G. Hardwick 4, W. Roberts 5, A. Johnson 6, J. T. Wilson 7, E. Clark 8. Rung as a compliment to Sergt. T. Anderson, a member of the company, who was on leave prior to embarking for France; and also to Geo. Hardwick, whose first quarter-peal it was on an inside bell.—On Whit-Monday, 560 Bob Major: G. Hardwick 1, E. Clark 2, S. C. Walker 3, A. Johnson 4, H. Haigh 5, Sergt. Stanley Andrews (Wisbech) 6, J. T. Wilson 7. Corp'l. J. W. Barker (Bedford) (conductor) 8. Lougest touch by first three ringers.

**FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.**—During a Whitsuntide visit of Mr. E. H. Lewis, of Carlisle, to Frodsham, the following touches were rung: On handbells, 720 Plain Bob Minor: F. Bibby 1, E. H. Lewis 3-4, W. Bibby 5-6. On tower bells, 720 Bob Minor: W. Bibby 1, E. H. Lewis 2, J. E. Bibby 3, H. W. Wilde 4, Miss M. Walker (first 720) 5, T. H. Lightfoot 6. 1264 Bob Major: \*F. Bibby 1, W. Bibby 2, H. W. Wilde 3, A. Unsworth 4, \*Miss M. Walker 5, \*J. E. Bibby 6, T. H. Lightfoot 7, E. H. Lewis 8. \* First quarter-peal. E. H. Lewis, conductor.

**SOUTHAM.**—Warwickshire Guild.—On May 30th, at St. James's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, in 58 mins.: A. Adkins 1, W. King 2, F. King 3, J. King (conductor) 4, E. G. Berry 5, W. Pratt 6, G. Stowe 7. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect and esteem for the late Rector (the Rev. J. Hart Davis), who was interred in the churchyard on the above date. All the ringers are members of the local band.

**BIRCH-IN-RUSHOLME, LANCASHIRE.**—On May 31st, on the occasion of Mr. W. E. Ryder's 71st birthday, 630 Grandsire Triples: W. Holbrook 1, W. E. Ryder (conductor) 2, A. Frost 3, H. Brickell 4, J. Leigh 5, R. Davies 6, J. H. Collier 7, F. Brickell 8. 432 Bob Major: J. Leigh 1, A. Frost 2, W. Holbrook 3, H. Brickell 4, F. Brickell 5, J. H. Collier 6, J. Derbyshire 7, R. Davies (conductor) 8.

**ERTH.**—Kent County Association.—On Saturday, June 2nd, at the Church of St. John-the-Baptist, a peal of London Surprise was attempted as a birthday compliment to T. Groombridge, junr., but after one hour's ringing it came to grief, through one of the ropes getting jammed: I. Emery 1, T. Groombridge, junr., 2, I. G. Shade 3, W. Hewett 4, R. Sanders 5, G. R. Pye 6, T. Groombridge, senr., 7, W. Pye (conductor) 8. Afterwards, at Christ Church, the same band rang a course of London, the first Surprise on the bells, and a course of Bristol, E. F. Pike in the place of W. Hewett.

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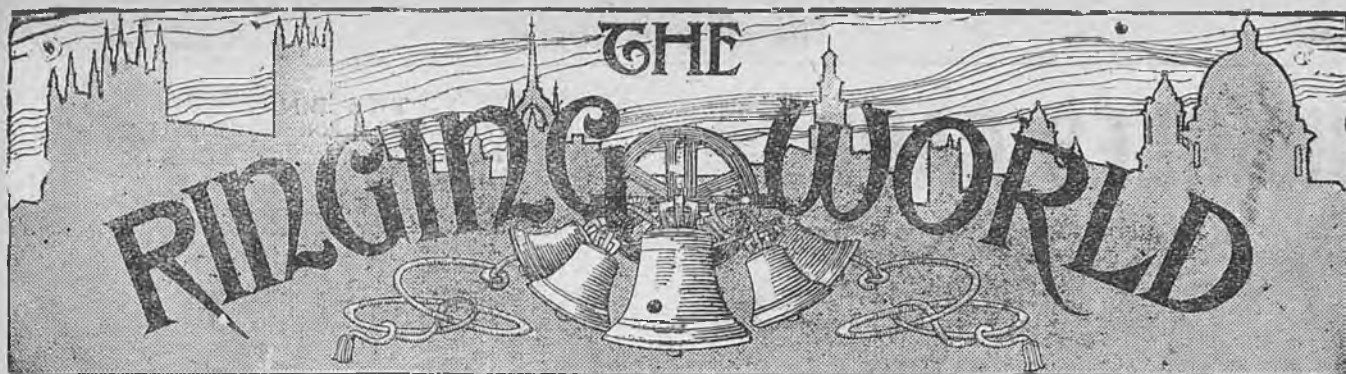
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Guildford, and Published by Messrs. WM. DAWSON & SONS  
LTD., Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.





No. 334. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 10th, 1917.

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

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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. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

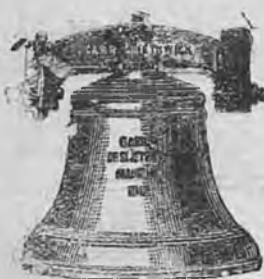
## THE SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.

There has been something in the nature of a "rebellion" in Sussex. The Committee of the County Association decided to abandon the annual meeting this year, but the members insisted upon it being held, and those "in authority" have had to yield to "superior forces." Each of the three districts passed a resolution demanding the holding of the meeting, which accordingly took place on Monday and passed off quite amicably, notwithstanding anticipations in some quarters to the contrary. The one cause for regret was that the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer felt it necessary to resign. Unless there were underlying reasons which were not made known to the members, it seems strange that an action, for which the Committee as a whole were responsible, should have led to the resignation of two of the Association's principal officials. Both had rendered long and valuable service to the Association, and it is a pity that they should have given up offices which they have so capably discharged, because the Committee, of which they were members, had misjudged the opinion of the general body. The feeling of the members in regard to the loss of the two officials was, however, expressed in the vote of thanks that was accorded them and their election as life members.

The business before the Association was of more than usual interest, for, in addition to having to find new officers, there were amendments to rules affecting the constitution of the organisation, and the question of sending representatives to the Central Council was discussed. Some candid expressions of opinions on the utility of the Council were put forward, and while it was decided to limit the representation of the Association to one member (instead of the four to which it is entitled), it is a matter for satisfaction to those who believe that the Council can be made a useful body that the Association decided not to sever its connection entirely. The Sussex Association has supported the Council from its formation, and it would have been a pity if the continuity of this affiliation had been broken. But there is far more than the sentimental side of the matter to be considered. The Council has done good work; it still has a field of usefulness before it, and its life may yet be long if it adapts itself to present-day requirements. In view of the many expressions of opinion that have been voiced in various parts of the country, the Council is quite aware of the feeling that exists in regard to it, and the attitude of the Sussex Association, which is not isolated, shows that confidence in the Council is waning in some quarters. The opportunity for reconstruction will present itself next year, and the Associations should see that they send their best men to carry out the task.

## 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**

**BELLS**  
**FOR CHURCHES,**

SINGLY,  
OR IN PEALS.

**CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.**

PEALS AUGMENTED,  
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

**FRAMES**

IN BEST SEASONED OAK,  
STEEL OR IRON.

**Chiming Machines**

Best Workmanship and  
Satisfaction Guaranteed

**FITTINGS**

OF ALL KINDS.

**ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON  
BRACKETS.**

MALLEABLE IRON BRACKET.  
BEST BELL ROPE.  
REPAIRS AND REHANGING  
IN ALL BRANCHES.

**BELLHANGERS sent to inspect  
and report on Bells and Towers.**

**SEND FOR CATALOGUE.**

**ESTABLISHED 1780.**

**JOHN NICOLL,**

**Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope  
Manufacturer.**

**60, QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.**

(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.

**THE B.N.**  
A NOVEL SYSTEM FOR EIGHT BELLS.  
BY THE REV. E. BANKES JAMES

12345678	12345678
21436587	21436587
12463578	12463578
14236758	14236758
41327658	41327658
14372568	14372568
41735268	Bob — 41735268
47153628	47153628
74516382	74135682
47581328	47316528
45716238	43761258
54172638	34672158
45127368	43627518
54213768	34265718
45231678	43256178
452316	Bob at 432561 1
315246	325164 2
241536	251463 3
534126	514362 4
123456	143265 5

No! not Triples; there are two Major changes in it. And you would not call it Major, would you, now? No one, at least, will dispute the novelty. It is full of novelties. The work of the tenor is the first to catch the eye: every seventh blow in seventh's place is quite new. Then, too, the work of the seventh; a bell that never makes a place, not even at lead or behind; and that of the sixth, a sort of slow hunt, are both new. They take the places of the treble and second in Grand-sire Triples.

But to those who are really interested in construction, the novel "bob" will afford the greatest pleasure.

I give the first part of an eight part peal. The bobs at half-way and end must be omitted.

5040

123456		Continued		Part ends.
432561	1	635124	1	123456
236415	2	261543	4	— 341625
246367	5	516432	1	— 163542
364512	1	354621	4	— 351264
546123	1	452316	2	omit 143265
251634	4	325164	1	— 321546
615342	1	315246	5	— 153624
463521	4	514362	2	— 361452
453612	5	341625	1	omit 123456

## WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

Although no official district meeting of the Guild has been held in the Winchester district this year, several very good combined practices have been arranged by the North Stoneham band, in conjunction with the Rev. E. Bankes James, and his ringing pupils at Wykeham Hall, Lee-on-the-Solent, during their summer term. On Saturdays, May 12th and 26th, there were good tower bell practices at North Stoneham, with handbell practice at West End; Saturday, June 9th, at Twyford, an attempt for peal of Grandsire Triples was lost through a change course; June 16th, handbell practice at West End, and tower bells at North Stoneham; July 7th, an attempt for peal of Stedman Triples at The Abbey, Romsey, was lost after 2½ hours; July 21st, handbell practice at West End, and tower bells at North Stoneham; Saturday, July 28th, practice at Curdridge, when the four standard methods were rung. Double Norwich has also been practised, and a 560 was rung at North Stoneham on May 26th.

Among those who have taken part in the above can be mentioned: Pte. W. Keeble, A.V.C. (Kelvedon), now in France; Bomb. S. Hector, R.G.A. (Trowbridge); Bandsman M. Bosley, S.L.I. (Taunton); Capt. Bennett (Stockport), now at Morn Hill Camp; Sergt. C. A. Gray, London Scottish (London), now at Hazeley Down Camp; Pte. A. Hague (Rotherham), R.A.M.C., Southampton; Pte. A. A. Jones (Aston, Birmingham), A.S.C. Remount, Swaythling; with R. P. Knight and Leonard Harris (Salisbury). The local towers represented have been North Stoneham, Curdridge, Swanmore, Twyford, Southampton, Bishopstoke, and Romsey. Fortunately, when meeting at North Stoneham, the weather has been favourable on each occasion for handbell ringing under the walnut tree at the residence of the hon. general secretary (Mr. G. Williams).

It is proposed to renew these practices again about the last week in September, when it is hoped that all who possibly can will make an effort to be present, and thus "carry on" whilst so many ringers are away fighting our battles for liberty, justice, and right.

NEWPORT. — Llandaff Association. — At St. Woolos Church, 630 Grandsire Triples, for practice: J. Goddard 1, J. W. Jones 2, H. Morgan 3, G. Booker (of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin) 4, J. Butler (conductor) 5, W. Phillips 6, F. Atwell 7, F. Stanbury 8.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.****RESIGNATION OF OFFICIALS.**

A good deal of interest was taken in the proceedings at the annual meeting of the Sussex County Association, which was held at Brighton on Monday. According to the rules, the meeting ought to have been held in April or May, but a postal vote of the committee decided by a majority to abandon the gathering. As a result the general body of members, through the Divisional meetings, passed resolutions calling upon the secretary to convene the meeting on August Bank Holiday. The differences of opinion which arose caused the resignation of the hon. secretary (Mr. G. Watson) and the hon. treasurer (Mr. R. C. Ford). Some sixty members put in an appearance at Brighton, and were representative of the town throughout the county. It was noticeable that a large number, if not the majority of those present, wore of the "old brigade," and it was pleasant to meet again the faces of those who were the backbone of the Association twenty or five-and-twenty years ago. There were, in addition to the members visitors present from London, Bedford, Croydon, and other places, and the rendezvous, St. Peter's belfry, with its magnificent peal of ten bells, was crowded during the morning and afternoon with ringers eager for a touch, the methods ranging from Grandsire Triples to Cambridge Royal. Service was held in the church, a shortened form of evensong being used. The Vicar of Brighton (Canon Dormer Pierce) gave an address, in which he welcomed the members to his church, and said that an association of ringers should be a band of brothers and workers together with God. They were carrying on their work in days of great difficulty, but he was glad they were able to keep the bells ringing, for their sound was most refreshing to those who returned to this country from amid the sound of the guns. He alluded to the message which the bells conveyed, and said that so long as he was Vicar of Brighton he would be very glad to have the Association meet at his church.

The annual business meeting took place in the Parish Room, the Master (Mr. F. B. Tompkins) presiding, supported by the Vicar, who was elected an hon. member. One new active member was also elected.

The Bishop of Chichester was re-elected President of the Association, and the Vice-Presidents were re-elected, the Vicar of Brighton being added to the list.

Mr. F. B. Tompkins was re-elected Master, and appointed to the vacant treasurer'ship.

Mr. H. R. Butcher, of Rotherfield, was elected to fill the office of hon. secretary.

**ALTERATIONS TO RULES.**

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith proposed the following amendments to rules:—

Rule III.—"That the government be vested in a President, Master, Honorary General Secretary, Honorary Treasurer, and (the three Divisional Secretaries, together with three persons chosen from each Division. These shall constitute the Committee of Management, of which three shall form a quorum."

Rule VII.—"That a general meeting shall be held every year in April or May for the purpose of electing such officers as are not elected by the respective Divisions, for transacting the general business of the Association, and for united practice in change ringing."

"That the Divisions shall each elect annually, before the 31st March, an Honorary Secretary, and three members to serve on the General Committee of the Association, and shall also arrange for the District Meetings in their respective areas."

He pointed out that the effect of the motion was to enable the divisions to elect their own District Secretaries and representatives each year, instead of these elections taking place at the general meeting of the Association, the former annually and the latter triennially. He also pointed out the need for re-drafting the whole rules, which were really out of date.—Mr. G. Howse, who seconded, said it had been suggested to him by a clerical member that the title of the Association should be altered to include the words "Chichester Diocesan Guild."

The Vicar of Brighton put forward the valuable suggestion, that there should be a clerical correspondent to keep the clergy of the diocese in touch with the Association, and offered, if the members desired it, to act in that capacity himself.

The Vicar of Brighton put forward the valuable suggestion that were adopted.

**THE ASSOCIATION AND THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.**

The auditors (Messrs. C. Harfey and E. Bray, of Eastbourne) were re-elected, as was also the Peals Secretary (Mr. A. W. Gravett). The Master, the Hon. General Secretary, and Mr. G. H. Howse, were elected trustees.

The balance sheet, which showed a satisfactory state of financial affairs, was adopted. The balance on the general account had been increased from £53 12s. 8d. to £60 8s. 11d., and in addition there is a reserve fund of £50, and a balance of £31 10s. 4d. in the Benevolent Fund.

Mr. K. Hart proposed that in future the Association, which is entitled to four representatives, should send only one member to the Central Council. In the last nine years it had cost the Association about £43 to send delegates to the Central Council meeting, and the Association had got absolutely nothing for it.—Mr. Bassett (Hove) seconded.—Mr. C. Hounsell (Cuckfield) said he was instructed by his band to vote against sending any representatives at all.—Mr. J. S.

Goldsmith spoke in favour of remaining in affiliation with the Council, and pointed out that while much time at the meetings was taken up with subjects which were of little interest to ringers generally, the Council had nevertheless done good work in the interests of ringing as a whole. When the Council next met it would have to mend or end itself, and he hoped that in electing a representative the Association would send the best possible man.—The motion was carried nem. con.

Brighton was selected for the next annual meeting, and a vote of thanks was passed to the retiring hon. general secretary and hon. treasurer, whose good work for the Association for many years was emphasised by the Master.—At the suggestion of Mr. Howse they were elected life members.

A sub-committee, consisting of the Master, Hon. General Secretary, and Mr. W. Franks, was appointed to consider the re-drafting of the rules, and to present them for adoption at the next annual meeting.

A vote of thanks was passed to Canon Pierce for the use of the bells and for the service, to Mr. A. D. Stone for his efforts to secure the holding of the meeting, and to the Master and other officers for their services during the past year.

Subsequently further ringing took place at St. Peter's.

**A COALBROOKDALE WEDDING.**

CAPT. M. L. COPE AND MISS F. M. DARBY.

On Tuesday, July 17th, the wedding of Capt. Mordaunt Lackonby Cope, M.E., Rifle Brigade, and Miss Frances Muriel Darby took place at the Roman Catholic Church of St. Mary, Cadogan Gardens, London, the Copes being an old Catholic family, and by the wedding two honoured names have been united. Father Norbert Bert, O.S.B., officiated at the ceremony. The bride is the only surviving child of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred E. W. Darby, of Adeote and Coalbrookdale, Salop. Their only son, Lieut. Maurice Alfred Alexander Darby, a Grenadier Guardsman, fell at Neuve Chapelle, in March, 1915, a few weeks before attaining his 21st birthday. He had been at the front from the beginning of the war. The bride's father is a member of the family whose name has for centuries been famous in connection with the Coalbrookdale Ironworks. Beautiful castings of every description, both decorative and scientific, have gone from these works all over the world. It is to the members of the Darby family that the inhabitants of Coalbrookdale and surrounding districts will for ever be grateful for the beautiful church, and also for the very fine literary and scientific institution, which has played a leading part in the instruction of science and art in the district since its erection. The church was built and endowed by Abraham Darby, J.P., D.L., the foundation stone being laid on 11th Dec., 1851, upon land given by Adelaide Anna Darby. The bells were presented by Alfred Darby (the bride's grandfather), and only brother of the founder; the organ by Mary, and one thousand pounds by Deborah, the sisters of Abraham and Alfred Darby. The bells, a very fine peal of eight (tenor 19cwt. 2qr. 8lb. in E), all bear the inscription, O. and G. Mears, founders, London, 1852, and their situation, in a perfect position, adds much to their beautiful tone. The clock, with its three dials, each measuring five feet eight inches in diameter, is a very fine piece of work. The following inscription records its gift:—"This clock was purchased at a cost of £270, and presented to Holy Trinity Church by the workmen of Coalbrookdale, from subscriptions amongst themselves, assisted by other kind friends in the neighbourhood. Made by Joyce and Sons, Whitechurch, 1853, and erected July, 1854."

Mrs. Darby, the bride's mother, was the former Miss Frederica Louisa Julianna Arthur, only daughter of Sir Frederick Arthur, second baronet, and the Lady Elizabeth, daughter of the 10th Earl of Kinnoul. The bridegroom is the youngest son of Sir Anthony Cope, Bart., of Bramshill, Hants, the mansion being supposed to have been the scene of the harrowing episode of the "Mistletoe Bough," and said to have been built for Prince Henry, eldest son of James I. Capt. Cope is 39 years of age, and the bride is some years his junior. The honeymoon was spent at Adeote, Shrewsbury, Captain Cope being due to start for Egypt on July 27th, to take up an appointment there.

In honour of the wedding, the Coalbrookdale ringers rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins.: Leonard Hewitt 1, Thomas Abbott 2, James L. York 3, Philip Shaw (first with a hob bell) 4, Richard Jones 5, Walter Lago 6, William Saunders (conductor) 7, Jack Aston 8.

**5664 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR.**

By J. MARTIN, LIVERPOOL.

23456	M	B	W	T
24536			1	2
32465				2
25463	1			2
53462	1			2
65324				2
23564			2	2

Twice repeated.

This peal contains the 4th, 5th and 6th, their extent each way in 5—6, at a course end. The combination is sustained throughout the whole peal, 2—3 never being together in those positions. This is believed to be the first peal composed and published containing these qualities on the plan.



# MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry  
Established  
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

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.*

## ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

### CANON WILLINK ENTERTAINS MEMBERS AT BIRMINGHAM.

The summer meeting was held at St. Martin's, Birmingham, on Saturday week, and the attraction of "the twelve" brought together a goodly number of members from different towers in the Diocese—and outside of it. This was the first time for a long while that there had been an opportunity for ringing at St. Martin's on any week-day, the usual practice on Tuesday evenings having been postponed since the outbreak of war, and it was eagerly seized by many who had not had a pull on twelve bells for many months. Others came and enjoyed their first on the maximum number, but whether the listeners outside—especially the involuntary ones—enjoyed it to the same degree is open to doubt. However, for about an hour and a half the bells were turning to Stedman Caters and Cinques, by mixed companies, with mixed results.

At 4.15 the business meeting was held in the belfry, under the chairmanship of the Guild's Presiding Ringing Master (Alderman J. S. Pritchett).—Five new members were elected, and other formal business disposed of.—Among the new members were Mr. A. E. Parsons, of Hill, Master of the Worcestershire Association (transferred from life membership), and the Rev. C. H. Barker, clerical hon. secretary of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

Immediately after the meeting, cars were boarded en route for the Rectory, the Rector and Mrs. Willink having very kindly invited members and their wives to tea, and to spend the evening on the Rectory lawn. A party of about 50 took tea on the terrace, the Rector, Mrs. and Miss Willink being of the party.

A more delightful garden it is almost impossible to imagine, and when one stands on the lovely lawn surrounded by majestically proportioned trees, it requires quite an effort of will power to make oneself realise that the Bull Ring is only a mile and a half away. But so it is. On this side of Birmingham the "town," with its multitude of shops and fringe of mean streets (the latter always to be found in large towns between the centre and the suburbs), ends very abruptly, and, as it seems in the twinkling of an eye, one is whirled from the dust and racket into the peaceful quiet of easeful Edgbaston. Here then, the evening was spent, the Rector, after a few words of welcome explaining that he had arranged games and tournaments of bowls, quoits, and bull-board for those who would like to join in. Prizes were offered to all the winners. Others were invited to roam in the pleasure grounds at the rear of the garden, where they found beautiful walks around a pool, the placid waters of which were calmly contemplated by a disciple of Isaac Walton. Others again hauled forth the handbells, and soon their melodious ripple could be heard above the buzz of conversation, the clack of the bowls, and the smack of the bull-board. Of the games, bowls, as was only natural, aroused most interest, and as the contest proceeded, and one side and then another was eliminated, the excitement was great.

Finally, the winners proved to be Messrs. G. Walker and A. Paddon Smith, the runners-up being Messrs. J. E. Groves and the Rev. C. H. Barker.—The Rector presented each of the winners with a nice framed photograph of himself, which will be highly valued. The winners at quoits and bull-board were Mr. A. Scrivens and Mrs. A. Walker, and they received a book each, which, in addition to providing good reading, will serve as a memento of a very pleasant evening.

A vote of thanks to Canon and Mrs. Willink, proposed by Mr. G. Walker, and seconded by the secretary (Mr. A. Paddon Smith), brought to a close one of the most pleasurable meetings the Guild has enjoyed for a long time.

The next quarterly meeting will be held at Erdington in October.  
A. P. S.

## THE "CLOCKING" OF BELLS.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—I am rather sorry to see Mr. Woolley's letter, reasonable though it is; for I fear it may suggest that in the average belfry there are two almost equal sides to the question: Ought bells, or ought they not, to be "clocked" in chiming for service? I agree that, in the hands of an expert chimer, the danger of this practice is reduced to a minimum; but how many sextons are expert chimers? Mr. Woolley knows, he tells us, "what the village sexton is capable of." He knows, therefore, that, if the sexton's duty is to chime for services, he will do it in the way that gives him least trouble. If that way is by clocking the bells, clocked they will be, whatever anyone else may say; and the sexton will be sure that he knows better than the parson or churchwarden.

Mr. Woolley refers to a letter of mine in your columns a few years ago. I have quite forgotten it, and cannot recall what I said. But I still hold with the condemnation passed upon "clocking" in the report of a committee to the Central Council, published in 1892, and repeated verbatim by Sir Arthur Heywood in his book on "Bell Towing and Bell Hanging (1914)." That committee—Sir Arthur Heywood, Messrs. W. Snowdon, Rees, Phillott, F. E. Dawe, W. Baron, and the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer—knew what they were talking about; and a fairly wide experience of bells and bell ringers has convinced me that they were right.—Yours faithfully,

T. L. PAPILLON  
(Late Master of the Essex Association)

## HEROES FROM THE BELFRY.



THE LATE  
LCE.-CPL. J. T. BOTTRILL.

THE LATE  
GUNNER FOX.

REG.-SGT.-MAJ. TUCKER.

Of the above photographs, the first is that of the late Lance-Corpl. J. T. Bottrill, whose death was recorded last week, and concerning whose ringing career, his old friend and tutor, Mr. W. Willson, wrote so feelingly.

The second photograph is that of the late Gunner Fox, who had been a ringer at St. Mary's Church, Penwortham, about two years when war broke out. He began his ringing in 1912, when the bi-centenary of the bells at Penwortham was celebrated. He was a very steady ringer, and took great interest in it from the commencement, and had got well into Treble Bob before he went away. He joined the West Lancashire R.F.A. Territorials as soon as the war broke out. When in training at Westerham, Kent, he visited most of the belfries in the district, from which he gained a lot of experience and pleasure. He had never rung in a 5,000, but it was only the war which prevented him reaching his ambition.

The third photograph is that of Regimental-Sergeant-Major Tucker, of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, who has been awarded the meritorious service medal for his good services, and especially for the manner in which, single-handed, he got ammunition through under very heavy shell fire at the Battle of Messines.

He joined the Essex Regiment in September, 1914, but after a month transferred to his present regiment. His promotion was rapid, and not only has he made a splendid soldier, but he is well liked by his men, as the gifts which he has received from them testify. In civil life R.-S.-M. Tucker was a miner. He began his ringing career at St. Martin's Church, Caerphilly, when the bells were put up in 1911, Mr. J. W. Jones, of Newport, being his tutor. R.-S.-M. Tucker is a member of the Llandaff Association, and a member of the St. Martin's Church choir.

### RE-OPENING OF DARTFORD BELLS. RESTORATION AFTER SEVEN YEARS' SILENCE.

As already briefly recorded, Dartford bells have been restored, by the recasting of the whole peal, which have been rehung in new fittings. The restoration was carried out at the expense of Mr. A. J. Penney, one of the churchwardens, in memory of his parents, and a large congregation witnessed the dedication ceremony which was performed by the Bishop of Rochester. After the dedicatory prayers, a course of Stedman Triples was rung by E. Barnett, junr., 1, J. H. Cheesman 2, T. Groombridge, senr., 3, T. Groombridge, junr., 4, E. Barnett, senr., 5, I. Emery 6, W. J. Jeffries 7, H. Simmonds 8.

The Bishop then gave an address, choosing as the subject Numbers x. 10: "Also in the days of your gladness and in your solemn days, and in the beginnings of your months, ye shall blow with trumpets over all burnt offerings and over sacrifices of your peace offerings, that they may be to me for a memorial before your God." The bells, he said, after a silence of seven years, once more rang out their message to the town and neighbourhood. At the time the church tower was being repaired it was thought expedient by the architect that a certain interval should elapse before the bells were again rung, in order that the work should become solid. Acting on this suggestion, the bells were silenced seven years ago, and the last public occasion of national importance in which the bells took part was the occasion of the joy over the Coronation of our present King. Now once more the bells had flung forth into the country around their praise and thanks. This had been made possible by an act of filial piety on the part of one who was well known amongst them—a member of the church and a churchwarden—in loving memory of his parents, who had been connected with the town since 1858. It was the gift of a son in loving memory of his father and mother, and also the gift of a churchwarden to the church he loved. It was a gift in memory of those who had fought the good fight and gone to reap their reward. How better could the memory of those who could no longer speak be kept than through the bells? Also, the bells had a solemn association when proclaiming the passing into eternal rest of souls who could no more be seen.

#### ENTHUSIASM OF KENT RINGERS.

The ringing of the bells constituted a fine art, and in Kent it was taken up with enthusiasm. Members of the Kent Bell Ringers' Association, drawn from neighbouring towns, were present that day to

assist the Dartford bell ringers, and to them they extended a hearty welcome. They also extended a special welcome to the chairman and members of the Dartford Urban Council, who were in church not only to do honour to one of their members, Mr. Penney, but also to enter into the occasion in the right and proper spirit. The parish church had a peculiar association with the affairs of the town itself. Dartford was particularly fortunate because of the unity which had prevailed from time immemorial. It was the Council which caused the erection of the church clock in the tower to tell the time to those who went to work in that hive of industry. The Council attended the church to worship on every occasion of national importance, and this showed the interest of the municipality in its church. On these occasions they were called together by the bells, which served a special purpose. When he was Bishop of Adelaide, for ten years they had not even a peal of bells in the cathedral to summon the people to worship, but the difficulty was overcome by ringing the bells in the town hall.

At the conclusion of the service, a number of ringers, assembled in the tower, the visitors including Messrs. A. A. Hughes (representing the Whitechapel Foundry, who carried out the work so successfully), T. H. Taffender, and J. B. Williamson. Touches of Stedman and Grand sire Triples, Bob Major, Double Norwich and Superlative were rung.

#### THE BELLS.

The recast bells have a tenor of 18 cwt. 3 qrs. 1 lb. in E flat. The inscriptions which were on the old bells have been reproduced on the recast ones with certain additions. The old inscriptions were as follows:—

Tenor: Charles Manning, Thomas Walston, Churchwardens; made by Philip Wightman, London, 1702.

2nd, 3rd, 5th, 6th and 7th: P.W. 1702.

Treble: Mears and Stainbank, Founders, London, 1822.

4th: Pack and Chapman of London fecit, 1773; William Pope Churchwarden.

From the treble to the 6th, on the recast bells, have been simply added, in the waist of the bells, the words Recast, 1917.

On the 7th bell has been added: Recast, 1917; Leonard Savill, Vicar; Alfred John Penney, Henry Robert Dines, Churchwardens.

The addition on the tenor is as follows:—Mears and Stainbank re-made us in the year 1917 as the gift of Alfred John Penney, Churchwarden, in loving memory of his parents, Alfred Thomas and Mary Penney.

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**STONEV STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.**—For evening service, on June 3rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to W. Norton, A. Hunt, G. Startin, who have given their lives for their country: H. Webb (Croft) 1, W. White (Barwell) 2, G. Wood (Sharnford) 3, C. Briggs 4, F. Colton (Hinckley) 5, G. Thompson (Hinckley) 6, H. Briggs (conductor) 7, W. Jones 8. The ringers of the 4th, 7th and 8th are local men.

**CARDIFF.**—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—At St. John's Church, on June 6th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 55 mins.: S. Williams 1, H. Day 2, E. Coles 3, S. Dawe 4, Fred Chamberlain 5, J. Clutterbuck 6, Wm. Bolton (conductor) 7, S. Barker 8. Rung in honour of the birth of a fifth son to the Marquis of Bute, at Cardiff Castle, on June 5th.

**BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.**—On Sunday, June 10th, 336 Stedman Triples: A. Crane 1, W. Mead 2, H. Scar 3, W. Scar 4, T. Best 5, E. Marks 6, F. Stanton (conductor) 7, V. Scar 8. 336 Grandsire Triples: H. Holderness 1, H. Scar 2, W. Mead 3, F. Hedges 4, T. Best (conductor) 5, E. Masters 6, W. Scar 7, F. Stanton 8. First touch by H. Holderness, to whom credit is due, he having learnt to pull a bell in a short time ago.

**WORSLEY.**—At St. Mark's Church, on June 10th, for the Sunday School anniversary, 504 Grandsire Triples: The Vicar 1, J. Ridyard 2, S. Harrison 3, Mr. Tickle 4, W. Jones 5, P. Derbyshire 6, F. Grundy 7, S. Hilton 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: T. Barlow 1, T. Worsley 2, J. Lowe 3, W. Jones 4, F. Grundy 5, P. Derbyshire 6, J. Ridyard (conductor) 7, J. Edge 8.

**BEDFORD.**—On June 10th, for morning service, at St. Peter De Merton's Church, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: J. Bates 1, C. W. Clarke 2, H. M. Day (Markot Deeping) 3, A. Robinson 4, W. Stapleton (conductor) 5, H. L. Harlow 6. For evening service, 720 Double Court: J. Bates 1, Miss D. D. Steel 2, C. W. Clarke (conductor) 3, Miss E. Steel 4, A. Robinson 5, H. M. Day 6. For evening service, on June 17th, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob: Miss D. D. Steel 1, C. W. Clarke 2, H. M. Day 3, Miss E. Steel 4, A. Robinson 5, W. Stapleton (conductor) 6.

**BROXBORNE.**—Hertfordshire Association.—On June 10th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), taken from Holt's Original: C. Gouldsmith 1, W. Mumford 2, H. G. Rowe 3, O. Twist 4, S. Knight 5, G. Radley (conductor) 6, W. Cavill 7, F. Halfhide 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to W. Mumford.

**HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.**—At the Parish Church, on June 11th, Thurstans' quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 53 mins.: Gunner F. Wigmore, R.F.A. (first quarter of Stedman) 1, Gunner B. Bidnell, R.F.A., 2, G. Twitchen 3, Driver A. J. Mawby, R.F.A., 4, E. Markham 5, R. Coles 6, F. Hayes (conductor) 7, W. J. Horne 8.

**BRIERLEY HILL.**—On June 14th, at St. Michael's Church, a touch of Grandsire Triples, and 720 of Bob Minor, with 6-8 covering: Wm. Potter, F. Hodgkiss, E. Lloyd, J. Bass, A. W. Dodd, R. Moors, W. A. Pugh, C. W. Cooper. The conducting was shared by Messrs. W. Potter and J. Bass. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mrs. Whatmore, wife of Mr. Alfred Whatmore, of Brierley Hill, who is the oldest member of the Brierley Hill ringers.

**EAST ILSLEY, BERKS.**—On Sunday, June 17th, on the five bells in this tower, 120 each of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles: H. Brown R. Warwick, W. Hibbert, W. Hibbert, junr., 2nd Air-Mechanic Passmore, and R. T. Hibbert. The two first named are the only ringers at this church left of eight, the others being in khaki in various parts of the world.

**BARKING, ESSEX.**—On June 17th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major (1280 changes), in 47 mins.: J. Waghorn, senr., 1, F. G. Newman 2, T. Faulkner 3, E. Andrews 4, A. Neal 5, J. Moule 6, R. Fenn 7, C. Fenn (conductor) 8.—On June 24th, for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 30 mins.: F. G. Newman 1, J. Waghorn 2, A. Worboys 3, A. Neal 4, R. Fenn 5, C. Fenn (conductor) 6.—On July 1st, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins.: H. Harwood 1, W. Beard 2, J. Waghorn 3, A. Worboys 4, R. Fenn 5, C. Fenn (conductor) 6.—On July 8th, for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 29 mins.: W. Beard 1, E. Andrews 2, A. Worboys 3, F. G. Newman 4, R. Fenn 5, C. Fenn (conductor) 6.

**DALTON-IN-FURNESS.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, June 17th, for morning service, 560 Bob Major: J. Huddleston 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss E. M. Stuart 4, W. H. Dennison 5, T. R. Jackson 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. For evening service, 720 Bob Minor: Miss E. M. Stuart 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, J. Huddleston 4, T. R. Jackson (conductor) 5, W. S. Forshaw 6, J. Burrows 8 (cover). At the Parish Church, on June 19th, 720 Bob Minor: J. Huddleston 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss E. M. Stuart 4, T. R. Jackson (conductor) 5, T. Stuart 6, J. Burrows 8 (cover).—On Sunday, June 24th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: J. Huddleston 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss E. M. Stuart 4, T. R. Jackson 5, J. Burrows (conductor) 6. For evening service, 560 Bob Major: T. Watson 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss E. M. Stuart 4, J. Huddleston 5, T. R. Jackson 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 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.—Meetings will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the first Sunday in the month at 6 p.m.; and at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on August 23rd; and for general business on the 14th and 28th, all at 8 p.m. Also at St. Mary's, Beddington, on Saturday, August 18th, at 4.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late St. James' Society. Established 1824).—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Mortlake, on Saturday, August 11th. Bells available from 5.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

**GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Thornbury on Saturday, August 11th. Bells available from 3.30. Tea by kind invitation of the Vicar, Canon Cornwall. Those intending to be present please notify not later than August 6th.—W. A. Lewis, Branch Secretary, Ham, Berkeley, Glos.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Milnrow Parish Church on Saturday, August 11th. Bells ready at 2 o'clock. Meeting at 6 o'clock.—T. K. Driver, Sec., Middleton.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—North-Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at Wenden on Saturday, August 18th. Bells available for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Business meeting will be held in the Parish Room at 5.30 p.m.—William Watts, Mont House Cottage, Stansted, Essex.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Yorktown Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Yateley on September 1st. Bells available from 3 p.m. till dusk. Ringers' service 5 p.m. Tea at 5.45 p.m. (for those who notify me by August 28th), to be followed by short business meeting. All ringers welcome.—F. J. Shepherd, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Surrey.

**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.

## MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

Subscriptions to the above should be forwarded at once to the Ringing Master, Mr. Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, or to the Hon. Sec., Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	-	-	9 18 6
J. S. Pritchett, Esq., King's Norton	-	-	0 5 0
J. H. Shepherd, Esq., Swindon	-	-	0 5 0
St. Martin's Company, Tipton	-	-	0 5 0
Rev. C. H. Barker, West Bromwich	-	-	0 2 6



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Mr. Wm. Kent, Birmingham	-	-	0 1 6
Mr. W. Bayliss, Bilston	-	-	0 1 0
Mr. G. Swann	-	-	0 1 0
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Total to date £11 14 6

#### GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

A successful meeting of the Stroud and District Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held at Bisley, when 20 members attended from nine different towers. A service was held in the Parish Church, appropriate prayers and hymns from the Association's form of service being used, and the Vicar (the Rev. W. J. Olay) giving an excellent address from the text, "Workers together with God," which was much appreciated. All were kindly invited to tea by the Vicar, and the Vicarage gardens were thrown open to the visitors, who much enjoyed walking round and listening to the music of the beautiful Bisley bells.

A business meeting followed, at which the Vicar presided. Leonard Stanley was selected as the place for the next quarterly meeting, and Chalford, Horsley and Woodchester for the friendly visits to ring on Sunday afternoons.—A hearty vote of thanks was acknowledged by the Vicar.—A vote of condolence was passed by the members standing in silence, to Mrs. Walter Faulk and family in the death of the Association's brother ringer from Stroud.

During the afternoon and evening some good touches were rung of Grandsire Triples and Bob Minor.

#### ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.

A very successful and enjoyable meeting of the Romney Marsh and District Guild was held at Ashford. Several touches of Grandsire Triples and Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major were brought round during the afternoon, but in Stedman there was "nothing doing."

The business meeting was held in the tower, and New Romney was selected as the place for the next meeting.—A vote of condolence was passed with Mrs. Gatehouse (of Headcorn), in the sudden loss of her husband (the Rev. Gatehouse), by whose death all ringers have lost a kind and sympathetic friend.

A vote of thanks to the Rev. E. K. Sopwith (Vicar of Ashford) for permission to hold the meeting at Ashford was also passed.

Several ringing members of H.M. Forces attended the meeting, and received a cordial welcome, including Corpl. Gordon Mackman (8th Reserve Battalion Canadians, now stationed at West Sandling), Pte. H. E. Watson (A.S.C., of Shouldham, Norfolk, now stationed at Ashford), and Sergt. Cavorsham (R.F.C., stationed at Lympne). The following towers were represented: Great Chart, Headcorn, Marsham, Marden, Stone-in-Oxney, Rolvenden, Tenterden, Woodchurch, Rye, and Ashford.

#### A 4-PART PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By A. J. PITMAN, PORT TALBOT.

234567	Contd.	Contd.	Contd.
752634 1	467523 2	623457 2	274536 2
467352 1	354267 1	746523 1	362457 2
674352 4	673425 2	237654 2	743562 1
526437 2	546273 1	462537 1	367425 3
375642 2	675432 3	374256 2	S 453267 1
263475 1	* 326547 2	623574 1	674325 2
752346 2	753426 1	746352 2	746325 4
467235 2	267345 2	527634 2	537246 1
354726 2	742653 3	S 645327 1	465723 2
673254 1	537264 2	736245 1	374265 1
546327 2	425637 1	527436 1	743285 4
735246 1	374562 2	S 465327 1	527643 1
* Single for bob in 2nd and 4th parts.			435762 2
Contains the 24 8-7's at back stroke.			274635 1
			PL 235467 3

ACTON.—At St. Mary's Church, for Prince of Wales' birthday, on June 23rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Robt. Holloway. For Queen Mary's birthday, on May 28th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by O. Hunt. For Empire Day, on May 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by F. Skevington, the remainder of the band being J. W. Fruin, W. Lidbetter, C. Edwards, W. Lawrence, A. E. Smith.

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TREBLE BOB. Part I. 1s. 6d.; second ed.; with appendix; 100 closely printed pages. Part II., suited for Conductors only; very scarce; 2s. 1½d.; 236 pages.

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(MAKER OF THE RINGERS' BADGE.)

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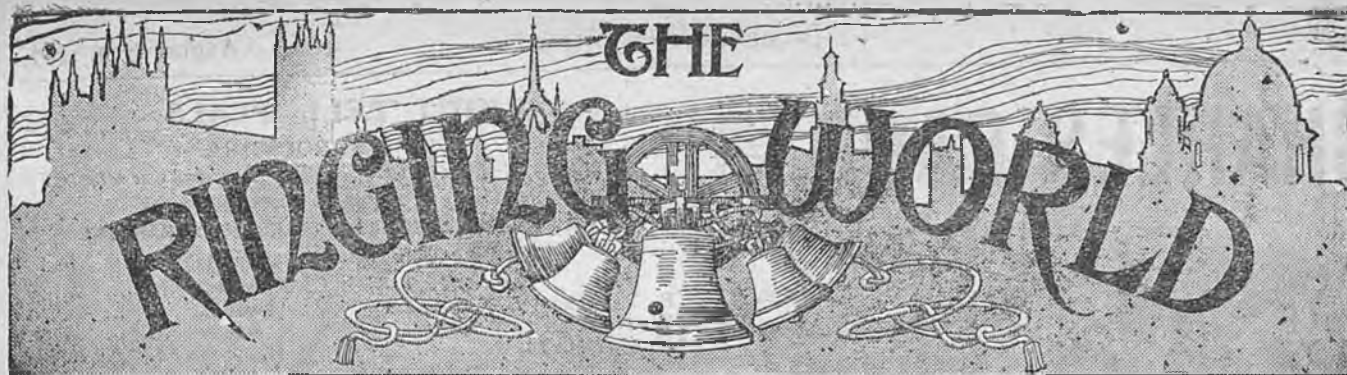
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Guildford, and Published by Messrs. WM. DAWSON & SONS  
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No. 335. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 17th, 1917.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for  
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St. Peter's Collegiate Church,  
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Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,  
MEMBERS GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918  
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

## MODERN WORK.

### REACHING THE CLERGY.

There are often matters concerning bells, belfries and ringers which it is desirable should be brought to the notice of the clergy generally, but this it is not always easy to accomplish. A recent example is the danger of "clocking," and it is a matter of satisfaction to observe that in the Diocese of Salisbury the Bishop has brought the question before his clergy by quoting the report of the Diocesan Guild on the subject. Is it not possible for those clergy who are actively identified with ringing in other dioceses to induce their Bishops to take similar action? By so doing the matter would be brought to the attention of incumbents in the best and widest possible way, and with a weight that could be obtained through few other means.

The idea, too, opens up other possibilities. Among the aims of our Associations, in their endeavour "to secure the recognition of the true position of ringers as Church Workers," is that of getting into closer touch with the clergy, with whom, as we know, lies the final control of the bells, and by whose interest (or lack of it) the work in the belfry may be made or unmade. The absence of encouragement by an incumbent is probably often due to ignorance of matters concerning ringing, while the ringers are, perhaps, too retiring, or otherwise unable to take him in hand and arouse his interest. Even the well-directed attentions of an Association cannot always do so, but there are few clergy who do not find an incentive to pastoral interest when a subject comes under their notice in the official diocesan publication.

Would it not be possible, therefore, for the various ringing organisations throughout the country to keep their aims and their work more constantly under the notice of the clergy and influential churchmen by obtaining a corner more or less regularly in the gazette of their respective dioceses? Other diocesan organisations do so; and, with, we presume, the Bishop's consent, the task of communicating matters of importance and of general ringing interest could be entrusted to one of the clergy intimately associated with each organisation. By this means the best points in connection with the work that is being done in the belfries of a diocese, and questions affecting the care of bells and the conduct of belfries generally, would come under the direct notice of those most responsible for the churches. This is a matter in which each diocesan guild or county association could act, and it is also one in which the Central Council could use its good offices among the societies to get the idea generally adopted, so that throughout the country there would be direct channels for reaching the clergy, instead of having to rely upon the more or less haphazard methods that have to answer the purpose at present.



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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 a platoon. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of it is alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

-Vicar of Broomfield

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## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

LUDLOW, SHROPSHIRE.

On Monday, August 6th, 1917, in Three Hours and One Minute,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

With 4-6-8 covering.

Tenor 22½ cwt.

A. NASON ... .. Treble	C. MINTON ... .. 5
E. BEDDOES ... .. 2	W. JONES ... .. 6
W. R. NASH ... .. 3	G. ROBINSON ... .. 7
HOBERT JONES ... .. 4	W. HABBERLY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by C. MINTON.

\* First peal.

SHENSTONE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, August 11, 1917, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANCES;**

Tenor 13 cwts.

FREDERICK DICKENS ... .. Treble	ALBERT WALKER ... .. 5
CHARLES DICKENS ... .. 2	GEORGE F. SWANN ... .. 6
THOMAS BLOORE ... .. 3	GEORGE ROBERTS ... .. 7
JAMES E. GROVES ... .. 4	BERTRAM G. LEEDHAM ... .. Tenor

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, and  
Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

Rung with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Lieut. Michael V. Molloy (son of the Vicar and Mrs. Molloy), of the 2nd Batt. Sherwood Foresters, who fell in action whilst leading his men at Hooe, on August 9th, 1915.

\* First peal in the method, and believed to be the first true peal of Treble Bob Major ever rung on the bells.

## SIX BELL PEAL.

HORBURY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 4th, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND LEONARD,

**A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;**

Comprising one extent each of City Delight, Arnold's Victory, College Pleasure, New London Pleasure, Duke of York, Violet, and Oxford. Tenor 13 cwt.

* LEE.-CP. WILFRED DOWNING Treble	HERBERT ROWLEY ... .. 4
GEORGE F. PICKLES ... .. 2	JAMES SMITH ... .. 5
GEORGE HUNT ... .. 3	ROBERT THICKETT ... .. Tenor

Conducted by H. ROWLEY.

\* First peal.

## LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On the Saturday before Bank Holiday the Manchester Branch held a meeting at Pendlebury, but the date did not prove a wise selection, as only 15 to 20 members were able to attend, several apologies being sent from members making the most of the holiday at other places than home. The only methods rung were Grandsire and Stedman Triples, but there was more Stedman than usual, as several members are studying it, and they made the most of the opportunity.

At the business meeting Prestwich was chosen for the next meeting, on August 25th, if convenient, when the Branch will choose their nominees for the general offices of the society.

The bells were kept going until 7.30, when a service was held to commemorate the end of the third year and commencement of the fourth year of the war.

## GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

At Bristol, on Sunday, August 12th, for morning service at St. Stephen-the-Martyr's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 47 mins., by: Mrs. E. J. Wilson 1, R. J. Wilkins 2, F. S. Wilson (Tewkesbury) 3, G. Condie, senr., 4, H. H. Tucker 5, S. Thomas 6, J. Burford (conductor) 7, A. Reeves 8. This was the first quarter-peal by Mrs. E. J. Wilson, who was proposed and elected a life member of the Association prior to starting.—On Sunday evening, for service, at St. Nicholas' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 52 mins.: Mrs. D. J. Wilson 1, F. W. Wade 2, F. S. Wilson 3, G. B. Warburton 4, H. T. Howell 5, G. Wiltshire 6, J. Long 7, U. Braven 8. These quarter-peals were arranged for Mrs. E. J. Wilson, who hails from Portishead, and, through the medium of "The Ringing World," she wishes to thank Mr. Fred G. May and Mr. R. J. Wilkins for so kindly extending to her the invitation.

**VETERANS CROSS THE BOURN.****MR. REUBEN FLAXMAN, OF SLOUGH.**

The St. Mary's Society, Slough, have lost their oldest member by the death of Mr. Reuben Flaxman, who for over 40 years has struggled hard to help along change ringing, beginning at a time when half-pull was not so plentiful 20 miles out of London as it is to-day. He passed away quite peacefully—like a bell at rest—in the early hours of Monday morning, July 30th, in the 68th year of his age. Mrs. Flaxman, on awakening, finding no response to her early morning inquiries, summoned the family doctor, who had attended him when a serious accident laid him by some years ago, and an inquest was, therefore, unnecessary.

The deceased was carried to his final rest in St. Mary's Churchyard, on Thursday afternoon, the 2nd inst., followed to the grave by the widow and several members of the family. Amongst the wreaths was one from the local society of ringers, with deepest sympathy. In the evening the bells (muffled at back stroke) were rung in memoriam, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples almost succeeding with the band as follows, several relatives of deceased being present: Messrs. Purdue, Harding (Reading), Smith, Bedford, A. Leader, G. Leader, E. T. Hooper, W. H. Fussell, and Perryman.

On the Sunday evening, August 5th, the quarter-peal was again attempted, muffled, and was brought home in 50 minutes, with measured heat and slow, Messrs. Harding and Perryman kindly standing out as timekeeper and referee, thus consummating a special wish of the deceased to have a good muffled peal when he had gone. The ringers were: G. Bedford 1, T. S. Smith 2, E. A. Leader 3, W. H. Fussell 4, G. T. Leader 5, E. T. Hooper (conductor) 6, W. Henley 7, F. Purdue 8.

Reuben Flaxman was one of the Farnham Royal band for many years, and began in the early days of local Minor ringing, with Mr. J. J. Parker, going out to neighbouring towers to spread the "ringing fever." All the bell ringing newspapers, from 1879 onwards, contain reports of his local wanderings and doings. Born at St. Missenden, he went to Farnham Royal with his parents at a year old, and he continued to live there some time after his marriage. It was a long while before he gave up his connection with Farnham belfry, and moved to Slough on account of his employment, where he worked as estate carpenter for Messrs. J. H. Nash and Sons, brickmakers, for about 40 years.

His death removed one of a team of eight peal men, who were still surviving in June last as original members of the East Berks and South Bucks Association, founded in 1877. He was also a member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild from its formation, and the West Middlesex Association, and he twice joined the Royal Cumberland Youth's Society of London. He has scored peals of Triples and Major in each of the four popular standard methods, and conducted several 5,000's of Grandsire Triples, but had not kept a complete record.

The Flaxmans are a prolific family in South Bucks. Reuben was one of twelve (one girl), all the boys being baptized with a Christian name selected from the Bible, and he leaves a family of eight children (divided equally between the sexes), but none have taken up the father's pastime.

Reuben took part in the last peal rung in the old tower at Slough Parish Church, and it was also his last. He conducted his last quarter-peal (also Grandsire) in the new tower at the death of the old parish clerk—both of which performances were recorded at the time in this journal—the composition being one by his early change ringing chum, Mr. J. J. Parker. W. H. F.

**DEATH OF AN OLD READING RINGER.**

By the death of Mr. James Potter, of 83, Donnington Road, Reading, which took place on July 30th, local campanological circles have lost an able comrade and genial personality. Mr. Potter, by occupation a railway engine driver, came to Reading from Frittenden, in Kent, in the mid-seventies. He rang in many towers in Reading and the vicinity, taking part in numerous campanological performances of note in the district during many years, finally settling down as a member of the St. Lawrence's band.

It had been proposed, as a last farewell and tribute of affection, to ring a "touch" on handbells at the graveside, but this was regrettably abandoned, owing to the difficulty in mustering men at this abnormal time.

The funeral took place on August 3rd, at the Reading Cemetery, and, in the evening, a solemn quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters was rung at St. Lawrence's, with the bells half-muffled. The ringers were: A. Wiggins 1, W. Newell 2, T. Hibbert 3, W. Hibbert 4, A. Pike 5, C. Giles 6, F. Hopgood (conductor) 7, J. Swain 8, A. Whitmore 9, T. Sawyer 10. Requisite in pace.

**WINCHESTER GUILD FOUNDATION MEMBER.**

The Winchester Diocesan Guild has lost another of its foundation members, in the person of Mr. George Farnfield, of Cranleigh, Surrey, who has passed away at the ripe age of 75 years. He, and others of the Cranleigh band at that time, were amongst the first to join the Guild on its formation. He had been a regular attendant for service ringing at Cranleigh for over 50 years, and was one of the pioneers in the practice of the Treble Bob Minor methods in the district some 30 years ago.

He was carried to his grave in Cranleigh Cemetery on Monday last by four of his fellow ringers, Messrs. Charman, Streeter, Whittington and Worsfold.

**KILLED IN ACTION.**

Official news has been received that Pte. B. Atkins, of the Manchester Regiment, was killed in France on July 4th. He was a member of the Oldham Church (St. Mary's) company, and was just picking change ringing up nicely when he enlisted in November, 1914. He had been out to the Dardanelles, and was invalided home with fever. After a stay in a home camp, he was sent out to France, about Easter, and has now met his death on the field of honour. He will be missed by his brother ringers, for he was of a genial and kindly nature. As a token of respect, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung, with the bells deeply muffled, by: S. Elson 1, J. Cox 2, S. Stott (conductor) 3, A. Waites 4, E. B. Sflaw 5, W. Hodgson 6, M. Newton 7, H. Wright 8.

**CASUALTIES AMONG CLENT RINGERS.**

Pte. Joseph Sheriff, of Clent, Worcestershire, who was serving in the Royal Sussex Regiment, was killed in Flanders on June 23rd. He had previously been wounded in the Somme advance, and was in hospital in Suffolk. He went back to France last November, after being home for ten days, when he took part in the ringing for service on Sunday. His aunt has received a letter from his lieutenant, to say he passed away shortly after being wounded, and that he had been a good and brave soldier. On Sunday, July 15th, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung as a token of respect, by: Miss R. Shilcock 1, W. Shilcock 2, W. Boughton 3, E. Boughton 4, J. Bass 5, C. W. Cooper 6, W. Short (conductor) 7, H. Griffiths 8.

Two other Clent ringers are among recent casualties. Gunner W. Davies, R.F.A., was wounded by shrapnel on July 1st, his shoulder being fractured. He is now in Ward 9, Evington Military Hospital, Leicester.

Pte. J. Shilcock, of the Worcestershire Regiment, was gassed on July 23rd, and is now in the 22nd General Hospital, France.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**

A very successful meeting of the Wellingborough District was held at Finedon on Saturday, July 28th, and was attended by ringers and friends from Irthlingborough, Wellingborough, Higham Ferrers, Wollaston, Earls Barton, Easton Mauditt, Raunds, Castle Ashby, Kettering, Sharnbrook, Burton Latimer, Northampton, and the local band. The bells were available during the afternoon and evening, and Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Double Norwich, Superlative, and London Surprise were rung.

A war-time tea was provided at the Star Hall, and was much enjoyed by all, about 35 sitting down. This was followed by the usual business meeting. Owing to the Vicar (who is leaving very shortly for France as an army chaplain) being unable to stay for the meeting, the chair was taken by Mr. F. Wilford, general secretary. Amongst those present were Messrs. R. Sanders (London), C. W. Clarke (Bedford), and Mr. Layng (Swindon).

This being the annual meeting of the district, all the officers were re-elected.—It was resolved to hold the next meeting at Wilby, in September.

A collection for the Belfry Repair Fund realised 5s. 7d.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells and to the local ringers for their kindly welcome.

Stedman Triples, Bob Major and Grandsire Caters were afterwards rung on the handbells.

**DEATH OF MR. T. C. GOZZETT, MALDON.**

We regret to announce the death of Thomas Charles Gozzett, of Maldon, Essex, who passed away on the 30th of July, after an illness of over three years, at the early age of 30.

Deceased has been a member of St. Mary's company since the band was formed, about 12 years ago, and he will be greatly missed, as he was always ready to lend a helping hand at Sunday service ringing or on practice nights. He had rung ten peals in all, most of which were in Minor methods. He was a blacksmith by trade, and was also a keen sportsman, having been captain of Maldon Football Club, and also secretary of Maldon St. Mary's Club, when it was first formed. He was also a football referee, and was at one time sergeant in charge of the Maldon detachment of the Essex Cyclists Regiment.

The funeral took place at St. Mary's Churchyard, when the local company of ringers were represented by H. J. Mansfield, A. South, and J. H. Waldeck.—On Sunday morning, for service, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was rung with the bells muffled, by: E. Mansfield 1, A. Mansfield 2, A. South 3, H. J. Mansfield 4, W. Chalk 5, F. Chalk 6.—On Tuesday week, as a last tribute of respect to deceased and his brother, Pte. A. Gozzett, who was killed in France on May 7th, an attempt was made to ring a muffled peal, but it broke down, after ringing 2,400 changes in 1 hr. and 25 mins., those taking part in it were: A. Mansfield, A. South, J. Buckingham, F. Chalk, H. J. Mansfield and W. Chalk.

The deceased leaves a widow, but no family, and the sympathy of the Exercise will go out to her and the other bereaved relatives in their loss.

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*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*

## BISHOP CALLS ATTENTION TO "CLOCKING."

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—The enclosed from our "Diocesan Gazette" will appeal to you, as showing the commendable interest taken by the Bishop of Salisbury in a subject to which your recent articles have called most timely attention. "Other Bishops, please copy," as "John Bull" would say. With regard to the point brought up in Mr. Woolley's letter, there is not the least need to keep a "minute bell" on the swing. A pull and check at the interval required produces the effect without difficulty. It is frequently done here on a 16½ cwt. tenor by a boy of 13 or 14. The clappers in Belgium, as you rightly say, automatically spring back. Even then it is only for playing tunes that this action is used. For Divine service and such purposes the bells are properly rung in rounds. In Spain, "clocking" prevails to some extent, and many bells are cracked.—Yours very truly,

Kington Magna Rectory.

F. L. EDWARDS.

The following is the extract referred to:—

"The Bishop desires to call attention to a passage in the annual report of the Diocesan Guild of Ringers, in which the practice of sounding bells by means of a rope attached to the clapper is deprecated. It is the surest way to crack a bell, and many a fine example of the founder's art has been ruined by this illicit treatment. Nor is there the slightest need or excuse for it. Any bell of ordinary weight can be legitimately chimed by a boy or girl, after a little instruction."

The Bishop also mentions that the Guild's Roll of Honour shows that 13 members have laid down their lives, and no less than 360 are serving their King and country, showing the large number of young men who have devoted themselves to the service of the Church in the bellfries of the Diocese.

His Lordship also draws attention to the fact that the Master of the Guild, in his notes, utters a warning that when peace arrives there will be a considerable scarcity of ringers, and that it would be, therefore, wise for clergy, churchwardens, and steeplekeepers to obtain and instruct youths under military age in the art of ringing.

## LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last a large number of members and friends of the London County Association from all parts of the Metropolis, including representatives of H.M. Forces in khaki, visited St. Mary's, Mortlake, for the usual monthly meeting, and a very enjoyable evening was spent. Touches, including Superlative, Cambridge, Double Norwich, Kent, Bob Major and Stedman Triples, were brought round on this handy peal.

At a business meeting, held subsequently at the "Old George," Mr. Willoughby E. Maulden, of Framlingham, Suffolk, now serving in the A.S.C. at Lee Green, was unanimously elected a member.

The Master made sympathetic reference to the sudden death of Mr. H. G. Rowe, of Cheshunt, a highly respected member, and the action of the hon. secretary in writing a letter of condolence to his widow on receipt of the sad news, was endorsed.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector of St. Mary's for the use of the bells, and also Mr. T. Bullen (steeplekeeper), who so kindly took pains to have everything in readiness for the comfort of the visitors.

Touches on handbells, kindly brought by Mr. J. Rayner, were indulged in, followed by a selection of tunes tapped by "mine host" on a very fine peal suspended from the ceiling of the house.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, September 8th, full particulars of which will appear in the "Ringing World."

## WAKING UP THE SLEEPY VILLAGES.

Thanks to the exertions of Mr. John Moule, of the Leytonstone company, several of the sleepy adjacent country villages have been lately aroused from their somnolence, and the bells have poured forth their message of hope and joy.

In the "Chigwell Parish Magazine," of a recent date, the Vicar referring to a peal just rung, writes: "We may congratulate ourselves that John Moule was born in this parish, and as a boy took a leading part in our choir."

"Jack," as we familiarly speak of him, has since developed into the strong man, sound in body and mind. He has rung so many Surprise Minor peals that the Leytonstone belfry could not contain the records. And he is ever ready to give assistance where required.

Last Sunday week, at Chigwell Row, the 5th proved exceedingly stubborn, so much so that Arthur Neale had reluctantly to turn her over to "Jack," who dealt with her as a lion would a mouse, sending her into the place-making and 3-4 down with ease. A 720 of Kent Treble Bob was scored, but the Cambridge Surprise failed.

Thanks are due to the following members who assisted in the 720, in spite of the warm weather, and the excessive railway fares: W. Richter 1, P. C. Redgewell 2, G. F. Margetson 3, A. Prior 4, A. J. Neale 5, J. Moule (conductor) 6.

G. F. M.

BARNES.—At St. Mary's Church, on June 23rd, for the Prince of Wales' birthday, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 44 mins.: M. Jacobs 1, H. Barrett 2, W. H. Stevens 3, J. W. Driver 4, H. Cook 5, F. Skevington 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, H. Dyna 8.



## NEW BELLS AT CORSTON, SOMERSET.

## A WAR MEMORIAL.

The parish of Corston, near Bristol, of which the Rev. Claud C. Parker, Master of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, is Rector, has just become possessed of a peal of eight bells. These, together with a war shrine, have been placed in the Parish Church by Mr. and Mrs. F. L. Bartelt, of Corston Lodge, and each of the bells bears the inscription: "To the glory of God and in loving memory of Capt. Fritz W. Bartelt, who gave his life for King and country, 1916." This simple sentence conveys a whole volume of meaning. It speaks of duty nobly done, of sacrifice cheerfully made, of parental love, and of affection for the church and all that it symbolises. Capt. Bartelt was an officer of the 4th Battalion Somerset Light Infantry, and he died in Calcutta last September. His ashes repose in the church, of which he was Rector's warden. The new peal of bells, from the Loughborough Foundry, have a tenor of 9 cwt. 3 qrs. 11 lbs. in A flat. The bells are hung in an iron H frame, which stands on steel girders, and although the tower is a small one, are all on one level. As considerable work has been necessitated in the tower by the installation of the new peal, it has been deemed advisable, says the "Bath and Wilts Chronicle," to take advantage of the present opportunity to renovate the parapets and pinnacles, and to effect other improvements to that part of the church. The cost, about £200, is being defrayed by subscriptions. The war shrine is a solid copper cross inserted in an oak frame on the north wall, both wood and metal having come from H.M.S. Britannia, for so long the naval training ship. Above the cross appear the words: "For God, King and Country," and at the foot, "The Heroic Dead," whose names are set out in gold letters below the right arm, as follows: Capt. F. W. Bartelt, Somerset L.I., P. Box T. W. Davey, J. Eades, P. W. Hannam, A. E. James, J. Mercer, W. Smith. "Greater love hath no man than these" appears in red characters on the woodwork from which the cross stands out in relief. On either side of the recess are painted the names of sixty parishioners who are serving or have served with the colours. An inscription records that Mrs. F. L. Bartelt presented this memento of "Our Brave Corstonians who took part in the great World War."

The dedication of the bells and shrine was performed by the Bishop of Bath and Wells, and a large number of ringers attended, among them being Messrs. W. J. Prescott, W. Seers, C. Goodenough, H. W. Brown, R. J. Cousins, T. Hogsflesh, A. Richardson, H. E. Holder, and W. Flower (Bath), R. J. Wilkins and A. E. Wilkins (St. Stephen's Bristol), J. H. Shepherd (Swindon), J. W. Jones (Newport, Mon.), F. Canning and J. Harris (Bathford), J. Taylor (Bathampton), T. Grant (Swainswick), J. Hallett and C. W. Bell (St. Saviour's), N. Wake (Tower-master, Bath Abbey), J. Lye and J. Stagg (Weston), G. Hill (St. Stephen's) and G. Tovey (Newton St. Loe). Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Bartelt, Mrs. Fritz Bartelt and Master Dick Bartelt were among the large congregation, while the 4th Somerset L.I. was represented by Capt. Malcolm Bell and Lieut. T. Brown. As a processional hymn, "Lifted high within the steeple" was sung, and after prayer by the Bishop, his Lordship announced the object for which the service was held. While Psalm 122 was chanted, Bishop, clergy, choir, and others, moved to the belfry, where Mr. and Mrs. Bartelt, taking the ropes of the bells, asked the Bishop to dedicate the peal, which he accordingly did with due solemnity. His Lordship afterwards delivered the ropes to the Rector, asking him to receive them as a sacred trust, while he also notified the churchwardens that the bells were committed to the custody of the Rector, to be used only with his consent, subject to the ultimate control of the Bishop of the Diocese. "Let the bells be chimed," then said his Lordship, and immediately their music broke forth, the bells being rung by a selected band, under Mr. Prescott. It was noted by the congregation how sweet and pure was the tone of the new ring. Psalm 150 was sung while those in the procession returned to the chancel, and a series of appropriate prayers was offered by the Bishop, the Rector, and several others of the clergy present.

A move was then made to the War Shrine, which the Bishop dedicated with customary ceremonial. After the hymn, "Behold, we know not anything," Dr. Kennion delivered an address from St. John x. 13: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." He referred to the fact that these words were used on the war shrine which had just been dedicated to God's glory, and in memory of those whom they would ever hold in such constant affection. It was an event of great interest that there should be dedicated a new peal of bells, which meant so much for their church, and that it should be connected with the dedication of that war shrine. It set before them an example of what others had done for them; and which, he hoped, none of them would ever forget, as long as they lived. Those bells would sound on many different occasions, and he dared say how church bells always seemed to accommodate themselves to the particular purpose for which they sounded when summoning us to pray for one who might be passing away, and how sad in their muffled peal which told us of someone we should see no more on earth; but how joyful they were at other times! they seemed to delight to ring the praises of God, swaying between earth and heaven, and seeming to wish that they might ring in the Christ that is to be. Referring to the great struggle now being waged, his Lordship said that if we learnt anything from this terrible war, it was to be more like and more worthy of the Lord Jesus.

At the conclusion, "Hark, on high, the joyful music," was sung and after the Bishop had pronounced the Blessing, the congregation joined in the National Anthem.

The recessional was, "O God, our help in ages past."

After the service numerous touches were rung on the bells.

## PETERBOROUGH &amp; DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

## SUCCESSFUL GATHERING AT THE CATHEDRAL CITY.

The annual meeting of the Peterborough and District Association was held at Peterborough on August Bank Holiday. The bells of St. John's, St. Mary's and Woodston Churches were available all day, and were made good use of. The service was held at St. John's Church, the Rev. C. J. Sturton officiating in the absence of the Vicar (Canon Morse).

The business meeting was held in the Vestry, when the president (the Dean of Peterborough) presided.

The report and balance sheet were presented by the secretary, showing that, as there was no Bank Holiday last year, it was two years since the last meeting. During that time two peals of Minor had been rung on tower bells. Forty members were serving with H.M. forces, and four had been killed in action, viz., F. Smith (Cathedral), S. Franklin (Woodston), F. Hotson, and G. E. Piggins (Wisbech). The accounts showed a balance of £5 0s. 3d. carried forward.

It was decided that during the war the subscriptions should be voluntary.

Eleven new members were elected from King's Cliffe (including five ladies) and four life members.

The officers were re-elected, with the addition of Miss C. M. Orlebar, on the committee.

It was felt necessary that some arrangements should be made to provide teams in the villages, when required, when peace should be proclaimed.

A vote of thanks to the Rev. C. J. Sturton, for conducting the service, and to the Dean for presiding, was passed.—The Dean, in reply, said he had to offer an apology for their not being allowed the use of the Cathedral bells. They had decided not to have the bells rung during the war, on account of the munition workers, but the other churches rang their bells. He (the Dean) did not realise there would be so many visitors, from such a long distance, or they should have rung at the Cathedral, but they were quite welcome to ring, even at that late hour, if they felt disposed.

Amongst those present were Messrs. W. E. White and W. White (Cotgrave), S. Wesley (Lenton, Notts), A. Mason, York Green (London), F. S. W. Butler (Gainsborough), A. Mackears (Long Bennington), S. Proctor (Grantham), several ringers from Irthlingborough, Wisbech, Fleet, Chatteris, King's Cliffe, Northampton, Miffield, etc., with the local men.

## KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

## LEWISHAM DISTRICT AT DARTFORD.

The quarterly meeting of the Lewisham district was held at Dartford on July 28th, and, fine weather prevailing, a good muster of ringers turned up, about 60 being present during the afternoon to avail themselves of the opportunity of ringing on the new peal. The bells were raised soon after 2.30 p.m., and the Rev. D. R. A. Williams (curate) said the belfry prayer. Touches in various methods were then successfully rung. The members attended service in the church, the Association Form being used, the Rev. Williams reading the prayers, the lesson being read by the Rev. L. Savill (Vicar), who also gave a very interesting address on "Bells and their associations." He said bells were mentioned at Dartford as far back as 1504.

A move was then made to the Church Hall, where tea, kindly provided by the Vicar and churchwardens (Messrs. Penney and Dines), was thoroughly enjoyed, Mrs. Penney and other ladies kindly waiting on the company.

The business meeting followed, the Vicar presiding. Mr. J. H. Shepherd (Swindon) and Mr. J. Bruce Williamson (Isle of Wight) were elected non-resident life members. The Vicar was elected an honorary member, and nine practising members, including the Rev. Williams (Dartford) and Miss Emilie F. Birch (Bromley), were duly elected.

Lewisham was selected as the place for the annual district meeting, on the last Saturday in October. Failing Dartford, Greenwich was the reserve choice.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and his address, to the Vicar and churchwardens for the tea, to the Rev. Williams for making the arrangements, to Mrs. Penney and other ladies, the organist, and Mr. Shaw, for their services, was carried with applause.—The Vicar, replying, said how pleased he was to meet them all, but sorry Mr. Penney (who had had their bells put in order) could not be present, owing to pressure of business.

The tower was again visited, and touches in various methods were rung till 9 p.m. During the day the following methods were practised: Grand sire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Superlative and Cambridge, a course of London failing in the last lead. The ease with which the bells were rung speaks well for the way the restoration has been carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

## ANNIVERSARY PEAL AT SHENSTONE.

It is to be hoped that some day a roll of honour will be compiled of those who have given their lives, for the cause of freedom and righteousness, from the parsonages of England. When this comes to be written, one of the most worthy names to be placed thereon will be Lieut. Michael V. Molloy, of the Sherwood Foresters, son of the Rev. Eben Molloy (Vicar of Shenstone, Staffordshire) and Mrs. Molloy. August 9th was the second anniversary of this gallant officer's death, which took place at Rooze, whilst leading his men against the despotism of the Huns.

On Thursday, the 9th inst., a memorial service was held in the Parish Church of Shenstone, the Dean of Lichfield being the celebrant. On Saturday, the 11th, eight members of the St. Martin's Guild, representing the Parish Churches of Birmingham and Sutton Coldfield, rang a muffled peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (5184 changes) as a tribute of respect to the memory of the deceased lieutenant.

The ringers arrived at Shenstone about 2.30 in the afternoon, and from then until the time of return at 9.15, the band were guests at the Vicarage. The poet Shenstone wrote of the "Glorious Welcome of an Inn"; it would require a laureate to properly describe the appreciation of the "Fortunate Eight," who had the privilege of enjoying the hospitality of the Vicar and the gracious lady who presides at the Shenstone Vicarage. The writer's mind goes back to the time when, on more than one occasion after a peal attempt successful or otherwise, congratulations or wishes for better luck next time would be waiting "at the bottom" from the Vicar and his son. The gentlemanly manner of the latter will never be forgotten by those who knew him, and the ringers hope to be able to take part in these anniversary peals for many years to come. On this occasion the company was exactly the same as visited Shenstone for the anniversary peal last year, except Mr. George Garrison, who is now on active service. Kindly inquiries were made about him at the Vicarage, and wishes expressed for his safe return. Mr. Albert Walker, ex-Ringing Master of the Guild, took Mr. Garrison's place in the peal.

## PENDLETON SOCIETY'S OUTING.

August Bank Holiday has been the chosen day for the annual picnic of the Pendleton Society, with one or two exceptions, for at least 25 years. This year a return visit was paid to New Mills and Hayfield, and nine members and friends participated. New Mills was reached at 10.15, and, by kind arrangement by the Rev. A. T. Beeston, the bells were at liberty, and were raised in peal. A plain course of Superlative set the tune for the day, and this was succeeded by another course and a touch of Stedman. In the meantime the Rev. A. T. Beeston arrived, and two courses of Superlative followed on an attempt for London, but either the bells or men were running dry, and the extent seemed to be two leads. Another touch of Stedman and one of Grandsire finished the ringing at this tower, which, like many others, has suffered from the war, and a suggestion was made that it would do the bells good to attempt a peal on them occasionally. Dinner was then nicely served in the school, the last time it was used for a similar purpose being when Messrs. Pye and company were on tour in the district. Pleasant memories were revived in the after-dinner talk, and tracks were made for the station for Hayfield. Here is a nice light peal of six in good going order, and the methods attempted were Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Bob Minor, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles. At 6 p.m. Churchwarden and Ringer Box arrived with the information that tea was ready, as were the company, by this time increased to 14. After tea some courses on the hand-bells, and more lower bell ringing, to give a helping hand to some who are just learning the A.B.C. of the art and struggling with Bob Minor, passed the evening, until train time split the company up, some friends having to make for Worsley, Flixton, and Macclesfield. The best thanks of the visitors are due to Messrs. Beeston and Box, and other kind friends for doing their best to make another red-letter day in the annals of the Pendleton company.

**HIGH WYCOMBE.**—Oxford Diocesan Guild. — On June 17th, for evensong, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstan's), in 52 mins.: H. Butler (first quarter of Stedman) 1, G. Twitchen 2, R. Coles 3, Driver Mawby, R.F.A., 4, G. White 5, Gunner Hinton, R.F.A., 6, F. Hayes (conductor) 7, W. T. Horne 8.

**TYLDESLEY, LANCASHIRE.**—At St. George's Church on June 24th, for the Sunday Schools' Anniversary, 840 Grandsire Triples for the morning service: H. Watts 1, J. Allred 2, B. Allred 3, Harry Allred 4, W. Windley 5, R. Allred (cond.) 6, Herbert Allred 7, J. Watts 8. For afternoon service, a 720 Bob Major: H. Watts 1, J. Allred 2, Harry Allred 3, Herbert Allred 4, J. T. Allred 5, J. Watts 6, R. Allred (conductor) 7, J. Hampson 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 43 mins.: H. Watts 1, J. Allred 2, R. Allred (conductor) 3, B. Allred 4, J. T. Allred 5, Harry Allred 6, Herbert Allred 7, J. Watts 8.

**STONY STRATFORD, BUCKS.**—On Sunday, June 24th, for 10 a.m. service, 720 London Surprise Minor: W. T. Tucker 1, Pte. H. C. Edwards, R.E., 2, E. Yates 3, W. Bonham 4, T. Tompkins 5, C. A. Valentine (conductor) 6.

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**DERBY.**—At St. Andrew's Church, on Empire Day, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: G. Ward 1, Rev. R. F. Wilkinson 2, A. Ward 3, G. Freebrey 4, O. Draper 5, S. Maskrey 6, B. Mitchell (conductor) 7, J. Pagett 8. — On June 10th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Duffield Major: G. Ward 1, Rev. R. F. Wilkinson 2, A. Ward 3, C. Hart 4, S. Maskrey 5, B. Mitchell 6, E. Willis 7, J. Pagett (conductor) 8.

**CALVERTON, BUCKS.**—On Sunday, June 24th, for morning service 360 Cambridge Surprise Minor: W. Y. Edwards 1, Pte. H. C. Edwards 2, T. Tompkins 3, W. Bonham 4, W. T. Tucker 5, C. A. Valentine (conductor) 6. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. Pte. Edwards was home on leave from France. W. Y. Edwards and W. T. Tucker, of North Stonham band, were home on a week-end visit.

**LEISTON, SUFFOLK.**—On June 24th, for evening service, 1008 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: W. Bailey 1, H. J. Button (longest in method) 2, E. H. Bailey 3, A. Keeble 4, E. S. Bailey 5, G. Wilson (conductor) 6, J. M. Bailey 7, J. G. Rumsey 8.

**TONBRIDGE, KENT.**—On Wednesday, June 26th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1269 changes): Geo. Thompson 1, C. Cooke 2, W. J. Wolfe 3, Pte. W. Marshall (4th Bufts) 4, W. Latter 5, G. H. Stonestreet 6, W. Stead (conductor) 7, Pte. J. F. Coppins (4th Bufts) 8. Arranged for Ptes. Marshall and Coppins, who had from Lamberhurst and Folkestone respectively, and are at present billeted in Tonbridge.

**BISHOPS CASTLE, SALOP.**—Hereford Diocesan Guild.—On Saturday, June 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), in 42 mins.: Geo. Robinson 1, Rev. H. J. Scott 2, Rev. C. E. Warner 3, C. Minton (conductor) 4, W. Mead 5, W. Jones 6. Rung with half-muffled bells, as a token of respect to Pte. Geo. Evans, K.S.L.I. (nephew of the conductor), who was severely wounded on Easter Monday, and died in St. John's Military Hospital, Cheltenham. His body was conveyed to Bishop's Castle, and interred on the 30th June. The Rev. H. J. Scott and W. Mead hail from Clun.

**HERSHAM, SURREY.**—On Sunday, July 1st, for morning service, the last 742 of Holt's Original: Miss M. King (longest length) 1, G. Edser, senr., 2, Miss Ida Woodrow (longest length inside) 3, W. Shepherd 4, F. J. Shepherd (conductor) 5, A. Woodrow 6, F. Shepherd, senr., 7, J. Emery 8.

**SOUTHWELL.**—At the Cathedral, on Sunday, July 1st, for service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins.: A. J. Chamberlain 1, C. H. Chamberlain 2, F. Pickard 3, G. E. Padgett (conductor) 4, Sapper S. T. R. Brown, R.E., 5, H. F. Chilow 6, Sapper F. W. Naunton, R.E., 7, G. Beckett 8. The two engineers are stationed at Newark.

**LONDON.**—At St. Andrew's Church, Wells Street, on July 1st, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 47 mins.: S. Meadows, A.S.C., 1, H. Barrett 2, H. Cook 3, G. Iles 4, F. Skevington 5, Staff-Sergt. A. T. Verrells 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, H. Dyns 8.

**LONG EATON.**—At St. Lawrence's, on Sunday, July 1st, 504 of Stedman Triples: Pte. A. R. Hickton, D.L.I., 1, W. R. Drage 2, R. Hickton 3, Pte. G. Bull, R.D.C., 4, T. Hutchinson 5, C. Chasty 6, J. Bailey (conductor) 7, R. Simpson 8. — On July 5th, 720 Kent Treble Bob: W. R. Drage (conductor) 1, J. Bailey 2, R. Simpson 3, R. Hickton 4, C. Chasty 5, Pte. A. R. Hickton, D.L.I., 6.

**NOTTINGHAM.**—Midland Counties Association. — At St. Peter's Church, on Sunday, July 1st, for evening service, 1388 Grandsire Triples, in 52 mins.: Miss M. Woolley 1, J. Barrett 2, E. Hughes 3, T. H. Kirkby 4, W. J. Sevier 5, G. Johnson 6, W. C. Hunt (conductor) 7, R. Cobben 8.

**NORTH STONEHAM, HANTS.**—On Sunday, July 1st, 504 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, for morning service: G. Williams 1, W. Y. Edwards 2, W. Rowe 3, C. J. Fray 4, W. H. George 5, W. T. Tucker (conductor) 6.

**BURLEY, LEEDS.**—On July 5th, 360 Violet Treble Bob: W. Gage 1, W. Barton 2, J. Whitaker 3, Miss O. Lumley 4, F. Hutchinson 5, H. Lindsay (conductor) 6. Also 360 Kent Treble Bob: — Sherwood 1, W. Gage (conductor) 2, G. W. Slack 3, Miss O. Lumley 4, W. Barton 5, H. Lindsay 6. 720 Plain Bob: S. Sadler 1, J. Schofield 2, J. Whitaker 3, Miss O. Lumley (conductor) 4, F. Hutchinson 5, Geo. W. Slack 6. This was the first 720 by the ringers of the treble and 2nd, and the first as conductor by Miss Lumley. These touches were rung for the ringer of the 2nd, who was about to join the colours, making the eleventh from this tower. Nearly 60 years is the difference in the ages of the ringer of the treble and third, for Mr. John Whitaker will shortly celebrate his 75th birthday.

**BEDDINGTON, SURREY.**—On Saturday, July 7th, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes): W. S. Smith 1, A. J. Perkins (composer and conductor) 2, J. Trappitt 3, F. W. Richardson 4, Pte. W. E. Maulden, A.S.C., 5, C. Dean 6, A. J. Plowman 7, A. Clarke 8, W. Groves 9, S. Godin 10. This quarter-peal has the 5th and 6th behind the 9th at six courses in the titmuss, seven courses in the hand-stroke home position, the 6th behind the 8th, with the octave bell two courses in sixth's, and the 5th five courses in sixth's place, with two singles only.

**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.—Meetings will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the first Sunday in the month at 6 p.m.; and at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on August 23rd; and for general business on the 28th, at 8 p.m. Also at St. Mary's, Beddington, on Saturday, August 18th, at 4.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Leigh on Saturday, Aug. 18th, 1917. Bells ready at 5. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Secretary, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—North-Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at Wenden on Saturday, August 18th. Bells available for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Business meeting will be held in the Parish Room at 5.30 p.m.—William Watts, Mont House Cottage, Stansted, Essex.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Prestwich on Saturday, August 25th. Bells available at 4.30. Meeting at 7.15.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

**SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—A meeting will be held at Heston on Saturday, August 25th. Bells available from 3.30. Tea will be arranged if sufficient members will let me know by August 20th.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Bucks Branch.—The quarterly meeting of above branch will be held at Padbury on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Service, 3.30 p.m. Business meeting and tea to follow. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m.—W. Sear, Hon. Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Yorktown Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Yateley on September 1st. Bells available from 3 p.m. till dusk. Ringers' service 5 p.m. Tea at 5.45 p.m. (for those who notify me by August 28th), to be followed by short business meeting. All ringers welcome.—F. J. Shepherd, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Surrey.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The next meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. P. C. West), at Sunbury on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Ringing from 3.30. Tea at a nominal charge at 6 p.m. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

**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.

**MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.**

Subscriptions to the above should be forwarded at once to the Ringing Master, Mr. Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, or to the Hon. Sec., Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

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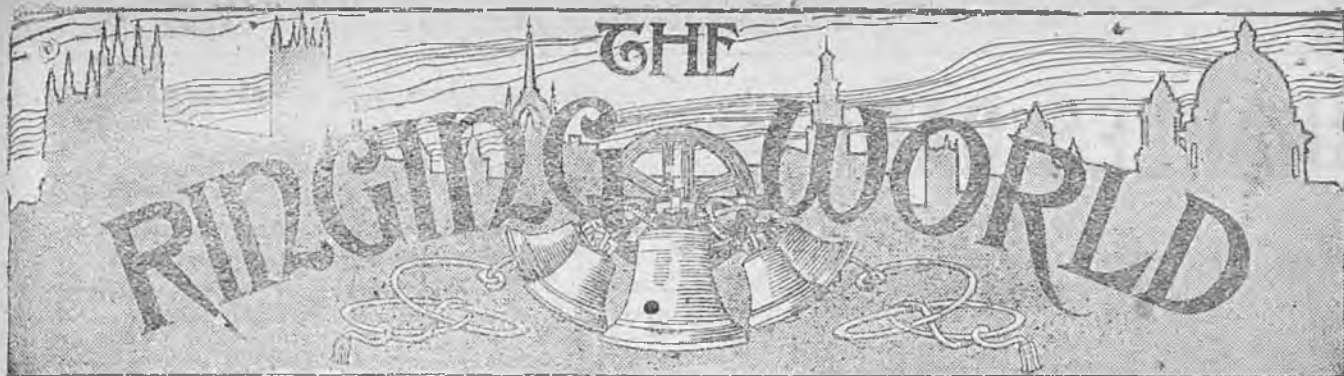
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No. 336. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 24th, 1917.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for  
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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. BLOK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

## MODERN WORK.

### THE CLERGY AND RINGING.

The suggestion that was put forward last week for reaching the clergy through the various official diocesan publications, with the influence of the bishops behind them, has brought a letter from "An Old Ringing Parson," whose experience in the past was not of an encouraging nature. There will be many association secretaries to-day ready to endorse the view that the clergy, as a body, are difficult to move in most things connected with ringing. Direct appeals to them only have an effect in a small minority of instances, and it was the hope that the method we suggested last week would facilitate the awakening of interest which induced us to put it forward. There are probably few parishes where the clergy have not got their hands constantly full, and they hesitate to enter upon anything which appears likely to involve further distraction from their work. Yet one really wonders how they can, for instance, draw any distinction between the care of the organ and the demands of the choir—which seldom fail to find a sympathetic spot in an incumbent's heart—and the care of the bells and the requirements of the ringers—which not infrequently are largely neglected.

It is true that slowly the work of the associations and individual ringers is bringing to the clerical mind a larger interest in matters that appertain to the belfry; but, unfortunately, there is still in existence in many quarters the spirit of which our correspondent speaks, when he says, "No class of men are so jealous and suspicious of interference from outside as the parochial clergy." For that reason it seems to us that there is something to be gained by approaching these incumbents through a channel which they are likely to view with less disfavour. "An Old Ringing Parson" has found that clerical intervention, however well intentioned and tactfully made, is not always welcome, and his long experience places his opinion beyond question. His suggestion that the object in view might be better attained by the ringing laity therefore merits attention, especially when it becomes a matter of direct appeal. We doubt, however, whether in a publication like a diocesan gazette, the contribution of, say, an average ringing layman would carry the weight which would be given to an article by one of the clergy. But be that as it may, we hope the effort will be made to influence the bishops to permit diocesan ringing matters and subjects of real general importance relating to bells to be dealt with with some regularity in those official publications. The result certainly could do no harm to the cause of ringing, and it certainly has the possibilities of much good. At any rate, we are convinced that the various associations would be well advised to make some effort in the direction advocated, and few ought to be at a loss to find a correspondent with sufficient knowledge, interest and weight willing to undertake this light service.

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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 BELLHANGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

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Vicar of Broomfield

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## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.  
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, August 4, 1917, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. THOMAS AND EDMUND (R.C.).

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

THE LATE SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION. Tenor 15 cwt.

BERNARD W. WITCHELL ... Treble	† WILLIAM KENT ... 5
* ALBERT E. NORMAN ... 2	JAMES GEORGE ... 6
MORRIS J. MORRIS ... 3	JAMES E. GROVES ... 7
JACOB SEABORN ... 4	BRO. WULSTAN, O.S.B. ... Tenor

Conducted by BERNARD W. WITCHELL.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Pte. George Parsons, 20th Batt. London Regt., reported missing Oct. 1st, 1916, now presumed to have died on that date. He had been a ringer at the above church since 1902, and was highly respected by all who knew him, and will be very much missed in the belfry.

\* First peal, aged 15. † First peal on tower bells since Sept. 15th, 1900.

SHIPLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 18th, 1917, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;**

Tenor 15 cwt.

* HORACE HUTLY ... Treble	† HERBERT HAIGH ... 5
JAMES COTTERELL ... 2	FIRTH HOPWOOD ... 6
THOMAS B. KENDALL ... 3	JOSEPH BROADLEY ... 7
ARTHUR GILL ... 4	GEORGE A. NETTLETON ... Tenor

Composed by the late C. H. HATTERSLEY, and  
Conducted by THOMAS B. KENDALL.

\* First peal. First peal on eight bells.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 18, 1917, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF CRANESIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 16½ cwt.

* JAMES GOODSELL ... Treble	WILLIAM H. LAMBERT ... 5
WALTER FRANKS ... 2	* WILLIAM H. HOAD ... 6
CHARLES TRIBE ... 3	† ALBERT E. EDWARDS ... 7
WILLIAM HAIGH ... 4	* TRAYTON BOOTH ... Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT E. EDWARDS.

† First peal of Triples as conductor. \* First peal on eight bells. Messrs. Franks, Lambert, Tribe and Haigh hail from Battle, Benenden, Tenterden and Gillingham respectively, the others being members of the local band. Mr. Haigh was elected a member of the association previous to starting. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Franks.

This is the first time any local ringers are known to have succeeded in assisting to ring a peal on these bells, which were first hung in 1771.

## HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND  
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, August 14th, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

IN ST. BOTOLPH'S PARISH ROOM, BISHOPSGATE,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5055 CHANCES;**

REV. A. H. F. BOUGHEY 1-2	REV. E. BANKS JAMES 5-6
WILLIAM PYE ... 3-4	GEORGE R. PYE ... 7-8
WILLIAM SHEPHERD ... 9-10	

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and  
Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Umpire: T. WALKER.

Rung as a compliment to the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey and W. Pye, upon their birthdays, both of which fall on the above date.



## LEYTONSTONE STEDMAN CATERERS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I am obliged to you for inserting the paragraph, pointing out that the peal published under my name is false, and if not trespassing too much upon your space I should like to show how the falseness arises. In the first ten of each course the four fixed bells are all dodging behind. Consequently there are four course ends false with rounds, and every other course end must have four course ends false with it. This will be clearly seen by making each row ending 5879 the starting row.

Plain Course.		
90 changes.		
123456789		318254
214365879	a	132645
12346		
a 132645879		634152
31624	b	361425
b 361425879		
63412		462351
c 643215879	c	643215
46231		
d 426135879		241653
241635879	d	426135

Repeat eight times.

How I came to overlook the obvious fact that this form of Stedman has not a clean proof scale I cannot now say, but I did overlook it, and I only found out what I had done by accident a few weeks ago.

As no actual harm has been done, I am rather glad that the peal is false, because it gives me the opportunity of telling Mr. Baker that I did not find fault with him for publishing a false peal, though I expect that a great deal has been read into the letter of mine, which you were good enough to publish in the "Ringing World" for May 19th, 1916, than what is to be found therein; but I found fault with him, and do so still, for tampering with Stedman. I have not the pleasure of Mr. Baker's acquaintance, but I know him by reputation as a man that knows a great deal more about ringing than I am ever likely to learn, and I am not ashamed to say that I have profited by his writings. But he has yet to learn that Stedman differs essentially from every other method.

When a false peal is published the best way of making amends for it is publishing a true one, and I append a peal which I believe is true.

I do not now think that Leytonstone Stedman is likely to commend itself to ringers in the first flight, but it is easy to ring, and its musical qualities—it having five musical course ends to every notational course—should make it acceptable, both to the non-ringing listeners, and to those ringers who are unable to appreciate delicate musical effects. Of course, long lengths of multiple dodging are not pleasing when discordant pairs of bells are together behind, and it is a form of Stedman that offers great scope to composers should it come into use as a stepping-stone from Grandsire to the ordinary Cambridge form of the method.

5040			This calling repeated three				
4	6	7	123456	times produces			
S	—	—	563214	4	6	7	253641
—	—	—	253614	S	—	—	413526
—	—	—	623514	—	—	—	543126
S	—	—	523614	—	—	—	153426
—	—	—	653214	—	S	—	453126
—	—	—	263514	—	—	—	143526
S	—	—	513624	—	—	—	513426
—	—	—	653124	S	—	—	423156
—	—	—	163524	—	S	—	123456
S	—	—	563124	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	153624	—	—	—	—
—	—	—	613524	—	—	—	—

Additional bobs at 1 to be called in the first and two last courses.

## HAPPY COINCIDENCE AT BROMLEY.

At St. Luke's Church, Bromley recently, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 45 mins.: Miss R. Burch 1, W. Hewett 2, P. J. Spice 3, Sergt. F. H. Herbert, R.A.M.C., 4, A. E. Newick 5, I. Emery (conductor) 6, T. Groombridge, senr., 7, W. Lyddiard 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor, to whom the company tendered the usual good wishes. It was Miss Burch's first quarter-peal, and, by a happy coincidence, her fiancé, Sergt. Herbert, who, prior to joining up was hon. secretary of St. Luke's band, was home on leave after fifteen months in France, and was able to take part.

NEWPORT, MON.—Llandaff Association.—On Wednesday, July 11th, in 50 mins., at the Church of All Saints', a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): H. Forbes 1, J. Bullen 2, T. Ford 3, H. Morgan 4, M. Selby 5, C. Greedy (conductor) 6, J. W. Jones 7, W. Ridout 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled, as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. F. E. Prothers, J.P., who was buried on this day, and who was for several years Vicar's warden at All Saints' Church.

## OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

## SUCCESSFUL PRACTICE MEETINGS.

Following their successful meeting at Cookham, the High Wycombe Society arranged three more friendly meetings.

At Woodburn the visitors were met by Mr. J. West (foreman), and the bells were soon set going to various methods, some good touches being run, under the conductorship of Messrs. W. T. Horne and Jas. W. Wilkins, while it provided two local ringers with a splendid opportunity of practice.

The gathering at West Wycombe took place under ideal surroundings. The magnificent view from the hill, a quiet "stroll, and a smoke" after a touch, while others were having a turn at the ropes, and the knowledge that good friendship was being cemented, all added to the enjoyment of the meeting; though it must be said that it was a bit of a struggle to face the climb, and it is rumoured that some of the enthusiasts contemplate going in for "mountaineering." The genial foreman (Mr. W. Coles), assisted by other local men, had everything in readiness for the visitors.

The meeting on Saturday last was at the Church at Monks Risborough. Evidently the reputation of these outings has got abroad, for there was quite a "crowd"—eighteen ringers at a six-bell tower! However, Kent Treble Bob was soon on the tapis, followed by Plain Bob Minor, Stedman, Grandsire, and Plain Bob Doubles, the conducting being shared by Messrs. J. W. Wilkins, W. T. Horne, R. Coles, F. Elburn (R.E.), and G. Twichen. The ringers were received by Mr. L. Cummings (the foreman), and all his merry men were present. At the close of a very successful meeting, the hope was expressed that it would not be long before another visit was paid to the church.

Thanks are accorded to the Vicars of the respective parishes for their kindness in allowing the use of the bells; and to the foremen of the belfries for their courtesy.

These meetings, arranged by the Wycombe belfry, have for their object maintaining interest and stimulating enthusiasm in the art while so many "brother strings" are away, that the "home fires may be kept burning" for the day when our magnificent heroes return.

A successful combined practice was held at Chalfont St. Peter on Saturday week by the East Berks and South Bucks branch, ringers being present from Beaconsfield, Hillingdon, Stoke Poges, Fulmer, and the local company, including the Rev. J. P. Amies. Touches of Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Oxford Bob Minor and Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were rung. On Saturday last a very enjoyable meeting was held at St. John's, Hillingdon, several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples being brought round. The ringers present were: Messrs. Leader, Smith and Hooper, of Slough; W. Henley and Miss Bateman, Stoke Poges; Messrs. J. J. Pratt, Chandler, Honor, and Misses Feltham and Williams, of Hillingdon; Miss Fuller and Mr. G. H. Gutteridge, of Fulmer.—It is proposed to hold the next meeting at this tower, on September 8th, when any visiting ringers' help will be much appreciated.

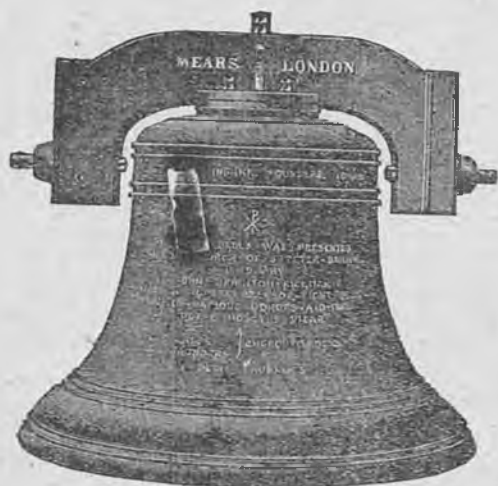
## HAMMERSMITH GUILD OUTING.

The Hammersmith Guild held their outing on August Bank Holiday day. They proceeded by brake to Hounslow, where they were met by Messrs. Beadle, Dewey, Goddard, and several local ringers. Touches, which included Stedman, Kent Treble Bob, Grandsire and Bob Major, were rung, and the party then proceeded to Staines, where Mr. Parker had the bells in readiness. Touches in various methods were brought home, and the journey was continued to Chertsey through picturesque country, the ancient town being reached about 2 p.m. Host Nowell, of the Swan Hotel, had prepared a sumptuous repast for the party, and all, after the long journey, did full justice to it. A visit was paid to the Chertsey tower, where several touches were rung, both before and after tea. Home was reached about 11 p.m., after a most enjoyable day. The ringers desire to take this opportunity of thanking the Vicars of the various towers for their kindness in granting the use of the bells.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

The monthly meeting of the Wotton-under-Edge and District Branch was held at Thornbury, ringers attending from Berkeley, Dursley, Cam, Tytherington, Stone, Thornbury, Wickwar, Painswick, Bristol, Newton, and Newport (Mon.). The bells, a fine peal of eight, were set going at 4 p.m., and several touches of Grandsire were brought round before tea, which took place at the Vicarage, at the kind invitation of Canon Cornwall. The usual business meeting followed, the Vicar presiding. Upper Cam was selected as the next meeting-place, on Sept. 15th.—Mr. J. W. Jones proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and Mrs. Cornwall for the kind way they had entertained the ringers, and this was carried with applause.

After ringing a course of Triples on the handbells, another visit was paid to the tower, where Major and Triples were rung until 7 p.m., at which hour service was held, conducted by the Vicar, the Association's special form being used. Further touches on the tower bells were afterwards rung, and concluded a very enjoyable gathering.

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Established  
A.D. 1870.**STAINBANK,***Bellfounders & Bellhangers,***32 & 34, Whitechapel Road,  
LONDON, E.****Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring  
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**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.*

**"REACHING THE CLERGY."***To the Editor.*

Sir,—To enlist the interest of the clergy in the care of their bells and encouragement of their ringers is an object as necessary as it is desirable; but how difficult, none but those who have tried it know. For some 20 years, as one of the chief officials of a County Association, I did my best, by correspondence, as opportunity offered, and by circulating among the clergy of our leading towers the excellent report of the Central Council on "The Care and Preservation of Bells", but with disappointing result. Few of those to whom I sent the pamphlet read it carefully; most of them never read it at all. One very leading Rector (who afterwards became an Archdeacon and Suffragan Bishop) told me plainly that "he could not see what change ringing had to do with the Church", and when I pleaded for its encouragement in his own belfry, then given over to a "stony" band, he intimated politely that I had better mind my own business. It never occurred to me, I confess, to appeal to our Bishop. But had I done so, he would first have taken counsel with that very incumbent, who was his right-hand man in diocesan matters. Both of them, I may add, have since passed away.

It is possible that the object of "reaching the clergy" may be better attained by the ringing laity. No class of men are so jealous and suspicious of interference from outside as the parochial clergy; and advice on a matter within their own control from the clergy of other parishes, however tactfully offered, is not always welcome. If Bishops will take the matter up, they may succeed better. Meanwhile, I hope that the ringing clergy of the present day may have better success with their brethren than we of an older generation enjoyed.—Yours, etc.,

AN OLD RINGING PARSON.

**THE "CLOCKING" OF BELLS.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I notice in your issue of August 10th a letter upon the above subject from Canon Papillon (to whom an apology is due from me for neglecting his proper designation in my last letter—I wrote in haste). The list of names he quotes, together with his own position and standing in the Exercise, claim from all ringers a deferential regard for any opinion upon the use (or abuse) of bells with which they are associated. But, for all that, I still hold that even a good case may be weakened by over-statement or the reverse, and my feeling is that the arguments which have been used against "clocking" go too far in one direction, and not far enough in another. Why, for instance, should only this particular method of chiming be attacked? It seems to me that other methods are open to the same class of objection, viz., that they place the bell and its fittings at the mercy of the chimer. Chiming with the ropes lends itself to very varied modulation, and the force of the blow, as well as the wear and tear of gudgeons, bearings, and ropes, is dependent in great measure upon the discretion of the operator. I have shuddered sometimes at the thumps administered by the heavy-handed, the youthful, and the vigorous, in chiming by this method, especially upon small bells, while our friend, the village sexton (not every sexton, of course, but the particular type which Canon Papillon, you, sir, and myself have in our minds), always seems to prefer to pull his rope on the slant at an angle of about 45 degrees from the mousehole, thereby giving it far greater wear than any ringing would do.

My suggestion, to come to a practical point, would be either to abolish chiming altogether, or to point out carefully its possibilities and its dangers, and to insist upon the necessity of safeguarding its use, whatever method may be adopted. A set of rules and cautions, placed in a prominent position in every tower, might be a means towards this end.

One great danger, which your article of July 27th did not mention, is that which comes from the hammers of clocks, which owing to the steel springs being out of adjustment, or corroded by the dampness of the air (this is especially the case near the seaside), are often allowed to lie flat upon the bells, to the detriment of the sound, and the danger of the bell. It is quite astonishing to notice how often clock hammers are suffered to offend in this way through neglect. I could quote numerous instances, but have already trespassed too much upon your space.—Yours faithfully,

Long Stanton.

H. B. WOOLLEY.

**FIRST QUARTER-PEAL OF CATERS BY A  
BUCKS LADY.**

On Thursday, August 9th, at St. John's, Hillingdon, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1439 changes), was rung in 1 hr. 5 mins., by the following members of the Oxford Guild: Miss G. E. Bateman 1, W. Henley 2, W. Lawrence 3, J. J. Parker 4, H. Hollifield 5, G. H. Gutteridge (conductor) 6, W. Horne 7, J. Bruce-Williamson 8, H. E. Chandler 9, W. J. Bateman 10. This was arranged and rung as a compliment to Miss Bateman, on the occasion of her 16th birthday. Miss Bateman is the first lady ringer of Buckinghamshire to score a quarter-peal on ten bells. Mr. Hollifield, of Abingdon, kindly took a rope, as Mr. Fussell (the branch secretary) was prevented from turning up.

**MANSFIELD'S VETERAN BELL RINGER.**

A touch of Grandsire Triples (672 changes) was rung on St. Peter's bells, Mansfield (Notts), on Friday evening, August 3rd, as a birthday compliment to Mr. William Gosling, senr., who on that date attained his 90th birthday. The veteran's practical ringing commenced as far back as 1840. Previous to that he used to chime the curfew at eight o'clock at night, his period of ringing being well over 77 years. His first peal of 5040 changes was rung in three hours, at Mansfield Parish Church, in 1862. A peal was considered a rare achievement in those days. During his ringing career he has taken part in peals of Grandsire Triples, Treble Bob Major, Double Norwich Major, and Stedman Triples. Mr. Gosling still takes an active part in ringing, and enjoys all his faculties, except for a weakness in his legs, the result of an accident two years ago.

He has been a member of the Midland Counties Association for many years, and has rung in most of the towns in the Midlands. His last peal was at Stanford-on-Arden, on the occasion of his 86th birthday.

The following rang in the birthday touch: W. Gosling, junr., William Gosling, senr., G. Hardstaff, J. Bleby, H. Allsop F. May, and C. Carr.—On Sunday, August 12th, Mr. Gosling took part in a 288 of Kent Minor, with 6—8 covering: C. Carr 1, W. Gosling 2, G. Hardstaff 3, J. E. Wheelodon (Norton, Staffs), 4, H. Allsop 5, F. May 6, T. Bettinson 7, J. Bleby 8.

The other week it was reported that the oldest bell ringer in England, who resides at Uttoxeter, had retired after ringing for 85 years. When this came to the knowledge of Mr. Gosling, senr., he exclaimed: "Why, he's nowhere, I can give him 12 years' start." May he still continue to enjoy

The rapture that impels,  
To the swinging and the ringing  
Of the bells, bells, bells,  
To the rhyming and the chiming of the bells

J. E. W.

**BELL ROPES CUT AT ECTON.**

Owing to the mischievous and, apparently, objectless act on the part of some visitors to Ecton Church last week, says the "Northampton Daily Chronicle," the usual chiming of the bells for service on Sunday could not take place. The tower and belfry have no means of approach from the church itself, but are approached by a separate entrance from the churchyard, and the key of the door at this entrance is kept by the sexton. When the place was locked up on Sunday night week, everything appeared to be in order, but on Tuesday it was found that the ropes of three of the six bells had been cut clean through high up in the tower.

The authors of this mischief have not at present been discovered, but the matter was this week placed in the hands of the police at Wellingborough, and steps are being taken which it is hoped will lead to their being found.

It has transpired that several parties visited the church on Bank Holiday, and that some of them went to the tower, borrowing the key from the sexton for that purpose.

Since the above paragraph appeared, the following letter has been published in the same newspaper:—

Sir,—Regarding the cutting of bell ropes at Ecton Church last week, I am prepared to pay the sum of £1 (one pound sterling) to the person who shall give such information to the police as shall lead to the conviction of the offender or offenders, my reason being that my boy was there as a boy scout; and this, I trust, will either clear or convict the Boy Scouts.—Yours truly,

ARTHUR T. HOWLETT.

**ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.**

A meeting of the Romney Marsh and District Guild was held at New Romney, on Saturday week. A few good touches of Grandsire Triples were brought round before an adjournment was made to the residence of Churchwarden Anderson for tea. The Rector (the Rev. Hugh South) is away in France acting as chaplain to H.M. Forces, and his wife was staying in Dorsetshire, but came home to give the Guild a hearty welcome, and to do honours at the table, which, needless to say, was greatly appreciated, as on previous occasions tea at the Rectory has been one of the great features of the Romney meetings.

At the business meeting, after tea, Mr. G. H. Anderson presided.—It was decided to hold the next meeting at Rolvenden in September.

Votes of thanks to the Rector, with a sincere wish for his safe return, and to Mrs. South for coming so far to welcome her guests at tea, and to Mr. Anderson for his kindness in arranging the tea at his house, were accorded by acclamation.

A few courses of Grandsire Triples were afterwards rung on hand-bells on the lawn, and further touches on the tower bells, which were then lowered in peal. The members were very pleased to have the company and assistance of A.-M. R. N. Runham, of Reading, now stationed with the R.F.C. Squadron, Hythe. The following towers sent representatives: Ashford, Appledore, Rye, Stone-in-Oxney, Tenterden, and Woodchurch, and two or three of the local band were also present.

**ERDINGTON RINGER PRESUMED DEAD.**

Pte. George Parsons, a much valued member of the band at the Church of SS. Thomas and Edmund, Erdington, since 1902, who was serving with the 20th Battalion London Regiment, was reported missing on October 1st, 1916. His relatives have now been officially informed, that as nothing has since been heard of him it is regretted that it must be presumed that he was killed. To his memory a muffled peal was rung at the church where he rendered such good service in the belfry.

**KILLED IN ACTION.**

Pte. W. Caple, a much esteemed member of the band at Easton-in-Gordano, Somerset, has fallen on the field of honour. He was killed in France on July 9th, and a muffled peal of Doubles has been rung to his memory at St. George's Church.

**WALSALL ROLL OF HONOUR.**

St. Matthew's, Walsall, has the following ringers serving in the Forces:—

Gilbert Harding, 2nd South Staffs Regt.  
William J. Smith, R.A.M.C.  
Edgar T. Smith, 5th South Staffs Regt.  
Harry Walker, 5th South Staffs Regt.  
Harold Banks, R.N.  
A. D. McDougall, Royal Garrison Artillery.  
Robert Field, Leicestershire Regt.  
Harold Pugh, T.R.

The following, who learned to ring at St. Matthew's, and are past members of the band, have come from the Colonies to serve. They have re-visited their old tower:—

H. Henry Somerville, from Canada, R.G.A.  
William Stanton, from Canada, Canadian Expeditionary Force.  
George Peate, from Melbourne, Australian Expeditionary Force.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

A meeting of the Biggleswade Branch was held at Roston on August Bank Holiday, when members were present from Everton, Sandy, Biggleswade, Northill, Elstow, Bedford and Willington, with the local company. The lady members were again well in evidence, and, taken as a whole, they seem to show more enthusiasm than the men. The bells were kept going until about 5.30, when an adjournment was made for tea, at the invitation of the local captain and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Bartram (who are also host and hostess of the Pear Tree Inn).

After tea a short business meeting was held, during which it was decided to go to Southill for the next meeting, provided the bells are available.—The passing of the usual votes of thanks concluded the meeting; the members returning to the tower; but here a disappointment awaited them, as, after only about half an hour's ringing, they were asked to stop on account of illness, a very pleasant meeting thus coming to a close an hour earlier than was expected.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**

A monthly meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at the Church of All Saints', Fittleton, on Saturday week, and was well attended by ringers from Southbroom, St John's, Devizes; Potterne, Chirton, West Ealing, Plymouth, Swindon and Beechingstoke; 24 from Devizes, doing the 14-mile journey in two well-equipped brakes from the Pelican Inn and posting-house. Ringing commenced soon after four o'clock, and some good touches of Grandsire Doubles and Bob Minor were brought round on the pretty ring of six hanging in the steeple. Tea at five o'clock was very generously provided for the company on the Rectory premises by the Rector (the Rev. P. J. Dale, M.A.), and thoroughly enjoyed.

At the business meeting, which followed, one new honorary member (the Rev. H. Cromwell Bush, Vicar of Seend) was proposed by Mr. H. Brownlee West, and seconded by the Rev. H. E. Tilney-Bassett, Master of the Guild, and carried with loud acclamation.—Hearty votes of thanks were accorded to the Rector of Fittleton for the use of the bells, and the welcome tea, to which the reverend gentleman duly responded, and the ringers then returned to the steeple, lowering the bells about seven o'clock to resume the long journey home, thus bringing to a close a very enjoyable and pleasant meeting.

STOKE-IN-COVENTRY.—Warwickshire Guild.—On Sunday, July 8th, at St. Michael's Church, on the occasion of the unveiling of a war shrine, by the Lord Bishop of Worcester, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins., with the bells half-muffled: C. Freeman 1, W. Pryce 2, A. Wilson (first with a bob bell) 3, H. Thorpe 4, J. Horron 5, W. T. Cox 6, J. H. White (conductor) 7, W. Clements 8.

BROXBORNE.—Herts Association.—On Sunday, July 8th, for evening service, at St. Augustine's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): G. Gouldsmith 1, W. Mumford 2, G. Maxim 3, H. G. Rowe (composer and conductor) 4, J. Puplett 5, S. Knight 6, G. Radley 7, S. Proctor 8. Rung as a farewell to Mr. J. Puplett, who is leaving the district for Luton.



## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**STOKE POGES.**—On a recent Sunday morning, for service, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: G. T. Leader 1, T. Smith 2, Miss G. E. Bateman (conductor) 3, G. H. Gutteridge 4, W. Bateman 5, W. Hensley 6. Miss Bateman's first attempt to call a 720.

**RIGGLESWADE (BEDS).**—On Sunday, July 1st, for morning service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: H. L. Harlow (Bedford) 1, J. Church (Bedford) 2, W. Mayes (Old Warden) 3, E. Stratton (Biggleswade) 4, C. Pratt (Clifton) 5, F. Duffield (Sharnbrook) 6, C. W. Clarke, conductor (Bedford), 7, A. Frankling (Biggleswade) 8.

**LUTON, BEDS.**—On July 8th, at the Parish Church, for evening service, after meeting short for Grandsire Triples, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins., with tenor covering: J. Shaw 1, A. J. Smith (first in the method) 3, A. King (conductor) 4, B. Wilson 5, T. Kendall 6, J. Rookwood 7, H. Shaw 8.

**NORTON-LE-MOORS, STAFFS.**—On Sunday, July 8th, for matins, 720 Lichfield Surprise: S. B. Bailey 1, J. F. Ryles 2, J. E. Wheelodon 3, W. C. Lawrence (conductor) 4, F. T. Dawson 5, W. P. Deane 6.

**BARNES.**—At St. Mary's Church, on July 8th, on the 705th anniversary of the dedication of the church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 44 mins.: W. H. Stevens 1, H. Barrett 2, M. Jacobs 3, S. Meadows 4, H. Cook 5, C. Hunt 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, H. D. Gas 8.

**BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.**—At St. Mary's Church, on July 8th, for evening service, 504 Stedman Triples: A. Crane 1, W. Mead 2, H. Sear 3, H. M. Day (Market Deeping) 4, F. Hedges 5, E. Marks 6, W. Sear (conductor) 7, V. Sear 8. This was the first attempt at Stedman Triples by the ringer of the 4th, who is a sapper in the Royal Engineers.

**STANSTEAD.**—Essex Association.—On Sunday, July 8, for morning service, at the Parish Church, 120 Grandsire Doubles.—On Sunday, July 15th, for morning service, 360 Grandsire Doubles: Lance-Corpl. W. W. Watts 1, T. J. Watts 2, G. Gray 3, Pte. H. W. Watts 4, W. Watts (conductor) 5, Pte. A. Jordan 6.

**BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.**—At the Parish Church of St. Peter, on July 8th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: G. Pincott 1, James Allred 2, F. Morris 3, J. Makin 4, J. T. Allred 5, R. Allred (conductor) 6, H. Allred 7, P. Nuttall 8. Arranged for the ringers of the 2nd, 5th, 6th, 7th, who hail from Tykdesley; the rest are of the local band.

**SHORNE, KENT.**—On Sunday, July 8th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob and 240 Kent: J. Avis 1, C. Waterman 2, G. Jones 3, G. Morrad 4, G. Ambrose 5, Air Craftsman Fred M. Mitchell (conductor) 6.

**ALDERSHOT.**—On Saturday, July 14th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: Sapper Newnan, R.E., 1, Corporal J. T. Bartram, R.F.A., 2, Pte. H. W. Kirton, A.O.C., 3, Pte. R. George, A.S.C., 4, Corpl. E. Bennett, M.F.P., 5, J. Mann (conductor) 6.

**UXBRIDGE.**—At St. Margaret's Church, on Sunday morning, July 15th, 630 and 336 Oxford Bob Triples: J. Peddle 1, Miss G. E. Bateman 2, G. H. Gutteridge 3, J. J. Pratt (conductor) 4, T. Smith 5, H. H. Chandler 6, R. Carter 7, P. Kedg 8.

## LATE NOTICES.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting will be held at Edenbridge on Saturday, September 1st. Tower open 3.30. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.45. Followed by business meeting. Half travelling expenses up to 2/- each will be paid to members attending. All members intending to be present at tea must notify me not later than Tuesday, August 28th.—W. Latter, Hon. District Secretary, 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Western Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Steyning on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Tower open 3 p.m. Members please note that the election of officers for the Western Division will take place at this meeting.—A. W. Groves, Hon. Divisional Sec., 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late St. James' Society). Established 1824.—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. Ann, Swain's Lane, Highgate, on Saturday, September 8th. Ringing from 4 to 8.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow. All ringers heartily invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

## 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.—Meetings will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the first Sunday in the month at 6 p.m.; and at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on the 28th, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Prestwich on Saturday, August 25th. Bells available at 4.30. Meeting at 7.15.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

**SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—A meeting will be held at Heston on Saturday, August 25th. Bells available from 3.30.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rossendale Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, on Saturday, August 25th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 7.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's, Street, Ramsbottom.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Bucks Branch.—The quarterly meeting of above branch will be held at Padbury on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Service, 3.30 p.m. Business meeting and tea to follow. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m.—W. Sear, Hon. Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Yorktown Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Yateley on September 1st. Bells available from 3 p.m. till dusk. Ringers' service 5 p.m. Tea at 5.45 p.m. (for those who notify me by August 28th), to be followed by short business meeting. All ringers welcome.—F. J. Shepherd, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Surrey.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The next meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. P. C. West), at Sunbury on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Ringing from 3.30. Tea at a nominal charge at 6 p.m. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The next monthly meeting of the above society will be held at Idle on Saturday, Sept. 1st, 1917. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting in the Parochial Hall at 7.30 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley, Leeds.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern Division.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Salehurst (Robertsbridge Station) on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Ringing from 3 to 8 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock (6d. to members who must let me know by August 28th). Half railway fares will be paid for this meeting. Will secretaries of bands and members generally please note that this meeting is a very important one, as by a new rule passed at the annual meeting, the Divisional Secretary, Divisional Committee and Committee of Advice, are to be elected at the business meeting which follows the tea?—Geo. H. Howse, Div. Sec., Kenilworth, Latimer Road, Eastbourne.

**HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

The Western Branch will hold a meeting at Aldenham, on Saturday, Sept. 1st, when all members and ringing friends will be welcomed. Bells available from 3 to 8 o'clock.—F. A. Smith, F. Edwards, Hon. Secs., 67, Upper Paddock Road, Oxhey, Watford.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

Ashford District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Mersham on Saturday, Sept. 1st, by kind permission of the Rector (Rev. G. Brocklehurst). Bells will be available at 2 o'clock, a short service at 5 o'clock, and tea, kindly provided by the Rector, at 5.30. Will all those intending to be present at tea kindly notify me not later than Wednesday, August 29th? Ringers in khaki will be specially welcomed.—C. Tribe, Dist. Hon. Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The last meeting of this summer series will be held at Ranmoor, Sheffield, on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Rd., Sheffield.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wentworth (near Rotherham), on Saturday, Sept. 8th. Bells (6) available 3.30 p.m. till dusk. Tea will be provided at the George and Dragon Hotel at 1/9 per head for those who notify me by Monday, Sept. 3rd. Nearest station, Elsecar and Hayland (M.R.), for Barnsley district visitors, and Wentworth and Hayland Common for Sheffield district visitors; also Thorpe bus from Rotherham (1½ miles).—Leonard Brightman, District Secretary *pro tem.*, 45, St. Stephen's Road, Rotherham.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

The annual meeting will be held at Blackburn on Saturday, Sept. 15th, 1917, instead of Sept. 29th. Particulars by circular.—W. H. Shuker, J. H. Banks, Hon. Secs.

**"BELL NEWS" WANTED.**—Wanted to complete series for the Hattersley Library, Vols. 16 to 25 inclusive, bound or unbound. Price and particulars to Sam Thomas, 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

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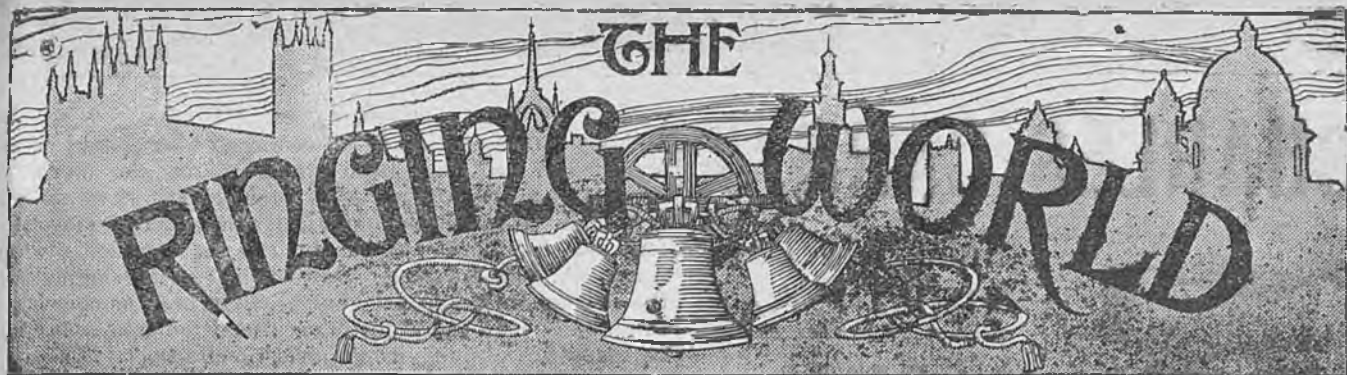
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No. 337. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 31st, 1917.

[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 owt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,  
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.  
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. BUCK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

## MODERN WORK.

### NOTEWORTHY PERFORMANCES.

One natural consequence of the restriction which war has placed upon ringing has been that there have been few achievements of note in the last three years. Outstanding performances have not been entirely absent, however, and it is refreshing to read, as the Exercise did recently, of the accomplishment of Carter's Odd-Bob peal of Stedman Triples rung non-conducted on handbells, for the first time, by the College Youths. This performance, a really remarkable one, passed with little notice at the time, yet it was probably the finest achievement on record so far as double-handed Stedman Triples is concerned. It was a collective triumph for the four gentlemen concerned, and certainly adds lustre to the records of the Ancient Society.

Of a different character, but noteworthy also, is the individual performance just completed by Mr. James George, who has now reached his 600th peal, and thereby joined a select company of the ringing fraternity, for the number of those who have passed this particular record is barely a dozen. The names of few ringers are better known to the Exercise than that of James George, who, though now of Birmingham, will always be remembered as "of Rugby," for, apart from the publicity inseparable from a successful ringing career, he has visited the four corners of the kingdom—to say nothing of the middle and nearly every other spot worth visiting from a ringer's point of view. One has only to notice the long list of associations to which he belongs, to realise how far afield he has gone in pursuit of his favourite pastime, and, indeed, he is one of the most travelled members of the Exercise. Not a little of this may have been due to the circumstances of his business life, but enthusiasm, too, played no mean part, as it has done with all men who have been great ringers.

Of Mr. George's enthusiasm we may say, to copy a phrase often used by enterprising business folk, "no job is too large and none too small." Whether it is a short touch on a light bell or a long peal on a heavy one, he is just as keen and just as game. Even at the age of 64 he is looking forward to assisting in setting up new records in regard to length, and usually where there's a will there's a way. If Mr. George can only find sufficient men like-minded, the present longest length may go by the board as a record, whenever the conclusion of the war makes an attempt possible. If only a little of the energy and spirit which animates Mr. George's ringing could be spread more widely, the future of ringing would be indeed rosy. The writer of the sketch, which appears on another page, speaks of Mr. George as being "64 years young."

Continued on page 276.

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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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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.

*Continued from page 273.*

and this aptly describes this "veteran," whose stout heart, sturdy arm and clear head would eclipse the efforts of many a man twenty years his junior. We have spoken only of his peal ringing, because it is a noteworthy performance in this direction, which is the occasion of this comment; but Mr. George's work in service ringing and the promotion of the art generally has been as consistent as his peal ringing, and his many friends hope he may long be spared to continue his enthusiastic efforts.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

**BIRMINGHAM.**

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

*On Saturday, August 18, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,*

*At Bishop Ryder's Church,*

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

**HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.**

**Tenor 11 cwt. in G.**

ALBERT T. SCRIVENS ... .. Treble	A. PADDON SMITH ... .. 5
MORRIS J. MORRIS ... .. 2	THOMAS MILLER ... .. 6
BENJAMIN GOUGH ... .. 3	JAMES GEORGE ... .. 7
WILLIAM FISHER ... .. 4	JOHN B. COLLETT ... .. Tenor

**Conducted by JAMES GEORGE.**

This was the 600th peal by the conductor, who was congratulated by the whole of the band.

**CRAYFORD, KENT.**

**THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION**

*On Saturday, August 25, 1917, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,*

*At the Church of St. Paulinds,*

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

**HOLT'S TEN-PART.**

**Tenor 12½ cwt.**

†SIDNEY ANSTEAD ... .. Treble	ISAAC EMERY ... .. 5
EDWIN BARNETT, Junr. ... .. 2	*ARTHUR E. MASON ... .. 6
ALBERT E. NEWICK ... .. 3	EDWIN BARNETT, Senr. ... .. 7
JOHN WHEADON ... .. 4	*JOHN SAUNDERS ... .. Tenor

**Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT, Senr.**

\* First peal: † First peal away from the tenor.

## SIX BELL PEAL.

**EASTON-IN-GORDANO, SOMERSET.**

**THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

*On Monday, August 6, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-nine Minutes,*

*At the Church of St. George,*

**A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

**Comprising ten six-scores of Plain Bob and 32 of Grandsire.**

S. SEALY ... .. Treble	W. WHITE ... .. 4
G. BENNETT ... .. 2	J. CAPLE ... .. 5
J. GOULD ... .. 3	H. PORTER ... .. Tenor

**Conducted by J. CAPLE.**

Rung as a token of respect to the memory of Pte. W. Caple, a member of the band, who fell in action in France on July 9th, 1917.

J. Caple's first peal as conductor. The ringer of the tenor is 73 years of age.

## HANDBELL PEAL.

**BIRMINGHAM.**

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

*On Tuesday, August 21st, 1917, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,*

*IN THE BELFRY OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,*

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5005 CHANCES;**

**Tenor 14 Size in D.**

ALF. PADDON SMITH ... .. 1-2	JAMES E. GROVES ... .. 7-8
THOMAS RUSSAM ... .. 3-4	GEORGE F. SWANN ... .. 9-10
ALBERT WALKER ... .. 5-6	JOHN NEAL ... .. 11-12

**Composed by JOHN CARTER, and  
Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.**

**Referee: MR. W. KENT.**

A. P. Smith's first attempt for a peal of Cinques "double-handed" and also his first peal on handbells.

## THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, August 22, 1917, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. A. B. PECK, 41, GLAMORGAN STREET, WESTMINSTER.

## A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

HERBERT LANGDON ...	1—2	HARRY R. PASMORE ...	5—6
CHALLIS F. WINNEY ...	3—4	ALFRED B. PECK ...	7—8

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH, and

Conducted by HARRY R. PASMORE.

Umpire: HENRY R. NEWTON.

## MILTON'S ANCIENT FANE.

## RINGERS' VISIT TO FAMOUS DORSET ABBEY.

On Saturday last, at the kind invitation of the Rev. C. Carew Cox (the Vicar of Milton Abbey), a party of ringers, representing Bournemouth, Bradpole, Dorchester, Fordington, Puddletown, Reading, Wyke Regis, and Worksop (Notts), paid a visit to the model and beautiful village of Milton Abbas, which is situated in the centre of Dorset, in a deep valley, with well wooded hills around and sylvan scenery of a very beautiful type abounding. The nearest railway station (Blandford) is seven miles distant. Milton possesses three churches, the Abbey, St. Catherine's Chapel, and St. James' Church. The first named was the centre of attraction, and it contains a light peal of eight bells.

The original minster was built by King Athelstan, the religious and warlike grandson of Alfred the Great, who founded the Monastery and Collegiate Church of Milton for Secular Canons, about the year 938, as a thankoffering to God for a remarkable revelation which he received on Milton Hill, and which told him that he would conquer his many enemies and become King of all England. In the year 964 King Edgar and Archbishop Dunstan of Canterbury converted the Monastery into an Abbey, with forty Benedictine Monks.

This was a noble building at its time (only a solitary carved stone fragment of it now remains, and lies in the north transept), and was very rich in shrines and relics. The King gave a piece of the Saviour's Cross, a great cross of gold and silver, with precious stones, which were placed in five gilt shrines. His mother was also brought to the church for burial. The building was restored from time to time, but most of the beautiful work was destroyed by fire in 1309, when the church was struck by lightning. Thirteen years later, however, the present Abbey Church was commenced on the same site, but on a much larger and grander scale, and building operations went on from time to time up to within a few years of the Dissolution, in 1539.

In 1789 it underwent another restoration, and Sir Gilbert Scott, in 1865, restored the church at the expense of the late Baron Hambro. This was a valuable work, which left the Abbey in its present beautiful condition; and, as far as possible, in its original state. Such is a very brief history of Milton Abbey, and Dorset can boast of being the only county in England which contains three great Minsters—Sherborne, Wimborne and Milton—of "non-Cathedral rank." The writer thinks that Iwerne Minster might well be added to this number.

The bells, a light peal of eight, were got in readiness by the local band, and the visitors were met by the genial Vicar, who is well known throughout the country as one of the leading ringing clergy, the Rev. C. Carew Cox.

Touches of Plain Bob and Grandsire were brought round until 5 p.m. when the visitors and the local band (23 in number) were entertained at the Vicarage by Mr. and Mrs. Cox to a sumptuous repast, a hearty vote of thanks being passed to the reverend gentleman and his good lady for their great kindness during the afternoon. The handbells were brought out on the lawn, and touches of Stedman and Grandsire were rung, and tunes were played, until the time of departure, which came all too soon. The visitors desire, through "The Ringing World," to thank the Rev. C. Carew and Mrs. Cox for the kind hospitality shown them during their visit.

## LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

A meeting of the Gainsborough District of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held at Brigg, on Saturday last. Fifteen visitors put in an appearance from Gainsborough, Kirton Lindsey, Grimsby (St. Andrew's), and Bigby, in addition to Mr. F. W. Atkinson, junr., of the local company. A telegram and post card expressing regret, and an apology for inability to attend, were received from Messrs. T. H. Parkin (Scunthorpe) and H. Haigh (Worksop) respectively.

The bells, a ring of six, were available during the afternoon and evening, and were kept going to the standard methods. Tea was provided by Miss Spencer, and was followed by the business meeting, at which the Rev. H. T. Parry (Rector of Bigby) presided. This was only of short duration, being brought to a close by usual votes of thanks, after which the tower was again visited, and further ringing indulged in. In spite of the limited time, owing to the late arrival of some of the visitors, the meeting proved a very successful and enjoyable gathering. It was also a real pleasure to once again have the opportunity of meeting old friends, especially Mr. J. W. Scamer, the Rev. H. T. Parry, and his ringers.

## ST. STEPHEN'S GUILD, BRISTOL.

## PRESENTATION TO THE HON. SECRETARY.

St. Stephen's Guild, Bristol, had their annual outing on Bank Holiday, and visited the beautiful little village of Limpley Stoke, on the Avon, just above Bath. Arriving at Limpley Stoke at 11 o'clock, the party, which included the Rev. E. Bankes James and Mr. F. Wilson (Tewkesbury), divided, some to stroll about and enjoy the picturesque scenery, others to indulge in handbell ringing, the peaceful surroundings adding to the charm of the music of Stedman Caters. Returning to Bath in time for dinner, the party afterwards made for St. Saviour's Church, where touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Cambridge Major were rung. A move was then made to Twerton-on-Avon, and the bells there were soon set going to Stedman Triples and Cambridge and London Major, with a course of Stedman Cinques on the handbells, rung in the churchyard. An adjournment was then made for refreshments, and the handbells were again brought into play with tunes and change ringing, much to the delight of the inhabitants. The return to Bristol was made, after a very enjoyable day, the weather having fortunately remained fine.

The company wish to thank, through the medium of the "Ringing World," the Vicars of St. Saviour's, Bath, and Twerton for the use of their bells; Mr. Prescott for kindly making arrangements; and also the Bath ringers who joined in making the outing a most successful one.

The occasion of the outing was thought by the members to be a very suitable opportunity of presenting their hon. secretary (Mr. W. Knight) with a token of their appreciation for the work he has done since being elected secretary of the Guild on April 18th, 1899. The gift took the form of a mahogany clock, suitably engraved.

Mr. Knight joined the Guild on its formation, in November, 1894, as a probationer, and rang his first peal (the second by the Guild), Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1897. He also rang peals of Stedman Caters and Treble Ten the same year; Double Norwich and Stedman Triples in 1898; Superlative and Stedman Cinques (first by the Gloucester and Bristol Association) in 1899.

He has seen a good many changes at St. Stephen's during his term of office, and the band, which was inaugurated under the conductorship of the late Mr. J. Hinton, starting at Grandsire Triples, accomplished peals in the following methods: Grandsire, Plain Bob (including Maximus), Stedman, Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Superlative, Cambridge Major, Royal, and Maximus, London and Bristol Surprise. Mr. Knight has taken part in all these peals, his total now being 116.

Mr. C. H. Tomkins, the oldest member of the Guild, made the presentation to Mr. Knight, who was taken completely by surprise, and thanked the company for the very useful present. He said it was always a very great pleasure to do anything for the welfare of St. Stephen's.

The manner in which the members value the services of Mr. Knight is shown by the fact that they have re-elected him year after year as hon. secretary. Long may he continue to hold the office is the wish of all the members.

## HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

## SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT HERTFORD.

A very successful and enjoyable meeting of the Eastern District was held at Hertford on Bank Holiday, when the ten bells at All Saints' and the eight at St. Andrew's were fully utilised, the Vicar of All Saints' and the Rector of St. Andrew's gladly giving permission for ringing, and both remarking upon the cheering effect of the sound of the bells during these dark times. Some very good ringing was accomplished in various methods, and members and friends attended from places as far apart as London and Cambridge. Messrs. E. Barnett, senior and junior, cycled from Crayford, and altogether between 30 and 40 members and friends availed themselves of the opportunity of ringing.—Mr. G. W. Carlisle, general secretary of the Association, and Mr. W. H. Lawrence, district secretary, were present. Mr. H. Lewis of St. Albans, presided at the business meeting, at which Mr. Hebbins of Cambridge, was elected a member.

A hearty vote of thanks to the clergy for their kind welcome was proposed, and a similar compliment was passed to Mr. Lewis for presiding.—The Chairman responded in his usual cheery manner, and said how pleased he was to have been able to hear the ten at All Saints' for the first time.

Further ringing was afterwards indulged in until 8.30.

## LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last a very successful and well attended meeting of the Manchester Branch was held at Prosdwich, members being present from Ashton-under-Lyne, Birch, Barlow Moor, Hyde, Pendlebury, Pendleton, Miles Platting, Oldham, Doane, Worsley, etc. Ringing was indulged in in the standard methods, and the business meeting was presided over by Mr. Joe Ridyard, who gave a welcome to the visitors.—Barlow Moor was chosen for the next ringing meeting, on Sept. 22nd.—A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector and wardens for the use of the bells, and to the local ringers for having things ready.



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Established  
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.

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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 hands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.*

## JAMES GEORGE.

"A beard? nay, he hath but little beard."

— Shakespeare.

The gentleman named above, and illustrated below, is so well known to every ringer worth the name in every corner of the British Isles, that nothing fresh, or that has not been said before, can be said—except that he has now completed the huge number of 600 peals, and he has shaved his beard!

It is well to call attention to this alteration in his facial appearance, unimportant though it may seem; otherwise those who knew J.G. as a bearded man might think the editor had used the wrong block, or that (more unfortunate still!) another James George had come to light.

No, it is "the old firm," it is Himself, Ho of Rugby. By-the-by, did you ever know why he was called "Jimmy George of Rugby"? No? Well, Alderman J. S. Pritchett explained it clearly on the occasion of Mr. George's 60th birthday, in a speech he made at the celebration in Birmingham. Mr. Pritchett reminded his listeners, that it was customary, when a man had rendered conspicuous service to his country, or had subscribed liberally to the party funds "or some-



thing," to reward him by giving him a title. And frequently the name of the place with which the man's good work was associated was included in the title, as, for instance, Earl Kitchener of Khartoum. The ringing fraternity long ago bestowed the title of "James George, of Rugby," on the subject of our sketch, and such he is likely to remain till the end of the chapter. But, you may object, he is now "of Birmingham." No, gentle reader, it makes not the slightest difference, he, like other titled people, can reside where he likes without altering his style. The Earl of Plymouth resides near Birmingham, and the Duke of Devonshire anywhere but in Devon.

James George first saw the light at Pinner, Middlesex, on November 27th, 1853, so that he is now 64 years young, and has been in the "lime-light" more or less ever since. His father was a ringer for many years, but, strange to say, it was not until he was 36 years of age that J. G., junr., rang his first peal. That was in 1889, and now he has rung 600! Gee-whizz! some hustle, what? And the quality of the peals, too! Look at the list!

Mr. George is a man of rather spare build, and has probably never weighed 12 stone in his life, but he is all wire and whip-cord, and is frightened at nothing in the way of weight, or a bad-going bell. In fact, he is rather attracted by it, and if there is a notorious "chest-

cracker" in any tower where J. G. finds himself, he does not wait for it to be left to him, but smells it out for himself.

He is a good striker, and has put up some really big stunts at various times, but his greatest feat was undoubtedly the ringing of the tenor at Ashton-under-Lyne to the longest peal ever yet accomplished on twelve bells, the 12,240 Treble Twelve rung in 8 hrs. and 39 mins., on April 17th, 1911. This was indeed a splendid performance, a job which many a younger man would refuse to attempt at any price, especially as this bell had not got the best of reputations. Among other odd jobs, he has turned in the tenor at Chester Cathedral (33 cwt.) to Treble Eight, the 43 cwt. tenor of St. Peter Mancroft to Treble Bob Royal and Maximus, ditto, St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich. Another tough job was the 11th, at Bow, to Stedman Cinques; as one man remarked, "this takes a drop of doing." He has also rung Cornhill tenor (41 cwt.), St. Martin's, Birmingham tenor (36 cwt.), and the 11th and tenor at Cripplegate to peals of Stedman Cinques. Incidentally, too, it may be mentioned that he has rung three peals of Stedman Cinques in less than 24 hours.

These performances are sufficient to tell what manner of man we are dealing with, but if he could have his wishes gratified, the above would be no more than practices. He has frequently expressed a wish to start for 20,000 of Treble Ten; he would ring the tenor, no matter where it could be fixed up, but the difficulty he is up against is in finding the other nine men.

He has also been known to say that if he could get the men, and the necessary permission, he would put "Grandison," Exeter Cathedral tenor (72 cwt.), into a peal of Treble Ten, or die in the attempt. And there is no doubt he would carry out his threat if he had the opportunity.

A few years ago he retired from the service of the L. and N.W. Railway Company, in whose employ he had been for over 40 years, and dedicated the remainder of his life to bell ringing. Casting about for a centre in which to reside, he eventually fixed on Birmingham, and certainly it cannot be gainsaid that Birmingham's gain was Rugby's loss. Shortly after coming to Birmingham he was appointed ringing master at Bishop Ryder's, a tower where ringing had fallen to rather a low ebb. Here he finds plenty of scope for his energy and enthusiasm, and already things are looking up. At his suggestion a new entrance has recently been made to this belfry, and those who have ever negotiated the old upright ladder, flat against the wall, which was previously the only way of entering the ringing room, will appreciate the improvement. Latterly he has also taken a keen interest in handbell ringing, and has rung the tenors to several excellent peals of Stedman Caters and Cinques.

Mr. George is a member of almost every society in the country, is Ringing Master of the Warwickshire Guild, one of the youngest organisations, and an enthusiastic supporter of the St. Martin's Guild, which is one of the oldest.

"Who is it that says most? Which can say more  
Than this rich praise, that you alone are you?"

—Sonnet lxxxiv.

The Associations and Guilds to which Mr. George belongs are as follow:

Essex.	St. Margaret's, Westminster.
Midland Counties.	Bedfordshire.
Middlesex.	United Counties.
Winchester.	Ashton-under-Lyne.
Salisbury.	Gloucester and Bristol.
Sussex.	St. Michael's Juniors, Gloucester.
Hertford.	St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich.
Oxford.	Norwich Diocesan.
Archdeaconry of Stafford.	St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich.
Worcestershire.	Nuneaton.
Hereford.	St. Andrew's, Rugby.
Lancashire.	Surrey.
Kent.	Warwickshire.
College Youths.	Cheltenham and District.
London County.	Llandaff.
Waterloo.	Irish.
All Saints, Fulham.	Lincolnshire.
St. Martin's, Birmingham.	Yorkshire.
Durham and Newcastle.	Salop.
Raunds, Wellingborough and District.	Dudley and District Guild.

Appended is the list of his 600 peals, which have been rung in 241 different towers, and 40 different counties, in England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales.

	Tower Bells	Hand bells
	Rung. Conducted.	Rung.
Bob Minor	1	
Grandsire Triples	53	14
Stedman Triples	93	3
Union Triples		1
Bob Triples	1	
Darleston Bob Triples	2	
Grandsire Major	2	
Bob Major	23 (A)	1

Oxford Treble Bob Major	1	
Kent Treble Bob Major	34 (B)	
Double Norwich Court Bob Major	24 (C)	
Canterbury Pleasure Major	1	
Superlative Surprise Major	68	
Cambridge Surprise Major	9	
Bristol Surprise Major	4	
London Surprise Major	5	
Grandsire Caters	29 (D)	1
Stedman Caters	103	10
Grandsire Royal	1	
Aston Royal	1	
Oxford Treble Bob Royal	1	
Kent Treble Bob Royal	27 (E)	
Bob Royal	6	
Little Bob Royal	1	
Forward Royal	1	
Grandsire Cinques	3	
Stedman Cinques	66	11
Grandsire Maximus	1	
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	9 (F)	
Forward Maximus	1	
	571	18
		29

(A) including 8000; Both rung (D) including 6011 and 8009

(B) including 6336 in one day. (E) including 6080 and 7280

(C) including 6720 (F) including 6000 and 12,240 Record.

### LEYTONSTONE STEDMAN CATERS.

A CRITICISM BY MR. GEORGE BAKER.

I have pointed out in these columns previously that all Methods, Principles, and Systems, are produced by Bobs, or by Bobs and Extremes, from the Quick or Slow primary principles separately, or in combination, and yet, in last week's "Ringing World," the author of Leytonstone Stedman Caters writes as follows: "But he (Mr. Baker) has yet to learn that Stedman differs essentially from every other method."

I am also accused of "tampering with Stedman"! a statement which makes me feel inclined to smile.

It is quite true that I gave a false peal in a fresh round block of Stedman, but that round block is as perfect in construction as the old round block, a fact which can be easily demonstrated by any who will make themselves acquainted with Reciprocal Proof.

It is quite evident that Reciprocal Proof is not one of the things that your correspondent has profited by from my writings, otherwise he would not have given Leytonstone Stedman Caters in the form that he has, and he would have known that in addition to the four natural false course-ends which follow—

315246

534126

452316

241536

there are six additional false course-ends to every plain course, as below:—

316254

462513

241653

536142

634152

462351

When Reciprocal Proof is generally understood, there will be no questions raised as to the legitimacy of Methods, Principles, or Systems, and everyone will know that there can never be more than two round blocks, starting from the fundamental row, of any Method, Principle, or System, which are perfect in construction, and have a simple transposition row at the lead or division-end.

Following are the two round blocks of Leytonstone Stedman Caters that are perfect in construction. Each round block starts from the fundamental row, and the division-end, i.e., the tenth row in each instance, is a simple transposition row.

There can be no question about which of the two round blocks should be adopted, from the musical point of view, but a skeleton diagram of the plain course of each will prove them to be one and the same principle.

No. 1

No. 2

123456789

123456789

214357698

132547698

241536789

315246789

425317698

351427698

452316789

534126789

543217698

351462879

534128789

534168297

351427698

543612879

315246789

456318297

132547698

465132879

315274968

641538297

I hope no one will think that I advocate the production or ringing of Methods or Principles that have not coursing order; my sole object has been to prove that Coursing Order is an arbitrary definition and not a Natural Law.

GEORGE BAKER.

## NOTICES.

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

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—The quarterly meeting of above branch will be held at Padbury on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Service, 3.30 p.m. Business meeting and tea to follow. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m.—W. Sear, Hon. Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Yateley on September 1st. Bells available from 3 p.m. till dusk. Ringers' service 5 p.m. Tea at 5.45 p.m., to be followed by short business meeting. All ringers welcome.—F. J. Shepherd, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Surrey.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The next meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. P. C. West), at Sunbury on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Ringing from 3.30. Tea at a nominal charge at 6 p.m. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next monthly meeting of the above society will be held at Idle on Saturday, Sept. 1st, 1917. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting in the Parochial Hall at 7.30 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley, Leeds.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Salehurst (Robertsbridge Station) on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Ringing from 3 to 8 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock. Half railway fares will be paid for this meeting. Will secretaries of bands and members generally please note that this meeting is a very important one, as by a new rule passed at the annual meeting, the Divisional Secretary, Divisional Committee and Committee of Advice, are to be elected at the business meeting which follows the tea?—Geo. H. Howse, Div. Sec., Kenilworth, Latimer Road, Eastbourne.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The Western Branch will hold a meeting at Aldenham, on Saturday, Sept. 1st, when all members and ringing friends will be welcomed. Bells available from 3 to 8 o'clock.—F. A. Smith, F. Edwards, Hon. Secs., 67, Upper Paddock Road, Oxhey, Watford.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Mersham on Saturday, Sept. 1st, by kind permission of the Rector (Rev. G. Brocklehurst). Bells will be available at 2 o'clock, a short service at 5 o'clock, and tea, kindly provided by the Rector, at 5.30. Ringers in khaki will be specially welcomed.—C. Tribe, Dist. Hon. Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting will be held at Edenbridge on Saturday, September 1st. Tower open 3.30. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.45. Followed by business meeting. Half travelling expenses up to 2/- each will be paid to members attending.—W. Latter, Hon. District Secretary, 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The last meeting of this summer series will be held at Ranmoor, Sheffield, on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Rd., Sheffield.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Steyning on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Tower open 3 p.m. Members please note that the election of officers for the Western Division will take place at this meeting.—A. W. Groves, Hon. Divisional Sec., 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the first Sunday in the month at 6 p.m.; and at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on September 6th and 20th, and for general business on the 11th and 25th, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society). Established 1824.—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. Ann, Swain's Lane, Highgate, on Saturday, September 8th. Ringing from 4 to 8.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow. All ringers heartily invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wentworth (near Rotherham), on Saturday, Sept. 8th. Bells (6) available 3.30 p.m. till dusk. Tea will be provided at the George and Dragon Hotel at 1/9 per head for those who notify me by Monday, Sept. 3rd. Nearest station, Elsecar and Hoyland (M.R.), for Barnsley district visitors, and Wentworth and Hoyland Common for Sheffield district visitors; also Thorpe bus from Rotherham (1½ miles).—Leonard Brightman, District Secretary *pro tem.*, 45, St. Stephen's Road, Rotherham.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at Edgware on Saturday, September 15th. Ringing will commence at 3.30 p.m. Tea at 5.30, 6d. to members who advise me by September 10th. Short service at 6.30, followed by the business meeting. All ringers welcome. I should be glad to receive outstanding subscriptions for 1917.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Blackburn on Saturday, Sept. 15th, 1917, instead of Sept. 29th. Particulars by circular.—W. H. Shuker, J. H. Banks, Hon. Secs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The annual meeting will be held at Rochester on Saturday, Sept. 15th. All those who wish to attend kindly let me know not later than Wednesday, 12th September.—E. A. G. Allen, 77, Bull Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

"BELL NEWS" WANTED.—Wanted to complete series for the Hattersley Library, Vols. 16 to 25 inclusive, bound or unbound. Price and particulars to Sam Thomas, 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

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.**

FOR SALE.—Handbells, two octaves, from C 22 bell. Condition as new. Made by Taylor's, Loughborough. No good offer refused.—82, Beverley Road, Hull.

**MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.**

Subscriptions to the above should be forwarded at once to the Ringing Master, Mr. Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, or to the Hon. Sec., Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

The monthly meeting of the Crewe Branch was held on Saturday week, at Wrenbury. The attendance was not very large, owing to the unfavourable weather conditions, but the following towers were represented: Acton, Bunbury, Crewe, Nantwich, and Market Drayton. The annual visit was paid to the branch by the General Secretary, the Rev. A. T. Beeston.

The handy and nice-toned peal of six, the tenor of which is 12½ cwt. in F, was kept going in touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, and a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung by the following: Rev. A. T. Beeston (conductor) 1, H. Overton 2, E. Weatherby 3, G. Crawley 4, A. Crawley 5, R. T. Holding 6. It was the first 720 of Minor in the method by Messrs. Weatherby and Overton.

The Vicar, the Rev. J. Webster, conducted the service, Mrs. Webster being at the harmonium, and a very helpful address was given by the Rev. A. T. Beeston.

After service the tower was again visited, and some useful spade work was done among the beginners by helping them through a few six scores of Grandsire Doubles.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**

A most successful meeting of the North-Western Division was held at Wenden, on Saturday week, ringers being present from Saffron Walden, Wenden, Stansted, Leytonstone, London, Royston, Sawston, and Lincoln. The bells of the Parish Church were available during the afternoon and evening, when, among other touches, the following were rung: 720 Kent Treble Bob: T. J. Watts 1, W. Watts (conductor) 2, A. Prior 3, W. A. Alps 4, F. Hurry 5, W. Ayre 6. 720 Oxford Treble Bob: J. F. Penning 1, W. Watts 2, F. Hurry 3, A. Prior 4, T. J. Watts 5, F. Dench (conductor) 6. 720 Cambridge Surprise: F. Pitstow 1, W. Watts (conductor) 2, F. Dench 3, A. Prior 4, T. J. Watts 5, G. R. King 6; and touches of Bob Minor and Grandsire Doubles, with the Vicar (the Rev. F. Berry) taking part.

The business meeting was held in the Parish Room, and the Master (Mr. F. Pitstow) presided, supported by the hon. secretary and the Vicar.—One new member (Mr. A. Day, of Roydon) was elected.—It was decided that the annual meeting be held at Bishop's Stortford, on Boxing Day.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells and parish room.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**

The Surrey Association was established in 1880, and five of its founders were present at the Bank Holiday meeting, held at Mitcham, at which about 50 ringers, including several ladies were present from Streatham, Croydon, Beddington, Leatherhead, Epsom, Wimbledon, Horley, Fulham, Hersham, Guildford, London, Chislehurst, etc.

The towers of Christ Church and SS. Peter and Paul's Church were open, and numerous touches on both peals of bells were enjoyed.

The Rev. Canon Wilson, an honorary member of the Association, intended to be present at the 5 p.m. service at the Parish Church, but was prevented by illness. The Rev. W. Perry officiated, and gave a most interesting and helpful address. Mrs. Gurfuth and daughter assisted with the music.

The tea and business meeting was held at the Queen's Head, Lower Green. Councillor J. D. Drewett, C.C., Master of the Association, presided, supported by the Rev. Donald McDonald, Mrs. Gurfuth, and Lieut. C. F. Johnston (hon. secretary).

The Master spoke of the splendid way in which ringers generally had responded to the call of duty, referring to those who had fallen in action, and to the bereavements suffered by some, since the annual meeting in January. He urged those left at home to use their best efforts in upholding the standard of change ringing in the present difficult circumstances.

The Rev. Donald McDonald and Lieut. Johnston also addressed words of encouragement to the members, and assured them of their sincere support.

Mr. S. Greenwood, of Streatham, one of the oldest bell ringers in the country, was unable to attend. He has been a ringer since 1845.

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LTD, Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.

# THE RINGING WORLD

No. 338. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 7th, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

## GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.

### BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,  
Wolverhampton.

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

WOLFEUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,  
Messrs. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918  
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 gives general satisfaction.

I am authorized 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. BROOK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

## MODERN WORK.

### KEEPING THE FLAG FLYING.

The growing list of ringers who have fallen in their country's service, brings home to the Exercise the large number of vacant places in the belfries which will not be filled "when the boys come home." Ringers answered the call to the colours in no uncertain way, and the sacrifices they have made, while causing the deepest regret among their colleagues, will in the future be looked upon with pride. The memory of those who have given their lives on the field of honour will ever remain as a noble example. Every sphere of life is touched by the loss of gallant soldiers—the flower of our manhood, and the ringing fraternity has had to bear its share no less than the rest. Some day, perhaps, the various societies throughout the country will consider how best they may preserve the names of those of their members who have made the supreme sacrifice, for the bond of brotherhood between ringers is so strong that the erection of a tangible memorial to those who have given their lives seems the least that can be done. The Kent Association has already got a committee considering a scheme, and other organisations might well think the matter over.

In the meantime we must prepare for the time when those who have gone out from the belfries to fight under the banner of freedom and justice will return again. Their absence, as has so often been pointed out, has left the towers at home with sadly thinned ranks, but in every place there ought to be no stone left unturned to keep the flag flying, and at least to have sufficient ringers to "carry on" till peace enables those who are spared on the battlefields to come home again. With the war dragging out a weary length, now into the fourth year, there is a tendency in some places to allow things to drift, and to let the bells hang silent until more happy days. The long struggle, the intense stress of the times, and the overburdening sense of the tragedy of the war, are quite sufficient in themselves to induce many to put aside every other consideration, and yet it should be realised that even in regard to ringing there are duties to be performed. In every direction men are called upon to multiply their activities, and for the sake of the art we cherish, no less than for the duty which we owe to the Church, there should be no slackness. In many places splendid examples are to be found of unsparing efforts to maintain ringing companies, often by instructing youths or ladies, and it is a pity that there should be so many other instances in which, because "it is war time," the spirit of enthusiasm for ringing has flagged, and there is danger of the art in those particular spots dropping into permanent decay. The Associations might well spend a little effort in trying to scotch the backward drift wherever it appears, and by a little encouragement and help rouse the sluggards to action.



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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 PEAL.

BARWELL, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 1st, 1917, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

ARTHUR R. ALDHAM ... .. Treble	*ABRAHAM WILKEISON ... 5
HUGH J. BALCOMBE ... .. 2	FRED H. DEXTER ... .. 6
THOMAS W. CHAPMAN ... .. 3	WILLIAM COX ... .. 7
HARRY ARGYLE ... .. 4	CHARLES H. BRIGGS ... Tenor

Conducted by H. F. DEXTER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of Corpl. T. W. Belton, one of the local band, who was killed in France during the week.

\* First peal of Stedman. This peal was an arrangement of Brook's Variation. Messrs. Wilkeison and Cox were elected members of the Association.

## FALLEN ON THE FIELD.

The Leicestershire tower of Barwell has lost one of its members, by the death of Corpl. T. W. Belton, Shropshire Light Infantry, who fell in action in France about a fortnight ago. On Saturday a peal of Stedman Triples (recorded in our columns) was rung to his memory, and last Sunday his colleagues rang a half-muffled quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples for evening service: W. Powers 1, W. White 2, N. L. Walker 3, W. A. Needham 4, C. H. Briggs 5, A. R. Aldham 6, H. Briggs (conductor) 7, J. Needham 8.

It was reported at the Yorktown District meeting of the Winchester Guild, on Saturday, that the former district secretary, Mr. George Edser, had been seen to fall wounded in France. The news had come from a comrade, but no official information had, up to that time, been received from the army authorities. All ringers, and especially his many friends in the Winchester Guild and in London, will hope that his injuries may be only of a slight nature.

## A DOUBLE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

At Boreham, Essex, on Monday, August 20th, to celebrate the birthday of Messrs. A. Edwards and W. Lincoln, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1280 changes), composed by Ackland J. Perkins: A. Edwards 1, H. W. Kirton (A.O.C.) 2, Lance-Corpl. H. Roe 3, P. Timson 4, W. Lincoln 5, J. Roote 6, Ben Thorpe 7, Joseph Sykes (conductor) 8. Other touches were also rung, and a very pleasant hour was spent with the handbells afterwards.

## 5008 DOUBLE NORWICH MAJOR.

By H. PRICE, FISHERTON, NOTTS.

23456	1	4	5	6	35264	1	4	5	6
32654	—	—	—	—	34256	—	—	—	—
56234	—	—	—	—	52436	—	—	—	—
62534	—	—	—	—	24536	—	—	—	—
26435	—	—	—	—	35426	—	—	—	—
64235	—	—	—	—	54326	—	—	—	—
42635	—	—	—	—	42356	—	—	—	—
36245	—	—	—	—	25346	—	—	—	—
62345	—	—	—	—	43526	—	—	—	—
23645	—	—	—	—	32546	—	—	—	—
46325	—	—	—	—	54236	—	—	—	—
63423	—	—	—	—	63246	—	—	—	—
24365	—	—	—	—	32456	—	—	—	—
43265	—	—	—	—	Repeat the last twelve courses, calling a bob at 6 instead of bobs at 4, 5.				
34562	—	—	—	—					
45362	—	—	—	—					
54263	—	—	—	—					
42563	—	—	—	—					
25463	—	—	—	—					
52364	—	—	—	—					
23564	—	—	—	—					
35264	—	—	—	—					

STAINES.—At St. Peter's Church, on July 15th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: A. G. Butler 1, T. S. Smith 2, H. C. Parker 3, W. H. Fussell 4, G. T. Leader 5, W. Henley (conductor) 6, E. T. Hooper 7, — 8.

BLACKPOOL.—At St. John's Parish Church, on July 15th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes). It was also rung as a birthday compliment to Pte. J. H. Cropley, R.A.M.C., Windsor: E. Howarth 1, J. Eckley 2, F. Greenwood 3, J. Smith 4, W. Wild 5, Pte. Sanders 6, T. Crookall (conductor) 7, Pte. J. H. Cropley 8. The local ringers wish to thank all soldier ringers who have so kindly assisted them during the last two years. Any others billeted in or around Blackpool will be most welcome at the tower.

**BOBS AND "STEDS."***To the Editor.*

Sir,—With reference to the peals of Wanstead and Deddington Stedman Major, which you were good enough to publish in the "Ringing World" for December 8th, 1916, and April 13th of the present year, it has occurred to me that some further notes on the distinction between bobs and "steds" may be interesting to your readers, and if you think the following worth publishing I shall be glad if you can find space for them.

Hunting is the only progressive movement possible in ringing, and to reverse the direction in which a bell is hunting it must lie a whole pull. When a bell runs through, which is the natural thing for bells to do, a whole pull in front or behind sends it back again, and when there are four or more bells it is possible, subject to rules which have given rise to interminable disputes, for a whole pull to be removed from either end to some intermediate place. Whenever a whole pull is thus removed a bob is made, and the bell caused to lie still is sent back before its time.

Now, in those forms of Stedman in which bells hunt in sets of three, the bells must run through, and bobs are impossible. But something else is possible which in other methods is impossible. Whole pulls may be removed from back to front and vice versa. Whenever a whole pull is thus removed, the order in which the bells follow one another about in hunting is reversed, and for want of a better word, "sted" is somewhat inappropriately used to denote the reversal. The word, however, is easily articulated, and it meets the case at least as well as "bob" meets its case; for the most noticeable thing by a long way about reversing the hunting order is the effect it has of causing the bells to hunt quick instead of slow, or slow instead of quick, as the case may be. If one order were not as direct as the other, "sted" might be used with perfect propriety to signify direct instead of retrograde and vice versa. In the matter of direction, one direction is "up" just as much as the other, but up and down have acquired distinctive meanings, and if direct and retrograde could be made to do for order what up and down do for direction, they would be useful additions to the terminology of ringing. Of course, there are only two possible directions and only two possible orders. It is unnecessary to say that "steds" recurring regularly, like bobs, do not require calling, and that, unlike bobs, "steds" do not cause dodging. But it is not so well known; indeed, I believe that it was entirely unknown until Walthamstow Stedman was published, except, perhaps, to Shipway, who knew a great deal more than he was willing to communicate, that "steds" can reverse the hunting order of all numbers of bells, both odd and even, from three upwards, whereas bobs can only operate on odd numbers, viz., the bob bell and the pair or pairs of bells in front or behind, according to the end from which the bob is made. This does not profess to be a treatise on the subject, and "bobs" and "steds," though essentially different, both resemble and differ from one another in their effects and consequences in ways not herein mentioned, each having its own proper uses and its own limitations. A few examples, however, will be given.

The plain courses of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles are produced by bobs and "steds" respectively, Shipway's Principle is produced partly by bobs and partly by "steds," and in Walthamstow Stedman the true way is shown of producing a plain course of Stedman with an even number of hunting bells in one set. The plain courses of Wanstead and Deddington Stedman are produced by "steds," but, unlike any other known form of Stedman, peals are also produced by "steds"; and when "steds" are used for other than constructional, i.e., method-building purposes, they necessarily require calling, hence the need for a new vocal call. The plain course of Erin is produced simply by hunting and dodging bells changing places on the completion of the hunting cycle—an integral part of every form of Stedman—without either bobs or "steds." In other words, Erin is the ordinary Cambridge Stedman without "steds," or, in other words still, and to go down to the root of the thing, it is Original on three bells with two or more pairs of dodging bells. Similarly, Leytonstone Stedman is Original on five bells.—Yours truly,

GEORGE T. CLAYTON.

**HERTS ASSOCIATION AT ALDENHAM.**

A meeting of the Western District of the Hertford County Association was held at Aldenham Church, on Saturday last, members attending from St. Albans, Aldenham, Watford, Willesden, Luton, Kingston-on-Thames, and Bushey. Stedman and Grandsire Triples, and Double Norwich Major were rung during the afternoon and evening. Twenty-one members sat down to tea, at which Mr. G. W. Cartmel, hon. general secretary of the Association, presided, supported by Mr. Kilby, of Willesden, and Mr. King, of Luton.

At the business meeting, King's Langley was selected for the next meeting, early in October.—Four new ringing members were elected, viz., two from Aldenham, and two from Watford.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar of Aldenham for the use of the bells, and to the Aldenham ringers for their kindness in having everything ready, and in meeting the visitors.—A vote of thanks was also passed to Mr. Cartmel for presiding.

Handbells were then brought into use, and a touch of Stedman Triples was rung, bringing an excellent meeting to a close.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.****LADIES FILLING GAPS IN YORKTOWN DISTRICT.**

On Saturday last, the quarterly meeting of the Yorktown branch of the Guild was held at the pretty old-world village of Yateley (Hants), where there is an historic church, containing a ring of eight bells. A railway station being conspicuous by its absence, the majority of the members arrived on the "iron horse," the exception being the Bagshot contingent, who travelled in royal state by motor, picking up on the way the one hero from Hersham, who was footing it from the "nearest" railway station. The bells were kept going until 5 p.m., when service was held, the new Vicar (the Rev. A. J. Howell) giving an interesting address on ringing and ringers, in the course of which he asked all to remember the ringers who had paid the supreme sacrifice, and those who were still on active service, and, in thinking of them, to realise our duty at home.

An excellent tea was provided at the Dog and Partridge Hotel by the kind hospitality of Miss B. Stilwell (daughter of the President of the Guild), who is a capable and enthusiastic ringer. The Rev. A. J. Howell presided at the business meeting which followed, and was supported by Miss Stilwell, Mr. G. Williams (general secretary of the Guild), Mr. T. W. Fairey, Lance-Corpl. G. Miles (branch secretary), and F. J. Shepherd (branch secretary pro tem.). The last named expressed his appreciation of the support given to the meeting by the members, and of the kind hospitality of Miss Stilwell. He especially welcomed Lance-Corpl. Miles and Mr. G. Williams among them. Ringing in the district had, he stated, been kept going with difficulty, owing to the shortage of ringers and long hours which those remaining behind had to work, but Sunday ringing had, on the whole, been well maintained, except at Oatlands, where only four men remained out of the original band recently taught. However, good progress was being made at that tower with a new band of lady ringers, who had all joined the Guild, whilst at Yorktown, Hersham, etc., ladies were also filling up the gaps with success. He urged all towers to maintain their ringing strength by teaching ladies or young lads under military age, otherwise ringing would get a serious set back, and those ringers who came back after the war would look in vain for an answer to their question as to what had been done to keep the ringing flag flying in their absence. He emphasised the importance of those meetings in bringing ringers together, and of keeping the Guild in touch with the Church and clergy.

The Rev. A. J. Howell was elected an honorary member of the Guild, and in expressing his appreciation of having been voted to the chair, stated how pleased he was to hear the bells, and to make his acquaintance with the Guild.

Feeling reference was made to a report that Mr. G. B. Edser (formerly branch secretary) had been seen to fall wounded in France by a comrade, and that no official information had been received as to his safety up to the present. Hope was expressed that better news would shortly be forthcoming.

Mr. G. Williams moved a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for the service, to Miss Stilwell for providing the tea, and to the organist for his services. He also asked Miss Stilwell to convey the best wishes of the meeting to her esteemed father (President of the Guild), who was unable to be present owing to ill-health.

This proposition was seconded by Mr. Fairey, and carried unanimously, and the members then returned to the tower.

The bands represented at the meeting were Bagshot, Hawley, Yorktown, Yateley, Southampton and Hersham, and ringing continued until 8 p.m., at which hour the return trip of the motorists had been timed to commence. The car, however, arrived over half an hour late, and the Hersham representative had the experience of a moonlight motor ride at a speed which, while exciting, fortunately enabled him to catch his last train home from Frimley station.

**HOME FROM THE FRONT.**

A very welcome surprise was sprung upon the Newport ringers by Mr. Claud Davies, of Caerleon, near Newport, who was on leave from the front. A special afternoon practice was arranged last Saturday, when members of both All Saints' and St. Woolos' Churches met at the latter belfry. Accompanying Mr. Claud Davies was his father, Mr. Evan Davies, a pioneer of the Llandaff Association, and to whom the neighbourhood of Newport is indebted for introducing change ringing some 30 years ago. A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was started for, by: J. W. Jones 1, E. Davies 2, H. Morgan 3, C. Davies 4, J. Butler 5, N. Phillips 6, F. Atwell 7, F. Stansbury 8. The attempt, unfortunately failed, a shift occurring just at the end. The two trebles were then raised, and after a course of Grandsire Caters, the bells were lowered. Mr. Davies left for the front again on Monday last with the best wishes of all.

After 17 months in the trenches, Pte. H. S. Stowe has visited his home at Staveley, and a quarter-peal of Bob Major was arranged for him at the Parish Church on August 11th. This was rung by: Pte. Stowe 1, L. G. Palmer 2, P. E. Parsons 3, H. Moltershall 4, W. Daffin 5, W. T. Palmer 6, S. Smedley, senr., 7, J. R. Brook (conductor) 8. Touches were also arranged for Sunday morning service, Pte. Stowe and A. Craven conducting, and a touch of Grandsire Triples was rung for evening service, conducted by J. R. Brook.

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*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.*

## MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT VISIT CLIFTON.

On Saturday last members and friends of the Midland Counties Association from the Nottingham District paid a return visit to Clifton, a pretty little hamlet, situated some four miles south-west of Nottingham, but the weather was not all that could be desired from a pedestrian's point of view. Clifton is not well known by the ringing fraternity, but to the inhabitants of Nottingham it is a very popular resort, being strictly rural and quiet. The "hot waters" are partaken of with some relish, and a compulsory ration is not called into account should anyone be blest with a summer thirst. But summer weather was at a discount on Saturday, and dark canopies of cloud, with unwelcome gales and heavy rain, did not tend to make the day a pleasant one. If it were in our province to appoint a controller we might hope for a little more economy in that department, as it is, there is glit and extravagance in the extreme. We endeavoured, however, to keep cheery hearts, and make the best of it in the circumstances.

Clifton is not served with conveyances, and in these days of economies, controls and officials, the wit of the company suggested the carrying of our own provisions, externally, of course. We had motors, but no petrol. He suggested paraffin, but too late to be brought into action. "Had I known," said one, who, by the way, lives in the country, "I would have brought a supply if I had to go without light for two nights," but as he had not presumed in the beginning that paraffin was a good substitute, we had no alternative but to walk. Some of us hied to a large building adorned with the legend, "Barrows to let." The owner readily acquiesced in our desire to hire, and by putting down a healthy deposit we were enabled to load up. The crux was still to come, however, when we discussed "who is going to push it?" especially when someone required an occasional lift on the way. But eventually we set out with our load of provender, in appearance suggestive of a window cleaner's outfit, and, like the window cleaner, we possessed lofty ideals.

Except for an occasional bumping of our load over pot holes, and the unavoidable mixing of the jam with the tea, we arrived without any serious mishap.

The Vicar (the Rev. Chetwynd), who is engaged on important munition work, was unable to welcome us in person, but he left his regrets and good wishes to the party. The sentiments were appreciated, and we wended our way to the domain of Clifton Hall, and, within the precincts, the church was the key to the programme for the afternoon. By this time the party had been augmented by the arrival of those fine veterans, both abounding in enthusiasm, the Rev. C. J. Sturton and Mr. W. E. White. A personal triumph was scored by Mr. Joseph Woolley, who "footed" it both ways. He was far from well, and the task of battling with the elements was no sinecure. Another pleasing feature was the appearance of the lady ringers, whose enthusiasm was undaunted, and their charms increased by the fact that, although hearing of some of the male sex who had gone part way, but preferred to return rather than face the "music" of the weather, they pluckily went through to the end of the proceedings.

Much can be said on the subject of six-bell ringing and its methods. It is more to be honoured than deprecated. How many in eight-bell ringing can lay claim to more than an average of three or four methods? On six bells the methods practised are infinitely greater in number, and certainly not less appreciated than those usually associated with octaves. In the writer's opinion, the more intricate methods on six bells are without question stepping-stones to higher methods on eight, but this chance of progression is not brought into use as much as it might be. The opportunities are vast, and some fine talent in six-bell ringing can be pointed to.

I am pleased to place on record, together with the thanks of the visitors to the Vicar for kindly placing the bells at their disposal, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, by: Frank Spencer 1, Joseph Woolley 2, William E. White 3, Rev. C. J. Sturton 4, Thomas Squires 5, Walter C. Hunt (conductor) 6; also 360 Bob Minor: W. E. White 1, Rev. C. J. Sturton 2, J. Woolley 3, T. Squires 4, F. Spencer 5, W. C. Hunt 6; and 120 Grandsire Doubles, with Miss Woolley on the treble. Other items in which the local ringers took part brought the day to a fitting finish: the moon at its best aiding us to our respective destinations.

H.

## SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

A very successful meeting was held at headquarters on Saturday last, when between 20 and 30 ringers were present from nine towers, viz., Bolsterstone, Chesterfield, Dore, Ecclesfield, Norton, Rotherham, Ranmoor, Sheffield Cathedral, and Worksop. Ringing commenced shortly after 4 p.m., and continued until past seven o'clock, six methods receiving a good share of attention, viz., Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, College Single, Superlative, and Double Norwich Major.

The Vicar (the Rev. J. R. Lee Nicholls), who was present in the tower all the afternoon, and took part in the ringing, presided over the very brief business proceedings, and gave the members a hearty welcome to Ranmoor. He said that what progress he had made was owing to his stepping in and helping to fill a gap in his company, who were sorely hit by loss of numbers owing to sterner business in France and elsewhere.



## THE BELLS AND RINGERS OF ROSS.

### HEREFORDSHIRE BELFRY 40 YEARS AGO.

Occasionally there creeps into books, such as biographies or novels, a description of a visit to a belfry or some reference to bells. "Recently," writes Mr. G. S. Taylor (hon. secretary of the St. Ignatius' Guild, Sunderland), in reading the Life of Frank Buckland, written by G. C. Bompas, I came across a very interesting account of the visit of that great naturalist to Ross church belfry, and thinking it would be of interest to other readers of your valuable paper, I enclose a copy herewith. The book was published in 1903, but, so far as I am aware, the account has not been reproduced in any ringing paper. The mistake of Grandsire "Triplets" is very funny, and also the "stumping of the lawyers." I presume the muffled ringing only at Christmas should really be the New Year's Eve ringing.

The extract is as follows:—

A long inquiry of nine days, in December, 1874, into the bye-laws for the Wye fishery, was diversified by an examination of the peal of bells in the beautiful Church of Ross.

One evening during the progress of the inquiry, when inspecting the shops, a magnificent peal of bells began to ring. Having but once before seen a Church belfry, when they were ringing a peal, I determined, if possible, to get up into the belfry. With some difficulty, having no light, we found the little door at the base of the tower, and, after shouting awhile, a man came down with a candle in an ancient horn lantern. I then went up and up and up some very narrow and much worn stairs, till I arrived at the belfry. Imagine a largish room, quite square, four bits of candle, burning a dim light from the ends of a very primitive chandelier made up of laths, a creaky floor, a roof of antiquated timbers, an old man and a charity boy on a form in the middle, the solemn tick, tick, tick of the church clock, and eight men, each standing by a rope, and you will have some idea of the scene which presented itself to my view. The chief of the ringers gave me a very kind welcome; and after giving some mysterious orders to the ringers, who went each to his rope, at a given signal off went the merry bells, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, again and again for about five times. The leader then cried loudly "Bob," and the bells instantly altered to (as I understood afterwards), 2, 1, 3, 5, 4, 7, 6, 8; and then to 3, 2, 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and so on, for a considerable time, interspersed with the orders loudly given every now and then "Single," "Bob," till at last the poor bells seemed suddenly to recover their senses, and away they went loudly, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and then "Halt."

This peal ringing was evidently hard work, but the music was beautiful. It was a peal of "Grandsire Triplets," whatever that may mean. Grandsire, I believe, is the name of a man who was a great authority on bell ringing.

An inscription on the wall was pointed out to me with evident pride, which reads as follows: "February 11th, 1851, was rung in this tower a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triplets, containing 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. and 2 mins., being the first true peal ever rung in this country." Then came the names of the ringers.

I was then permitted to ring a bell, and was surprised to find the tremendous velocity and power with which the rope, at a certain stage of the pull, rushes upwards. This is very dangerous to novices, who might get entangled in the rope and smashed by it against the roof above. It requires great knack to pull the rope at a certain instant so as to make the bell speak. How the men manage, under these circumstances to ring a peal, especially with changes, I cannot understand. I was told that the bells were then "raised," that is, they were standing with their mouths uppermost, and, as time was getting on, the ringers must "fall" them, i.e., bring them very gradually back to their original position, with the mouths downwards. This "falling the bells" took some time, during which many musical combinations took place, most enchanting to the ear; they ended, as usual, with a half-faint 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.

I spread the news of my discovery of the bell ringers at Ross Church among those present at the inquiry, and the ringers promised to ring us another peal the following evening. We had to wait until the evening church service was over, when a goodly company of strangers visited the belfry. The ringers then took extra pains with their complicated change ringing, which is far beyond my comprehension, and even, I have reason to know, past the understanding of the learned lawyers assembled. They cross-examined the ringers again and again, but could make nothing of it. I never saw lawyers so completely stumped before, and this by eight honest hard-working men, a mason a wheelwright, a tailor, a tallow-chandler, a shoemaker, a ploughman, etc. "Trahit sua quemque voluptas" was here well exemplified. The lawyers know their business, the ringers knew theirs. When the men had rung a beautiful peal, they offered to muffle the bells in our honour. The bells are generally only muffled at Christmas. Muffling the bells, I was told, means tying a bit of leather on to the clappers, so that the sound is subdued. While two men went up to muffle the bells, the ringers sat down in a row on a form, each with a handbell in his hand. By interchanging these bells they rang a very pretty peal and then standing up, played several good tunes on these handbells.

The bells now muffled, the men rang another peal, the effect of which was exceedingly beautiful. I then with my colleague, Mr. Walpole, went right up into the steeple, and stood upon the beam, close over the eight great bells, as they were giving out their iron voices. The noise here was tremendous. By signs alone could we speak, but 't was a grand sight to see the bells swinging in great circles, with tremendous power and swiftness, and then to see them instantly stopped in their wild career, and made to speak by the comparatively feeble hand of the man at the rope below. The sight of these eight bells all swinging, apparently madly and without order, and yet giving out a most musical peal, which (when the bells are not muffled) can be heard eight miles off, was grand in the extreme. After looking well at the bells, I sent down word to ask the ringers to "fall" them; and it was very interesting to see how neatly and gently the bells began to lessen their speed, then seem to despair of their work, then labour heavily at it, then begin to slumber, and at last fall into the deep heavy sleep which they have enjoyed more or less for 180 years. Only fancy 180 Christmas Days! Taking a generation at 30 years, these bells must have rung their Christmas peal to no less than six generations of the inhabitants of Ross since the reign of William III., A.D. 1695, when the "Man of Ross," John Kyrle, gave the big bell. It is said that the Man of Ross was present at the casting of the tenor or great bell, and that he took with him an old silver tankard, which, after drinking claret and sherry, he threw in and had cast with the bell.

By a curious coincidence this bell unexpectedly fell off the wheel soon after John Kyrle's funeral.

Frank Buckland was son of the Very Rev. Wm. Buckland, D.D., Dean of Westminster. He was born in 1826, died in 1880, and from 1867 to 1880 was H.M. Inspector of Fisheries.

### ACTIVITY AT ACTON.

On a recent Wednesday, at St. Mary's Church, Acton (London), where practices have been most regularly carried on during the war and where ringers are heartily welcomed to try their skill at conducting, it being recognised that a start must be made somewhere, a most enjoyable practice was obtained. Several ladies from different parts were introduced to each other, and rang Grandsire Triples and Doubles together. Miss Davis rang several courses of Bob Major and Stedman Triples, her brother (Mr. A. W. Davis) joining in the touches with her. Kent Treble Major was also practised, and conducting was shared by Messrs. G. Gutteridge, J. W. Fruin, A. W. Davis, Robert Holloway, W. Lawrence, C. Hunt, A. Hubbard. There were present: Miss C. M. Orlebar (King's Cliffe), Miss N. G. Williams (Hillingdon), Miss D. G. Feltham (Hillingdon), Miss Fuller (Fulmer), Miss Stella Davis (Bucklebury, Reading), Messrs. Gutteridge (Fulmer), H. Pates (Streatham), H. W. Smith (Streatham), J. Lee (Streatham), J. Milner (South Harrow), Arthur Hubbard (Fulham), A. Harding, W. Lawrence, C. Edwards (Ealing), H. Stevens, C. Hunt (Hammersmith), and the local ringers. The tower is most accessible, bus 49 or 49a Streatham and Crystal Palace (Thornton Heath on Sundays) pass the church door. The third Sunday afternoon ringing from 2.15 to 3.30 still continues to flourish, and affords ringers an excellent opportunity of combining a ride and a ring after dinner, and staying for evening ringing or going on to an adjoining tower, while every Wednesday there is practice from 7 to 9 p.m.

### THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

A meeting of the Royal Cumberlands was held at Heslton, on Saturday week, when about 14 members were present, and touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Double Norwich, and Superlative Surprise Major were rung. Tea was provided at the Rose and Crown, and at the business meeting which followed one new member was elected (Mr. W. Henley, of Farnham Royal).

Mr. J. Hunt proposed, and Mr. B. Foskett seconded, that a letter of congratulation be sent to the Ancient Society of College Youths on their members ringing Carter's odd-bob peal of Stedman Triples on handbells, non-conducted, and this was cordially agreed to.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and a return was then made to the tower, where the bells were kept going till 8 p.m. The meeting proved a very enjoyable one.

### A KENTISH AUGMENTATION.

The bells at Brabourne, Kent, are to be augmented from five to six. The present treble is to be recast and a new bell added, the work having been entrusted to Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the White-chapel Foundry, who, by the way, have just cast a peal of eight (tenor 12 cwt.), to be hung for chiming only at Kelvinside United Free Church, Glasgow. These bells are being erected to the memory of Glasgow and Kelvinside Academicals who have fallen in the war.

### AN INQUIRY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I should be glad if you, or any of your readers, could give me the information as to how many bells there are, and the weights of the tenors, in the following towers in Berkshire: Farington, Stanford-in-the-Vale, and Uffington. Thanking you in anticipation, yours sincerely,

Lewisham.

E. J. PANNETT.

## 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.—Meetings will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the first Sunday in the month at 6 p.m.; and at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on September 20th, and for general business on the 11th and 25th, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham S.W.4.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late St. James' Society). Established 1824.—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. Ann, Swain's Lane, Highgate, on Saturday, September 8th. Ringing from 4 to 8.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow. All ringers heartily invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wentworth (near Rotherham), on Saturday, Sept. 8th. Bells (6) available 3.30 p.m. till dusk. Nearest station, Elsecar and Hoyland (M.R.), for Barnsley district visitors, and Wentworth and Hoyland Common for Sheffield district visitors; also Thorpe bus from Rotherham (1½ miles).—Leonard Brightman, District Secretary *pro tem.*, 45, St. Stephen's Road, Rotherham.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at Edgware on Saturday, September 15th. Ringing will commence at 3.30 p.m. Tea at 5.30, 6d. to members who advise me by September 10th. Short service at 6.30, followed by the business meeting. All ringers welcome. I should be glad to receive outstanding subscriptions for 1917.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Blackburn on Saturday, Sept. 15th, 1917, instead of Sept. 29th. Particulars by circular.—W. H. Shuker, J. H. Banks, Hon. Secs.

**ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.**—The next meeting will be held at Rolvenden on Sept. 15th. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock until sunset. All ringers welcome.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Rochester District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Rochester on Saturday, Sept. 15th. Cathedral bells available from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tea at Tea Table Café, High St., after ringing ceases; 6d. per member will be charged. All those wishing to take tea kindly let me know not later than Wednesday, September 12th.—Edward A. G. Allen, 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury.

**NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held at East Markham (Tuxford, G.N.R. Station) on Saturday, Sept. 15th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. until dusk. Tea at 6 p.m., provided for those—members at 9d. per head, non-members 1/6 per head—who notify T. Stacey, East Markham, Newark, not later than Tuesday, Sept. 11th.—H. Haigh, S. C. Walker, Joint Secretaries.

**HILLINGDO.**—Practice at St. John's Church, Hillingdon, has unavoidably had to be postponed until Saturday, September 15th, at 6 p.m., when the help of any ringing friends will be most welcome.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**—Thrapston District.—The next meeting will be held at Tichmarsh on Saturday, Sept. 15th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock. Service at 5 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—F. Stubbs, Dist. Sec., Bridge Street, Raunds.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Western District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Otley on Saturday, Sept. 22nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. until dusk. Business meeting in the Church Institute at 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

**"BELL NEWS" WANTED.**—Wanted to complete series for the Hattersley Library, Vols. 16 to 25 inclusive, bound or unbound. Price and particulars to Sam Thomas, 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

**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.

#### MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

Subscriptions to the above should be forwarded at once to the Ringing Master, Mr. Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, or to the Hon. Sec., Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

#### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**ABERAVON.**—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—At St. Mary's Church on July 15th, for evening service, on the occasion of a visit by Bishop Crossley, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: E. Stith 1, A. Perry 2, W. Nulton 3, F. B. Stedman 4, A. C. Field, of Newcastle, 5, H. Perry 6, A. J. Pitman (conductor) 7, J. Wethersby 8. This composition consists of one part of a peal in four equal parts, containing 186 bobs and 14 singles, composed by the conductor.

**ACTON.**—On Sunday, July 15th, for the evening service, 480 Grand-sire Doubles, each six-score called differently: A. Smith 1, Miss C. M. Orlebar (King's Cliffe) 2, Miss Edith Jones 3, J. Fruin 4, W. Lawrence 5, C. Brown 6. C. Brown is quite a youthful ringer, who, with practice, will make good progress. — On Wednesday, July 18th, 594 Grandsire Triples: A. W. Davis 1, C. Edwards 2, A. Hubbard 3, Miss Edith Jones 4, J. H. Fruin 5, H. W. Lidbetter (Isleworth) 6, W. Lawrence (conductor) 7, C. Brown 8. First 500 by the youthful tenor man.

**BEDDINGTON, SURREY.**—At St. Mary's Church, for morning service, on Sunday, July 15th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: A. J. Plowman, E. J. Pannett (Lewisham), A. Arnold, A. Bundle, J. Trappitt, A. J. Trappitt (conductor), C. Gordon, A. S. Godin.

**CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.**—On Sunday, July 15th, on the occasion of Children's Day, the special preacher being the Ven. Archdeacon Conybeare, 308 Grandsire Triples: Miss Eva Wornham 1, F. Jacobs 2, D. Farthing 3, W. Nuttall 4, G. Hollis 5, G. Thompson 6, W. J. Thyng 7, A. Knights 8. Also 294 in the same method: Archdeacon Conybeare 1, F. Jacobs 2, D. Farthing 3, W. Nuttall 4, G. Hollis 5, G. Thompson 6, W. J. Thyng 7, A. Knights 8. Conducted by W. J. Thyng. Credit is due to Miss E. Wornham, the only lady ringer in the Chesterfield band, who is most enthusiastic and making splendid progress in the art.

**DALTON-IN-FURNESS.**—Lancashire Association. — At the Parish Church, on July 17th, 720 Bob Minor: J. Huddleston 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss Stuart 4, T. Stuart 5, J. Burrows (conductor) 6. — On July 22nd for evening service, 672 Bob Major: Miss Stuart 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, J. Huddleston 4, T. Stuart 5, T. R. Jackson 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8.

**GREAT YARMOUTH, NORFOLK.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, July 22nd, for evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples: C. Harding 1, T. King (Southwold) 2, H. Hammonds 3, D. Hayward (conductor) 4, J. E. Randell (St. Albans) 5, R. Tooley 6, F. Pestell 7, H. Wright 8.

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**LUTON, BEDS.**—On July 20th, on the occasion of the marriage of Major Harold Augustus Wernher, second son of the late Sir Julius Wernher, Bart., and of Lady Wernher, of Luton Hoo, and Countess Anastasia (Zia) de Torby, elder daughter of the Grand Duke Michael Michailovitch of Russia, and of the Countess de Torby, which took place at the Chapel Royal, St. James' Palace, their Majesties the King and Queen being present, the ringers of the Parish Church, Luton, rang 1386 Grandsire Triples in 50 mins.: J. Shaw 1, A. J. Smith 2, W. Hill 3, B. Jarman 4, B. Wilson 5, T. Kendall 6, A. King 7, H. Shaw 8. —On Sunday evening following, as a welcome to the happy pair, who paid a private visit to the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: J. Shaw 1, A. J. Smith 2, B. Wilson 3, A. King 4, L. A. Goodenough 5, E. J. Turl, of Gospel Oak, 6, J. Rookwood 7, H. Shaw 8. Both touches were conducted by Alfred King.

**PORTSEA.**—At the Parish Church, on July 22nd, for divine service at which the Bishop of St. Albans officiated, 504 Grandsire Triples: S. Day, S.B.R., St. Thomas', Bristol, 1, M. Ellesmore 2, S. Thomas 3, J. Symonds 4, W. Cox (Yarnton), Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, 5, J. Harris 6, E. J. Harding (conductor) 7, J. Green 8. 168 Stedman Triples: J. Symonds 1, M. Ellesmore 2, J. Harris 3, P. Reynolds 4, H. J. Chaffey (Farnham), R.N.A.S., 5, W. Cox (Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry), 6, E. J. Harding (conductor) 7, A. Hardy 8.

**HEMINGBROUGH, YORKS.**—On Sunday, July 22nd, at the Parish Church, on the occasion of the visit of the late Vicar, the Rev. W. P. Wright, 720 Bob Minor, and 720 Kent Treble Bob, by: M. T. Tune, A. Hudson, A. Hatfield, G. C. Terry, T. B. Barker, and the Rev. W. P. Wright, conducted respectively by M. T. Tune, and Rev. W. P. Wright, who gratefully acknowledges the kindness of his former fellow ringers.

**SLOUGH.**—At St. Mary's Church, on July 22nd, for evening service, 504 Stedman Triples, by: A. Harding (Reading) 1, R. Flaxman 2, T. S. Smith 3, G. T. Leader (first in method) 4, W. H. Fussell 5, E. T. Hooper 6, W. Henley (conductor) 7, A. Perryman 8. —On July 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins.: Miss W. M. Cooper 1, A. Harding 2, G. T. Leader 3, G. H. Gutteridge (conductor) 4, W. Henley 5, J. W. Wilkins 6, E. T. Hooper 7, W. Lawrence (St. Stephen's, Ealing) 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Cooper, on her coming of age, seven lady ringers also being present, the Misses Gudin, Fuller, F. A. Cooper, Mackrill, G. Bateman, M. Bateman, and Field. Touches of Kent Treble Bob Major, Grandsire, Stedman and Oxford Bob Triples followed, in which the following shared: Messrs. A. Leader, G. Bedford, T. Smith, W. H. Fussell, R. Flaxman, and J. Bruce-Williamson. Four lady visitors have now scored a quarter-peal on these bells.

**ISLEWORTH.**—Middlesex County Association. —On Wednesday, July 25th, for the induction of the Rev. H. M. Repton, D.D., as Vicar of All Saints', by the Lord Bishop of Willesden, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): G. Ranson 1, H. E. Wills (Croydon) 2, T. Beadle 3, E. L. Cole 4, C. Bird 5, H. C. Chandler 6, S. Carter (conductor) 7, A. Sheard 8.

**FULMER.**—On Sunday morning, July 29th, 360 Grandsire Doubles: Miss F. A. Cooper 1, Miss W. M. Cooper 2, Miss E. Fuller 3, Miss G. E. Bateman 4, G. Gutteridge (conductor) 5, E. Harding 6.

**FULHAM, MIDDLESEX.**—On Sunday, July 29th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal (1320 changes): A. Culmore 1, A. J. Perkins (conductor) 2, W. H. Hollier 3, A. W. Davis 4, H. Miles 5, E. F. Cole 6, H. Langdon 7, A. Darlington 8, J. W. Driver 9, W. E. Garrard 10. Rung in and out of the tittums, the figures being arranged by A. J. Perkins, of Beddington.

**DALTON-IN-FURNESS.**—At the Parish Church, on July 29th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: J. Huddleston 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss E. M. Stuart 4, T. Stuart 5, T. R. Jackson (conductor) 6, J. Burrows (cover) 8. For evening service, 672 Bob Major: Miss E. M. Stuart 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, J. Huddleston 4, T. Stuart 5, T. R. Jackson 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. —On August 12th, for morning service, 720 Bob Major: Miss E. M. Stuart 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, J. Huddleston 4, T. Watson 5, T. R. Jackson 6, T. Stuart 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. This is the first 720 of Major for the three ladies, and the first with a bob bell for T. R. Jackson. For evening service, 400 Bob Major, standing as before.

**CHIGWELL.**—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, July 29th, for evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob: W. Riches 1, H. A. Marboys 2, H. Torble 3, A. Prior 4, A. J. Neale 5, J. Moule (conductor) 8. Also 240 Kent Treble Bob, with G. F. Margetson on the 2nd. Two 120's of Grandsire Doubles, with A. Noble (Chigwell) 4th. It is over two years since these bells were rung.

**TIPTON, STAFFS.**—On Sunday, July 29th, after evening service, in 42 mins., a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: J. Jagger 1, Geo. Hughes 2, T. W. Cattell 3, W. Fisher 4, R. Hall 5, A. Rowley (conductor) 6, B. Gough 7, T. Hughes 8. Composed by Mr. J. Carter. Rung with the bells half-muffled, on the occasion of a memorial service for those fallen in the war.

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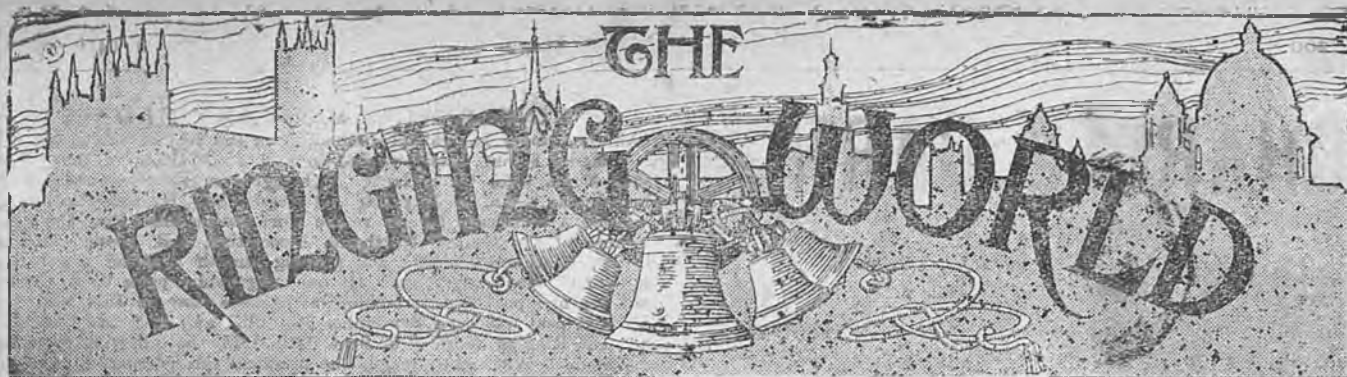


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Guildford, and Published by Messrs. WM. DAWSON & SONS  
LTD., Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.



No. 339. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th, 1917.

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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. BUCK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

## MODERN WORK.

## THE SPITTLE MEMORIAL.

The announcement is made to-day that the Spittle Memorial Fund is about to be closed, so that those who wish to subscribe should do so at once. It is fitting that the memory of such a fine old Churchman and Ringer should be perpetuated in a manner which will remind generations yet to come of a long and active career of duty, loyally discharged, and of a life of simple faith, which closed full of years and honour. There were few better known ringers in the West Midlands than Mr. Spittle, and certainly none who were more highly esteemed.

Samuel Spittle was in some respects a unique figure in his native district of Dudley. He was a type of which there are few survivals at the present day, and he was respected and honoured by his fellow townsmen to a degree which many might envy. It must be almost, if not quite, a record for a man to hold one public office for the unbroken period of 71 years, yet this is what Mr. Spittle did, for at the age of nine, while a chorister, he was appointed Junior Beadle of St. Thomas' Church, his duties being to unlock the old-fashioned pews for the pew holders and to see them comfortably seated. Up to the time of his death Samuel Spittle was Beadle of Dudley Parish Church, and in that long period of more than three-score years and ten he was absent from his duties less than half a dozen times—a record of fidelity and reliability as stimulating as it is remarkable.

He held other public offices, which he discharged with the same single-minded purpose as that with which he served the Church, but it is his connection with ringing which more closely concerns those who, through the Dudley Guild, are being asked to subscribe to a suitable memorial. For sixty-six years at least Samuel Spittle was a bell ringer, and enthusiasm and enterprise marked his efforts in the promotion of the art, and his interest in it never flagged to the end of his days. He was one of those who recognised the value of the organisation of ringing, and he helped to found the Worcestershire Association, of which he was the first Master, and to establish the Dudley and District Guild, in which he held a similar office up to the time of his death. His help and his example largely made for the success of both these societies, and by their rise and advance ringing as a whole has benefited. Indirectly, therefore, the whole Exercise owes a debt to Samuel Spittle, and there must be many outside his large circle of intimate friends who would like to take a hand in perpetuating his memory. It is not too late to help in swelling the fund, and those who would care to do so should send on their contributions at once, either to Mr. Harry Mason, the present Master, or Mr. Herbert Knight, the hon. sec.

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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

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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## RINGER WINS MILITARY MEDAL.

Another ringer has gained distinction on the field of battle, the Military Medal having been awarded to Pte. J. C. Dean, of the "Royal West Kents," for his gallantry in bringing in wounded under heavy shell fire at Klein, on July 31st and August 1st. He was also recently awarded a certificate for his rescue work under fire. Pte. Dean is a member of the Central Northants Association, and belongs to "All Saints", Northampton, and was proving himself a gifted ringer when the war claimed his services. He has rung twelve peals up to the present, his first peal (on the treble) having been rung on July 12th, 1913. His next peal was rung September 6th, 1913, and in "Odd Changes" in "The Ringing World" of Sept. 12th, 1913, the following paragraph appeared: "With many people the practical side of ringing, what, indeed, is really rope sight, is quite a gift. At Harlestone, Northants, last Saturday, Joseph C. Dean rang his first peal with a bob bell. It was a peal in three Minor methods, including Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. Yet Mr. Dean had never rung 120 in either of these before starting for the peal. It is wonderful how some people 'tumble' to a method directly they pull off in it." Pte. Dean rang the 5th to a seven method peal of Minor on June 27th, 1914. He has also rung two peals of Stedman Triples (one on tenor) and one peal of Superlative Surprise Major on the treble. His farewell touch before joining up was a quarter-peal of Superlative on an inside bell. He has also rung a course of London and Bristol on an inside bell, so that his Harlestone performance was not a mere "flash in the pan," and his good work in Flanders shows that whatsoever his hands find to do he does with all his might.

## THE DEATH OF CORPL. BELTON.

By the death of Corpl. T. W. Belton, which we recorded last week the Salop Archidiaconal Guild loses a valuable member. He was serving in the Shropshire Light Infantry, and fell in action about a fortnight ago. He was a very fine ringer and striker on any number of bells from 8 to 12, and was a member of the St. Chad's Society, Shrewsbury. It was at that church that he rang his first quarter-peals of Stedman Cinques, Bob Royal and Maximus, and Grandsire Cinques, as well as Double Norwich Major. He and the conductor were old friends, and were engaged on the same estate. The six peals which Corpl. Belton rang for the Salop Guild included one of Bob Major (the first on St. Chad's bells, and the heaviest in the Midlands), one of Stedman Triples, one of Grandsire, and three of Minor.

On Sunday evening, Sept. 2nd, a touch of 900 of Bob Royal was rung at St. Chad's with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the deceased by: G. Scarratt 1, J. Tudor 2, W. Brooks 3, L. Hewitt 4, W. R. Stockdale 5, E. Weatherby 6, W. Saunders 7, G. Jones 8, A. E. Fullick 9, C. R. Lilley (composer and conductor) 10. Also three leads of Kent Treble Bob Major.

## OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The quarterly meeting of North Bucks Branch was held at Pindbury on Saturday week, when about 20 members were present, representing Bletchley, Stony Stratford, Buckingham, Maids Moreton, Newport Pagnell, Swanbourne, and the local tower, the small gathering being chiefly due to the unfavourable conditions of the weather. A touch of Cambridge Surprise Minor was rung before the service, which was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. C. Schmalz), and a very interesting address was given by the Rev. Demy (Vicar of Winston).

The usual business meeting was then held, followed by tea.

A very hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for so kindly entertaining the members and making all arrangements; also to the ladies for providing the tea.

A further visit to the tower was made, when the following methods were rung: Double Court, Double Oxford and Plain Bob Minor, Steel man and Grandsire Doubles, thus bringing a very pleasant meeting to a close.

## 5,000 BOB ROYAL.

By W. PAGE, WORCESTER.

23456	W	B	M	H
84235	—	*	—	—
62435	—	—	—	8
46235	—	—	—	—
23465	—	—	—	—
42365	—	—	—	—
34265	—	—	—	—
62345	—	—	—	8
36245	—	—	—	—
23645	—	—	—	—

Twice repeated, calling one bob at \* in the first part, and six bobs at \* in the second part.

MARSHFIELD, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—On Saturday, August 18th, in honour of the birthday of Mr. W. Bolton, the leader of the St. John's tower, Cardiff, an attempt was made at Marshfield for a peal, but it unfortunately failed. A quarter peal of Grandsire Triples was afterwards scored: E. Cole 1, S. Dave 2, F. Chamberlain 3, J. Harris 4, T. Wood 5, W. Bolton 6, J. W. Jones (conductor) 7, the Rev. E. H. Whitford 8.



## MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

## SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT MEETING AT SUNBURY.

The attraction of the beautiful ring of eight bells at St. Mary's Sunbury, usually makes a meeting at this Thames-side spot among the most successful of the South and West District of the Middlesex Association, but this year the "clerk of the weather" prevented a big muster. Those who attended, however, were rewarded by a most enjoyable gathering in every way. Several louches were brought round before 5.30 p.m., when a move was made for tea, which took place in a tea garden overlooking the river Thames. Three lady ringers proved themselves very useful at this time, for teapots, etc., appeared much more homelike in the hands of the fair sex.

Subsequently the Vicar (the Rev. P. C. West) presided over the business meeting, which was held in the Parish Room.—Two new members were proposed, and Hillingdon was chosen for the next meeting. Sympathetic reference was made to the loss which Mr. F. A. Milne (vice-president and hon. treasurer) has recently sustained, in the death of his son, and a vote of condolence was also passed to the relatives of Mr. Reuben Flaxman, whose death robs the Association of a prominent member.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar for his kindness in granting the use of the bells and for defraying the cost of the tea was carried with applause, the Rev. P. C. West suitably replying.

Returning to the tower, the members indulged in further ringing until dusk set in and brought an enjoyable meeting to a close.

## "THE PROPHET."

We are asked to state that Mr. William J. Sevier, known to the Ringing Exercise as "The Prophet," has removed to Vision View House, 26, Notistone Place, Smeinton Road, Nottingham, and that Mr. Sevier, after the war, will (D.V.) be joining Sir Frederick and Lady Benson's company. Sir Frederick is the youngest son of the late Archbishop of Canterbury.

Mr. Sevier claims to be a descendant of the first Earl of Somerset, created by William the Conqueror.

## FARINGDON BELLS.

## To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In your last issue, Mr. B. J. Pannett asks for information regarding some Berkshire towers. I can tell him about Faringdon (not Farington) bells. There is a ring of eight in very fair going order; weight of tenor 18 cwt. 2 qrs.; 3 ft. 10 ins. diameter. Treble second, and 6th are by Mears and Stainbank; the 7th by James Wells, of Aldbourne (my birthplace), and the tenor by Robt. Wells of the same place; date 1778.—Yours truly, WM. LAWRENCE.

## ROLL OF HONOUR

From Barthomley Parish Church, Cheshire:—

George Addison, Royal Engineers.

Harry Fox, 5th North Staffords.

From St. Wulfram's, Grantham:—

Pte. T. H. Hall, Army Service Corps.

Pte. W. H. Proctor, 38th Batt. Northumberland Fusiliers.

## BLETCHLEY RINGER'S PROMOTION.

It may be of interest to the ringers of Bletchley, who are away on active service, and to other members of the North Bucks Branch of the Oxford Guild, to learn that one of their members, Sapper S. King, of the Railway Operative Corps, has been promoted to the rank of Company-Sergeant-Major. He was a member of the local band at St. Mary's, Bletchley, and left his employment in the locomotive department of the London and North-Western Railway to join up in the Railway Operative Corps. He went to France in January, 1916, and has had one leave when he was made sergeant.

Since his return to France, some ten months ago, he has been promoted to Company-Sergeant-Major's rank, and his fellow ringers wish him the best of luck. The tower has now seven men serving in France, and they will all be delighted to read of C.-S.-M. King's success, as most of them, through some source or other, get a copy of "The Ringing World," and thus keep in touch with what is happening in the Exercise they so much enjoyed.

## TOUCHES OF STEDMAN TRIPLES.

By G. E. SYMONDS, FRAMLINGHAM.

Perhaps no method lends itself to the amateur composer like the Stedman Principle. It always had a fascination for the writer, who endeavoured some years ago, in spare moments, to dabble in composing something off the beaten track, viz., touches of Stedman Triples of every number of changes, from 100 upwards.

But one stumbling-block came in the way of the completion, a touch of 108. Surely it is not to be said this is impossible, or that this touch is the missing link in the chain of changes. If it be impossible, some ingenious person will no doubt prove by mathematics the solution of the problem.

I append the sequence of touches which I was able to construct.

Bobs at B = 3—4; H = 5—6; L = 7—8; Q = 12—13.

Touches from 123456 start with a slow six.

No. of  
Changes.

100	123456				
	653142	1 4	(6 sixes)		
	Rounds	by 3, 7, 8, 10, 11.			
101	231456				
	346125	2s	(2 sixes)		
	134265	3 8	12		
102	123456				
	362541	2 4 5	(6 sixes)		
	Rounds	by 3, 5, 6, 10, 11.			
103	123456				
	341256	4 12	13		
	Rounds	by 1, 2, 3, 4s.			
104	123456				
	632145	1 5	(6 sixes)		
	Rounds	by 7, 10, 11, 12.			
105	231456				
	345261	H Q			
	Rounds	by 1, 3s.			
106	123456				
	124536	1	(1 six)		
	421365	3 5 6	10s 13		
	Rounds	with quick six			
		by 2s, 3.			
107	123456				
	243156	4 5	Q		
	Rounds	by 1, 2, 3, 4s.			
108	Stumbling-block.				
109	123456				
	451236	4 8	Q		
	Rounds	by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5s.			
110	123456				
	352461	S L	10 (10 sixes)		
	Rounds	by 3, 4.			
111	231456				
	461235	H L	10s.		
	Rounds	by 1, 2, 3, 4.			
112	123456				
	543216	L			
	Rounds	by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.			
113	231456				
	453126	8	12		
	Rounds	by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5s.			
114	123456				
	541326	S L	13		
	Rounds	by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.			
115	123456				
	152364	S 6 8	10		
	Rounds	by 3, 4, 10s.			
116	123456				
	423516	8			
	Rounds	by 2, 5.			
117	123456				
	615423	H L Q			
	Rounds	by 1, 3s, 4, 5.			
118	231456				
	423516	3 8	12		
	Rounds	by 2, 5.			
119	123456				
	521436	S 6 7	Q		
	Rounds	by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6s.			
120	231456				
	461532	5 8			
	Rounds	by 1, 4.			
121	123456				
	653142	1 4	(6 sixes)		
	Rounds	by 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 15s.			
122	123456				
	351426	S H L	Q		
	Rounds	by 2, 5, 7.			
123	231456				
	352614	S H	13		
	Rounds	by 1s, 2, 4.			
124	123456				
	652341	1 4 5	(6 sixes)		
	Rounds	by 4, 12, 15.			

No. of  
Changes.

125	231456				
	543621	S	12		
	Rounds	by 1, 5s			
126	123456				
	561423	5 L	Q		
	Rounds	by 1, 7.			
127	123456				
	154326	7	12		
	Rounds	by 2, 5, 7, 8s.			
128	123456				
	143265	6 7			
	Rounds	by 1, 5, 7, 8.			
129	123456				
	631542	1	(6 sixes)		
	435216	3 4 6	7 12		
	Rounds	by 1, 2s.			
130	231456				
	641235	H L			
	Rounds	by 1, 3, 4, 7.			
131	123456				
	632145	1 5	(6 sixes)		
	415326	S 6	7		
	Rounds	by 1 2s.			
132	231456				
	341625	6 L			
	Rounds	by 1, 3, 4, 6.			
133	123456				
	163425	6			
	Rounds	by 1, 4, 7, 8, 9s.			
134	123456				
	256431	S H			
	Rounds	by 4.			
135	231456				
	146532	S H L			
	Rounds	by 1, 2, 3, 8s.			
136	123456				
	346521	S H L			
	Rounds	by 3, 6, 7			
137	231456				
	342516	S H Q			
	Rounds	by 1, 4, 8s.			
138	123456				
	256431	S H			
	Rounds	by 3.			
139	123456				
	261354	5	13		
	Rounds	by S, H, 10s.			
140	123456				
	146253	Q			
	Rounds	by 3, 10.			
141	231456				
	364512	3 6 L	12		
	Rounds	by 3s, 8.			
142	231456				
	321465	H			
	Rounds	by S, 6, 7, 10.			
143	123456				
	234651	S 6 L	12		
	Rounds	by 3s, 7.			
144	231456				
	346152	S H	7		
	Rounds	by 3, 10			
145	123456				
	213465	H			
	Rounds	by S, 6, 10, 11s.			
146	123456				
	231564	3 H	13		
	Rounds	by S, 10, 11.			
147	231456				
	246351	Q			
	Rounds	by 3, 6, 7, 10, 11s.			
148	123456				
	231564	3 H	13		
	Rounds	by S, 6, 10, 11d.			
149	231456				
	321465	H			
	Rounds	by S, 10, 11s.			

(To be continued.)

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*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.*

## RECIPROCAL PROOF.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Seeing Mr. Baker's letter in last week's "Ringing World," I am prompted to add a few words to his assertions. First, as regards Leytonstone Stedman Caters. Unfortunately, I was too busy at the time it was published to go into figures, and at the present moment I cannot find the issue which contained it. But taking the method as given by Mr. Baker, it appears to be nothing more or less than an application of the Erin Principle to ten bells, quite legitimate, according to all established rules, and obviously having several false course ends. So much for that.

But Mr. Baker goes on to mention Reciprocal Proof. Before committing myself to paper, I read through a précis of Mr. Baker's writings that I wrote in past days, when I had more time, and, possibly more enthusiasm. Like many detective stories, they won't stand the light of précis. Mr. Baker's Reciprocal Proof is merely a test of symmetry—not a proof of truth. Now I am fully agreed with Mr. Baker that it is absolutely necessary for all methods, principles, and systems to be symmetrical. But I would add that the Law of Symmetry has never yet been satisfactorily proved. We often forget, I think, that the theory of change ringing is a science in its infancy—so much so that we are by no means all agreed, even on the exact definition of the science, and that, therefore, very few of our propositions have been formally proved.

Some day, when we have paid off our scores against Billy the German, I hope to try and prove the law, unless somebody forestalls me. Meanwhile, I accept it implicitly, in common with other people. Where Mr. Baker makes a mistake is in calling his test of its fulfilment a proof. It is this misnomer which has led to much misunderstanding. It led to a false peal once, I believe. Reciprocal Proof is no test of the truth of a method; but it is a test, and a very good one, of its symmetry, if properly applied. Here again I think Mr. Baker stumbles a little. He insists on starting everything from rounds, with the result that Reciprocal Proof (or shall we call it the Reciprocal Test?) sometimes makes methods, which inspection shows to be symmetrical, appear not to be so. Now this is unfair. A few seconds' thought should show that methods, etc., being round blocks can start and finish at any row without altering the working. And this, surely, is proof that, if methods which are symmetrical appear unsymmetrical when started from rounds, they ought to be started from some other row.—Yours truly,

Catford Bridge.

H. W. FRIGHT.

Second-Lieut.

## KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

### ASHFORD DISTRICT MEETING.

A meeting of the Ashford District was held, by kind invitation of the Rector (the Rev. E. G. Brocklehurst), at Mersham, on Saturday week. The weather was none too cheering for the occasion, and no doubt prevented several members from attending, but in spite of that about 25 members braved the elements, and were rewarded for their pluck by a hearty welcome from the Rector and the local ringers. Some good touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major were brought round during the afternoon, and a service was held in the church, the Association's form being used. —The Rector gave a very interesting and helpful address, mentioning that it was in that tower that the Association was first started on its useful and prosperous career. To the organist and choir boys the best thanks of the members are due for making the musical portion of the service so bright and effective.

After the service, tea was provided in the Scouts' Hall, the visitors being the guests of the Rector and Mrs. Brocklehurst. —The Rector presided, and was supported by his churchwardens and other gentlemen. —The Rector, in giving the Association a hearty welcome, said to him and to his parishioners it was a great treat to hear the bells rung as they had been rung that day. The bells had been hanging silent through being out of repair for a long time, and as there were so many things necessary to be done to the church at once, it was impossible to raise sufficient funds at the present time to have the peal thoroughly restored, as they would have liked. Therefore, they had called a meeting of parishioners, and had decided to have the bells put in order locally, so that they could be rung for the Sunday services. The work was placed in the hands of Mr. Finn, a local engineer, and had been carried out (as far as funds would permit) in a very satisfactory manner.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector for his kind invitation and generous hospitality, and to the ladies who had so ably ministered to the comfort and wants of the party.

A cordial welcome was extended to those members present belonging to H.M. Forces, some of them from overseas, and one who had the proud distinction of ringing in the only peal ever rung in Canada, viz. at Vancouver.

As Saturday is not a suitable day for ringing at Ashford (as was learnt by a communication from the Vicar), it was decided to hold the annual meeting there on Wednesday, Sept. 26th, instead of Saturday, Sept. 29th, and due notice appears in another column.

The members present at Mersham represented the following towers: Ashford, Headcorn, Hythe, Folkestone, Rolvenden and Tenterden.

## PORTISHEAD CHURCH.

There is in the tower of St. Peter's Church, at Portishead, Somerset, a fine ring of eight bells, with a tenor that weighs 16 cwt. The nave was built in the reign of Edward II.; the tower about the middle of the 15th century; the font, a relic of earlier days, is Norman. The pulpit is entered by some curious steps which gave access to the Round-loft that at one time had a place in the church. The old cross has occupied its present position in the churchyard for 120 years, before then it stood at the junction of the High Street and Church Road from time immemorial.

Take a journey to Portishead if you would see eight ladies of one band ringing Grandsire Triples, and with several capable conductors amongst them, and you will not be disappointed. It will be remembered that it was at Portishead that the first peal was rung by a band of entirely local ladies.

On Sunday, August 19th. Pte. E. J. Goldstone was home on leave, and a quarter-peal was rung for the evening service as a welcome to him. The time was 45 minutes, Miss Edith Hole conducted, and it was



the first quarter-peal rung by Miss S. Williams, the band being: Mrs. Stacey 1, Miss Dorothy Sage 2, Pte. E. J. Goldstone 3, Miss S. Williams 4, Miss Nellie Gillingham 5, Miss E. Hole 6, Wm. Gillingham 7, J. Nesbit 8.

About three miles to the S.W. of Bristol there is situated on a hill, 769 feet above sea-level, the village of Dundry, from whence extensive views may be obtained, and it is said that on clear days ten counties can be seen. The tower, a well-known landmark, dates from the 15th century, contains six bells, and is 100 ft. high, and surmounted with beautiful openwork battlements and arched turrets. On August 25th, the tower was visited by some of the Portishead ringers, and the methods rung were Grandsire and Stedman.

The following day (Sunday, 26th), a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Portishead, in 46 mins., no fewer than five of the ladies taking part, with Miss N. Gillingham conducting from a non-observation bell. The band was: Miss M. C. Jukes 1, Miss Dorothy Sage 2, Miss A. Stokes 3, Miss N. Gillingham 4, J. Nesbit 5, Miss E. Hole 6, W. Gillingham 7, Wm. Lawrence 8. The ringer of the tenor is a member of the Middlesex County Association, who was on a visit from West Faling.

Permission was readily given by the Vicar (the Rev. P. Young) to the Portishead band and their visitor to pay a visit to All Saints', Long

Ashton, on August 30th. Upon the arrival of the ringers they were met by the Vicar, who extended a cordial and a hearty welcome, and he sat in the belfry during the ringing. The bells, a grand ring, with a tenor of 31 cwt., were raised in peal. A quarter-peal was rung in 50 minutes, conducted by Mr. W. Gillingham (who had previously raised the tenor), four ladies taking part: Miss D. Sage 1, Miss N. Gillingham 2, Miss A. Stokes 3, Pte. E. J. Goldstone 4, J. Nesbit 5, Miss E. Hole 6, Wm. Gillingham 7, Wm. Lawrence 8.

A full band met for ringing for both services, on Sunday, Sept. 2nd, when a variety of touches was conducted by Miss N. Gillingham, and a 504 Grandsire Triples by W. Lawrence, the band in the latter being the same as the quarter-peal on the 26th August. Miss M. C. Jukes is a daughter of the Rector of Portishead (the Rev. H. W. Jukes, M.A.).

## SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

### FIRST DIVISIONAL ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The members attending the meeting of the Eastern Division at Salehurst, on Saturday week, although few in number, received a very cordial welcome from the Vicar (the Rev. C. E. Ward, M.A.) and the local band, the reverend gentleman coming into the ringing chamber to greet the company. Touches in Grandsire Doubles and Triples, Bob Minor, etc., were rung during the afternoon and evening, and a short service was held, conducted by the Vicar, prayers being offered for Messrs. Franks and Simms, who are ill.

Tea was served at the Old Eight Bells Inn, Host and Hostess Kirby providing a bountiful repast. The member who made the long journey from Shoreham on his bicycle can vouch for this.

At the business meeting which followed, seven members of the Heathfield band were elected, viz.: Mrs. D. Smart, Mrs. R. Barrow, Mrs. A. Arnold, and Messrs. W. J. Barrow, W. G. Barrow, N. Davis, and L. Bean.

Under the new rule passed at the annual general meeting of the Association, the following officers were elected—the first Divisional election of officers that has taken place in the county: Mr. G. H. Howse, divisional secretary; Messrs. W. Franks, J. Livermore, and A. R. Miles, committee. These representatives on the General Committee of the Association were also appointed to act as the Committee of Advice for the Division.

A vote of sympathy was passed to Mr. Walter Franks, who, after arranging the meeting, was too ill to attend, and a wish was unanimously expressed for his speedy recovery.

After the usual votes of thanks—to the Vicar for the use of the bells, arranging the service at short notice, and presiding at the tea and meeting; to Host and Hostess Kirby; and to Mr. Franks for fixing up the meeting, the company returned to the tower.

### WESTERN DIVISION.

A very successful quarterly meeting of the Western Division was held at Steyning, on Saturday week, members being present from Shoreham, Slinfold, Shipley, Warnham, Pulborough, Heene, St. Peter's, Brighton, and the local band; Mr. F. B. Tompkins (Master of the Association), Chichester; Mr. W. Steed, Tonbridge, and one lady ringer (Mrs. F. Hairs). Touches of Stedman Triples, Plain Bob Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich, and Cambridge Surprise, and a short touch of Grandsire Triples, in which the Vicar of Steyning took part, were rung, and 25 sat down to tea at the Norfolk Hotel, the Rev. A. E. Pridgeon being present.

At the business meeting the Vicar was voted to the chair, and the following members of the Steyning band were elected, viz.: Arthur James, Ernest Lakor and George Parsons. The first divisional election of officers then took place.—On the proposition of the Master, Mr. A. W. Groves was again elected as hon. divisional secretary.—Three new members were elected as divisional representatives on the General Committee viz.: Messrs. George Norriss (Heene), Harry Stallham (Shoreham), and Richard Howell (Shipley).

The committee of advice was appointed as follows: Messrs. George Gatland (Steyning), Walter Charman (Warnham), Percy Daick (Pulborough).—It was proposed to hold the next quarterly meeting at Horsham, some time in December.

A vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for presiding for his hearty welcome, and for granting the use of the bells.—The reverend gentleman, in replying, said how pleased he was to see so many old faces again. It was also the first time he had had the pleasure of meeting a lady ringer, and the way she rang her bell reminded him of 35 years ago, when he first learned to pull a bell. The old gentleman who taught him used to say, "Stand right under the bell and pull her down straight," and the graceful way this young lady rang reminded him of the style his tutor wished to impart.

After tea the bells were kept going till eight o'clock.

**SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.**—On Sunday evening, August 12th, at the Cathedral, 504 Grandsire Triples: The Ven. Archdeacon Conybeare 1, Spr. J. E. Mellor, R.E., 2, G. E. Padgett 3, F. Pickard 4, Spr. S. T. R. Brown, R.E., 5, Spr. F. W. Naunton, R.E. (conductor), 6, A. J. Chamberlain 7, C. H. Chamberlain 8. Arranged and rung as a farewell to Spr. F. W. Naunton, who was leaving the district for Carnarvon, North Wales. It was arranged to ring a quarter-peal, but owing to illness near the church the above had to be rung instead.



## 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.—Meetings will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the first Sunday in the month at 6 p.m.; and at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handball practice on September 20th, and for general business on the 25th, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at Edgware on Saturdays September 15th. Ringing will commence at 3.30 p.m. Tea at 5.30. Short service at 6.30, followed by the business meeting. All ringers welcome. I should be glad to receive outstanding subscriptions for 1917.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Blackburn on Saturday, Sept. 15th, 1917, instead of Sept. 29th. Particulars by circular.—W. H. Shuker, J. H. Banks, Hon. Secs.

**ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.**—The next meeting will be held at Rolvenden on Sept. 15th. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock until sunset. All ringers welcome.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Rochester District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Rochester on Saturday, Sept. 15th. Cathedral bells available from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Tea at Tea Table Café, High St., after ringing ceases; 6d. per member will be charged.—Edward A. G. Allen, 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury.

**NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held at East Markham (Tuxford, G.N.R. Station) on Saturday, Sept. 15th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. until dusk. Tea at 6 p.m.—H. Haigh, S. C. Walker, Joint Secretaries.

**HILLINGDON.**—Practice at St. John's Church, Hillingdon, has unavoidably had to be postponed until Saturday, September 15th, at 6 p.m., when the help of any ringing friends will be most welcome.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**—Thrapston District.—The next meeting will be held at Tichmarsh on Saturday, Sept. 15th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock. Service at 5 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—F. Stubbs, Dist. Sec., Bridge Street, Raunds.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**—Northampton District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hardingstone, Saturday, September 15th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Service, 5 p.m. Tea, 6 p.m.—T. Law, District Secretary.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Western District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Otley on Saturday, Sept. 22nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. until dusk. Business meeting in the Church Institute at 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bromsgrove on Saturday, September 22nd. Bells (10) available from 3 o'clock. Service in the church at 5 p.m. Business meeting in the schools at 5.30. The election of elective officers for the ensuing year takes place at this meeting.—E. J. Dowler, Branch Hon. Sec., 11, St. Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Barlow Moor, on Saturday, Sept. 22nd. Bells available at 4.30. Meeting at 6 p.m.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Central Division.—A meeting will be held at Uckfield on Saturday, September 22nd, for the election of Officers and other business. Tower open, 2.15. Business meeting in Parish Room, 4.30. Half railway fare. Tea will be arranged at usual price for those who let me know not later than Monday, the 17th.—A. D. Stone, Divisional Hon. Sec., 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Ashford District.—The annual meeting will be held at Ashford, by kind permission of the Vicar, Rev. E. K. Sopwith, on Wednesday, Sept. 26th. Ringing from 3 to 6. Service at 6 and tea (provided by the Association) at 6.30. Will all members intending to be present at the tea kindly inform me of same not later than Saturday, Sept. 22nd? Brother ringers in khaki will be heartily welcomed.—C. Tribe, Hon. Dist. Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

**HALIFAX & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—The quarterly meeting and six bell contest will be held at Tong on Saturday, September 29th, 1917. Ballot for order of ringing will take place in the school at 3 p.m. Entries for the contest to be sent to me not later than Monday, Sept. 24th.—F. Salmons, Secretary, 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Duffield on Saturday, September 29th. Bells ready at 2 o'clock. Committee meeting at 5.30. Tea at 6 at G. Austin and Co.'s, King Street. The tea will be 1/3 each, and will only be provided for those who notify Mr. J. Flower, Eaton Bank, Duffield, not later than the previous Thursday.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

**ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—A meeting will be held at St. Peter's, South Croydon, on Saturday, Sept. 29th. Bells open from 4 to 7 p.m. Tea will be provided after ringing if members will let me know by the 24th.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

**LEEDS & DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The next monthly meeting of this Society will be held at Bramley on Saturday, Oct. 6th, 1917. The business meeting will be held in the Cardigan Arms at 7 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

**"BELL NEWS" WANTED.**—Wanted to complete series for the Hattersley Library, Vols. 16 to 25 inclusive, bound or unbound. Price and particulars to Sam Thomas, 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

**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.

### MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

Subscriptions to the above should be forwarded at once to the Ringing Master, Mr. Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, or to the Hon. Sec., Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

Will those friends who are desirous of contributing to the above kindly do so at once as the list is now closed?

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged	-	-	11 19 0
Holy Trinity Company, Old Hill	-	-	0 10 0
St. Paul's Company, Wood Green, Wednes-			
bury	-	-	0 2 6
Selly Oak Ringers	-	-	0 2 6

Total to date £12 14 0

### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**LENTON, NOTTS.**—At Holy Trinity Church, on August 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): Samuel Wesley 1, Rev. C. J. Sturton 2, W. Wagstaff 3, William E. White 4, L. Chadburn 5, Walter White 6, A. Knights (conductor) 7, E. Blagden 8.

**HALSE, SOMERSET.**—On Sunday, August 5th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, in 45 mins.: W. Crews 1, G. Hancock 2, W. Clapp 3, W. A. J. Knight (first quarter) 4, A. Tout (conductor) 5, F. Thorne 6. Rung with bells half-muffled, to the memory of Pte. Cornish, who has recently been killed in action.

**BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.**—On Sunday, August 5th, 504 Stedman Triples A. Crane 1, W. Mead 2, F. Stanton 3, Gnr. J. Marks 4, H. Sear 5, E. Marks 6, W. Sear (conductor) 7, V. Sear 8.—On Tuesday, August 7th, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major, by: Gnr. J. Marks, E. Marks, F. Hodges, F. Stanton, F. Whitehead, E. Holderness, A. Crane, W. Mead, C. Garner, D. Goodman, V. Sear, W. Sear, H. Sear. These touches were rung as a farewell to Gnr. J. Marks, 124th Field Battery, who left again for France the next day, his brother ringers wishing him a safe return.

**BARNES.**—At St. Mary's Church, Barnes, on Sunday, August 5th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 43 mins.: M. Jacobs 1, H. Barrett 2, A. Cutmore 3, Pte. S. Meadow (A.S.C.) 4, F. Skevington 5, H. Cook 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, Pte. J. Hughes, R.F.C. 8.

**LEIGH, LANCASHIRE.**—At the Parish Church (St. Mary's), on August 5th, for the intercession service, in the afternoon, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: H. Watts 1, H. Smith 2, R. Allred (conductor) 3, H. Allred 4, J. T. Allred 5, J. Smith 6, W. Smith 7, J. Watts 8. Arranged for the ringers of the 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 8th, who hail from Tyldesley. The rest belong to Leigh.

**GUILDFORD.**—On Sunday, August 5th, at St. Nicolas' Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. Mason 1, R. Melville (first quarter-peal) 2, G. Petter 3, S. Radford 4, T. W. Radford 5, S. G. Steer 6, J. Hunt (conductor) 7, E. Heather 8.

**BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER, GLOUCESTER.**—On Sunday, August 5th, for evening service, a quarter-peal (1260 changes) of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: F. Pitts 1, R. Hall 2, H. Packer 3, T. Banning 4, J. Collett 5, W. Stratford 6, W. Large (conductor) 7, J. Buttler 8.

**SAXMUNDHAM.**—On Sunday, August 5th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: W. Flanning 1, W. Drew 2, J. Avis 3, F. Watling (conductor) 4, G. Hardy 5, N. Bailey 6. Also 360 Kent Treble Bob, conducted by N. Bailey.

**WORKSOP, NOTTS.**—On Sunday, August 5th, 576 College Single Major and 288 Kent Treble Bob Major: G. Hardwick 1, E. Clark 2, H. Cartwright 3, A. Johnson 4, H. Haigh (conductor) 5, Pte. W. G. Lancaster (Swindon) 6, T. Wilson 7, T. Bartholomew 8.—On August 16th, 360 Kent Minor and 360 of College Single Minor: G. Hardwick 1, E. Clark 2, H. Haigh 3, W. G. Lancaster 4, T. Wilson 5, T. Bartholomew (conductor) 6.—On Sunday, August 12th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major: G. Hardwick 1, E. Clark 2, T. Bartholomew 3, A. Johnson 4, H. Haigh (conductor) 5, W. G. Lancaster (Swindon) 6, T. Wilson 7, Corpl. J. W. Barker, R.E. (Bedford) 8.—On August 26th, 366 of Kent Minor: G. Hardwick 1, S. C. Walker (first touch) 2, H. Haigh 3, W. G. Lancaster 4, T. Wilson 5, T. Bartholomew 6.

**HORBURY, YORKS.**—On August 11th, 1008 Double Norwich Major: J. Waffenden 1, E. Brooke 2, G. F. Pickles 3, G. Hunt 4, G. Barstow 5, H. Rowley (conductor) 6, J. Smith 7, R. Thickett 8.

**OLD WINDSOR, BERKS.**—Previous to the memorial service for the fallen, on Sunday, August 12th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins. (taken from Parker's Twelve-Part): W. Henley 1, T. Smith 2, G. T. Leader 3, A. Harding 4, T. Gosling 5, A. W. Blake (conductor) 6, E. Hooper 7, P. Guttridge 8.

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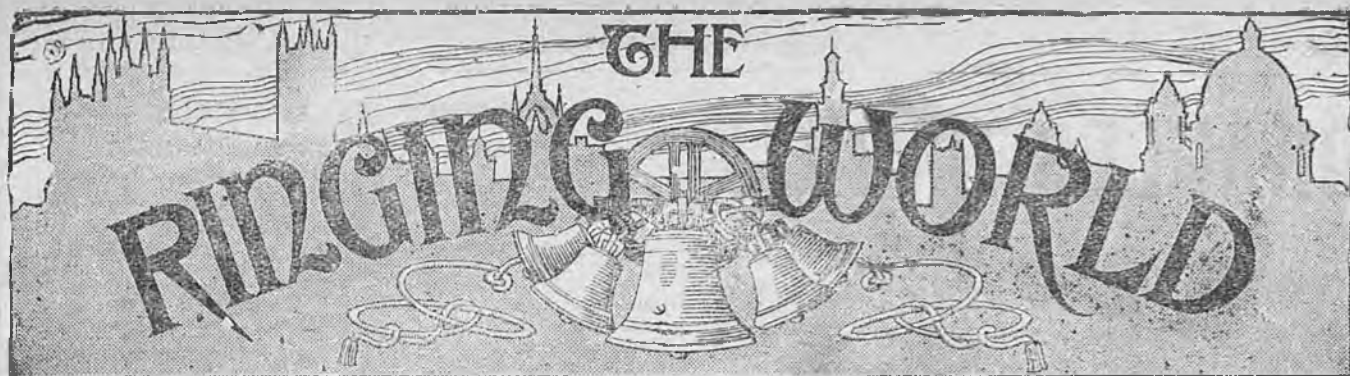
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No. 340. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21st, 1917.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for  
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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. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

## MODERN WORK

### THE NEW COUNCIL.

Competition for election to the Central Council is seldom great among the members of the various associations called upon to elect representatives. Often the appointment goes as a matter of compliment to some individual whom it is sought to honour, and by this means men have been elected to the central body without much practical acquaintance with ringing to recommend them. On the other hand, it cannot altogether be said that associations have ever had any difficulty in getting members willing to be elected as representatives, although when appointed a good many stay away from the Council meeting. But it is without doubt true that there is seldom any keen desire displayed to fill a post which might, if things were different, be considered one of the highest honours which an association could bestow upon one of its members. It is refreshing; therefore, to find that there was really a contest for this election at the annual meeting of the Lancashire Association last Saturday, and that the assembly had before them six names from which to choose four delegates. The election resulted in two of the best known North Country ringers losing their seats, but we may expect that those clear-headed Lancashire men who have been appointed will be able to add the weight of their opinion in reforming the Council.

In the newly-elected body, which is to deliberate in London next year, there ought to be no room for individuals of narrow views or prejudices, or of inexperience in ringing matters. What is wanted is men acquainted with the many-sided interests of ringing and ringers, who will see that the central body is made not a mere debating society for a few ultra-scientific theorists, but a deliberative assembly capable of putting the theoretical and practical into their proper perspective, of becoming a Council of action instead of procrastination, of being useful instead of merely talkative. Lancashire seems to have set an example to some other associations by treating its representation on the next Council as a serious matter, and it is a pity that the whole of the societies throughout the country have not taken the line that, next year more than ever—when the Council stands, as it were, at the parting of the ways—it is necessary to have a strong and full representation. If the Council continues in the groove into which it has slipped in recent years, its influence will dwindle still further and its value disappear. It needs new blood and the infusion of new ideas, and the best men the Exercise can send should be elected to restore the Council to the position which it might and ought to hold. But nothing will be gained if members of Associations imagine that elections to the Central Council are of no importance, and if they fail to send men of initiative, who have the aptitude and courage to voice their own opinions and the views of those who send them.

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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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## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 15, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

JOHN WILLIAMS ... .. Treble	WILLIAM G. ANKER ... .. 5
GEORGE T. MITCHISON ... .. 2	WILLIAM J. MEERS ... .. 6
WILLIAM G. ELLIS ... .. 3	JOHN B. COLLETT ... .. 7
ALBERT T. SCRIVENS ... .. 4	*SAMUEL PRICE ... .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and  
Conducted by WILLIAM J. MEERS.

\* First peal. The ringers of the 1st, 2nd and tenor are members of the local band and were made members of the above association before starting for the peal. Rung on the eve of the Harvest Festival.

NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND  
ALL SAINTS' GUILD

On Saturday, September 15, 1917, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 15 cwt.

*TOM FORD ... .. Treble	JAMES PIPPIN ... .. 5
JOHN BUTLER ... .. 2	JOHN W. JONES ... .. 6
CHARLES GREEDY ... .. 3	SIDNEY DAWE ... .. 7
WILLIAM BOLTON ... .. 4	HAROLD FORBES ... .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and  
Conducted by JOHN W. JONES.

\* First peal. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Vicar of this parish (the Rev. Charles Bennett, M.A.), who died on the previous Sunday just at the close of the morning service, after a long and painful illness. He had been Vicar of the parish since 1901.

## HANDBELL PEALS.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, September 5, 1917,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor, size 15 in G.

REV. A. H. F. BOGHEY 1-2	REV. H. LAW JAMES ... 5-6
REV. E. BANKES JAMES 3-4	*ARTHUR E. WILKINS ... 7-8

Conducted by the REV. E. BANKES JAMES.

Witness: C. REILLY.

\* First peal.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thursday, September 13, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

IN ST. MARTIN'S BELFRY,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;**

THOMAS RUSSAM ... .. 1-2	JAMES E. GROVES ... .. 5-6
ALBERT WALKER ... .. 3-4	GEORGE F. SWANN ... .. 7-8
WILLIAM KENT ... .. 9-10	

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and  
Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

First peal of treble ten in hand by the above band and in the City of Birmingham.

## LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A very successful meeting was held on Saturday week, at the Church of St. Ann, Highgate, members and friends, to the number of upwards of 25, putting in an appearance. The bells were kept going in various methods from 4 until 8 p.m.

At the business meeting, which followed in the tower, Mr. W. G. Matthews was elected to the chair, in the absence of the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender), who was on holiday.

The next meeting was fixed for Saturday, October 13th, full particulars of which will appear in "The Ringing World."

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, also to Mr. Baker (steeplekeeper) for his kindness in having everything in readiness.

**KILLED IN ACTION.**

After serving just over two years at the front, Sergt. W. Daniels, of the Northants Regiment, who, before joining the army was a ringer at Moulton, Northants, has been killed in action. On Sunday week a memorial service was held at his parish church, and 720 Grandsire Doubles, the six six-scores being called differently, were rung with the bells half-muffled, by: T. Law 1, H. Clarke (conductor) 2, F. Rollings 3, G. Parker 4, H. England (first 720) 5, F. Dawson (first 720) 6.

**MEMORIAL SERVICE TO A RINGER.**

A memorial service was held at the Parish Church, Eton, Northants, on Sunday afternoon for Pte. Ralph Elson, 10th Essex Regiment, who was killed at Ypres on August 12th. A promising young ringer who joined up in March, he was in charge of the Eton band, who have a roll of honour of 14, all members of the Central Northants Association. His officer writes of him: "He was a bright, smart lad, and never gave the least trouble. He met his death facing the enemy in a manner worthy of the best British soldiers."

At the invitation of the Rector (Canon Jephson), six members of the Association attended and rang the bells half-muffled for the service, and, afterwards, the whole pull and stand, followed by 360 Grandsire Doubles: F. Hopper 1, F. Rollings 2, B. Soden 3, H. Clarke 4, T. Law (conductor) 5, W. Rogers 6. Pte. Elson was 20 years of age.

**SHELL SPLINTER KILLS BECKENHAM RINGER.**

It is with great regret we have to record the loss of Gunner J. B. Lovell, of the 119th Heavy Battery, R.F.A., who was struck by a flying splinter of shell on August 21st, and died immediately. He is buried in the military cemetery, near Vlamerlinghe, on the Ouderdom-Vlamerlinghe Road (Belgium).

He was an old Volunteer, and fought through the South African War, and was called up under the Derby Scheme about 18 months ago. A native of Beckenham, he started to ring when a band was formed there in August, 1904 (on the completion of the new tower and recasting of the present peal of eight bells), and made good progress in the art of change ringing. He only rang four peals, but was a regular attendant for Sunday and practice ringing, always cheerful and willing at all times to give a helping hand to anyone as far as lay in his power. He is sadly missed in the belfry.

On Thursday, Sept. 13th, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to his memory, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by his fellow members: C. Terry 1, G. Durling 2, Pte. V. Neale 3, G. Wickens 4, P. Terry 5, Pte. W. E. Mauken 6, W. Smith (conductor) 7, C. Austin 8; also the whole pull and stand, the deceased's age, 41 years, being tolled on the tenor.

Gunner Lovell leaves a mother, two sisters and a brother to mourn their loss.

**ANOTHER RINGER GAINS MILITARY MEDAL.**

The Military Medal has been awarded to W. J. Grove, of Tring. The official record of the action which won this distinction states that Pte. Grove on August 5th volunteered to carry an important dispatch to Brigade headquarters, when all other means of communication had failed, thereby greatly assisting in the operations. His coolness and great courage throughout added greatly to the success of the operations.

Pte. Grove, who is much esteemed by all his ringing colleagues, first learnt to handle a bell at Shiplake, Oxon, where he rang the tenor to a peal of Doubles. Going afterwards to Tring he joined the band there, at that time ringing only "stoneys," but just beginning to learn change ringing under the tuition of Mr. Smith, late of Aldermaston. Before joining the army Pte. Grove was a gardener at Tring Park. He joined the Northants Regiment, in November, 1915, and was afterwards transferred to the 10th Battalion the Queen's, Royal West Surrey Regt. He went to France in May, 1916.

**SILENT FOR 30 YEARS.****HOLNE CHURCH BELLS NOW BEING RESTORED.**

The village of Holne is pleasantly situated on the banks of the River Dart, amidst some beautiful Dartmoor scenery, and its church is an ancient edifice with an embattled tower containing six bells, cast by an ancient bell founder, Ambrose Gooding, of Plymouth, in 1743.

This fine-toned ring has not been rung for nearly 30 years, owing to some dispute between the late Vicar and the ringers, but they are now being put into thorough ringing order by Messrs. Aggett and Sons, bell hangers, of Chagford, in time to be rung for the induction service of the new Vicar (the Rev. Harvey Roysce), when their sweet sounds will be again heard pealing over moor, hill and dale.

In the churchyard is a curious epitaph on an old tombstone in memory of an old sportsman:—

Here lies poor old Ned

On his last mattress bed.

He lived a life merry and free,

He knew well Holne Chase,

But now has run his race,

And his name is Ned Collins, dee zee.

Holne Chase is a noted part of Dartmoor for fox-hunting.

**ANOTHER BUCKS VETERAN DEAD.****WILLIAM WILDER.**

Another Bucks veteran has passed away, creating a second gap in the octave of branch members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild who survived the 40th anniversary of the formation of the East Berks and South Bucks Association in June, 1877. William Wilder fell asleep on Tuesday, 4th inst., in the 79th year of his age, after only a few days' illness.

He was born in the parish of Upton-cum-Chalvey, then a hamlet of 500 inhabitants, but now merged into a town, re-named, of 16,000. It was not until rather late in life that he took up bell ringing, by joining the St. Mary's Society, Slough, about 1873, a few years after a serious accident on the Windsor-line, G.W. Railway, which nearly cost him his life, and changed his former boisterous disposition. As a young man he was an expert boxer. Of short stature and sturdy build he was able to take as much punishment as he gave, and he never gave in, even when the bare fists were used to oblige some quarrelsome friend with a few rounds, such was his bull-dog strength, and thus he earned the by-name of "Nineter."

Having become proficient as a call change hand, under George Sheppard, one of old scrouffe, he was quite content till about 1875, when the Rev. C. T. Mayo, of St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, and first secretary of the West Middlesex Association, was able to convert him to the "new style," as method ringing was then considered to be at most towers throughout the country. But the process was tedious, the pupil slow, and many personal discussions on various railway stations took place before success was reached.

Mr. Wilder whose bluff exterior covered a warm heart, was one of a family of five, and he was named after his father, whose farm wages were 8s. per week. He himself started work at eight years of age for 1s. 10d. per week, so that education was non est in his case, and this often handicapped him in later years. He never touched intoxicants from the day of his accident, believed in insurance and thrift, and proved himself to be a friend in need to more than one change ringer in the London area by giving a substantial loan without fee or reward when the recipient was in sore straits.

Progress in change ringing resulted in a score of 33 peals being rung, comprising only two methods, his last being at Farnham Royal, conducted by Mr. J. J. Parker, who, like the writer, has some vivid recollections of "Nineter's" early efforts in Grandsire Minor.

In addition to the two societies already referred to, Mr. Wilder joined the Waterloo and the St. James' Societies of London in 1882, also the Royal Cumberland Youths in 1884, the latter being his favourite company, to which his loyalty had more than once been tested by an invitation to "turn over."

As a railway employee he made good use of the privileges for travelling, and soon became a well-known visitor to most of the towers between Reading and London. He succeeded the late Wm. Leader as steeplekeeper at St. Mary's, in 1899, and retired in 1914, during his term of office developing strict attention to good striking and punctual meeting; and more inclined as his years grew to speak his mind to rector and ringer—to quote his actual words—"offend or please."

His aversion to the Oxford Guild may be dated from the refusal of that body to book up a legitimate peal rung by that local society some 30 years ago. Many visitors to Slough were not favourably impressed by his gruff and determined manner and speech, but this came to him by force of habit after 50 years' service on the G.W. Railway: the greater part of the time as foreman painter. "Never absent and never late" was recorded on his time-sheet, but his long and faithful service went unrecognised by the company.

Some interesting anecdotes could be told about the deceased, and some day perhaps may appear in "The Ringing World." For the present I may add that his life resembles that of a Berkshire hoy—Mr. Wm. Newell, of Reading who very kindly thought of his namesake last Christmas in a practical way, for the old-age pension doesn't go far in war-time.

Both these ringers were born on the same day, November 9th, 1838, married on their birthdays and have seen their golden weddings.

Mr. Wilder was laid to rest on Saturday, Sept. 8th, the funeral service taking place at St. Mary's, Slough, conducted by the Rev. E. A. Steer (in the absence of the Rector). The widow and four married daughters were the principal mourners, and several wreaths draped the coffin.

Only a few days before Mr. Wilder's death it had been ordered that no bells were to be rung, chimed or tolled, owing to serious illness near the church, but the Rector's pleading and Mr. Leader's personal appeal made it possible for the local members to score a musical 500 of Grandsire Triples, muffled, on the day of interment to the memory of a staunch old advocate of half-pull, who was an honest and reliable church worker. The ringers were: E. T. Hooper (conductor) 1, A. E. Leader 2, W. G. Bedford 3, T. S. Smith 4, G. T. Leader 5, W. H. Fussell 6, W. Henley 7, F. Purdue 8.

W. H. F.

**HOUGH-ON-HILL.**—Lincoln Diocesan Guild.—On August 19th, after evening service, 720 Rob Minor: J. Hayes 1, J. J. Jutson (conductor) 2, A. Mackears 3, S. Whaley 4, S. Nicholson 5, Pte. C. Nicholson 6.



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## RINGING AFTER SUNSET.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I should be glad if you can inform me whether it is possible to obtain permission to ring the bells after sunset, and, if so, to whom should application be made. I have written to the local superintendent of police, and he informs me that he has no power in the case.

I should also like to know, failing permission being obtained, whether we could legally ring for evening service (6 p.m.) through the coming winter.

I may say that we are in the West Riding of Yorks, and last winter in the borough of Doncaster, three miles distant, the bells were rung regularly until 6 p.m.—Thanking you in anticipation, yours faithfully,

H. WOODHOUSE,

Arksey, Doncaster.

Hon. Secretary.

[Our correspondent, and others similarly situated, should apply for permission to the Competent Military Authority for the particular district in which the bells are situated. Failing his permission to ring after sunset, it would be an offence under the Defence of the Realm Regulations to ring the bells for any purpose during the prohibited hours.—Ed. "R.W."]

## RECIPROCAL PROOF.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—In these strenuous times, the above subject will appeal to very few, and I have very little spare time to waste.

If your correspondent, Second-Lieut. H. W. Fright, knew anything of Reciprocal Proof he would know that no other kind of proof is possible in methods in which the treble is a plain hunt whatever the number of bells, the reason being:—

We prove by the path of the treble.

In Treble Bob methods on six and ten bells, or any odd numbers of pairs, Reciprocal and Equivalent Proofs are one and the same.

In Treble Bob methods on eight and twelve bells, or any even numbers of pairs, it is necessary to use Equivalent Proof.

In some principles and systems that are imperfectly constructed Reciprocal Proof will find every false course-end; in others, Equivalent Proof must be used to obtain a correct result.

I have not forgotten my promise to write some articles for the "Ringing World" on Reciprocal and Equivalent Proofs, but while the war lasts I must beg to be excused.—Yours faithfully,

39, Clifton Street, Brighton.

GEORGE BAKER.

## LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

A most pleasant and enjoyable time fell to the lot of those who wended their way to Lea on Saturday last for the purpose of attending the last meeting, for 1917, of the Gainsborough district. The weather was all that could be desired, and a good number of ringers were present from Gainsborough, Kirton Lindsey, Scotter, and Bigby. The bells, a ring of six, were available during the afternoon and evening, and kept going to the methods of Grandsire, Plain Bob, Treble Bob and Double Court. Shortly before five o'clock the visitors adjourned to the Rectory, where the Rev. R. G. Fookes and Mrs. Fookes had very kindly thought of the inner man, and provided a very nice tea for them on the lawn. This was greatly appreciated by all, as was also Mrs. Fookes' kind invitation to a stroll round the Rectory gardens. Before leaving the tea tables, Mr. F. F. Linley, President of the Northern Branch, proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. R. G. Fookes and Mrs. Fookes for their kind hospitality.—This was responded to by the Rev. Fookes, who gave a most cordial welcome to the members of the Guild.

A plain course each of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major on the handbells was followed by the business meeting, at which Mr. F. F. Linley presided, supported by the Rev. R. G. Fookes and the Rev. H. T. Parry (Rector of Bigby).

Mr. J. C. Tinker made reference to the pleasure it gave the members in once again having Mr. Linley with them, and made allusion to the great amount of labour and spade work he had done for the welfare of ringers since 1884, when the North Lincolnshire Association was first formed.—Mr. Linley, in acknowledging these remarks, made some very interesting references in regard to the late Sir Charles Anderson, of Lea Hall, the Rev. Cockin (a former Rector of Lea), and the ring of six "lady" bells which formerly hung in the rood tower of Lincoln Cathedral.

The Rev. H. T. Parry very kindly thanked Mr. Linley for what he had told them in regard to these bells.

Cpl. J. T. Bartram, R.F.A. (a member of the Gainsborough Parish Church company, and at present stationed at Aldershot), was home on leave, and able to take part in the proceedings. On being informed that he is about to go abroad on active service, his brother ringers gave him their very best wishes.

This brought the business to a close, and the visitors returned to the church, where further ringing was indulged in until about seven o'clock, when the bells were lowered, and the last, but not least, of the Gainsborough district meetings for 1917 brought to a pleasant end.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.****ANNUAL MEETING AT BLACKBURN.**

To make the most of the Daylight Saving Act the annual meeting of the Lancashire Association was arranged a fortnight earlier than usual, and it proved very successful. Upwards of 80 members attended, representing 30 towers and all the nine branches. The bells of the Parish Church were set going just after 12.30, various methods being practised on the ten bells. When each set had tried their hand, they moved forward to St. Michael's and Holy Trinity Churches, gradually finding their way back to the Parish Church for the service, at which a very helpful address was given by Canon Sale, the Vicar, from the last verse of Hebrews i. He explained that ringers were ministers just as much as the clergy, and in greater touch with the people by sending the message to all who were out of reach of the voice of the pulpit. He went on to point out that that Association and other Associations in the country had raised the status of the ringer, and brought home to all the responsibilities of his office.

Ten was ready in the schools as soon as service was over, and 70 sat down, Canon Sale presiding. But the Vicar, like many of the other clergy, has a big parish, and his curates are away from various causes. He, therefore, had to leave before the meeting, but before he went the President (the Rev. H. J. Elsee) thanked him, on behalf of the Association, for the trouble he had taken in connection with the day's gathering.

In a witty speech the Vicar said it had been a pleasure to him and his ringers to meeting the Association that day, and he told a few anecdotes as to why he was not a ringer.

The business meeting followed, with the Rev. H. J. Elsee presiding. The President touched on the ringing problem when peace was restored, and referred to the way the ladies had come forward to help in these critical times.

The committee's report was brief. It recorded that the membership was now 1,304, of which about 175 were away on active service, some 14 or 15 having paid the supreme sacrifice. The balance sheet showed an income of £20 6s. 6d., and expenses £28 17s., while two branches had not sent in returns at the time the statement was made up. The bells rung were only seven in number, the lowest ever recorded by the Association.

The officers to be elected were returned as follows: Vice-President, Mr. J. Ridyard; Ringing Secretary, Mr. J. H. Banks; auditors, Messrs. Barnes and Greenhalgh.

There were six nominations for the Central Council, and the following were elected: Rev. H. J. Elsee, Messrs. Wilson, Banks and Taylor.

Four places were proposed for the next annual meeting, and on being put to the vote Rochdale was chosen.

After the usual votes of thanks had been given to the various authorities for the use of the bells, and the ringers for getting everything ready (with a special allusion to the sugar), the ringers returned to the various towers till "lights out" closed one of the best annual gatherings in the history of the Association.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

A visit was paid by the North and East District to Edgware on Saturday last, and the bells were kept going during the afternoon, many methods being attempted. Edgware, like other towers in this district, has suffered badly through the war, the bells not having been rung for nearly two years, so that the visit was much appreciated. A short service was held, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. J. Consterdine), and consisting of war prayers and an address, in which he gave the members a hearty welcome.

At the business meeting, which followed, four new members were elected, and the place and date of the next meeting left with the hon. secretary to arrange.

A resolution of sympathy and condolence was passed with the hon. treasurer and vice-president (Mr. F. A. Milne), whose only son was killed in France on July 31st.

The meeting concluded by expressing hearty thanks to the Rector of Edgware for the use of the bells, the service, and his kind welcome, also to the organist, and Mr. G. Hall, of the local band, for making the arrangements.

Several members then adjourned to the tower for another short touch, while the majority walked on to Stanmore for an hour's pull.

About 25 attended the meeting, including Mrs. F. I. Hairs, and Messrs. A. Hubbard, J. Barry, W. Pickworth and J. H. Shepherd, of Swindon, the latter having cycled from the meeting at Tichmarsh, Northants, and arrived after tea. Several good touches on handbells were also rung.

**INSTRUCTIVE PRACTICE AT HILLINGDON.**

A very successful result was obtained at Hillingdon, on Saturday last, when a united practice was held at St. John's Church, at which 17 ringers were present, including five ladies, the majority of whom rang Grandsire Triples and Caters. Touches of Treble Ten and Stedman Caters were rung by the more advanced ringers. Some of the party scored their first course of Stedman Caters; and, taken altogether, an instructive and enjoyable time was spent.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.****SOUTHERN DISTRICT MEETING.**

The quarterly meeting of the Southern District was held on Saturday week, at Wentworth, near Rotherham. This picturesque village, as is widely known, is the seat of Earl Fitzwilliam, whose mansion here is the largest private residence in England. With such an attraction and a beautiful day, the ringers congregated in extremely good numbers from far and near; and among the towers represented were: Sheffield (Cathedral and All Saints'), Rotherham (Parish Church) Ecclesfield, Barnsley, Darfield, Bolsterstone, Hoyland Swaine, Wortley, South Anston, etc. All present were delighted to see the smiling face of the district secretary (Mr. Arthur Hague), who was home on leave from the R.A.M.C., and able to be with his old friends. Sapper S. G. White, of Canterbury (a member of the Kent County Association), was also able to join the visitors, being in camp in the district.

By 4 p.m. the historical ring of six high up in the tower of the beautiful little church were raised, and touches in the standard method were rung during the afternoon. We have mentioned the bells as "historical," which term is borne out by the following narrative.

One, John Duke, of Barley Hall, near Wentworth, was the donor of the bells, and on the occasion of their being hung in the old church (which structure still stands in the village and bears the marks of the ravages of fire upon it), both he and his wife were drawn to the scene in their carriage by man-power. It is a noteworthy fact that Barley Hall has some historical connections and it is believed that John Wesley preached his first sermon in this notable house.

A splendid tea was partaken of by 30 of the visitors, while some late arrivals preferred to keep the bells going, thereby providing music for the others in the tea-room a few yards away.

At this juncture a letter was read to the company, which had been received from the head gardener on the Earl's estate (Mr. A. Thirl). This gentleman had kindly approached Countess Fitzwilliam (his lordship being with the colours in France), on behalf of the ringing visitors, and his letter stated he had been successful in obtaining permission for them to look over the gardens and conservatories.

**THE PAYMENT OF STEEPLEKEEPERS.**

A short business meeting was held following the tea, the vice-president (Mr. F. Willey) presiding.

Arising out of the minutes was the question of payment to steeplekeepers. It was pointed out that this matter would be brought before the General Committee at their next meeting, the basis on which such payment was being made at present being somewhat unsatisfactory.

Mr. D. Brearley moved a very hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar (the Rev. J. E. Rimmington Jones) and churchwardens for use of the bells, and to the local company for making all necessary arrangements. —This was seconded by Mr. J. T. Rew, and carried unanimously.

Mr. F. Willey, from the chair, moved a very hearty vote of thanks to the Countess Fitzwilliam for granting the visitors the privilege of having access to the gardens, and this was unanimously carried.

With reference to holding a December meeting, it was decided, after a short discussion, to approach the competent military authority in the Sheffield district with a view to having an extension of time, as otherwise it was thought inadvisable to hold a meeting, as the time for ringing would necessarily be very short.

The Chairman offered a hearty invitation to the Association to visit All Saints', Sheffield, if this application was successful. He remarked that a very pleasant meeting could be guaranteed by means of handbell ringing, and a suitable room for social intercourse.

Mr. S. Thomas proposed that the best thanks of the meeting be given to the district secretary pro tem. (Mr. L. Brightman) for carrying on the duties of secretary in the absence of Mr. A. Hague. The latter gentleman was also thanked for his services in an official capacity, and it was remarked how very pleased the members all were to see him present.

Both the secretary and secretary pro tem. suitably replied, Mr. Hague jovially remarking that it was very nice and comfortable to come to a meeting and have no work to do.

The visitors assembled at the estate gardens at 7 p.m. and were very cordially received by Miss Lucas, one of the head gardener's lady assistants.

The tour took the party through the vineries and all the conservatories, with a lovely walk among the exceptionally fine trees and flower gardens. In one of the larger conservatories a course of Grandsire Caters was rung by the following band: Miss W. M. Hague 1-2, Sapper S. G. White 3-4, G. Lewis 5-6, Pte. A. Hague 7-8, S. Thomas 9-10. At the close of the visit, this was repeated by the same band in front of the gardener's lodge. On this occasion several of his lordship's servants gathered to hear the handbells, and the performers were much applauded.

Mr. F. Willey expressed the thanks of all present to the guide, who suitably replied, intimating that the visit had given her much pleasure. Thus terminated one of the most enjoyable half-day meetings on record for the Southern district of the Association.

L. R.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

### NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT VISIT WHATTON.

On Saturday last, a "bye" day, to appropriate a sporting term, was chosen for a visit to Whatton, and the number of those who kept the appointment exceeded all expectations. A glorious day brought representatives from far and wide, including Nottingham, Grantham, Bottesford, Bulwell, Cotgrave, Long Bennington, Redcliffe, etc. It was quite like a cycle club Saturday afternoon run, and fine weather added to a very pleasant and interesting day. The faces of those present beamed with delight to have the opportunity of ringing upon the pretty peal of six bells in the parish church of Whatton, a homely and queenly edifice. Considerably over a score of ringers could be named, including a good round up of local men, who are under the able tutorship of the Rev. C. J. Sturton, whose efforts here and elsewhere are untiring, and undoubtedly give impetus to those who are willing to make progress. Another enthusiast is the Rev. A. D. Hill, of East Bridgford, a capable ringer, whose energy in trying conclusions with standard methods, with a view to further development, is amazing.

Those present included: Rev. A. D. Hill, East Bridgford; Rev. C. J. Sturton, Orston; W. C. Hunt, Beeston; T. Jennison, W. Spencer, and W. Wadsley, Bulwell; Miss J. D. Thompson, Miss D. White, G. Footitt, T. Squires, W. White, and W. E. White, Cotgrave; H. Thorpe, Grantham; A. Mackears, Long Bennington; A. Barratt, Daybrook; W. Flinders, T. H. Kirkby, and C. F. Vickers, Nottingham; G. Nowell, Radcliffe-on-Trent; F. Spencer; and six or seven of the local ringers.

The methods that were rung were numerous and of good quality, and were nearly equal to the number of ringers present. Cambridge Surprise Minor was the height of the day's ambition by a few, but sad to relate this quintessence of delight was not achieved, unless a touch was brought round after your correspondent had left. Kenil and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Double Court, Single Court, Bob Minor, etc., were a few of the most popular methods that ran out to a clean finish.

At an historic inn tea had been arranged by the Rev. C. J. Sturton. Returning afterward to the chief objective, the bells were again set in motion until darkness invited the party to bid adieu to the village and put an end to a grand afternoon and evening's programme.

The conducting was shared by Messrs. W. E. White, Walter White, Wadsley, W. C. Hunt, A. Barrett, etc. Miss Thompson rang the treble through a touch of 240 Bob Minor, in a very creditable manner, and Miss White (Cotgrave) also rang in a much improved style. Another event of interest was to see the Rev. C. J. Sturton and his pupil band of the Royal West Kent Regiment, congratulating him on being ances of growing merit will be placed to their credit in the very near future.

The company desire to express their thanks to the Rev. Dawson (Vicar) for placing the bells at their disposal, also to Mr. Huckerby and the Rev. C. J. Sturton, whose arrangements enabled such an enjoyable day to be spent.

## CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

### NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT.

The quarterly meeting of the Northampton District was held at Hardingstone on Saturday last, members being present from St. Peter's, St. Giles' and All Saints', Northampton; Kingsthorpe, Weston Pavell, Cogenhoe, Brafield, Wootton, Moulton, Harlestone, and the local band. It is very gratifying to see the new members turn up so well at these meetings, and much useful work was accomplished.

Service was conducted by the Vicar (the Ven. Archdeacon Kitchen), and the collection for the Association Belfry Fund amounted to 6s. 3d.

Tea was served at the Crown Inn, 26 being present. The business meeting followed. Mr. F. Hopper (vice-president) presiding.—Three new ringing members and one hon. member were elected, and Kingsthorpe was chosen for the next quarterly meeting.

It was unanimously agreed that a letter be sent to Pte. J. C. Dean, of the Royal West Kent Regiment, congratulating him on being awarded the military medal, an account of which appeared in last week's "Ringing World."—It was also decided to send a letter of condolence to the mother of Pte. R. Elson, Essex Regiment, a member of the Association, who fell in action on August 12th.

A cordial vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, and also for the service, the Vicar, in his reply, saying how pleased he was to welcome, for the first time, lady ringers to his church. They had, he remarked, nobly filled the gaps caused by so many of our brave boys who had gone—some, alas! never to return from this terrible war.

A vote of thanks to the local ringers and the host and hostess concluded the meeting.

## SAD NEWS FOR A MISSING SON.

The death took place on August 22nd of Mrs. Trappitt, mother of Mr. J. W. Trappitt, senr. Mr. Trappitt was formerly of Beddington, and one of the founders of the Surrey Association. His whereabouts, however, have been unknown to his family for the past 22 years, and, as they are unable to communicate with him, they hope this paragraph may meet his eye.

## 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.—Meetings will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the first Sunday in the month at 6 p.m.; and at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on the 25th, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Western District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Otley on Saturday, Sept. 22nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. until dusk. Business meeting in the Church Institute at 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bromsgrove on Saturday, September 22nd. Bells (10) available from 3 o'clock. Service in the church at 5 p.m. Business meeting in the schools at 5.30. The election of elective officers for the ensuing year takes place at this meeting.—E. J. Dowler, Branch Hon. Sec., 11, St. Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Barlow Moor, on Saturday, Sept. 22nd. Bells available at 4.30. Meeting at 6 p.m.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Central Division.—A meeting will be held at Uckfield on Saturday, September 22nd, for the election of Officers and other business. Tower open, 2.15. Business meeting in Parish Room, 4.30. Half railway fare.—A. D. Stone, Divisional Hon. Sec., 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Ashford District.—The annual meeting will be held at Ashford, by kind permission of the Vicar, Rev. E. K. Sopwith, on Wednesday, Sept. 26th. Ringing from 3 to 6. Service at 6 and tea (provided by the Association) at 6.30. Will all members intending to be present at the tea kindly inform me of same not later than Saturday, Sept. 22nd? Brother ringers in khaki will be heartily welcomed.—C. Tribe, Hon. Dist. Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

**HALIFAX & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—The quarterly meeting and six bell contest will be held at Tong on Saturday, September 29th, 1917. Ballot for order of ringing will take place in the school at 3 p.m. Entries for the contest to be sent to me not later than Monday, Sept. 24th.—F. Salmons, Secretary, 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Duffield on Saturday, September 29th. Bells ready at 2 o'clock. Committee meeting at 5.30. Tea at 6 at G. Austin and Co.'s, King Street. The tea will be 1/3 each, and will only be provided for those who notify Mr. J. Flower, Eaton Bank, Duffield, not later than the previous Thursday.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Stockport Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Stalybridge, on Saturday, September 29th.—A. T. Beeston, Hon. Sec., New Mills.



**ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—A meeting will be held at St. Peter's, South Croydon, on Saturday, Sept. 29th. Bells open from 4 to 7 p.m. Tea will be provided after ringing if members will let me know by the 24th.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

**CENTRAL NORTANTS ASSOCIATION.**—Wellingborough Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wilby on Saturday, September 29th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30.—W. Perkins, Dist. Sec., 6, Addington Road, Irthlingborough.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guildford District.—The next practice meeting will be held at Worplesdon on Saturday, Sept. 29th. The bells (6) will be available from 5 p.m. till dusk. All ringers welcome.—A. C. Hazelden, St. Michael's, Joseph's Road, Guildford.

**LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Chepstow on Saturday, September 29th, at 5 o'clock. Bells available during the afternoon and evening, and tea will be kindly provided.—Rev. Connop L. Price, John W. Jones, Hon. Secs., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—A quarterly meeting will be held at Corston on Saturday, Sept. 29th. Tea at 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Service in the Parish Church at 6.15 p.m.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's Church, Farnworth, on Saturday, Oct. 6th, 1917. Bells ready at 5. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton, Branch Secretary.

**LEEDS & DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The next monthly meeting of this Society will be held at Bramley on Saturday, Oct. 6th, 1917. The business meeting will be held in the Cardigan Arms at 7 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

**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.

#### SPITTLE MEMORIAL FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged	-	12	14 0
Mr. T. Bratton, St. Martin's, Birmingham	-	0	2 6
Total	£12	16	6

#### NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL GUILD.

On Sunday, Sept. 16th, a touch of 960 Forward Maximus was rung for service in the evening, by: W. Cooke 1, A. Dalton 2, G. L. Routledge 3, W. H. Barber (conductor) 4, W. Sinclair 5, A. Holmes 6, W. Story 7, W. J. Hazell 8, A. Hillier 9, J. E. Keen 10, B. Dixon 11, R. Richards 12, as a farewell to Mr. W. J. Hazell, who is leaving Newcastle for Woolwich. The members wish to express their appreciation of his kindly assistance and unfailing regularity of attendance during the few months he has been with them.

**NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.**—On Sunday, August 12th, for evening service, at the Cathedral, on the back six, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: A. Dutton 1, W. J. Hazell 2, A. F. Hillier 3, B. C. Dixon 4, J. E. Keen (conductor) 5, R. Richard 6.—On Sunday, August 28th, 720 Oxford Minor: Pte. T. Male (St. Mary's, Warwick) 1, A. Holmes 2, A. F. Hillier 3, W. Sinclair 4, J. Keen (conductor) 5, R. Richards 6.

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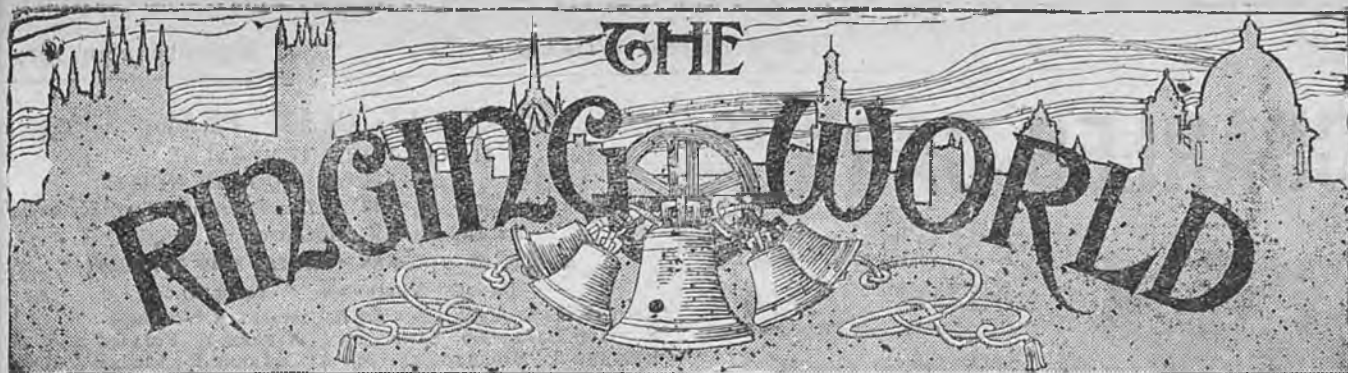
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No. 341. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28th, 1917.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for  
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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, 1918  
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.

## RINGING AFTER DARK.

Now that we have reverted from "summer" time to old time, the hours for ringing, with the lengthening evenings, are much curtailed, and already under the Defence of the Realm regulations it is not permissible to ring up to the usual hour of evening service. We hope, however, that ringers will take steps to approach the "Competent Military Authority" in their respective districts with a view to obtaining a special relaxation of the regulations, as was done very generally last year. It will be remembered that in many areas the military, on being approached, sanctioned the ringing of bells up to 9 p.m. The permission was first given in London, and we ascertained officially from the Home Office that the proper step to be taken to secure the extension of the privilege was to make application to the Competent Military Authority in each area. In some commands the number of applications was so great that the military approached the bishops, requesting them to circulate the official information of the modification of the regulations to all churches in the areas concerned.

It was only on the East Coast—the point most exposed to hostile attack, and, of course, the first to be reached by raiding aircraft—that permission to ring to a later hour than that prescribed in the regulations was withheld. That was a measure of precaution at which no one could grumble, but since that time the conditions of the enemy raids seem to have changed, so that it is not without hope that applications may be made again in those districts which were refused permission early this year.

In the case of those who last winter obtained sanction to ring up to 9 p.m. there seems no reason to suppose that a similar relaxation of restrictions will not be obtained during the coming long evenings. Ringers should get their incumbents to move in the matter at once, so that service and practice ringing may be continued. It must be borne in mind that without obtaining the consent of the Competent Military Authority for the district—the police can give information as to who this is—it is an offence under the Defence of the Realm Act for bells to be rung between half an hour after sunset and half an hour before sunrise. Next Sunday the restrictions will apply from about 6.15 p.m., so that bells cannot be rung up to the usual service hour of 6.30 without risk of a prosecution. But with the precedent of last winter as a guide, there seems no reason why, for the greater part of the country, at any rate, the consent of the Competent Military Authority should not be forthcoming. We shall be glad to hear of districts in which application is made, whether successfully or otherwise.

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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.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,  
Vicar of Broomfield.

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## EIGHT BELL PEAL.

MARKET DRAYTON, SALOP.

THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

On Saturday, September 22, 1917, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

BROOKS' VARIATION. Tenor 17 cwt.

*ERNEST WEATHERBY... .. Treble	WILLIAM SAUNDERS ... 3
RICHARD LANGFORD, SENR. 2	ALFRED E. FULLOCK ... 6
RICHARD T. HOLDING ... 3	CHARLES R. LILLEY ... 7
LEONARD HEWITT ... .. 4	*GEORGE HALL ... .. Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

\* First peal of Stedman. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. E. Weatherby and as a welcome home from Canada. The ringers of treble and 8th belong to Drayton, 2nd and 3rd to Crews, 4th and 5th to Coalbrookdale, 6th and 7th to St. Chad's, Shrewsbury.

## HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, September 18, 1917, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. W. T. COCKERILL,  
32, EDGELEY ROAD, CLAPHAM, S.W.,

**A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANCES;**

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL... 1—2	HARRY R. PASMORE ... 5—6
CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... 3—4	HERBERT LONDON... .. 7—8
ALFRED B. PECK ... .. 9—10	

Composed by NATHAN J. PIZSTOW, and  
Conducted by HARRY R. PASMORE.

Umpire: EDWIN HORREX.

## A PILGRIMAGE.

On Saturday last, at the invitation of a kind lady, four pilgrims journeyed north-west to have a ring and spend a pleasant hour. Meeting at Willesden Parish Church at 4 p.m. sharp (some were three-quarters of an hour late!) a "ripping" quarter-peal of Double Norwich Major was rung in 45 mins. A course of Cambridge Major followed, and the bells were then lowered. The band was as follows: 'Billy' 1, 'Blinkine' 2, 'Professor' 3, 'Nibs' 4, 'Pesser' 5, 'Farver' 6, 'Nuttie' 7, the 'Worthy Steward' 8, conducted by 'Farver.' First in both methods on the bells.

The party then adjourned to the lady's residence for tea. After the pilgrims had contributed their portions of that scarce but necessary commodity, sugar, ample justice was done to the viands provided. The remainder of the evening was spent in the manner so well liked by all who are interested in the art—handbell ringing, gossip and smoke. All too soon an enjoyable evening came to a close, and after a course of Stedman Cinques and some coffee and sandwiches, the four pilgrims were conveyed to the station (railway) by two of the locals and sent home rejoicing. The party wish to express their hearty thanks to "Nibs" for her kindly invitation. C. H. H.

## A FIVE-PART PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By A. J. PITMAN, PORT TALBOT.

234567

752634 1

557423 5

728534 3

637245 3

236674 5

532467 6

745632 1

327564 2

523476 5

425837 5

764325 1

387542 5

463758 2

964378 2

365247 5

263754 5

762435 5

467523 5

354267 1

253748 5

Repeat 4 times,

ending H B S 235476

H P S 5 234567

## TOUCHES OF STEDMAN TRIPLES.

By G. E. SYMONDS, FRAMLINGHAM.

Appended is the continuation of the sequence of touches of Stedman Triples from 100 changes upwards. The first series appeared on page 291.

Bobs at S = 3-4; H = 5-6; L = 7-8; Q = 12-13.

Touches from 123456 start with a slow six.

No. of Changes.		No. of Changes.	
150	123456	163	123456
	523614 S 13		146253 Q
	Rounds by S, 8, 10, 11.		Rounds by 3, 7, 10, 11, Q, 14s.
151	123456	164	123456
	264531 3, 6 L 12		23456 H
	Rounds by 3, 5, 10, 11, 12s.		Rounds by 3, 6, 7, 12, 13.
152	123456	165	231456
	643125 H L		345261 H Q
	Rounds by 3, L, 10, 11, 12.		Rounds by 5, L, 10, 11, Q, 14s.
153	231456	166	221456
	452136 S H L 10s Q		536421 S
	Rounds by 3, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11.		Rounds by 3, 5.
154	231456	167	123456
	536421 S		246153 10s Q
	Rounds by 3, 6, 10, 11, 12.		Rounds by 5, L, 10, 11, Q.
155	123456	168	221456
	415362 6 7 10s 13		321455 H
	Rounds by S, H, L, 10, 11.		231456 H
			or any pair of bobs in the same place in each course.
156	231456	169	123456
	536421 S		543216 L
	Rounds by 4, 10, 11, 12.		Rounds by 8, 12, 15s.
157	123456	170	123456
	215364 H 13		543216 L
	Rounds by S, 10, 11, 12, 13s.		126346 S L 13
158	123456	171	221456
	124365 6 7 12		626431 H L Q
	Rounds by S, 10, 11, 12, 13s.		Rounds by 3, H, 7, 12, 15s.
159	231456	172	123456
	625134 S 10s 13		543216 L
	Rounds by S, H, L, 10, 11, 12.		235146 S H 8 Q
160	123456	173	231456
	426153 S 8		541326 L
	Rounds by 3, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13.		Rounds by 3, 12, 15s.
161	231456	174	123456
	512634 S 6 13		146253 Q
	Rounds by S, H, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13s.		315246 H L Q
162	123456	175	123456
	463215 6 8		146253 Q
	Rounds by S, H, 10, 11, 12, 13.		426136 H Q
			Rounds by 1, 2s.

(To be continued.)

## DEATH OF WELL-KNOWN READING RINGER

The death occurred on August 30th, at his residence, 56, Hatherley Road, Reading, of Mr. W. J. Williams, a well-known and much respected Reading ringer and choirman. Mr. Williams went to Reading in 1881, from London, where he formerly resided. His father was a ringer and steeplekeeper at the Parish Church, Richmond, during many years, so doubtless his love of, and skill with, bells was inherited. At the time he went to Reading Mr. Williams found the rejuvenation of St. Laurence's splendid peal in progress, and was welcomed as a member of the re-organised society there. His outstanding talents soon marked him out for conductor, and his name is prominent in the tower in connection with many good performances, recorded on permanent tablets, in that capacity. During recent years Mr. Williams assisted in the choir at St. Luke's Church, both as singer and hon. secretary, and he will be remembered with grateful affection by his fellow churchmen there.

The first portion of the funeral service was held at St. Luke's, and concluded at the cemetery. St. Laurence's bells were rung half-muffled in the evening, first by the new band of ringers, taught and conducted by Mr. W. Newell, and afterwards by a band of old friends, who, as a tribute of respect, rang the whole-pull and stand, and a short touch of Stedman Triples, conducted by Mr. R. T. Hibbert, of Caversham.

## RINGER AT SALONICA FIRE.

SAPPER COLES DESCRIBES THE SCENE.

Sapper C. T. Coles, Hon. Secretary of Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild, who is now with the Royal Engineers at Salonica, writes, sending good wishes to his ringing friends. In his letter he gives an interesting account of the recent devastating fire, which destroyed such a large part of Salonica. He says:

"I am glad to be able to say I have had very good health out here, considering the climate. The heat has been simply awful ever since the end of May, but it is just beginning to cool down. Not much, especially in the day time, but enough to bring relief. In midsummer, for about three months, it was really too hot for me to explain. At nights the sweat simply rolled out, and your clothes soon got soaked through. Lucky is the man who gets through without any ill, but these are not many. The worst cases go to hospital, but apart from these, it is quite common for men to be off for two or three days. However, I have only had a couple of days down since I have been here, so I have been very lucky.

"I had a good view of the big fire. Our dump is about two miles away from town, and we noticed the smoke of the fire on that Saturday afternoon. The brand-new fire engine, a motor from our dump, soon went off. Towards evening we could see the fire spreading. There was a big wind blowing across the town, and this carried the flames along. When it got dark we could see that a large portion of the town was alight, and it was a really awful sight, it seemed like miles of fire. We perched ourselves on top of a big stack of hay, watching the flames. Occasionally a building went down, causing a big burst of flame. We could see the minarets outlined against the sky, and it seemed as if some must collapse, but although many were right in the fire area, yet they only lost their metal tops. Very strange indeed!

"We were up soon after three next morning (Sunday) and the fire was then burning fiercer than ever, and it looked as if the whole town, except that part behind the wind, would be destroyed. During the morning I got permission to go in, and got quite close to the fire. The Allies were all busy, but there were very few up-to-date appliances, with the result that the fire in many places was allowed to burn. However, by blowing up some buildings, and concentrating on others to prevent the fire spreading, it was eventually localised, although the wind changing that Sunday night made us think it was all up with the other part of the town. Luckily we were wrong.

"I saw many refugees. Crowds of people had got their bedding in the streets, and there they stopped for some days afterwards, until the Allies made provision for them. I have been in town a couple of times recently to look at the ruins. All the business part of the place is destroyed, including the Rue Egnatia and the Rue Venezelos. The latter is the chief thoroughfare leading up from the sea-front, and it contained many fine hotels, where all the big 'nobs' used to stay. They are now all done for. Nearly the whole of the sea front is also gone. I think about a dozen buildings escaped on a frontage of a mile or so. In Rue Venezelos were all the best shops, big drapers, jewellers, etc., and in the side turnings was quite a big bazaar. All these places were destroyed, and it is next door to impossible to buy any of the souvenirs for which Salonica was, a short time ago, famous. Now you can see the once fine owners of the jewellers' shops sifting the rubbish. It is really too sad to dwell on. In the residential part despoiled people are still searching among the ruins of their homes.

"On the whole, however, they take it all very quietly, seeming to look upon it as part of life to be turned out of home at a moment's notice. Most likely some of them have been refugees before, in this part of the world where war seems part of the daily task. We soldiers here have lost our Y.M.C.A. building, and as nearly all the cafes have been destroyed there is not much in Salonica to see, worse luck! and nowhere at all to go in the evenings."

## A WELCOME HOME.

On Saturday last eight members of the Salop Guild paid a visit to Market Drayton to attempt a peal of Stedman, as a welcome home from Canada, and a birthday compliment to Mr. E. Weatherby, who had been away some years. Four cycling members met at Hodnet, on the road, where hang a peal of six, in an octagonal tower. A run of five miles further brought them to Drayton, where the two men from Crewe and the locals were found ready. The peal, as recorded in another column, was successfully accomplished in 2 hrs. 45 mins. After the bells had been lowered a move was made to the Lion Hotel, where Mr. Weatherby had kindly provided an excellent tea, after which the handbells were brought into use, and Grandsire Caters and Triples were rung. Mr. Saunders then introduced a touch of Grandsire, conducted by him in his usual form: C. R. Lilley 1-2, W. Saunders 4-5, R. T. Holding 6-3; which had a very pleasing effect.—A hearty vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. Weatherby for his kindness in providing tea, and also to the hostess.

HAWKSHEAD.—Lancashire Association.—On August 29th, in 1hr. and 4 mins., at St. Michael's Church, a date touch of Boh Minor (1917 changes): C. E. Webb (conductor) 1, W. D. Heelis 2, F. W. Coward 3, T. Bradley 4, T. Townson 5, J. Ellwood 6.

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry  
Established  
A.D. 1670.

Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring  
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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.*

## BERKSHIRE TOWERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In reply to Mr. E. J. Pannett's inquiries as to the bells in certain Berkshire towers, the following are the particulars he asks for: Faringdon, 8; tenor: 45 5-8 dia., 15 cwt. Stanford-in-the-Vale, 6; tenor: 47½ dia., 16½ cwt. Offington, 5; tenor: 44½ dia., 14½ cwt.

The weights are computed, and would be about correct if the canons were off the tenors. Perhaps another ¾-cwt. each might thus be allowed. Faringdon tenor is by Wells, 1779; Stanford tenor by Bagley, 1738; Offington tenor by Rudhall, 1762. These tenors are very prominent because very "thin."—Yours faithfully,  
10, Gloucester Street, Swindon. J. H. SHEPHERD.

## SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Central Division was held at Uckfield on Saturday last, nineteen members being present. Ringing commenced at three o'clock, and at 4 p.m. tea was kindly provided in the Parish Room by the Rector (the Rev. E. Sanderson, M.A.).

The business meeting followed, the Rector presiding.—The Rev. H. R. Williams (Rector of Little Horsted) was elected an hon. member; and the following Divisional officers were appointed: Messrs. A. D. Stone, hon. sec.; R. J. Dawe, E. C. Morritt, and F. Protherough, committee. Mr. W. Palmer (St. Nicholas', Brighton) was appointed on the Committee of Advice, in place of Mr. F. W. Rice.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Rector for his kindness in providing tea, presiding at the meeting, and allowing the use of the bells, to which the Rector suitably replied.

The tower was again visited until dark, various methods from Grand-sire to Surprise being rung. The following towers were represented: St. Peter's and St. Nicholas' (Brighton), Burgess Hill, Balcombe, Seaford, Southover (Lewes), Rotherfield, Christ Church (Eastbourne), Shoreham, and the local band. In addition, Mr. G. Williams (hon. secretary of Winchester Guild) and Gen. R. Clifford, R.G.A. (Beeston, Notts), were also present.

## STEDMAN TRIPLES.

To the Editor.

Sir,—A touch of 108 Stedman Triples, with the start given by Mr. Symonds last week, is impossible, and I think the following shows this fairly clearly:—

1234567		1234567
2 7 5 (1)		2 7 5
2 7 15 (2)		B 2 75
B 25 7 (3)		B 2 5
B 5 2 1 (4)		25
25 1 (5)		5 2
B 2 15 (6)		5 2
12 5 (7)		25
1 52 (8)		2 5
B 512 (9)		B 25
51 2 (10)		B 2 5
B 25 (11)		5
25 (12)		5
5 2 (13)		5 1
5 1 2 (14)		51
51 2 (15)		51 2
51 2 (16)		125
125 (17)		125
1234567 (18)		1234567

The figures in italics in the above diagrams show the positions in which 1, 2 and 5 must be at the beginning and end of the touch. Investigation shows that 5 in slow at (4) or after, 1 at (6) or after, 2 at (8) or after, are impossible. In the light of this, the two diagrams show the only possible ways of dealing with 5. In the first diagram, 2 can be fitted in, but treble is sent in slow at (10). In the second, 2 is sent in slow at (10). The touch is, therefore, demonstrated impossible.—Yours truly,  
H. W. FRIGHT.

## BACUP RINGER'S DEATH.

The death has occurred at Bacup, of Mr. George Coates, who passed away at the early age of 23 years. The deceased was a bell ringer and Sunday School teacher. He was employed on the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway, and the Associated Society of Engineers and Firemen was numerously represented at the funeral, which took place at Bacup on the 17th inst. The ringers of St. Saviour's and Christ Church were represented by Messrs. W. Ashworth and W. Ormerod, and St. Saviour's Sunday School by the Superintendent (Mr. A. Netherwood). There were a number of wreaths, and after the funeral the bells of St. Saviour's Church were rung deeply muffled. On Sunday last, for morning service, with the bells again muffled, 720 Rob Minor was rung by: W. Ormerod 1, G. Brown 2, J. S. Lomas (conductor) 3, L. Holt 4, D. Briggs 5, W. Ashworth 6.



### DEATH OF MR. J. W. WHITING. WINCHESTER GUILD'S LOSS.

It is with sincere regret that we have to record the death of Mr. John W. Whiting, of Boreham, who passed away after a long illness, on Thursday in last week. By his demise, Hampshire ringing circles loses one of its best known and most respected figures, and the Winchester Guild an enthusiastic member and loyal worker. For many years Mr. Whiting ably discharged the duties of hon. secretary for the Portsmouth District, served on the Central Committee of the Guild, and represented the Guild on the Central Council. Although in later years his malady debarred him from taking more than an occasional part in the practice of ringing, he maintained a never-failing interest in the Exercise and the Guild to the end, his only regret being that he was unable to show the zeal which formerly characterised his participation in the art.

"There was something peculiarly warm in Jack Whiting's nature," writes an old friend. "When I first met him, now many years ago, I was struck by his affability, and throughout our long acquaintance I never once saw his temper ruffled. From behind that shaggy black head of his, his face would beam with delight when greeting an old acquaintance, and he was always ready with a joke or a bit of chat when occasion offered. He was a most unselfish ringer. Ready to stand in or out of a peal to oblige, always prepared to do the 'steeplekeeping' when bells wanted tending or ropes mending, he was a genial companion, a staunch friend, and a ringer of no mean ability. At Boreham he had charge of a ring of bells which were not the best in the world, but 'they were better than nothing,' as he used to say, and he looked after them, all the while he was able, with almost parental care. He could tell many a good ringing tale, and in the old days of the Hampshire ringing tours, of which pleasant memories still survive, he was a very active spirit. Jack Whiting was one of those men who never made an enemy, but he could claim as friend every ringer who had the pleasure of his acquaintanceship. Now he has gone, after a long and patiently borne illness, and many of us will feel that there is a gap in the circle of our friendship which even Time, the great healer, will have much difficulty in filling."

### RINGER'S WEDDING AT WILLENHALL.

On Sunday last, the marriage took place at the Church of St. Giles', Willenhall, Staffs, of Mr. Laurence J. Williams and Miss Bertha Cope. The bridegroom was at one time a member of the local band, but a short time before the outbreak of war his family moved to Lancashire. When war was declared he joined the 4th East Lancashire Regiment, and served with them at the Dardanelles, where he was severely wounded, subsequently getting his discharge. Mr. Fred J. Ward, who acted as best man, is one of the local ringers, and has seen service with the 35th Division R.A.M.C., being present at the Battle of the Somme, where he contracted trench fever, and has recently been discharged from hospital.

After ringing the bridal party into church, the ringers attended the service, and at the conclusion the bells were fired, and touches of Stedman and Grandsire were rung by E. Horton, A. E. Reed, W. E. Wathen, I. Evans, C. Wallater, J. Harper, R. Davies, G. Phillips, H. Ward.

### UNSUCCESSFUL PEAL ATTEMPTS.

At St. Margaret's Church, Ipswich, on Saturday week, an attempt for Holt's ten-part peal was made, but the bells were brought round half-way owing to the indisposition of one of the band. The peal was arranged for Mr. S. A. Boar, who has recently been initiated as a resident member of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, of which his brother, Mr. A. S. Boar, now serving in France, is a member. It was Mr. Boar's first attempt for a peal, and great credit is due to him for the manner in which he rang. The band was: S. A. Boar 1, J. Motts (conductor) 2, E. Pemberton 3, W. Hewett 4, W. Motts 5, W. Burgess 6, R. H. Brundle 7, W. L. Catchpole 8.

On the same day an attempt for the same composition at Cranleigh Parish Church, Surrey, came to grief, the ringing having lasted 2 hrs. 25 mins. The cause was a missed bob at the 7th part end. The failure was much regretted by all the band, as the peal had been arranged to celebrate the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. R. Whittington, both of whom took part in the event, and who had a similar disappointment in an attempt for a peal earlier in the year in honour of their 25th wedding day. The band was: P. H. Doick (Pulborough) 1, Mrs. R. Whittington 2, F. Blondell (Woking) 3, F. E. Dawe (Bramley) 4, C. Hazelden (Guildford) 5, F. Shepherd (Hersham) 6, W. Charman 7, R. Whittington 8. This was the longest length rung by Mrs. Whittington with a "bob" bell. Afterwards the party were entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. Whittington, and handbell ringing was enjoyed. The thanks of the band are due to the Rev. Philip Cunningham, Rector and Rural Dean, for his permission to attempt the peal.

WOKING, SURREY.—At St. Peter's Church, on Sunday evening, Sept. 23rd, 720 Bob Minor: Sergt. Edwards 1, W. J. Lee 2, F. Blondell 3, J. Street 4, J. S. Goldsmith 5, T. Strudwick (conductor) 6.

### CLUN CELEBRATES BELLS' ANNIVERSARY.

For close on three and a half centuries there has been a ring of bells at St. George's Parish Church, Clun, Shropshire, and in war, as in peace, they have continued to fulfil their purpose.

"SING WEE MERILY. PEACE BEE TO CLUN, 1668,"

was the inscription on one of the ancient bells, and reproduced on one of the new octaves, placed in the church in 1914. Sunday, September 16th, was the third anniversary of the re-dedication of the restored tower, clock and bells, and was commemorated at the evening services, when special hymns were sung, including "Unchanging God, Who livest." An eloquent sermon was preached by the Vicar (the Rev. R. D. Machen) from Ps. vi. 3, "Who will show us any good?" He dwelt on the excellent things that had been accomplished by the church, in spite of the bad times, through war, and how the various agencies of good work had been kept going, and how difficulties had been surmounted. When the great war broke out they were left with a large debt on the work, but with splendid effort and self-denial on the part of some it had all been cleared off. Some said, now they had the new bells, they would not be able to have them rung, but had they been silent? When their young ringers left to take their part in fighting for King and country, God put it into the hearts of others to take their place, and they knew what result.

Some well-struck Grandsire Doubles were rung on the bells, and ringing concluded with some good "rounds" on the eight, in which some of the probationers took part.

### CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the Thrapston District was held at Tichmarsh, on Saturday week, a good number of members and friends being present, and touches of Kent, Grandsire, Bob Triples and Bob Major rung. Service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. A. M. Luckcock), the collection for the Belfry Repair Fund amounting to 9s. 8d. Tea was provided at the Dog and Partridge Inn. The business meeting followed, the Rector presiding, supported by the Rev. F. H. Lang (vice-president), the Rev. R. Copeman (vice-president of the Kettering district), the general secretary, and Mrs. F. Wilford.—It was decided to hold the next meeting at Ringstead, in February, 1918.—One ringing member was elected, and the usual votes of thanks were passed.—The Rector, in reply, said it gave him much pleasure to welcome them to Tichmarsh. The tower was then again visited, which concluded a successful meeting.

### DEATH OF A SALEHURST RINGER.

The death took place during the early hours of the 13th inst., of Mr. W. T. Cramp, of Salehurst, Sussex, at the comparatively early age of 35, a very highly respected inhabitant and member of the local branch of the Sussex County Association. Deceased, a son of Mr. W. Cramp, of Northbridge Street, Robertsbridge, has been a sufferer for years from consumption, but he bore his illness with great patience and fortitude. He had been employed as a bricklayer for a long time by Mr. L. French (also a local ringer), but owing to his illness had practically been unable to work during the past 4½ years. He commenced to ring about 15 years ago, and although he never completed a 5040, he had rung several quarter-peals of Grandsire. He was an enthusiastic ringer, a good and careful striker, a very regular attendant (except when prevented by his illness), always agreeable and courteous, and his assistance in the care of the bells, especially as a splicer of the bell ropes, will be greatly missed. Although suffering as he was, he was always ready to take a spare rope when the band met short, and the Salehurst ringers have lost a comrade whom it will be hard to replace. He leaves a widow and five small children to mourn their loss, and to them the very deepest sympathy goes out, as, owing to the length of deceased's illness, they have been left practically unprovided for.

The funeral took place at Salehurst on the 15th inst., amidst every sign of regret, the deceased being laid to rest just under the tower containing the bells he loved so well. The Vicar (the Rev. C. E. Ward) officiated, and the ringers acted as bearers. In addition to the relatives and friends present, the local band were represented by Messrs. Booth, Edwards, French, Goodsell, Perry and T. Hoad; the Battle ringers by Messrs. Franks, Aldridge, Carter and Dennis; and the Whirling ringers by Mr. Geo. Pont. After the funeral the usual whole pull and stand was rung, also touches of Grandsire Doubles and Triples, with the bells half-muffled.

### LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last the members of the Manchester Branch met at Barlow Moor, representatives being present from the towers of Ashton-under-Lyne, Didsbury, Flixton, Pendleton, Preswick, Hyde and Penistone. Touches in the standard methods were rung. Mr. Bert Davies presided over the business meeting, and gave a hearty welcome to the ringers.—St. Michael's, Ashton-under-Lyne, was chosen as the next meeting-place, on October 20th.—A vote of thanks was accorded the Rector for the use of the bells, and to the local ringers for having things ready.

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**WOLVEY, WARWICKSHIRE.**—On August 12th, for morning service, at St. John's Baptist Church, 120 Grandsire Doubles: J. H. Beale 1, W. Thorpe 2, E. J. Boot (Beeston, Notts) 3, J. Upton 4, F. S. Price (Beeston, Notts) 5. First changes on the bells for Sunday services for over eighteen months. There are only three of the original ringers left, the others being with the colours. The ringers of 3 and 5 luckily arrived just as the others were chiming, and took the opportunity of having a ring, reaching home afterwards in time to take their usual place for evening service.

**ABERAVON.**—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—At St. Mary's Church, on August 12th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: E. Stith 1, A. Perry 2, W. Norton 3, D. Frankom 4, R. Thompson (conductor) 5, F. B. Stedman 6, A. J. Pitman 7, J. Wethersby 8. Arranged for R. Thompson, who sails from Chepstow.

**STOKE POLES, BUCKS.**—On August 14th, for Miss Parry's wedding, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: W. Henley 1, J. J. Parker 2, Miss G. E. Bateman (conductor) 3, G. H. Gutteridge 4, W. J. Bateman 5, W. Blackmore 6. Also 480 in the same method (in which Miss Fuller rang the treble) and two six-scores of Stedman Doubles.

**STANDISH, LANCS.**—On August 18th, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples (2520 changes), in 1 hr. 38 mins.: J. Gray 1, T. Lofthouse 2, J. Grounds 3, J. H. Garbide, jun., 4, J. Hopwood 5, E. Rigby (conductor) 6, P. Crook 7, J. Booth 8.

**DARLINGTON.**—On Sunday, August 19th, at St. John's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): A. Coates 1, T. Clark 2, A. F. West 3, W. D. Lister 4, Sergt. Gregory, R.G.A., 5, E. J. Redfern 6, W. H. Porter (conductor) 7, J. Craven 8. Arranged for Sergt. Gregory, R.G.A., of Wantage, Berks, who is now stationed at Catterick.

**BEDFORD.**—At the Church of St. Peter de Merton on Sunday, August 19th, 720 London Surprise Minor: A. Robinson 1, B. Saddington 2, C. W. Clarke 3, Miss E. Steel 4, W. Stapleton (conductor) 5, E. P. Duffield 6.—On August 26th, 720 Cambridge Surprise: J. Bates 1, G. Basford 2, C. W. Clarke (conductor) 3, Miss E. Steel 4, F. Inskip 5, A. Robinson 6; also 720 London Surprise: A. Robinson 1, Miss D. Steel 2, C. W. Clarke 3, Miss E. Steel 4, G. Basford 5, W. Stapleton (conductor) 6.

**LUTON, BEDS.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, August 19th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1312 changes), in 51 mins.: J. Rookwood 1, F. Hunt 2, B. Wilson 3, L. A. Goodenough 4, T. Blackburne 5, T. Kendall 6, Pte. H. Walker (5th Beds Regiment) 7, A. King (conductor) 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to ringer of the 4th; also as a welcome to ringer of the 7th, who was home on leave.

**DEPTFORD, KENT.**—At St. John's Church, on Sunday, August 19th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 41 mins.: Alf. E. Bennington 1, E. B. Crowder 2, E. J. Pannett 3, A. G. Mason 4, Pte. E. Mounter, A.S.C. (Curry Rivel, Somerset) 5, J. Law 6, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 7, Arch. Bennington 8.

**FULHAM.**—At All Saints' Church, on Sunday, August 19th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1263 changes): R. Harvey 1, W. E. Garrard (conductor) 2, A. W. Davis 3, W. H. Hollier 4, A. Cutmore 5, E. E. Cole 6, J. W. Driver 7, H. Miles 8, C. Charge 9, M. E. Smith 10. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. M. E. Smith, who attained his 63rd year.—On Sunday, August 26th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1263 changes), in 49 mins.: L. Attwater (conductor) 1, J. W. Driver 2, W. E. Garrard 3, Robert Holloway (Acton), first quarter of Stedman Caters, 4, A. Cutmore 5, A. W. Davis 6, A. Darlington 7, W. H. Hollier 8, C. Charge 9, Pte. G. F. Edwards, A.S.C., 10.

**PERDINGTON.**—On Sunday, August 19th, for evening service, at the Abbey Church of SS. Thomas and Edmund (R.C.), a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins.: B. W. Witcheil 1, T. Ward 2, W. Stringer 3, J. Seahorn 4, J. B. Collett 5, Bro. Pancras Piekard, O.S.B., 6, J. George (composer and conductor) 7, Bro. Wulstan, O.S.B., 8. Rung half-muffled, on the anniversary of Rev. Father Shvester, Silesd.

**BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.**—On August 22nd, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: A. Crane 1, W. Mead 2, F. Hedges 3, C. A. Valentine 4, H. Sear 5, T. Tompkins 6, W. Sear (conductor) 7, F. Whitehead 8. First quarter in the method by T. Tompkins. It was arranged for him and C. A. Valentine, Stony Stratford, and also rung as a birthday compliment to F. Whitehead.

**KNIGHTON, LEICESTER.**—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, August 26th, 360 Grandsire Doubles; for morning service, 720 Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: Miss E. A. Fuller 1, T. S. Smith 2, G. T. Leader 3, Gnr. E. Hancox, R.G.A. (conductor) 4, T. Smith (St. Andrew's) 5, W. Henley 6, E. Hooper 7, P. Kedg 8, Miss Fuller's first quarter-peal. Meeting with ten ringers, R. Carter and G. Gutteridge stood out. Gnr. Hancox was home on week-end leave from Aldershot.

**UXBRIDGE, MIDDLESEX.**—Oxford Guild.—On Sunday morning, August 26th, at St. Margaret's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: Miss E. A. Fuller 1, T. S. Smith 2, G. T. Leader 3, Gnr. E. Hancox, R.G.A. (conductor) 4, T. Smith (St. Andrew's) 5, W. Henley 6, E. Hooper 7, P. Kedg 8, Miss Fuller's first quarter-peal. Meeting with ten ringers, R. Carter and G. Gutteridge stood out. Gnr. Hancox was home on week-end leave from Aldershot.

## NOTICES.

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

**HALIFAX & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—The quarterly meeting and six bell contest will be held at Tong on Saturday, September 29th, 1917. Ballot for order of ringing will take place in the school at 3 p.m.—F. Salmons, Secretary, 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Duffield on Saturday, September 29th. Bells ready at 2 o'clock. Committee meeting at 5.30. Tea at 6 at G. Austin and Co.'s, King Street. The tea will be 1/3 each, and will only be provided for those who notify Mr. J. Flower, Eaton Bank, Duffield.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Stockport Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Stalybridge, on Saturday, September 29th.—A. T. Beeston, Hon. Sec., New Mills.

**ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**—A meeting will be held at St. Peter's, South Croydon, on Saturday, Sept. 29th. Bells open from 4 to 7 p.m.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

**CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**—Wellingborough Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wilby on Saturday, September 29th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30.—W. Perkins, Dist. Sec., 6, Addington Road, Irthlingborough.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guildford District.—The next practice meeting will be held at Worplesdon on Saturday, Sept. 29th. The bells (6) will be available from 5 p.m. till dusk. All ringers welcome.—A. C. Hazelden, St. Michael's, Joseph's Road, Guildford.

**LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Chepstow on Saturday, September 29th, at 5 o'clock. Bells available during the afternoon and evening, and tea will be kindly provided.—Rev. Connop L. Price, John W. Jones, Hon. Secs., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—A quarterly meeting will be held at Corston on Saturday, Sept. 29th. Tea at 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Service in the Parish Church at 6.15 p.m.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

**OXFORD GUILD.**—A combined practice of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch will be held at St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, on Saturday next, Sept. 29th. Bells, 6.15 p.m. until 8.30 p.m. Ringing friends' help will be much appreciated.—G. H. Gutteridge.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., at 8 p.m., for handbell practice, on Oct. 4th and 18th, and for general business on the 9th and 23rd; also at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Sunday the 7th, at 10 a.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's Church, Farnworth, on Saturday, Oct. 6th, 1917. Bells ready at 5. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton, Branch Secretary.

**LEEDS & DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The next monthly meeting of this Society will be held at Bramley on Saturday, Oct. 6th, 1917. The business meeting will be held in the Cardigan Arms at 7 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Walton on Saturday, Oct. 13th. Bells ready at 3.30. Tea and meeting, 6. Members intending being present please send word.—W. Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.**—Established 1755.—Next quarterly meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Erdington, on Saturday, Oct. 13th. Bells available from 3. By the kind invitation of the Erdington Parish Church Society, tea will be provided in the Church Room at 5 o'clock free, for all those who advise Mr. J. Preston, 13, Holifast Road, Erdington, *not later than Oct. 10th*, of their intention to be present.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

**SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**—Quarterly meeting will be held at Brierley Hill on Saturday, October 13th. Bells available at 3. Short service in church at 5.15, with an address by the Rector (Rev. H. W. Jones). Tea (1s.) in the Schoolroom at 6. Reports will be ready for distribution. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than Tuesday, October 9th.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's, Hillingdon (10 bells), on Saturday, Oct. 13th. Bells available from 4.30 to 8. Tea at 6. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

**FOR SALE.**—In clean and good condition, six bound volumes (20 to 25 inclusive) of "Bell News," also Vols. 26 to 34 unbound. Also "Ringing World" for years 1911, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 1916. No reasonable offer refused.—S. Proctor, 26, Putney Road, Enfield Wash, London, N.

**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.

#### SERGT.-MAJOR CAVE'S RETURN.

By the time these lines appear in print G.-Q.-M.-S. Cave, R.E., of Bristol, hopes to be in England. Writing from France, he says: "I have arrived at the Base on my way to England. I shall probably be stationed at Christchurch Hants, and am looking forward in pleasant anticipation to some ringing in the neighbourhood."

**MOUNT SORELL, LEICESTERSHIRE.**—At the Parish Church of St. Peter, 720 Grandsire Doubles, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to Gunner John Theodore Mitchinson Lewis, elder son of the Vicar (the Rev. W. J. Lewis) and Mrs. Lewis, who was killed in action on August 1st: W. W. Jones 1, T. Collins (conductor) 2, H. Perkins 3, J. Kirohin 4, W. Hyde-Inglesant 5, A. Burrows 6, J. Wainwright 7, A. Burrows 8. It was rung with 4, 6, 8 covering. Messrs. Inglesant and Burrows, the ringer of the 6th, belong to Quorn, near Loughborough.

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bridge, Belfast Assembly Hall, Magdalen College, Oxford,  
and many others to Lord Grimthorpe's designs. In 1897,  
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This charming model in Solid Hall Marked Silver  
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It can be supplied in the following sizes:—

Diameter	2½in.	2¾in.	3½in.	3¾in.	4in.	4½in.	5in.
Price	12/6	17/6	22/6	28/6	36/-	48/-	60/-

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(MAKER OF THE RINGERS' BADGE.)

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most approved principles Old Bells Re-cast,  
New Bells supplied, Ropes of the best make.  
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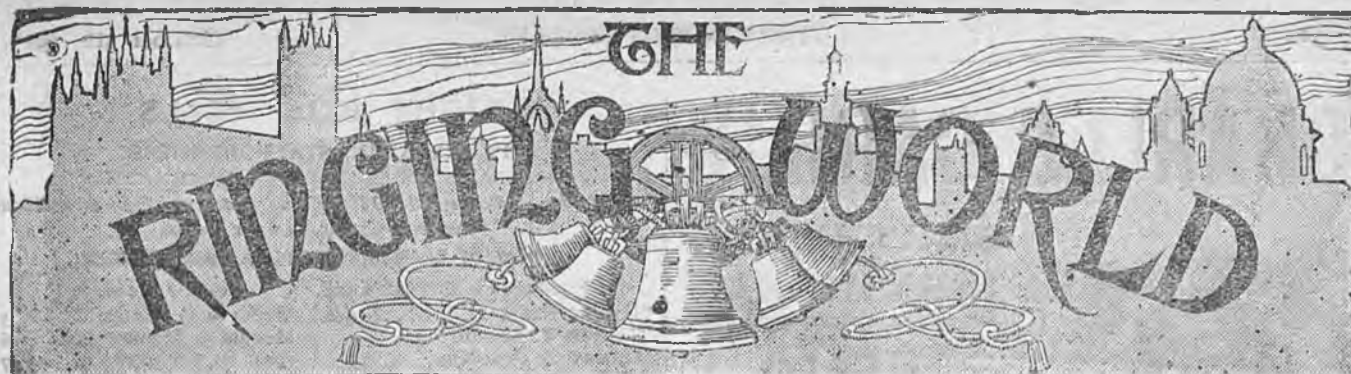
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LTD. Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.



No. 342. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

# 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, 1918.  
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. BUCK,  
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

## MODERN WORK

### A BELFRY OFFICE.

A correspondent sends us a suggested form of belfry office, which he thinks might well be generally adopted, with, of course, the sanction of the clergy, for use in belfries before the commencement of ringing for service. There are many forms already provided, principally by Associations, and the one which we publish to-day, consisting of two sentences from Psalm c., has the merit of being brief and appropriate. Those two factors, we think, are essential if the use of a belfry office is to become anything like universal. At the present time it is the exception rather than the rule to find any office of this kind observed in the belfries; but, where no such form is used, it by no means follows that the ringers are any less reverent, or fail to realise the sacredness of their duties in calling people to public worship. They approach their task with a full sense of the part they have to play in the service of the church, but there is often a feeling that anything in the nature of offering prayers should be left to the clergy. This may be a wrong view to take, but the fact remains that there is a reluctance and a certain shyness to establish anything which they think resembles a service in the belfry.

The presence of the incumbent or one of the clerical staff at once removes this feeling, and ringers rather welcome the use of an office before commencing their ringing, when the conduct of it is undertaken by one of the clergy. Matters in this respect have advanced a great deal in the last two decades, and now that the clergy are so ready to welcome ringers as fellow-workers in the church, they would have little difficulty in introducing a brief form of belfry service, if they would themselves initiate it. Ringers as a whole are much more devout churchmen than they were a generation ago, and yet there are still some who are "touchy" on this point of a prayer in the ringing chamber. The suggestion of our correspondent that the form he proposes should not be used before peals or practice is a sensible one, for while all ringing should be entered upon in a spirit which appreciates the sanctity of the building, most ringers feel that prayers before practice, or before a peal which is to be rung purely for their own pleasure and satisfaction, are unnecessary. This, again, may not be a view that commends itself to everyone, but these are only the facts of the position. Ringers are curious beings, and, while they appreciate the recital of a belfry office by one of their clergy, they are prone to discourage such an act on the part of any of their lay members. From this some may be inclined to argue that ringers are not sincere in their professions, but such reasoning would be in error in the case of a large majority of the members of the craft. If the clergy could remove that feeling of reluctance above referred to, they would go a long step towards getting the recital of a belfry office established as a regular rule in many more towers than at present.

# 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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**FOR CHURCHES,  
SINGLY,  
OR IN PEALS.**

**CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.**

PEALS AUGMENTED,  
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

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STEEL OR IRON.**

**Chiming Machines.**

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Satisfaction Guaranteed.**

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OF ALL KINDS.

**ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON  
BRACKETS.**

WALLMOUNTED IRON BRACKETS.  
BEST BELL ROPES.

REPAIRS AND REHANGING  
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BELLHANGERS sent to inspect  
and report on Bells and Towers.

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**ESTABLISHED 1780.**

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## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 29, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

BRUERTON'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 13½ cwt. in F.

*SAMUEL PRICE ... .. Treble	WILLIAM G. ELLIS ... .. 5
GEORGE T. MITCHISON ... 2	MORRIS J. MORRIS ... .. 6
ALBERT T. SCRIVENS ... 3	JOHN B. COLLETT ... .. 7
WILLIAM J. MEERS ... .. 4	WILLIAM G. ANKER ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM G. ELLIS.

\* First peal away from tenor, and first attempt.

CHORLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, September 29, 1917, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

Tenor 13½ cwt.

JOHN MURSDEN ... .. Treble	†JAMES HOPWOOD ... .. 5
JOHN H. GARTSIDE ... .. 2	FRED RIGBY ... .. 6
JOHN BROYH ... .. 3	P.C. PETER CROOK ... .. 7
TOM LOFTHOUSE ... .. 4	*GEORGE HEWITT ... .. Tenor

Conducted by F. RIGBY.

This peal was a variation of Taylor's Six-Part by F. Rigby.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a memorial to the late Archdeacon R. Cromton-Fletcher, for many years Rector at the above church and donor of Tarleton bells. The ringer of the 3rd bells from Standish, and of the 7th from Bolton.

\* First peal. † First with a bob bell. First peal as conductor. G. Hewitt was elected a member of the Association previous to starting.

## HANDBELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Thursday, September 27, 1917, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes.

IN ST. MARTIN'S BELFRY,

**A PEAL OF STEEDMAN CATERES, 5005 CHANCES;**

Tenor 14 size in D.

GEORGE F. SWANN ... .. 1-2	ALBERT WALKER ... .. 5-6
WILLIAM KENT ... .. 3-4	JAMES E. GROVES ... .. 7-8
MORRIS J. MORRIS ... .. 9-10	

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Referee: GEORGE WALKER.

This composition has the 6th its extent behind the 9th in the titlums and the 8th in the handstroke, with the treble fixed in 2nd's place, and is the fewest number of changes ever obtained (and rung) containing these qualities.

A similar composition was rung the previous week, the conductor inadvertently calling a peal he had discarded some time ago as untrue.

SUTTON COLDFIELD, WARWICKSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, September 29, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.

**A PEAL OF STEEDMAN CATERES, 5087 CHANCES;**

Tenor 15 size in C.

CHARLES DICKENS ... .. 1-2	FRANK W. PERRENS ... .. 5-6
ALBERT WALKER ... .. 3-4	JAMES E. GROVES ... .. 7-8
GEORGE F. SWANN ... .. 9-10	

Composed by JAMES E. GROVES and

Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

Referee: MR. B. G. LEEDHAM.

NOTTINGHAM. — On Sunday morning, Sept. 2nd, at St. Peter's Church, 672 Grandsire Triples: — Jennison 1, R. Cobben 2, E. Hughes 3, C. Kirkby 4, W. J. Sevier 5, J. Barrett 6, W. C. Hunt (conductor) 7, — Bullymore 8.



**LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

A quarterly meeting was held at Chepstow on Saturday last, and proved most successful and enjoyable. The various towers of both Archdeacons were well represented, and the visitors included Mr. T. Richardson, of Sunderland, and five members of the Llanelly tower, Breconshire, who had cycled all the way on purpose to be present. The bells were available during the afternoon, and were kept going in the four standard methods. Tea was very kindly provided in the Church Room by the Vicar (the Rev. D. Hughes), to whom, at the close, the best thanks of the visitors were accorded for his hospitality, while thanks were also given to the ladies for so kindly attending to the wants of the members.

The business meeting followed, presided over by the Vicar. Progress was reported at Llanbradach, and new members were elected.

With regard to the question of ringing during the dark evenings, reference to which appeared in last week's "Ringing World," a discussion took place as to what steps should be taken, and a resolution was passed that the hon. secretary confer with the Bishop of the Diocese, requesting him to place the matter before the competent military authority, and ask that ringing be allowed in the Diocese for the church services, and also for practice until 9 o'clock in the evening.

A vote of thanks to the chairman closed the meeting.

The next meeting is the annual at All Saints', Newport, on December 26th.

The bells were rung until late in the evening, and the best thanks are due to the local leader for doing so much for the members.

**DEWSBURY RINGER'S DEATH.**

The sad news has been received at Dewsbury of the death of Pte. Ernest Ruddlesden, one of the local ringers. The information was conveyed to his widowed mother, of 7, Clarence Place, in a letter dated Sept. 9th from the matron of a French hospital, which read: "I regret to inform you that your son, Pte. Ernest Ruddlesden, who was admitted to hospital this morning from severe gunshot wounds of both legs, died at four o'clock this afternoon. I can assure you that everything that was possible was done to try to save him. He suffered, however, from shock, and never really rallied, nor did he suffer much pain, and he passed away in his sleep. He was laid to rest in a military cemetery, and a cross will be erected to mark the spot."

Pte. Ruddlesden, who was 23 years of age on August 19th, was a native of Dewsbury, and a day and Sunday School scholar at the Dewsbury Parish Church Schools. He was more interested in the Parish Church and Schools than anything else. His services were given to the Sunday school as a teacher; he was a bellringer for the church and a member of the Dewsbury branch of the Church of England Men's Society. During the vicariate of Canon R. C. M. Harvey he began to manifest an interest in ringing. For about six years he was a boy chorister at the Parish Church.

Having completed his home training, he crossed the Channel to France on March 28th. He has taken part in some fearful charges. Although of a very quiet disposition and of a most saintly character, he gave himself devotedly to the performance of his duties as a soldier. Beloved by a large circle of friends, he will be greatly missed, and his death is keenly regretted.

**SELBY ABBEY RINGER DIES OF WOUNDS.**

It is with regret we have to record the death of Pte. J. Morley, of the Northumberland Fusiliers. News came a short time ago that he was wounded in the leg, and on Saturday, Sept. 15th, it was reported that he succumbed to his injuries on August 26th. "Young Jack," as he was popularly known, was the youngest of three brother ringers, who are in the army. He was only 19 years of age, and his death is severely felt by his friends, who will join us in offering heartfelt sympathy with the parents in their hour of trial.

As a mark of esteem and respect for one who was loved by all, the bells of Selby Abbey were on Sunday week rung half-muffled, and the Vicar (the Rev. Dr. Solloway), in his sermon at the evening service, made a most touching reference to the deceased.

**RINGING AFTER DARK.**

Action is being taken in various parts of the country to secure the permission of the Competent Military Authority to ring church bells after dark. Mr. E. J. Harding, hon. secretary of the Portsmouth District of the Winchester Guild, having communicated with the military has received the following reply:—

Headquarters, Portsmouth Garrison, 20/9/17.

With reference to your letter of the 18th inst., in reply to an application made by the Bishop of the Diocese, the general officer commanding-in-chief, Salisbury, granted permission in February last for church bells to be rung up to 9 p.m. This permission has not been withdrawn as far as I know.

H. TIMMINGS, Captain,

for Lieut.-Colonel, Assistant Provost Marshal, No. 9 (Portsmouth) Area.

**WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.****NORTHERN BRANCH MEETING.**

A quarterly meeting of the Northern Branch was held at Bromsgrove on Saturday week. The bells were going soon after 3 p.m. It was very pleasing to note that among the visitors were old friends like Mr. J. W. Jones, from the Llandaff Association; Mr. J. E. Groves, Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham; Mr. Albert Walker and Mr. Jas. George, as well as representatives from Clent, Halesowen, Stourbridge, Kidderminster, Edgbaston, Worcester, Upton-on-Severn, Oldswinford, Smeethwick, Old Hill, Stourbridge, Selly Oak, Erdington, Wollaston, Wolverley, and the local company. The service was conducted and an address was given by the Rev. J. C. Karn, who paid a tribute to the ringers who had answered their country's call, and said how pleased he was at the part women were taking in the ringing. He exhorted all to carry on their noble work, and trusted it would not be long before the bells would ring out the glad tidings of peace.

The business meeting was held in the Schools, the Rev. J. C. Karn presiding. Stourbridge was selected for the next quarterly meeting, in January.—Mr. S. Grove was re-elected Ringing Master, and Mr. E. J. Dowler secretary and treasurer.

In supporting the re-election of Mr. J. Piggott as representative on the Central Committee, Mr. Parsons said how pleased they all were to see him amongst them once again. He believed he was correct in saying that Mr. Piggott was the first member of the Association who had returned from active service. He was glad he was able to do a little ringing, notwithstanding the injury he had undergone. He (Mr. Parsons) sincerely trusted that many more of those who had gone out to fight would be amongst them at an early date.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. J. C. Karn brought a very enjoyable meeting to a close.

**5005 STEDMAN CATERS.**

By JAS. E. GROVES.

123456 Slow six start.

214356879	1	2	6s	8	9	15	
514362978	3	4	6s	8	11	12	13
415263		5					16
413562							16
412365							16
512364879	3	4	6	8	11	12	13
215463		5					16
213564							16
312465		5					16
512463978	3	4	6	8	11	12	13
215364		5					16
214563							16
213465							16
513462879	3	4	6	8	11	12	13
315264		5					16
314562							16
413265		5					16
513264978	3	4	6	8	11	12	13
315462		5					16
312564							16
31265							16
514263879	3	4	6	8	11	12	13
415362		5					16
412563							16
412365		5s					16
512364978	3	4	6	8	11	12	13
215463		5					16
213564							16
214365							16
514362879	3	4	6	8	11	12	13
415263		5					16
413562							16
314265		5					16
514263978	3	4	6	8	11	12	13
415362		5					16
412563							16
413265							16
513264879	3	4	6	8	11	12	13
315462		5					16
312564							16
213465		5					16
513462978	3	4	6	8	11	12	13
315264		5					16
314562							16
312465							16
512463879	3	4	6	8	11	12	13
215364		5					16
214563							16
214365		5s					16

Rung for the first time on handbells by St. Martin's Guild, at Birmingham, Sept. 27th, 1917. Conducted by the composer.

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry  
Established  
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

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.*

### BELFRY PRAYERS.

A correspondent writes: I shall be glad if you will allow me the use of your columns for the purpose of suggesting what seems to be a suitable office. The suggestion is for the clergy, who properly have the ordering of the prayers of the Church. The office should not be used for practising or peal ringing.

#### OFFICE FOR USE IN THE RINGING LOFT.

When every man is standing to his bell, the junior ringer, or the ringer of the treble as the chief ringer may direct, shall say:

Praise the Lord upon the loud cymbals.

And the other ringers shall answer:

Praise Him upon the high-sounding cymbals.

The ringing shall then proceed in the customary manner.

This office to be used on all occasions when the bells are rung by appointment of the Ordinary.

### NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

The second quarterly meeting of the year of this Association was held at East Markham on Sept. 15th. Ringing took place during the afternoon, and tea was provided at the Queen's Hotel. The business meeting followed, at which it was decided that the next meeting should be held on Boxing Day at Ordsall.

Amongst those present were visitors and ringers from Lincoln, Lanchester, Norton Cuckney, Tuxford, Ordsall, Worksop, and Pto. W. G. Lancaster, of Swindon, Wilts, now located at Carbruton Camp.

Some good ringing took place on the bells of St. John the Baptist's Church, the most noteworthy performance being 720 of Plain Bob, by: A. Piercy 1, G. Hardwick 2, H. H. Cartwright 3, D. Blagg (conductor) 4, J. S. Betts 5, C. Crawford 6; and 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, by: S. C. Walker 1, E. Clark 2, T. Bartholemew 3, C. Crawford 4, H. Haigh (conductor) 5, W. G. Lancaster 6.

While the ringing was in progress a number of the visitors made a raid on the mushroom fields, and on the orchards, where apples, pears and plums hung in abundance, and, with permission, carried away baskets filled with ripe fruit.

### YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

#### MILITARY AUTHORITIES TO BE ASKED FOR RINGING CONCESSIONS.

The September meeting of the Western District of the Yorkshire Association was held at Otley on Saturday week, and despite the wet and disagreeable weather, about 40 members attended from Leeds Parish Church, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's); Burley, Bramley, Guiseley, Birstall, Earlsheaton, Shipley, Halifax Parish Church, Queensbury, Holbeck (St. Matthew's), and the local company. The bells, a ring of eight, with a tenor of 16 cwt., which are sadly in need of rehanging, were kept going in short touches until dusk, long touches being out of the question, owing to the bad going of the tenor. It is surprising, that despite the state of the peal, the local company includes four lady ringers. Owing to the increased cost of provisions, etc., tea was not provided, members having to make their own arrangements.

A committee meeting was held in the Church Institute, and was followed by the general business meeting. The Rev. C. C. Marshall, M.A. (President of the Association), occupied the chair, in the absence of Mr. Bolland, who was away on holiday.

On the recommendation of the committee, it was decided to abandon the December district meeting in view of holding the annual meeting of the whole of the Association in this district in January.

Messrs. H. Hutley and T. King, of Shipley, and Mr. D. Knipe, of Guiseley, were elected members of the Association.

Correspondence was read from Northowram as to obtaining permission to ring the bells for Sunday evening service during the winter. This was discussed, and the President kindly assented to get into communication with the "Competent Military Authority" of the district to see if any concessions could be obtained. The result of the negotiations will be announced in "The Ringing World."

The name of Mr. J. L. Phillips, of Otley, a lapsed member, was reinstated on the usual terms.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells and Church Institute was proposed by Mr. P. J. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Cotterill, who both referred, with regret, to the bad state of the bells. These views were supported by the Chairman, and it was resolved to send a strong recommendation to the Vicar and churchwardens, suggesting the restoration of the ring, and Mr. Clough, of the local company, kindly undertook to convey the resolution.

Mr. F. W. Dixon proposed, and Mr. Broadley seconded, a vote of thanks to the local company for making the necessary arrangements, and this was acknowledged by Mr. Clough. — A course of Grandsire Caters on the handbells terminated the meeting.

**BROXBORNE, HERTS.**—Hertfordshire Association.—For evening service, on Sunday, Sept. 9th, at St. Augustine's Church, 1260 Grand-sire Triples: F. Downman 1, W. Mumford 2, G. Maxim 3, H. Warner 4, F. Jelf 5, S. Proctor (conductor) 6, G. Radley 7, C. Goldsmith 8.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

## A MEETING AT DUFFIELD.

On Saturday last a quarterly meeting of the Midland Counties Association was held at Duffield, when the members turned up in force almost equal to an annual gathering. There were ringers present from a wide area, including Derby, Burton-on-Trent, Nottingham, East Bridgford, Cotgrave, Loughborough, Broadsall, Ilkeston, etc. This visit to Duffield could not fail to recall to many the memory of one who was a valued and highly respected personality in the Exercise—the late Sir Arthur Heywood. Owing to the early exit of the autumn sun, the afternoon was devoted exclusively to ringing, standard methods upon the ten bells being practised. The first touch was Stedman Caters, with Mr. Albert Ward at the helm, after which Duffield was tried, and touches of Double Norwich and Stedman Triples (conducted by Mr. J. Griffin and Mr. W. C. Hunt respectively) were rung. A course of Stedman Caters was also rung, with the Rev. A. D. Hill (of East Bridgford) taking part, the reverend gentleman shaping with great promise. It was a great pleasure to see the president (Mr. John W. Taylor) greeting the visitors with all his accustomed geniality and sharing in the ringing. When darkness put an end to the use of the bells, the party tried conclusions with war rations, and found them of very superior quality.

The President was in a happy vein in his address, remarking how pleased he was to see so many members present on that occasion. He made a touching allusion to the late president, whose memory was recalled by their meeting at the church with which he had been so long and so actively identified. He paid a tribute to the work Sir Arthur had done in furthering the cause of ringing, and added that personally he (the speaker) had not given much attention to subjects of composition and methods. What he was more keenly interested in was the practical part of ringing in the tower. By this he did not mean that anything false could be countenanced, but that the musical effect was the great point to be considered. Continuing, he referred to ringing conditions in the South and in the North, and suggested that each district of that Association should get its secretary to approach the military authorities of the Northern Command for permission to ring at least for the two Sunday services, even if they did not extend the privilege to ringing up to 9 p.m., as was done last winter in the South. It would, however, be a great advantage if they could ring to the latter hour, as they wanted to keep up the practices as far as possible, in order to bring on the young element, whose progress was handicapped on account of the opportunities for practice being rare. The President referred to the presence of several lady ringers, and spoke of the self-sacrifice which the ladies had shown in taking up many branches of work which the war had opened to them. He added that it was an honour to have among them that day the Rev. E. R. Brown, of Duffield, whom he had had the pleasure of proposing as a member of their Association. They were always glad to have the clergy adorn the Association with their names, for it gave an impetus to the objects they all had at heart, and provided a foundation for mutual understanding between the ringing chamber and the pulpit.

The Rev. E. R. Brown extended a cordial welcome to the visitors, and said he felt honoured to hold the incumbency of a parish that was the home of such a talented and amiable man as the late Sir Arthur Heywood. The Vicar said he was astonished to find that ringing matters could be traced back three hundred years. He realised that ringing required technical qualifications, and he appreciated the difficulties they had to contend with to-day, especially those of his own band at Duffield, and he hoped they would be surmounted in the near future.

Mr. Griffin proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and his presence at that gathering, and he also thanked Mr. Flower and Mr. Dawson for the arrangements made for the meeting, which was in every way successful.

The gathering prompts the writer to mention two or three thoughts which occur to him. These and similar meetings should be called whenever possible, for they provide inspiration and foster the art, beside being a tonic for brain and body, and encouraging good fellowship while keeping the flag flying. In addition they help to preserve the privileges of those who have gone out to defend the great cause of Freedom and Right on the field of honour. It is admitted that lady ringers are essential to keeping the bells going, and are a real acquisition, but sooner or later other and more important duties may claim their services, and, therefore, it behoves us to turn our attention to the youth of the country. By raising curiosity in the minds of the boys who are prone to visit the steps of the belfry, much good might be done, for curiosity begets interest. By securing batches of two or three and teaching them the art of change ringing, they might be secured for the Exercise before other hobbies and pursuits become a magnetic influence.

## DEATH OF MR. A. R. ALDHAM.

Midland ringing circles have lost a valued member by the death of Mr. A. R. Aldham, of Barwell, who passed away on Friday last. He will be much missed in the district, where he did a great deal of useful work in instructing young ringers.

## THE LATE MR. J. W. WHITING.

The funeral of the late Mr. John W. Whiting, of Fareham, whose death was recorded in our last issue, took place on Monday week. Mr. Whiting, who was 65 years of age, was, as we have already said, for many years a prominent member of the Winchester Guild, being secretary of the Portsmouth district, a member of the Guild Committee, and a representative on the Central Council. Formerly he was captain of the Fareham Parish Church ringers, and rendered material assistance, with Mr. Charles Privett, in the movement which culminated in the provision of two new bells to complete the octave. He was a member of the Sussex Association, the Royal Cumberland Youths, London; the Gloucester and Bristol Association, the Oxford Diocesan Guild, and of the Kent County Association. The deceased had rung over 200 peals in a number of methods in different towers throughout England, and had conducted many. Before increasing infirmity put a stop to his activities, he was always ready to give effective instruction to beginners, and taught numerous bands in the district.

The deceased, who was a native of Wickham, had resided in Fareham since 1871. He had been an Oddfellow for nearly 45 years, and at different times had held almost all the offices in the Loyal "Victoria and Albert" Lodge of Oddfellows, M.U. (Fareham), being elected Noble Grand in 1883, and appointed a trustee in 1909. He was a very active and most popular member of the Lodge. The deceased was also a member of the Fareham Working Men's Club, being one of the first members of that institution.

At a meeting of the Loyal "Victoria and Albert" Lodge of Oddfellows, M.U., Fareham, held on Tuesday evening last week, reference was made to the death of Bro. J. W. Whiting, who had been for so long a prominent and much esteemed member of the Lodge. Sincere regret was expressed at his death, and a vote of condolence with the widow and bereaved family was adopted.

The funeral took place at the Holy Trinity Church, Fareham, on Monday week, when the Vicar (Rev. C. L. Arnold, M.A.) conducted the burial service. The principal mourners included Mrs. Whiting (widow), Mr. Frederick Whiting (son), Misses Dora and Winnie Whiting (daughters), Mrs. F. Whiting (daughter-in-law), Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Whiting (brother and sister-in-law), and Mr. J. Ward (son-in-law). There were also present Mrs. Strong, Mr. J. Boulter, sen., and daughter (Southsea), Miss Kiln, Mrs. Atkinson, Mr. R. Mitchell (Portsmouth), Mr. Henry White (secretary, Basingstoke District, Winchester Diocesan Guild), Mr. Baker (representing Petersfield Band of Ringers), Mr. G. Chappell (representing the secretary, Winchester Diocesan Guild, and the Wickham Band of Ringers), Mr. and Mrs. David Beer and Miss Carden (of the Titchfield Band of Ringers), Mr. A. J. Mulvaney, Mr. W. A. Deall (secretary of the Loyal "Victoria and Albert" Lodge of Oddfellows, Fareham), Messrs. C. J. Jeffery, R. Bone, and G. Richards.

Among the wreaths laid on the grave of the deceased was one bearing the inscription: "In kindest remembrance of an old friend from the members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild," and one from the ringers of Portsea, "as a small token of respect and deep regret at the loss of a good friend."

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**MANSFIELD WOODHOUSE, NOTTS.**—On Sunday, August 5th, for Matins, 720 London Surprise Minor: A. Munks 1, J. E. Wheeldon (conductor) 2, T. Bettison 3, Pte. G. Bennett 4, J. Radford 5, C. Rogers 6. For evensong, 720 College Exercise: C. Rogers 1, J. E. Wheeldon 2, T. Bettison (conductor) 3, Pte. G. Bennett 4, J. Radford 5, Alfred Munks 6.—On Sunday, August 12th, for Matins, 360 College Pleasure: W. Hardwick 1, J. E. Wheeldon (conductor) 2, Arthur Munks 3, Pte. C. Rogers 4, Pte. G. Bennett 5, Alfred Munks 6, J. E. Wheeldon hails from Norton, Staffs.

**GREENWICH.**—At St. Alfege's Church, on Sunday, Sept. 2nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Brooks'), in 50 mins.: A. S. Deer 1, J. J. Lamb 2, I. G. Shade (conductor) 3, E. E. Richards 4, W. Shimmans 5, H. Hoskins 6, W. Derry 7, T. Jakeman 8.

**ISLEWORTH.**—On Sunday, Sept. 2nd, at All Saints' Church, for morning service, and on the occasion of the Rev. Dr. W. M. Rellon taking up his duties, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: G. Spencer, R.N.V.R. (home on leave from Milford Haven), 1, C. Edwards 2, T. Beadle 3, J. Chave 4, E. F. Coles 5, W. Lidbetter 6, A. Beckensale 7, H. Brooks 8.

**SHREWSBURY.**—Salop Archidiaconal Guild and St. Chad's Society.—Recently, at St. Chad's, 503 Grandsire Caters: R. F. Turner (longest length) 1, J. Tudor 2, G. Boylin 3, W. Brooks 4, G. Scarratt 5, Pte. J. T. Drew (longest length) 6, W. R. Stockdale 7, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 8, A. Fullick 9, J. Evans 10. On the occasion of a visit of Mr. J. W. Jones, of Newport, 360 Bob Royal: G. Scarratt 1, J. Tudor 2, G. Boylin 3, W. Brooks 4, J. W. Jones 5, Pte. J. T. Drew (first touch of Royal) 6, W. Stockdale 7, G. Jones 8, A. Fullick 9, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 10.—On Sunday, Sept. 9th, 504 Stedman Triples: G. Boylin 1, W. Brooks 2, G. Scarratt 3, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 4, W. Stockdale 5, G. Jones 6, A. E. Fullick 7, J. Evans 8.



### WAR TIME OUTINGS.

#### LANCASHIRE RINGERS VISIT YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday week the Burnley St. Peter's Church Company held their first annual outing at Elland. At St. Mary's Church, which contains a fine peal of bells (tenor 15½ cwt.), several touches of Grand-sire Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung, the following taking part: Tom Lord (captain), David Campbell, N. Townend, J. W. Heys, D. Heys, and R. Howarth, all of Burnley, the local ringers also standing in. A substantial tea was partaken of at the Bridge End Dining Rooms.

An adjournment was then made to the Mexboro' Arms, where the evening was spent in a convivial manner.—At the close a vote of thanks to the Rector of Elland and the local ringers for the use of the bells was proposed by Mr. N. Townend, seconded by Mr. A. Crossley (who humorously remarked that he hoped their next visit would be void of "clocking"). Special mention was made that thanks were due to Mr. J. R. Eastwood and Mr. G. H. Simon for their endeavours to make the visit a success.

#### STOKE-IN-COVENTRY OUTING.

The Stoke company recently paid a visit to Northampton for their annual outing, but very much regretted the absence of Mr. J. White, who, two days before, was ordered away by his doctor. The party were met at Rugby by Mr. James George, who was invited to accompany the band. At Northampton they were welcomed by Mr. F. Wilford, and ringing took place at St. Peter's and St. Sepulchre's Churches, touches of Stedman Triples, Double Norwich and Plain Bob Major being rung. Then they visited St. Giles', where Treble Ten and Stedman and Grandsire Caters were rung, conducted by Mr. J. George. After tea a visit was paid to St. Edmond's, where further touches of Stedman and Superlative were brought round. Subsequently a very pleasant hour was spent with the local ringers.

#### A HARVEST FESTIVAL OUTING.

On Sunday, Sept. 16th, the Fakenham company of the Norwich Diocesan Association had a pleasant outing in the Burnham district. The day's proceedings began by ringing the fine peal of eight bells at Fakenham for morning service, after which the ringers made a pleasant round by waggonette. The first stop was at the large Church of South Creake, where, immediately after service, a touch was rung on the heavy peal of five bells, which had been silent practically since the war, owing to scarcity of men. These bells took some handling, and, being somewhat out of order, good striking was difficult to obtain, but the ringing was welcomed by the near parishioners, as it formed an excellent addition to their festival of harvest. After staying an hour, the bells were lowered, and the ringers journeyed to North Creake, where the peal of six bells was raised and rung in changes, though here again the ring are in want of attention. These bells have not been rung since last year, and it was curious that the parishioners of this village also were celebrating the harvest festival. The country folk turned out to inquire who was ringing the bells, and when it became known that the Fakenham ringers were again visiting the church, memories were awakened of the first peal on the bells some four years since by the same society.

Holkham Church was the next objective, and was reached by a drive of more than four miles through the park in which is situated the seat of the Earl of Leicester. The beauties of the park and the splendour of the terraced gardens were much enjoyed by the party.

At the church, however, there was a disappointment, for the bells at Holkham had recently met with a disaster, the tenor, weighing nearly a ton, having broken at the crown and fallen into the belfry. It damaged the frame and another bell in an adjoining pit. The party, therefore, proceeded to Wells-next-the-Sea, and awaited the coming of the local company for a touch. To complete the coincidence of the day it was found that here, too, it was the harvest festival, and the visitors took part in ringing for evening service. After half an hour spent on the quay, a start was made for home, which was reached about 9 p.m., the round journey having been 25 miles. Touches of Bob Major, Oxford, Kent, and Grandsire were rung, and the company wish to thank the incumbents of the respective churches for granting them permission to ring, and affording them a busy and enjoyable day, which they all aptly termed a harvest festival outing.

#### WEDDING BELLS.

On Thursday of last week, the marriage took place at St. John the Baptist's Church, Kingsthorpe, of Miss Elsie Dunkley, a Sunday School teacher, and only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Dunkley, of Limewood, Kingsthorpe, to Mr. William Goff. The bride's father has been the esteemed leader of the Kingsthorpe ringers for the past 16 years, and the band provided a pleasant surprise by getting a company together to ring for the ceremony, 600 Grandsire Doubles being rung by: W. Mayes 1, C. Ringrose 2, W. Atterbury 3, H. Clarke 4, G. Parker (conductor) 5, J. Shaw 6; and 360 by G. Parker 1, C. Ringrose 2, W. Mayes 3, H. Clark (conductor) 4, W. Atterbury 5, J. Shaw 6.

### 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).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., at 8 p.m., for handbell practice, on Oct. 18th, and for general business on the 9th and 23rd; also at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Sunday the 7th, at 10 a.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's Church, Farnworth, on Saturday, Oct. 6th, 1917. Bells ready at 5. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton, Branch Secretary.

LEEDS & DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next monthly meeting of this Society will be held at Bramley on Saturday, Oct. 6th, 1917. The business meeting will be held in the Cardigan Arms at 7 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Walton on Saturday, Oct. 13th. Bells ready at 3.30. Tea and meeting, 6. Members intending being present please send word.—W. Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Established 1755.—Next quarterly meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Erdington, on Saturday, Oct. 13th. Bells available from 3. By the kind invitation of the Erdington Parish Church Society, tea will be provided in the Church Room at 5 o'clock free, for all those who advise Mr. J. Preston, 13, Holifast Road, Erdington, not later than Oct. 10th, of their intention to be present.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Brierley Hill on Saturday, October 13th. Bells available at 3. Short service in church at 5.15, with an address by the Rector (Rev. H. W. Jones). Tea (1s.) in the Schoolroom at 6. Reports will be ready for distribution. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than Tuesday, October 9th.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's, Hillingdon (10 bells), on Saturday, Oct. 13th. Bells available from 4.30 to 8. Tea at 6. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—A meeting will be held at West Malling on Saturday, October 13th. Bells available for ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 5.30. Tea provided by Vicar and Churchwardens at 6. Half railway fares will be paid to those attending this meeting. The secretary would be glad to know of members intending to be present not later than Monday, October 8th.—Stephen Hayzelden, Dis. Sec., Lower Street, East Farley.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Open ringing afternoon at Frodsham, October 13th. Bells 8; ringing from 2.30 until 6.30. William Bibby, Head Ringer. All ringers welcome.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Solihull, on Saturday, October 20th. Bells (10) available from 3 o'clock.—Joseph H. White, Hon. Secretary, 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's, Miles Platting, on Saturday, October 20th. Bells ready at 3.30. Meeting at dusk.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

**FOR SALE.**—In clean and good condition, six bound volumes (20 to 25 inclusive) of "Bell News," also Vols. 26 to 34 unbound. Also "Ringing World" for years 1911, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 1916. No reasonable offer refused.—S. Proctor, 26, Putney Road, Enfield Wash, London, N.

**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.

#### **SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**

A ringing meeting of the Royal Cumberland Youths, arranged for St. Peter's Church, Croydon, on Saturday last, met with bad luck in so far as it synchronised with the full moon, and consequently deterred many members from making the journey in view of the anticipated difficulties of getting home at night. That those gentlemen who adopted this attitude had just cause for their fears proved only too true. One member at least had a somewhat exciting journey home by bus, despite the fact that he left early to "avoid the crush." Another arrived home to find that damage had been done opposite his domicile, whilst nearly all those who had made the journey from the London districts found their various neighbourhoods had suffered more or less. However, all's well that ends well, and it is satisfactory to say that there are no casualties to report. Another circumstance which may have had an effect on the attendance was the death a few days previously of the Vicar of Edmonton, as a result of which the hon. secretary pro tem, and his men were detained at that church paying their last tribute of respect to a vicar who has been one of the best to ringers.

Despite these drawbacks, Double Norwich, Grandsire and Stedman Caters, and Treble Ten were rung, the latter being stopped by the police when the raid warning came along. Just on twenty ringers sat down to tea, among them being a couple of heroes on leave from the front—Lieut. C. Johnson, Grenadier Guards, and Sergt. Garfath, R.F.C. The former gentleman was warmly thanked for his kindness in entertaining the assembled party to tea, and the hope was expressed that he and his khaki comrade would safely return from their next ventures overseas. There being no business to transact, handbells were brought into use, but unfortunately the "take cover" warning caused rather a hasty break-up of the party, which, however, will be well understood by those present. Mr. David Wright made the necessary arrangements, and to him is due the thanks of all for the success of a small ringers' reunion attended by circumstances so much out of the ordinary that the youngest "string" present will undoubtedly retail it in the distant future as an outstanding feature of his campanological experiences.

**BRAINTREE.**—Essex Association.—For evensong, at the Parish Church, on Sunday, July 1st, 1248 Treble Bob Major: N. E. Hammond 1, G. Lindridge 2, W. H. Hammond 3, C. H. Howard 4, W. H. Dyson 5, Gunner G. F. Williams, R.G.A. (conductor), 6, H. Coote 7, E. F. Slade 8. Rung on the occasion of H. Coote's silver wedding, his brother ringers offering their congratulations.—For C.E. Men's Service, on Sunday, July 7th, 504 Grandsire Triples: H. Coote 1, C. H. Howard 2, W. H. Hammond 3, H. E. Hammond 4, W. H. Dyson 5, G. Lindridge 6, H. F. Cooper (conductor) 7, L. W. Wiffen 8.

**GUILDFORD.**—At Holy Trinity Church, on August 4th, for a special memorial service for those who have lost their lives in the war, with the bells half-muffled, 504 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. Hazelden (first 504 on church bells) 1, W. E. Jelley 2, M. Smithers 3, B. Chorley 4, R. R. Melville 5, W. R. Melville 6, C. Hazelden (conductor) 7, H. Harris 8.—On Sunday, August 26th, for evensong, 504 Grandsire Triples: J. Scott (first 504) 1, Miss E. M. Goodship (Reading) 2, J. J. Jones 3, M. Smithers 4, R. W. Melville 5, W. R. Melville 6, C. Hazelden (conductor) 7, B. Chorley 8.

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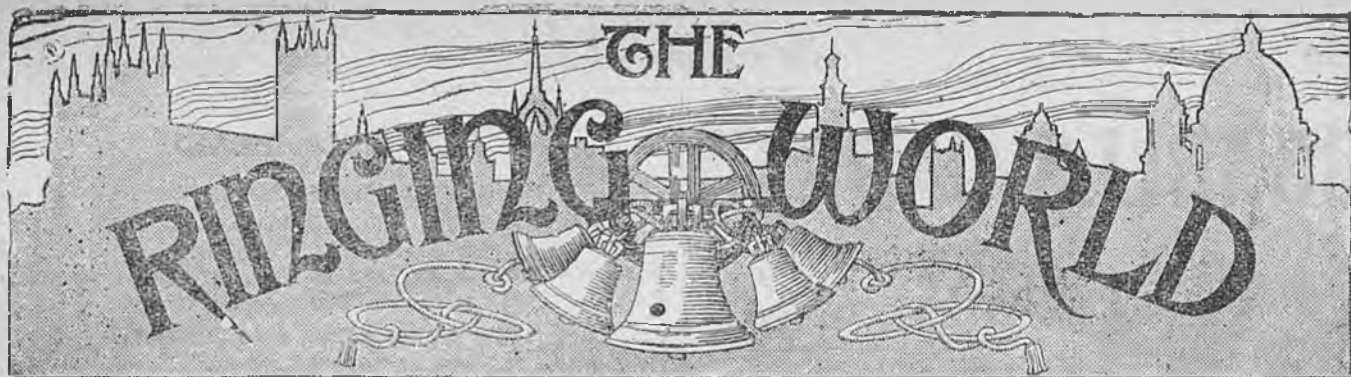
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No. 343. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 12th, 1917.

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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 gives 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.

In an article printed in another column, Mr. J. Armiger Trollope reopens the question of the work of the Central Council, and we are glad of the opportunity of further explaining our own views. Mr. Trollope is right in his assumption that what we intended to convey was that the Council should not be a debating society for the theorists to the exclusion of practical questions. No one who has watched closely the work of the Council would suggest that other matters have been entirely excluded by the debates on theoretical subjects, but there has sometimes been a tendency for the latter to oust the former. What, we believe, the Exercise feels in the matter, is that a great deal of time is taken up by the discussion of questions—admittedly of importance to the furtherance of the Art—by experts, who often cannot agree among themselves, and whose arguments are sometimes beyond the comprehension of many of their listeners, not, let us say at once, because the listeners lack intelligence, but because such complex subjects as method, construction, and kindred matters are things which require long study if they are to be fully understood.

And here, we may say, we are in full agreement with Mr. Trollope when he complains of the time occupied by those who attempt to talk on subjects they don't understand or have but superficial knowledge of. Unless a man has thoroughly grasped the technicalities of a subject or explored thoroughly the depths of a problem, he only wastes time and confuses the issue by attempting to criticise the views of those who have spent, perhaps, years in pursuing an objective. To ask a gathering, such as the Central Council is, to say more or less off-hand, whether the report of a committee or the views of some individual member on a question involving long proof by figures, is really just as absurd as to ask the average ringer to say at a glance whether the figures of some new composition are true. Such matters are best left to the experts to thresh out in private, and their findings ought to be accepted.

Mr. Trollope recalls the instance of the last Council meeting in London to show how one member, in the hope of getting his personal views adopted against the considered and long-accepted opinions of a Committee, managed to engage the best part of an afternoon to the exclusion of other speakers and other subjects, and he gives the Exercise for the first time some facts which add to the force of the argument that the time of the Council is not unfrequently wasted unnecessarily. It is the Council's methods as much as its actions which in late years have brought many people—mistaken as the idea may be—to look upon it as an organisation of little practical use.

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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. KDMUNDS,

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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## TEN BELL PEAL.

SHREWSBURY, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD  
(ST. CHAD'S SOCIETY).

On Saturday, October 6, 1917, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

**A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 39 cwt. 2 qrs. 7 lb. in B.

GEORGE SCARRATT ... .. Treble	RICHARD T. HOLDING ... 6
LEONARD HEWITT ... .. 2	WILLIAM SAUNDERS ... 7
JOHN W. JONES ... .. 3	GEORGE JONES ... .. 8
ERNEST WEATHERBY ... .. 4	ALFRED E. FULICK ... 9
WILLIAM R. STOCKDALE ... 5-	CHARLES R. LILLEY ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

First peal of Royal by all excepting the ringers of the 3rd, 6th and 10th. Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. Alfred T. Marston, who was one of the churchwardens at the time the bells were recast and rehung. First peal of Royal by the Guild and first of Royal on the bells since being recast. The last peal of Bob Royal rung in this tower was on Aug. 17th, 1799, by the Union Society that originally flourished here. The ringers of 2nd and 7th hail from Coalbrookdale, the 3rd from Newport, Mon., 4th Market Drayton, 6th Crewe, the rest belong to St. Chad's.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD

On Saturday, September 29, 1917, in Three Hours,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE, BLAKENHALL,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

ISAAC PURSER ... .. Treble	REUBEN HALL ... .. 5
WILLIAM BAYLISS ... .. 2	JESSE SCREEN ... .. 6
THOMAS HARTON ... .. 3	JOHN BRADNEY ... .. 7
ANDREW JONES ... .. 4	DANIEL JONES ... .. Tenor

Composed by S. BIDDLESTONE, and  
Conducted by JESSE SCREEN.

The above peal was rung on the occasion of the Harvest Festival.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 6, 1917, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 9 cwt. 0 qr. 26 lbs.

GEORGE WILLIAMS ... .. Treble	HENRY W. WILKES ... 5
WILLIAM G. EDWARDS ... 2	CHARLES J. FRAY ... 6
PT. A. A. JONES, A.S.C. ... 3	WILLIAM H. GEORGE ... 7
REV. E. BANKES JAMES ... 4	SPR. W. G. ROWE, R.E. ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Mr. John W. Whiting, of Fareham.

GILLINGHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, October 6, 1917, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 11½ cwt. in F.

PT. GEORGE LOFF ... .. Treble	PT. HERBERT TOMPSETT 5
WILLIAM HAIGH ... .. 2	MUS. VICTOR A. JARRETT 6
† RICKS PAINE ... .. 3	SERGT. FRED A. HOLDEN 7
CPL. EDWIN G. BUESDEN 4	* WALTER H. ROWLES ... Tenor

Conducted by FRED A. HOLDEN.

Rung to commemorate our great victory in Flanders. \* First peal. † First in the method. Corpl. Buesden's 150th peal. Ptes. Luff and Tomsett were elected members of the Association in the belfry, and hail from Chiddingfold, Surrey, and Lindfield, Sussex, respectively.

## BARNWOOD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

## GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, October 6, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Lawrence,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES.

GROVES' VARIATION OF J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

JESSE GILLET	... .. 1	MISS EDITH K. PARKER	... 5
FRANK A. WAITE	... .. 2	THOMAS NEWMAN	... 6
JOHN AUSTIN	... .. 3	ALFRED A. WAITE	... 7
HENRY MITCHELL	... .. 4	ARTHUR J. WAITE	... Tenor

Conducted by MISS EDITH K. PARKER.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. H. Mitchell on his 82nd birthday. Miss Parker cycled from Pershore, over 20 miles, to take part in the peal.

## SIX BELL PEAL.

WATH-ON-DEARNE, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTHERN DIVISION.)

On Saturday, October 6, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES.

Consisting of 720 each of Roystone Delight, Arnold's Victory, College Pleasure, London Scholars' Pleasure, Duke of York, Violet and Oxford.

Tenor 14 cwt.

EGERTON G. NICHOLLS	...Treble	WILLIAM WOODCOCK	... 4
GEORGE HILL	... .. 2	ARTHUR GILL	... .. 5
ARTHUR PANTHER	... .. 3	CHARLES WALSH	... Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR PANTHER.

\* First peal as conductor.

## DEATH OF GALLANT SOLDIER-RINGER.

MAJOR G. B. WARD, R.F.C., M.C.

Mr. D. Ward, of the Lower Hall, Foxearth, has received information that his eldest son, Major George Bernard Ward, of the Royal Flying Corps, has been killed at the front. He was shot down within the British lines. The late Major Ward joined up at the outbreak of hostilities, and soon gained promotion by his daring and skill. He had not been long in France before he was decorated with the Military Cross, and he recently had a bar added to it for further achievements. At the time of his death he had attained the rank of Squadron Commander and Major. He was 26 years of age, and, like his father, had an early liking for bells. When a schoolboy he used to visit the tower and watch the ringers at their work. After he had finished his education, he returned home to settle down, and when Mr. S. Evans raised a local band he joined them. This band were all born and lived in Foxearth (a small parish), and they continued to ring together until dismembered by the war. During the years 1911-12-13, they rang several peals of Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, and one peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major. Mr. Ward took part in these performances. He was an apt pupil, and was a good ringer and striker. By his early death his native village loses one of its brightest stars. His place will be hard to fill in more than one capacity. By his manners he had won the esteem and respect of all with whom he came in contact.

Major Ward was killed on September 21st, and on Sunday, Sept. 30th, 1917, a memorial service was held at Foxearth Church. The building was packed to overflowing, a large number of people failing to gain admission. The service consisted of a part of the Burial Service, the Nunc Dimittis, and the hymns, "On the resurrection morning" and "For all the Saints who from their labours rest," were sung. About 50 members of the V.T.C. attended. At the conclusion of the service the "Last Post" was sounded on the bugles, and the National Anthem was sung.

Before the service two short touches were rung on the bells of the Parish Church, with deeply muffled clappers, by: J. Taylor 1, T. E. Slater 2, W. P. Gridley 3, F. Inch 4, A. Maxim 5, G. W. Moore 6, A. Taylor 7, S. Evans 8. After the service a 720 of Bob Major was rung, half-muffled, by: T. E. Slater 1, W. P. Gridley 2, F. Inch 3, W. Head 4, A. Maxim 5, Geo. Moore 6, A. Taylor 7, S. Evans (conductor) 8. T. E. Slater hails from Glemsford, G. Moore from Clare, W. Head from Little Waldingfield, the rest are local men. Six of those who rang before the service, with the deceased and Geo. Maxim of Cheshunt took part in deceased's last peal on December 11th, 1913. R.I.P.

## THE LATE MR. ARTHUR R. ALDHAM.

A CELEBRATED MIDLAND RINGER.

Cold is the hand so honest and so true.  
Stilled is the heart which now had beat so warm.  
Done! all the good that one good man can do  
Come shine or storm.

Within a few days of his 50th year Arthur Aldham has been gathered to his rest. A month ago he rang his last peal—Stedman Triples—on Barwell bells, a ring augmented from six to eight through his enthusiasm. A fortnight ago pneumonia seized him in its fatal grip, and on September 28th carried out of the ranks of ringers one who has done much to uphold their banner.

Born at Hadleigh, Suffolk, on October 5th, 1867, he went to reside in Ipswich in 1872, and his early ringing days were spent at St. Mary-le-Tower, among such men as Messrs. Catchpole and Molts. At the age of 17 he rang the 9th in a peal of Maximus, the first of Oxford Tittum Twelve on record. In 1888 he migrated to Leicestershire and rang at Loughborough several peals of Stedman Caters and Treble Bob Royal. His ambition was to be a "long peal" ringer, and as a native of Suffolk he rang in an attempt at Debenham for the 16808 of Oxford Treble Bob in 1891, which failed after ringing 12000. On June 6th, 1892, the band met again, and successfully accomplished the feat in 10 hours 32 minutes. A postcard sent to the writer from Debenham read: "We rang the 16808 in 10.32 yesterday in fine style."

Once settled as a Benedict at Barwell, the deceased threw himself heart and soul into ringing, and the records of the Midland Counties Association bear witness to his perseverance as a teacher and conductor. The Nunston Society owes its origin mainly to him, and several ringers of six bells never knew what change ringing meant till Arthur Aldham fired them with his zeal. In 1891 he called the first peal on Prestwold bells. In 1892 he rang the tenor at Quorn, and called 7008 Treble Bob, the writer's first inside peal in the method. At St. George's, Leicester, he took part in the first seven-method peal rung by the M.C.A., the bells of this church being afterwards destroyed by fire (and the tablet recording the peal).

He rang 7-8 in the first handbell peal of Stedman Triples rung by the Leicester band in 1894, and could always be relied upon to ring a pair for a course or peal in Treble Bob, in which method he had rung a peal of Major and Royal in hand.

As mentioned above, Barwell bells were augmented chiefly through his instrumentality in 1902, and on March 1st the subject of this memoir called the first peal on the octave—Holt's ten-part. He revelled in ringing, and especially at the heavy end, where he could turn a tenor in with clockwork precision. In 1901 he rang the tenor for the writer in the first peal at Hugglescote, Leicestershire, and again at Loughborough in a peal of Royal, with tenors parted.

When the long peals of Double Norwich were on the tapis, Arthur Aldham cheerfully agreed to ring. He was on the 7th, at South Wigston in the 11008, and also in the 17104. However bad a bell might go, he would just "stick it," and his pluck has saved many a peal. A complete list of his peals is not obtainable, but it runs to over one hundred, 70 of which can be claimed by the M.C.A. He was also a member of the Norwich Diocesan Association and the Ancient Society of College Youths.

The funeral took place on Tuesday, October 2nd, amid many manifestations of sympathy. One son was absent—serving his country in France—but a large number of delegates from the various organisations in the locality followed the cortege to the Parish Church, where the first portion of the service was conducted by the Rev. R. Titley, M.A., Rector, while the organist rendered Handel's Dead March from "Saul" and Mendelssohn's "Marche Funebre," as a passing tribute. Although national service kept ringers away, who undoubtedly would otherwise have been present, a band of four were got together and after the committal to the earth, a course of Grandsire Triples on heavy handbells was rung over the open grave by: W. K. Humphreys (Hinckley) 1-2, W. Willson (Leicester) 3-4, H. Briggs (Stanton) 5-6, J. Garrett (Sapcote) 7-8; while in the evening the local ringers met at the tower and rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, as a farewell tribute to one who was the moving spirit of ringing in that part of the county, and whose place will not easily be filled. In the days to come, when ringers meet around the board, when peals of the past are revived, when the names of those who were great in the art are discussed, that of Arthur Aldham will rise like a phoenix from the Great Beyond, and remind us of the faces we shall see no more.

The muffled quarter-peal was rung in 47 mins., by: W. Powers 1, W. White 2, W. A. Needham 3, R. C. Belton 4, C. Briggs 5, C. Belton 6, H. Briggs (conductor) 7, J. Needham 8. W. WILLSON.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Sept. 9th, for morning service, 480 Bob Major: Miss E. M. Suart 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson 4, J. Huddleston 5, T. Townson 6, T. Suart 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. First attempt at Major by T. Townson, who hails from Hawkshead. For evening service, 672 Bob Major: Miss E. M. Suart 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, J. Huddleston 4, T. Suart 5, T. Townson 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8.





9 p.m. I enclose for your information a copy of letter circulated on the 13th February, 1917.—Yours faithfully,  
C. M. De GRUYTHIER, Major,  
General Staff, Southern Command.

To John Symons, Esq.,  
Truro Diocesan Guild of Ringers,  
Burlton House, Penzance.

Headquarters, Southern Command,  
13th February, 1917.

My Lord Bishop,—With reference to Regulation 12 Defence of the Realm Regulations, I am directed to inform you that the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Southern Command, has decided, in response to the numerous applications which he has received, to permit the ringing of church bells up till 9 p.m. at all places situated in this command.

Would you kindly have this information passed on to all whom it may concern in your diocese?

The police have been notified.

I have the honour to be, my lord,

Your obedient servant,

(Signed) C. M. De GRUYTHIER, Major,  
General Staff, Southern Command.

#### RINGING PERMITTED IN KENT.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir, — With reference to ringing after dark, we asked our churchwarden at Grayford to get in touch with the military authorities on the matter which he did, and he was told that it was a matter for the police. I, therefore, inquired at the police station last Saturday, and was told that up to the present no alteration had been made and we could ring until 9 p.m., and should any alteration take place we should be informed.—Yours faithfully,  
Bexley Heath.

E. BARNETT, Junr.

#### RINGER WINS THE MILITARY MEDAL.

It is with great pleasure we have to record the bestowal of the Military Medal upon Private F. W. Elliott, K.R.R., for bravery and devotion to duty in the battle of Langemarck, against the concrete pill-box forts. Pte. Elliott is a native of Little Munden, and was an esteemed member of the ringing band, a keen cricketer and member of the choir, previous to his emigrating to Canada. Upon the outbreak of war he returned to join up and "do his bit" for the old country, and went to France in July, 1915, where he has been ever since with the exception of being home on leave twice. He has been wounded once. A fortnight ago he was home on leave, and he received a warm welcome and congratulations from his old friends, and enjoyed a pull with them again, although the hand is much depleted in numbers. Five of the ringers are serving with the colours, Corpl. Rodie having been wounded three times.

#### HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

##### CONTEST AT TONG.

The quarterly meeting and six bell contest of the Halifax District Association was held at Tong on Saturday week, when the bells and schools were kindly placed at the disposal of the members by the Vicar (the Rev. C. P. Farrow). Eight companies entered for the contest, each set ringing 504 changes in any method. The judges for the day were Mr. Broadley, of Bradford, and Mr. Oddy, of Tong.

During the afternoon ten and sandwiches were served to the visitors, who numbered about 120, and was all the more acceptable, as it was not known that any refreshment would be provided.

The general meeting was held in the school at the close of the ringing, the President (Mr. Cotterell) being in the chair, supported by the Vicar and the society's officers.

An invitation was given by the Earlsheaton company to hold the next contest at Earlsheaton, and this was unanimously accepted.

A hearty vote of thanks to the local ringers for the way they had entered for the ringers was accorded.

The judges' decision was then announced as follows: Batley, rung out; Lightcliffe, rung out; Pudsey, 269 faults; Shipley, 229 faults; Birstal, 248 faults; Earlsheaton, 123 faults; Bradford, 329 faults; Thornhill, rung out. Earlsheaton were, therefore, declared the winners.

A cordial vote of thanks was given to the Vicar for his presence, and for the use of his bells, and the Rev. C. P. Farrow, in reply, said that if it had given the members any pleasure to visit the old church and ring the bells, it had given the church authorities at Tong a great deal more pleasure to have them, and he hoped they would soon be able to meet again under more favourable conditions. In conclusion, he said he had great pleasure in presenting the cup to the conductor of the Earlsheaton team.

Mr. Hardy suitably replied, and a vote of thanks to the judges and the president for the way they had worked during the day, brought a very enjoyable meeting to a close.

## THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

In a recent leading article the statement was made that the Council should not be "a mere debating society for a few ultra-scientific theorists," and I think most people, including the aforesaid "theorists," will fully agree. The Council should be representative of the whole Exercise, and should concern itself with every part of the ringers' life and activity.

But if the statement means that in the past "ultra-scientific" subjects have been debated to the exclusion of more practical and more important matters, then I think it is hardly accurate. By far the greater part of the Council's time has been taken up by routine and by more or less trivial and unimportant matters which are forgotten almost at once. The reason why scientific subjects seem to be so much to the fore is really because these do excite a much greater and keener interest among ringers, even though (which is certainly the case) the interested form numerically a very small minority.

Suppose you were to disallow scientific subjects you would find that you had ruled out most of the debates that really have been useful. To take haphazard a few instances. There was the debate on London Surprise Royal, on Bob Triples and Grandire Major, on bell frames, on the extension of Stedman, and others. All these are highly technical subjects, subjects emphatically for experts, subjects that the ordinary ringer is not competent to pass judgment on. And everyone was important to the Exercise at large.

The fault is not that scientific subjects are debated, but in the way they are debated; not that "experts" monopolise the Council's time, but that the people who talk the most are often not experts. There is too much of the pestiferous doctrine that in these things every man has a right to his own opinion, and the men who really do know are not listened to. Of course there are exceptions. Mr. Lewis had an excellent audience when he spoke about bell frames. For once the Council seemed to realise that a man who has carefully studied a subject and gone the right way about it, probably knows more about the matter than one who speaks off-hand, with nothing but his loose impressions and prejudices to guide him.

Often it is quite otherwise. A right understanding of the correct laws on which methods are founded is at least as important and at least as difficult as a right understanding of the correct laws by which bell frames are constructed, but the general opinion seems to be that anyone who can write one row from another by transposition has a perfect right to dogmatise about the former. And too often, also, it happens that men who know well one part of the science of ringing think they know well all of it, and too often they don't.

Let me give one example. Many years ago the Council decided that the subject of methods was one that should be properly investigated, and it appointed a committee to do so. This committee did an infinite amount of work, it took very much care, and it gathered a great quantity of knowledge not known before. The net result was that when those men presented their considered opinions they were universally looked on as a set of cranks and faddists, ignorant and incompetent. Among other things they were agreed on certain opinions on what are called "Bob Major lead ends."

From their opinion the Rev. C. D. P. Davies disagreed, as he had a perfect right to do. He announced his intention of challenging a vote in the Council on the matter: as he had a perfect right to do. When I understood that he was preparing a statement on the subject I wrote to him offering him any information should he need it, and I prepared, at some trouble, and sent to him a short statement of the committee's views on the matter. This he returned unread, with the curt statement that the Council had my views in the Method Report; it would have his in his statement, and could judge between them. A plain intimation that he was not so much concerned with the truth of the matter as to get his own views accepted. And the event proved it. For his long and tedious speech was devoted to a criticism, not of anything that the committee had said, but of a parody of it which he himself invented so as to have the pleasure of easily demolishing it. When he had finished, the Council decided that he had "made out a case," and referred the matter back to the committee, which was coolly asking us to do over again fifteen years' work, at the bidding of one who would not even take the trouble to find out what our views were.

I pointed out that a vote like that with no opportunity afforded for reply was a slight on the committee which would in my case, at any rate, lead to resignation, and I asked to be allowed to make a short statement. This was refused. As I was speaking for the Council's own committee, which had been attacked, I should not have had to ask to be allowed to speak. To ask and then to be refused was to be deliberately insulted.

If the Council wants the more difficult parts of the science investigated they must appoint experts, and then treat them as experts who have a right to be listened to. To get men to do difficult work at your bidding and then to treat them as if their opinions were rather less than more valuable and trustworthy than the ordinary man's is to treat them unfairly. Yet this has been the attitude of the Council toward the Method Committee since the start.

As a body, the Council is not competent to discuss these difficult and

highly technical subjects. It should get men who really do know to give short and interesting papers on limited subjects which would really impart knowledge.

The business of the ordinary member is to listen and try to learn. And the business of those men who have a slight smattering of the matter in hand and no real knowledge is to keep their mouths shut, and not darken knowledge with many words.

Perhaps you may ask what is the good of discussing these things at all. Well, what is the good of discussing anything? What is the good of ringing bells at all? If you argue like that you can disbelieve in the good of anything. But there are many men who think that change ringing is a great and a noble thing, and though the ordinary ringer may not realise it, its well-being depends on these "ultra-scientific" matters. Such men do not attach much value to the opinions of persons who sneer at what they do not understand.

Widford Camp,  
October 2nd, 1917.

### NEW CHURCH AND BELLS. MUNIFICENT GIFTS TO BASINGSTOKE.

The new Church of All Saints, Basingstoke, the munificent gift of the Rev. Alexander T. Hall, M.A., a retired clergyman, who has resided at Basingstoke for some few years past, was dedicated by the Bishop of Winchester on Thursday, Sept. 27th. The church has been erected on a site presented to the parish about 15 years ago by the Rev. Dr. Cooper Smith, the then Vicar, and for some time occupied by a temporary iron building. The new church now completed is built in the 14th century Gothic style, and consists of a nave and choir of equal width and height, divided by a lofty chancel arch. The north and south aisles run the whole length of the church, with a tower on the south side the lower part of which, above the choir aisle, forms the organ chamber. The Lady Chapel is a continuation of the north aisle extending beyond the main building, and filling the eastern angle of the site. The walls are faced externally with stone ashlar, narrow courses being inserted at intervals between the wider ones. The main roof is covered with red tiles, and the roofs of the aisles with grey slate. The pyramidal roof of the tower is covered with oak shingles, with oak louvres to the bell chamber. There is a clerestory to both nave and choir. There is a large three-light window at the west end, and the great east window is of five lights with rich tracery. Internally the church is remarkable for its lofty and spacious proportions, and the appointments are rich and handsome.

In the tower has been hung a peal of richly toned bells which have been placed there by the generosity of Lieut.-Col. J. May, who has thus given another proof of his deep love for his native place. Col. May, who reached his 80th year last June, has had the unique distinction of serving as Mayor of the town in the Jubilee year 1887, the Diamond Jubilee year of 1897, and in the Coronation year of King Edward, 1902. The peal of bells is only one of his many gifts to the town. There are nine bells in all, and they are hung in an iron framework on steel girders with iron head stocks. They were cast and hung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, who have carried out the work with great success and worthily upheld the traditions of the Whitechapel Foundry.

The diameters and weights are as follow:—

	Diameter.		Weight.		
	3 ft.	6 1/2 ins.	11 cwt.	8 qr.	12 lbs.
Tenor	3	2 1/2	9	2	6
8th	2	11	7	2	2
7th	2	8 1/2	6	0	25
6th	2	6 1/2	5	1	7
5th	2	4 1/2	5	0	17
4th	2	2 1/2	4	1	8
3rd	2	1 1/2	3	3	9
2nd	2	0 3/4	3	3	16

The new church was filled to the utmost capacity on the occasion of the dedication, and among the congregation were the Mayor and the members of the Town Council, the ministers of the Nonconformist places of worship in the town and the donors of the church and bells. Among the clergy who took part in the ceremony were the Rev. F. G. Hume, Rector of Oakley and secretary of Basingstoke district of the Winchester Guild.—The Bishop, after the formal dedication, gave a powerful address from the text, "Ye are witnesses unto Me," Acts 1, 8.

Before the dedication service a 504 of Stedman Triples was rung on the bells of St. Michael's, by: W. Hibbert 1, J. Ballard 2, F. Wilson 3, E. J. Menday 4, J. Ward 5, A. Burgess 6, A. A. Hughes (conductor) 7, A. Knight 8. After the service the new peal was set swinging to the delight of the parishioners, who all spoke of their sweet tone. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung during the evening. Messrs. Hibbert and Menday hail from Caversham, and A. A. Hughes from London, the last named attending the dedication ceremony to represent the Whitechapel Foundry.

LINCOLN.—Lincoln Diocesan Guild.—At the Cathedral, in honour of the King's birthday, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 44 mins.: G. Chester 1, G. Plinham 2, J. T. Wells 3, W. Clarke 4, T. Pyle 5, I. Vickors 6, J. A. Freeman (conductor) 7, C. H. Chester 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).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., at 8 p.m., for handbell practice, on October 18th, and for general business on the 23rd.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Walton on Saturday, Oct. 13th. Bells ready at 3.30. Tea and meeting, 6. Members intending being present please send word.—W. Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Established 1755.—Next quarterly meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Erdington, on Saturday, Oct. 13th. Bells available from 3.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Brierley Hill on Saturday, October 13th. Bells available at 3. Short service in church at 5.15, with an address by the Rector (Rev. H. W. Jones). Tea (1s.) in the Schoolroom at 6. Reports will be ready for distribution.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's, Hillingdon (10 bells), on Saturday, Oct. 13th. Bells available from 4.30 to 8. Tea at 6. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—A meeting will be held at West Malling on Saturday, October 13th. Bells available for ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 5.30. Tea provided by Vicar and Churchwardens at 6. Half railway fares will be paid to those attending this meeting.—Stephen Hayzelden, Dis. Sec., Lower Street, East Farley.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Open ringing afternoon at Frodsham, October 13th. Bells 8; ringing from 2.30 until 6.30. William Bibby, Head Ringer. All ringers welcome.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Solihull, on Saturday, October 20th. Bells (10) available from 3 o'clock.—Joseph H. White, Hon. Secretary, 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's, Miles Platting, on Saturday, October 20th. Bells ready at 3.30. Meeting at dusk.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Rye, Sussex, on Saturday, Oct. 20th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock until sunset. All ringers welcome.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Annual district meeting will be held at Felsted on Saturday, Oct. 27th, for election of district officers and other business. Further particulars next week.—B. Redgwell, Dist. Sec., Rayne,



**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Canterbury District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Peter's-in-Thanel, on Saturday, Oct. 27th. Bells available during the afternoon. Service in Church at 5 p.m. Tea afterwards in the Parish Room followed by business meeting; tea 1s. each. Half fares granted to members attending the meeting. Those desiring tea should send their names to me by Monday, October 22nd, at the latest.—The Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe, Elmsted Vicarage, Ashford, Kent, Hon. District Secretary.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Leigh-on-Mendip, Saturday, Oct. 27th. Divine Service at 3.20 p.m. Tea (followed by the business meeting) in the Church Reading Hall, at 4.30 p.m. Vehicles (kindly arranged for by the Rev. J. E. W. Honnywill) will meet 1.41 train (Mells Road) from Bristol, the 2.23 train (Mells Road) from Frome, and will also be available to catch the return trains. Members wishing to avail themselves of Mr. Honnywill's kind offer are requested to let the hon. sec. know of their intention not later than the 24th inst. It is especially desired that all who hope to be present should so intimate to the hon. sec. on or before the 23rd inst.—I. B. Holmyard, Hon. Sec., Midsomer Norton.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Lieut. A. E. Reeves having resigned the secretaryship of above, owing to military duties, all correspondence should now be sent to R. T. Hibbert, Hon. Sec., Warren House Lodge, St. Peter's Avenue, Caversham, Oxon.

**HANDBELLS WANTED.**—Wanted to purchase immediately, an octave of very small Handbells. Key D preferred. Write by return, stating price: Rector, Kingston Magna, Gillingham, Dorset.

**FOR SALE.**—In clean and good condition, six bound volumes (20 to 25 inclusive) of "Bell News," also Vols. 26 to 34 unbound. Also "Ringing World" for years 1911, 12, 13, 14, 15 and 1916. No reasonable offer refused.—S. Proctor, 26, Putney Road, Enfield Wash, London, N.

**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.

#### PEAL BOARD UNVEILED AT WOODSTON.

On Saturday week, at St. Augustine's Church, Woodston, the interesting ceremony of unveiling a peal board took place. The board records a peal of Bob Minor, 5040 changes, each 720 differently called, which was rung on June 24th, 1916, on the second anniversary of the opening of the new ring of six. The Rector (the Rev. N. J. Raper) performed the ceremony, and expressed his pleasure in doing so, as the ringers were so closely associated with Divine service.

After the unveiling ceremony, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung by the ringers who took part in the peal, standing in the same order: T. Vaughan 1, H. Hoare 2, S. Wright 3, T. Telbutt 4, F. Dainty 5, F. Cook (conductor) 6. Other ringing friends being present, and a very pleasant afternoon was spent, touches of Bob Minor, Kent Treble Bob and Double Oxford being brought round. Many thanks are due to the Rector for his kindness in allowing the use of the bells.

#### THE DEATH OF MR. J. W. WHITING.

As recorded in another column, a half-muffled peal was rung at North Stoneham, Hants, on Saturday, to the memory of the late Mr. J. W. Whiting, of Fareham, who was always a welcome visitor at the tower at North Stoneham. It was there that he rang his last peal—Double Norwich Major—on Sept. 27th, 1913, and four of those who took part in it rang in the memorial peal, viz., Messrs. Williams, Edwards, Wilkes and George. Spr. W. G. Rowe, R.E., who was home on leave from France, took a rope in the peal at the last minute, in place of Mr. W. T. Tucker, who had been called away suddenly by the illness of his mother. He, however, kindly muffled the bells for the peal.

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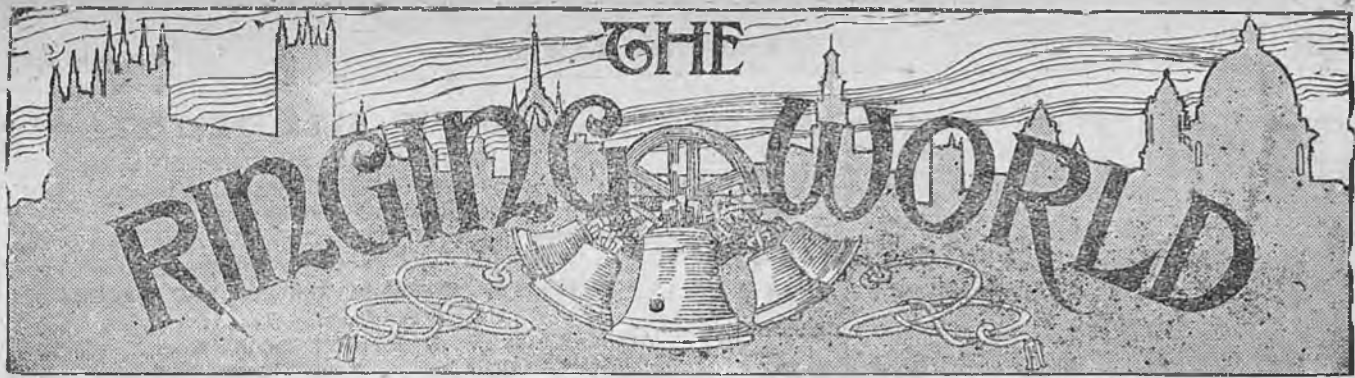


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No. 344. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19th, 1917.

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

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WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,  
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1915.  
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.

### TO CELEBRATE VICTORY.

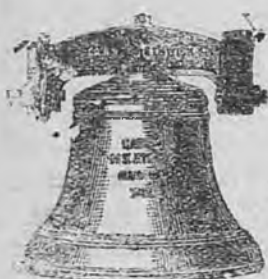
Throughout the war our bells have been for the most part silent. On a few occasions we have fittingly honoured the heroic dead by muffled ringing, but never have we heard the bells generally pealing joyously for the victories of our armies. A few isolated instances have been recorded of bells being rung to celebrate some success, such as the Battle of Jutland or the victory at Messines, but there has been nothing like a universal ringing of the bells of our churches to acclaim the triumphs of our forces. In contrast to the Germans, who in the early stages of the war found an excuse, in a real or imagined victory, to clang their bells nearly every other day, but who found the occasions for such jubilant exhibitions grow less and less until they vanished entirely, our justification for jubilation has been growing as time has passed, and several of the successes in recent months have been triumphs which certainly warranted more public recognition at home than they received.

It has long been said of us as a nation that we take our pleasures sadly, and now in the days of our successes on the battlefield, we are taking our victories gloomily. Unquestionably, when we get such news as that of the recent achievements of our arms, the bells of the land should play their part in interpreting the joy which the successes should inspire. Public feeling is ripe for it, the Press are opening their columns to ask for it. A popular writer in the London "Evening News" devoted nearly a column to the subject. One extract here will suffice: "We are of the blood of people who, when they were in a jolly mood, when good news was in, loved to hear all the bells ring with a jolly noise. They should have rung for Broodseinde."

The ringing of the bells at York Minster was the text for his article, and so, too, was it for a letter which appeared in the "Morning Post," in which the writer said: "Let the great London churches follow the example of York Minster, and the Te Deums in the sky will have an excellent effect on the masses of the population. It will do more to convince the poorer people that the Boche is really being smashed than any amount of public oratory or newspaper articles. It will make for cheerfulness throughout the vast community, and help London to realise that Gotha raids are merely a device for terrorising civilians invented by a desperate enemy." We may well take it that these articles are expressive of the feelings of the people, and that the public would welcome the cheering sound of the bells when there is victory. When next a triumph like that at Broodseinde comes along, we hope towers throughout the land will follow the example of York Minster, and, let us add, Gillingham, where several service men took part in a peal to celebrate the great victory.



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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.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.  
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD  
(NORTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, October 13, 1917, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

ARTHUR CRANE ... .. Treble	THOMAS BEST ... .. 5
* WILLIAM MEAD ... .. 2	RICHARD NICHOLS ... .. 6
FRANCIS HEDGES ... .. 3	HARRY SEAR ... .. 7
WALTER SEAR ... .. 4	VALENTINE SEAR ... .. Tenor

Conducted by H. SEAR.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to Sapper L. Meager, one of the local band, who died of wounds in France, Sept. 28th, 1917. \* First peal with a bob bell. The ringer of the tenor is 67 years of age.

LLANBRADACH, GLAM.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 13, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

42 Six-Scores. 4-6-8 behind. Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN JONES ... .. Treble	ALBERT ADDICOTT ... .. 5
FRANK BOUCHER ... .. 2	STANLEY VOYZEY ... .. 6
FRED EVANS ... .. 3	* GEORGE COOKE ... .. 7
FRANK STEPHENS ... .. 4	WILLIAM WILLIAMS ... .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE COOKE.

\* First peal as conductor. First peal by all except the conductor. Rung on the eve of the Harvest Festival. The ringer of the 6th was proposed a member before starting. The ringers of the 4th and 6th belong to the local band, the rest belong to Caerphilly.

## A VISIT TO WARFIELD.

On Saturday, afternoon, Sept. 22nd—the usual week-day for ringers' jaunts in search of a "change"—the East Berks and South Bucks branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild visited the interesting parish of Warfield for a pull on the beautiful little octave at St. Michael's Church, where the tower has lately been restored by the kindness of a Field-Marshal. The whole party arrived by cycle, and a good muster of enthusiastic men made the evening a huge success. Five methods—Triples and Major—were rung between 5.30 and 8.30 p.m. The Vicar came to the church to receive the visitors, who also inspected the careful decorations of the interior in readiness for the morrow's harvest festival. The day was exceedingly fine, the roads, some of Berkshire's best tarmac, in excellent repair, making the journey home by moonlight one of the happiest of trips. The towers represented are given below. Warfield's few men will be excused, as they have sent over 15 bell-ringers from the parish into the field of war: Easthampstead, J. Rance; Warfield, L. Bristow and J. Hammond; Stoke Poges, W. Bateman and Gladys Bateman; Fulmer, G. Gutteridge, Miss F. Gudgin and Miss W. Cooper; Slough, E. Hooper, G. Leader, T. S. Smith and P. E. Jones (R.N.A.S.); W. Henley and W. H. Fussell; Winkfield, Mr. J. Brant and Mr. G. W. Clarke. Mr. Jones was home on leave, while Mr. Clarke, late of Beckenham, had not touched the ropes for four years.

## SHELL'S CURIOUS ACTION IN CHURCH SPIRE

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have just been sent over from France, in consequence of a wound in the back, obtained in the recent "Push" on Sept. 20th. I should like to tell you of a curious sight I saw on a village church in the battle area. Most of the churches are mere ruins, often represented by a heap of stones. This particular church was badly knocked about, but the tower was standing. It was a square tower, and was surmounted by a short spire. The tower had received such a shock as to lift this spire bodily and shift it so that it overhung the tower on one side, leaving, of course, a space of about one foot flat on the other side. Neither the tower nor spire were badly damaged. The effect was very curious. No one is allowed near the church, which stands in its churchyard surrounded by barbed wire.

I may say that while I have been in France I have had the "Ringing World" sent to me regularly, and its contents have done much to cheer me and help me to bear the trials and hardships.—Yours sincerely,

Lance-Corpl. E. C. SHEPHERD.

Ward C 2, Queen Mary's Hospital,  
Whalley, Lancs.

**RINGER DIES OF WOUNDS.****BLETCHLEY COMPANY'S LOSS.**

The sad news of the death of Sapper L. Meager, 1/4th Cheshires Field Company, Royal Engineers, in France, has been received by his wife, through the captain of the company to which he belonged. The officer writes as follows: "It is my painful duty to have to inform you that your husband, Sapper L. Meager, died of wounds on the 28th of September on his way to hospital. He was wounded on the morning of the 28th while out at work, by a piece of shell. During the two months your husband was with his company he always did his duty, and was very well liked, both by his officers and by his comrades, and they wish to join with me in offering our sympathy in your bereavement."

Sapper L. Meager, who was 38 years of age, had been a member of the Bletchley St. Mary's company for nearly 20 years, and was a good ringer on eight bells in all methods up to Double Norwich. Although he was not keen on peal ringing, he had rung four peals, viz., three of Grandsire Triples, and one Grandsire Doubles. He was always content with a touch or quarter-peal, but was quite willing to stand in for a peal to make the number up.

He had been a member of the North Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild since its formation.

He joined up on August 4th, 1916, and the Bletchley ringers have lost in him a valued member.

On Saturday, October 13th, a muffled peal was rung to his memory, and will be found recorded elsewhere. The bells were also rung, muffled, for Sunday services, the "whole pull and stand" being rung in the morning. Touching reference to his death was made by the Rev. F. W. Bennett in his sermon, and appropriate hymns were chosen for the service, for as a boy, deceased was a member of the choir, and he was ready to assist with any church work. He leaves a wife and five children to mourn their loss, and heartfelt sympathy goes out to them.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

A quarterly meeting of this Association was held at Corston on September 29th, when 90 members were present from the following towers: Bathaston, Bathford, Bridgwater, Burnham, Camerton, Corston, Henbury, High Littleton, The Abbey, Bath; St. Saviour's, Bath; St. Andrew's, Bath; Timsbury, Twerton, Swainswick; St. Matthew's Bath; Long Ashton, Fortishead, Midsomer Norton, Weston-super-Mare, Keynsham, Newton St. Loe, Warmley, Stockport; St. Phillips' St. George, St. Stephen, St. James' and St. Nicholas', Bristol; and St. James', Taunton.

The bells, which are a new peal of eight, with tenor about 10 cwt., were presented to the parish by Mr. Bartelt in memory of his son, who died serving his country in India.

Ringing was commenced at 2.30, and touches in various methods were rung until 5 p.m., when tea was partaken of in the church room, after which the business meeting was held, the Master, the Rev. C. C. Parker (who is Rector of the parish) presiding.—Thirty-four new members were elected.

The next meeting will be held at Curry Rivel, in December.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. C. C. Parker for the use of the bells and arranging the service was carried unanimously.

This concluded the business, and a short service was held in the Parish Church, the Rector officiating, and the singing being led by a full choir.

The Rev. C. C. Parker preached from the text, "Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven" (St. Matthew vi. 10). The Rector dwelt upon the value of co-operation. They had an example in the present war, in which all petty selfishness and sectional opinion must be put aside and all must work for the great purpose the nation had in view. Russia presented a sad picture of the result of disagreement and disunion. Our strength lay in the unity of the nation; that more than anything else would lead to victory. In a lesser degree it was true of every society that the loyalty and co-operation of its members meant success or failure. Their own association was spread over a large diocese, with bands of ringers scattered here and there. They had an increasing number of members. Though scattered, they were bound together by a common purpose: the glory of the Church and the glory of God, and so long as they were faithful to that purpose and to one another they had nothing to fear. He believed that their prosperity as an association was due to that. He thought the exercise itself was a picture of co-operation. Regarding the ringers, they must have a band of ringers to ring a method. One man was entirely useless by himself. The band must be complete, a single absence preventing a ring or peal being attempted. Again, in the actual ringing, the ringers were dependent on one another. A single mistake by one man spoiled the whole. The same lesson was taught by the bells. Each bell had its place and each bell was essential. Even if two bells were rung too close to one another and clashed, the effect was marred. All the bells together made a peal, and each bell bore its quota to the perfection and completion of it.

Subsequently the bells were again utilised. During the afternoon, the grounds of Mr Bartelt's house and the Rectory were thrown open to the visitors.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.****MEMORIAL TO A "RINGERS' PARSON."**

In these abnormal times big meetings of ringers are a rarity, and when one does occur it is because there is a special reason for it. This was the case on Saturday week, when upwards of 50 foregathered at Bradpole. The attractive feature was the unveiling and dedication of a marble mural tablet to the late chairman of the West Dorset Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, who was Vicar of the parish. From 2.30 till 4 p.m., the time of service, the bells were kept merrily going in the way the man whom they had met to honour had so dearly loved. Service was then held, and to show how deeply the late Vicar was respected there was not a vacant seat in the church, even the aisles and porch accommodating their quota.

The service was conducted by the Rev. S. Forster-Brown, the now incumbent, while the dedication was performed by the Rural Dean (Rev. J. W. Coulter, Rector of Bridport), who also preached. Taking as his text, "He being dead, yet speaketh," he showed how the character of the late Vicar was to all much better than any spoken sermon. He urged his hearers to take the character of such a man as a pattern, and by imitation show that his life and ministry in the parish had not been in vain.

The tablet consists of a rouge marble back, surmounted by a massive white marble scroll, on which is superimposed a marble cross and wreath. On the scroll are the words: "In memory of Charles Frederick Langford, for eight years Vicar of this parish, who died 20th February, 1917, aged 56 years. During his vicariate, and through his exertions, the bells were augmented and rehung, and the organ enlarged and rebuilt. This tablet is erected by Parishioners, Ringers, and Friends, to mark their appreciation of his nobleness of character."

Thus have the ringers helped to perpetuate the memory of one who was a real "ringers' parson."

Following the service, tea was served in the Forster Institute, and under the superintendence of a ringer's wife, was so managed that more than the regulation two ounces was available.

A business meeting followed, at which was discussed the question how all parishes having bells should have them rung when peace should be declared; and what is hoped to be a practical scheme evolved. The question of "Lady Ringers" in a belfry was also debated, as one local clergyman seems to have had qualms as to the propriety of such a course. The branch secretary was instructed to ask the general secretary to take up the matter, as it was a slur on the characters of all ringers.

**THE LATE MR. A. R. ALDHAM.**

Mr. William Motts, of Ipswich, writing upon the loss which the Exercise has sustained by the death of Mr. Arthur R. Aldham, of Barwell, says that the deceased ringer was born at the village of Hadleigh, and turned his attention to ringing in 1883, when he joined the band at the Church of St. Mary-le-Tower with two more probationers, in Mr. Hart, and that celebrated tenor bell ringer of long peal renown, Mr. Frederick J. Tillett. At St. Mary-le-Tower they learnt the art of change ringing, and the late Mr. Aldham rang his first peal—the treble in a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major—upon the back eight at the Tower Church in the year 1884. He afterwards took part in some splendid performances, and ably rang the 4th in the peal of 16,608 Oxford Treble Bob Major, at Debenham, in 10 hours and 32 mins., on Whit-Monday, June 6th, 1892. He could handle a bell, whether large or small, to perfection, and on his last visit to the county town rang the tenor to and conducted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus at St. Mary-le-Tower, on August 1st, 1914.

As a last mark of respect to their departed brother ringer, the members of St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, rang half-muffled touches upon the bells, followed by the "whole pull and stand." Owing to the lighting restrictions time would not permit of a peal being attempted.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

A most successful meeting of the Wirral Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at St. Mary's, Liscard, on Saturday, Sept. 22nd. Ringing commenced shortly after three o'clock, and there was some very good striking in the following methods: Stedman, Grandsire Triples, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob Major.—The Rev. A. T. Beeston, the hon. secretary of the Guild, was present, and took part in the ringing. The Rev. A. E. Simpson (Vicar) conducted the service, and gave an address. Afterwards tea was served in the School Room, 45 members and friends sitting down.

The Branch President subsequently provided smokes, and the Rev. A. T. Beeston gave an address on the word "Progress." He said ringers should not be satisfied with one or two methods, but should carry on until they had made themselves proficient in many methods.

Mr. Milner (Branch President), who is a resident of Liscard, gave the visitors a cordial welcome, and said how pleased he was to see among them several soldiers who were stationed at camps in the neighbourhood, and who came from Yorkshire, Kent, Bristol and Preston.—The members warmly thanked the Vicar and chairman, the local ringers, and lady helpers, for a most enjoyable afternoon.

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*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.*

### NO RINGING AFTER DARK AT NORTHAMPTON

Mr. F. Wilford, hon. secretary of the Northants Association, has received the following letter from the Chief Constable of Northampton:—

Dear Sir,—With reference to your call at this office on the 10th instant, I have now received a letter from the Military Authorities, stating it is not considered advisable that any extension of the time fixed by Regulation 12b of the Defence of the Realm Regulations for the ringing of Church Bells should be allowed.—Yours faithfully,  
F. M. MARDLIN, Chief Constable.

### THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—Mr. Trollope is, I think, right in his contention that the time of the Council has too often been wasted by experts and enthusiasts. I will remember the "long and tedious speech" to which he alludes—a speech to which I listened patiently in a fog of bewildered ignorance. But I thought then, and still think, that the blame rested not so much with the enthusiast who, having got his chance, used it rather mercilessly (perhaps quite unaware of the flight of time), as with the chairman, who failed in one of a chairman's first duties, to see that everyone has fair play, and that no one monopolises an undue share of the time available. De mortuis nil nisi bonum: I say no more on that head. But if our new chairman, whoever he may be, will take a firm line at the start, and pull up every speaker, no matter how eminent, who exceeds (say) 15 or 20 minutes, I am sure that he would be supported by the Council, and would do much to remove the grievance of which Mr. Trollope and others justly complain.—Yours faithfully,

St. Albans, Oct. 13.

T. L. PAPILLON.

### A RINGER'S SERVICE BOOK.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—Your correspondent's suggestion of a "Belfry Office" and your leader on that subject open up a matter in which all ringers are concerned. What that office should be, I, as a layman, am not going to say, but that such an office would be acceptable in many towers is a fact without much doubt. In addition to the sentences from the 150th Psalm, or some other suitable sentences, I would suggest a short collect—one of those used at ringers' services, or one of a similar nature.

But this only opens up a wider question, and that is a "Ringer's Service Book." Now it is well known that nearly every large association or guild of ringers has during the past twenty years, drafted and obtained permission to use a special form of service. These are mostly printed on leaflets, and distributed and collected before and after a service. All these services, though drafted on similar lines, differ in matters of detail. Now ringers having gone so far as to adopt a form of service might, I think, go a step further forward, and instead of being satisfied with a "local" form take up the larger question of a "national" form of ringers' service.

Here, then, is an opportunity for the Central Council to engage upon a bit of practical work, which would be of great benefit to all ringers. The Central Council, at their next meeting, should adopt the principle I have suggested, and then place it in the hands of the clergy who serve on the Council, and get them to compile a service book, together with a goodly number of all the best "ringers' hymns." This could be put in hand at once, and sanction obtained from the Archbishops for its use, so that when the cost of paper, etc., gets nearer to normal prices, it could be published—say, in stiff boards—at about 6d. Ringers habitually attending meetings would not be slow to obtain one, especially if all associations supported the scheme by withdrawing from use their own forms of service, and advocating the use of the Ringers' Service Book.—Yours truly,  
Bradpole.

T. HERVEY BEAMS.

### RINGERS FROM CANADA AND U.S. MEET.

INTERESTING FEATURE OF SILVER WEDDING CELEBRATION.

The celebration of the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Gower, of Hythe, Kent, Mr. Gower being the captain of the local band, was marked by an interesting gathering of ringers, for among those who joined in ringing for the auspicious event were Sergt. R. Carrier, Canadian Artillery, of Vancouver, B.C., who rang the 7th in the peal of Grandsire Triples, the first in Canada, that was scored in the city of the far west in 1911, and Corpl. Gordon Mackman, Canadian Highlanders, of Boston, U.S.A. Touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, conducted by A. D. Cullum, R.F.C., of Reading, and Corpl. Mackman, were rung by the following: R. N. Runham, R.F.C.; Sergt. R. Carrier, A. D. Cullum, R.F.C.; Corpl. G. Mackman, P. W. Crunden, A. White, W. J. Prebble, A. R. Manning, W. Clements, and H. Gower. On Sunday, Sept. 23rd, at the same church, 504 Grandsire Triples, by: W. J. Prebble 1, P. W. Crunden 2, A. White 3, A. R. Manning (conductor) 4, A. D. Cullum 5, G. Mackman 6, S. A. Gower 7, W. Clements 8.

For various reasons there will be no further Sunday ringing at Hythe until the spring.



## THE BELLS AND VICTORY.

### PUBLIC WANT THEM RUNG.

Where were the bells when the news of Broodseinde came? That is the question which writers in the Press have asked. Speaking of the great victory, "The Londoner," writing in the "Evening News," said:—

"We rejoiced in our sombre fashion. We read our paper eagerly. We spoke shyly to one another in the railway carriage, saying that this was, no doubt, a Big Thing. The map on which the black line had moved forward was a joy to us as we stumbled over those strange Flemish names on it. Yet something was wanting in London.

"We should have shouted for the victory. That, I grieve to say, is all but impossible. The jolly habit of shouting with the crowd is lost to us. I myself know very well that I am too shy to shout aloud in a public place. I would rather be alone at the corner of Chancery Lane, when the warning to take cover has gone down Fleet Street, than stand in the same place in the busy hour and cry Hooray for Haig. Our forefathers could do such things: a hundred years ago you might have heard news of victory go hoorraying from St. Paul's to Charing Cross. But we are too shy for it.

"Yet there are still bells in the steeple. And we were once the ringing island. In our grumbling humours we complain against the bells, and I will not say that a certain clanking call to prayer has not made me fretful, although I never wrote to the Editor about it. But we are of the blood of people who when they were in a jolly mood, when good news was in, loved to hear all the bells ring with a jolly noise. They should have rung wildly for Broodseinde.

"I am told that the bells were rung in the Minster of York. I should like to have been in York that day. It is a fair city. There was an old poet who said that 'of all the cities that ever I see, York York for my money.' He added 'except the City of London.' But on that day it would have been better to be in York. I can imagine myself walking the stone path along the ancient wall, looking over houses and quiet gardens to the Minster, and hearing the bells clash for victory. One would be the better for hearing that joyful noise.

"Now there are bells under the dome of Paul's which are as good bells as any in the towers of York Minster. What were the bell-ringers doing on that day? There is the Dean who has power and authority in the cathedral. In days before the war, it was pleasant to tease our neighbour the Dean until he would snap out something about the halfpenny Press. We called him, affectionately, the Gloomy Dean. Yet I do not suppose that he is gloomier than other Deans: it was not for gloom that he forebore to jangle his bells.

"It may have been because of the Defence of the Realm Act, that Act which we call Dora for short. Dora is a short-tempered authority and capable of anything. She may have said that she would fine any Dean a hundred pound if he so much as pulled at a bell-rope: that would be pretty Dora's way. Yet it is more likely that the bells of Paul's are not rung because nobody thought of ringing them. So, when Haig strikes again—and I promise the Boche that his hand is rising for a mighty slap—let us ring our bells like mad, all the bells, St. Clement's bells that ring Oranges and Lemons, St. Martin's bells clamouring for Five Fardens, and the great bell of Paul's booming above them all."

### TE DEUMS IN THE SKY.

The following letter appeared in the "Morning Post" from a correspondent, E. B. Osborn:—

"It does seem to me that our present Government is strangely lacking in the imaginative insight which is really the best part of statesmanship. At the present moment, when so many people cannot see that the Boche is being broken and are unnecessarily depressed, it should be the business of every Minister to impress on every audience he meets the glorious fact that the British Army is winning every week the most amazing victories in battles as big as Blenheim and Waterloo, or even bigger. Yet they are silent on this and other vital points which the enemy never neglect, knowing from Clausewitz the vast importance of gaining public opinion in national warfare.

"The bells of York Minster were rung to celebrate the last great victory of our incomparable fighting men. You know how proud Yorkshire men are of their noble Minster, and I am told that triumphant message of the bells sent a wave of optimism through the county of broad acres. All honour to the Dean for having a tune from his aerial choir, even if, as some say, the Archbishop disapproved—I hope there is no truth at all in the rumour, for the Archbishop must rejoice over German defeats, even if he did cherish 'sacred memories' of a conversation with the Kaiser.

"Let the great London churches follow the example of York Minster, and the Te Deums in the sky will have an excellent effect on the masses of the population. It will do more to convince the poorer people that the Boche is really being smashed than any amount of political oratory or newspaper articles. It will make for cheerfulness throughout the vast community and help London to realise that Gotha raids are merely a device for terrorising civilians invented by a desperate enemy.

"The pity is that highly-placed politicians, permanent officials, and ecclesiastical dignitaries are in many cases opposed to giving our soldiers the praise that is due to them. The former want all the limelight for themselves; they would like to see the soldier kept in his old place of inferiority to the civilian. Hence among other acts of

contempt, the odious plan of rigging out discharged veterans in hideous slop suits which no scavenger in search of a job would wear. The other day an invalided officer of the Old Army saw one of his comrades in these infamous products of sweating dens, and confessed he nearly wept at the sight. He offered his old friend money to buy more suitable clothes, but it was refused. Then he took him along to his own house and looked out some of his own things, as they were both of much the same build, and these were accepted as gifts from one comrade to another. Doesn't this illustrate the regimental camaraderie rather touchingly? Well, let us ring our bells while London chinks out other ways of honouring the fighting men to whom she owes, under God, her immunity from all serious harm."

### NEW MELODY FOR AIRMEN.

Mr. W. Pett Ridge, writing in "Lloyd's News," also refers to the subject. He says: "One or two churches have made a shy effort to ring joy bells; there would, perhaps, be more, but for the fact that many of the lusty pullers of ropes are on active service in other surroundings. One can hope there are enough at home when the great moment arrives, to fill the skies with a melody new to our wonderful young airmen."

## MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

### MEETING AT HILLINGDON.

Had you entered the tower of St. John's Church on Saturday afternoon last, you might easily have formed an impression that a ladies' meeting was in progress, for out of thirty-one ringers present, no less than eleven were of the fair sex, and, what is more, they could all ring, and ring well. Not every day do you see ten ladies striking "rounds" on such a heavy peal as Hillingdon—with its tenor nearly 23 cwt.—and it will, perhaps, not be "out of order" if the names are given and the positions in which they rang: Miss W. Cooper 1, Miss E. Gorham 2, Miss F. Feltham 3, Miss F. Gudgeon 4, Miss A. Manley 5, Miss C. M. Orlebar 6, Miss J. Honor 7, Miss D. G. Williams 8, Miss Gladys Bateman 9, Miss Edith Jones 10. Afterwards the Misses Feltham and Williams rang in Grandsire Triples; the Misses Cooper and Bateman in Grandsire Caters; and Mrs. Frank Haire and Miss E. Jones in Stedman Caters, the latter was conducted by G. Fardon. At the tea table one's thoughts went back some years to country life, for it was quite homely to see the brass candlesticks and candles again in use. The tables were nicely decorated with flowers, and there was plenty of nice sweet jam and crisp watercress. An explanation may be given regarding the use of the antique lighting arrangements, for the local Gas Company had either forgotten to turn on the tap, or was having its revenge for the disturbance of the usual quietude of the village. Nevertheless a very enjoyable time was spent; in fact, at one table in particular trouble had certainly taken wings for joviality and merriment reigned, largely contributed to by "Nipper" and "Nibs," and some of the "Pilgrims."

The Rev. R. M. Carrick, M.A., welcomed the company very heartily, and said how he regretted that he could not stay until the close of the meeting. The District Master (Mr. T. Beadle) struck a note of sadness—echoed by everyone present—when he asked that a vote of sympathy should be sent to the relations of two well known members, who, while fighting for their country, had crossed "the bourne from whence no traveller returns," viz., Mr. H. W. Cowley, of Heston, and Mr. Chas. Dell, of Isleworth.

Among those present at the meeting were ringers from Brockley, Camberwell, Erith, Fulmer, Harrow, Heston, Hillingdon, Isleworth, Mitcham, Shepherd's Bush, Stepney, Stoke Poges, Slough, Willesden, Westminster, and West Ealing.—Six new members were elected, they were the ringers of 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, and 9, mentioned in the allusion to the round ringing. West Ealing was selected for the next meeting, subject to permission being granted. It was announced that Heston tower would be open for ringing on Saturday afternoon, October 27th, at 3 o'clock, and a general invitation is given.

W.L.

## ACCIDENT TO WELL-KNOWN BELL HANGER.

The many friends of Mr. John Thomas, who, before joining the army, was employed by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the White-chapel Foundry, as a bell hanger, will regret to hear that he met with a serious accident in France. Mr. Thomas was serving in the Royal Flying Corps. On Sept. 20th, as one of the British aeroplanes was being got ready for a patrol, the propeller started up unexpectedly, and struck Mr. Thomas on both arms, fracturing them. He is now in H Ward, Leith War Hospital, Edinburgh, and everyone will wish him a speedy recovery.

Mr. Thomas is known in many parts of the country, where his work has taken him, and he will be remembered by many for the skill with which he can ring two church bells at a time.

### MISSING.

Pte. George Edser, who is well known in London and Winchester Guild ringing circles, and who was hon. secretary of the Yorktown district of the latter for some years, has been officially reported "missing." Hope for his safety has not yet been given up, for he may be a prisoner in the hands of the Germans, and his many friends in the ringing world will trust that this may be so.

## WINCHESTER GUILD.

The Guildford District held a very pleasant meeting on Saturday week at Dunsfold, a little village surrounded by sylvan scenery among the beautiful Surrey hills. Considering the fact that Dunsfold is six miles from a railway station, the attendance was very satisfactory, and the pretty ring of six bells at the Church of St. Mary and All Saints were well utilised during the afternoon, the ringing including Stedman and Grandsire Doubles, Treble Bob, and a 720 of Plain Bob, conducted by R. Whittington. The warmest of welcomes was extended to the visitors by the Vicar, the Rev. A. E. Hollins, who entertained the party to a substantial tea. His kindness was much appreciated by the members, whose thanks were fittingly expressed by Mr. F. E. Dawe.

## A VISIT TO WORTH.

On Sunday week, four ringers from Crawley, accompanied by Mr. G. Paice, of Edmonton, who was down on a visit, journeyed over to Worth, where they were met by Mr. A. Wood, of Nufield, and Mr. F. Rice, Redhill. Permission to ring at the Parish Church having been readily granted by the Rector (the Rev. H. S. Walter Bridge), the bells were set going to Kent Treble Bob Minor, a 720 being rung in 24 minutes, by: P. Tyler 1, J. Rice 2, A. Mitchell 3, A. Wood 4, G. Paice 5, F. W. Rice (conductor) 6. A 360 of College Exercise was next brought round, by: A. Mitchell 1, J. Rice 2, A. Wood 3, A. D. Mills 4, G. Paice 5, F. W. Rice (conductor) 6. Also a 504 of Oxford Treble Bob. The ringers then adjourned to the Rectory for tea, in response to the kind invitation of the Rector, and the meal was much appreciated. For evening service, a well-struck 360 of Oxford Treble Bob was the concluding touch of a pleasant afternoon's ringing.

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**HARPENDEN.**—On Sunday, Sept. 2nd, for Hospital Demonstration Service, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: A. J. Smith 1, W. Hill 2, L. A. Goodenough 3, B. Wilson 4, A. King 5, T. Kendall 6, B. Jarman (conductor) 7, C. Dellar 8. The ringers of treble, 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th, kindly cycled from Luton to take part.

**FULHAM.**—On Sunday, Sept. 9th, for evening service, at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major (1280 changes): A. Cutmore 1, W. H. Hollier 2, A. W. Davis 3, L. Attwater 4, J. W. Driver 5, H. G. Miles (conductor) 6, W. E. Garrard 7, C. Charge 8.

**CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.**—At the St. John the Baptist's Church, on Sunday, Sept. 9th, for evening service, 546 Grandsire Triples: A. Thornton 1, P. Tyler 2, W. Hewett (Westminster) 3, A. E. Mitchell 4, E. F. Pike (Westminster) 5, J. Rice (conductor) 6, A. G. Mason (Erith) 7, W. Vincent 8.

**IPSWICH.**—On Sunday, Sept. 9th, at St. Mary-le-Tower Church, for evening service, a touch of Stedman Cinques: E. Evans 1, E. Pemberton 2, R. H. Hayward 3, R. H. Brundle 4, H. C. Gillingham 5, W. L. Catchpole 6, W. Tillet 7, W. Whitehead (R.N.A.S.) 8, J. Motte (conductor) 9, W. Burgess 10, Fredk. Tillet 11, Hawkins English 12.

**WEST BROMWICH, STAFFS.**—At Christ Church, on Sunday, Sept. 9th, before evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: Rev. C. H. Barker 1, R. Hall 2, T. Horton 3, S. Asbury 4, J. Walker 5, J. Screen (conductor) 6, J. Jaggard 7, F. Troth 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to T. Horton, who is now in his 72nd year, and has been a ringer at Christ Church for 51 years.

**NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.**—On Sunday, Sept. 9th, at the Cathedral, for evensong, 640 Erin Cinques: W. A. Cooke (H.M.S. 'Illustrious') 1, A. Dalton 2, C. L. Routledge (conductor) 3, J. Keen 4, W. Sinclair 5, J. McKeag 6, B. Horton 7, W. Hazell 8, A. Hillier 9, W. Story 10, R. Richards 11, Pte. T. Male (Royal Defence Corps) 12.

**READING, BERKS.**—Oxford Diocesan Guild.—On Sept. 9th, at St. Giles' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins.: G. Cook 1, G. Boddington 2, N. Cox 3, Corpl. D. Williams 4, 2nd A.-M. E. Buller 5, 1st A.-M. W. G. Elkins 6, A. W. Osborne (conductor) 7, A. W. Phillips 8. Longest length by the ringers of treble and tenor. Rung in the octave of the Patronal Festival.—On Sunday, Sept. 16th, for evensong, 504 Grandsire Triples: Miss D. Batten 1, N. Cox 2, G. Cook 3, A. W. Osborne (conductor) 4, Lieut. G. Goodship 5, Sapper H. Osbourne, R.E., 6, H. Egby 7, A. W. Phillips 8. Lieut. Goodship was home on leave from France, Sapper H. Osbourne also home on leave. Both were members of the society before joining the colours. 2nd A.-M. E. Buller hails from Staines, and 1st A.-M. W. G. Elkins from Farnham.

**GLASTONBURY, SOMERSET.**—Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—On Monday, Sept. 10th, 1917, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): J. Farthing 1, H. Hobbs 2, F. Hey 3, H. Edwards 4, H. J. Trim 5, G. Chamberlain 6, J. W. Jones (conductor) 7, H. Brass 8. Arranged to oblige J. W. Jones, of Newport, Mon.

## NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, Commercial Road, Woking.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Solihull, on Saturday, October 20th. Bells (10) available from 3 o'clock.—Joseph H. White, Hon. Secretary, 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's, Miles Platting, on Saturday, October 20th. Bells ready at 3.30. Meeting at dusk.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

**ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—The next meeting of the above will be held at Rye, Sussex, on Saturday, Oct. 20th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock until sunset. All ringers welcome.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore.

**ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER, S.W.**—Ringing for evensong, commencing Sunday next, Oct. 21st, will be from 5 to 6 o'clock, and fortnightly, until further notice.—W. H. Hewett.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—A Meeting will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on the 23rd, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Canterbury District.—It has been considered advisable, owing to present war conditions, to postpone for the present the meeting arranged for St. Peter-in-Thanet, on Saturday, Oct. 27th.—The Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe, Hon. District Secretary, Elmsted Vicarage, Ashford, Kent.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Leigh-on-Mendip, Saturday, Oct. 27th. Divine Service at 3.20 p.m. Tea (followed by the business meeting) in the Church Reading Hall, at 4.30 p.m. Vehicles (kindly arranged for by the Rev. J. E. W. Honnywill) will meet 1.41 train (Mells Road) from Bristol, the 2.23 train (Mells Road) from Frome, and will also be available to catch the return trains. Members wishing to avail themselves of Mr. Honnywill's kind offer are requested to let the hon. sec. know of their intention not later than the 24th inst. It is especially desired that all who hope to be present should so intimate to the hon. sec. on or before the 23rd inst.—I. B. Wolmyard, Hon. Sec., Midsomer Norton.

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The annual festival will be held in Sunderland on Saturday, October 27th, the bells of St. Michael's, Bishop Wearmouth (8; tenor 11½ cwt.), Holy Trinity (8; 14 cwt.), and St. Ignatius (8; 13 cwt.) being at the disposal of members and friends after 1 p.m. Committee meeting at the North of England Café, Fawcett St., at 4 p.m. Evensong and address, at 5 p.m., at one of the above churches, to be notified in the circular convening the meeting. Tea at the above café at 6 p.m., 1/3 to members, 2/6 to non-members, followed by the annual general meeting. Those intending to be present must advise the Hon. Secretary before Wednesday, Oct. 24th. Members are requested, on arrival, to take the Tatham Street car to St. Ignatius Church, where bands will be made up for the other peals.—G. T. Potter, 13, Park Parade, Whitley Bay, S.O.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—North Eastern Division.—Annual district meeting at Felsted, Oct. 27th. Bells ready 2 p.m. Short service at 4 p.m., followed by tea at the Old Schoolroom, 1/- each to all giving notice not later than Oct. 24th.—B. Redgwell, Dist. Sec., Rayne.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Western Branch.—The next meeting of this branch will be held at Malvern Link, on Saturday, Oct. 27th. Service in Church at 6.30 p.m. Business meeting in vestry afterwards. Bells will be available, before and after service and meeting.—R. G. Knowles, Branch Sec., Madresfield, Malvern.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.** Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Congresbury, Saturday, October 27th. Service 5 o'clock, tea and meeting after. Bells (8) afternoon and evening.—Those requiring tea please write.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Yorktown Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Oatlands Park (near Walton Station, L. & S.W.R.), on Saturday, November 3rd. Ringing from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Short service, 5 p.m., to be followed by tea. All ringers welcome, but those intending to partake of tea must notify me on or before Oct. 29th. Business meeting at conclusion of tea for election of officers, etc.—F. J. Shepherd, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Surrey.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Lewisham District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Chislehurst on Saturday, Nov. 3rd, neither of the towers selected being available. Full particulars next week.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South Eastern Division.—The annual district meeting will be held at Boreham on Saturday, Nov. 3rd. Service, 5 o'clock, with address, followed by tea and meeting. Bells available 2.30. Tea 1/- per head to all who notify me before Oct. 31st.—F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle, Chelmsford.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Lieut. A. E. Reeves having resigned the secretaryship of above, owing to military duties, all correspondence should now be sent to R. T. Hibbert, Hon. Sec., Warren House Lodge, St Peter's Avenue, Caversham, Oxon.

**HANDBELLS WANTED.**—Wanted to purchase immediately, an octave of very small Handbells. Key D preferred. Write by return, stating price: Rector, King-ton Magna, Gillingham, Dorset.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS.**—Mr. F. Davis, of Kingston-on-Thames, has removed to 171, Sumner Road, Peckham, S.E.

**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.

**OXFORD.**—Oxford Society.—On Wednesday, Sept. 12th, at St. Ebbe's Church, at a memorial service for those who have fallen at the war from the parish, two 120's Grandsire Doubles, half-muffled: L. Bennet 1, W. Prosser 2, W. H. B. Wilkins (conductor) 3, Mrs. Evans 4, E. Rivers 5, J. Waklin 8.

**LEICESTER.**—On Sunday, Sept. 16th, in the belfry of St. Margaret's Church, on handbells, in 32 mins., 1260 Grandsire Doubles, being 10½ six-scores called differently: Sergt. E. Morris (conductor) 1—2, Alfred Ballard 3—4, Josiah Morris 5—8.

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**CHURCH BELLS SINGLY OR  
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**Bell Frames in Cast Iron, Steel  
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**Bells tuned on the latest im-  
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Beverley Minster, Selby Abbey, Truro  
Cathedral, Thurles Cathedral, Trinity College, Cam-  
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writing to the Vicar of Minchinhampton, Lord Grimthorpe said:—"Smith  
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It can be supplied in the following sizes:—

Diameter	2½ in.	2¾ in.	3½ in.	3¾ in.	4 in.	4½ in.	5 in.
Price ...	12/6	17/6	22/6	28/6	36/-	48/-	60/-

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Ellacombe's Chiming Apparatus fixed, Hand-  
bells in sets, Chromatic or Diatonic.

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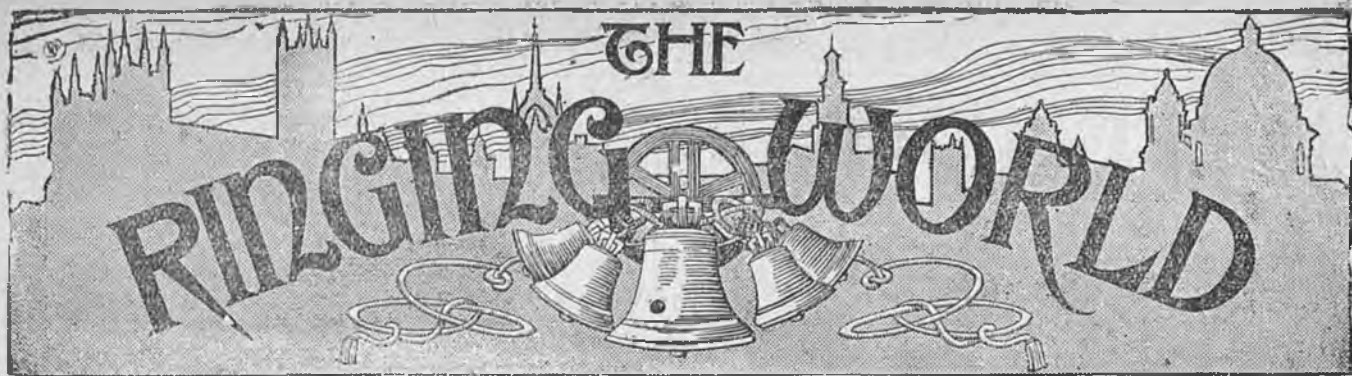
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No. 345. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26th, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

## 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, 1918.  
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.

### EVENING RINGING RESTRICTED.

The attitude of the Military Authorities towards ringing after dark does not seem to be so favourable this season as last when, except on the East and North-East coasts, permission to ring up to 9 p.m. was pretty generally given, after the London area had set the precedent. It just happens that the present is an unfortunate time for applications of this nature, for the unwelcome attentions of enemy aircraft on moonlight nights was so persistent that the authorities were bound to decline anything that might possibly be a guide to hostile machines. The risk of bells being heard by the occupants of an aeroplane when flying two or more miles high is, in view of the great noise of the engines, somewhat remote, for an aeroplane cannot shut off its engines and hover at pleasure, like a Zeppelin; but no one will quarrel with the decision of the Competent Military Authority in any area where it has been decided that ringing after dark cannot be permitted. We know the reason, and that is sufficient.

The opinions of the different authorities, however, seem to vary, and at some places ringing up to 9 p.m. may be continued, while at others, equally far from the eastern shore of this country, it is prohibited. In the Southern Command, which covers a big area, last winter's relaxation still holds good, and those who are favoured by being in that district are to be envied. In the case of Staffordshire there seems to be a partial relaxation of the regulations, for the reply to an application made to the Competent Military Authority for No. 27 Area, which we quote elsewhere, mentions that ringing is prohibited in that county "from one hour and a half after sunset until one hour and a half before sunrise." That is an extension of one hour at either end, which will, at all events, enable evening service ringing to be carried on for a few more Sundays in the winter than would otherwise be the case, and be a valuable addition to the time available for ringing when meetings are being held.

For the rest, ringers must just "carry on" as best they are able, doing what they can to keep their bands together till brighter days dawn, making the most of the present limited opportunities, and, above all, keeping up heart till final victory and peace will enable ringing once more to enter into its own. The curtailment of evening ringing is bound to affect adversely the activities of a large number of bands; but combined practices among neighbouring towers on Saturday afternoons, and, where bands are short, a union of forces at the different churches for service ringing on Sunday mornings or afternoons, will do a good deal to maintain interest and progress during the short days of winter.

## MODERN WORK

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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 CHURCH WARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLINGERS 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,  
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SINGLY,  
OR IN PHALS.**

**CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.**

PEALS AUGMENTED,  
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BRACKETS.**

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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 ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, October 16, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. W. T. COCKERILL,  
32, EDGELEY ROAD, CLAPHAM, S.W.,

**A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANCES;**

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL... 1—2	HARRY R. PASMORE ... 5—6
CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... 3—4	HERBERT LANDON... 7—8
ALFRED B. PECK ... 9—10	

Composed by H. J. TUCKER, and  
Conducted by HARRY R. PASMORE.

Umpire: EDWIN HORREX.

OLD HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION  
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, October 20, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. A. E. PARSONS, 148, STATION ROAD,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5028 CHANCES;**

Tenor, 14 size, in D.

ALBERT WALKER ... 1—2	GEORGE F. SWANN ... 5—6
WILLIAM KENT... 3—4	WILLIAM SHORT ... 7—8
JAMES E. GROVES ... 9—10	

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and  
Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

Referee: MR. ALBERT E. PARSONS.

First peal of Stedman on handbells by the above Association. This composition is No. 6 on Mr. Carter's Broadsheet.

## MILITARY MEDAL AND COMMISSION.

A member of the Winchester Guild and College Youths, Sergt. J. W. Russell, of Ewhurst, Surrey, serving in the 24th Division Signalling Company, R.E., has, we learn from a letter received by his friend, Mr. F. E. Dawe, been awarded the Military Medal, and has received a commission, with the exceptional privilege of remaining in his own company.

## DEATH OF MR. W. A. GARRARD.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. W. A. Garrard, eldest son of Mr. W. E. Garrard, which sad event took place at 62, Elm Grove Road, Barnes, where deceased resided with his parents.

He had been in failing health for a long time, and his death was not unexpected by his friends, yet the end came somewhat suddenly, and he passed peacefully away on Sunday evening, October 14th.

The late Mr. Garrard was a first-rate ringer, and a promising career has been cut short by his death at the early age of 23 years.

Deceased, who passed away on the 14th inst., just as the Barnes bells were ringing for service, was laid to rest on Friday in Sheen Cemetery. In addition to the family mourners, Mr. A. V. Selby was present to represent the St. Mary Abbot's Guild, Kensington, and other ringers who attended were Messrs. A. Cutmore, C. Charge, J. W. Driver, R. Holloway, and A. Hubbard, while deceased's colleagues at the Admiralty were represented by Mr. C. Ricketts. Among the numerous wreaths was one from St. Mary Abbot's Guild, one from the choir of St. Mary Abbot's Church, and one from the staff at the Admiralty.

## SELBY RINGERS AT LEEDS.

On Saturday week, the Selby Abbey ringers paid a visit to churches in Leeds district, the bells at the various towers having kindly been placed at their disposal by the respective vicars. Ringing was indulged in at St. Michael's, Headingley, which has a splendid peal of eight; and St. Chad's, Headingley, where the visitors were joined by the President of the Yorkshire Association (the Rev. C. C. Marshall), who took part in touches of Stedman and Grandsire. St. Mary's, Hunslet, and St. Matthew's, Holbeck, were also visited, and with the assistance of Mr. P. J. Johnson, Ringing Master of the Western district, Mr. H. Williams and Mr. J. Moorhouse, a most enjoyable day was spent.

CARDIFF.—Llandaff Association.—At St. John's Church, for evening service, on Sept. 16th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 42 mins.: Rev. T. Whitford 1, J. Harris 2, H. Day 3, T. Rodman 4, W. Heath 5, S. Dawe 6, W. Coombes (composer and conductor) 7, S. Baker 8. Also 476 in same method: H. Day 1, J. Harris 2, W. Coombes 3, J. Clutterbuck 4, T. Rodman 5, W. Heath 6, S. Dawe 7, S. Baker 8. Rung as a farewell to the Rev. T. Whitford, who was leaving the district for a curacy in Bournemouth, with the good wishes of all the St. John's ringers.



## TOUCHES OF STEDMAN TRIPLES.

By G. E. SYMONDS, FRAMLINGHAM.

(Continued from Page 307.)

In the following further touches in the series composed by Mr. Symonds

Bobs at S = 3-4; H = 5-6; L = 7-8; Q = 12-13.

No. of Changes.		No. of Changes.	
176	123456	192	231456
	241536 S H Q		541326 L
	534126 8 12		153246 3 7 12
	Rounds by 1, 2.		Rounds by 1, 2, 3, 4.
177	231456	193	123456
	536421 S		543216 L
	425136 S H 8 13		451236 4 H 7 Q
	Rounds by 1, 2s.		Rounds by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5s.
178	231456	194	123456
	541326 S Q		543216 L
	534126 12		542136 3 L 12
	Rounds by 1, 2.		Rounds by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.
179	123456	195	231456
	526413 S		536421 S
	415326 S H 8 13		451236 3 5 8 12
	Rounds by 1, 2s.		Rounds by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5s.
180	231456	196	123456
	641235 H L		351426 S H L Q
	524361 3 5 10s 12		543216 S H Q
	Rounds by 2s.		Rounds by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.
181	123456	197	231456
	543216 L		342516 S H Q
	523146 7		453126 S H Q
	Rounds by 1, 2, 3s.		Rounds by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5s.
182	123456	198	123456
	146253 Q		526413 S
	413256 4 5		541326 3 5 L
	Rounds by 1, 2, 3.		Rounds by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.
183	231456	199	123456
	541326 L		213465 H
	523146 7 12		532416 3 H L Q
	Rounds by 1, 2, 3s.		Rounds by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6s.
184	123456	200	123456
	543216 L		543216 L
	421356 S 5 Q		623541 H L
	Rounds by 1, 2, 3.		Rounds by 2, 4, 5.
185	231456	201	231456
	541326 L		541326 L
	512346 4 H L Q		532416 3 L
	Rounds by 1, 2, 3s.		Rounds by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6s.
186	123456	202	231456
	256431 S H		146532 S H L
	432156 5 8 Q		261543 3 H L Q
	Rounds by 1, 2, 3.		Rounds by 1.
187	123456	203	123456
	543216 L		543216 L
	341256 3		521436 3 L
	Rounds by 1, 2, 3, 4s.		Rounds by 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6s.
188	123456	204	231456
	543216 L		146532 S H L
	251346 H 8 13		412536 4 5
	Rounds by 1, 2, 3, 4.		Rounds by 2, 5.
189	231456	205	123456
	321465 H		241536 S H Q
	341256 6 7		461532 5
	Rounds by 1, 2, 3, 4s.		Rounds by 1, 7s.
190	231456	206	123456
	246351 Q		241536 S H Q
	251346 7 Q		351426 L
	Rounds by 1, 2, 3, 4.		Rounds by 2, 5, 7.
191	123456		
	213465 H		
	243156 6 7		
	Rounds by 1, 2, 3, 4s.		

## ADDRESS WANTED.

Mr. Herbert A. Holden, of 23, Lower Road, Erith, Kent, writes: "Will Pte. G. Luff, who rang the treble to the Peal of Grandsire Triples, at Gillingham, on October 6th; or, failing him seeing this, could anyone of the band who rang in the peal furnish his address to me, as I should like to get into communication with an old ringing friend?"

## 5248 BOB MAJOR.

By the  
Late CHARLES H. FOWLER  
(OF LEICESTER).

23456	S	W	B	M	H
53264	—	—	—	—	—
25364	—	—	—	—	—
62354	—	—	—	—	—
56324	—	—	—	—	—
32564	—	—	—	—	—
63524	—	—	—	—	—
52634	—	—	—	—	—
35624	—	—	—	—	—
23654	—	—	—	—	—
65234	—	—	—	—	—
36425	—	2	—	—	—
42365	—	—	—	—	—
34265	—	—	—	—	—
23465	—	—	—	—	—
42536	—	—	—	—	—
34526	—	—	—	—	—
52346	—	—	—	—	—
45326	—	—	—	—	—
24356	—	—	—	—	—
35246	—	—	—	—	—
43256	—	—	—	—	—
25436	—	—	—	—	—
22456	—	—	—	—	—

Repeated.

4-5-6 only in 6th's place.  
For 5024 omit bracketed  
calls in one part.

Rung at Stoney Stanton,  
muffled, on December  
11th, 1915, on the anni-  
versary of the death of  
its composer. Conducted  
by Ernest Morris.

5024 DOUBLE  
NORWICH MAJOR.By SERGT. E. MORRIS, A.S.C.  
(OF LEICESTER).

23456	1	4	5	6
35426	—	—	—	—
25634	—	—	—	—
56234	—	—	—	—
63254	—	—	—	—
35264	—	—	—	—
62534	—	—	—	—
23564	—	—	—	—
65324	—	—	—	—
52364	—	—	—	—
26354	—	—	—	—
53624	—	—	—	—
62354	—	—	—	—
53264	—	—	—	—
36254	—	—	—	—
52634	—	—	—	—
23654	—	—	—	—

Repeated.

4-5-6 only in 6th's place.  
4th and 6th each 20 times.  
A variation of the late  
Charles H. Fowler's 5024  
Bob Major.

DEATH OF STAFF-SERGT. BUNSTONE.  
LLANDAFF ASSOCIATION'S LOSS.

A well known member of the Llandaff Diocesan Association passed away on Sunday, Oct. 14th, in the person of Staff-Sergt. Richard Bunstone, R.A.M.C., stationed at Blackpool. Death followed an operation, after only four days' illness.

The deceased was a prominent member of the St. Illtyd's Church, Bridgend, Ringers, and he leaves a widow and eight children to mourn their loss. Two of his sons are serving abroad. Staff-Sergt. Bunstone was of a genial disposition, and beloved by all who knew him. He was laid to rest in Bridgend Cemetery on Wednesday week, and was given a military funeral. Touching reference was made by the Rev. D. Phillips, Vicar, at the evening service on Sunday last, prior to which service, as a last mark of respect, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung half-muffled by: A. J. Stanley 1, J. Evans 2, John Evans 3, R. Evans 4, C. H. Perry 5, A. J. Pitman 6, John Cox (conductor) 7, B. Toby 8.

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.—On Tuesday, Sept. 11th, at St. Nicolas' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins.: E. Etheridge 1, R. Melville 2, J. J. Jones 3, Miss Goodship 4, W. Melville 5, S. Radford 6, T. W. Radford (conductor) 7, E. Heather 8. Arranged for Miss Goodship, who hails from Reading, and also rung on Mr. Jones' 60th birthday.

RINGSTEAD.—Northants Association.—For evensong, at the Parish Church, on Sunday, Sept. 16th, 720 Kent Treble Bob: A. Bellamy 1, E. Mayes 2, L. Groom 3, J. Roberts 4, F. Chapman 5, F. Wilford (conductor) 6. Specially arranged for F. Wilford, who was on a visit to his birthplace, on his 47th birthday, and also on the birthday of the ringer of the 4th.

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.—At St. Paul's Parish Church, for evening service, on Sunday, Sept. 16th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: John Dennon 1, J. Worthington 2, R. Allred (conductor) 3, B. Allred 4, S. Oakes 5, M. Berry 6, J. Walsby 7, James Dennon 8. Arranged for the ringers, 3rd and 4th, who hail from Tyldesley, the rest are of the local band.

PENTRE, RHONDDA.—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—On Sunday, Sept. 16th, for evening service, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1280 changes), in 50 mins.: H. Page (conductor) 1, F. Wines 2, F. Lasbury 3, T. Page 4, F. Chamberlain 5, G. Wines 6, J. Cross 7, W. Page 8. Arranged for F. Chamberlain, who was on a visit from Cardiff.

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry  
Established  
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

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*

## NO NIGHT RINGING IN THE WESTERN COMMAND.

The Master of the Chester Diocesan Guild, Mr. C. Bowen Cooke, having communicated with the Competent Military Authority of the Western Command, with regard to ringing after sunset, has received the following reply from Headquarters at Chester:—

With reference to your letter of 6th October, 1917, the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Command, directs me to say that he regrets that he is unable to grant this concession asked for as regards bell ringing up to 9 p.m. in the winter months. He has come to this decision after careful consideration, and after consultation with the police.

## STAFFORDSHIRE RINGING.

Mr. Ben Gough, of Tipton, Staffs, having communicated with the Competent Military Authority for No. 27 Area, has received a reply as follows:—"With reference to letter dated 17th inst., re ringing of church bells for evening service, I am directed to inform you that the ringing of bells is prohibited in the County of Staffordshire from one hour and a half after sunset until one hour and a half before sunrise."

Mr. G. H. Gutteridge, of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Oxford Guild, has been informed by the Competent Military Authority for No. 13 Area that permission to ring after dark cannot be granted.

## DEATH OF VETERAN BELL HANGER.

Death has removed a well-known figure in ringing circles in the West of England, in the person of Mr. W. Aggett, of Chagford, Devon, who passed away on October 12th, at the advanced age of 83 years. For the past half a century he had been actively engaged in church bell hanging, chiefly in Devon and Cornwall. He not only supervised the work, but took an active part, in which he of late years received the able assistance of his sons, Messrs. William and James Aggett, who are now carrying on the business.

About 17 years since Mr. W. Aggett, junr., invented and patented an adjustable bearing, and over two thousand of these bearings are already in use. Perhaps the deceased's last work, the recasting and rehanging of the peal of eight in his native parish, ranks among his finest. Deceased rang the tenor in fine form at the reopening in February, 1915, and he actually took part in ringing as recently as July last, in company with his grandson, who was on his final leave before going overseas. Mr. Aggett leaves three sons and one daughter.

The funeral took place in Chagford Churchyard, a large number of parishioners attending. The priest-in-charge (the Rev. G. L. Dickenson) officiated. The service was choral. The Dead March from "Saul" was played by the organist (Mr. R. P. Collings, A.R.C.O.). The bells were rung muffled after the service.

## SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

As may well be expected in these strenuous times, the attendance of members at meetings is somewhat limited. Such was the case at Brierley Hill on Saturday week, on the occasion of the meeting of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford. However, this did not seem to lower the spirits of those who did attend, for they were received by the Rector and local ringers with a warm welcome. The bells were made full use of up to the time of the service, and although "crank" methods were not indulged in, some aspirants in the elementary stage were pleased to get a practice which was not forthcoming in their own towers. At the service, the Society's form was used, and the Rector (the Rev. H. W. Jones) delivered an inspiring address, which was greatly appreciated.

Tea was served at the Plough Inn, when 26 sat down. One unfortunate incident happened, viz., the reports—advertised to be ready for distribution—had been held up by the railway company, and were thus unobtainable. As far as possible they will be delivered to the various towers, and to others they will be sent by post upon receipt of the cost of postage.

## CHURCHWARDEN FOR 40 YEARS.

In the death of Mr. John Simm Smith, the ringers at St. Peter's South Croydon, have lost a friend and their honorary secretary for many years. Mr. Smith, who was 86 years of age, for nearly half of which he had been churchwarden at St. Peter's, died in his sleep on the 9th instant, and was buried at St. Peter's Churchyard.

A memorial service was held at the church on the morning of Sunday last, and the bells were rung muffled to a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Triples, the composition of the Rev. E. W. Carpenter, the ringers standing as follows: George Burt 1, Harry Wills 2, Fredk. Larby 3, David Wright 4, Reginald Brough 5, Chas. Dean (conductor) 6, Chas. Kitching 7, Walter Gammon 8.

BIRMINGHAM. — On the occasion of harvest festival, at Aston Parish Church, before morning service, 210 Grand-sire Triples, and 504 after service. For the evening services, a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Caters in 54 mins.: G. Mitchenson 1, J. Carter 2, W. H. Jones 3, W. Meers 4, M. J. Morris 5, J. Hopkins 6, C. Williams 7, W. G. Ellis (composer and conductor) 8, J. Wells 9, C. Allen 10.

## ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

### SUCCESSFUL GATHERING AT ERDINGTON.

The last quarterly meeting of the year of the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held at Erdington on Saturday week last, and was well attended, and most enjoyable.

Erdington (in Domesday, Hardintone, and sometimes colloquially "Afonton") lies between Sutton Coldfield and Birmingham, and is about four miles north-east of the latter, within whose boundaries it was incorporated under the Greater Birmingham scheme of 1910. In Henry II.'s reign the place was in possession of the Erdington family who had a chapel attached to their fortified residence, but they agreed to attend and regard Aslon as the mother church. In Edward II.'s reign Henry de Erdington added a south aisle to the latter church, which is known to this day as the Erdington chapel.

Present-day Erdington is by way of being quite a busy town on its own account, as well as being a popular residential suburb, having two railway stations and electric car and motor-bus connections with the centre of the city. It boasts two peals of eight, with 15 cwt. tenors in F, one at the Parish Church of St. Barnabas, put in by Taylors in 1904, and the other at the Roman Catholic Abbey Church of SS. Thomas and Edmund. The meeting was held at the former, by kind invitation of the local band, who also generously provided tea for the assembled company, which sat down in the Church House 54 strong. However, notwithstanding the numerical strength of the said company, all frontal and flank attacks failed after a stern and protracted struggle, and it was admitted that it was impossible to get through the "obstacles" placed on the tables, so lavishly had the Erdington men provided. What Lord Rhonda would have thought—and what he would have said—had he seen those tables the writer cannot surmise. But he didn't. It was even suggested that we should go again the next day, if possible with reinforcements, and drive the attack home, but the suggestion was not adopted for some reason or other.

The business meeting followed the tea, and during the "clearing" process a course of Stedman Cinques was rung on the handbells. One feature of the gathering was the large number of ladies present, most of them ringers, and another was the presence of the Vicar of Erdington, the Rev. F. S. Swindell, who took the chair, and the "Guild's Own Rector," Canon Willink—Apologies were read from Alderman J. S. Prilchett, Mr. Vice-President Faux, and the Rev. C. H. Barker.

#### WOMEN'S PART.

In seconding a proposition made by Mr. George, that Mrs. Ethel Reading, Miss Gerlie Ffello, and Miss May Gaffey, all of Bishop Ryder's tower, be elected ringing members, Canon Willink made the speech of the evening. He said that to him had been entrusted the honour of seconding that proposition, and he did it with the greatest possible pleasure. Certainly two of the outstanding features of the war were the heroism of our boys, and the wonderful revelation of the capabilities of the women and girls of to-day. They (the women) had come to the front in a marvellous way—had come into their own in an extraordinary manner. They were to be found in all walks of life, often doing work which owing to its arduous nature had always been regarded as essentially men's work. Women of our day and generation had proved their right to enter into every sphere of life, and they had a sphere of influence all their own. Look at the munition world! Women, by their hundreds of thousands, were working day and night to provide their husbands, brothers and sweethearts with the means to bring this terrible war to a successful conclusion. And he was told that owing to their delicate sense of touch, they were able to perform certain operations not only as well as men, but actually better. Look at them on the land and in the hospitals! And yet we felt that in it all they have not lost anything of their womanliness; lost nothing, but gained immeasurably. In the love of bells that binds us all together they saw the same thing, women were doing their part.

Canon Willink added that he had the greatest respect for the Vicar of Bishop Ryder's, and for the Ringing Master, and he was sure they were taking the right step in getting the assistance of girls in the ringing of their bells. He was equally sure that their old Guild was right in coming into line with the times—wise in its day and generation—and they welcomed the ladies with both hands (loud cheers).

Needless to say, the proposition was carried without dissent, and much amusement was caused when the Canon asked the chairman to call on each lady to stand up in turn before the company, so that they might know which was which.

Mr. W. Rhodes, of Castle Bromwich, was also elected a full ringing member.

#### THANKS.

In proposing a vote of thanks to the Rev. F. S. Swindell for the use of his bells and the Church House, Mr. Vice-President Godden said how proud the Vicar must be of his ringers, and especially of the ladies who had waited at table, all of whom he understood were ringers. —Mr. Russam seconded, and remarked that he had the pleasure of forming and teaching the first band when the bells were put in, and he little thought at that time that in a few years the band would be entertaining the Guild as they had done that day.—Canon Willink, in supporting, said the tea they had had was the best he had known since the war began, or at any rate since rations and restrictions

were talked about. It was now up to his own ringers (St. Martin's company) to go one better when the opportunity arose.—Mr. John Preston replied on behalf of the local ringers of both sexes, and the Vicar of Erdington, in giving thanks for the vote, said that the visit of the Guild, and the kind things that had been said about them, had undoubtedly added to their feeling of self-importance.

Afterwards touches of Stedman Cinques and Caters were rung on the handbells, while others returned to the tower, where the bells were kept going until about 9 o'clock, to the tune of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain and Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Superlative and Cambridge Surprise.

Thus ended another very happy day in the annals of this ancient Guild.

By-the-by, when shall we hear a ladies' peal rung by members of the Erdington and Bishop Ryder's joint companies? A. P. S.

## KILLED IN ACTION.

### DEATH OF A READING RINGER IN FRANCE.

It is with deep regret we have to record the death of Alfred T. Reeves, of Queen's Road, Caversham, who has been killed in France at the age of 27 years. He fell on September 24th. He was one who was loved and respected by all who knew him. A good steady ringer, he could always be depended upon, and had rung ten peals, viz.: Five of Stedman, two of Grandsire, one of Plain Bob, one of Kent Treble Bob, and one of Superlative. He also rang Cambridge, London, and Bristol Surprise, and he will be very much missed in St. Mary's belfry. Reading, where he was a member.

As a mark of esteem and respect, the ringers of Reading met at St. Mary's on October 17th, and rang, with the bells muffled, 220, 252 and 168 of Stedman Triples, and 224 of Double Norwich. The ringers taking part were: W. P. Routh, J. Swain, C. Giles, F. Hopgood, A. Watmore, A. Osborne, A. Wiggins, C. Pullen, A. Alladay, Miss E. Goodship, N. Cox, H. Simmonds, H. Neighbour, and H. Tucker.

#### THIRD LINSLADE RINGER TO FALL.

The ringers of St. Barnabas' Church, Linslade, Bucks, have heard with deep sorrow that another of their number has lost his life in France, Lance-Corporal W. Dickenson, of the 1st Battalion, Oxford and Bucks L.I., having been killed on October 2nd. Lance-Corpl. Dickenson joined the St. Barnabas' band of ringers in the early part of 1910, and at the outbreak of war was one of the first to volunteer.

On Sunday, October 14th, the bells were rung half-muffled for morning service, when a touch of 336 Grandsire Triples was rung by: A. Vickers 1, W. Seabrook 2, W. Botsford 3, W. Jeffs 4, A. Vickers 5, G. Bonfield 6, F. Vickers 7, H. F. Seabrook 8. The ringers of 2, 3, 6 and 8 are members of All Saints' band, Leighton Buzzard, and kindly came to help the Linslade men pay their last respect to a fallen comrade. Other touches were rung, in which R. Horton, F. Adams and W. Dack took part.

The deceased was a member of the North Bucks branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, and is the third member from this tower to be killed in France.

## BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS.

On Sunday week, at St. John the Baptist's Church, Erith, an attempt for a peal of London Surprise, in honour of the 50th birthday of T. Groombridge, senr., hon. secretary of the Lewisham Branch, Kent County Association, was made, but failed, after forty-five minutes' ringing. Afterwards 1120 in the same method was rung by: C. F. Pike 1, W. Hewett 2, G. R. Rye 3, J. G. Shade 4, T. Groombridge, junr., 5, J. Emery 6, T. Groombridge, senr., 7, W. Pyc (conductor) 8.

Recently, at St. Mary's Church, Slough, the 75th birthday of Mr. Edwin Lucas (an hon. member of the local branch) was observed by the society with a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples. The ringers were subsequently entertained to a modest supper at the Reindeer Inn, and a pleasant chat about the neighbourhood of Blandford, Dorset, where Mr. Lucas spent his boyhood as choir-boy and bell ringer. Those who were present to celebrate the birthday were Messrs. Purdue, A. Leader, Bedford, Smith, G. Leader, Fussell, Henley, Hooper and Perryman.

## LADY RINGER'S RAPID PROGRESS.

Ladies are often apt pupils, but we doubt if any have made more rapid progress than Miss Willoughby, of Sharnbrook, who, although her introduction to the art took place about three months ago, already shows excellent promise on both tower and handbells. She can ring a pair "in hand" to Grandsire Caters and an inside pair to Bob Major. On Saturday last she took part in the ringing at the parish church on the occasion of the induction of the new Vicar (the Rev. C. G. Elton, M.A.), when the following touches were rung, viz.: 360 Canterbury Pleasure: G. Stew 1, W. A. Norman 2, A. J. Bareock 3, C. W. Clarke 4, H. W. Gayton 5, E. P. Duffield (conductor) 6. 720 Bob Minor: C. Allen 1, W. A. Norman 2, A. J. Bareock 3, H. W. Gayton (conductor) 4, C. W. Clarke 5, E. P. Duffield 6; and 120 Bob Minor: A. Robinson 1, Miss G. Willoughby 2, W. A. Norman 3, A. J. Bareock 4, H. W. Gayton 5, C. W. Clarke (conductor) 6.



## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**OLD WINDSOR.**—At St. Peter's Church, for evening service, on Sunday, Sept. 16th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A. Bateman, R.N.A.S., 1. W. H. Fussell 2. G. T. Leader 3. T. S. Smith 4. E. T. Hooper 5. W. Henley 6. Jos. Gutteridge 7. J. Burt 8. A farewell touch for the treble man home on leave, and next for Italy; also a birthday compliment to the branch secretary.

**LITTLE MUNDEN.**—On Sunday, Sept. 16th, for morning service, 360 Oxford Bob: Bn. Patmore 1. Bd. Patmore 2. S. Game 3. E. Saggars 4. Pte. F. W. Elliott K.R.R., 5. W. H. Lawrence (conductor) 6. Also 120 Oxford Treble Bob: W. H. Lawrence 1—2. S. Game 3. E. Saggars 4. Pte. F. W. Elliott 5. Bd. Patmore 6.

**FOXEARH, ESSEX.**—On Sunday, Sept. 16th, for the Harvest Festival, 832 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. Taylor 1. T. E. Slater 2. W. P. Gridley 3. F. Inch 4. A. Maxim 5. G. Maxim 6. A. Taylor 7. S. Evans (conductor) 8. Geo. Maxim belongs to the Cheshunt (Herts) band, and was staying at his native village for a few days. This was W. P. Gridley's first touch after a long illness.

**WILLESDEN.**—Middlesex Association.—On Saturday, Sept. 22nd, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Major (1264 changes), in 45 mins.: W. Hewitt 1. C. H. Horton 2. E. F. Pike 3. Mrs. F. I. Hairs 4. G. Kilby 5. F. Bennett (conductor) 6. A. E. Mason 7. R. Sanders 8. First quarter of Major on the bells.

**UPWEY, DORSET.**—On Saturday, Sept. 22nd, at St. Lawrence's Church, 720 Bob Minor: K. Anderson 1. L. W. Wiffen (conductor) 2. C. H. Jennings 3. Sapper F. W. Booth, R.E. (Kimberton, Bucks), 4. J. E. Baker (Yeovil) 5. A. Rose 6. The ringers of 1, 2, 3 and 6 belong to the Wyke Regis band. Ring on the eve of the harvest festival. First 720 of Minor on the bells.

**FULHAM.**—On Sunday, Sept. 23rd, at All Saints' Church, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: R. Harvey 1. H. Cook 2. A. Cutmore 3. W. H. Hollier 4. A. W. Davis 5. H. G. Miles 6. J. W. Driver (conductor) 7. M. E. Smith 8. In the evening, 1320 Kent Treble Bob Royal (composed by A. J. Perkins): A. Cutmore 1. H. Langdon (conductor) 2. W. H. Hollier 3. A. W. Darlington 4. P. L. Miles 5. L. Atwater 6. A. W. Davis 7. H. G. Miles 8. W. E. Garrard 9. J. W. Driver 10.

**YORK.**—On Sunday, Sept. 23rd, for morning service, at the Minster, 539 Grandsire Caters, by: T. Haigh 1. P. Firth 2. E. Rickitt 3. W. Thornton 4. Sergt. E. Morris, A.S.C., Leicester (conductor), 5. J. Thompson 6. F. Earnshaw 7. A. Hodgson 8. A. Haigh 9. A. Horner and W. Ayre 10.

**GURSTON.**—On Wednesday, Sept. 26th, for service with the bells, half-muffled, 518 of Grandsire Triples: R. Kelly 1. Pte. F. E. Macey (A.S.C.) 2. L. Jennions 3. Sergt. C. E. Waite (A.S.C.) 4. J. W. Rawlinson 5. J. Allen 6. W. Hughes (conductor) 7. S. Millership 8.

**SLOUGH ST. MARY'S.**—On Saturday, Sept. 29th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins.: Miss G. Bateman 1. W. H. Fussell 2. A. E. Leader 3. T. S. Smith 4. G. T. Leader 5. W. Henley 6. E. T. Hooper (conductor) 7. F. Purdue 8. Rung for the marriage of Mr. George Blake (of Stoke Poges), which took place the same day at St. Mary's.

**WORSLEY.**—At St. Mark's Church, on Saturday afternoon, Sept. 29th, the festival of St. Michael and All Angels, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (composed by J. George), was rung with the bells muffled, in memory of all those who have laid down their lives in the war: Rev. C. B. Hulton 1. H. Chapman 2. Joseph Lowe 3. Wm. Jones 4. Fred Grundy 5. Percy Derbyshire 6. Joe Ridyard (conductor) 7. Amos Trippier 8.

**YORK.**—On Sunday, Sept. 30th, for morning service, at York Minster, 526 Stedman Caters: T. Haigh 1. W. Thornton 2. Sergt. E. Morris 3. J. Thompson 4. W. Ayre 5. G. Horner 6. A. C. Pearuley (conductor) 7. H. Imeson 8. A. Haigh 9. A. Horner and T. Hodgson 10.

**SELBY.**—On Sunday, Sept. 30th, for harvest festival, for evening service, at the Abbey Church, 719 Grandsire Caters: E. Storr 1. H. Fairlam 2. J. Jackson 3. W. Hinton 4. Sergt. E. Morris (Leicester) 5. W. Ayre (York) 6. F. Cryer 7. H. Imeson (York) 8. E. Rickitt (York) 9. T. Strudwick 10. Also 252 Stedman Triples, conducted by Sergt. E. Morris, A.S.C.

**MIDSOMER NORTON, BATH.**—On Sept. 30th, on the occasion of the harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, after evensong, in 49 mins.: I. B. Holmyard 1. F. Chivers 2. R. Jones 3. F. Speed (conductor) 4. J. Hambleton 5. C. H. Shearn 6. W. Keavill 7. T. Griffen 8.

**TYLDESLEY, LANCASHIRE.**—At St. George's Parish Church, on Sept. 30th, for morning service at the harvest festival, 840 Grandsire Triples, in 29 mins.: H. Watts 1. J. Allred 2. R. Allred (conductor) 3. B. Allred 4. J. T. Allred 5. Harry Allred 6. Herbert Allred 7. J. Hampson 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 43 mins.: H. Watts 1. J. Allred 2. B. Allred 3. J. T. Allred 4. J. Welsby 5. R. Allred (conductor) 6. Harry Allred 7. Herbert Allred 8. Arranged for the ringing of the 5th, who hails from Walkden. The rest are of the local band.

## NOTICES.

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

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Canterbury District.—It has been considered advisable, owing to present war conditions, to postpone for the present the meeting arranged for St. Peter-in-Thanel, on Saturday, Oct. 27th.—The Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe, Hon. District Secretary, Elmsted Vicarage, Ashford, Kent.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Leigh-on-Mendip, Saturday, Oct. 27th. Divine Service at 3.20 p.m. Tea (followed by the business meeting) in the Church Reading Hall, at 4.30 p.m. Vehicles (kindly arranged for by the Rev. J. E. W. Honnywill) will meet 1.41 train (Mells Road) from Bristol, the 2.23 train (Mells Road) from Frome, and will also be available to catch the return trains.—I. B. Holmyard, Hon. Sec., Midsomer Norton.

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The annual festival will be held in Sunderland on Saturday, October 27th, the bells of St. Michael's, Bishop Wearmouth (8; tenor 11½ cwt.), Holy Trinity (8; 14 cwt.), and St. Ignatius (8; 13 cwt.) being at the disposal of members and friends after 1 p.m. Committee meeting at the North of England Café, Fawcett Street, at 4 p.m. Evensong and address, at 5 p.m., at St. Michael's, Bishop Wearmouth. Tea at the above café at 6 p.m., 1/3 to members, 2/6 to non-members, followed by the annual general meeting. Those intending to be present must advise the Hon. Secretary before Wednesday, Oct. 24th. Members are requested, on arrival, to take the Tatham Street car to St. Ignatius' Church, where bands will be made up for the other peals.—G. T. Potter, 13, Park Parade, Whitley Bay, S.O.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—North Eastern Division.—Annual district meeting at Felsted, Oct. 27th. Bells ready 2 p.m. Short service at 4 p.m., followed by tea at the Old Schoolroom, 1/- each to all giving notice not later than Oct. 24th.—B. Redgwell, Dist. Sec., Rayne.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Western Branch.—The next meeting of this branch will be held at Malvern Link, on Saturday, Oct. 27th. Service in Church at 6.30 p.m. Business meeting in vestry afterwards. Bells will be available, before and after service and meeting.—R. G. Knowles, Branch Sec., Madresfield, Malvern.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.** Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Congresbury, Saturday, October 27th. Service 5 o'clock, tea and meeting after. Bells (8) afternoon and evening.—Those requiring tea please write.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice, on November 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.4.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Yorktown Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Oatlands Park (near Walton Station, L. & S.W.R.), on Saturday, November 3rd. Ringing from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Short service, 5 p.m., to be followed by tea. All ringers welcome, but those intending to partake of tea must notify me on or before Oct. 29th. Business meeting at conclusion of tea for election of officers, etc.—F. J. Shepherd, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Surrey.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South Eastern Division.—The annual district meeting will be held at Boreham on Saturday, Nov. 3rd. Service, 5 o'clock, with address, followed by tea and meeting. Bells available 2.30. Tea 1/- per head to all who notify me before Oct. 31st.—F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle, Chelmsford.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The monthly meeting of this Society will be held on Saturday, Nov. 3rd, at St. Michael's, Headingley. Bells available from 3 p.m. till dusk. Business meeting, immediately following lowering of the bells, in the Scouts' Room, under the church.—W. Gage, Hon. Secretary *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Bartholomew's, Bolton, on Saturday, Nov. 3rd. Bells ready at 3; meeting at 6.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Lewisham District.—The annual meeting of the District will be held (by kind permission of Canon J. E. Dawson, Rector) at Chislehurst, on Saturday, Nov. 3rd. Bells at 3.30 p.m.; service and address by Rector at 4.30 p.m.; tea and business meeting to follow in Boys' Club. Owing to the difficulty of catering, only those sending their names to me by Tuesday, Oct. 30th, can be supplied with tea.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec., 35, Albany Rd., Chislehurst.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Southern Branch.—A meeting will be held at Bredon, on Saturday, Nov. 3rd. Service will be held in the church at 5 p.m., at which all members attending the meeting are requested to be present. Tea will be provided by the Rector (the Rev. H. Holbeck) for those who send me their names. Bredons Norton (6) and Bredon (5) will be available.—J. Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Hampton, Evesham.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Lieut. A. E. Reeves having resigned the secretaryship of above, owing to military duties, all correspondence should now be sent to R. T. Hibbert, Hon. Sec., Warren House Lodge, St. Peter's Avenue, Caversham, Oxon.

**HANDBELLS WANTED.**—Wanted to purchase immediately, an octave of very small Handbells. Key D preferred. Write by return, stating price: Rector, Kingston Magna, Gillingham, Dorset.

**ADDRESS.**—The address of Mr. F. Davis is—171, London Road, Kingston-on-Thames, and not at Peckham, as stated in the last issue.

**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.

#### DEATH.

**AGGETT.**—At Chagford, Devon, on October 12, 1917, William Aggett, Church Bell Hanger, aged 83 years.

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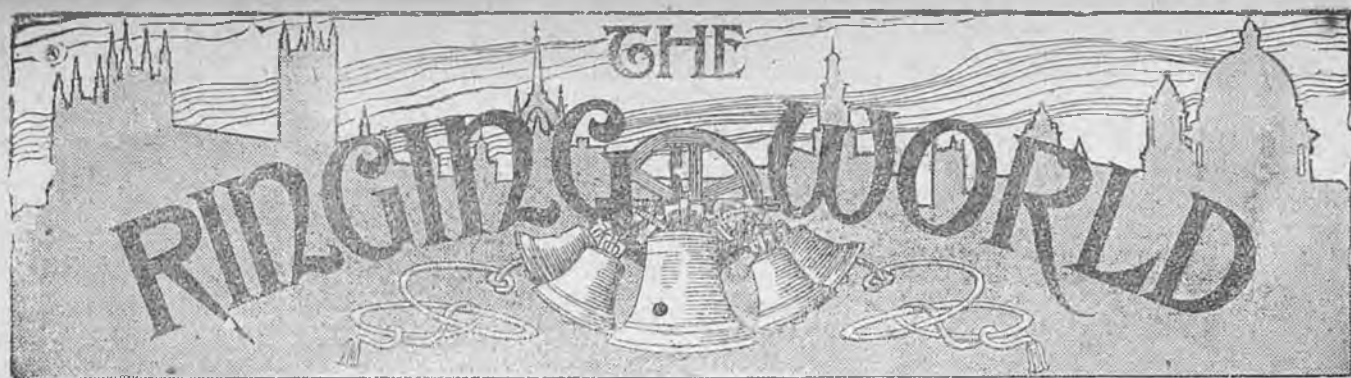
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No. 346. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2nd, 1917.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for  
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St. Peter's Collegiate Church,  
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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

## RINGERS' SERVICE BOOK.

The use of a belfry office, suggested to a correspondent the need for a more universal form of service, for use at ringers' meetings. Mr. E. H. Lewis reminds our readers this week that such a service book already exists in the one drawn up for the Oxford Diocesan Guild by the Master (the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn) and other clergy, and which has received the sanction of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Bishop of Oxford and a large number of clerical ringers, who are also officers of various Guilds and Associations throughout the country. It is published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and, as suggested by Mr. Lewis, it is perfectly well suited to the requirements of any ringing organisation. If the Central Council were to undertake the task of compiling the similar service book, we doubt if they could find anything more suitable or anything more acceptable to the Exercise, for the Oxford Guild, through the industry and interest of those responsible for the publication, have incorporated all that is necessary in such a form of service. In one or two respects it might, perhaps, be possible to add to it to some extent, although it is doubtful if this could really be done with advantage; but to begin de novo would be, we think, more or less a waste of time. "The Manual for Ringers," which is the title of the publication referred to, is more than a foundation for any similar publication; it is, as a matter of fact, the complete thing, and the compilers spent much time and earnest thought in the work. The use of the Manual is open to any association that cares to adopt it, and ringers can possess themselves of copies by purchasing from the S.P.C.K. Those ringing organisations who are looking for a suitable service book may well consider the use of this one, for its existence will save much time and trouble, and, at its present price, is less than any new and similar publication could be brought out for. Compiled by ringers for ringers, and approved as it is by the Archbishop, there can be little doubt that it would be quite acceptable in form to the bishop of any diocese. Mr. Beams, who suggested that the matter might be taken up by the Central Council, had possibly overlooked the existence of this little service book; but his recent letter, which has drawn a reminder from Mr. Lewis, has served to bring to notice the fact that ringers have ready to hand the very publication that meets their needs. The prayers provided in the Manual cover practically every occasion, except, as Mr. Lewis points out, a service for the admission of a ringer after election. Part I includes prayers for service ringing and special occasions; Part II provides alternative forms of service for the dedication of bells, and a form for ringers' meetings; while Part III comprises selected passages of Scripture, Psalms and hymns. From this brief summary its comprehensive nature can be judged.

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CHAS. EDMUNDS,  
Vicar of Broomfield.

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### KILLED IN ACTION.

#### DEATH OF AN UPWEY (DORSET) RINGER.

News has been received of the death of Pte. H. Brake, in France. He joined the 5th Dorsets under the Derby scheme, and had seen a good deal of fighting in France, where he had been 13 months. He took part in the action on the Somme last year, and again recently at Messines and Langemarck. Before he joined up he followed the trade of a gardener, and learnt to ring just after the new peal of six was placed in the tower at Upwey five years ago. He was very interested in bells and ringing, and had just started to learn change ringing when he joined up. He was also a member of the choir.

On Sunday last the ringers met and rang the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect to the deceased, who had gone forth to do battle in his country's cause. Canon Gildea also made sympathetic reference to his death from the pulpit, and the deceased's favourite hymn, "Jesu, lover of my soul," was sung. His last message home was: "We are expecting to go forward again, and I hope to do a bit more for dear old England"—really a noble message. His twin brother is serving in India.

Deceased was a member of the Dorchester branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, and the members extend their deepest sympathy to the widow and five children, and also to his aged mother and his brother who was the first captain of the Upwey band. He will be greatly missed by his brother ringers.

### READING RINGERS VISIT BASINGSTOKE.

The St. Mary's Society, Reading, visited Basingstoke for their annual meeting on Saturday week. They were met by their old friend, Mr. Harry White, who led them to St. Michael's, where touches of Stedman, Grandsire and Double Norwich were rung. They then made their way to the new peal at All Saints' Church, where, after pulling the bells up in peal, they rang touches of Stedman, Grandsire and Double Norwich, and also a touch of Grandsire on the minor eight, which sounded very plaintive. This is a splendid peal of bells, worth going a long way to ring, and everyone was very pleased with the "go" and the tone of them. The visitors had the company of Miss A. White in the belfry, this being the first time that she had handled a rope for a long period. Miss Belcher, from Bramley, and Mrs. J. W. Whiting, of Fareham, visited the belfry, while several of the local ringers also put in an appearance. After tea courses of Grandsire Caters and a course of Stedman Triples were rung on handbells, and brought to a close one of the most enjoyable outings, for which the thanks of the visitors are due to Mr. H. White, who made all the arrangements. The ringers forming the party were: Messrs. W. P. Routh, J. Swain, F. Hopgood, A. Watmore, W. A. Webb, J. Good-enough, R. Sawyer, C. Giles, R. T. Hibbert and N. Cox.

### WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A highly successful quarterly meeting of the Guildford District was held on Saturday week at Chiddingfold, and was attended by 23 members and friends from Bramley, Cranleigh, Godalming, Guildford (Holy Trinity), Graywood, and Chiddingfold. Ringing in various methods was enjoyed until 5 p.m., when the special service touch, a brilliant three courses of Stedman Triples, was rung by: F. E. Dawe (Bramley) 1, A. J. Bartlett (Chiddingfold) 2, A. Charman (Cranleigh) 3, Sergt. R. Carrier (Victoria, B.C.) 4, W. R. Melville (Guildford) 5, W. Charman (Cranleigh) 6, C. Hazelden (Guildford), conductor, 7, T. Worsfold (Cranleigh) 8. A specially interesting feature of this touch was the inclusion of Sergt. R. Carrier, of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. Sergt. Carrier received his ringing instruction in Canada from Mr. G. Foster, who himself rang his first peal at Chiddingfold many years ago. It was evident from the sergeant's performance that Mr. Foster taught the art in the same thorough manner as he learned it himself, and that the Canadians go about their ringing in the enthusiastic style that they do their soldiering.

The service, which was in the Guild's form, was conducted by the Rector of Chiddingfold (the Rev. C. E. C. Lefroy), who, in the course of his address, referred to his experience in the Colonial Diocese of Perth, Western Australia. He spoke of the intense longing, which many otherwise indifferent Colonials exhibit, for the sound of a peal of bells. He also referred to the great heritage of beauty which English people had in their Cathedrals, Abbeys and Parish Churches, and concluded by reciting Longfellow's "Christmas Bells."

After the service, tea, kindly provided by the Rector, was served under the able superintendence of Mrs. Lefroy.

The Rector presided at the short business meeting which followed. Letters of apology for absence were received from the district secretary, and from Mr. E. Lucas, of Shalford.

The Rev. Canon Hollins, Rector of Dunsfold, was elected an honorary member; Mr. Gilbert Johnson (Chiddingfold) and Miss Ida Charman (Cranleigh) practising members.

The Ringing Master read a short report upon the quarter's work, which was ordered to be included in the Guild's minutes, and the meeting concluded with the usual votes of thanks.

A card of greeting, bearing many signatures, was sent to Mr. A. H. Pulling, who is now in France.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.****ENJOYABLE UNITED PRACTICE AT HESTON.**

Seventeen ringers met on Saturday at Heston for a united practice, and a most enjoyable time was spent. Many touches were brought round in the following methods: Grandsire, Oxford Bob, and Stedman Triples; Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Bob Major and Double Norwich, conducted by Miss E. Jones, W. Hewett, W. Henley, S. Carter, R. Sanders, A. Mason, and W. Lawrence.

In a village like Heston a restaurant is not to be found in every street, but very successful arrangements were hurriedly made for tea by "one of the Bills," at which Mrs. Frank Hairs presided with the usual skill worthy of the sex. After the tea, Grandsire Caters was rung on part of a fine set of handbells lent by Mr. Carter. The performers were: A. Mason 1—2, W. Lawrence 3—4, Mrs. F. Hairs 5—6, W. Hewett 7—8, R. Sanders 9—10.

The company included, besides those already mentioned, Messrs. C. Bird and H. Chandler (Heston), A. Chave (Hounslow), A. Hubbard (Pulham), Pike (Brookley), C. Edwards (West Ealing), and T. Beadle, C. Tricker, and A. Beckensale (Isleworth).

**REV. F. E. ROBINSON'S DAUGHTER A RINGER.**

At St. Mary's Church, Lewisham, on Sunday morning, Oct. 28th, for morning service, also as a farewell touch for Lieut. H. W. Fright, of the 5th North Lancs Regiment, who, although he only joined his battalion about three weeks previously, was going to France in a few days. A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted, and failed just about half-way owing to a shift course, to the great disappointment of all concerned: Lieut. H. W. Fright (North Lancs), conductor, I. C. H. Walker 2, E. J. Pannett 3, H. Warrnett 4, G. R. Simmonds 5, H. Walker 6, W. W. Fox 7, W. Fright 8. Lieut. Fright carries with him the best wishes of all the band and church officials for a safe and speedy return. An interesting feature was that Miss Vera Robinson, daughter of the late Rev. F. E. Robinson, was in the tower at the time, and rang the 4th to rounds for the first time, she having only recently taken up the art, so beloved by her parent.

**CLUN'S SUCCESSFUL SOCIETY.**

The third annual meeting of the St. George's Society, Clun, Salop, was held in the ringing room on Thursday evening of last week, when the Rev. R. D. Machen (president) presided over a good attendance of members and probationers.—Mr. W. Mead (hon. secretary and head ringer) presented the report and balance sheet. He said they had had a fairly satisfactory year, if somewhat of an uneventful one. For the third year of the war they had been able to keep the bells going regularly for Sunday services and the principal festivals. They now numbered six change ringing members and six probationers, and their funds had increased from 22s. 6d. to 31s. With regard to change ringing they had made some noticeable progress. Fred Wolley, their youngest probationer, had qualified as a change ringing member, and now received his certificate, while some others were making satisfactory progress. It had been their pleasant duty to welcome Mr. Rd. Morris back to the belfry upon being discharged after "doing his bit" at the front. Of their four other members on active service, Jim Dunn had already secured his commission, and Ernest Griffiths was at present in the training camp, having also been offered one; J. W. Lewis, their Military Medallist, had just recovered from wounds, and gone back to camp, and Eric Morris was now "somewhere in France," after being in the East for a long time. They had again paid the Guild subscriptions and sent Christmas parcels to their members. With regard to the Diocesan Guild, he had little to report. The Guild was marking time until the end of the war, when again it would renew its activity. There had been no committee or general meeting this year, as the business was only of a formal character. The balance to its credit to the end of last year (March 2nd, 1917) was 262 17s. 6d.

The Vicar, in proposing that the report and balance sheet be accepted, considered it was a very good one, as it showed progress all round. He thought they were exceedingly fortunate to have a full band of ringers when other towers were so short. He would again ask the Rev. H. J. Scott to act as chaplain.

In proposing that Mr. W. Mead be re-elected head ringer and hon. secretary for the fourth year, the Vicar said how very much he appreciated the good work that had been done by Mr. Mead in the belfry, a work, which, he knew, was also greatly appreciated in the parish, for the parishioners were pleased to hear the bells rung, and well rung so regularly.—The motion was seconded by the Rev. H. J. Scott, and carried unanimously.—Mr. Mead, in reply, said he thought now that he had got their little society established and running so smoothly it was a good time for him to retire in favour of someone else, but as they wished it he would "carry on" until the end of the war.

It was again decided to pay the Guild subscriptions of the active service members, and to send them Christmas parcels. It was also decided to procure a set of handbells.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for presiding concluded the meeting.

**DEATH OF A DORSET WORTHY.****VILLAGE BLACKSMITH AND THE BISHOP'S "CROOK."**

Each morning sees some task begun,  
Each evening sees its close,  
Something attempted, something done,  
Has earned a night's repose.

Longfellow.

It is with deep regret that we have to chronicle the death of Mr. Fred New, which took place at his residence at Leigh, Dorset. He had been suffering from an internal complaint for two or three months, and his end came on the 27th of last month at the age of 73 years. The deceased was the village blacksmith, and was known and much respected for his kind and generous heart for miles around, the smithy being in the centre of the village, where three main roads meet, and facing the village cross, "which is worn by time." He was the clerk at the Parish Church, had been a ringer for a number of years, and was one of the old members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild. He was always at his post on Sundays, and rang for service regularly.

Like other parishes, Leigh has suffered through the loss of ringers, and he was the only one left, but he loved the bells so well that he chimed them right up to his illness. He never went very far with half-pull ringing, but he encouraged the younger ones to go in for it. Before the branches were divided up he was a prominent member of the West Dorset branch, and attended the meetings regularly, one of his favourite peals and places of visit being Sherborne Abbey. Mr. New taught his two sons, Fred and William, to ring, the latter becoming a first-class ringer in a number of methods. Previous to joining the colours he was a member of the Isleworth band, and an ardent member of the Middlesex Association. He has been away in Salonica over a year. Last year, while the Bishop of Salisbury was holding a Confirmation service at Leigh, the deceased was interested in the Bishop's pastoral staff (the shepherd's crook, as he called it). The Bishop noticing this, said: "Well, New, you are very interested in my pastoral staff." "Yes, my lord," came the reply, "it was never forged right." The Bishop was not aware of it. Mr. New explained it only had one curl where it ought to have two, and the Bishop thanked him for such information. The next week the worthy smith set to work, obtained the best piece of steel he could and forged a perfect shepherd's crook, and polished and burnished it like silver. He also made the rod in three pieces, so that it could be unscrewed and packed in a box, which he also made and lined with baize. Not many months after the Bishop came to the neighbouring parish, Minterne, and Mr. New walked there, and presented the Bishop with his rod of office. The Bishop was taken by surprise and especially with this splendid craftsmanship. He thanked him most heartily, and told him he would always take it in future with him.

The deceased was laid to rest in God's Acre, and near the tower and bells he loved so well, amidst signs of the respect of the whole parish. The following Sunday Canon Mayo (an old friend of Mr. New's) came to Leigh to preach, and paid a high tribute to his sterling qualities. Thus passes one of the old school of village ringers which it is hard to beat.—R.I.P.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**

A quarterly meeting of the above Guild was held at Solihull on Saturday week, when members from Allesley, Birmingham, Coventry, Knowle, Tipton, and Solihull, put in an appearance, together with Mr. W. Rock Small, of Tipton, and Mr. J. Pigott, of Smethwick. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m., and was continued until 5.30 p.m., touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major being brought round. Tea was served at the Mason's Arms, eighteen sitting down.

The usual business meeting followed, presided over by Mr. James George (Ringing Master), and it was decided that the next quarterly meeting be held at Nuneaton.

Seven new members were elected, including four ladies of Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham, who had rung rounds on ten bells for the first time during the afternoon.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector for the use of the bells, and to the tower keeper for having everything in readiness. The members were very glad to welcome among them Mr. W. Rock Small, of Tipton, who, in an interesting little speech, expressed the pleasure it gave him to attend a Warwickshire Guild meeting.

After the business meeting, Mr. H. Withers entertained the members with touches in various methods on the piano, including a well-tapped course of Double Norwich Major.

**WEDDING BELLS.**

The following special touches were rung at St. Mary's Parish Church, Aston, on Wednesday, October 24th, on the occasion of the marriage of Pte. Robt. W. Marsh, 44th Battalion Canadian Expeditionary Force, Winnipeg, to Miss Gertrude Huntley, of The Beach Hotel, Weston-super-Mare: R. Holloway conducted 434 Grandsire Triples, and W. Lawrence 252 Stedman; the ringers taking part being: Miss E. Jones 1, A. W. Davis 2, A. Hubbard 3, J. Frain 4, R. Holloway 5, E. Vicary 6, W. Lawrence 7, C. Edwards 8. The bridegroom is a nephew of the ringer of the seventh.



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### RINGING AFTER DARK.

#### EXTENSION OF TIME IN SOUTHERN AND ALDERSHOT COMMANDS.

Application having been made by Mr. L. Brightman, hon. secretary pro tem, of the Yorkshire Association, for an extension of the hours during which ringing might take place at a meeting to be held in Sheffield on December 1st, the following reply has been received from the Competent Military Authority for No. 24 Area:

Dear Sir,—With reference to your letter, dated 9/10/17, applying for permission to hold a bell ringing meeting at All Saints' Church, Pitsmoor, Sheffield, on the 1st December, 1917, I have been in communication with the Chief Constable, Sheffield, thereon, and find that without exception the instruction prohibiting the ringing of the church bells, etc., has been strictly observed in Sheffield. It is considered that if the concession was ceded on this occasion it would create a dangerous precedent. Under the circumstances, therefore, it is regretted that your application cannot be granted.

The counties of Oxford, Berks and Bucks, covered by the Oxford Diocesan Guild, lie in three military commands, each of which has been approached by the hon. secretary, Mr. R. T. Hibbert.

From the Command Headquarters, Aldershot, the following reply, dated October 19th, was received:—

Sir,—With reference to your letter of the 14th instant, church bells are allowed to be rung in this command until 9 p.m. daily. The civil authorities have been informed of the decision.

Under date, October 11th, Headquarters, Southern Command, Salisbury, wrote:—

Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 9th inst., I am directed to inform you that no alteration as regards the hours of ringing of church bells has been made since the 13th of February, 1917, when permission was given for the ringing of bells up to 9 p.m. throughout the Command. With reference to ringing of church bells in Bucks, the inquiry should be made to the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Command, 50, Pall Mall, S.W. 1, in whose Command that County is situated.

#### REFUSALS IN OTHER AREAS.

The application in respect of Buckinghamshire was not successful, the reply being as follows, from the Competent Military Authority, No. 13 Area:—

With reference to your application to Headquarters, Eastern Command for permission to ring church bells after dark within the area of Bucks, I regret to inform you that no permit can be granted for this purpose.

The Rector of Bletchley, whose church is situated in the same area, has had a similar reply.

A request for permission to ring up to 6.30 p.m. on Sundays for evening service at Tring has also been refused, the tower being in the Eastern Command (No. 12 Area). The reply was as follows:—

With reference to your letter, dated 18th October, 1917, I regret that permission to ring bells in question on Sunday evenings cannot be granted.

Mr. John Austin, Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, has been informed by the Southern Command that ringing up to 9 p.m. is authorised throughout the Command until further notice.

Mr. W. Hughes, district secretary of the Lancashire Association, has received the following reply, dated October 19th, to his application to ring after sunset, from the Head Constable of Liverpool:—

Dear Sir,—With reference to your letter, I hope, in the course of a week or two, to be able to give permission for the ringing of bells up to 9 p.m., but at present I am not in a position to do so. When the necessary authority is received it will be advertised in the local papers.

#### WHOLE QUESTION TO BE REVIEWED.

The Acting General Secretary of the Ely Diocesan Association (Mr. A. E. Austin) recently wrote to the Competent Military Authority for No. 9 District, asking whether permission could now be granted to ring up to nine o'clock at night; if not, whether it would be possible to ring for evening service; that is, up to not later than 6.30 p.m. From the reply received it is obvious that the Higher Military Authorities are reconsidering the regulations with regard to church bells:

Sir,—Referring to your letter of the 17th October, I am to inform you that the whole question of the hours during which bells may be rung is now under consideration by Higher Authority, and that the Competent Military Authority regrets that, pending the issue of a general ruling in the matter, he is unable to sanction any departure from the hours laid down by the terms of No. 12b of the Defence of the Realm Regulations.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.—On Sunday, Sept. 30th, on the occasion of the harvest festival, 352 Bob Major: Miss E. Wornham (longest length of Major) 1, G. Hollis 2, W. Nuttall 3, G. Thompson 4, W. J. Thyng 5, F. Parsons (Staveley) 6, F. Jacobs 7, A. Knights (conductor) 8. Also touches of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Messrs. Knights and Thyng.

## THE GREAT BELL OF ST. PAUL'S.

By the kindness of Pte. C. V. Ebberson, a cutting from an old periodical has reached us, and the following article on "The Great Bell of St. Paul's" will be read with interest:—

There was a famous bell originally cast in the reign of Edward I., and hung at Westminster Hall to notify the hour to the judges. It was first called "Edward of Westminster," and afterwards "Westminster Tom." William III. gave this bell to the Cathedral of St. Paul, whither it was brought on New Year's Day, 1699, and recast, with additional metal. The hour is struck on the bell by a large hammer, which is drawn up by a wire in the clockwork, and falls on the outside brim of the bell by its own weight. The clapper, which weighs only 180lb., is only used to toll on the death of one of the royal family, or of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, the Dean of St. Paul's, or the Lord Mayor.

According to some authorities, the name of the Westminster bell was "Edward," after the royal Confessor. Subsequently to the time of Henry VIII., as appears by two lines in Eccles's glee, it was called "Great Tom," as Gough conjectures, by a corruption of "Grand Ton," from its deep sonorous tone. It was on August 1st, 1698, the clockward or clock-tower was granted by William III. to St. Margaret's parish, and was taken down, when the bell was found to weigh 82 cwt. 2 qrs. 21 lb., at the price of 10d. per pound, producing £385 17s. 6d., for St. Paul's. While being conveyed over the boundary of Westminster, under Temple Bar it fell from the carriage. It stood under a shed in the cathedral yard for some years, and was at length recast, with additional metal, the inscription stating it to have been "brought from the ruins of Westminster." "The key-note (tonic) or sound of this bell is A flat (perhaps it was A natural, agreeably to the pitch at the time it was cast), but the sound heard at the greatest distance is that of E flat, or a fifth above the key-note; and a musical ear, when close by, can perceive several harmonic sounds."—(W. Parry.) The same hammer which strikes the hours has always been used to toll the bell on the occasion of a demise, but the sound produced on the latter occasion is not so loud as when the hour is struck, in consequence of the heavy clock-weight, not being attached when the bell is tolled, and causing the hammer to strike with greater force than by manual strength.

Mr. Thomas Waterby, the well-known collector of works of art and who takes a special interest in campanology, has corrected some popular mis-statements respecting St. Paul's great bell. It has been stated, over and over again, by numerous writers, from about the middle of the last century down to the present day, that the diameter of the great bell of St. Paul's is 10ft., whereas it is only 6ft. 9½in. We are further told that the bell was cast in 1716, and that its weight is 11,474lb. The fact is, it was made in 1709, its weight being 11,648lb., or 5 tons 4 cwt.; and it bears the following inscription: "Richard Phelps made me, 1709."

Many readers will remember the story about the sentinel on duty at Windsor Castle, who declared St. Paul's clock struck thirteen instead of twelve times at midnight, in order to prove that he could not have been guilty of sleeping upon his post, as he was accused by the guard who relieved him after the due time. The circumstance is thus recorded in a newspaper of the 22nd of June, 1770:—

"Mr. John Hatfield, who died last Monday at his house in Glasshouse Yard, Aldersgate, aged 102 years, was a soldier in the reign of William and Mary, and the person who was tried and condemned by a court-martial for falling asleep on his duty upon the terrace at Windsor. He absolutely denied the charge against him, and solemnly declared that he heard St. Paul's clock strike thirteen; the truth of which was much doubted by the court, because of the great distance. But whilst he was under sentence of death, an affidavit was made by several persons that the clock actually did strike thirteen instead of twelve; whereupon he received his Majesty's pardon. The above his friends caused to be engraved on his plate, to satisfy the world of the truth of a story which has been much doubted, though he had often confirmed it to many gentlemen, and a few days before his death told it to several of his neighbours. He enjoyed his sight and memory to the day of his death."

The clock striking thirteen instead of twelve is mechanically possible, and may have been caused by the lifting-piece holding on too long.

It is rather against the truth of the story that St. Paul's had no very great bell before 1709. The bell at Westminster clock-tower, afterwards recast for St. Paul's, may have been the one intended. It adds to the doubtfulness of the story that a similar legend had existed at an earlier date.

Before the time of the present St. Paul's, and as long ago as the reign of Henry VII., there is on record a story of a young girl, who, going to confess, was insulted by the priest then on his turn there for the purpose of confession in the building; and, quickly escaping from him up the stairs of the great clock-tower, raised the clapper or hammer of the bell of the clock just as it had finished striking twelve,

and, by means of the roof, eluded her assailant and got away. On accusing him as soon as she reached her friends and home, she called attention to the fact of the clock having struck thirteen that time; and on those in the immediate neighbourhood of the cathedral being asked if so unusual a thing had been heard, they said it was so. This proved the story, and the ecclesiastic was degraded. We may smile at the improbability, but the acceptance of the story shows what was the popular feeling as to the priests of the time, and the practice of confession.

The new "Great Tom" of Lincoln, cast in 1834, is 6 cwt. heavier than the great bell of St. Paul's. Its tone is generally considered to be about the same as that of St. Paul's, but sweeter and softer. Mr. E. B. Denison, however, thinks "St. Paul's far the best of the four large bells of England, though it is the smallest of them, being about 5 tons; while York is 12, Lincoln 5½, Oxford 7½, which last is a remarkably bad bell."—"Treatise on Clock and Watchmaking," Weale, 1850.)

It is scarcely correct to say that the present bell of St. Paul's was cast "out of the metal of 'Great Tom' of Westminster." That bell was subsequently cracked, and then recast by Philip Wightman; but it proved so faulty that Richard Phelps was employed to make one of new metal; and this bell, on which the clock now strikes the hour, was delivered at the cathedral before Wightman's bell was removed from that edifice. (See Sir Christopher Wren's "Answer to a Pamphlet entitled 'Frauds and Abuses at St. Paul's,' 1712. See also "Facts against Scandal." London, 1713.)

## THE LATE MR. W. A. GARRARD.

### A YOUNG RINGER OF OUTSTANDING ABILITY.

Readers of the "Ringing World" will have already read with regret of the untimely death of Mr. W. A. Garrard, eldest son of Mr. W. E. Garrard, of St. Mary Abbot's Church, Kensington. Born in Kensington, the deceased was connected with the church from his earliest days, first as choir boy and scholar at the church schools, and later, until his health would not permit it, as an energetic and skilful member of the St. Mary Abbot's Guild of Change Ringers. His health failed about two years ago, and his life was despaired of, but his indomitable spirit, aided by a complete change of air and surroundings, enabled him to recover sufficiently to return to London and take up his daily life and work once again, though the effort required was probably only realised by his family.

He passed away very peacefully on October 14th, after being confined to the house for only a few days, at Barnes, where he had gone to live only about a month previously, in the hope that the better air would help him through the winter.

The interment took place at Barnes Cemetery, Sheen, on October 19th, after a choral service at St. Mary Abbot's, many members of the Guild and ringing friends being present. A representative from the Admiralty Department, where he was employed, and where his work was valued, was also present.

For a young man of 23 his ringing record is noteworthy. He was at home with most methods and any bell, and had an exceptional grip of the theoretical side. As a member of the College Youths, most of his peals were rung for that society and the St. Mary Abbot's Guild.

Unfortunately there is no complete record of his peals, but the number is known to be over twenty, all rung before he was 20 years of age, including Stedman Triples at Isleworth when only 16; Stedman Caters at St. Mary Abbot's on the eve of his 17th birthday; Stedman Cinques at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich; Treble Bob Royal at Christ Church Priory, and Double Norwich Major in his 18th year, and Double Norwich Caters at 19. He had also stood in attempts for Treble Bob Maximus. The peals, as far as he himself had kept a record, are as under: Stedman Cinques 1, Double Norwich Caters 1, Stedman Caters 4, Stedman Triples 5, Treble Bob Royal 2, Double Norwich Major 2, Treble Bob Major 2.

By his death the ranks of the younger generation of ringers have lost a stalwart, and the Exercise at large an asset. The sympathy of all will go out to his parents whose loss is immeasurably greater.

## PRESENTATION.

### LINCOLN WORTHY'S LONG SERVICES RECOGNISED.

An interesting event took place in connection with St. Botolph's, Lincoln, on Saturday afternoon last, the occasion being the presentation of a timepiece (suitably inscribed) by the Vicar and bell ringers to Mr. Charles Johnson, in recognition of his services for the long period of 38 years as a ringer in St. Botolph's belfry. Previous to the presentation, which took place at Mr. Johnson's house, six six-peals of Grandsire Doubles were rung upon the bells in honour of the event by the following: R. D. Holland 1, C. Johnson 2, J. Watterson 3, J. S. Betts 4, R. T. Sharp (conductor) 5, H. Pinion 6. Although Mr. Johnson has felt it necessary through advancing years to sever his connections as a ringer, he hopes still to be able to continue his duties as clerk at St. Botolph's.

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**PLYMOUTH.**—At Charles' Church, on a recent Sunday evening, for the harvest festival service, an excellent quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, in 50 mins.: Messrs. Kentsfield (Swanage) 1, Broad (Kidderminster) 2, Malins (Rugby) 3, Richards (Plymouth) 4, Woodley (Plymouth) 5, Holloway (Aircraft Section, Plymouth) 6, Rundle (Devonport) 7, Walter Marsh (Plymouth) 8, Myers, Plymouth (conductor) 9, Kerswill (Plymouth) 10.

**BURNLEY.**—At Holy Trinity Church, on the occasion of the harvest festival, for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: H. Entwistle 1, C. W. Stephenson 2, Seaman E. Ogden 3, W. Walton 4, T. Redman (conductor) 5, R. Hartley 6. For afternoon service, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major: T. Lord 1, H. Entwistle 2, W. Walton 3, Seaman E. Ogden 4, Gunner W. H. Hunter 5, D. Campbell 6, T. Redman (conductor) 7, R. Ashworth 8. For evening service, 432 Oxford Minor: R. Hartley 1, H. Entwistle 2, Seaman E. Ogden 3, Gunner W. H. Hunter 4, T. Redman (conductor) 5, R. Ashworth 6. Seaman E. Ogden (H.M.S. Dublin) and W. H. Hunter, R.G.A., were both home on leave, the latter being on sick leave, after being wounded "somewhere in France." Their comrades gave them a hearty welcome.

**BLACKPOOL.**—Lancashire Association.—At St. John's Parish Church, on Sept. 30th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: E. Howarth 1, J. Smith 2, Pte Saunders (Burton-on-Trent) 3, W. Wild 4, A. E. Parsons (Old Hill), conductor, 5, Lance-Corpl. E. Smith (Chester) 6, T. Crookall 7, J. Winter 8. Rung as a farewell to Lance-Corpl. Smith, who was leaving for another camp.

**WORSLEY.**—On Sept. 30th, for Sunday evening service (the harvest festival), a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): Rev. C. B. Hulton 1, Joseph Lowe 2, Stanley Harrison 3, Wm. Jones 4, Fred Grundy 5, Percy Derbyshire 6, Joe Ridyard (conductor) 7, Amos Trippier 8. The Worsley ringers wish to thank Messrs. Lowe, Trippier and Chapman for their assistance.

**GARGRAVE.**—Yorkshire Association.—At St. Andrew's Church, for morning service, on the harvest festival, Sept. 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: C. Langstroth 1, W. H. Birtwhistle 2, A. R. Jones 3, W. Bradley 4, J. McKell (conductor) 5, G. Wane 6, J. Wane 7, H. Birtwhistle 8. For evening service, 1288 changes, in 46 mins.: C. Langstroth 1, W. H. Birtwhistle 2, Dr. Wales (first quarter-peal) 3, W. Bradley 4, A. R. Jones (conductor) 5, G. Wane 6, J. Wane 7, J. McKell 8.

**DEPTFORD, KENT.**—On Sunday, Sept. 30th, for the harvest festival, at St. John's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins.: J. Law 1, F. W. Richardson 2, E. J. Pannett 3, Pte. W. E. Malden (A.S.C.), Framlingham, Suffolk 4, A. G. Bennington 5, E. B. Crowder 6, W. J. Jeffries 7, Arch Bennington 8.

**EARL SOHAM, SUFFOLK.**—On Sunday, Sept. 30th, on the occasion of harvest festival, at St. Mary's Church, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: C. Lovett (1st 720) 1, H. W. Crickmer 2, W. Miller 3, W. Crickmer (conductor) 4, G. E. Symonds 5, G. Balls 6.

**WOLLASTON.**—On Sunday, Oct. 7th, at St. James' Church, on the occasion of harvest festival, 720 of Bob Minor, for evening service: W. Stinton 1, J. Bass (conductor) 2, G. H. Pagett 3, C. W. Cooper 4, W. Short 5, A. W. Dodd 6.

**BROMLEY, KENT.**—At SS. Peter and Paul's Church, on Sunday, Oct. 7th, for harvest festival, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: \*T. J. Knight 1, P. J. Spice 2, A. E. Newick 3, \*G. F. James 4, G. Durling (conductor) 5, G. Huxley 6, I. Emery 7, C. Austin 8. After evening service, 504 of Grandsire Triples by the same band, and three courses of Stedman Triples with Messrs. W. Hewett and E. F. Pike standing in. \* First quarter.

**HORLEY, SURREY.**—On Sunday, Oct. 7th, at the Parish Church, for evening service, on the occasion of the harvest festival, a 504 Grandsire Triples: J. Sherlock 1, S. Lanaway 2, G. Hollingsbees 3, A. Songhurst 4, G. Illman 5, F. Voice 6, P. Etheridge (conductor) 7, W. Hunt 8.

**NORTH SHIELDS.**—Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—On Sunday, Oct. 7th, for harvest festival, 699 Stedman Caters: C. L. Routledge (conductor) 1, A. Dalton 2, J. E. Keen 3, R. Richards 4, W. A. Cooke 5, W. Sinclair 6, A. Hillier 7, B. Horton 8, A. Tully 9, N. Harrison 10. For harvest festival, at All Saints', Gosforth, on Sunday, Oct. 14th, 1216 Kent Treble Bob Major: W. A. Cooke 1, J. Richardson 2, J. McKeag 3, A. Hillier 4, C. L. Routledge 5, J. Foreman 6, W. Sinclair 7, W. H. Barber (conductor) 8.

**CAERPHILLY, GLAM.**—On Oct. 10th, for harvest festival, 714 Grandsire Triples: J. Jones 1, F. Boucher 2, W. Pike 3, A. Addicott 4, F. Evans 5, D. Stephens 6, G. Cooke (conductor) 7, W. Williams 8.—On Sunday, Oct. 14th, for harvest festival service, 14 six-scores Grandsire Doubles, by W. Williams, F. Boucher, J. Jones, A. Addicott, F. Evans, P. Love, G. Cooke, S. Addicott, with 4, 6, 8, behind. Conducting shared by F. Evans and F. Boucher.

**FULHAM.**—On Sunday, Oct. 14th, for morning service, at All Saints' Church, 1263 Stedman Caters: R. Harvey 1, J. W. Driver 2, A. V. Selby 3, A. W. Davis 4, A. Cutmore 5, E. F. Cole 6, W. H. Hollier 7, C. Charge (conductor) 8, H. G. Miles 9, M. E. Smith 10.

## NOTICES.

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

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Yorktown Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Oatlands Park (near Walton Station, L. & S.W.R.), on Saturday, November 3rd. Ringing from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Short service, 5 p.m., to be followed by tea. All ringers welcome. Business meeting at conclusion of tea for election of officers, etc.—F. J. Shepherd, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Surrey.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South Eastern Division.—The annual district meeting will be held at Boreham on Saturday, Nov. 3rd. Service, 5 o'clock, with address, followed by tea and meeting. Bells available 2.30.—F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle, Chelmsford.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Bartholomew's, Bolton, on Saturday, Nov. 3rd. Bells ready at 3; meeting at 6.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Lewisham District.—The annual meeting of the District will be held (by kind permission of Canon J. E. Dawson, Rector) at Chislehurst, on Saturday, Nov. 3rd. Bells at 3.30 p.m.; service and address by Rector at 4.30 p.m.; tea and business meeting to follow in Boys' Club.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec., 35, Albany Rd., Chislehurst.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Southern Branch.—A meeting will be held at Bredon, on Saturday, Nov. 3rd. Service will be held in the church at 5 p.m., at which all members attending the meeting are requested to be present. Tea will be provided by the Rector (the Rev. H. Holbeck) for those who send me their names. Bredons Norton (6) and Bredon (5) will be available.—J. Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Hampton, Evesham.

**OXFORD GUILD.**—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Combined practices: Saturday, Nov. 3rd, Stoke Poges (six bells); Saturday, Nov. 10th, Hillingdon (ten bells). Ringing at each, 3 o'clock until 5.30. Ringing friends' help much appreciated.—G. H. Gutteridge.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The annual meeting of the Guildford District will be held at Dorking on Saturday, Nov. 10th, 1917. Bells from 3 to 6. Service at 6. Tea at 6.30; free to members, 2/- to visitors.—John J. Jones, Hon. Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Guildford.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Winchester District.—The annual meeting will be held at Southampton on Saturday, Nov. 10th, 1917. Bells of St. Mary's Church available from 2.30. Tea in St. Mary's Parish Hall at 5.30, to be followed by business meeting. Members intending to be present at the tea will oblige by letting me know by Nov. 7th.—Jas. W. Elkins, Dist. Sec., 20, Culver Road, Winchester.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice, on November 15th and 29th; and for general business on the 6th (Nominations for Office) and 20th (Election of Officers), all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.



**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late St. James' Society. Est. 1824).—A meeting will be held on Saturday, Nov. 10, at the Church of St. Mary, Putney. Bells available from 3 to 5.30. Business meeting to follow at the Duke's Head, Lower Richmond Road. It is earnestly hoped that ringers will avail themselves of this opportunity of united practice in view of the restrictions in ringing at the present time.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION**.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Strretford, on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells available at 3.30. Meeting at dusk. Reports ready. Subscriptions due.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD**.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at Barnet on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Short service with address by the Rector at 6 p.m. Fuller particulars next week.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

**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 WANTED.**

**WANTED**, a Set of 8 good Handbells, size 17 F or 18 G preferred.—W. Mead, Clun, Salop.

#### **WEDDING GIFTS AT NUNEATON.**

Last Saturday, the ringers of Nuneaton made presentations to two of their number, who have recently joined the Benedicts. To Mr. Ernest Stone they gave a clock, and to Mr. Walter Horton a barometer. After the little ceremony an enjoyable hour with handbells was spent.

Earlier in the afternoon, the Nuneaton men, with other ringers of the district, met at the Parish Church and rang a touch each of Grandsire, Stedman, and Bob Major, with the bells muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. Arthur R. Aldham, who passed away on Saturday, Sept. 29th, and who had rung and conducted a number of peals at Nuneaton. During the evening, touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Bob Major, Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Superlative were rung, in which several ladies took part.

#### **PRESENTATION AT TRING.**

On a recent Sunday morning, the Vicar and ringers of Tring met in the belfry before ringing commenced to present Mr. F. Fitkin, on his leaving the parish, with an oak timepiece.—The Vicar, in making the presentation, wished Mr. Fitkin good luck in his new home (Watford), where he is doing work of national importance.

The leader (Mr. F. Reeve) said how sorry the ringers were to lose Mr. Fitkin, who had been a ringer at the Parish Church for 33 years. He was most regular in his attendance, and could always be relied upon to be in his place for service ringing.

Afterwards, two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung on the back six: G. Hinton 1, F. Reeve, junr., 2, F. Fitkin 3, F. Waterton 4, J. Bull 5, F. Reeve 6, W. Redman 7, E. Noyce 8.

Rounds were rung in which Miss M. Batchelor and Miss F. Harding, who have recently learned to handle a bell, took part and also Air-Mechanic Byrt, of the Australian Flying Corps, who had not had a pull since he left England, 16 years ago.

#### **A RINGERS' SERVICE BOOK.**

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—There is no need for the Central Council to compile a Ringers' Service Book. "A manual for ringers," which was arranged by the Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, and which has been approved by most of the prominent clerical ringers could not be improved upon, unless possibly by the addition of a service of admission of a ringer after election. But this point the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn has promised to consider when a new edition is called for. The manual is published by the S.P.C.K.—Yours, etc.

Waygateshaw, Carlisle, Scotland.

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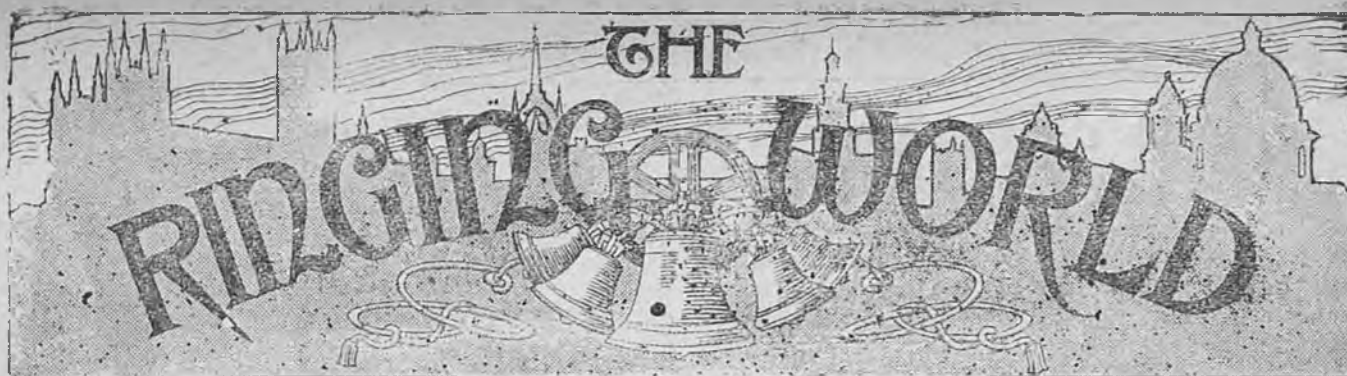
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Guildford, and Published by Messrs. Wm. Dawson & Sons  
Ltd., Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.



No. 347. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9th, 1917.

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Messrs GILLETTE 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

### RINGERS AND THE C.E.M.S.

The Presiding Ringing Master of the St. Martin's Guild has been entertaining and instructing a C.E.M.S. audience at Birmingham by a lecture on bells and bell ringing, and there is no one who is better able to make the most of such an opportunity to extend a knowledge of the Art among those hitherto ignorant of its intricacies and attractions. We have often advocated, as a means of recruiting the ranks of ringers, a more general effort to reach the members of the C.E.M.S. in the various parishes. Here, ready to hand, is a body of men pledged to the service of the Church, and from among the members of that widespread Society valuable additions to the strength of our ringing organisations could be made. The first step, of course, is to interest them in the bells of their parish church, and the example which has been set in several places of a lecture on the subject of bells and ringing, of which as a rule few people except ringers have any knowledge, is the very best way to introduce the subject.

Once get men, of the type belonging to the C.E.M.S., to see that there is not only a useful side (that of calling people to worship) involved in the practice of bell ringing, but that there is wrapped up with it an engrossing study, full of fascinating possibilities, to say nothing of the physical exercise which it affords, there ought to be no difficulty in bringing in as many recruits as are needed to maintain a band of ringers at full strength. The important thing is to stir their interest sufficiently to get them into the belfry. The rest ought to be easy. The C.E.M.S. has always appeared to us to be the best and the most readily available recruiting ground for ringers, and we are surprised that more advantage has not been taken of it than has been the case up to now.

But if tribute is laid on the ranks of the C.E.M.S. to fill the gaps in the belfry, there should be, we think, a reciprocal feeling towards the Society on the part of ringers. Ringers as church-workers should throw in their strength, where they have not already done so, with this men's organisation which is such a pillar of support to the Church. Indeed ringers ought to feel it a duty to be in the ranks of the C.E.M.S. Birmingham proudly boasts that every member of the St. Martin's Sunday ringing band is a member of the Society, and that is an example which might be emulated at every church where there is a Men's Society in existence. It would, we think, strengthen the position of ringers as churchworkers if they were more generally identified with their own parish church branches of the society. Many ringers, of course, are members already, but that is merely the result of individual action. It is exceptional to find the ringers joining as a body, yet we venture to say that if they were to do so it would do a good deal to extend the recognition of their office among the public.



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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 write with ME in this expression of esteem. The BELLRINGERS are so 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

## BELLS

FOR CHURCHES,  
SINGLY,  
OR IN PEALS.

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS

PEALS AUGMENTED,  
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

## FRAMES

IN BEST SEASONED OAK,  
STEEL OR IRON.

Chiming Machines

Best Workmanship and  
Satisfaction Guaranteed

## FITTINGS

OF ALL KINDS.

ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON  
BRACKETS.

VALUABLE IRON BRACKET

BEST BELL ROPES.

REPAIRS AND REHANGING  
IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect  
and report on Bells and Tower

SEND FOR CATALOGUE

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 185, Keeton's Road, Bermondsey.

Makers 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.

TEWKESBURY, GLOUCESTER.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION  
AND ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.

On Saturday, November 3, 1917, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,  
AT THE ABBEY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;  
GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 22 cwt. in E.

MRS. E. J. WILSON ... .. Treble	THOMAS BALDWIN ... .. 5
JOHN AUSTIN ... .. 2	THOMAS NEWMAN ... .. 6
CHARLES W. DYSON ... .. 3	EX-SERG'T. WILLIAMS ... .. 7
JESSE GILLET ... .. 4	GEORGE WATTS ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

The above was specially arranged for Mrs. E. J. Wilson, of Portishead, this being her first peal and rung at the first attempt. Great credit is due to her as she rang through the peal without making a single trip.

This is the first time a lady has taken part in a peal on Tewkesbury Abbey bells, and Mrs. Wilson is the first lady to ring a peal for the St. Michael's Juniors, Gloucester. Through the medium of the "Ringing World" she wishes to thank Mr. Austin and the other ringers who helped to make her visit to Tewkesbury an enjoyable and successful one.

## HANDBELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tuesday, October 30, 1917, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH HOUSE, MOOR STREET, CITY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor, 14 size, in D.

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

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Referee: MORRIS J. MORRIS.

First peal of Treble Bob Major in hand by all, and first in the method on handbells in the City.

## MILDENHALL'S ROLL OF HONOUR.

Ten of the ringers from St. Mary's, Mildenhall, Suffolk, have joined the army, and two have laid down their lives. The roll of honour from the tower is as follows:—

Serg't. W. Stannard, R.E., in Egypt.

Lance-Corpl. A. Stockley, K.R.R., in France.

Lance-Corpl. H. Ungless, E. Surreys (killed).

Pte. R. Woodard, K.R.R. (killed).

Pte. H. Woodard, Middlesex Regt.

Pte. P. Simpson, R.G.A.

T. Munson, M.T., in France.

Pte. E. Sparks, W. Yorks

A. Sheldrick, R.N.

2nd A.-M. P. W. Fordham, R.F.C., Loch Doon, Scotland.

## HOME FROM FRANCE.

RINGING AT SALEHURST, SUSSEX

On Sunday, Sept. 30th, Pte. Harry Edwards, of the Royal Fusiliers, a member of the Salehurst band of ringers, who was home on leave after 15 months' service in France, paid a visit to Salehurst Rectory, where he was heartily welcomed by his old comrades. Arrangements had been made for him to stand in a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples for Matins, but that came to grief after about ten minutes' ringing, but a well struck 798 of Triples was brought round in 30 minutes, by: J. Goodsel 1, F. Morgan 2, Pte. H. Edwards 3, T. Booth 4, W. Hoag 5, W. H. Perry 6, A. E. Edwards (conductor) 7, L. French 8. It was intended to start for the quarter-peal for evensong, but owing to one of the band failing to put in an appearance, Grandsire Doubles had to be rung in place of Triples. A quarter-peal being brought round in 46 minutes on seven bells, with the second omitted and 4-8 covering: F. Morgan 1, Pte. H. Edwards 3, T. Booth 4, W. Hoag 5, W. Perry 6, A. E. Edwards (conductor) 7, L. French 8.—On Saturday, October 6th, an attempt was made to ring Grove's variation of Parker's twelve-part peal of Grandsire Triples, but unfortunately a trip was made near the end of the eighth part, and the bells changed course; consequently they were called round, after about two hours and ten minutes' ringing: J. A. Lambert (Mitcham) 1, W. H. Lambert (Benenden) 2, Pte. H. Edwards 3, W. H. Perry 4, T. Booth 5, F. J. Lambert (Benenden) 6, A. E. Edwards (conductor) 7, C. Tribe (Tenterden) 8.

# BIRMINGHAM PARISH CHURCH.

## ALDERMAN PRITCHETT TALKS TO C.E.M.S. ON BELLS AND BELL RINGING.

On Friday evening in last week, by the invitation of the Rector of Birmingham (Canon Willink), the Presiding Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild (Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A.) gave a lecture at the Parish Church House on "Bells and Bell Ringing," to the members of the Parish Church branch of the Church of England Men's Society. As is usual at these meetings, the proceedings open with prayer, and Canon Willink, who took the chair, in calling upon Alderman Pritchett to deliver his lecture, promised the audience an interesting evening.

Alderman Pritchett has given this lecture on several occasions to different gatherings, and being quite an fait with his subject he never fails to make it interesting. He said he remembered when he was quite a little boy he was told a story of two children whose cottage home was close to the edge of a dark wood, from which it was separated by a brook, crossed only by a single plank bridge. Their parents had always warned them that they must never venture into the wood, as dreadful things might happen to them if they did, but one day they disregarded the warning, crossed into the wood, and to their surprise and delight found they were in a veritable fairyland. Well, to the ordinary public, bell ringing, or rather change ringing, was a very, very dark wood, but he proposed to take them across the plank for just a little while, and endeavour to show them, not a fairyland indeed, but at least some of its intricacies, its mysteries, and its beauties. After showing his audience, by means of a handbell, how a church bell hangs when it is "down," and explaining how it is "raised" by means of a rope and wheel, and completes the circle, he figured on a blackboard a few changes in the Grandsire and Stedman methods, and staggered some of them by telling of the number of changes that could be rung on the different numbers of bells—figures which, of course, every ringer knows, and which need not be repeated here. When, however, he said that to ring all the changes possible on the twelve bells in their own tower of St. Martin's (479,001,600) at the ordinary rate of ringing, and without stopping, would take more than thirty years, some of them fairly gasped in astonishment.

At various point in the lecture illustrations of change ringing were given on the handbells by Messrs. J. E. Groves, W. Kent, J. Neal, T. Russam, A. Paddon Smith, and Albert Walker, the items consisting of a plain course of Grandsire Triples, three heads of Treble Bob Major, and a course of Stedman Cinques.

In proposing that a very hearty vote of thanks be given to Alderman Pritchett for his very interesting lecture, Canon Willink said that he was quite sure everyone had spent an enjoyable and informative evening, and that those present who had never been into a belfry, or come into contact with the science of change ringing before, would listen to their grand old bells with greater interest in the future. He was also sure that his ringers would welcome any of their brothers in the belfry on a Sunday morning, if they cared to go up, but he warned them that they must preserve absolute silence during the progress of the ringing, or —! The Rector also thanked the ringers for their presence and assistance, and said how proud he was to know that everyone of them was a member of the C.E.M.S. He could also say the same of the choirmen, many of whom were present in the room.

The proposal was seconded by Mr. Churchwarden Kendall, who said they were proud to know that they had such efficient ringers at their old church. He had met them on many occasions, both in the belfry and at the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner, which he had had the pleasure of attending for many years past, and at which Canon Willink had taken the chair several times. He could assure anybody who would like to go into the belfry that they would see much to interest them, and that they would not find it a dirty or untidy place, as he understood many belfries were. On the contrary, they would find a room which was quite a credit to the church, and to which during the years he had been a warden, much had been done to make for the comfort of the ringers. He had great pleasure in seconding the vote of thanks to Alderman Pritchett, who had so ably explained and made intelligible to them, some, at least, of the mysteries of bell ringing. Needless to say the motion was enthusiastically accepted.

A. P. S.

# ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY.

Despite the curtailment of ringing by the war the annual report of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford is as comprehensive as ever, all its interesting features being retained. There are only three peals to record, viz. one of Grandsire Triples and two of Stedman Triples. During the year seven new members joined the society, bringing the total membership to 377. The roll of honour now includes 80 names. The society has increased its balance in hand from £24 1s. 5d. to £26 14s. 3d. £18 12s. of this latter amount is invested in 24 War Savings Certificates.

# DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.

The 40th annual festival of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Change Ringers was held at Sunderland on October 27th. A large number of ringers attended the festival, and met at the Church of St. Ignatius the Martyr in the afternoon. Here bands were made up, and they rang touches in various methods at St. Ignatius, next the Sunderland Parish Church, and then on to Bishopwearmouth Parish Church.

On the conclusion of the ringing at the latter place of worship, a service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. Canon Gouldsmith. An address was also delivered by the Bishop of Durham, in the course of which he pointed out that bells were mentioned in the Bible, probably the only places being in Zechariah and Exodus. He described the various methods of ringing on the Continent, and went on to say that the art of change ringing was purely of Europe, and was found in no other country, and where it was in the Colonies it had been imported from the mother land. He mentioned that at one time he was a ringer at the church his father was vicar of, and learnt the elementary portion of the art, and had taken part in simple change ringing. His lordship spoke of the holiness of the calling of bell ringing, and urged upon all the importance of living a holy life.—Mr. James Bevan presided at the organ, and with the choir assisted materially in the service. At the close a collection for the Red Cross Society was taken, and realised £2 10s.

Subsequently the members gathered at the North of England Cafe, Fawcett Street, and partook of tea.

The annual meeting followed, and was presided over by Mr. C. L. Routledge, the President, of Newcastle.

Thanks were accorded to the Bishop and all who had assisted in the festival.

The Hon. Secretary and Treasurer (Mr. G. T. Potter, Whitley Bay) read the annual report. This showed that owing to the war very little ringing had been done, and the belfry returns were less than ever. The returns for Sunday service ringing resulted as follows: Eight, ten and twelve bell towers; St. Nicholas Cathedral, Newcastle, 1; St. John's, Newcastle, 2; Whitley Bay, 3; St. Ignatius Sunderland, 4; and St. George's, Newcastle, 5. With regard to the six bell towers, Holy Trinity, Darlington, was first, and Benfieldside second. The treasurer's account for the year showed a balance in hand of £9 3s. 2d.

The reports were adopted, on the motion of the President, after which the certificates of merit were presented by Mr. J. W. Parker to the winners as recorded above.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, C. L. Routledge (Newcastle); vice-presidents, E. Ferry (Gosforth), Rev. A. W. Lister (Tantobie), R. Stephenson (West Hartlepool), and J. Pallister (Cockton Hill, Bishop Auckland), and hon. secretary and treasurer, G. T. Potter, Whitley Bay.

Among the new members elected were Corpl. Hessian Royal Warwickshire (of Rugby), and Mr. Robert Willis, of Barnard Castle, who has been a ringer for 50 years.

Several touches of Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major were rung during the day at all three churches.

# TWO PEALS OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

By G. CROSS, NORWICH.

5468					5184				
23456	B	M	W	H	23456	B	M	W	H
45236	—	—	—	—	45236	—	—	—	—
24536	—	—	—	—	24536	—	—	—	—
54632	—	—	—	—	52436	—	—	—	—
64235	—	—	—	—	42635	—	—	—	—
52436	—	—	—	—	56234	—	—	—	—
43526	—	—	—	—	25634	—	—	—	—
65324	—	—	—	—	62534	—	—	—	—
36524	—	—	—	—	43526	—	—	—	—
53624	—	—	—	—	54326	—	—	—	—
53246	—	—	—	—	35426	—	—	—	—
25346	—	—	—	—	42356	—	—	—	—
32546	—	—	—	—	65324	—	—	—	—
54326	—	—	—	—	36524	—	—	—	—
35426	—	—	—	—	56423	—	—	—	—
42356	—	—	—	—	34625	—	—	—	—
63254	—	—	—	—	63425	—	—	—	—
25634	—	—	—	—	63254	—	—	—	—
62534	—	—	—	—	26354	—	—	—	—
56234	—	—	—	—	32654	—	—	—	—
42635	—	—	—	—	32546	—	—	—	—
63425	—	—	—	—	53246	—	—	—	—
46325	—	—	—	—	25346	—	—	—	—
54625	—	—	—	—	34256	—	—	—	—
34256	—	—	—	—	23456	—	—	—	—
23456	—	—	—	—					

Each of these peals has the sixth the extent home.

# MEARS &

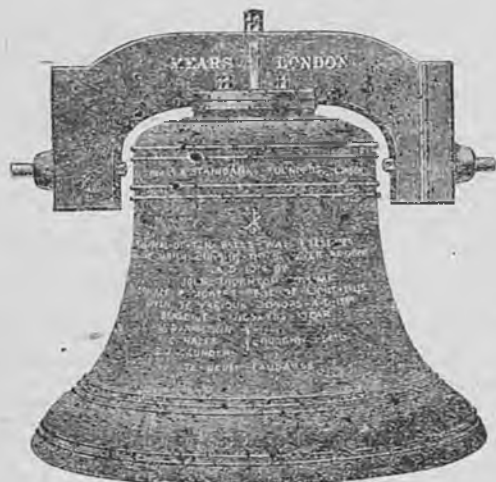
Foundry  
Established  
A.D. 1570.

# STAINBANK,

*Bellfounders & Bellhangers,*

**32 & 34, Whitechapel Road,**

**LONDON, E.**



**Tenor Bell, 25½ owt., of the new ring  
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*

### AFTER-DARK RINGING STOPPED.

The Competent Military Authority for No. 12 Area, which includes the County of Surrey (except the Metropolitan Police District and the portion included in Aldershot Command), the County of Hertford (except the Metropolitan Police District), the Rural Districts of Windsor and Cookham, and the Municipal Boroughs of Maidenhead and New Windsor in the County of Berks, having been approached by Mr. P. J. Shepherd, assistant hon. secretary of the Yorktown District of the Winchester Guild for consent to ring at Oatlands and Hersham on Sunday evenings from 6 to 6.30 o'clock, regrets that permission cannot be granted.

From No. 10 District also a refusal of permission to ring for evening service after dark has been sent to the Rector of Godstone, Surrey.

The Competent Military Authority for the Western Command, having personally been into the question very carefully, regrets he is unable to give permission for bells to be rung for service up to 6.30 p.m. on Sundays. This is in reply to an application from the Archdeaconry of Brecon.

The Competent Military Authority at Preston has, however, give sanction for ringing for evening service up to 6.30 p.m. in that area. This includes a portion of Lancashire, but not Liverpool, Manchester, and the Furness District. Those who are favoured with the order are advised to notify the local police.

### MILITARY MEDAL.

#### ANOTHER CENTRAL NORTHANTS PRIZE

Private Charles Haines, who has since been made lance-corporal of the York and Lancaster Regiment, has been awarded the Military Medal for courage and devotion to duty. He belongs to the Weston Favell belfry, and is a member of the Central Northants Association (Northampton District). His first peal was rung with the bells fully muffled as a mark of respect to His Majesty King Edward VII. on May 20th, 1910.

The following is a copy of the letter signed by his Lieut.-Colonel, setting out the act for which Lance-Corpl. Haines received the decoration:—

"The enemy delivered a very determined attack under an intense barrage against our positions, using trench mortars, flammeurwerfer and machine gun fire. These N.C.O.'s and men (there were four others) immediately opened rifle and Lewis gun fire, and after very severe fighting the attack was repelled. Our men killed about 70 or 80 of the enemy, who were left in front of our trench. By the excellent fighting qualities of these N.C.O.'s and men, and their determination to hold on to their position, they managed completely to demoralise the enemy. They set a magnificent example of devotion to duty and courage, and possibly prevented a very difficult situation arising."

### DEATH OF MR. WM. PHIPPS.

#### HIGH WYCOMBE'S LOSS.

The High Wycombe belfry has sustained a very great loss by the death of Mr. William Phipps, who passed to rest on Monday, October 29th, at the age of 52 years.

The funeral took place at Wycombe, on Saturday, when the President of the Wycombe ringers (the Rev. C. H. Ridsdale) very impressively conducted the obsequies. Besides local ringers present were Messrs. R. H. Biggs (Hughenden) and J. Blackmore (Beaconsfield). The ringers formed a guard of honour at the entrance to the church, and after preceding the cortege to the cemetery, again lined up as the coffin was borne to the grave. At the conclusion of the last and rites, the members returned to the Parish Church, where the bells were rung, muffled, as a mark of respect.

A touch of Stedman Caters (conducted by Regimental-Sergt.-Major White) was rung, being followed by a couple of courses of Major (conducted by Mr. W. T. Horne).

The floral tribute sent by the ringers was a handsome cross of white flowers, and bore the inscription: "With the heartfelt sympathy of the High Wycombe Church Bell Ringers."

On Sunday the bells were rung, muffled. A good touch of Major was brought round in the afternoon, and previous to lowering the bells, "the whole pull and stand," corresponding to the age of deceased, was performed. Of a quiet and unassuming disposition, the deceased made many friends. Though he had been in indifferent health for some time, it was not till recently that serious symptoms developed, and the news of his death at Guy's Hospital came as a great shock.

The late Mr. Phipps rang his first peal at the Wycombe belfry in 1902; and the last peal he took part in was a peal of Stedman Cinques, on Sunday, December 31st, 1916, in 3 hrs. 48 mins. at Wycombe. Altogether he had rung 24 peals, comprising the following methods: Stedman Cinques 1, Stedman Caters 3, Grandsire Caters 1, Stedman Triples 7, Grandsire Triples 11, Bob Major 1. The peals were rung in the tower of High Wycombe (11), Beaconsfield (5), Hughenden (4), Woodburn (3), Drayton (1). He was a member of the Oxford Guild and the Royal Cumberland Society.



## WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

## ENJOYABLE MEETING OF YORKTOWN BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Yorktown Branch of the Winchester Diocesan Guild was held at Otlands Park on Saturday, when members attended from Otlands, Hersham, Walton, Guildford, Cranleigh, Isleworth, etc., including many lady ringers from Otlands and Hersham. Ringing commenced soon after 3 p.m. on the new peal of eight bells at St. Mary's Church, and concluded at 5 p.m. with a well-struck service touch of Stedman, by: F. E. Dawe (Bramley) 1. F. Shepherd (Hersham) 2. F. J. Shepherd (Hersham) 3. C. Marshall (Bexley Heath) 4. M. Smither (Guildford) 5. T. Beadle (Isleworth) 6. W. Shepherd (Hersham) 7. L. Snow (Otlands) 8. The special service was conducted by the Rev. Coulson, and included a fitting address by the Vicar of Otlands (Rev. de Verd Leigh, M.A.). The organist (Mr. Ronald Dussek, F.R.C.O.) and choir led the singing of the special hymns with marked ability and expression.

Subsequently about 50 ringers and friends sat down to tea in the large room of the Otlands Club, amongst those present being the Rev. and Mrs. de Verd Leigh, Rev. E. P. Puloe (Hersham), Rev. and Mrs. Coulson, Messrs. C. B. Clift (churchwarden), F. J. Shepherd (acting secretary), and W. Shepherd (Ringing Master). At the conclusion of the tea, harmony was indulged in, commencing with a course of Grandsire Caters on handbells, by: F. Shepherd 1—2. F. E. Dawe 3—4. W. Shepherd 5—6. M. Smither 7—8. F. J. Shepherd 9—10, which was followed by humorous songs from Mr. Ronald Dussek, with Miss A. M. Machin at the piano, and handbell tune ringing by the Hersham handbell ringers (Mrs. W. and Messrs. F., F. J. and W. Shepherd).

The business meeting followed, the Vicar of Otlands occupying the chair.—The Acting Secretary reviewed the financial position of the branch, and said that, in spite of depletions of male ringers owing to the war, there was still a balance on the right side, thanks largely to the support of the honorary members who had maintained, and, in some cases, had increased, their subscriptions; also to the loyalty of those ringers who remained, supplemented by the support of the ladies. He especially mentioned the interest in, and help rendered to, the Guild by the Vicars of Otlands, Hersham and Yateley, Messrs. W. A. Wigram and F. L. Vaux (Hersham), and Miss B. Stilwell (Yateley).

Votes of condolence were passed in silence to the families of Mr. G. B. Edser (a former secretary) and Mr. E. Hamblin, both of Hersham, who, it was reported, had made the supreme sacrifice.

The following officers were elected for 1918: Hon. secretary, Mr. Geo. Miles (Camberley); assistant secretary, Mr. F. J. Shepherd (Hersham); auditor, Mr. A. Woodrow (Hersham); Ringing Master, Mr. W. Shepherd (Hersham); representative on Central Committee, Mr. W. A. Woodrow (Hersham). It was understood that Messrs. G. Miles and W. A. Woodrow being still with the colours, their duties would continue to be carried out by Messrs. F. J. Shepherd and W. Shepherd respectively until their return.

The official agenda having been disposed of, Mr. F. E. Dawe, in a racy speech, paid a graceful tribute to the welcome extended to the members of the Guild that day, the service, in particular, being an enjoyable one. He considered that the whole of the arrangements had been carried out in an excellent manner, and reflected great credit on the acting secretary and those associated with him. It was evident that the tea tables had experienced the gentle touch of some of the lady ringers, and he was given to understand that the Ladies' Committee (Miss Barnes, Miss Newton, Miss Wild and Miss Shorter) were largely responsible for the tasty appearance of the tables and the excellence of the viands. Mr. Dawe concluded by remarking that the genial presence of the Vicar, together with the attendance of two other clergy, must be regarded as a great compliment to the Guild, especially as it was a Saturday night, which, in his experience, was a difficult time to get near the clergy.

The Vicar of Otlands, in reply, stated he was most pleased to have had the opportunity of meeting the members of the Guild at Otlands, and trusted the Guild would continue to prosper in the good work it was undoubtedly doing.

Mr. F. E. Dawe then gave two descriptive recitations, and songs were given by Miss Carpenter, Miss Tucker, Miss Shorter and Mr. R. Tucker. Further tunes were played by the Hersham Handbell Ringers, and the evening concluding with dancing up to 10 p.m., a most enjoyable time having been spent by all.

**WHITCHURCH, CARLISLE**—Llandaff Association.—At St. Mary's Church, Whitchurch, on Oct. 11th, for the harvest thanksgiving service, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor, arranged and conducted by Mr. W. Biss: F. J. Bailey 1. W. Biss 2. L. Wright 3. B. Chew 4. S. Dawe 5. J. Aldridge 6. For the continuation services, on Sunday, Oct. 15th, 120 of Canterbury, Grandsire and Plain Bob Double were rung, T. Middleton, T. Wood and J. Pain taking part.

## WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Southern Branch was held at Bredon on Saturday last; and, considering the depletion of numbers, owing to the war, was well attended, the following towers being represented: Evesham, Pershore, Hampton, Fladbury, Stanton, Overbury, and Bredon. Among those present were Mr. C. Camm (Ringing Master of the Western Branch), Miss E. K. Parker (secretary and treasurer of the Ladies' Guild), and the officers of the Southern Branch.

The ringers met at Bredon Norton, where are a nice musical peal of six. Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Minor were rung, and the ringers then made their way to Bredon, two miles distant, where hung a heavy peal of five bells in a steel frame, the tenor being about 20 cwt. These were raised in peal, and a six score of Stedman rung for service, which was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. H. Holbeck).

Tea was served in the Church Room, about 30 sitting down, and at the subsequent business meeting the Rector presided, and was unanimously elected an honorary member.—It was decided to attempt two peals, if possible, on the same day, at Bredon and Bredon Norton, the conductors being J. Hemming and J. Dolphin respectively.—It was further decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Bishampton. The officers were all re-elected, viz.: H. Middleton (Ringing Master), J. Hemming, hon. secretary and treasurer, and G. Dolphin on the Central Committee.

The usual votes of thanks were accorded, on the motion of Mr. F. J. Johnson, and the Rector briefly replied.—Miss Parker having also spoken a few words, the meeting closed, and the belfry was again visited, and Stedman and Grandsire Doubles rung.

## WESTERN BRANCH.

A meeting of this branch was held at Malvern Link, on Saturday, October 27th, and as was only to be expected the attendance was not large, most of the members being away in the service of the country, and, directly, or indirectly, on war work.

It was decided not to attempt a quarterly peal, and also to postpone another meeting till after the Central Committee meeting.

The whole of the officers were re-elected.

Touche of Triples, Minor and Doubles, were rung on the bells both before and after the service and meeting.

## BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery Branch of the above Association was held, by kind invitation of the Rev. J. E. W. Honnywill (Branch President), at Leigh-on-Mendip on Saturday week. The bells were raised at 3 p.m., and Divine service followed in the fine old Church of St. Giles at 3.20 p.m., the officiating clergy being the Rev. J. E. W. Honnywill and the Rev. H. Briggs (Vicar of Paulton). The former was the preacher, and gave a most impressive and helpful address. Mrs. Honnywill ably presided at the organ. The bells were again set going for a short while after the service, and subsequently the ringers adjourned to the Church Reading Room, where the members (over 50 in all) sat down to a goodly repast most generously provided by the Vicar and Mrs. Honnywill. Having satisfied the claims of the inner man, the members settled down to the usual business meeting, the President taking the chair.

New members were admitted to the Association, and voting followed with respect to the selection of a tower for the next meeting due in January next. It was finally decided to go to Shepton Mallet, if possible, and failing that, High Littleton.

Votes of thanks were passed unanimously to Mr. and Mrs. Honnywill for their generous hospitality to the members, and also for the use of the bells and the reading room, and to the hon. secretary for his work in connection with the meeting.—Mr. Honnywill and Mr. J. B. Holmyard suitably acknowledged the vote.

After the meeting the members again repaired to the tower, where a most pleasant time was spent in ringing Grandsire and Stedman Doubles.

The towers represented were Leigh-on-Mendip, Frome, Doubling, Radstock, Midsomer Norton, Camerton, Timbury, Paulton, and Chewton Mendip.

## AXBRIDGE DEANERY BRANCH.

The quarterly meeting of the Axbridge Deanery Branch was held at Congresbury on Saturday week, 23 members being present. Some good touches of Grandsire were rung on this very fine peal of eight (tenor 37 cwt.). Service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. R. H. Marnsall-Eyre). Tea was provided at the Ship and Castle Hotel.

The business meeting followed, Preb. R. Hayes-Robinson presiding.—Burnham-on-Sea was selected for the next meeting (annual), in January, 1918.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for arranging service for the use of the bells, and for the very instructive address. The tower was afterwards again visited, various touches bringing to a conclusion a very successful meeting, considering the number of members who are away serving with the forces.

## ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

## MEMBERS DECIDE AGAINST RINGING FOR VICTORIES.

The annual meeting of the North-Eastern Division of the Essex Association was held on Saturday week at Felsted, service being conducted by the Rev. E. J. Doherty, Vicar of Felsted, and the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, Vicar of Great Totham, and hon. secretary of the Association. The Vicar preached a striking sermon upon the enthusiasm of Simon, taken from the lesson for the Eve of SS. Simon and Jude. He welcomed the ringers as enthusiasts in their work for the church, and said the one thing Churchmen and Churchwomen wanted to-day was enthusiasm. How many Churchmen were as keen about the welfare of the Church and the Kingdom of God as they were about their own businesses? To become triumphant the Church must become enthusiastic; a religious revival was being prayed for, when the offices of the Church would be rekindled with life.

After service, tea was given the visitors in Felsted Old School by the ladies and churchwardens of Felsted Church.

Mr. C. H. Howard, J.P., Master of the Association, presided over the business meeting which followed.

The report of the Hon. Secretary, Mr. B. Redgewell, of Rayne, was adopted, and Mr. H. F. Cooper, Stisted, formerly hon. secretary in the South-Eastern Division (Chelmsford), was appointed Master of the North-Eastern Division.—Mr. B. Redgewell was re-elected hon. secretary.

Mr. G. Wright and Mr. R. Goodman (Felsted) and Mr. F. Gibson (Sible Hedingham) were elected hon. members.—It was decided to hold the next meeting at Witham.

Mr. Cooper raised the question of ringing church bells for victories achieved by the British armies during the war, and after discussion it was decided not to ring the bells on such occasions.—The Chairman said the bells should be rung as regularly as possible for church service, and ringers should keep in practice, ready for the time when the boys come home (applause).

The Rev. H. T. W. Eyre thanked the Vicar and churchwardens of Felsted for the welcome given to the ringers, and the ladies of Felsted for the hospitality they had displayed.—The Chairman, seconding, said Felsted was distinguished in having three lady ringers members of the Association. Ladies were taking up ringing in some places and their help was very useful, because so many men had been called to serve with the colours. At Felsted that day it had been a great pleasure for the visitors to ring with the Vicar's daughter, whom he congratulated on her graceful handling of a bell. The Master also referred to the good work done by Mr. W. Farrow in keeping the Felsted bells ringing.—The Rev. E. J. Doherty, Vicar; Mr. F. Goodman, churchwarden, and Mr. W. Farrow all replied.

## S.E. DISTRICT MEETING AT BOREHAM

On Saturday last the annual district meeting for the South Eastern Division was held at Boreham, and although the weather conditions were unfavourable, a very enjoyable meeting resulted. Members attended from Chelmsford, Witham and Boreham, and Mr. H. F. Cooper, District Master, N.E. Division. The methods rung during the afternoon included Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples.

In the absence of the Vicar, through illness, the service was conducted by the Rev. A. G. Langdon, C.F., who gave a very impressive and instructive address on "Bells." After the service the members adjourned for tea and the business meeting, which were presided over by the Rev. A. G. Langdon.

Mr. W. Lincoln was re-elected District Master, and Mr. F. W. Edwards, district secretary.—Gallewood was selected for the next meeting, to be held in February.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. Youngs for allowing us the use of the bells.—It was also resolved that a letter expressing sympathy be sent to the Vicar, wishing him a speedy recovery.

A vote of thanks was also accorded to the Rev. A. G. Langdon for taking the service, and to the organist and choir for their assistance.

DEANE, BOLTON.—On Saturday, Oct. 13th, 504 Stedman Triples: T. Barlow, junr. (1st 500) 1, T. Barlow, senr. 2, F. Rigby 3, S. Goodal (1st 500) 4, R. P. Heald 5, P. Crook 6, T. B. Worsley (conductor) 7, C. Lever 8. For evening service, on Sunday, Oct. 14th, 672 Grandsire Triples: F. Morris 1, T. Barlow, junr. 2, F. Abbot 3, S. Goodal 4, T. Barlow, senr., 5, R. P. Heald 6, T. B. Worsley (conductor) 7, W. Dickenson 8.

WOOTTON.—Central Northamptonshire Association. — On Sunday evening, Oct. 14th, at St. George's Church, for the harvest thanksgiving, 800 Grandsire Doubles: W. Atterbury 1, B. Soden 2, W. T. Law 3, W. Fairy 4, H. Clarke (conductor) 5.

## NOTICES.

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

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting of the Guildford District will be held at Dorking on Saturday, Nov. 10th, 1917. Bells from 3 to 6. Service at 6. Tea at 6.30; free to members, 2/- to visitors.—John J. Jones, Hon. Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Guildford.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—The annual meeting will be held at Southampton on Saturday, Nov. 10th, 1917. Bells of St. Mary's Church available from 2.30. Tea in St. Mary's Parish Hall at 5.30, to be followed by business meeting. Members intending to be present at the tea will oblige by letting me know by Nov. 7th.—Jas. W. Elkins, Dist. Sec., 20, Culver Road, Winchester.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society. Est. 1824).—A meeting will be held on Saturday, Nov. 10, at the Church of St. Mary, Putney. Bells available from 3 to 5.30. Business meeting to follow at the Duke's Head, Lower Richmond Road. It is earnestly hoped that ringers will avail themselves of this opportunity of united practice in view of the restrictions in ringing at the present time.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice, on November 15th and 29th, and for general business on the 20th (Election of Officers), all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at Barnet on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Ringing from 2.30 to 6 p.m. Short service and address by the Rector, 6 p.m. Tea at 6.30, by invitation to those only who advise me by 13th inst., followed by business meeting, handbells, etc. Outstanding subscriptions for 1917 should be sent now to W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Stretford, on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells available at 3.30. Meeting at dusk. Reports ready. Subscriptions due.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Great Chart on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells (6) available from 2 o'clock until sunset.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Apple-dore, Kent.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—Annual meeting at Basingstoke, Saturday, Nov. 24th. Bells at St. Michael's and at All Saints' from 3 p.m. Service at the Parish Church at 5.30. Tea and meeting at St. John's Schools at 6.—F. G. Hume, Dist. Sec.

**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. Beaumont, West Ewell, Epsom.

#### HANDBELLS WANTED.

WANTED, a Set of 8 good Handbells, size 17 F or 18 G preferred.—W. Mead, Clun, Salop.

#### DEATH OF A YORKSHIRE RINGER.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. James Nichols, of the St. James' Society, Bolton, Bradford, which took place on October 15th, very suddenly, at the age of 48 years. Deceased was a ringer at St. James' Church, also a member of the choir. He was secretary of the Cambridge Lodge, No. 2041 of the R.A.O.B.

The funeral took place at Undercliffe Cemetery on Saturday, Oct. 20th, and was attended by a very large body of ringers and other friends. The service was conducted by the Rev. W. Cunliff, Vicar of St. Chrysostom's, after which two glees were sung by members of the Airedale Musical Union, of which deceased was a member. A course of Grandsire Triples was also rung at the graveside by: T. B. Kendall 1—2, J. Broadley 3—4, A. Gill 5—6, B. E. Howe 7—8.

#### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**HALESOWEN.**—Worcestershire Association.—On Saturday, Oct. 13th, after an unsuccessful attempt for Superlative, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Phursteans), in 46 mins.: A. E. Parsons 1, T. J. Salter 2, W. Coley 3, J. Bass 4, W. Bird 5, S. Grove 6, W. Short (conductor) 7, A. Hackett 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the fallen members of the above Association.

**BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER, GLOS.**—On Sunday, Oct. 14th, for morning service, 630 of Grandsire Triples: H. E. Gillett 1, W. Stratford 2, H. Packer 3, H. Gillett 4, J. Collett 5, F. Pitts 6, W. Large (conductor) 7, J. Butler 8. For evening service, 1260 of Triples, in 45 mins.: F. Pitts 1, T. Banning 2, H. Packer 3, H. Gillett 4, J. Collett 5, W. Stratford 6, W. Large (conductor) 7, J. Butler 8.

**KIDDERMINSTER.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Oct. 14th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins.: Keith Salter (first quarter-peal of Triples) 1, G. Davis 2, N. Davis 3, R. May 4, T. J. Salter (conductor) 5, W. Short 6, J. Woodberry 7, J. Bennett 8. Rung on the occasion of the harvest festival.

**STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.**—On Sunday, Oct. 14th, harvest festival, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): J. Pickering 1, G. Wood 2, N. Walker 3, H. Webb (first quarter-peal with a hob bell) 4, C. Briggs 5, J. Garratt 6, H. Briggs (conductor) 7, W. Jones 8.

**COALBROOKDALE.**—On Sunday, Oct. 14th, for morning service, 840 Grandsire Triples: Pte. W. S. Crawford 1, Thos. Abbot 2, James York 3, Wm. Saunders (conductor) 4, Richard Jones 5, Leonard Hewitt 6, Walter Lago 7, Jack Aston 8. The ringer of the treble was home on a few days' leave from the clerk's section of the A.S.C., Bath.

**LLANBRADACH.**—On Oct. 15th, for evening service on occasion of the harvest festival, at All Saints' Church, Llanbradach, 720 Grandsire Doubles: J. Gwilym 1, J. Jones 2, F. Evans (conductor) 3, F. Stevens 4, F. Boucher 5, S. Voysey 6, W. Burgess 7, J. Phillips 8.

**SALISBURY.**—At St. Martin's Church, on Sunday, October 28th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: A. Fry 1, F. Romaine 2, S. Macey 3, J. Harris 4, Pte. T. Haslam, R.F.C., 5, R. Knight 6, Sapper F. Precey, R.E. (conductor) 7, C. Guisford 8. Rung as a farewell to Pte. T. Haslam, who is being transferred to another district.

**DALTON-IN-FURNESS.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Oct. 21st, for morning service, 672 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss Lindsey 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss Stuart 4, T. Stuart 5, T. Watson 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8.

**DALTON-IN-FURNESS.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, October 28th, for evening service, 672 Bob Major: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss Lindsey 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss E. M. Stuart 4, J. Huddleston 5, T. Watson 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8.

**BUCKNALL, STAFFS.**—On Sunday, Oct. 28th, for Evensong 720 Violet Treble Bob: W. Wheeldon (sen.) 1, W. Wheeldon (jun.) 2, T. Shaw 3, C. Preston 4, J. E. Wheeldon (conductor) 5, D. Preston 6.

**ROCHESTER.**—At the Cathedral, on Sunday, October 7th, 498 Double Norwich: R. Paine 1, W. Haigh 2, O. Sullivan 3, W. Easter 4, Corp. E. G. Buesden 5, Sergt. F. A. Holden (conductor) 6, W. Walker 7, E. A. G. Allen 8.—At St. Margaret's, 293 Grandsire Triples: J. Kidd, junr., 1, E. Rayner 2, F. A. Holden (conductor) 3, W. Kidd 4, O. Sullivan 5, E. G. Buesden 6, W. Rayner 7, J. Kidd, senr., 8.

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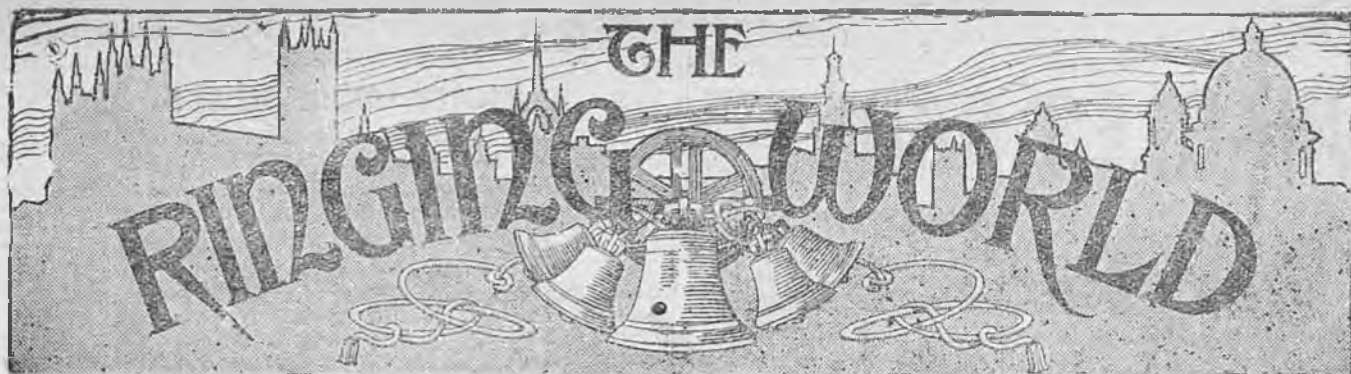


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No. 348. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16th, 1917.

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

WULFEUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,  
MESSRS. GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1914.  
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 gives 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.

## MODERN WORK

### THE COUNCIL'S CANDID FRIEND.

When next the Central Council meets it will be three years since the assembly sat in conclave, and as has been pointed out so often, the occasion will be of special importance to the Council itself, inasmuch as circumstances have forced the Council to face what has been termed the parting of the ways. Whether or no the members of the Council will admit it, they will at the meeting in London next Whitsun, have to shape a course which is either going to make or mar the future of that body as the central organisation of ringers. When the war interrupted the sequence of its gatherings the Council had reached a stage when it seemed to have outlasted its welcome, and, instead of leading the Exercise, was becoming rapidly an object of contempt to a large number of ringers. Then came the death of the founder and president of the Council. Sir Arthur Heywood had, since its formation, guided the deliberations of the Council and shaped its policy with the result that the Council, through his influence—unintentional though it was—was getting more and more out of touch with the feelings of the Exercise, for no one seemed to have the courage to attempt to scotch this tendency.

Had Sir Arthur lived the Council might have dragged along, with its existence secure. When, however, he left the arena, the case was immediately altered. Without his strong personality the Council could not continue on its old lines, and an effort to rehabilitate it in the eyes of the Exercise must be made, because, unquestionably, there is need for a central body. Perhaps the interval since the last meeting may be a blessing in disguise, for the new Council will come to its task with a more open mind, and, we hope, renewed vigour.

But if the revival is to take place and is to be permanent, there must be a perfectly free and open examination of the causes which led to the falling away of the average ringers' interest in the Council. Many have known of the shortcomings; but few have cared to voice them. At length, however, a member has come forward to review the whole situation, and the articles which Mr. J. A. Trollope commences in this issue will be read not only with interest, but will be valued as a candid and yet moderate, as well as a considered expression of opinion on the failings of the Council, the causes and the remedies. Mr. Trollope writes with inside knowledge, for he has been a member of the Council for 20 years, and his standing in the Exercise, not only as one of the theoretical experts who are so constantly railed at, but as one of the practical ringers on the Council whose position as an authority cannot be denied, should give increased weight to the opinions which he puts forward. Most of our readers who have studied the work of the Council in the past will agree, we think, with his analysis of the shortcomings of the Council and will look forward to his subsequent articles with interest.

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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.

SHIFNAL, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

On Saturday, November 3, 1917, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt., in E flat.

*ALFRED SHUKER... .. Treble	*LEONARD HEWITT ... .. 5
*FREDERICK DARRALL ... .. 2	*WILLIAM SAUNDERS ... .. 6
DANIEL JONES ... .. 3	*JOHN BRADNEY... .. 7
*GEORGE HAYCOX ... .. 4	CHARLES R. LILLEY ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN BRADNEY, and  
Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

\* First peal of Bob Major. The composition is now rung for the first time. This peal was rung on the occasion of the first visit of the new Archdeacon (Archdeacon Lambert) to Shifnal. First peal of Bob Major rung on the bells since May 6th, 1809. The ringers of 1st and 4th belong to Shifnal, 2nd, 3rd and 7th to Wolverhampton, 5th and 6th to Coalbrookdale, and tenor to St. Chad's, Shrewsbury.

PENDLEBURY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Sunday, November 4, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

At CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CRANBSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DAVIES' TEN-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM WALTON ... .. Treble	CHARLES SEDDON' ... .. 5
DAVID HINDLEY ... .. 2	DANIEL HOWARD ... .. 6
ALBERT WALLWORK ... .. 3	THOMAS HOWARD ... .. 7
THOMAS LINGARD... .. 4	JOHN EDGE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS LINGARD.

Rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the memory of the heroes from the parish who have given up their lives for their King and country in this war.

## KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Lewisham district was held at Chislehurst on Saturday week, but owing to the unsettled state of the elements, the attendance was not as large as usual. The Association form of service was used, the Rev. Canon J. E. Dawson (Rector) officiating, and giving a short address on the Festival of All Saints.

Previous to the address he gave the members a hearty welcome to Chislehurst, but was sorry to say he could not join them after the service, as he had to attend a meeting, and on Sunday he had to preach three sermons.

The members then adjourned to the Boys' Club for tea.

The business meeting followed, Mr. W. J. Jeffries being voted to the chair. T. Phillips (Chislehurst) and A. Diserens (Sunbury-on-Thames) were elected members. The election of S. S. Coombes and A. J. Morton in the tower at Erith was confirmed.

Bromley (S.S. Peter and Paul) was selected as the place for the next quarterly meeting, on the third Saturday in January.

The district Secretary then made his annual report, and no questions arising, it was adopted.—Messrs. T. Groombridge, secy., and W. J. Jeffries were re-elected district secretary and representative respectively.

A motion was unanimously carried that the Association annual meeting be held next year.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector for granting the use of the bells, arranging the service, and giving the address, and to the lady organist. This concluded the meeting. Ringing was indulged in during the afternoon and evening, and one or two being able to serve their first course of London Surprise Major.

## TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

BY H. PRICE, FISKERTON, NOTTS.

5376	M	W	H
23456			
32654	2		2
53624		1	
35428	2		2
52436		2	
25634	2		2
24536	2		1
25346		1	2
23456		1	2

4-6 only in 6th's place; the 6th never below 4th's place, at course end.



## WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

### WINCHESTER DISTRICT MEETING AT SOUTHAMPTON.

The annual meeting of the Winchester District was held at Southampton on Saturday. Various methods were rung at St. Mary's Church during the afternoon and evening, the bells being half-muffled in memory of those who have made the great sacrifice. The Rector (Rev. Canon Lovett) presided at the tea and meeting. Among those present were Mr. H. White (Basingstoke), Mr. G. Williams (general hon. secretary), Mr. W. H. George, and members from Curdridge, Dibdon, North Stoneham, Winchester, Bishopstoke, Hursley, Titchfield, Swanmore, Portsea and Southampton. Forty-two sat down to tea. Apologies were received from Canon Braithwaite, Mr Wilfred Andrews, Mr. G. Smith, and from several of the hon. members.

Sincere regret was expressed at the absence of Canon Braithwaite, through the illness of his wife, and a vote of sympathy was passed to him, with the hope that she would soon recover.

The balance sheet was considered very satisfactory under present circumstances, there being a balance in hand of £5 lbs. 13d.

All the officers were re-elected, viz., Canon Braithwaite (chairman), Mr. J. W. Elkins (district secretary), Mr. C. Russell (assistant secretary), Mr. G. Smith (auditor), and Messrs. Wilfred Andrews and W. Tucker, representatives on the Central Committee.

The next annual meeting is to be held at Southampton, on Nov. 16th, 1918.

Only one quarterly meeting, it was reported, had been held during the past year, but the Rev. E. Banks James was strongly in favour of these meetings being continued, and it was decided to hold three during next year; one at North Stoneham, on Feb. 9th; the second at Romsey, on May 11th, and the third at Twyford, on August 31st.

In responding to a vote of thanks, proposed to him by Mr. E. B. James, Canon Lovett said it gave him great pleasure to welcome old friends again. He was very grateful to his ringers for keeping the bells going for the church services, though they had lost more than half their members. He often had letters from parishioners, who were now serving in the army or navy, in distant parts of the world, and in those letters they told him how they longed to hear again on the quiet Sunday mornings the sound of St. Mary's bells.

Mr. Houghton (captain of St. Mary's band) expressed his deep gratitude to Mr. Wilkes for the help he had given them, and said that every Sunday morning they had a short service in the belfry before the ringing commenced, at which the name of each member of the band away on war service was mentioned.

Several ringers were present in khaki, among them being Mr. Myles (Eccles), Mr. Bosley (Taunton), and Mr. Noyce (Winchester Cathedral) who, through the influence of Canon Lovett, was permitted by the hospital authorities to attend the meeting, he having been wounded in the shoulder at Ypres. He hopes time will restore to him the use of his arm, and so enable him to take his place again in the belfry.

The District Secretary impressed on the members the necessity of letting him know if they wished tea provided for them as of the 42 present that day, only 27 had signified their intention of being present. He made an exception to ringers serving in the forces, as they were often unable to give such notice, and said they would be heartily welcomed at all times.—Mr. H. White and Mr. G. Williams both said they had experienced the same difficulty, which just a halfpenny postcard would prevent.

Some touches on the bells brought a very successful meeting to a close.

### GUILDFORD DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Guildford District was held at Dorking on Saturday, and was attended by about 40 ringers from Leatherhead, Guildford, Haslemere, Chiddingfold, Godalming, Aldershot, Cranleigh, etc. Service was held in the Parish Church, and an admirable address given by the Vicar (Canon E. A. Chichester), who afterwards presided at the tea in the Church Rooms.

The new members elected at the business meeting included ten ladies, members of St. Martin's Guild, Dorking, all able to manage a bell.

The whole of the officers were re-elected, with the understanding that the secretary would be responsible only for the five district meetings, and that the Ringing Master would undertake the arranging of practices and peals.

The times and places of meetings were left to the officers to arrange as most convenient, with the exception of the next annual meeting, which is to be held at Guildford.

The Ringing Master's report was read and adopted, and it was agreed that future reports should be entered in a report book.

Mr. F. E. Dawe, in a few well-chosen remarks, said he was a great advocate for giving honour and credit where it was due, and, therefore, wished to place on record the good and excellent work recently done by one of their number at the front. He described how William John Russell, late of Fwhurst, and a constant ringer at Dorking Church, and whose name appeared on two peal boards in the belfry, had recently by his perseverance, combined with strict and conscientious attention to duty, gained the Military Medal, together with the Distinguished Conduct Medal, and followed this by obtaining a commission in the regiment; he voluntarily joined at the outbreak of

war, viz., the signalling section of the Royal Engineers, a very exceptional proceeding. Lieut. Russell had always proved himself a keen member of the Guild and the Ancient Society of College Youths, being a skilled and most reliable ringer. All those present who knew him so well would share the speaker's congratulations at the honour this young man had brought upon himself and the ringing Exercise generally. It was indeed a great honour for a gardener to rise to the position of one of his Majesty's commissioned officers. This announcement was received with enthusiastic acclamation, and the secretary undertook to convey to Lieut. Russell the good wishes of the company for his safe and speedy return amongst them.

A sadder note was struck by Mr. Shepherd, of Hersham, moving a vote of condolence with the relatives of the late Pte. G. B. Edser, a former secretary of the Yorktown District, who had given his life for his country.—This was agreed to by the members silently rising.

The bells at Rammoor and also at Dorking were kept going in various methods till the Defence of the Realm put a stop to campanology at 5 o'clock.

The Central Committee representatives were instructed to press for the printing of a full report at the next meeting at Winchester.

## BELLS IN FRANCE.

### To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I, also, have witnessed two freak results of the shelling of churches near the front. One instance is of a church apparently intact when viewed from one side, but on the "weather" side it has suffered rather severely. A shell has made a circular hole, 6ft. at least in diameter in the belfry, but has failed to dislodge the bell, now in full view and hanging as though nothing had happened. What the shell did eventually is not visible, so I concluded it was a "dud." This bell is the only one I have seen in France fitted with a stav. Another case is where the bombardment has reduced the tower to below the bell frame, the latter still standing with its three bells intact, so far as one can see from the road. Opportunity to closely inspect them has not occurred yet.

I had the pleasure of hearing three bells nicely chimed in rounds on Sunday last, which was a delightful surprise after the indiscriminate jangling which holds in most places. In one of these places, I, with the assistance of one of our Q.-M.-S., who proved a ready and willing learner, managed to chime the three bells at one church in good fashion. The bells were hung with vertical half-wheels, and could be rung frame high, but the ancient and unscientific manner of hanging makes them "go" uncommonly heavy. The casting of these three bells was very clumsy and inartistic, though the tone was good. There are some really fine-toned odd bells about.

The "Ringing World" comes to hand quite regularly, thanks to one of my own band at Beeston.—Sincerely yours,  
(Bandsman) ALBERT COPPOCK, 10th D.L.I.

## LEYTONSTONE RINGER KILLED IN ACTION

The Leytonstone ringers record with deep regret the loss of a promising young member, Gunner Harry P. Saffell. The deceased was only 24 years of age, and was born at Wenhaston, Suffolk, from which place he migrated to London in January, 1911. He was well recommended to the Leytonstone company as a ringer of Bob Minor. Like so many of the ringers in the East End of London he was in the employ of the Great Eastern Railway Company, he being a fireman, and although his occupation prevented him attending the practices regularly, he soon made such progress in the Surprise Minor Methods as to make him a desirable acquisition. In him was combined a fine physique and a natural aptitude for ringing. He joined the R.F.A. in April, 1915, without having obtained a release from his employers, and he was sent to the front in the following December.

The best testimony to the worth of the fallen hero is that of his Lieutenant, who in a letter to his mother, writes: "He died nobly at his post, and I hope that this and the fact that he did not suffer any pain will be some consolation to you in your great grief. He was a splendid gunner, and always did his work well and cheerfully. He was very popular, and everyone had a good word for him. A large shell fell near him, and was the cause of the death of several other poor fellows besides. All the officers join with me in the deepest sympathy."

The "whole pull and stand" was rung on November 10th, with the bells half-muffled, by the following members of the company: W. Doran 1, W. Theobald 2, A. Prior 3, W. Miller 4, J. Moule 5, H. Torble 6. Afterwards a 720 of York Surprise Minor was rung by the same band, but with G. Haydon on the treble. York was selected because Mr. Saffell's last 720 was rung in this method on July 16th, 1915. Requiescat in pace.

PUTNEY.—At St. Mary's Church, on Saturday, November 3rd, 1280 Stedman Triples, in 47 minutes: R. Harvey 1, H. Cook 2, A. W. Darlington 3, A. E. Reeves 4, C. F. Hunt 5, T. Bolton 6, W. T. Elson (conductor) 7, C. E. Collis 8. Rung as a compliment to the conductor on his silver wedding, and as a birthday compliment to Mrs. Harvey, wife of the ringer of the treble.

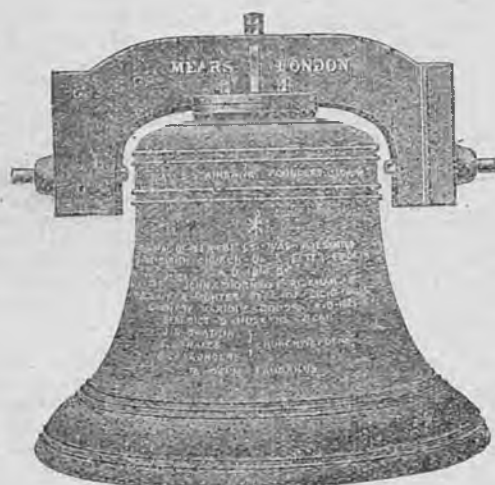
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## RINGING AFTER DARK.

"HIGHER AUTHORITY'S" DECISION AS TO ESSEX.

As already announced, the whole question of bell ringing after sunset has been considered by "Higher Authority," and a decision with regard to Essex has been arrived at. It was only to be expected that the county which lies most exposed to aerial raiders, should be kept to the restrictions, and it is not surprising, therefore, to learn that permission to ring after dark cannot be granted in that area. Mr. Ridgewell, of Rayne, District Secretary of the Essex Association, has received the following from the Competent Military Authority in No. 9 Area, under date October 22nd:—

"Referring to your letter received 11th instant, I am to inform you that the whole question of the hours during which bells may be rung is now under consideration by Higher Authority, and that the Competent Military Authority regrets that, pending the issue of a general ruling in the matter, he is unable to sanction any departure from the hours laid down by the terms of No. 12b of the Defence of the Realm Regulations."

A letter, dated November 6th, was as follows:—

"In continuation of this office letter of the 22nd ultimo, number 28 above, I am to inform you that it has been decided that no permission for departure from the hours laid down by the terms of No. 12b of the Defence of the Realm Regulations in respect to the ringing of bells can be granted for any part of the County of Essex."

## MIDLAND COUNTIES' CONCESSION.

A verbal message was sent by the police to Mr. W. E. White, hon. secretary of the Midland Counties Association, late on Saturday night, to say that ringing might be continued up to 9 p.m., and on inquiry on Monday morning at the County Police Office in Nottingham he was informed that clocks may strike and bells be rung up to 9 p.m. in the Central Midland Counties. This, Mr. White understands, will apply to the Counties of Notts, Derby, Leicester, Rutland, Stafford, and Warwick, but as his information was only by word of mouth he advises those who wish to ring to first make inquiry at their chief police office.

## 7 P.M. AT LIVERPOOL.

The Head Constable of Liverpool announces that the Competent Military Authority has, under Regulation 12b, Defence of the Realm Regulations, granted permission for an extension of the time during which church bells, etc., may be rung up to 7 p.m. during the winter months.

Mr. F. J. Shepherd, assistant hon. secretary of the Yorktown District of the Winchester Guild, has been informed by the Competent Military Authority for No. 10 district (headquarters, Hounslow), that ringing for Sunday evening service, from 6 to 6.30 p.m., will be permitted at Hersham and Oatlands, Surrey. If similar permission is desired in other places in the same area, each parish must make special application.

Application to the Competent Military Authority for Area No. 14 (headquarters, Bedford) for permission to ring after sunset has been refused.

## ESSEX RINGER DIES OF WOUNDS.

It is with deep regret we have to record the death, in France, of Pte. E. Ridgewell, of the 11th Royal Fusiliers, who, before joining up, lived with his parents at Colne Engaine, Essex. News came a few days ago that he was severely wounded in the abdomen and leg on October 19th, and he died two days later at the Casualty Clearing Station. Deceased was 40 years of age, and first learned to ring at Greenstead Green on the peal of six, and made rapid progress, being able to ring and call seven or eight methods, but most of his ringing was done at Earls Colne on the ring of eight. His peals number about 26, including several peals of Minor in seven different methods, also Bob Major, Treble Bob and Double Norwich, most of which he conducted. He was a capital striker on either a light or heavy bell, and, being of stiff build, could ring a heavy bell with perfect ease. His death is keenly felt by the writer, as he had known him from childhood. The deceased lost a brother (killed in action) about a year ago, and another is lying in hospital wounded in the neck and arm.

The sympathy of the whole Exercise will go out to his family in their immeasurable loss.

On Sunday, November 4th, as a mark of esteem, and on the occasion of the memorial service to him, at his parish church, Colne Engaine, a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, 120 of Plain Bob and 360 of Kent Treble Bob was rung half-muffled by the following ringers: S. Burst, R. Fleuty, J. Fleuty, F. Claydon, J. French (conductor), W. Burst.

YORK.—On Sunday morning, Oct. 28th, at York Minster, 395 Grand-sire Caters, conducted by F. Earnshaw; also 462 Grand-sire Cinques, by: A. C. Fearnley 1, H. Ineson 2, W. Thornton 3, P. Firth 4, W. Ayre 5, G. Horner 6, Sergt. E. Morris, A.S.C. (conductor) 7, T. Haigh 8, F. Earnshaw 9, A. Hodgson 10, A. Haigh 11, E. Rickell and A. Horner 12.

## THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

### ITS FAILINGS AND THE REMEDIES.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

#### I.

In the past the Central Council has done good work. In the great development of change ringing during the last 30 years it has had a share, not the greatest share, of course. That belongs without doubt to "The Bell News," which with all its faults (and they were many) did for years supply the one link that bound ringers together. In due season its place was taken by a much better paper, but that should not blind our eyes to the debt we owe to the older journal.

The second and third larger shares belong to Mr. Snowden's books and to the county and diocesan associations, in which order it is difficult to say. These are the three great factors of the development, and besides them there are several others, of which the Central Council is one. What good exactly it has done it is not easy to state, but those of us who have been intimately connected with it will agree that its influence has been greater than one would suspect from an examination of visible results. Nevertheless it is also certain that there is a great feeling of disappointment with the Council in almost every thinking member of the Exercise. So much show and so little result. So much talk and so little done. One could mention several men, clever and standing among the highest of ringers, who have ceased to interest themselves in the Council because, as they think, it is not worth it. One could mention many more who attend the meetings, because it is a pleasant holiday and a good opportunity of meeting old friends, and nothing else. As for the ordinary ringer, as a rule he looks on the Council as a thing which does not interest him in any way. He is not actively antagonistic. He is merely indifferent.

Many reasons have been given for all this. You will hear people say that the Council is too much given over to discussion of "ultra scientific" subjects that do not concern the body of the Exercise, and really practical and useful subjects are crowded out. "Experts" do all the talking, and the really representative ringer has no chance. ("Experts" is a courteous word by which the speaker means a crank or a faddist.) I do not think this is the case. I think the trouble is deeper.

The real cause of the failure of the Council is this—that it professes to be a representative and legislative body, and in reality it is not representative, and cannot legislate.

It is not representative. Let us see clearly why: not chiefly because of its personnel. There are, it is true, a few members whose qualifications are difficult to see and whose presence there can only be explained by supposing that their associations wished, for some reason or another, to pay them a compliment. But they are few. The majority are men who have well earned at one time or another their position, and the Council could without altering a single member be really representative. The real trouble is that the Exercise as a whole has not commissioned the Council to think and act in its name. Of course the members are formally elected. But the election is really formal and little else.

The ordinary ringer does not feel that these men have been sent by him and his fellows because he trusts and respects them, and, therefore, the ordinary ringer attaches no weight to anything the Council does. It is my experience, and I dare say many more, that if one is discussing any point among ringers it is useless, almost childish, to quote the Council as an authority. I remember being present, as a guest, at a College Youths meeting, when their representatives reported after the Winchester meeting. The attitude both of delegates and meeting was one of contempt, of which there was no pretence of concealment.

And the remedy? It is not easy, nor can I suggest any infallible plan by which the Council may really become the head of the Exercise. But two things are needed anyway. First, the Council must earn the respect and confidence of the Exercise, and then it will get it; and, second, the Associations should be induced to take a greater interest in the central body, and to try and induce their members also to take an interest.

#### II.

The second great fault with the Council is that it pretends to be a legislative body, and in reality it cannot legislate. Consciously or unconsciously, directly or indirectly, it is modelled on Parliament. A member proposes a resolution; it is seconded; debated on; and then the whole Council is supposed to judge it on its merits; and, if passed, it becomes an act of the Council. So far all is easy enough. But having passed its resolution, the Council has no power to enforce it.

When Parliament makes a law it knows that there is force to carry it out. When bodies, like Football Associations, make rules they know they have the means to see they are not disobeyed with impunity. But the Central Council can do nothing. It cannot bind even the associations, still less the individual bands and ringers. A band can go on serenely breaking every resolution the Council has passed, and no man may say them nay.

Of course the founders of the Council recognised this. They hoped that a resolution passed by a body of leading and representative ringers would have a moral force that the Exercise would willingly submit to. Unfortunately the hope has largely been disappointed; chiefly because, as I have pointed out, the Exercise has no confidence in the Council. And also for another reason. Many of the resolutions concern things that a large proportion of the Council does not understand, or at any rate does not understand thoroughly. Many are in the form of reports of committees, and though adopted by the Council, have been and are the subject of keen disagreement. As a result, not only do these resolutions not bind the outside ringers, but they do not bind the members themselves. Indeed, I am not quite sure if they bind the Council itself as a Council.

It is said in "Rules and Decisions" that these are the laws of the Council on such and such matters; but, on the other hand, it has been laid down from the chair that reports of committees do not bind the Council otherwise than in a general way.

Now, what is the use of passing resolutions and adopting reports if, when you have done so, you cannot enforce them and you and other people hold yourselves at liberty to recognise them or not as fancy dictates? Better far not pass any at all; and I submit that the procedure by resolution and committee report is a mistake and should be dropped.

On matters which concern the routine, personnel, etc. of the Council, you must, of course, pass resolutions; but to pass resolutions on outside matters, and especially matters more or less connected with the theoretic side of ringing, is a mistake, and a mistake which causes much of the failure of the Council.

#### III.

Many of the resolutions submitted to the Council are such that they cannot be debated and settled in an open meeting. The usual way of dealing with these is to refer them to committees, of presumably able and qualified men. In due season these committees present reports which are then debated and usually adopted. In theory this procedure is an excellent one; in practice it is not at all a success. I speak as one who from the first year I was a member (1898) has not ceased to be engaged on committee work.

The plan of working is supposed to be this: One member prepares a draft. This is circulated among the others who suggest amendments. It is revised; again circulated, and finally presented as an agreed report. Now, if the matter is one so easy that an original draft with a few amendments will meet the case, it does not seem to need a committee to decide. If it is a matter that really requires deep investigation to arrive at the truth, you speedily find that your committee is far too cumbersome a concern, and the committee as a committee breaks down.

It is impossible for any ordinary man, with ordinary business to attend to, to carry on an investigation by correspondence with three or four other people. As a result the work is done perhaps entirely by one man, the others being merely figureheads. Or, perhaps, by two who find themselves involved in an almost interminable correspondence, and who must perforce neglect the other members. Then, when the report comes out, you find that it represents the opinions, not of the whole committee, but of one or perhaps two of the members. The others find in it things they do not agree with or do not understand, and we have often the rather unseemly sight of the different members wrangling among themselves at the Council meeting over what is supposed to be an agreed report.

There is a little book containing a collection of six-bell methods, prepared by the Method Committee, of which I was a member, and a very useful, and, on the whole, excellent book it is. That book has a preface, and a mongrel affair which is called Superlative Surprise Minor. Neither I nor any other member of the committee, save one, saw these things before they were in print. Most of us utterly repudiate them, and Mr. John Carter felt so strongly that he resigned from the committee. This sort of thing is, perhaps, unavoidable. I mention it merely to show how in actual practice the committee system does not work. The remedy is simple and drastic. Do away with committees and committee reports.

Not entirely. You must, of course, have your Standing Committee, and there is the admirable Analysis Committee, which works in perfect harmony and contrives to get through such an immense deal of labour. There is a different case. With them it is subdivision of work, not collaboration of mind. They do not need to strive for any agreement. Each man has his allotted share of work, and he does it, and there is an end.

In such cases committees should be retained. In the others, they should make way for something better.

(To be Continued.)

**EALING.**—Recently, at Christ Church, 235 Grandsire Triples: Miss Bateman 1, G. Vickery 2, G. Gutteridge 3, C. Edwards 4, Robt. Holloway (conductor) 5, J. Frin 6, A. Harding 7, A. E. Smith 8. Also 720 Kent Treble Minor: G. Harbour 1, G. M. Kilby 2, Robt. Holloway 3, W. Lawrence 4, W. Horton 5, A. W. Davies 6, C. Phillips 8.



## LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

## DOINGS DURING THIRD YEAR OF WAR.

The annual report of the Lancashire Association is a much abridged publication this year. And for this, says the report, there are two reasons. First, there is little to record of the doings of ringers at home in this third year that has been wholly covered by the war. Our branches have kept their meetings going as regularly as possible, but often with small numbers, and in many towers the bells have only been rung with the assistance of lady ringers. Here, as in so many other departments of English life, the women have done their best to fill the gaps left by the men at the front. A second reason for the brevity of the report lies in the cost of paper and printing, and in the depleted state of the Association funds. The present membership may be stated as follows: 81 honorary life members, 10 honorary members, 390 performing life members, 676 performing members, 147 non-resident members. The performing members are thus distributed among the branches: Manchester branch, 186; Bolton branch, 143; Rochdale branch, 139; Blackburn branch, 138; Rossendale branch, 125; Preston branch, 88; Liverpool Diocesan Guild, 85; Furness and Lake District branch, 84; Fylde branch, 78; total, 1,066.

As far as can be ascertained about 175 members are now away on military service, and, in accordance with the resolution of the Association, are excused subscriptions during their absence.

The income of the Association for the past year has been £20 6s. 6d., but it is to be noted that no return has been made by two branches. The expenditure has amounted to £28 17s.

The list of peals is as follows: Grandsire Triples 2, Stedman Triples 1, Plain Bob Minor 2, Minor in Three Methods 1, Bob Major 1; total 7. The list is the lowest we have ever had to publish. Of the two peals of Grandsire, one was rung to oblige Sergt. John Nuttall, who was over on leave, and the other was rung half-muffled as a token of respect to Alderman John Miles, late organist at Dean Church. The Stedman peal was rung for the coming-of-age of Pte. Joe Ridyard and as a birthday compliment to Harry Chapman. The two peals of Bob Minor, rung at Oswaldtwistle, were both rung with the assistance of their lady ringers, and we heartily congratulate them on so early achieving this result. The Minor peal at Penwortham was rung half-muffled as a tribute to Gunner Ernest Fox, a former ringer at this church, who is another of our members who has given his life for his country. The Bob Major was rung as a compliment to the conductor (Mr. Alfred) on completing 30 years of service in the belfry.

We offer our respectful sympathy to the relatives of our members who have given their lives for the nation in the war. The roll of honour includes the names of some of the best of our younger members.

Our thanks are due as always to the branch secretaries for keeping things going in their own districts. Here we may congratulate Mr. G. Pincott on the presentation made to him by the Bolton branch on his retirement from its secretaryship, after 15 years' good service.

## DEATH OF DR. H. C. PAULI.

We regret to announce the death of Dr. Harry Pauli, of Middleham, Yorks, who passed away at a nursing home at Bedford, after only a short illness. The deceased took a great interest in ringing in his North Yorkshire home, and while he had not rung many peals he was always enthusiastic.

Dr. Pauli was a son of a clergyman, for many years the beloved Vicar of Redmire, in Wensleydale. Prior to removing to Middleham Dr. Pauli was in practice at Luton for about ten years.

In the early part of 1900 he, with the present churchwarden, Mr. Samuel Green, and a few others, took up the question of repairs to the Parish Church bells, which were sadly in need of renovation, and after many meetings succeeded in having the work carried out, including an entirely new frame, new wheels, and new clappers to the bells, the restoration being done by the well-known firm of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

Touching reference to the death of Dr. Pauli was made from the pulpit by the Vicar of Luton, and as a token of respect the bells of the Parish Church were rung half-muffled for evening service, 720 Bob Minor (42 singles, with tenor covering) being brought round in 30 minutes, by: J. Shaw 1, A. J. Smith 3, A. King (conductor) 4, B. Wilson 5, J. Rookwood 6, T. Kendall 7, H. Shaw 8. A. K.

## A BRECON RING TO BE INCREASED.

St. David's Church, Brecon, is, after the war, to undergo extensive alterations and enlargement, and the tower, which now contains a poor ring of four bells, is to have a new peal of six. The Vicar (the Rev. J. Simon) is most enthusiastic in his work for the scheme, and already has a considerable sum of money in hand, and more promised. Recently, a clock, with two 5ft. skeleton dials, was added to the tower at the expense of Alderman Thomas Williams, the senior alderman of the borough, who has in many ways shown his generosity to the town and parish. The new clock was dedicated by the Bishop of Swansea, and in honour of the event members of the St. Mary's band rang St. David's bells.

## BISHOP VISITS RINGERS.

The ringers of Cranleigh (Surrey) were very highly honoured on Sunday evening last week, by the presence of the Lord Bishop of Winchester in the tower. His Lordship was spending the week-end at Cranleigh Rectory. The Rector had told the ringers that the Bishop would arrive at the Rectory between 5 and 6 o'clock on Saturday evening, and would give an address at the 6 p.m. evensong, and he said he would much like the bells rung for that service, also to serve as a welcome to the Bishop on entering the village. A 480 Bob Major and 420 Grandsire Triples were rung before the service, by: A. C. Hazelden 1, W. Streeter 2, Mrs. R. Whittington 3, A. Charman 4, T. Worsfold 5, R. Whittington 6, W. Melville 7, W. Charman (conductor) 8; and a 336 Grandsire Triples, after the service, conducted by W. Melville, who, with A. C. Hazelden, had kindly cycled over from Guildford to help, it being impossible for enough of the local band to be present at that time on Saturday.

It was principally to thank the ringers for the welcoming peal that his Lordship climbed the stairs. He referred, while in the belfry, on the marked difference in the condition of belfries, and on the improved status of the ringers as recognised church workers, compared with a few years ago. Another visitor in the tower at the same time was Sergt. R. Carrier, of Victoria, B.C., who had cycled over from Willey Camp to take part in the ringing for evening service. He was introduced to the Bishop by the Rector of Cranleigh, and his Lordship was much interested in the enthusiasm thus displayed.

The Cranleigh ringers here would like to thank their two Guildford friends, whose kindness made it possible for the whole peal to be used.

## BELLS AT BOMBAY.

## CIRENCESTER RINGER FINDS A LOUGHBOROUGH RING.

No. 301842 Gunner F. J. Lewis, 79th Company R.G.A. (of Cirencester), writes from Colaba, Bombay, India: "By the last mail from home I received a parcel of 'Ringing Worlds.' I am very pleased to see our old paper is still running. This is the first ringing news I have seen since last March. We came out via the Cape. We went ashore at Capetown, and went into camp at Durban for a month. I believe there is a peal of six at Capetown, but did not have time to find them out, as we were only allowed ashore for a few hours. At Durban there are no ringing bells.

"I am stationed at one of the forts in Bombay, and on the first Sunday night was surprised to hear a peal of eight being chimed. I soon made tracks for the tower, and found a good peal of eight by Taylor and Sons, Loughborough, tenor about 15 cwt. The bells are only hung for chiming, but the wheels, etc., are here ready, if wanted. The Vicar told me the tower would not stand the strain of the bells being rung, and I know the temperature would be a bar to much ringing. It is very hot here, and we can sweat doing nothing. I go most Sunday nights and chime changes and hymn tunes, and the Vicar says the sick and wounded in his hospitals close by quite enjoy listening to it. I expect it reminds them of home, I know it did me when I heard them the first time.

"At present I am on a signalling course, and I find this is a good thing for keeping the brain in good working order, and ready, I trust, for the change ringing I hope to take up again after the war. Wishing the 'Ringing World' the best of luck, and with kind regards to all old ringing friends,—Yours sincerely, F. J. LEWIS."

## RINGING FOR THE BISHOP.

The new Bishop of Exeter and his wife, Lady Florence Cecil, are staying in Plymouth for six weeks. On the occasion of Hospital Sunday (recently) he paid his first official visit to Charles' Church, and in the morning preached the sermon. For this service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by Messrs. Kentsfield 1, Hooper 2, Woodley 3, Rundle 4, Richards 5, Malins (of Rugby), conductor, 6, Marsh 7, Kerswill 8.

In the afternoon of the same day the Bishop preached at St. Andrew's, and for this service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters was rung by Messrs. Kentsfield 1, Marsh 2, Woodley 3, Rundle 4, Holloway 5, Malins 6, Hamblin 7, Richards 8, Myers (conductor) 9, Parr 10.

In the evening, being harvest festival at Emmanuel Church, an attempt was made for a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples by Messrs. Woodley 1, Marsh 2, Williams 3, Myers 4, Rundle 5, Richards 6, Malins (conductor) 7, Hobbs 8. After ringing seven courses the tenor man gave out, want of oil on the bearings of the bell being the cause.

STAVELEY.—Recently, at the Parish Church, 360 Bob Minor: L. G. Palmer 1, Corpl. A. E. Parsons 2, W. Daffin 3, F. E. Parsons 4, S. Smedley, senr., 5, W. T. Palmer 6. Arranged for Corpl. A. E. Parsons, a member of the local band, who was home on leave after being in hospital suffering from shrapnel wounds in the face, received on the Ypres front on July 9th. For evening service, on October 7th, for harvest festival, 720 Bob Minor: A. Markwell 1, H. Mollershead 2, L. G. Palmer 3, W. Daffin 4, S. Smedley, senr., 5, W. T. Palmer 6.

**NOTICES.**

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

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Stretford, on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells available at 3.30. Meeting at dusk. Reports ready. Subscriptions due.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

**ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—The next meeting of the above will be held at Great Chart on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells (6) available from 2 o'clock until sunset.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Kent.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at Barnet on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Ringing from 2.30 to 6 p.m. Short service with address by the Rector at 6 p.m. Tea, 6.30 p.m., followed by business meeting, handbells, etc. Outstanding subscriptions for 1917 should be sent now to W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

**GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS.**—Bristol Association.—A quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Almondsbury on Nov. 24th. Bells (8) open at 3.30. Particulars of tea, "if any," per card.—G. Wiltshire, Hon. Secretary, 4, Hudd's Hill, St. George's, Bristol.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice, on November 29th, and for general business on the 20th (Election of Officers), all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Basingstoke District.—Annual meeting at Basingstoke, Saturday, Nov. 24th. Bells at St. Michael's and at All Saints' from 3 p.m. Service at the Parish Church at 5.30. Tea and meeting at St. John's Schools at 6.—F. G. Hume, Dist. Sec.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Bucks Branch.—The quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Newport Pagnell on Saturday, Dec. 1st. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Service, 4 p.m.; meeting to follow. No tea will be provided. No ringing after dark.—W. Sear, Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

**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 WANTED.**

WANTED, a Set of 8 good Handbells, size 17 F or 18 G preferred.—W. Mead, Clun, Salop.

**IN MEMORIAM.**

In proud and loving memory of Lance-Corpl. Walter S. Inwood, 23rd Royal Fusiliers, late of Aldenham, who fell in action 14th Nov., 1916; aged 24 years. "Dulce et decorum est pro patria mori."

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It can be supplied in the following sizes:—

Diameter	2½ in.	2¾ in.	3½ in.	3¾ in.	4 in.	4½ in.	5 in.
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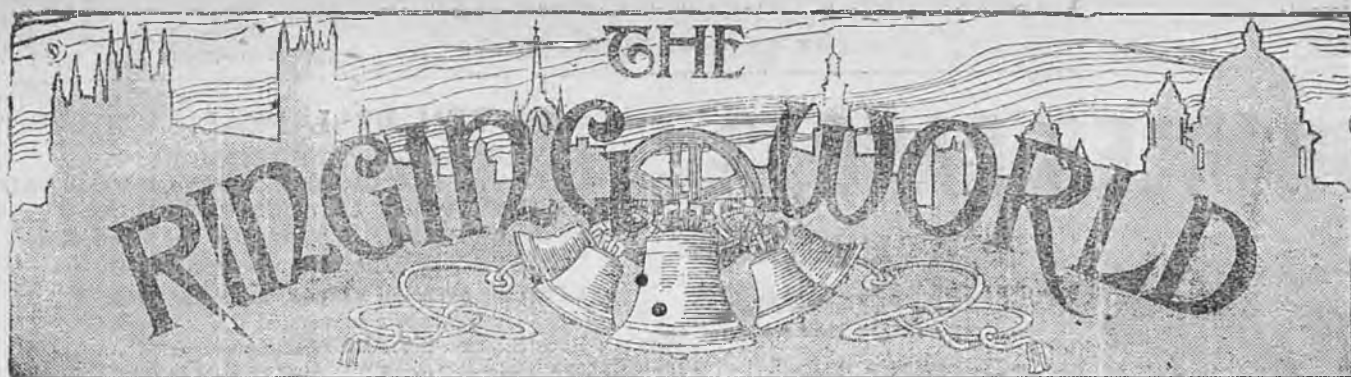
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TELEPHONE: 171 WOKING. **WOKING**

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Guildford, and Published by Messrs. WM. DAWSON & SONS  
LTD., Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.





No. 349. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

# GILLET & JOHNSTON

## CROYDON, Surrey.

### BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,  
Wolverhampton.

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

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,  
JESSE GILLET 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. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

## UNITED SERVICE RINGING.

The appeal which comes from Worsley this week strikes a note which will find a sympathetic echo in a good many towers. Worsley's case is the case, unfortunately, of many, many others. The war has claimed such a large number of ringers that the proportion of belfries, where it is possible to continue the full use of the bells for service purposes, is comparatively small. Bands in eight-bell towers have fallen to six and five in number and even less, and those in six-bell towers have diminished in like manner; in fact, there are numerous instances where the company has practically vanished. At Ickleton, Cambs, only four are left of a band of fourteen, and of the ten who went out, three, alas! have already made the supreme sacrifice. This is but an instance typical of many, but it illustrates the contribution which the whole Exercise is making in the hour of the country's need.

We have no doubt that the appeal made by the Worsley men for the assistance of their neighbours, to enable them sometimes to use their full ring, will not fall on deaf ears, for ringers are always ready to lend a helping hand, and a service after their own heart can be rendered by those who respond to the Worsley appeal. As we have stated, however, Worsley's case is not an isolated one. Scores, if not hundreds, of other companies are in similar straits, and we have often suggested in this column that steps should be taken to meet the position. Where two or three towers in a district are left with only a few ringers each it ought not to be a difficult matter to arrange for the men to amalgamate their forces, and ring at one church for one service and at another church for another service, and so on. In that way all the bells could be kept going at intervals instead of all of them remaining silent all the time.

A workable scheme could easily be drawn up among the ringers of the towers concerned, and the associations might well do some useful work in this direction, by ascertaining where depleted bands are leaving their bells little used, if at all, and bringing companies in the same neighbourhood into touch, with the definite motive of getting not only united practices, but united service ringing. Where bells have been silent for months, except, perhaps, for an incoherent jangle of two or three at a time for service, the parishioners, as well as the clergy, will be delighted to hear their church bells properly rung again, even if it be only occasionally, instead of every Sunday. Unless a tower happens to be in a very isolated position there ought, even with the present shortage of ringers, to be no serious obstacle in the way of bringing in neighbouring ringers, so that the bells may be rung for service at least once in a month, if not oftener.

## MODERN WORK

# 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,

GEORGE 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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## TEN BELL PEAL.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD  
AND THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, November 17, 1917, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH (ST. BARTHOLOMEW),

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERERS, 5005 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. 0 qrs. 18 lbs.

WILLIAM ROCK SMALL ... Treble	WILLIAM FISHER ... .. 6
JOHN CARTER ... .. 2	ALBERT E. PARSONS ... .. 7
JAMES E. GROVES ... .. 3	ALFRED ROWLEY ... .. 8
GEORGE HUGHES ... .. 4	JAMES GEORGE ... .. 9
GEORGE SWANN ... .. 5	BENJAMIN GOUGH ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Rung in honour of Mr. W. R. Small's 78th birthday.

## EIGHT BELL PEAL.

TIFTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD  
AND THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Monday, November 12th, 1917, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5048 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt. 0 qr. 25 lbs.

WILLIAM ROCK SMALL ... Treble	DANIEL JONES ... .. 5
JAMES E. GROVES ... .. 2	ALFRED ROWLEY ... .. 6
WILLIAM KENT ... .. 3	BENJAMIN GOUGH ... .. 7
JOHN JAGGER ... .. 4	HARRY SMITH ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

This peal was specially arranged and rung to celebrate Mr. William Rock Small's 78th birthday, which was on the above date.

## HANDBELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, November 16, 1917, in Three Hours and Twenty-four Minutes,  
AT 32, EDGELEY ROAD, CLAPHAM, S.W. 4.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... 1-2	HARRY R. PASMORE ... 7-8
MRS. F. I. HAIRS ... 3-4	HERBERT LANGDON ... 9-10
WILLIAM T. COCKERILL ... 5-6	JOHN N. OXBORROW ... 11-12

Composed by CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY.

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

Umpire: EDWIN HORREX.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sunday, November 18, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,  
AT 41, GLAMORGAN STREET, WESTMINSTER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERERS, 5079 CHANGES;

HERBERT LANGDON ... 1-2	ALFRED B. PECK ... 5-6
CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... 3-4	HENRY R. NEWTON ... 7-8
HARRY R. PASMORE ... 9-10	

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, and

Conducted by HERBERT LANGDON.

Umpire: EDWIN HORREX.

## LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last the Manchester branch held a meeting at St. Matthew's, Stretford. Members were present from Ashton-under-Lyne, Flixton, Eccles, Pendleton, Miles Platting, Prestwich, etc. Mr. James Shaw presided over the meeting.—Eccles was chosen as the next meeting place, on December 15th.—Just at the termination of the meeting, the chief inspector instructed a constable to inform the meeting that permission was granted to ring till 7 p.m., which was much appreciated. A 720 Bob Minor, therefore, was rung by: J. Shaw 1, W. W. Wolstencroft 2, Sergt. J. L. Willars, A.S.O. of Leicester 3, J. H. Collier 4, H. Chapman (conductor) 5, R. Bent 6.—A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Amos Rowntree and local ringers for use of bells, etc.

## NEW PEAL FOR WESTMORLAND.

## BELLS CONSECRATED AT ORTON.

Orton Church, in Westmorland, has been provided with a new peal of eight bells, which have been consecrated by the Dean of Carlisle. The scheme of restoration and augmentation was originated by the Rev. H. F. Tilbury when Vicar of Orton. He was the means of raising about £600 by subscriptions and a bazaar in June, 1914, and £200 of this was spent on repairs to the roof and organ and general church improvements. This left £400 as the nucleus of the bell fund, and Mr. Harvey Goodwin, Orton Hall, promised £250 with which to provide two bells—which bear his monogram. The cost of the peal is expected to be about £700, so that there is a deficiency on paper of £50, but as was stated at the Consistory Court, this has been guaranteed. The work was entrusted to the well-known firm of Messrs. Taylor, Loughborough, who have produced bells of great sweetness and purity of tone.

The following are the particulars of the new bells, with the inscriptions and weights:—

- 1.—Te Deum Laudamus, 3c. 1q. 27lb.
- 2.—Jubilate Deo, 3c. 2q. 20lb.
- 3.—Hosanna in Altissimis, 4c. 1q. 17lb.
- 4.—Gloria in Excelsis, 4c. 3q. 25lb.
- 5.—Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! 6c. 0q. 27lb.
- 6.—II. G. 1917, 7c. 1q. 12lb.
- 7.—H. G. 1917, 10c. 0q. 13lb.
- 8.—Thos. Nelson, Vicar.

Jno. Bowness, } A. R.  
Jno. Winter. } 1711.

About 13 cwt.

Each bell has Messrs. Taylor's mark, with the date 1917. The old peal numbered six; two of these have been recast and fitted with the latest improvements; the old tenor bell forms the base of the new peal. Five new bells have been cast to make up the peal of eight. The scheme has also included a chiming apparatus. The bells have been hung in a new iron frame on steel girders. Three of the old bells—two dated 1673, and one 1740—have been preserved.

Some structural alterations were necessary in the tower to provide for the enlarged peal, these including the building of a wall to support the steel girders on which the frames stand. The three large old bells already mentioned stand in their original frames on the floor of the north aisle, at the rear of the seats, where plenty of room is available. These make interesting additions to the antiquarian possessions of the church, which include the oak pulpit from which Chancellor Burn preached during his long vicariate. It was then a three-decker, and from the south side of the chancel beam hangs the chain which supported the sounding board. In the vestry in addition to interesting painted and photographic portraits of six or seven past vicars is an interesting reminder of the old musical arrangements of the church—a venerable 'cello, with a portrait of the last player of it; this veteran is happily still alive and a regular attendant at the church.

## DEAN OF CARLISLE ON BELLS.

For the inauguration service, the ringers of Kendal and Ambleside made good use of the bells, whose fine quality delighted the residents in the neighbourhood; while the music was also heard with effect on the uplands of Orton Sear and towards Tebay. The service was a shortened form of evening prayer, consisting of the 1st Psalm, Lesson (Hebrews x. from verse 19), Nunc Dimittis, the Anthem, "O give thanks unto the Lord" (Mrs. Alexander), and the hymns, "Songs of praise," "When morning gilds the sky," and "O Lord of Heaven." The clergy present were the Dean of Carlisle; the Rev. J. S. Woolf, Vicar of Orton; the Rev. H. F. Tilbury, Vicar of Ainstable; the Rev. J. P. Haslam, Vicar of Crosby Ravensworth and Rural Dean; and the Rev. W. H. Crompton, Vicar of Shap.

The Dean, who preached from Deut. vi. 6, said in the course of his sermon: The association of church bells with religion is no doubt merely external and accidental. Nobody so far as I know has ever held any superstitious belief about the value or efficacy of church bells; nor are they directly and immediately the sign or symbol of a religious idea, like a cross or a picture of Christ. In their simplest form they were the means of calling people together in days when there were no clocks or watches. In those days church bells served the purpose of clocks for whole towns or villages. A public meeting on any occasion would be announced to begin when the church bell tolled for prime, and end when the bell tolled for some other service. At a later stage of history bell ringing became a simple form of art, which was followed for its own sake, for the joy and the pleasure which it gave, just as music was followed and enjoyed for its own sake. It was used as a means of expressing the joy of a festival or at a marriage, or of sorrow at a funeral. The association of bell ringing with religion is in a manner quite accidental. If churches had never had any bells, if bells had been used only, say for summoning people to political meetings, it is possible the sound of chiming might have suggested to our minds nothing but politics. As it is the very sound of church bells suggests to our minds the idea of worship; nay, may we not say the thought of Him whom we worship, and of

that "peace upon earth and goodwill to men" of which we hear in church? Therefore, it would, I think, be the greatest possible mistake if anyone were to argue that in these days of clocks and watches church bells were no longer wanted, and might just as well be abolished. If religion is to hold its true place in the life of individuals and communities, we need constant reminders of it. The sound of church bells every Sunday reminds us that we are Christian people. No one who lives within range of their sound can avoid being reminded that there is a duty to be performed on that day by all Christians; the duty of worshipping God, of hearing His Word, of renewing resolutions to serve Him, of gaining strength and grace to make our lives those of service to Him and to our brethren.

## A SYMBOL OF UNION.

No one whose heart has once been touched by what he has heard in church can listen to the bells even for a moment without calling to his mind something of the feeling he then experienced. To silence the sound of church bells in our land would almost be a step towards silencing religion itself. Therefore, I think it is a very good and real Christian thing that has been done by those who in this church have recast the ancient bells, and added to them to complete the peal. And may I in passing express the pleasure which I am sure you will all feel at the presence of your former Vicar, who has had so large a share in collecting the money for this good work. May I also express the hope that such energy and public spirit may be forthcoming in this place and elsewhere as will keep up bell ringing every Sunday, as well as upon great occasions, and that the ringing may always be worthy of the church and its bells. I said that the very sound of church bells in our midst is a perpetual reminder that we are a Christian people. May I not add that they are a reminder, too, that in spite of our unhappy divisions, as they are called, that familiar phrase, "our common Christianity," still means a great deal to us. It so happens that our Nonconformist brethren rarely have any church bells of their own; I am not quite sure why, but so it is, and thus it comes about that in every village and town on Sunday the duty of worship is proclaimed to the whole community by the same bells ringing from the same church towers. Most often they summon Churchmen and Nonconformists alike to worship at the same hour, though not in the same building, or exactly on the same lines, and thus they may serve as a symbol not of our disunion but of union. There are, happily, occasions on which the Church of England is still enabled without offence to anyone, and with general goodwill, to show that the National Church is still the Church of the whole nation. These bells will ring not merely to summon the inhabitants of this place to worship the same Lord on the same Lord's Day. They will ring also on occasions of great national and local rejoicing or common mourning; they will utter, as it were, the voice of the whole village. If any of those who don't usually worship with us are present on this occasion, I trust they will feel that this is one of the ways in which they may realise that they still have some share with us in the ownership of the parish church. Nonconformists in this parish have all the more right to feel that, inasmuch as they have, I believe, contributed to the recasting of this peal of bells. It is laid down in the law books that the church bells are the property of the churchwardens, who are the representatives of the whole parish. God grant that long before these bells want recasting, rehanging, or anything of that kind, we may have taken some steps towards closer union of hearts at all events; may be in some measure of closer ecclesiastical union or co-operation among the people who now worship for the most part in different forms and at different shrines. Church bells are a very old institution. They remind us powerfully of the past, especially of the Middle Ages. It is well they should do so; it is well that we should cling to the old signs and symbols which keep up our sense of the continuity of Christ's Church. But let us remember also the true idea of the continuity between the past and the present, and also between the present and the future—a future which must show as great changes as the past has seen; great changes in what will still remain one and the same Church, one and the same mystical body of Christ.

The Dean concluded by reading Tennyson's poem, "The Bells." The offertory was for the expenses of the day. The interesting service ended by the Dean pronouncing the Benediction. The choir, Sunday School teachers, and ringers were afterwards entertained to tea at the Waverley Temperance Hotel, where the children also had their treat. The cost of the treat was defrayed from the funds of the late Colonel Burn's Charity, which was left for an annual gathering of this character. After the service and early in the evening the bells were rung in various touches.

ACTON.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday afternoon, October 14th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: Pte. SS. Meadows, A.S.C., 1. H. Barrett 2. H. Cook 3. Robt. Holloway 4. W. Davis 5. F. Skevington 6. C. Hunt (conductor) 7. C. Brown (first-quarter) 8. For evening service, 434 Grandsire Triples, half-muffled, for Corp. Arthur Roker, Australian Royal Field Artillery, a member of the Acton band, who was killed in France a fortnight ago by a shell: J. W. Frniu 1. Miss Jones 2. W. Phillips 3. G. Edwards 4. A. Mason (Erith) 5. G. Vickery 6. Robert Holloway (conductor) 7. W. Lawrence 8.



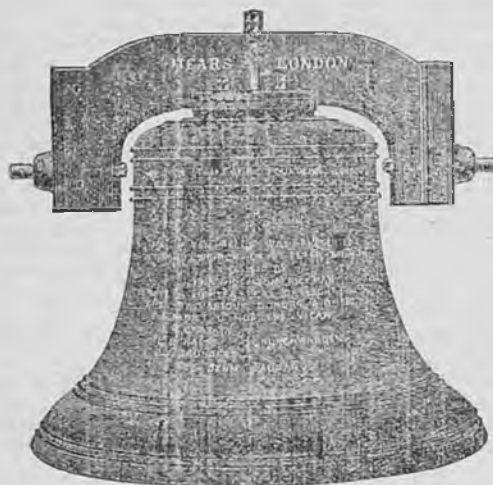
# MEARS &

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**Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring  
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 these occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.*

## RINGING AFTER DARK.

### GENERAL HEADQUARTERS ORDERS.

At length, something like a general pronouncement on the ringing of Church bells after dark has been given by the Military Authorities. The Order published below relates to the whole country, but it will be noticed that it is still left to the General Officers Commanding-in-Chief in the various Commands to further restrict the arrangements.

The Order issued by Major-General F. S. Shaw, of the General Headquarters, Home Forces, is as follows:—

"The following instructions will be observed by Competent Military Authorities in dealing with applications under Regulation 12B, Defence of the Realm Regulations, for permission to ring bells or strike clocks during the hours between which lights have to be extinguished or obscured.

"1. No permission will be granted in the following areas: The Counties of Northumberland and Durham, the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, the Counties of Lincoln, Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and Kent, the Metropolitan and City of London Police Districts, and the administrative county of East Sussex.

"2. Elsewhere permission will not be given for the ringing of bells or striking of clocks after 9 p.m."

Within the limits laid down by these instructions the question of the restrictions imposed is left to the discretion of General Officers Commanding-in-Chief Commands. Information as to the particular restrictions in force in any area can be obtained of the police.

In the Furness District, the Military Authorities have given permission for ringing up till 7 p.m.

A curious position with regard to ringing has occurred at Old Hill. This tower is in a corner of Staffordshire, which is surrounded on three sides by Worcestershire. This little bit of Staffs is only four miles in area, and ringing here must cease at 5.30, while the towers on the three sides may continue their ringing till 9 p.m.

The order of the General Officer Commanding Home Forces prohibits ringing in the Metropolitan Police Area after the official time for drawing blinds (which at present is 5.30 p.m.). Last winter ringing was permitted until 9 p.m. The Metropolitan police have also intimated that in the event of an air raid warning during daylight, ringing and chiming will have to be stopped until the "all clear" notice is given.

## AN APPEAL TO LANCASHIRE RINGERS.

Mr. Joseph Ridyard, of West Lodge, Worsley, writes:—

"Will any of our Lancashire ringers come to help us at Worsley so that we can have the full peal rung sometimes? We have lost through death, since the war started, two of our ringers; one has been unwell for the last fourteen months, and nine of our boys have been called up on military service. We will gladly pay the train or tram expenses of anyone who will be kind enough to come over. There are towers not many miles away with surplus ringers, and if any of them can see their way to give us a little help we shall be very pleased."

## THE LATE DR. PAULI.

Dr. Henry Christian Pauli, of Middleham, Yorks, whose death we recorded last week, was the son of the Rev. Christian Pauli, and was born at Redmire Vicarage, Yorks, in 1864. After taking his degree of L.R.C.P., he was assistant for several years to Dr. John Cockcroft, of Middleham, Yorks. He afterwards proceeded to Luton, where he joined his uncle in an extensive practice, for eleven years. He returned to Middleham in 1901, and joined Dr. Cockcroft as partner, and later commenced to practise for himself. For ten years he was churchwarden of the Parish Church at Middleham.

He had travelled thousands of miles in his car over the North Riding area, taking particulars of all bells in that district, whilst his collection of ringing books, etc., was very extensive.

He had rung a number of peals in Minor, Triple and Major Methods in towers of the district. He was very hospitable to all visiting ringers, whilst the old and poor of his district have lost in him a true and practical friend.

When Messrs. Taylor installed the new peal of eight at Middleham, in 1911, Dr. Pauli was very energetic in teaching a band. His wife was also an enthusiastic ringer, and had rung several 720's on the treble.

## THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

### ITS FAILINGS AND THE REMEDIES.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

#### IV.

The most important person in the Council is the President. He has it largely in his hands whether a meeting is to be a success or a failure. This must be so in any case; it was three-fold so in the past owing to the personality of the late chairman. Sir Arthur Heywood was not only the founder of the Council, but he controlled and guided it so largely that what it is to-day is, both for good and bad, his work. Therefore, if we are to take stock of its present position we must make a critical survey of his work. Such a criticism must be a fair one, and a thorough one. It must take note of everything, and not slur over more or less unpleasant features because the main figure is unfortunately no longer with us. And why not? *De mortuis nil nisi bonum* is no doubt an excellent motto in many cases; but when the whole story can be told, when both light and shade can be sketched into the picture, and the man's character can stand the test, then it is far better that the whole truth should be told. And especially in the present case, where our object is not to criticise a man, but to see the faults and defects of a public body so that they may be avoided in the future.

The late President was too big a man among ringers, and his work was too real and lasting for us to fear to criticise what he did.

Sir Arthur Heywood was in wealth and social position far superior to any other ringer; he had great intellectual powers; he was an acknowledged authority on theoretic ringing; and his practical record (which included peals of London Surprise when such were rare) was a fine one. All these things naturally marked him as the inevitable President of the Council, and the leading man of the Exercise.

I well remember a remark which he made at the complimentary dinner he gave some years since at the Westminster Palace Hotel to the late Rev. F. E. Robinson. He said that notwithstanding anything that might take place at election time, every true Englishman was at heart a Tory. The statement may be true or false, but it is strongly illuminative of the speaker's mind. His ideal of society was a due order of rank, where King and noble, clergy and squire, and ordinary people had their proper place, their rights and their duties. Equality of right or equality of duty was a farce to him.

Fortune had made him a country gentleman, and he never forgot it. He was as much the squire and magistrate in the Council's chair as at home in his own parish. He took the position as his own right and his own duty. I feel sure that in acting as chairman of the central body of church bell ringers he felt he was doing part of his duty as a leading churchman to his church. In theory and formally he held his position by the votes of the Council. Actually he held it because he was its founder, and because he was what he was. And he knew it.

There was as much reality about his formal election as there was when the Roman Senate elected an Emperor, or a Cathedral Chapter elects a bishop. It is not easy to imagine the Council electing another in his place so long as he was willing to occupy it; or for anyone to propose such a thing. But if it had been done (and the Council's rules, of course, permitted it), both he and everyone else would have taken it as a direct personal affront to him.

These things made him virtually autocratic, and with practically unlimited power. On the whole he used that power directly for the good of the Exercise. But, and this is the point we have to face to-day: you cannot have a representative body and an autocracy together. Sir Arthur Heywood's position and influence was the direct negation of popular representation, and to this very largely is due the fact that the Council does not and never has represented the Exercise. He had long since ceased to be an active ringer, and, being what he was, he could at no time be in perfect sympathy with ordinary ringers. They felt naturally enough that there was no reason why they should entrust their interests to a man who, however eminent he might be, was not one of themselves. This however, was hidden from Sir Arthur's eyes. He and a select circle of his friends whom he trusted, and who were really almost as much out of touch with ringers as himself, managed the Council to their own satisfaction, and if murmurs of discontent did at times reach their ears, they were I doubt not, put down to dissatisfied fellows of no account. And so things went on quite smoothly, while the Exercise stood aloof and got more and more indifferent to the whole thing.

Once a sudden and totally unlooked-for storm caused a momentary sensation. Looking back at the fuss made over the proposal to treat the "Ringing World" on an equality with the "Bell News," the whole thing seems to me now as a rather ridiculous storm in a teacup, though it was sufficiently irritating at the time to those of us who were so unfortunate as to be mixed up in it. For a short time it seemed that a storm was going to arise in the Exercise which would either radically alter the Council, or sweep it away altogether. But it passed, chiefly because no one was willing to push things to extremes.

The general temper of the members was well illustrated by a remark one made to me just before the next meeting. "For goodness' sake, Trollope," he said, "don't let us have any scene." Unnecessary advice; for I am not of the stuff that revolutionaries are made of. But the whole thing shows in clear light Sir Arthur's autocratic attitude toward the Council, his complete authority there, and the gulf which exists between opinion in the Council and out of it.

At one time Sir Arthur Heywood took a leading part in research in theoretic ringing, then as his changed position in life took up his time he ceased his work. Now it often happens that a man who is foremost in progress becomes, when he himself ceases to progress, the most suspicious and contemptuous of further progress in others. And Sir Arthur was no exception.

Many years ago he wrote in the "Bell News" that every problem in theoretic ringing save one (since found to be insoluble) had been worked out, and quite recently he quoted and re-endorsed his former statement. That meant that he had done himself the last thing worth doing, and all later research was worthy only of contempt. Consequently his attitude in the chair toward such things as the Method Committee's Report and all their views and conclusions was to

"Damp with faint praise, assent with civil leer."

And without sneering teach the rest to sneer."

And some of them were not at all slow in learning the lesson. Now I can well understand the views of a man who holds that all this talk about method construction and such like is impractical, and a mere waste of time. I do not agree, but I understand the man's position. But Sir Arthur had himself done much work and published many chapters on the construction of peals of Stedman Triples. He did it no doubt for the same reason that we have taken all this trouble with Method Construction—because the problem fascinated him. There is as much or as little use in one solution as in the other; they are in exactly like case. It was especially irritating, therefore, for him to treat us with scarcely veiled contempt for doing what he himself had done, and was proud of.

There is, of course, another and a much more pleasing side to this picture. When all is summed up, Sir Arthur's services to the Council far outweigh his defects. But I do not dwell on that, because I am at present concerned with the failures of the Council. There are many mistakes to be avoided in future. I do not think the next President, whoever he may be, is at all likely to fail in this way because he will not occupy exactly the same position as the last. But this I do know. If he attempts to carry on the Council's work as it has been carried on, he will speedily bring it either to contempt or to disaster.

(To be continued.)

### MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

One of the most successful meetings ever held by the North and East District, took place on Saturday last, at Barnet. Ringing commenced soon after 2.30, and continued until 5.30, half an hour short of the time advertised, through the latest restrictions. Quite 50 members and friends attended, and many methods were rung on the beautiful peal of eight.

A service, consisting of shortened evensong and war intercession, was held at 6 p.m., the lesson being read by the President, Mr. A. T. King, I.S.O. The Rector gave a short address under three headings, viz.: 1, Words of Welcome; 2, Two Stories; 3, The Moral, which he left the members to work out for themselves.

Many of the party then adjourned to the Church House, where they were the guests of their genial President.

Ten over, a short business meeting was held.—One new member was elected.—The hon. secretary's letter to Mrs. H. Barlingham, of Barnet, on the death of her husband, was confirmed.

For the place of the next meeting Southgate was suggested, and this will be the annual district meeting.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector (the Rev. W. Manning) for the welcome that day, the use of the bells, and the service.

The Hon. Secretary, in asking the members to show their appreciation to Mr. King for so kindly providing tea, said how pleased they all were to be able to visit Barnet, and to have the presence of their President with them that day.

Mr. King, in reply, said how glad he was to see so many old friends present, and gave some peeps into the past, some links of friendship, and a hope for the successful co-ordination of all ringing societies in the future.

The rest of the evening was spent with touches on the handbell and tunes, at which the Rector and Mrs. Manning were present. Mr. Churchwarden W. P. Ford kindly provided the "smoke that cheers," and so ended a most enjoyable gathering.

GULVAL. PENZANCE.—On November 6th, 720 Grandsire Minor: Miss Eileen Symons 1, A. Triggs 2, T. Wood 3, F. C. Jelbert 4, T. Symons (conductor) 5, P. Hitchins 6, W. Wool 7 (covering). First 720 by all excepting the conductor.

### KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. THE WAR MEMORIAL SCHEME.

The Central Committee met at Maidstone on Saturday week. It was decided to hold a general meeting on Easter Monday, at Tonbridge.

The report of the sub-committee appointed to consider the question of a suitable 'War Memorial' was adopted. They recommended that the Dean and Chapter of Canterbury should be asked to allow two trebles to be added to the ring of ten, and a tablet to be placed in the Cathedral; that a tablet should also be placed in the principal church in each district, and subscriptions be solicited for these purposes from all members of the Association. It was also decided to provide a card for each tower in union, on which the names of the local "service members" should be inscribed.

### A VETERAN'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

It is not given to every man to ring two peals to celebrate his own 75th birthday, yet this is what that well known Midland stalwart, Mr. William Rock Small, of Tipton, did. His birthday occurred on Monday, November 12th, and the event was honoured with due festivity, including a peal of Stedman Triples at his own parish church. Mr. William Kent, of Birmingham, a particularly old ringing friend of Mr. Small, specially joined the peal company, and was proposed a member of the Dudley Guild before the ringing began. Needless to say, at the conclusion of the peal, Mr. Small received the hearty congratulations and good wishes of the band.

On Saturday, the event was further celebrated by a peal at Wednesday (Mr. William Rock Small's native town). It was rung also on the eve of Confirmation at this church by the Lord Bishop; and as a farewell peal to Moses B. Smith, Military Medalist, a much-respected member of the local band, and who was returning to France after being home on a few days' furlough.

It was the first time this composition has been accomplished on tower bells, the figures of the peal having been published in the "Ringing World" on October 5th last. The performance was further noteworthy for being Mr. Fisher's 200th peal, and Mr. Swann's 100th peal of Stedman.

A full account of the birthday festivities will appear next month.

### ICKLETON LOSES THREE RINGERS.

News has come to hand from No. 21216 Pte. P. Webb, A.S.C., of Station Staff Supply Co., Salonika Force, who was district secretary of the Ely Diocesan Guild, that three Ickleton ringers have fallen in France.

Lance-Corpl. Arthur Carder, 1st Cambs Regiment, was 27 years of age. He joined up at the outbreak of war, went to France early in 1915, was wounded in March, 1916, and again in May, 1916, when he was invalided to England. He returned to France in December, 1916, was wounded once more on July 31st, and died August 9th.

Pte. Herbert Carder belonged to the Lewis Gun Section of the 1st Cambs Regiment. He was 28 years of age, and joined up at the outbreak of war, going to France early in 1915. He was killed on July 31st, 1917.

Sergt. Walter Carder, brother of Lance-Corpl. Carder, served in the Suffolk Regt. He was about 30 years of age, and, like his brother, joined up at the beginning of the war. He was killed about the same time as his brother, and leaves a widow and two children, with whom much sympathy is felt.

Pte. Webb tells us that Herbert and Arthur Carder were two good ringers. They were always regular in attendance, at practice, and Sunday ringing, and could ring seven methods on six bells, each having taken part in a few peals. Walter Carder was always very keen, but, as his work kept him away from practice, he was not quite so far advanced in his ringing.

Before the war there was a company of fourteen ringers at Ickleton, but all except four, who were too old, joined up. However, with the assistance of two from a neighbouring tower, muffled ringing took place for the memorial service that was held for the fallen ringers.

Pte. Webb, who has been two years at Salonika, hopes to get leave this winter. He has been in hospital for two months, but is now well again.

NORTON, STAFFS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Nov. 11th, for Matins, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob: J. E. W. Weldon 1, W. P. Pearne (conductor) 2, F. T. Dawson 3, E. E. Johnson 4, G. E. Lawrence 5, J. F. Ryles 6.

LUTON, BEDS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Nov. 4th, memorial services were held for the fallen soldiers and sailors of the Allied Forces throughout the Empire. During the afternoon, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung in 50 mins.: F. Hunt 1, G. Newson 2, B. Wilson 3, L. A. Goodenough 4, T. Blackburne 5, J. Rockwood 6, A. King (conductor) 7, T. Kendall 8. Also rung as a token of respect for the late Sergt. J. C. Shaw, King's African Rifles, recently killed in action, son of Mr. Joseph Shaw, one of the local ringers.

### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BRIDGEND, GLAM.—At St. Illtyd's Church, for evening service, on Sunday, Sept. 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: A. J. Stanley 1, John Evans 2, J. E. Vaux 3, R. Evans 4, C. H. Perry 5, J. Petman (composer and conductor) 6, J. Cox 7, B. Toly 8.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—Lancashire Association.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, October 7th, for morning service, 560 Bob Major: W. H. Dennison 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss E. M. Suart 4, J. Huddleston 5, T. Watson 6, T. Suart 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. For evening service, 784 Bob Major: T. Watson 1, Miss Lindsay 2, J. Huddleston 3, Miss E. M. Suart 4, W. H. Dennison 5, T. Suart 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. Longest touch of Major for the two ladies. Rung for the harvest festival.

GUILDFORD.—At Holy Trinity Church, on Saturday, October 20th, after a wedding service, 1260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. Hazelden (first quarter-peal on church bells) 1, M. Smither 2, W. E. Jelley 3, W. R. Melville 4, R. W. Melville 5, S. Radford 6, G. Hazelden (conductor) 7, H. Harris 8.—On Wednesday, Oct. 31st, for evensong (Eve of All Saints), 1260 Grandsire Triples: J. Scott (first quarter-peal) 1, W. R. Jelley 2, M. Smither 3, T. W. Radford 4, W. R. Melville 5, S. G. Steer 6, C. Hazelden (conductor) 7, S. Radford 8.—On Sunday, Nov. 11th, after Matins, as a compliment to the Mayor and Corporation, on the occasion of their attendance at church in state, 504 Grandsire Triples: J. Scott 1, W. Trussler 2, M. Smither 3, T. W. Radford 4, S. Radford 5, W. R. Melville 6, C. Hazelden (conductor) 7, B. Chorley 8.

NORTHWRAM, YORKS.—On Sunday, Oct. 21st, for evensong, 1280 Kent Treble Bob Major (composed by A. J. Perkins): J. Cotterell 1, B. Thorp 2, Jonas Ambler 3, W. Rushworth 4, C. Carrington 5, A. Jagger 6, F. Salmon 7, Jos. E. Sykes (conductor) 8. Rung on Trafalgar Day.

### OXFORD GUILD.

At St. Andrew's Church, Hillingdon, on Nov. 5th, an attempt for a half-muffled peal, a tribute to the late Vicar of St. John's, had to be abandoned after ringing 3360 changes, in two hours (owing to a misunderstanding about the time of evening service): Miss G. E. Bateman 1, W. Lawrence 2, T. S. Smith 3, C. Edwards 4, R. E. Holloway 5, G. H. Gutteridge (conductor) 6, E. T. Hooper 7, T. Smith (St. Andrew's) 8.

Two most successful practices have been held, one on November 3rd, at Stoke Poges, the following towers being represented: Farnham Royal, Hillingdon, Fulmer, Slough, and Stoke Poges. The methods rung were Plain Bob and Oxford Bob Minor, Stedman Doubles. Miss Williams (Hillingdon) successfully rang her first 720 of Minor. On November 10th, the meeting was at Hillingdon, the towers represented being Slough, Stoke Poges, St. Mary's, Walthamstow, Fulmer, Southgate, St. Stephen's, West Ealing, and Hillingdon; and the methods rung, Grandsire Doubles and Triples, Stedman Triples. The lady ringers present made good progress.

### 5312 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR.

BY W. HYDE INGLESANT.

23456	5ths & 4ths	M	W	H
42356				
63542	x			
25463	x			
63425	x			
46325				
34625				
62345				
53246				
25346				

Twice repeated, omitting three H's (\*) in last part. Contains the 6th nine course-ends at "Home," and three times "Wrong," including the 24365 course-end plained. The first peal produced in the method with these properties.

### LATE NOTICE.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held by kind permission of the Rev. Halliday Thompson, LL.D., at St. Stephen's, West Ealing, on Saturday, Dec. 1st. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Short service at 5. Tea at the Bell Hotel, Ealing Broadway, at 6 (1/- per head), followed by handbell ringing. Members intending to be present please notify Mr. W. Lawrence, 24, Wimborne Gardens Ealing, by Nov. 28th latest.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.



**NOTICES.**

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

**GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION OF CHANGE RINGERS.**—Bristol Association.—A quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Almondsbury on Nov. 24th. Bells (8) open at 3.30. Particulars of tea, "if any," per card.—G. Wiltshire, Hon. Secretary, 4, Hudd's Hill, St. George's, Bristol.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Basingstoke District.—Annual meeting at Basingstoke, Saturday, Nov. 24th. Bells at St. Michael's and at All Saints' from 3 p.m. Service at the Parish Church at 5.30. Tea and meeting at St. John's Schools at 6.—F. G. Hume, Dist. Sec.

**OXFORD GUILD.**—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—A united practice will be held on Saturday, Nov. 24th, at St. Mary's, Denham, ringing 2.45 till dusk. Afterwards it is hoped the bells of St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, will be available from 6.15 until 8 p.m. Ringing friends will be welcome. London ringers especially invited.—G. H. Gutteridge, Iver Heath, Uxbridge.

**ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.**—The next meeting of the above will be held at Mersham, near Ashford, on Saturday, Dec. 1st. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock until sunset.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Ashford, Kent.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The next meeting of this society will be held at Burley on Saturday, Dec. 1st, 1917. Bells available from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. The business meeting will afterwards be held in the Parochial Hall at 7 p.m.—William Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Stockport Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at S. Elizabeth's, Reddish, on Saturday, Dec. 1st.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Hon. Sec., New Mills.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at All Saints', Hamer, on Saturday, Dec. 1st. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting at 6 o'clock. Reports are now ready. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—North Bucks Branch.—The quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Newport Pagnell on Saturday, Dec. 1st. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Service, 4 p.m.; meeting to follow. No tea will be provided. No ringing after dark.—W. Sear, Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

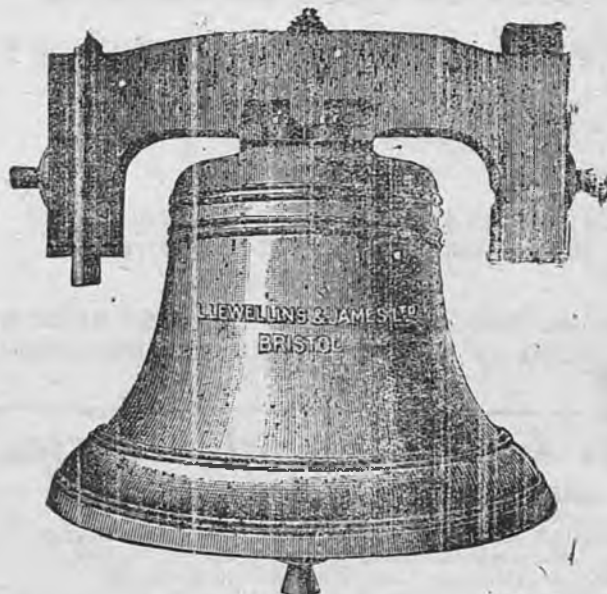
**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Diocesan Branch.—A meeting will be held at Garston on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Bells ready at 3. Service at 6, meeting 6.30. Members intending being present please send word.—Rev. E. C. Collier, Walter Hughes, Secs.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—A Branch meeting will be held at the Holy Trinity Church, Burnley, on Saturday, Dec. 15th, 1917. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Ringing till 7 p.m. Report now ready.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

**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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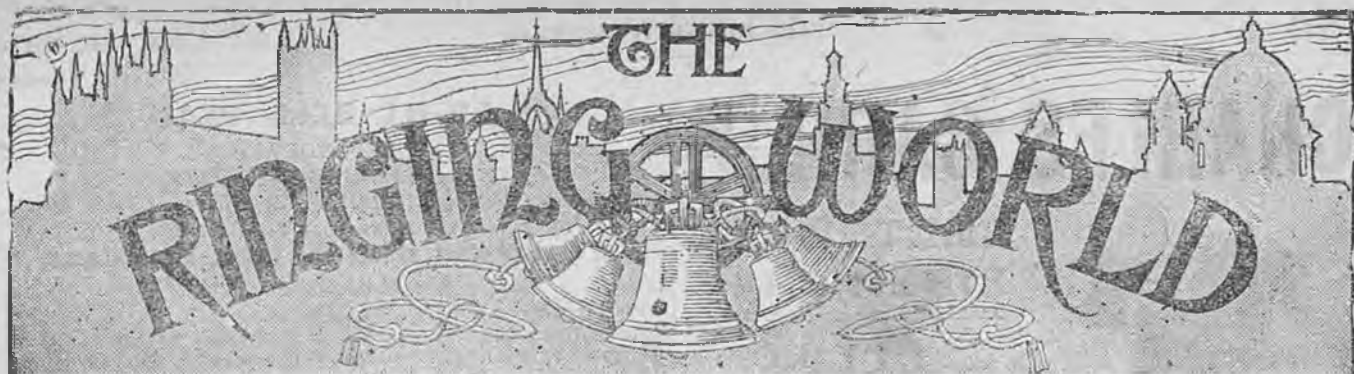
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No. 380. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

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CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,  
Wolverhampton.

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

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,  
Messrs. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918  
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 authorized 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 NATION'S VOICE.

No greater proof that at heart the British public love the bells of old England, and recognise in them the means of proclaiming the spirit of the Nation, could be found than the unanimous desire expressed through the Press of the country last week that the bells should ring to celebrate the great victory of our arms in France. When, a few weeks ago, the Army achieved a great triumph in Flanders, there were inquiries in the newspapers as to why the bells did not ring, and we suggested that in view of the opinions thus expressed, which clearly marked a desire on the part of the public to hear the bells of victory, ringers should be ready to do their part, as they have done through the great wars of the past, to signalise the successes of the troops.

Last week, with the great and smashing blow at the enemy which reconquered about forty square miles of territory, and brought in nearly ten thousand prisoners and a hundred guns, came the opportunity, and the newspapers called loudly for the bells. Needless to say, the ringers were not behindhand in doing their part, and it is gratifying to find that St. Paul's Cathedral gave a lead. The ringing there was done at the request of the authorities, while the Bishop of London himself issued an appeal for the bells generally in his Diocese to be rung. The ringing at St. Paul's, indeed, was something of a historical event, for we read that a huge crowd gathered round the west front to hear the pealing of this noble ring, and in an interval between the touches the National Anthem was fervently sung.

We may depend upon it that wherever the bells were set ringing hundreds of British hearts were thrilled, and it is a proud thing for ringers to remember that once more the bells became the voice of the nation. Let there be no mistake about this call for the bells. The effect of the silence of the bells through the period of the war has not been lost. Abstinence from unnecessary ringing has had a marked result, and now at last the bells have come into their own. The opportunity which we have waited and longed for came, the public demanded the bells and victory was acclaimed through the land from the lofty towers of our cathedrals and churches.

The ringers have had their part in the national rejoicing, not, be it said, merely through personal desires, but at the call of the country, and if in the future they act as thoughtfully and as tactfully as in the past, when peace comes once more the public will welcome the bells with an enthusiasm which they have never before displayed, and the bells will have a warmer place in the hearts of many who will realise that they are, after all, the voice of the nation in interpreting the spirit that pervades the people at times when great events are happening.

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OPINION OF OUR  
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Broomfield Vicarage,  
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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 so unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,  
Vicar of Broomfield.

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BIRMINGHAM

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## EIGHT BELL PEAL.

LINDLEY, YORKSHIRE.  
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 24, 1917, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANCES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

JOE HARDCASTLE... .. Treble	WILLIAM B. FRITH ... 5
JOSEPH BROADLEY ... .. 2	FREDERICK SALMONS ... 6
JAMES COTTIERELL ... .. 3	CHARLES H. CRAVEN ... 7
BENJAMIN THORP ... .. 4	*JOSEPH E. SYKES ... Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH E. SYKES.

Rung in honour of the recent great victory of our troops in France, and as a birthday compliment to James Cotterell. \* First peal as conductor.

## SIX BELL PEALS.

TONG, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 17, 1917, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Comprising one extent each of the following methods: Arnold's Victory, City Delight, London Scholars' Pleasure, New London Pleasure, Duke of York, Violet, and Oxford. Tenor 12 cwt.

CHARLES J. SALLOWAY ... Treble	GEORGE BOLLAND ... .. 4
SAMUEL ODDY ... .. 2	EDWARD ODDY ... .. 5
GEORGE LAMBERT ... .. 3	RUFUS THORNTON ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE BOLLAND.

Rung on the 40th anniversary of Mr. George Bolland's first peal.

STANTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION  
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 24, 1917, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being two 720's of Oxford Bob, two of Canterbury Pleasure, and three of Plain Bob, each called differently.

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qrs. in G.

JOHN DOLPHIN ... .. Treble	JAMES HEMMING ... .. 4
FREDRICK JOHNSON ... .. 2	CHARLES CAMM ... .. 5
SIDNEY O. ANNIS ... .. 3	HENRY MIDDLETON ... Tenor

Conducted by JAMES HEMMING.

First peal on the bells. Tea was provided by Mr. P. S. Stott, and partaken of at Mr. John Wiggins'. The Rector (the Rev. T. W. Reynolds) spent some time with the ringers, and congratulated them on finishing the peal. Votes of thanks were accorded the Rector and Mr. Stott. It is interesting to note that the distance cycled by the band totalled 143 miles.

## HANDBELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thursday, November 22, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH HOUSE, MOOR STREET,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANCES;

Tenor 14 size in D.

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

WILLIAM KENT ... .. 9-10

Composed by YORK GREEN, and  
Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

Referee: MORRIS J. MORRIS.

First peal of Royal as Conductor.

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

On Saturday, November 24, 1917, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,  
At 5, MOOR STREET, CITY.

#### A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 size in D.

THOMAS RUSSAM ... ..	1—2	JAMES E. GROVES ... ..	7—8
GEORGE F. SWANN ... ..	3—4	PTE. J. F. SMALLWOOD ...	9—10
ALBERT WALKER ... ..	5—6	*MORRIS J. MORRIS ... ..	11—12

Composed by JAMES E. GROVES, and  
Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

Referee: MR. WILLIAM KENT.

\* First peal of Cinques on handbells.

### ANOTHER MILITARY MEDALLIST.

News has come to hand that George Trollope, who used to be one of the ringers, at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, and is a brother of Mr. J. A. Trollope, has been awarded the Military Medal for service in France, where he has been now for over two years with the 21st Canadians. Another brother is also serving in France, being a lieutenant in the Middlesex Regiment.

### A CANADA BELL.

In connection with the report, inserted last week of the Kent County Association Committee meeting, it should have been added that a grant of £3 5s. was made from the Belfry Repairs Fund towards the new treble at Brabourne, which is to be called the "Canada" Bell, to commemorate the sojourn of Canadian Battalions in the parish, and also the Canadian Hospital in the sister parish of Monk's Horton.

### KINGTON MAGNA RINGER'S DEATH.

News was received at Kington Magna, Dorset, on All Saints' Day, of the death of Ple. Robert Yeatman, A.S.C., who was for some time a member of the Kington Magna band of ringers. In recent years he was resident in another part of the country. Being an expert driver, he volunteered his services during the early days of the war, and was assigned to the motor transport in East Africa where he met his death of disease. The bells of the Parish Church were rung half-muffled as a tribute to his memory, and the Rector made feeling reference to the sad event from the pulpit on the following Sunday.

### DEATH DURING "VICTORY" RINGING.

#### WELL-KNOWN LONDON RINGER'S TRAGIC END.

A tragic incident brought to a close the ringing at St Michael's, Cornhill, for the great victory. Mr. Henry Springall, a well-known member of the College Youths, was taking part when he was seized with illness, and died immediately.

Mr. Henry Springall, who was a most accomplished ringer, has taken part in many notable peals with the College Youths, and rang the treble in the non-conducted Stedman Cinques at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on February 22nd, 1913. He was a very efficient conductor, and piloted bands through many performances in various methods at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, and other London churches. For many years he has been a member of the St. Paul's Cathedral band, and has been a most regular attendant, except when his illnesses in the last few years have prevented him from turning up, perhaps for two or three Sundays in succession.

During the celebrations for the recent victory, on Friday, the 23rd inst., he rang in touches of Stedman Cinques at the Cathedral, Stedman Triples at St. Andrew's, Wells Street, and was ringing the 6th at St. Michael's, Cornhill, when, after about ten or fifteen minutes, he suddenly collapsed, and fell forwards on to the floor, and to the horror and grief of his fellow ringers was found to have passed away. He set his bell before leaving it, and the ringing came to an abrupt termination.

Fortunately the Rector, the Rev. J. H. Ellison, was at the church, and as soon as he heard the sad news, he hurried up to the belfry and read prayers, and, with others, went to break the sad news to Mrs. Springall.

The funeral is to take place at 3 p.m. to-morrow (Saturday), at Abford Cemetery.

MARESFIELD, SUSSEX.—On Oct. 21st, at the Parish Church, for harvest festival, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins.: E. Baker 1, A. Brown 2, W. Burrell 3, A. H. Porter, M.G.C. (Cambridge), 4, J. A. Hart 5, R. Clifford (Beaston, Notis) conductor, 6. Messrs. Hart and Burrell belong to Uckfield, and Baker and Brown to the local band.

### ANNIVERSARY PEAL AT TONG.

#### MR. GEORGE BOLLAND'S CELEBRATION.

No man is better known in the Yorkshire Association than George Bolland, of Tong. He is one of the few veterans left who founded the Association, and he has the happy knack of successfully organising meetings of ringers to promote good fellowship and advance the art. Just over 40 years ago he was admitted a full member of the Tong company, and has been a member ever since. Not only has he faithfully discharged his duties in the tower, but he is also a fine example of a church-going ringer, and occupies the post of warden at the present time.

Mr. Bolland rang his first six-bell peal at Tong, on Saturday, Nov. 17th, 1877, and the following is a copy of the record taken from "Church Bells":—

"On Saturday, 17th ult., six members of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers met at St. James' Church, Tong, and rang 5040 changes in the following intricate methods, viz.: Arnold's Victory, City Delight, London Scholars, Duke of York, New London Pleasure, Oxford and Violet. The ringers were: W. Sugden 1, G. Bolland 2, E. Webster 3, B. A. Dodson 4, J. H. Dixon 5, J. Halsey 6. Conducted by J. H. Dixon. Tenor, 12 cwt."

Mr. Bolland is the only one of the band now living, and to celebrate the 40th anniversary of this peal it was decided to attempt a peal in the same methods by the local band.

Some thirty ringers were invited from Armley, Bramley, Birstall, Calverley, Dewsbury, Headingley, Holbeck, Thornhill, Halifax, and other places, and they were keenly interested in the performance, which was successfully brought round, about 6 p.m., as recorded in another column.

By the kindness of the local company tea was served at the Greyhound Inn, to which ample justice was done. Afterwards the President of the Yorkshire Association (the Rev. C. C. Marshall) complimented the band on ringing the peal, and voiced the congratulations of the visitors to them, and especially to the conductor, concluding a very felicitous speech by wishing Mr. Bolland long life to continue his good work amongst ringers.

Mr. Bolland very feelingly replied, and the rest of the evening was spent in social intercourse, interspersed with touches and courses on handbells.

### WOKINGHAM RINGERS AT HURST.

On Saturday afternoon, November 17th, some of All Saints' and some of St. Paul's, Wokingham, bands, mustering nine in all, had a walk to Hurst, Berks, for a ringing outing. They were met at the church by the Vicar and Mrs. Broome, and the curate. After the office for ringers had been said by the Vicar, a six-score of Doubles with 7-6-8 covering, was rung as an opening touch, in which some of the beginners of All Saints' took part. Touches of Doubles followed to enable the two lady beginners of All Saints' (Misses E. Walker and E. Fielder) to have a pull, and they performed creditably, it being Miss Fielder's first attempt at changes. Mr. J. White and the following lady ringers, with the visitors, rang touches of Grandsire Doubles and Triples: Mrs. Broome, Misses Roe, White and Beeson, after which the party adjourned to the Vicarage, where Mr. and Mrs. Broome had kindly provided light refreshments, which were keenly appreciated.—Mr. S. Price, on behalf of all the ringers, heartily thanked the host and hostess for their kindness and generosity in granting the use of the bells, for their welcome, and also for their hospitality.—Mr. Broome, in reply, pressed them to come again when convenient.

### DEATH OF MR. C. BLACKMAN, OF ARUNDEL.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Charles Blackman, of Queen Street, Arundel, on November 16th. Deceased had been employed many years at the Swallow Brewery, and although no one saw what happened, it appears that he was ascending a perpendicular ladder to a loft, when he slipped and fell on his head, sustaining a fractured skull. At the inquest a verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

The funeral took place at Arundel, on Thursday, Nov. 22nd. The first part of the service was very impressively conducted at the Parish Church by the Vicar; the cortege then proceeded to the cemetery. The coffin was borne to the grave by Mr. E. Lindup (Heone), Mr. R. Whittington (Grange), Mr. J. Nelly (Arun del), Mr. Blake (Chichester). At the conclusion of the last sad rites, the ringers attending the funeral returned to the church, where the bells were muffled as a token of respect. Touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major were rung; also a touch of Stedman Triples by the following: R. Whittington 1, Mrs. R. Whittington 2, E. H. Lindup 3, P. H. Doick 4, G. Norris 5, W. Hillman 6, A. W. Groves (conductor) 7, M. Blake 8. This was Mrs. Whittington's first touch of Stedman Triples.

Deceased was a member of the Sussex County Association, and in his younger days rang many peals. The sympathy of all will go out to Mrs. Blackman in the sad loss she has sustained.

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry  
Established  
A.D. 1670.

*Bellfounders & Bellhangers,*

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of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

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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*

## THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

ITS FAILINGS AND THE REMEDIES.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

V.

I have now frankly, and I think fairly and temperately, stated what I think are the shortcomings of the Council. These are the things which should be avoided in future. But how? It is easy enough to find fault; it is not nearly so easy to find a remedy; and I have no infallible plan of reform. But I will make a few suggestions, if only as the basis of discussion.

Two things must be kept in mind: first, the Council must be made really representative; and, second, it must be made really useful to the Exercise.

As I have already said, we do not need any change of personnel to make it representative. What we want is to gain the confidence of ringers; to induce them to let the central body represent them; and that will be done when, and not till when, they recognise it as a real help to them.

Reform should start at the top. Never again must the office of President become the personal right of any one man. It should be open to every man who has the needful qualities, and I suggest a rule that no man should occupy the position for more than three consecutive years. Indeed, I would go further; I would have a fresh President every meeting. He should be elected at the preceding meeting, and it should be an understanding that anyone who has once served should not offer himself for re-election, so long as there is a qualified man who has not served. I would make the President's address a great feature of the meeting. He should be expected to address the Council on some definite subject of interest to ringers. Not string together a few platitudes, but select a definite subject of which he is master, and give a carefully prepared address on it. The range of subjects should not be restricted in any way except by the proviso that it should be of use.

In place of the present procedure by resolution and committee report, I would suggest that a certain number of members should be invited to read papers on different subjects. These subjects could be selected by the Standing Committee, and more than one paper read on the same thing. Or, if any member desired to address the Council on any matter he should, due notice being given, be allowed to do so. A time-limit would be set to all, and after the set papers had been read, a general discussion could be allowed. In these things the model of the Church Congress should be closely followed.

A wide variety of subjects should be encouraged, but in every case the idea should be to get someone who knows something to tell the Council, and, through it, the Exercise about it. The Council should expect to be taught, and instead of as at present pretending to be able to judge and decide these matters it should treat its speakers as authorities, and break up with a larger amount of knowledge than it had before. What would be said would not pretend to bind anybody, but opinions expressed by an authority would carry weight, because the speaker was an authority. No doubt many false and superficial opinions would be expressed but if they stimulated thought the cause of ultimate truth would benefit.

Many of these papers, of course, would be slight, and hardly worth preserving, but if the speakers really took trouble there would be a good proportion of permanent value. If a selection of such were carefully edited and printed the book would be of far greater value and have a far larger sale than the present Central Council publications.

The subjects should, I say, be as varied as possible. Let me suggest a few: The correct status of ringers in the Church, and the best way to attain to it; the influence of a man like Henry Johnson on change ringing; a critical estimate of Jasper Snowden's works; the value of Double Norwich Caters as a method for nine bells; the value of self-aligning and ball bearings in hanging bells. And many more such. They must not be treated on too technical lines. The papers should seek to teach ringers and stimulate an interest in many ways. The interest in ringing does not consist entirely in peal ringing, and few ringers realise what a goodly heritage they have.

I am sure such papers would prove of far greater value than resolutions as to whether we should decorate ourselves with some sort of emblem or other, or long speeches on Bob Major Lead Ends, when neither speaker nor audience know what Bob Major Lead Ends are.

(To be continued.)

## THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

The election of officers of the College Youths took place at the annual meeting at the Coffee Pal on Tuesday of last week, as follows: Master, Mr. Albert A. Hughes; hon. treasurer, Mr. Leonard A. Hughes; trustees, Messrs. Challis F. Winney and Walter Prime; senior steward, Mr. Reuben Sanders; junior steward, Mr. Chas. H. Horton; hon. secretary, Mr. W. T. Cockerill.



## A VETERAN'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

MR. W. ROCK SMALL'S RECORD.

For more than a quarter of a century (except for years 1914-15 and 16, owing to the war), it has been one of the customs to attempt—and generally successfully—a peal of Stedman Triples at one of the principal churches in the Black Country—Tipton Parish Church—better known to people for miles around as the "Pepper-Box," because the shape of the tower is like a pepper-box. These peals have been for "the annual" of one of the most noted and highly respected campanologists of the Midlands—Mr. William Rock Small, who celebrated his 78th birthday on Monday, November 12th. For more than a decade the arrangements have been in the capable hands of Mr. John Smith, the tower-keeper and verger of this ancient church, but owing to his serious illness, and through the war, he has been unable to undertake the management during the three years mentioned, so younger blood, and a pupil of Mr. Small, undertook to revive the birthday peal celebration, and arranged two peals of Stedman—Mr. Small's favourite method—in honour of his 78th birthday—the first to be at his beloved church at Tipton, and the second at his native place—Wednesbury.

On the afternoon of November 12th, a strong band had been got together, all of them old friends of Mr. Small, and visited Tipton, specially to do honour to one to whom honour was due, and the Rev. C. H. Barker, the Society's clerical secretary, came purposely into the



MR. W. ROCK SMALL.

belfry before the starting of the peal, and heartily congratulated Mr. Small, and wished the band the best of luck. Owing to the lighting and the military restrictions in Staffordshire, an early start had to be made. With Mr. J. E. Groves as conductor, a fine peal was accomplished in two hours and forty-nine minutes, as recorded in last week's "Ringing World." Mr. Small was heartily congratulated by the band, who wished him the usual "many happy returns," and hoped he would enjoy the best of health, and be able to take part in many more of his birthday peals.

It is worthy of note that Mr. Small attends Divine service at the church he loves and rings at nearly every Sunday morning and night, walking a distance of nearly five miles each Sunday for the purpose. He is proud of his church, and has been a sidesman for many years. He has placed a beautiful stained-glass window in the church to the memory of his devoted wife, who died a few years ago, and in addition to this, he has had erected a marble tablet (with the coat of arms) recording a muffled peal of Stedman Triples rung to the memory of Queen Victoria, and this is the only memorial in Tipton to her late Majesty. In addition, Mr. Small has placed other tablets of marble and wood in the little belfry recording peals he has rung, ranging from Grandsire Triples to Double Norwich. He has rung at this well-known little "pepper-box" thousands of changes, and spent many enjoyable hours there in teaching the art of change ringing and improving its practice. He was for nearly 30 years the tower-keeper, and has been a ringer at this church for forty years. He is not so agile as a few years ago, but can still "go the pace," as a good many

friends know. His name figures in nearly every belfry (where bells are ringable) in the Midlands. He's a wonderful man is "Rock," and now we shall have to style him "the grand old man of the Black Country." He likes the name of "Rock," because his mother (before marriage) was a Miss Rock, and if there are any peals to be fixed, and he has taken part in them, his special orders are to be sure and put Rock, not "R."

After the ringing of his birthday peal, all adjourned to the residence of Mr. John Smith, the Church House, and sat down to tea. The evening afterwards was enjoyed by ringing handbells—Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Grandsire Caters, and recounting reminiscences of past ringing events. "Rock" told some of his wonderful ringing experiences. The evening was creeping along, when Mr. John Jagger (of Burton fame) proposed, in an appropriate little speech, "the jolly good health of Mr. Wm. Rock Small," and Mr. John Smith seconded, and Mr. Jas. George, of Rugby, now of Birmingham, spoke in support, saying how pleased he was to know that such a magnificent peal had been accomplished for Mr. Small's 78th birthday. — The motion was, of course, carried with much heartiness, and the company parted with wishes for the same success on the following Saturday, at Wednesbury.

Wednesbury is the native place of Mr. Rock Small. There he learnt the art of change ringing, and there he has scored many peals on the old peal of ten. There also, to extend the celebration, it was his desire for the second peal of the week, and another good band was got together, which included four ringing masters and two ex-masters of the principal ringing Associations of the Midlands, and included colleagues who had the pleasure of ringing with Mr. Small, one about 40 years ago, five others of thirty years, and two others 20 years ago. This shows the respect in which he is held. Two o'clock was the time fixed, and Stedman Caters was the order for the afternoon. Again the clerical secretary put in an appearance—he is a fine mascot—and wished "good luck and a good peal." Mr. Groves was again conductor, and his own composition of 5005 changes was accomplished in three hours and twenty minutes—just five minutes under the military restricted time. The composition is a fine one, with the bells turned every four courses, and was rung for the first time on tower bells. This was the first peal Mr. John Carter had attempted since the war broke out, but it was his desire that he should ring another peal with his dear old friend, "Rock" Small. Afterwards, Mr. Small entertained his colleagues at the "Prince Regent" Hotel, where a couple of hours was pleasantly spent.

Mr. James George proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Small for providing refreshments after the Wednesbury peal, and Mr. J. E. Groves seconded; and Mr. George and Mr. Rowley proposed and seconded respectively, a vote of thanks to the writer of this report for the arrangements he made in bringing Mr. Small's 78th birthday celebration to such a success.

Mr. Small was the recipient of many letters of congratulations—both near and far—on the day of his 78th birthday.

It is interesting to know that Mr. William Rock Small first saw the light at Wednesbury on November 12th, 1839, and joined the Wednesbury band in April, 1863, and rang his first peal at the Parish Church (St. Bartholomew). This was a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, in 3 hrs. and 8 mins. This peal was rung on Sunday, April 29th, 1866, and a tablet fixed in the tower recording it states that the band were all natives of Wednesbury. Joe Bale, who took part in the peal, rang in a peal of Grandsire Caters when 83 years of age, and died just over a year ago, so that Mr. Small is the only one now living that rang in the peal. Mr. Small has rung in the first peal in many churches in the Midlands, and his name is widely known in the Midlands. Up to date he has scored 324 peals, which are as follows:—Stedman Cinques, 14; Stedman Caters, 19; Stedman Triples, 75; Grandsire Cinques, 5; Grandsire Royal, 2; Grandsire Caters, 41; Grandsire Major, 6; Grandsire Triples, 78; Kent Treble Bob Maximus, 1; Kent Treble Bob Royal, 10; Kent Treble Bob Major, 15; Plain Bob Royal, 5; Plain Bob Caters, 1; Plain Bob Major, 34; Plain Bob Triples, 1; Darlaston Bob Triples, 4; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 1; Double Norwich Major, 5; Double Oxford Major, 1; Forward Royal, 2; Forward Major, 4; total, 324.

Mr. Small was one of the band to ring in a peal of Stedman Triples, at Peel, Isle of Man, in July, 1888, and was one of a band who toured Shropshire in 1894, and rang five peals—37 hours in all, and at a cost of nearly £40! Four of the band who were in this tour rang in his birthday peal on the 17th inst., these being Messrs. Small, Carter, Jas. George and Jas. B. Groves.

He has rung in some long peals, including 9,020 Grandsire Cinques, in 6 hrs. 7 mins., at St. Martin's, Birmingham, on the occasion of Queen Victoria's visit on March, 23rd, 1887; 8,064 Grandsire Caters, at Bromsgrove, on December 27th, 1888, in 4 hrs. 59 mins.; 8,009 Grandsire Caters, at Wolverhampton, in 5 hrs. 11 mins., on April 3rd, 1893. Mr. Small was also in the two unique peals of Kent at Coseley, in 1893, and by the same band ringing the same peal and bells, in 1913—and he hopes to be fit for next year (1918), to make it 25 years. He was also in the "Old Men's" peal of Grandsire Caters, at Aston, in 1914, when every man was over 60 years of age.

Mr. Small belongs to the following Societies: St. Martin's, Birmingham, joined 1880; College Youths, London, 1883; Archdeaconry of Stafford (one of the founders), 1883; Worcestershire Association, 1887; Yorkshire Association, 1888; Midland Counties Association, 1891; Hereford Guild, 1893; Dudley Guild, 1899; Warwick Guild, 1917. He is Vice-President to the Worcestershire Association, and is the respected treasurer to Dudley Guild.

In the peal of Stedman Caters, at Wednesbury, the list of ringers, with their records, which totals 2,516, is as follows: Mr. Small, 324; Mr. Carter, 298; Mr. Groves, 476; Mr. Hughes, 132; Mr. Swann, 161; Mr. Fisher, 200; Mr. Parsons, 111; Mr. Rowley, 86; Mr. George, 601; Mr. Gough, 127.

Mr. Small and the bands desire to thank the Rev. W. T. de Vine, Vicar, and Mr. John Smith for the Tipton bells, and Rev. W. T. Hyatt, Vicar, and the Wednesbury ringers for their bells, especially Mr. Walter Brittan, for seeing that everything was in good going order at the latter church. B. G.

### HOME FROM FRANCE.

His many friends in the Midlands will note with pleasure the name of Pte. J. Frank Smallwood in a handbell peal of Stedman Cinques at Birmingham. The peal had been arranged, and it was only by accident that on the way to the ringing room some of the band met Pte. Smallwood, who was home on 14 days' leave. It was not known to any of the ringers that he was even in England, so that the pleasure and surprise of the meeting can be imagined. Although on his way to pay a visit to friends, he was persuaded to join in the peal, and his performance was a great credit, seeing that he had not handled a pair of bells for sixteen months. Mr. W. Kent kindly refereed instead of ringing.

On Sunday, Nov. 11th, Gnr. R. Wood, R.G.A., of Billingshurst, Sussex was home on leave, after 17 months' service in France. Ringing could not be arranged at Billingshurst for him, and a hearty welcome to Pulborough belfry was, therefore, extended to him by some of his old comrades. Some well-struck touches of Grandsire Triples were rung for morning service: Gnr. R. Wood 1, S. Stone 2, P. H. Doick 3, S. W. Corden 4, G. H. Lee 5, Chas. Smart 6, A. Greenfield (conductor) 7, F. J. Killick 8. In the afternoon a pleasant time was spent at Slinfold, touches of Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob being rung, the following taking part: Elias Knight, E. Edwards, R. Whittington, Mrs. R. Whittington, Gnr. R. Wood, P. H. Doick, A. Greenfield, Lea Paice and W. Short. Mrs. E. Knight, in her usual genial way, very kindly provided an excellent tea for the visitors. Gnr. R. Wood has now returned to duty, and takes with him the hearty wishes of his many friends for a safe and speedy return to "Blighty."

At Liverpool, on Sunday, Nov. 18th, for evening service, at St. Nicholas' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1314 changes) was rung. It was specially arranged for Pte. T. Hammond, junr., A.S.C., who was home on leave from France for a few days: W. McGowan 1, T. J. Elton 2, G. R. Newton (conductor) 3, T. Hammond, senr., 4, Pte. T. Hammond, junr., A.S.C., 5, Pte. F. S. Macey, A.S.C. (Sittingbourne), 6, G. Fisher 7, J. Martin 8, W. Davies 9, E. Counce 10.

### ROCHESTER RINGER'S DEATH.

#### AN ORIGINAL MEMBER OF THE KENT ASSOCIATION.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of Mr. James Edward Tulett, of Rochester, who passed away on Saturday, November 3rd, at the age of 67 years, after suffering for some time from dropsy. The deceased had been prevented for a considerable period from doing much ringing. He was a member of the St. Margaret's and Cathedral Societies for nearly 50 years, and of the Kent County Association from its institution.

He was not a great peal ringer, but what little peal ringing he did he liked to be of good quality, so far as striking was concerned. He rang in all about 30 peals, his first being at Gillingham (Grandsire Triples) on December 8th, 1888, and his last and only peal on ten bells at Canterbury Cathedral, viz., Stedman Caters, on April 26th, 1913. As far as can be ascertained he rang Grandsire Triples 3, Bob Major 4, Kent Treble Bob Major 9, Double Norwich Major 9, Stedman Triples 4, Stedman Caters 1.

A man of fine physique, he was always cheerful, and will be much missed by his ringing colleagues. May he rest in peace.

### RINGING AFTER DARK.

The permission of the Competent Military Authority to ring for Sunday evening services has been given at Reigate and Godstone, Surrey. Other Surrey churches in the same military area could doubtless obtain this concession on application.

Mr. W. Mend. Clun, informs us that he has received notice from the local police that bells may now be rung and clocks strike until 7 p.m. until further notice. On making inquiries he was informed that this order refers to the county of Shropshire.

## NOTICES.

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

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held by kind permission of the Rev. Halliday Thompson, LL.D., at St. Stephen's, West Ealing, on Saturday, Dec. 1st. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Short service at 5. Tea at the Bell Hotel, Ealing Broadway, at 6 (1/- per head), followed by handbell ringing.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Mersham, near Ashford, on Saturday, Dec. 1st. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock until sunset.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Ashford, Kent.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at All Saints', Hamer, on Saturday, Dec. 1st. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting at 6 o'clock. Reports are now ready. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—The quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Newport Pagnell on Saturday, Dec. 1st. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Service, 4 p.m.; meeting to follow. No tea will be provided. No ringing after dark.—W. Sear, Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business, on December 4th and 18th, and for handbell practice on the 13th and 27th, all at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1/8, which entitles members who have not attended twenty meetings in the past year, to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Branch.—A meeting will be held at Garston on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Bells ready at 3. Service at 6, meeting 6.30. Members intending being present please send word.—Rev. E. C. Collier, Walter Hughes, Secs.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society. Estab. 1824).—A meeting for handbell practice and social intercourse will be held at 6.30 p.m. on Saturday, 8th December, at Headquarters Room, "The Edinburgh," Milford Lane, Strand, W.C. Ringers and friends invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A Branch meeting will be held at the Holy Trinity Church, Burnley, on Saturday, Dec. 15th, 1917. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Ringing till 7 p.m. Report now ready.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Eccles Parish Church on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells available from 3.30 to 7 p.m. Meeting immediately after ringing.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

WANTED, good reliable Watch and Clock Jobber, for old established firm, good change ringer, and over military age.—Robinson & Co., The Square, Shrewsbury, Salop.

**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.

### THE BELLS OF VICTORY.

#### CELEBRATION OF THE BRITISH SUCCESS IN FRANCE.

The great victory in France last week led to a general demand for a celebration of the event by the ringing of the church bells. The newspapers called loudly for it, published interviews on the subject with distinguished people, and certainly did the Exercise a good turn by making the ringing a national event. A statement by the Bishop of London, hoping that all the bells of the Metropolis would ring, stirred up further interest, and, as far as ringers were available, they did their part. In most places, where it was possible to muster a band, ringing took place, generally on Friday, but in London the bells of Southwark Cathedral were rung on Thursday.

The ringing at St. Paul's, on Friday, brought together a great throng outside the Cathedral, and emotions were stirred as this grand peal, crashed out the strains of victory. When the bells stopped the crowd sang the National Anthem, and then the ringing started again, and there were scenes of real rejoicing.

At various other famous towers throughout the country ringing took place, Peterborough Cathedral, where the bells had long been silent, being among them.

The Bishop of Salisbury sent a request to all the parishes requesting the bells to be rung on Sunday last in commemoration of the victory won in France. This action of the Bishop is specially noteworthy, and it is one which we should like to see adopted in other dioceses whenever there is occasion for uniform action.

At St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, on Friday, touches of 498 and 234 Stedman Cinques were rung, by: J. D. Matthews 1, W. J. Nudds 2, F. Smith 3, H. Burton 4, B. Foskett 5, C. Hare 6, W. Theobald 7, W. Powell 8, W. Lawrence (Ealing) 9, E. Wightman 10, C. Hunt (conductor) 11, W. Walters 12. Afterwards, at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, 130 Stedman Caters was rung, and the twelve bells fired.

At St. Alfege, Greenwich, on Saturday, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 55 mins. (Thurstans): A. S. Beer 1, J. J. Lamb 2, I. G. Shade (conductor) 3, E. E. Richards 4, J. Waghorn, junr., 5, F. W. Thornton 6, H. Hoskins 7, T. Jakeman 8.

On Sunday, for morning service, at St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins.: A. Kiley 1, J. Barry 2, F. G. Symonds 3, M. Fensom 4, H. Franks 5, G. Smith 6, Sapper R. F. Deal 7, A. A. Hughes 8. The bells were also fired.

A quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes) was rung at St. Nicholas, Bristol, by: Mrs. E. J. Wilson 1, F. G. May (conductor) 2, W. White 3, F. W. Wade 4, W. Probert 5, J. Caple 6, T. Harris 7, I. Long 8, J. Richmond 9, U. Braven 10. It was the first quarter-peal of Caters, and first attempt by Mrs. Wilson and J. Caple, who belong to Portishead and Easton-in-Gordano respectively.

At Godalming, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on Saturday: W. Moorey 1, W. Clissold 2, W. Smith 3, W. Hooker 4, C. Chikis 5, Sergt. R. Carrier 6, A. G. Bartlett (conductor) 7, R. Pamment 8. Special interest attaches to this touch, as Sergt. R. Carrier, who is of the Canadian army, was galloper to General Byng through the South African War.

At Pinedon, Northants, on Saturday, 504 Stedman Triples: G. Ette 1, M. Hobbs 2, T. Abbott 3, H. Tompkins 4, J. Packwood 5, J. Main 6, G. Basford (conductor) 7, A. Tompkins 8; 252 Stedman: M. Hobbs 1, T. Abbott 2, P. Manning 3, H. Ette 4, J. Packwood 5, J. Main 6, G. Basford (cond.) 7, A. Tompkins 8; 224 Kent Treble Bob Major: P. Manning 1, M. Hobbs 2, G. Ette 3, H. Ette 4, J. Packwood 5, T. Abbott 6, J. Main 7, G. Basford 8.—On Sunday, Nov. 25th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes) was rung by: T. Abbott 1, G. Ette 2, H. Ette 3, G. Basford 4, J. Packwood 5, J. Main 6, W. Perkins (conductor) 7, A. Tompkins 8.

At Keynsham, near Bristol, on November 21st, 448 Cambridge Surprise Major: G. Warburton 1, R. J. Wilkins 2, C. Tomkins 3, Miss E. Parker (conductor) 4, H. M. Day (Market Deeping) 5, A. Reeves 6, G. Condieck 7, J. Burford 8. This was the first attempt at Cambridge Major by the ringers of the 5th. Also 448 of London Surprise Major: G. Warburton 1, R. J. Wilkins 2, C. Tomkins 3, Miss E. Parker (conductor) 4, W. Knight 5, A. Reeves 6, J. Burford 7, G. Condieck 8.

At Henfield, Sussex, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung in 46 mins., at noon on Thursday, by: A. E. Baker 1, W. Markwell 2, S. Burt 3, C. Tyler 4, W. J. Alliss 5, H. Markwell 6, G. Payne (conductor) 7, A. Hodges 8.

At Tunstall, Kent, on Friday, at noon, a 720 of Bob Minor was brought round, by Miss C. N. Jarrett 1, H. E. Simpson 2, G. Webb 3, E. H. Spice 4, G. H. Spice 5, and W. Spice (conductor) 8; and on Sunday, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, with Thos. Jull in place of H. E. Simpson.

On Saturday, a peal, recorded in another column, was rung at Lindley, Yorks.

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Gauldford, and Published by Messrs. WM. DAWSON & SONS  
LTD., Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.

# THE RINGING WORLD

No. 351. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7th, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

## 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,  
MISSIE GILLET and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.  
Bottlemen.

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 LIBEL ON RINGERS.

Although belfry reform has advanced so far in these days that the old disreputable practices have long since disappeared, there still remains among some sections of the public the idea that the conduct associated with ringers in the distant past, and which the ringing organisations throughout the country have been so successful in removing, continues to prevail. A striking instance of this occurred in an influential daily paper only last week. In an advertisement for somebody's brand of beer was depicted a scene in a belfry, under the heading of "The Bells of Victory." The sketch showed three or four men hanging on to ropes and in the centre another individual with a basket full of bottles, the contents of one of which he had poured into a glass and handed to the nearest ringer.

Such a caricature is not only misleading, it is an insult to the large body of ringers throughout the country and indirectly to the Church itself. There is no more truth in the suggestion contained in the picture that drinking goes on in the belfry than that the brewers control the bishops. It is a libel on the Exercise, which ringers will resent, and one which would never have been committed had the artist (?) made the most cursory inquiries. The least that could be done by the firm who sought to increase the sale of their products by this scurrilous sketch is, as a correspondent points out, to destroy the block and refrain from the publication of any such unfortunate class of advertisement again.

This instance of the crass ignorance which prevails in some directions as to matters relating to the belfry, only goes to prove that there is still great necessity for educating the public. Ringers have progressed, but the public information has by no means kept pace with this advance. This may be due to the fact that ringers are very exclusive in their affairs, and the public have little opportunity of gaining knowledge, and to that extent it is the fault of the Exercise. It has always been our view that much more might be done to enlighten the public as to ringing matters. It is not necessary, even if it were possible, to endeavour to get them to understand more widely the technical side of the matter, but they might with advantage be initiated more fully into the practices and customs of the belfry. At present the vast majority are astonishingly ignorant, and much might certainly be done if ringers themselves were a less exclusive circle than they are. Lectures and papers on the various sides of bells and bell ringing, given before church and other societies, are an excellent way of extending to the outside public the knowledge we would have them acquire, and in numerous places this has been done with excellent results.

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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 quite wish to be in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMONDS,

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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**FOR CHURCHES,**

**SINGLY,  
OR IN PEALS.**

**CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.**

**PEALS AUGMENTED,  
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**40, QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.**

Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway).

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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 PEALS.

**BIDDENDEN, KENT.**

**THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

*On Saturday, November, 24, 1917, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*

*AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,*

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

**PARKER'S SIX-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.**

WILLIAM H. LAMBERT ... Treble	CHARLES TRIBE ... 5
ROBERT EDWARDS ... 2	PHILIP HODGKIN ... 6
JAMES ARTHURS ... 3	CHARLES W. PLAYER ... 7
WALTER H. PERRY ... 4	GEORGE JOHNSON ... Tenor

**Conducted by CHARLES W. PLAYER.**

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Pte. George Honess, R.G.A., one of the local ringers, who was killed in action in France. Messrs. James Arthurs and Walter H. Perry were elected members of the Association before starting. Both were formerly members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild.

**CRANLEIGH, SURREY.**

**THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

**(GUILDFORD DISTRICT.)**

*On Saturday, December 1, 1917, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,*

*AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,*

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;**

**GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.**

**Tenor 19 cwt.**

PERCY H. DOICK ... Treble	ALWYN CHARMAN ... 5
MRS. R. WHITTINGTON ... 2	ARTHUR J. BARTLETT ... 6
CHARLES HAZELDEN ... 3	WILLIAM CHARMAN ... 7
ROBERT WHITTINGTON ... 4	THOMAS WORSFOLD ... Tenor

**Conducted by W. CHARMAN.**

Rung to celebrate the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. R. Whittington. P. H. Doick hails from Pulborough, C. Hazelden from Guildford, and A. J. Bartlett from Chiddingfold.

## HANDBELL PEAL.

**SCARBOROUGH, YORKS.**

**THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

*On Monday, November 26, 1917, in One Hour and Forty-two Minutes,*

*AT THE RESIDENCE OF J. R. BARTON, 71, CALEDONIA STREET.*

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;**

**Being seven 720's, each called differently.**

JOHN R. BARTON ... 1—2	PTE. GEORGE NAYLOR ... 3—4
HARRY GIBSON ... 5—6	

**Conducted by J. R. BARTON.**

**Witness: MRS. M. E. BARTON.**

First peal in the method by the ringer of 3—4, who is stationed at Scarborough, and hails from Lightcliffe, near Halifax. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. William Rock Small, of Tipton, Birmingham.

## THE PEAL AT SHIFNAL.

The peal of Bob Major, at Shifnal, Salop, rung on November 3rd, was a composition by Mr. John Bradney, which was got out by the aid of Mr. John Carter's formula, or sliding scale, and is the first and only peal composed by this means by anyone except the inventor himself.

The footnote to the peal also mentioned that it was the first peal of Bob Major on the bells since May 6th, 1809. The record of this early peal is contained in the St. Laurence's peal book in the following terms:—

5040 of Bob Major, in 3 hrs. 12 mins., and was completed with scarcely a bad blow:—

Richard Cross ... Treble	Thomas Parker ... 5
James Davey ... 2	Charles Biggs ... 6
John Hartshorn ... 3	Richard Wilding ... 7
William Bull ... 4	Samuel Lawrence ... Tenor

The above peal was called by S. Lawrence, and completed at the first attempt, and is termed in the ringing world Cropping a Peal, a party having made attempts two or three times a fortnight for several months previous thereto.

The above paragraph relating to the composition of the peal on Nov. 3rd was omitted from the footnote, and in writing to call attention to its absence, Mr. Bradney says, "give credit to whom credit is due," and points out that the composition, although rung now for the first time, was composed in 1806.



**A BIRMINGHAM PARTY.****MR. GEORGE'S 64TH BIRTHDAY.**

"And the best of all ways  
To lengthen our days,  
Is to steal a few hours from the night."—Moore.

A very enjoyable evening was spent on Wednesday of last week when Mr. James George invited a few of his friends to take tea with him, the occasion being his 64th birthday. At 5.30, a goodly company had assembled in the Schoolroom attached to Bishop Ryder's Church, and for the first time in the writer's experience of ringer's gatherings, the fair sex outnumbered the mere males. We are getting on! The Vicar of Bishop Ryder's (the Rev. G. E. Badger) presided at the tea, and amongst those present were Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., presiding Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild; Rev. R. A. Ellis (curate), Mr. W. N. Currod, whom everyone was delighted to see again after his long illness; Pte. J. Frank Smallwood, on leave from the front, and the wife of him; Mrs. Ellis and Mrs. Woodcock, and the following "lady strings":—Mrs. Ethel Reading, Miss Flora Bowen, Miss Gerlie Fello, Miss May Gaffey, Miss Cissie Griffiths, and Miss Iris Edwards. Also Mr. W. Gee, Miss Jones, Mr. A. Paddon Smith; and last, but by no means least, HIMSELF. Later the company was reinforced by Messrs. T. J. Bratton, W. Kent, J. B. Collett, and Morris J. Morris.

The ladies had done the catering, Himself only being responsible for the paying, and they had done it remarkably well. Here was no Sunday School style of tea, but two kinds of bread and butter—yes, butter!—sandwiches galore, good solid pork pies, and various cakes. For a while conversation lagged, while the rattle of knives and forks proceeded apace.

After tea, the Rev. G. E. Badger congratulated Mr. George on having attained his 64th birthday, while retaining much, if not all, of his youthful vigour. They of Bishop Ryder's ought also to congratulate themselves on having such an enthusiastic and capable Ringing Master, who, in the comparatively short time he had been with them, had done so wonderfully well in their belfry. He was now busily engaged, two or three evenings a week instructing a band of ladies, and he had confidence in Mr. George's ability to turn them into proficient ringers. He then presented Mr. George with a birthday gift from the ladies, which took the very useful form of a pair of slippers.

Some irreverent person here suggested that perhaps the idea was to induce him to stay at home a bit, but the ladies indignantly repudiated the suggestion.

Alderman Pritchett also added his congratulations on behalf of the visitors, and read out some of the letters, etc., "He" had received on the auspicious occasion. Two birthday cards bore some very charming verses, and had evidently been carefully selected. They were signed respectively "Ethel" and "May." Yes, we are certainly getting on.

Mr. George thanked everybody for their congratulations, the ladies for the present, and said how much he appreciated the presence of all of them that evening. He had no doubt at all about making good ringers of his pupils, and if they stuck by him, he would stick by them, even if they had to ring "stone" for twelve months for Sunday services.

Then followed half an hour's ringing on the tower bells, when touches of Grandsire and Stedman were called by Messrs. George and Smallwood, and "call changes" were rung by six of the gentler sex, assisted by two more men. We hope an alderman does not object to being called a mere man! This reminds us that at this stage someone—no, we will not divulge who—was overheard to remark that she would like to hug someone else, he was "such a dear old thing."

Back to the schoolroom, where one girl was quickly at the piano, and in the twinkling of an eye others were "tripping the glad toe" up and down to the popular airs of the day.

Ah! Billy! We had almost forgotten little Billy, the pet, and at the same time apparently the terror of the tower. He is a likely boy of about thirteen who is also learning the art, and who has already learned artfulness. Alderman Pritchett was announcing that Mr. George had a present for the ladies, which was now in his—the alderman's—pocket, and they were invited to guess what it was. Some guessed a lump of sugar, others a quarter of butter, this latter rather a "hazardable" guess seeing that whatever it was was in the back pocket of the alderman's tail coat. However, while this was going on, Billy got surreptitiously to the rear, had a peep in the pocket, and suddenly piped up, "It's a box of —." He had no time to get further, and it was only because of his marvellous agility that he missed the full weight of the alderman's boot. Of course it was chocolates.

The handbells were pressed into service, touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Caters being rung by Messrs. Bratton, George, Kent, Morris, Pritchett and Smith, the calling being shared by Messrs. Kent and George.

Everyone enjoyed themselves immensely, and it is to be hoped that "He" will not have to keep us waiting twelve months before he can find another excuse to ask us all to tea again.

"Our pleasures much grace, fair ladies."—Simon of Athens, l. 2.

A. P. S.

**LADIES' UNITED PRACTICE.**

It had been arranged that a joint meeting with the lady ringers of Smethwick, Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham, and Erdington, should be held at the Parish Church of St. Barnabas, Erdington, for combined practice on Saturday last. Unfortunately, through the serious illness of Miss Pigott, the Smethwick band were prevented from being present. Several of the Bishop Ryder's ringers, including the Ringing Master, turned up at 3.30 p.m., and were met at the church by Mr. J. Preston, a member of the Erdington ringers, including Miss Salter, and the bells were soon set going.

An adjournment was made at 5.30 p.m. for tea, and at 6 p.m. the remaining ladies from Bishop Ryder's came on the scene in full force. At 6.30 p.m. ringing was again indulged, and continued until 8 p.m., and all felt satisfied that the meeting had been a success. While the ringing was in progress, Pte. J. F. Smallwood and J. H. White, of Coventry, put in an appearance. Everyone wishes to thank Mr. J. Preston for making arrangements for the tower, and also for joining with Mr. Mears and others in the ringing.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.****MEETING AT WEST BAILING.**

The meeting at St. Stephen's, on Saturday last, was attended by members from Acton, Brockley, Camberwell, Chalfont St. Peter, Erith, Fulmer, Harrow, Hershaw, Hillingdon, Isleworth, Stoke Poges, Ventnor, Willesden, and some of the local band. A variety of touches was rung in the methods up to Double Norwich Major. In the absence of the Vicar, an excellent address was given at the service by the Rev. J. Nankiville, and the "Ringers' Hymn," the National Anthem, and other music was sung, accompanied, on the powerful organ, by one of the local ringers, assisted by Miss G. Feltham from Hillingdon, one of the nine lady ringers present.

A very enjoyable tea was served by Host Bance in the coffee room of the "Bell" Hotel, and the generous supply of everything on the tables was equalled by the large and homely fire in the grate.

A short meeting was then held, but no minutes of the last meeting were read, for neither the district hon. secretary nor the assistant secretary was able to be present, but the members had the pleasure of the company of Mr. W. H. Oram (hon. secretary for the North and East district), who had thoughtfully provided the printed leaflets of the special hymn used in the service.

The District Master (Mr. T. Beadle) proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar of St. Stephen's for the use of the bells, and to the Rev. J. Nankiville for conducting the service and giving an address, more especially so as he came at the last moment as the representative of the Vicar.

Mr. Wm. Shepherd said the best thanks of all present were due to Mr. Wm. Lawrence for making all the arrangement for the tea and meeting, and for presiding at the organ at the service.

Some good handbell ringing was then done, one touch of Stedman Caters especially calling for mention, the ringers being: G. M. Kilby 1-2, W. Hewett 3-4, W. Shepherd 5-6, C. Horton 7-8, A. Mason 9-10, Miss B. K. McKrell, "Tommy Major," and Mr. J. Bruce-Williamson came from Chalfont St. Peter, the latter taking part in the handbell ringing. The President (Mr. A. T. King) sent word that he was unable to be present, and wrote, "I hope you will have as happy an evening with the handbells as we had here at our meeting."

**HUSBAND AND WIFE IN SILVER WEDDING PEAL.**

Mr. and Mrs. R. Whittington, of Cranleigh, Surrey, who achieved the distinction of being the first to ring a tower bell peal together as husband and wife, have now added another unique achievement to their record. On Saturday last they rang a peal in celebration of their silver wedding, and the congratulations of the Exercise will go out to them, with good wishes for continued health and happiness. The success of Saturday followed upon two unsuccessful attempts, one made on February 24th (Mr. and Mrs. Whittington's wedding day falling on Sunday, the 25th), when 1,500 changes were rung, and the second on September 15th, failing after ringing 2 hrs. 25 mins. Last Saturday, however, the effort culminated in success, as will be seen from the record in another column. It was Mrs. Whittington's first peal with a bob bell, and when the party came down from the tower they were met by the Rector of Cranleigh, who congratulated Mr. and Mrs. Whittington upon attaining their ambition, and the ringers generally upon their success. Mr. and Mrs. Whittington rang their first peal together on February 29th, 1912, at Cranleigh, and since then have rung seven other peals together, and have taken part in service and practice ringing in about 200 towers in different parts of the country.

**CORRECTION.**

The conductor of the peal at Lindley, the report of which was published in our last issue, was Charles H. Craven, whose first peal as conductor it was. The composition was by S. Wood.

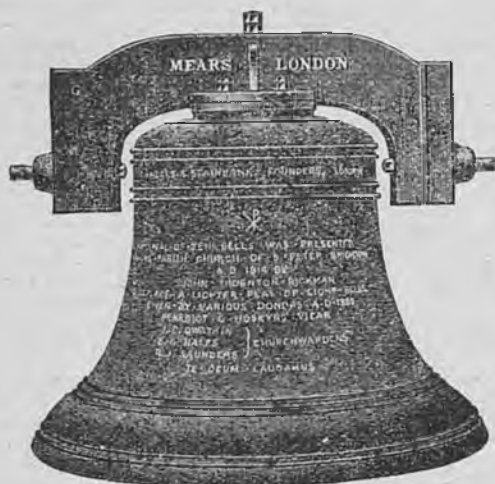
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**Foundry  
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# STAINBANK,

*Bellfounders & Bellhangers,*

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

## ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

**For Rebanging, 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*

## RINGING AFTER DARK.

### THE NORTHERN COMMAND ORDER.

As stated in our issue a fortnight ago, the Higher Military Authority have considered the general question of ringing after dark, and we have received the following important information relating to the towers situated in the Northern Command:—

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I am directed to enclose for your information a copy of an Order which has been made by the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Northern Command, with reference to the ringing and chiming of church bells within the Northern Command.

I am further directed to say, that the amount of extension to be allowed for the ringing of church bells has been very carefully considered by the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, and that applications to deal specially with individual cases just over any particular border line drawn cannot be entertained, inasmuch as wherever a line is drawn hard or anomalous cases must necessarily arise and the granting of such special privileges would merely create a fresh crop of anomalies.—Yours truly,

**E. KENNET BROWN, Second-Lieut.**

General Staff, Intelligence Officer, Northern Command, York.

The Order referred to, issued by Lieut.-General the Right Hon. Sir John Grenfell Maxwell, G.C.B., states that "special permission is hereby granted (until the same is withdrawn) for the ringing or chiming (where otherwise legal) of the bells of any Church, or other place of Divine Worship, within the respective areas specified in the Schedule hereto up to and not later than the respective times set opposite thereto in the Schedule, provided always that nothing herein contained shall authorise: (a) The causing of any nuisance or the interference with or infringement of any legal right, or (b) the making of any noise prohibited or restricted for the time being by order of a Secretary of State, under Regulation 12d, of the Defence of the Realm Regulations, with a view to preventing the disturbance of members of His Majesty's Forces suffering from wounds, accidents, or sickness, or (c) the ringing or chiming of any bell between the time when warning has been given of the approach of hostile aircraft, and the receipt by the Police of the notification "All clear," or (d) the ringing of any bell, which has at any time during the present War been used or publicly declared to be intended to be used as an alarm or signal of fire, approach of hostile aircraft, or other emergency, or the ringing of any bell in such a manner as to cause alarm to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood, provided also that nothing herein contained shall be construed as imposing any restriction or prohibition on the ringing or chiming of bells, which is not imposed by the Defence of the Realm Regulations for the time being in force."

The permission came into force on the 21st November.

The Schedule includes two areas.

In Area A, comprising the Counties of Derby, Leicester, Rutland and all such portion of the County of Nottingham and of the West Riding of Yorkshire as is situate on the West Side of the Main Line of the Great Northern and North Eastern Railways from Grantham to Selby, or within two miles thereof in an easterly direction, ringing is permitted until one and a half hours after sunset, or 9 p.m., whichever time shall be the earlier.

In Area B, comprising the County of Stafford, ringing is permitted until two hours after sunset, or 9 p.m., whichever time shall be the earlier.

A note to the Order points out, that the joint effect of Defence of the Realm Regulation No. 12b, the Lights (England and Wales) Order of the 22nd July, 1916, and the above Order, as regards the ringing and chiming of Church bells is that, in addition to and apart from the special circumstances above mentioned, the ringing and chiming of such bells audible at such a distance as to be capable of serving as a guide for hostile aircraft, is prohibited during the following hours in the various areas of the Northern Command:—

1. The Counties of Northumberland and Durham, the North and East Ridings of Yorkshire, and the County of Lincoln, from half an hour after sunset till half an hour before sunrise.

2. All such portion of the West Riding of Yorkshire and of the County of Nottingham as is situate more than two miles to the East of the Main Line of the Great Northern and North Eastern Railways from Grantham to Selby from one hour after sunset till one hour before sunrise.

3. The Counties of Derby, Leicester, and Rutland, and all such portion of the West Riding of Yorkshire and of the County of Nottingham as is situate to the West of the said Main Line of the Great Northern and North Eastern Railways from Grantham to Selby, or within two miles thereof in an easterly direction, from one and a half hours after sunset, or 9 p.m. (whichever time shall be the earlier) until one hour before sunrise; when, however, sunset is later than 8 p.m. the prohibition does not apply until one hour after sunset.

4. The County of Stafford, from two hours after sunset, or 9 p.m. (whichever time shall be the earlier) until one hour and a half before sunrise; when, however, sunset is later than 7.30 p.m. the prohibition does not apply until one and a half hours after sunset.

## THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

### ITS FAILINGS AND THE REMEDIES.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

#### VI.

Should the Council debate "scientific" subjects, or should it confine itself to what are called "practical" matters? Before we attempt to answer this there are one or two points to note.

1. It is certainly the fact that the majority of the members have not the necessary knowledge to follow some of these scientific debates, and, therefore, have no interest. I myself am interested in most of them, but I can easily realise how utterly wearying it must be to others to listen for a couple of hours or so to a discussion which is to them meaningless and trivial. These gentlemen, however, have had their revenge. It is due to them entirely that the "experts" are so reviled. The outside ringers do not object to these scientific discussions. They have not to be bored to death by listening to them.

2. But if you are going to confine yourself to "practical" matters, what exactly do you mean by practical? I have been at some pains to try and find the answer to this question, and the truth seems to be that when a man talks about a practical thing in this connection, he usually means a thing which is interesting to himself. A very natural, if rather selfish opinion. Now, if this be so, it is evident that there are many standards of what is practical.

To the beginner the practical thing is how to ring Grandsire Doubles; rules for calling Double Norwich are quite unpractical and "scientific" to him. To the vast body of ringers how to ring Stedman and Treble Bob are practical things; rules for ringing London Surprise are unpractical, because useless. To the man who knows a little about composition, the In and Out of Course of the changes is a practical matter; the laws which govern the production of seven-part peals of Stedman are unpractical and "ultra-scientific." To a man like Sir Arthur Heywood the construction of Stedman is a problem worthy of the closest investigation; the construction of methods is wholly unpractical and rather to be treated with good-natured contempt.

Or if you mean by "practical" matters which the whole body of the Exercise understands, and which directly affect every ringer, what are these subjects? Is the proposal to decorate every ringer with a badge a practical subject? Or is the proposal to turn the Council into a benefit society a practical question? I am not saying it is not, but I do say that the principal object of the Council is the advancement of change ringing, and other things are secondary.

Much of the confusion of thought on this matter is due to the fact that most men have a rather restricted view of what the end of change ringing is. To some men the one thing in change ringing is peal ringing; everything in it is of value only so far as it helps a man to pile up peals. The last three years may have altered this opinion somewhat, but that many men, reputed among the first of ringers, held it cannot be doubted. Other men look on ringing as part of the ritual of the Church's service. To them peals are only of value, so far as they help to improve the quality of service ringing. To other men the problems which theoretic ringing presents are far more interesting than anything else.

I do not say which of these opinions is the right one. No one by itself, probably. But they are held, and this makes it impossible to lay down any standard by which you can test what is practical or not. A thing is not necessarily unpractical because it does not interest you.

3. It is a mistake to suppose that interest in scientific subjects is confined to the few. Almost every keen ringer interests himself to a greater or less degree in the problems of theoretic ringing. Some aspire to be composers; others are content if they know enough to choose a good peal to call or to be able to prove its truth. There is just as much variety of ability among the "theoretic" ringers as among the "practical" ringers. But here is a difference. You don't find men who can just ring Treble Bob sneering at men who can ring London Surprise for doing an unpractical thing not worth the trouble it takes. But you do find men—many of them—who know a little about theoretic ringing sneering at men who are at pains to solve problems the nature of which even the others do not understand.

4. "But," say men, "when you have solved these problems what good is it? What is the use of taking all this trouble? Is anyone a nenny the better or the worse?" What use is it? No use at all. No more use than it is to try and weigh the sun or to measure the planets, or to search among dusty manuscripts hoping to reconstruct the history of the past. No more use than a hundred other things that men, esteemed learned, delight to do. And yet the mind of man is such that people will go on taking this trouble, and without asking what the use is. Not every scientific man looks to gain a fortune as the result of his discoveries. Be sure of this, that that mocking question, "What is the use of it?" is of the spirit of the very devil, and if pushed to its logical conclusion would reduce the mind of man to the level of the beasts of the field.

No. When we try to solve these questions we are not thinking of what use they will be. We do it because the labour is its own reward.

That may be. But the fact that I and others are interested in these matters does not justify us in boring to death the people who are not interested. I think we may say that nothing justifies that. But still I think that these subjects cannot be excluded from the Council for the following reason. Ringing is not only an art to be practised in the tower. It is also a highly complex science. If you ignore the science you ignore half of ringing, and, perhaps, the greater half—greater in quality, I mean.

I am convinced of this from deep study, that the scientific side of ringing created the practical, developed it and keeps it alive. When the scientific side is "worked out" and becomes neglected, then the art will have passed its best and its decay will set in. After all, there have been "experts" all along, and I dare say they have been "reviled" just as the modern ones are. You don't suppose Fabian Stedman was understood in his time by the ordinary ringer! Why, the ordinary ringer, nay, the advanced ringer, does not understand him now—has not reached nearly to his level in understanding the science of ringing.

A few years ago a leading composer referred to the "Tintinnalogia" as being for the greater part merely "stoncy." Much that leading composer knew about it!

Change ringing, like all other sciences which are really abstract sciences, requires a specially trained mind to understand, and those comparatively few who do understand it must necessarily be rather lonely and misunderstood. But it is our science. We did not create it. We inherited it, and must take it as it is. We shall not understand it by pretending it is something different to what it is.

(To be continued.)

### THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENT.

To the Editor

Sir,—As one who has sat upon the Central Council, at first representing a county association, and then as an honorary member, almost from the beginning, I accept on the whole Mr. Trollope's diagnosis of its failings; which failings, however, I regard as due not less (perhaps even more) to indifference and lack of support from the Exercise generally, than to our own inefficiency. I also agree with him that "reform should start at the top," and that the office of President should not in future be, as it has been, "the personal right of any one man." That it has been so was due, unavoidably due, to a combination of circumstances not likely to recur: nor do I think that in the early years of the Council the autocratic rule of our late President was any disadvantage to it, or to the Exercise. That things should not be so in the future is, I think equally clear. But Mr. Trollope's drastic remedy of a change of President for every meeting surely overshoots the mark. This would reduce the President to an annual scarehead, and give the real power to the secretary or other more permanent officials—a substitution of "King Log" for "King Stork" that would hardly benefit the community affected by it.

As things are, the President is chosen afresh for each period of three years. Let this continue, but let re-election for a further period of three years be a special privilege for a specially popular and efficient President, and let no one be re-elected for a third term of office. In no case must re-election become a mere form; and the Council should feel perfectly free, at each triennial vacancy, to suggest a fresh candidate or candidates for the office.—Yours faithfully,

AN OLD MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

### CLAPTON'S THIRD LOSS.

On Saturday last, in the ringing room of St. Matthew's, Clapton, ringers from various parishes of London assembled to show respect to a late member of the St. Matthew's Society, Leonard G. Hicks (aged 26 years), who gave his life in France on November 14th.—After a short appreciation and prayer by the Vicar (the Rev. O. R. Dawson), the bells were rung half-muffled for the whole-peal and stand, and in several touches, those taking part being: Miss Grace Adams, Messrs. H. C. Alford, O. L. Twist, W. T. Powell, J. Barry, A. S. Pettett, J. Hunt, H. F. Hull, H. T. Scarlett and S. S. Dunwell. A 630 of Grandsire Triples was rung by: H. T. Scarlett 1, H. C. Alford 2, Jas. Barry 3, W. T. Powell 4, Jas. Hunt (conductor) 5, O. L. Twist 6, H. F. Hull 7, A. S. Pettett 8.

St. Matthew's has now lost three of its ringing members out of eight serving with the colours in this war, the late esteemed Master, Capt. H. J. Sudell, having died of wounds received in the Dardanelles on August 27th, 1915, and the equally respected treasurer, Pte. G. H. Orford, from wounds received in France, June 24th, 1916.

At Tring, Herts, permission has been given by the Competent Military Authority for permission to ring for Sunday evening service between 6 and 7 o'clock, subject to the condition that bells must be immediately stopped on notification by the police of an impending air raid.

Permission has been obtained of the Competent Military Authority to ring for Sunday evening service at Mersham, Surrey.



## WINCHESTER GUILD.

## BASINGSTOKE DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

Forty-five ringers foregathered at the annual meeting of the Basingstoke District, which was held at Basingstoke on Saturday week. The district was represented by men from Basingstoke, Oakley, Overton, Bramley, Sheffield, and they were joined by friends from Reading, Caversham, Stomham, Bishopstoke, Southampton, Swindon, and London. The attraction was no doubt the fine peal of nine recently given to the new Church of All Saints, and hung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. They were set going soon after three o'clock, and went like fiddlers. Good, clean touches were brought round, in Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich and Kent Treble Bob Major. A pretty touch, though somewhat weird, of Stedman Triples was rung on the front eight (which are in the Minor scale); and a fine 216 of Grandsire Caters on the whole peal.

Ringing was also enjoyed at the Parish Church, where service at 5.30, was attended by the large body of ringers. The tea, provided with his usual care by Caterer Philpott, was, by kind permission of the Vicar, served in St. John's Schools; and the business meeting followed.

The officers were re-elected as follows: President, Dr. Bonstead; hon. secretary and treasurer, Rev. F. G. Hume; representative on Central Committee, Miss Alice White; and auditor, Mr. Henry White.

Quarterly meetings are to be arranged at Oakley, Bramley, and Overton; and the annual meeting is fixed for Saturday, Nov. 23rd, 1918, and to be held at Basingstoke.

Pleasant features of the gathering included the presence, at the tea and meeting, of the whole staff of the Basingstoke clergy; and a formal and very sincere vote of thanks to Colonel May the generous donor of the bells of the Church of All Saints, which contributed so much to the success of this annual meeting.

## A MEMORIAL PEAL AT BIDDENDEN.

One of the most promising of the local ringers of Biddenden, Kent, has made the supreme sacrifice for his King and country, leaving a young wife and widowed mother to deeply mourn their loss. Several members of the Kent County Association met at Biddenden tower on Saturday, November 24th, and rang a half-muffled peal to his memory.

The bells were sadly out of order for a great many years, but about three years ago the treble and second and seventh were recast, and the whole rehung by Mr. Alfred Howell, of Ipswich, who fully deserved the meed of praise accorded to him by the performers, after the peal, and also by those outside who had listened to the ringing, whose words were "more like a monster musical box than anything I have heard." The bells are undoubtedly a fine peal, both in tone and "go." It is believed to be nearly 50 years since the last peal was rung on them.

It has been decided to place a tablet in the tower, on which will be inscribed the names of any other local ringers who are called to lay down their lives in Freedom's cause.

Mrs. Gatehouse, who is a life and performing member of the Association, and who is now residing at Biddenden, very kindly entertained the ringers to tea after the peal, and her hospitality, needless to say, was very greatly appreciated. To her and also to Mr. Churchwarden Jones for his kind permission to ring the peal, the band tender their best thanks.

In Biddenden tower can be seen several peal records of 5,000 to 6,000 changes of Bob and Kentish Bob Major, rung as far back as the late "seventeens" and early "eighteens," and no doubt rung by local bands. Will the present generation ever see the interest in change ringing exist as it flourished in Kentish Wealden towers a century ago, as recorded on the ancient peal boards? One can but live in hope that the spirit of our forefathers will return at the conclusion of the present European catastrophe.

## A VISIT TO LONDON.

On Saturday, November 17th, Mr. W. Grimes, of Debenham, Suffolk, the father of the much lamented Mr. A. W. Grimes, paid a week-end visit to London, where he was met by many of his brother ringers. On the Saturday evening, a handbell party took place at the residence of Mr. Walter Keay, when touches of Stedman Triples and a course of Grandsire Caters were rung upon handbells kindly lent by Mr. A. S. Pettitt. Mr. and Mrs. T. Walker, together with Mr. Barker, played some well-rendered tunes, which were much appreciated.

On the Sunday morning, for Divine service, no less than twenty ringers attended at St. Botolph's, including several of the St. Paul's Cathedral Band, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Treble Bob Major, were rung, Mr. Grimes taking part.

On Monday, a visit was paid to the celebrated bell foundry of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, when Mr. A. A. Hughes very kindly explained all about the bells being cast there. The party, which consisted of Mr. Grimes, Mr. A. S. Pettitt, and Mr. W. A. Alps, on leaving, thanked Mr. Hughes, and the visit was brought to a close.

While in London, Mr. Grimes was made the recipient of a large framed photograph of the group taken at the opening of the peal of twelve at Saffron Walden, and in which the late Mr. A. W. Grimes figures.

## OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

A united practice, held at Denham, on Saturday week proved to be an enjoyable one. Amongst the various touches rung were Stedman Triples and Double Norwich, conducted by W. Hewett, and Kent Treble Bob by A. Mason, the heavy tenor being turned in by J. Bruce Williamson. "Tommy Major" piloted the treble through Grandsire Triples in promising style, and the ladies showed that the long draught of rope did not prevent them from ringing methods. At the close of the practice, the Rev. J. Fraser Amies (Chalfont St. Peter) said the "belfry office," and an adjournment was made for tea.

The teapot—a huge earthenware one—was skillfully managed by Miss E. Jones, although, from sheer weight it sometimes showed a tendency to "change-course," but not for once did it "dodge the wrong way," and everyone was satisfied. Fearing shortage, someone had brought a pot of jam; shall it be said that it was very "nutty" (naughty) of him to do so?

After the tea a peal of ten handbells, cast in a Wiltshire village in 1788, was produced. The fragrant weed was lighted, and meanwhile a good touch of Stedman was rung by: Geo. M. Kilby 1—2, W. Hewett 3—4, J. Bruce Williamson 5—6, W. Lawrence (conductor) 7—8. Grandsire Triples and Caters, and Bob Major, with F. Pike and G. Gutteridge, followed. The other ringers present were the Misses Bateman, Cooper, Gudgeon, and Williams; and Messrs. Honley, Bateman, and Honor. W. J.

## NORTH BUCKS BRANCH.

The quarterly meeting of North Bucks Branch was held at Newport Pagnell on Saturday last, when the following towers were represented: Blechley, Stony Stratford, Olney, and the local ringers. Several friends put in an appearance, including Messrs. Wilford and Lawrence, of Northampton; Miss Steele, of Bedford, and an unexpected member of the Blechley St. Mary's band, in the person of Gunner W. Pether, R.G.A., who had come home on leave straight from the last "Push" on the Cambrai front, his presence being greatly welcomed. The bells were going all the afternoon up to the restriction hour of ringing, and various methods were rung, including Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob, Stedman and Grandsire Triples. The service followed, which was conducted by the Rev. F. B. Gummery, Vicar of Newport Pagnell, who gave a very interesting address, which was much appreciated.—The usual business meeting then took place, the chair being taken by the President of the branch (the Rev. J. R. Vincent).

## BELLS OF VICTORY.

The ringing for the victory on the Cambrai front included the following:—

At the Church of St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney, on Sunday, November 25th, before morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins.: A. Riley 1, J. Barry 2, F. G. Symonds 3, M. Fenson 4, H. Franks 5, G. Smith 6, Spr. R. F. Deal, R.E. (conductor), 7. A. A. Hughes 8. The bells were also fired.

At Dorking, on November 22nd, rounds and call changes were rung at the Parish Church, the following ladies taking part: Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. James, Misses Cottrell, Adams, Reeves, Webber, Fuller, Fisher, and Washington.

The bells at Tring were rung on November 23rd.

On November 24th, the bands of All Saints', Leighton Buzzard, and St. Barnabas', Linslade, united and rang touches at St. Barnabas' in the afternoon, and at All Saints' in the evening.

At Reading, Berks, on Wednesday, November 21st, to celebrate the gallantry of our men in France, and the skill of their leaders, the Caversham ringers visited St. Lawrence's tower, and rang 504 Grandsire Caters: W. Newell 1, A. W. Osborne 2, W. Hibbert 3, Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, C.F., 4, A. Wiggins 5, H. Smith 6, H. Egby 7, E. W. Menday 8, R. T. Hibbert 9, H. Simmonds 10. Also 880 Kent Treble Bob Royal: H. Simmonds 1, W. Hibbert 2, A. Wiggins 3, A. W. Osborne 4, C. Pullen 5, H. Smith 6, G. Essex 7, E. W. Menday 8, Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn 9, R. T. Hibbert 10. The ringers take this opportunity of thanking "Father" W. Newell for having everything in readiness for them.

## THE LATE MR. HENRY SPRINGALL.

The funeral of the late Mr. Henry Springall took place at Ilford Cemetery on Saturday afternoon, and was attended by a number of London ringers. The bells of St. Giles' Church, Camberwell S.E., were, by permission of the Vicar and churchwardens, rung half-muffled to the whole pull and stand as a token of respect for the deceased by the following: H. Flower (conductor) 1, E. Gibbs 2, H. H. Peters 3, A. Marsh 4, G. Harmer 5, H. Flower junr. 6, F. Edwards 7, H. Gummer 8, T. Coledge 9, T. Coxhead 10.

The College Youths will ring the "whole pull and stand" as a token of respect to the memory of the late Mr. Springall, at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Saturday, Dec. 8th at two o'clock.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Nov. 4th, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss E. M. Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson (conductor) 4, J. Huddleston 5, W. S. Forshaw 6, J. Burrows 8 (cover).

**NOTICES.**

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

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Diocesan Branch.—A meeting will be held at Garston on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Bells ready at 3. Service at 6, meeting 6.30. Members intending being present please send word.—Rev. E. C. Collier, Walter Hughes, Secs.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION** (late St. James' Society. Estab. 1824).—A meeting for handbell practice and social intercourse will be held at 6.30 p.m. on Saturday, 8th December, at Headquarters Room, "The Edinburgh," Milford Lane, Strand, W.C. Ringers and friends invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—A Branch meeting will be held at the Holy Trinity Church, Burnley, on Saturday, Dec. 15th, 1917. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Ringing till 7 p.m. Report now ready.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Eccles Parish Church on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Pells available from 3.30 to 7 p.m. Meeting immediately after ringing.—W.W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Western Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Horsham, Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells available during the afternoon. All members intending being present please advise me not later than Dec. 12th.—A. W. Groves, 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—A quarterly meeting will be held at Currey Rivel on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Service at 4 p.m. Tea and meeting at 4.30.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., "Dunkery," Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business, on December 18th, and for handbell practice on the 13th and 27th, all at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1/8, which entitles members who have not attended twenty meetings in the past year, to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—The annual District Meeting of the North-Western Division will be held at Bishop's Stortford on Boxing Day, Dec. 26th, 1917. Bells available from 1 o'clock. Service 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting will be held at the Chequers Hotel at 4.45 p.m. Members 6d. each; non-members 1/- each. All those that require tea please let me know by Friday, Dec. 21st. No ringing after dark.—Wm. Watts, District Secretary, Mont House Cottage, Stansted, Essex.

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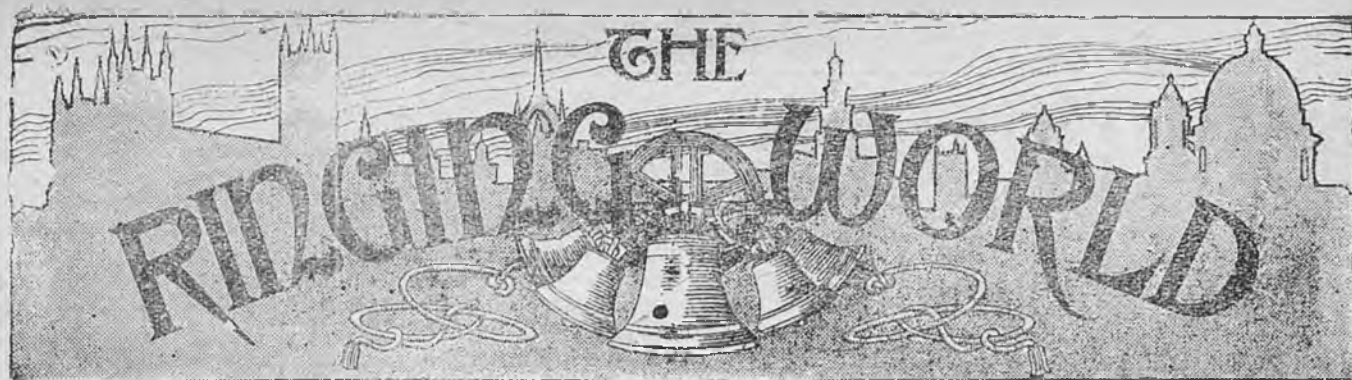
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Guildford, and Published by Messrs. WM. DAWSON & SONS  
LTD., Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.





No. 352. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14th, 1917.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for  
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Price 2d.

# GILLETT & JOHNSTON

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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 authorized 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

## EDUCATING THE PUBLIC.

The point raised in our last article with regard to the ignorance of the public on matters relative to ringing is one which will bear further consideration so far as concerns the efforts which ringers might make to dispel the lack of knowledge that exists. To a large extent, as we have already said, the present position is largely the fault of the ringers themselves. Ringers have always made their craft exclusive. They practise in the seclusion of the belfry where, with the few exceptions prompted by curiosity, the public seldom, if ever, enter. Obviously, of course, it would be impossible to admit the public to the ringing chamber in any numbers when ringing is in progress, and little good purpose would really be served by it if they were, for it might only serve to increase the impression that ringing is a monotonous occupation. But there is a method by which the public might be enlightened outside the belfry as to what goes on within, and in a manner that would be much more likely to secure their interest, so that some at least might know, when they hear the bells ringing, that the performance that is in progress is something more than the mechanical pulling of ropes for the purpose—as some imagine—of disturbing the peace of the neighbourhood.

There is no reason why ringers should continue to be such a secluded and exclusive set of people. We have much to gain by letting the world know that our art is something more than the mere ringing of the bell itself. True, the sound of the bells serve important public purposes, but the pulling of the rope, which many people consider to be simply a question of physical ability, is only a factor in the execution. It is governed by controlling laws which none but the initiated understand. The outsider knows nothing of the fascination of, or of the skill required in threading the complex paths of intricate methods, nor does he realise the concentration of mental effort required to accomplish the rhythmical pealing of the bells he hears.

How can ringers, then, reach the public in order to educate them? There is a way which has been adopted with much success in many places, and that is by means of lectures, or by papers read before audiences drawn from those outside the ringing fraternity. To begin with, the circle that can be reached must of necessity be somewhat restricted, but a good start can be made, as has been made in several parishes, with the C.E.M.S. and other church societies. Such lectures, as we all know, are more interesting when they can be illustrated, and, as has been more than once suggested, handbell ringing, or failing this, perhaps, gramophone records, in conjunction with lantern slides, would make the subject much more attractive. But

Continued on page 394.

## MODERN WORK.

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*Continued from page 393.*

the paper itself needs to be well written as well as well read, and it is not in the power of everyone either to find the time or to obtain all the information that might be required for this purpose. It is to meet cases of this kind that we have suggested that the Central Council might appoint one of its accomplished members to prepare a lecture which might be loaned out to any responsible ringer, and also have made a set of lantern slides and records to illustrate it. It was a suggestion which the late President readily fell in with, and but for the temporary suspension of the Council meetings might have been carried out before now.

### EIGHT BELL PEAL.

WOOBURN GREEN, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 1, 1917, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES!**

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

WILLIAM T. HORNE ... .. 1	RALPH COLES ... .. 5
FREDRICK WEST ... .. 2	WILLIAM HENLEY ... .. 6
GEORGE TWITCHEN ... .. 3	JAMES W. WILKINS ... .. 7
EDWARD MARKHAM ... .. 4	JAMES BLACKMORE ... .. 8

Conducted JAMES WILLIAM WILKINS.

Rung half-muffled as a mark of respect for the sailors and soldiers of this parish who have died for King and country in the war.

### RINGER'S WEDDING AT SALEHURST, SUSSEX PRESENTATION TO MEMBER OF AN OLD RINGING FAMILY.

A very pretty wedding took place at Salehurst Church on Thursday, the 6th inst. the bridegroom being Mr. W. H. Hoad (eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Hoad, of Glottenham Farm, Robertsbridge, and a very enthusiastic member of the Salehurst Church bell ringers), and the bride, Miss E. M. Taylor, youngest daughter of Mr. W. Taylor, of Loughborough, near Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire. The Rev. C. Ward, Vicar, officiated. As the bride entered the church, Miss Wenhau (organist) played Alex Guilmant's "Wedding Procession," and as the bridal party proceeded to the vestry Mendelssohn's "Wedding March." The hymn, "The voice that breathed o'er Eden," was sung during the service. As the registers were being signed the bells were set going to the tune of Grandsire Triples, and as the happy pair were leaving the church the bells were "fired." This was followed by a well-struck quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins., by: J. Goodsell 1, W. Franks 2, C. Tribe 3, J. Blake 4, T. Booth 5, W. H. Perry 6, A. E. Edwards (conductor) 7, L. French 8. Another quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was afterwards rung in 47 mins., by: J. Goodsell 1, A. E. Edwards 2, W. H. Perry 3, J. Blake 4, E. G. Billenness, Bedfordshire Regt. (conductor) 5, C. Tribe 6, T. Booth 7, L. French 8.

The wedding breakfast was held at Glottenham House (very kindly lent by Lady Tree), the ringers being among the invited guests. A very pleasant and enjoyable evening was spent. The bride and bridegroom left by the 8 p.m. train for London en route for the bride's home, where the honeymoon is being spent.

An interesting little ceremony took place in the belfry of St. Mary's Church previous to Matins on Sunday, the 2nd inst., there being present, in addition to the ringers, the Vicar (the Rev. C. E. Ward), Messrs. L. Hodson and F. Willshire (churchwardens) and W. Potter (sidesman).—Mr. T. Booth, captain, in asking the Vicar to make the presentation of a clock, on behalf of the ringers, to Mr. Hoad, said Mr. Hoad had always shown a good spirit, and his conduct had been exemplary. The ringers wished him and his future wife long life and happiness.—The Vicar, in making the presentation, said the churchwardens joined with him in associating themselves in the good wishes of the ringers to Mr. Hoad. He bore a name that had been honoured in the parish for many generations. His father had been associated with the ringers, as also had his grandfather, who had been sexton at that church for 40 years, and his great grandfather and great grandmother were buried in the shadow of the church. He hoped that as the hands of the clock recorded the passing hours, Mr. Hoad would be pleasantly reminded of that gathering in the belfry.—Mr. Hoad suitably responded.

An attempt for a peal of Grandsire Triples in honour of the wedding will be made at Salehurst on Boxing Day, as it cannot be arranged before owing to the Lighting Act.

## RINGERS WIN DISTINCTIONS.

## D.C.M. AND MILITARY MEDAL.

The number of ringers who have gained distinction for bravery and meritorious conduct on the field is rapidly growing, and this week it is our pleasant duty to record the award to two more gallant men for acts of conspicuous courage.

Lance-Corpl. J. Edward Wilson, of the East Yorkshire Regiment, and a member of the Blackburn Parish Church band, has been awarded the D.C.M. for gallantry in a daylight raid on the Western front. He is now home on sick leave, after recovering from a bullet wound in the arm, and he has paid a visit to the belfry, where he took part in a 720 Bob Minor (with tenor covering), for evening service: E. Eastworth 1, W. Briggs 2, Joe Woods 3, E. Duteson 4, W. E. Wilson 5, J. Watson (conductor) 6, Lance-Corpl. J. E. Wilson, D.C.M., 8. Needless to say, his brother ringers heartily congratulated him on the distinction he has earned.

Pte. John Capp, of the St. Peter's band of ringers, Brighton, who has been serving in the 2nd Queen's Royal West Surrey Regiment, has been awarded the Military Medal in connection with an attack "somewhere in France." He was wounded by a bullet passing through his left foot, just under the ankle bone, and coming out on the other side, just behind the small toe. He is now an inmate of the military hospital, Bethnal Green, London, and the wound seems to be progressing favourably.

Pte. Capp learnt change ringing with the Chiddingfold band, Surrey, and rang his first peal (Bob Major), at Holy Trinity, Guildford, on November 8th, 1904. He migrated to Brighton about five years ago, where he distinguished himself among the Parish Church company as a steady and reliable ringer. He is a member of the Winchester Diocesan Guild and the Sussex County Association.

## SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

## MEETING AT WIMBORNE MINSTER.

The annual meeting of the Wimborne branch was held at Wimborne Minster, on Saturday last. It had become noised abroad that Q.-M.-Sergt. Cave, R.E., now stationed at Juppura Camp, near Christchurch, would be there, and this chance of meeting him, as well as the rare opportunity of a ring on the ten bells in these days, drew nearly 60 members together from Bournemouth, Christchurch, Kingston Magna, Okeford Fitzpaine, Poole, Shillingstone, Stanbridge, Sturminster Marshall, Wimborne Minster, Wool, Wyke Regis, etc. Ringing commenced soon after three, and between then and service at 4.30, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters were rung by the Rev. F. L. Edwards (secretary of the Guild), the Rev. C. Carew Cox (now settled in the branch at West Moors, near Wimborne), Q.-M.-Sergt. Cave and Sapper Capewell (from Bristol), Messrs. H. F. Martin Stewart (past Master of the Guild), C. H. Jennings (secretary Dorchester branch), Lewis Wiffen (Wyke Regis), F. W. Townsend (Poole), C. Goodenough and Eli Waters (Bournemouth, St. Peter's), and Alfred Osman (Wimborne Minster). Q.-M.-Sergt. Cave conducted throughout the afternoon and evening, and was the life and soul of the meeting. Sapper Capewell and Corpl. Gory are also giving much valued help on Sundays to the depleted bands at the Priory and St. Peter's, Bournemouth.

Service was held in the chapel of the Minster, prayers being read by Rev. A. D. Allan, headmaster of the Grammar School, and the address given by the Vicar (the Rev. Canon Fletcher), who afterwards entertained the whole party to tea at the Church House.

Before leaving the tea room some touches of Caters were rung on handbells, and during the evening the first touch of Bob Major on the bells, by the following: Rev. R. Whitford (Southbourne and Christchurch) 1, F. W. Townsend 2, H. Bennett (Bournemouth, St. John's) 3, H. F. Martin Stewart 4, Eli Waters 5, C. W. Goodenough 6, Lewis Wiffen 7, Q.-M.-Sergt. Cave (conductor) 8.

## LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

## AMERICAN TARS AND N.Z. SOLDIERS ENTERTAINED.

On Saturday, upwards of thirty members and friends assembled at the Headquarters Room at the "Edinburgh," Milford Lane, Strand, and putting aside for an hour or two the troublous times enjoyed a very happy evening.

The business meeting, presided over by the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender), being concluded, the rest of the evening was devoted to touches in various methods and tunes on the handbells, interspersed with songs, etc., which brought to mind the happy days prior to August, 1914.

Among the visitors were sailors of our Ally, America, and New Zealand soldiers, to whom the mysteries of change ringing were unfolded, and who were keenly interested.

Mr. W. G. Matthews and Mr. J. Milner kindly rendered songs, whilst Mr. F. E. Dawe gave a recitation which was heartily applauded.

Selections on handbells were given by Mr. and Mrs. T. Walker, and Pte. A. D. Barker, R.A.M.C.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, January 12th, 1918, particulars of which will appear in the "Ringing World."

## JOY BELLS.

On Saturday afternoon, November 24th, members of the Acton Guild of ringers met, and at the special request of the Rural Dean (the Rev. Templeton King, B.D.), journeyed to Christ Church, Ealing Broadway, and rang "Joy Bells" to celebrate the great British Victory on the Cambrai front. Touches of Grandsire and Bob Minor, with 6-8 covering, were indulged in. After almost an hour's ringing there came a surprise—a welcomed one, too. The churchwarden appeared at the belfry door with a request that ringers would join him at tea at Bnolls' Restaurant opposite. Needless to say this was thoroughly enjoyed the more so because it was unexpected. After thanking the churchwarden for his kind hospitality, the band returned to Acton, where, at the request of the Rector, "Joy Bells" were rung in Grandsire and Bob Minor. Conducting was shared by Robt. Holloway, A. W. Davis and Arthur Hubbard; the remainder of the band were J. W. Fruin, C. Edwards, A. E. Smith, H. Brown, and a ringing friend from Lancashire attached to the Royal Flying Corps. On Sunday afternoon special ringing took place at St. Mary's, Acton, when a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1264) was brought round in 50 minutes, by the following band: Pte. S. Meadows, A.S.C. (conductor), 1, H. Barrett 2, Robt. Holloway (first in this method on bob bell) 3, H. Cook 4, C. Hunt 5, G. Iles 6, J. Milner 7, H. Mance 8.

At Selby Abbey, on Sunday afternoon, Nov. 25th, for the men's service, and to celebrate the victory of General Byng's troops, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: J. W. Hall (first quarter-peal) 1, T. Morgan 2, E. Storr 3, W. A. Hall 4, F. Cryer 5, W. Hinton 6, H. Fairlam (conductor) 7, G. Rippon 8.

At Holy Trinity Church, Darlington, Durham, on Saturday, Nov. 24th, touches of Stedman Doubles, Bob Minor, Kent Treble Bob and London Surprise Minor, the following ringers taking part: Gunner Hine, Pte. Hibbert, Messrs. G. Park, W. H. Porter, R. B. Wilson, F. Cooke, F. Atkinson, G. J. Lungle, W. Wooley, and G. W. Park. Gunner Hine hails from Horton, Staffs; Pte. Hibbert, R.E., from Busley, Herts.

On November 23rd, at the Parish Church of St. Oswald, Oswestry, Salop, touches of Stedman Triples: T. Marshall 1, G. Thompson 2, J. Hughes 3, R. Edwards 4, R. Martin 5, R. Evans 6, E. Jones 7, H. Jarman, G. Williams and G. G. Beaton tenor.

Crawley, Sussex, like many places, now being very short of ringers, was unable to celebrate victory week with the bells, but, although rather late, a band was got together from different towers on Sunday afternoon, December 2nd, and 1420 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 58 mins., by: J. Rice (Crawley) 1, A. Wood (Nutfield) 2, J. Akehurst (Capel) 3, A. Mitchell (Crawley) 4, A. Mills (Crawley) 5, G. Ilman (Horley) 6, A. Ellis (Charwood) 7, F. Rice (Reigate), conductor, 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples, by: A. Mitchell 1, A. Wood 2, J. Akehurst 3, F. Rice 4, P. Tyler 5, J. Rice (conductor) 6, G. Ilman 7, W. Vincent 8. The bells were then lowered, as military restrictions prevented any service ringing being attempted.

## THE LATE MR. H. SPRINGALL.

Members of the Ancient Society of College Youths rang the "whole pull and stand" at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Saturday last, in memory of the late Mr. H. Springall: E. Horrex 1, S. E. Joyce 2, H. R. Passmore 3, H. Langdon 4, I. G. Shade 5, H. R. Newton 6, E. Hall 7, C. F. Winney 8, C. S. Burden 9, F. E. Dawe 10, W. Prime 11, W. T. Cockerill 12 followed by three courses of Stedman Cinques: F. E. Dawe 7, R. Sanders 10, W. T. Cockerill (conductor) 11, W. Prime 12, the others standing as before. Also four courses of Stedman Caters: C. H. Horton 1, H. Langdon (conductor) 2, I. G. Shade 3, H. R. Passmore 4, J. Scholes 5, S. E. Joyce 6, C. S. Burden 7, R. Sanders 8, E. Hall 9, G. Barrell 10.

Mrs. Springall, her son and daughter, and other friends of the family were listeners in the belfry, and others who attended included Messrs. A. Hubbard, G. T. Clayton, W. A. Alps, A. S. Pettitt, A. A. Hughes, T. Langdon, G. Dorrington, C. Ward, A. Discrens, and T. Walker.

## RINGING FOR FALLEN HEROES.

## To the Editor.

Sir,—It is by this time generally known that His Majesty has appointed Sunday, 8th January, as a day of Prayer and Thanksgiving with reference to the war. Last year's proposal should be made to ring muffled peals on that day, but I point out that it is the Feast of the Epiphany, when anything but open ringing would be entirely out of place. Ringers desiring to pay a tribute to the memory of our heroes fallen in battle might well do so on New Year's Eve.—Yours truly,

F. LI. EDWARDS.

Kingston Magna, 26th November, 1917.

BRECON, SOUTH WALES.—On Sunday, Nov. 4th, at St. Mary's Church, for morning service, 1260 Stedman Doubles, in 45 mins.; and for the evening service 840 Grandsire and Stedman Doubles: S. Watkins 1, W. Hargest 2, G. Giblin 3, S. Brooks 4, W. Evans (conductor) 5, W. Griffiths 6.



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## ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

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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.*

## A YORKSHIRE VETERAN.



MR. GEORGE BOLLAND, OF TONG,

who has just celebrated the 40th anniversary of his first peal, by conducting the extents in the same seven methods on the bells of his Parish Church, where he is churchwarden. Mr. Bolland is one of the oldest and most prominent members of the Yorkshire Association.

## LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A very successful meeting of the Liverpool Branch of the Lances Association and the Liverpool Diocesan Guild was held at Garston on Saturday, members attending from Liverpool, Walton, Widnes, Hale, Grassendale, Birkenhead, and the local company. Ringing commenced at 3, and was continued until 6 o'clock, when service was held in church, at which Archdeacon Howson gave an address.

The Vicar (the Rev. T. Parnal Rowe) kindly provided tea in the Institute, and the business meeting which followed was presided over by Archdeacon Howson, supported by the Revs. T. Parnal Rowe, J. Shaw and C. A. Clements.—Two new members were elected, and the Secretary reported what had been done in connection with obtaining permission to ring after dark, sanction having been obtained to ring until 7 p.m.

It was proposed that the bells be muffled for service on Sunday, January 6th, in memory of our fallen heroes.

The methods rung during the day were Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major.

## HOME FROM FRANCE.

Gunner C. F. Bailey, M.G.C., of Leiston, Suffolk, who just before the war was one of the most successful conductors of the Norwich Association, has been home on leave from France, and the following ringing was arranged on Saturday, December 8th: 1024 Superlative Surprise Major: A. Keeble 1, C. F. Bailey 2, G. Wilson 3, C. S. Bailey 4, J. M. Bailey 5, J. G. Rumsey 6, C. Samson 7, E. H. Bailey 8. Also 504 Stedman Triples: E. H. Bailey 1, J. G. Rumsey 2, G. Wilson 3, A. Keeble 4, J. M. Bailey 5, C. S. Bailey 6, C. F. Bailey 7, C. Samson 8.—On Sunday, December 9th, 576 Superlative Surprise Major by the same band. All the touches were conducted by C. F. Bailey, who is now returning to France, taking with him the best wishes of those left at home of the St. Margaret's Society, for a safe and speedy return to his old town.

BEACONSFIELD.—On Sunday, Nov. 18th, for morning service, 360 Bob Minor, and some Stedman Doubles: T. S. Smith 1, G. T. Leader 2, E. Hooper 3, J. Blackmore 4, Sapper R. H. Young, R.E., 5, W. Henley (conductor) 6.

## THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

### ITS FAILINGS AND THE REMEDIES.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

#### VII.

We come to the conclusion, then, that you can't exclude scientific subjects from the Council's agenda without injury to the Exercise; but also that they must not be discussed so as to bore people either inside or outside the meetings. In other words, it is not the subjects themselves that have caused the trouble, it is the way they have been dealt with.

There are two mistakes, I think, which the so-called "experts" have made; the first is that as a rule they have been much more anxious to show that another person is wrong, than to explain what is right; and the second is that they are not nearly clear enough in their statements.

I am not going to deny that debate by means of positive assertion and direct contradiction has its uses. With certain qualification it is a most excellent way of arriving at truth. And certainly for those who are in the swim, a lively debate where two sides of a question are strongly put is much more interesting than a sedate, judicious essay on the same subject. But for those outside who don't know enough to follow the debating points it is utterly useless.

And people are not nearly clear enough in stating what they mean. They use terms and expressions, and they never think of explaining them or giving an exact definition. The reason probably is because they themselves do not know what, exactly, they mean. I can give an example of this. It may be true, or it may not, that "every method is produced by bobs and extremes from primary principles," but at any rate since Mr. Baker has never defined what he means by a "bob," when he made that statement, we have no means of judging the matter.

It is useless to say in a connection like this that everyone knows what a "bob" is, because taking the ordinary ringer's view of the term, the statement is obviously false, and we should not do Mr. Baker the injustice of thinking that that is what he means. Or again, when Mr. Davies tells us that scientific ringers have agreed that only such methods as keep the regular succession of the nature of the rows, are "legitimate," since that means that these men have agreed that Kent, Cambridge, Bristol, and London are not legitimate, we have a right to ask what does "legitimate" mean in this connection, and who are the people who have thus agreed, and when did they agree. These are only instances of a very common mistake in discussing these subjects.

The reforms in the Central Council I propose are these:—First, do away with the absurdity of pretending you can settle questions of theoretic ringing by passing resolutions. These questions are matters of truth and fact, and if they are truth and fact no resolution can affect them. You will probably remember the old tale of Galileo, the Italian astronomer. Galileo said the earth moved round the sun, and was, therefore, brought before the Holy Office on a charge of heresy. He was given the alternative of either recanting or being burnt, and, not unnaturally, chose the first. As he got up from his knees, after solemnly repenting of his "error," he was heard to mutter, "But it does move all the same."

Even so, though the Council had solemnly declared at Mr. Davies' bidding, that Bob Major Lead Ends are only as other lead ends, yet nature and nature's laws have said the other thing; and I put my money on the second horse.

Secondly, as a substitute for these resolutions you should ask men who may really be considered as authorities to read carefully prepared papers on limited subjects. These papers should aim at being interesting and instructive. There must be no trying to talk down to an ignorant audience; but on the other hand, it must not be assumed that the audience is composed of experts. There is a happy medium which can be attained.

I had intended to give an example of the sort of paper I am thinking of, but it would not really be an example, because spoken words convey so much more than written words.

I would not limit the nature of the subjects. Provided the speaker could make it interesting and instructive, I would let him talk about anything connected with ringing. You would not be expected to agree with everything said, and everything said would not always be exact truth. That need not matter; many things only partially true are useful in stimulating thought. There is, for instance, Mr. Law James' theory about Stedman, which is certainly not wholly true, and yet contains much that is both true and instructive. Indeed, I personally have always found Mr. James' opinions useful in the same way that a cat finds the leg of a chair useful—they are very handy things to sharpen my claws on.

I have written these few criticisms and suggestions, not because I have any infallible means of improving the Council, but because I am sure that it cannot go on as it has been going on. If it is to be

a real use to the Exercise something must be done. I have merely thrown out a few hints. It is for these men who have power and influence among ringers to think the matter over, and in due time to make the necessary reforms.

### THE SUPREME SACRIFICE.

Every week brings news of the death of one or more ringers who have made the great sacrifice on the field of honour, and in this issue we chronicle the loss of several men, not least well known among them being Pte. G. H. Kettle, who so ably discharged the duties of hon. secretary of the Warwickshire Guild for the best part of three years. To the relatives of those who have given up their lives in their country's cause the sympathy of the Exercise will go out.

#### DEATH OF THE LATE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD SECRETARY.

It is with deep regret we have to record the death of Pte. G. H. Kettle, of Allesley, near Coventry, who died of wounds in France on November 28th, at the age of 34 years. He held the position of hon. secretary of the Warwickshire Guild from 1914 to 1916, and was greatly respected by all who knew him.

Pte. Kettle learned to ring at Allesley, and was one of a band of ringers who made good progress in the art of change ringing, under the tuition of members of the Stoke-in-Coventry Society. He rang twelve peals, viz., two of Doubles, seven of Bob Minor, one of Grand-sire, and two of Stedman Triples.

As a mark of esteem and respect the following members of the Allesley and Stoke bands rang with the bells half-muffled, at Allesley, on December 2nd for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: W. Pryce 1, J. H. White (conductor) 2, W. J. Smith 3, J. Taylor 4, A. Wilson 5, W. T. Cox 6. Also for evening service, several six-scores, of Grand-sire Doubles. The bells at Stoke were also rung half-muffled, on Sunday, December 9th, for evening service.

#### HELMSHORE RINGER KILLED IN ACTION.

J. H. Banks, the ringing secretary of the Lancs Association, has received information that his eldest son, Pte. James Arthur Banks, age 19 years, of the K.O.R.L., was killed instantaneously by a shell on October 19th, 1917. Pte. Banks was formerly a Lewis gunner in the 5/7th Middlesex Regiment, but was transferred to the Lancasters on going out in September of this year. He had only been at the front about 14 days, and it was only his fifth day in the trenches when he was killed.

Deceased commenced to ring with the Helmsore band 3½ years ago. He was a promising young ringer, and had learned to steer a bell in Grand-sire, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob. He was a member of the Lancs Association, and is the first of the Helmsore ringers to fall in action.

A memorial service was held in St. Thomas' Church on Sunday evening, December 2nd, and a muffled quarter-peal of Grand-sire Triples (1260 changes) was rung previous to the service by the following local ringers: Arthur Steff 1, Thomas Foster 2, John H. Entwistle 3, Joseph Banks 4, Thomas Wallwork 5, Thomas P. Brandwood 6, James H. Banks (conductor) 7, Wm. Steff 8.

#### WITNEY BAND'S LOSSES.

It is with deep regret to have to record the death of a very promising ringer of Witney, Oxon, in H. E. Long, lance-corporal of the 2/4th Oxon and Bucks L.I., who fell in France about the middle of July, 1916. He was of a very cheerful disposition, and will be much missed by his fellow ringers. He had taken part in two peals of Grand-sire Triples, the last being on the 3rd January, 1914, at Witney Parish Church. He rang the treble at both peals. The Witney band has also lost Pte. Albert E. Brooks, of the Oxon and Bucks Regiment, who was killed in action, on May 9th, 1917, at Salonika. He leaves a young family of five to mourn their loss.

Writing of Pte. Brooks, the Master of the Oxford Guild (the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn), says:—

"I should like to put on record my appreciation of the late Pte. A. Brooks, Oxon and Bucks Regiment. It is now about 15 years since he commenced to ring at Witney, where I was then assistant curate. He rang his first peal, Grand-sire Triples, on August 14th, 1902, in honour of the Coronation of King Edward and Queen Alexandra. But if I remember rightly he was even then more proficient in Stedman ringing, and soon became a most valued member of the band, which rang the first local peal of Stedman Triples on December 1st, 1904. I shall ever have happy recollection of ringing Stedman Triples with that band, with 'Berf' on the Treble. He was such a ringer as ringers love to meet, very quiet and steady, and making as few mistakes as any man I have known. He had the gift of ringing at the light end in such a way that his bell was always heard without being unduly assertive. I do not know how many peals he rang, but I took part in upwards of twenty with him, mostly Stedman Triples. For a considerable time he filled the office of steeple keeper, and was as good in that capacity as he was at the rope's end. May he rest in peace."

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**HENLEY-ON-THAMES.**—At the Parish Church of St. Mary, on Sunday, October 7th, on the occasion of harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: G. White 1, O. W. Porter 2, R. Bushnell 3, J. Hiscock 4, G. Cleave (conductor) 5, H. Hatto 6, W. J. Fuller 7, A. Sheppard 8. The ringers of 2, 4, 5 and 8 hail from Shipkake; treble, 3 and 6 are local men, and W. J. Fuller hails from Wargrave.

**COTGRAVE, NOTTS.**—On Oct. 20th, to celebrate the anniversary of Trafalgar, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: Frank Spencer 1, William E. White 2, Rev. C. J. Sturton 3, Walter White 4, A. Mackears (conductor) 5, T. Squires 6. 360 Bob Minor: Miss I. B. Thompson 1, A. Mackears 2, Rev. C. J. Sturton 3, T. Squires 4, F. Spencer 5, Walter White (conductor) 6. 360 Single Court: F. Spencer 1, Walter White (conductor) 2, Rev. C. J. Sturton 3, William E. White 4, T. Squires 5, A. Mackears 6. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles.

**BARNES.**—At St. Mary's Church, on October 21st, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: M. Jacobs 1, H. Barrett 2, W. H. Stevens 3, C. Munt 4, H. Cook 5, Pte. S. Meadows, A.S.C., 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, H. Dyns 8.—At St. Mary's Church, on Oct. 22th, in 42 mins., a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: M. Jacobs 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, W. H. Stevens 3, H. Barrett 4, Pte. S. Meadows, A.S.C., 5, C. Munt 6, F. Skevington 7, H. Cook 8.

**LINDLEY, YORKS.**—On October 27th, 1280 Kent Treble Bob Major, composed by A. J. Perkins: J. Broadley (conductor) 1, C. H. Craven 2, J. Hardcastle 3, Ben Thorp 4, W. B. Frith 5, J. Cotterell 6, F. Salmons 7, Joe E. Sykes 8. Rung in honour of the 21st birthday of Mr. T. Cotterell, son of the ringer of the 6th, who is serving in France, and as a birthday compliment to Messrs. Joe Broadley and Joe Sykes. A peal had been arranged, but on account of a funeral the above had to be rung instead.

**BIRMINGHAM.**—On Sunday, Oct. 28th, at Bishop Ryder's Church, after morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: S. Coley 1, A. T. Scrivens (composer and conductor) 2, J. George 3, W. F. Webb 4, A. E. Norman (first quarter in the method) 5, O. G. Norman 6, J. B. Collett 7, T. Pearce 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled for the soldiers and sailors who have lost their lives in the war.

**BROMLEY, KENT.**—At SS. Peter and Paul's Church, on Nov. 4th, for morning service, on the occasion of a visit of the Bishop of Rochester to conduct a Masonic service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins.: Miss E. F. Burch 1, P. J. Spice 2, A. E. Newick 3, W. H. Hewett 4, G. Huxley 5, I. Emery (conductor) 6, G. Durling 7, G. F. James 8.—On Nov. 6th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 42 mins.: G. F. James 1, G. Durling 2, P. J. Spice 3, I. Emery 4, W. Martin 5, A. E. Newick 6, G. Huxley (conductor) 7, C. Austin 8. And 504 of Stedman Triples: I. Emery (conductor) 1, W. Martin 2, A. E. Newick 3, P. J. Spice 4, Pte. W. E. Maulden 5, G. Huxley 6, G. Durling 7, C. Austin 8. Rung in honour of the birthdays of the mother of Mr. I. Emery and Mr. J. Emery, of Hersham (Surrey), and of the father of Mr. C. Austin, of Beckenham, both of whom attained their 77th year on that date.

**KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.**—On Sunday, Nov. 4, for morning service, at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins.: H. G. Naish 1, F. G. Goddard 2, J. Howes (conductor) 3, F. Davis 4, C. Slade 5, A. Beckensale 6, J. N. Frossell 7, J. Chandler 8.—On Sunday, Nov. 18th, the last 742 of Holt's Original: H. G. Naish 1, F. G. Goddard 2, C. Slade 3, F. Davis 4, J. Howes (conductor) 5, A. Beckensale 6, J. N. Frossell 7, J. Chandler 8.

**TIVERTON, DEVON.**—At St. Peter's Church, on Nov. 6th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins.: E. Richards 1, E. Munday 2, E. Sherland 3, B. Gruter 4, F. Newcombe 5, J. Elsworth 6, F. Chamberlain (conductor) 7, B. Vicary 8. Arranged as a special welcome to Mr. F. Chamberlain, who belongs to St. John's, Cardiff.

**ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.**—On Nov. 10th, at the Church of St. Peter, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins.: Mrs. W. Wolstencroft 1, Miss Ethel Grimshaw 2, Miss Lucy Thorp 3, Miss Ada Wolstencroft 4, R. Wimpenny 5, J. Harrison 6, W. W. Wolstencroft (conductor) 7, J. Rolls 8. This is the first quarter-peal rung by the ladies.

**HEADCORN, KENT.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Nov. 11th, for morning service, 360 Grandsire Doubles (three different callings) on the back six bells: Mrs. M. M. Gatehouse 1, A. T. Slingsby 2, P. Hodgkin (conductor) 3, L. Honess 4, J. Arthur 5, W. Hukins 6. Mrs. Gatehouse and L. Honess are from Biddenden; J. Arthur from Sutton Valence; the rest belong to the local band.

**DUDLEY.**—On Sunday morning, Nov. 11th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes), in 49 mins., in honour of the visit of the Mayor and Corporation: W. Mills 1, J. Goodman, junr., 2, H. Goodman 3, T. Walton 4, A. Greenfield 5, H. Jeavons 6, J. Goodman, senr. (conductor), 7, H. Sheppard 8, G. Guest 9, W. Meek 10.

## NOTICES.

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

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch. —A Branch meeting will be held at the Holy Trinity Church, Burnley, on Saturday, Dec. 15th, 1917. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Ringing till 7 p.m. Report now ready. —J. Watson, Branch Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Eccles Parish Church on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells available from 3.30 to 7 p.m. Meeting immediately after ringing.—W.W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Western Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Horsham, Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells available during the afternoon. All members intending being present please advise me not later than Dec. 12th.—A. W. Groves, 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—A quarterly meeting will be held at Currey Rivel on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Service at 4 p.m. Tea and meeting at 4.30.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., "Dunkery," Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business, on December 18th, and for handbell practice on the 27th, at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1/8, which entitles members who have not attended twenty meetings in the past year, to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch. —The next meeting will be held at the Saviour's Church, Bolton, on Saturday, Dec. 22nd, 1917. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Meeting 6.30.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Secretary, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

**THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—The annual District Meeting of the North-Western Division will be held at Bishop's Stortford on Boxing Day, Dec. 26th, 1917. Bells available from 1 o'clock. Service 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting will be held at the Chequers Hotel at 4.45 p.m. Members 6d. each; non-members 1/- each. All those that require tea please let me know by Friday, Dec. 21st. No ringing after dark.—Wm. Watts, District Secretary, Mont House Cottage, Stansted, Essex.

**THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Newport on Boxing Day, 26th December. Owing to the death of the Vicar of All Saints it will be held at St. Woolos in lieu of All Saints as previously arranged. Bells of both churches available. Service at 4.30. Business meeting to follow in Waters Lane Mission Room.—Hon. Secs., Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., John W. Jones, 29, Barrack Hill, Newport.

**NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.**—A district meeting of the above will be held at Ordsall (Retford) on Boxing Day, Dec. 26th. Bells (6) available from 10 a.m. to sunset. A cordial invitation is given to members of kindred associations to attend the meeting. All those who require tea must advise Mr. David Blagg, 11, Wright



Wilson Street, Retford, not later than Dec. 20th, and, if a sufficient guarantee is sent in, a meat tea will be provided at the Gate Inn, at 5 p.m., at 2/3 per head.—H. Haigh, Hon. Sec.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Southern District).**—Owing to restricted facilities respecting bellringing within limited hours, no December (quarterly) meeting will be held by the above.—Leonard Brightman, District Sec. *pro tem.*, 45, St. Stephen's Road, Rotherham.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The monthly meeting of this society will be held at St. Chad's, Far Headingley, on Saturday, Jan. 5th, 1918. Bells will be available from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. The business meeting will be held in the Parochial Hall adjoining the Vicarage at 7 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

**WANTED**, good reliable Watch and Clock Jobber, for old established firm, good change ringer, and over military age.—Robinson & Co., The Square, Shrewsbury, Salop.

**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 WANTED.

**HANDBELLS.**—WANTED set of 8, secondhand. Address J. Puplett, Victoria Nurseries, Leighton Buzzard.

#### ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.

A meeting of the Guild was held at Mersham on Saturday week. Ringing commenced soon after two o'clock, and continued at intervals until sunset, touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major being brought round, and the bells lowered in peal. The Rector (the Rev. E. G. Brocklehurst) visited the belfry during the afternoon, and after extending to the ringers a hearty welcome invited them to the Scouts' Hall to tea (as soon as the ringing was done), which invitation, needless to say, was willingly accepted and highly appreciated.

The Rector presided at the business meeting which followed, and was elected a vice-president of the Guild. Messrs. Thomas and Earl, of Mersham, and Mr. Good, of Charing, were elected as new members, and Appledore was fixed as the place for the annual meeting, on Jan. 12th, 1918.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for his kind hospitality and to the ladies for serving tea and a smoke and a short time spent in pleasant intercourse brought the meeting to a close. The towers represented were Ashford, Aldington, Charing, Rye, Stone-in-Oxney, and Tenterden, and several of the local band were also present. The weather being very unfavourable in the early part of the day no doubt militated against a larger attendance.

#### THE CAPTURE OF JERUSALEM.

The capture of Jerusalem by the British troops under General Allenby was celebrated by the ringing of Southwark Cathedral bells on Tuesday.

The ringers met voluntarily by prearrangement, some twenty of them being present from all parts of London, and some capital twelve-bell ringing was done from one to two o'clock.

The celebration at Southwark is particularly interesting, as this noble old tower is the only bell tower in London dating back to the year 1244—the year of the fall of Jerusalem.

#### A NOTED DEVON PEAL TO BE REHUNG.

The fine ring of eight bells at Plympton St. Mary has not been rung for a long time owing to the bad condition of the bearings and fittings. At a largely attended meeting it was unanimously decided to put them in thorough ringing order. The tenor is about 30 cwt., and is one of the finest toned bells in the West of England, cast by George Purdew in 1814. Messrs. Aggett and Sons, Church Bell Hangers, of Chagford, have received orders to rehang the bells on their patent adjustable bearings. It is hoped to hear them pealing by Easter.

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Diameter	2½ in.	2½ in.	3½ in.	3½ in.	4 in.	4½ in.	5 in.
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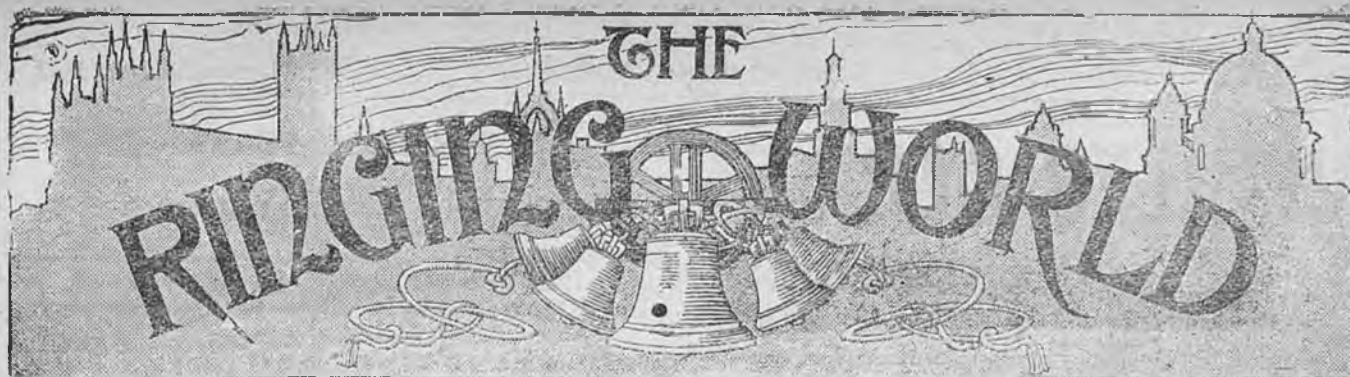
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No. 363. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21st, 1917.

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### BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,  
Wolverhampton.  
Tenor (33 owt.) 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 authorized 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. BUCK,  
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

## MODERN WORK.

## THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The articles on the Central Council by Mr. Trollope have been read with interest by all our readers, the majority of whom, we believe, are generally in agreement with what he has written. Mr. Trollope is in the position of being able to speak with long and intimate knowledge of the work of the Council, and few men have put in more solid labour in furthering the Council's projects than he has. He has, therefore, seen with a closer view than has been possible to most people, the advantages and failings of the central body, and the Exercise, we venture to think, is indebted to him for his trenchant criticism. His articles have been the most minute examination of the Council's affairs that has yet been written, and by his candid analysis of the position he has rendered a valuable service, not only to the Exercise, but to the Council.

Often in the past the criticisms of the Council have been destructive in character without offering any constructive proposition as an alternative, but Mr. Trollope's articles have demonstrated, at all events, that he is prepared to submit other methods of conducting the Council's affairs in place of those of which he advocates the removal. In detail his suggestions may not all meet with approval, but broadly, we believe, his ideas will find acceptance with the Exercise. Especially will ringers agree with the proposal that the Council should no longer seek to "legislate" when it has no power to enforce its decisions. At best the Council, from the very nature of things, can only be an advisory body, and no power which the Council can wield can make its decisions obligatory.

When next the Council meets—and there is hope that it may be able to meet next Whitsun in London—its own future will have to be seriously discussed, and in Mr. Trollope's articles there is the framework, at any rate, upon which might be modelled a central organisation to which ringers could give their adherence with more whole-heartedness than in the recent past. But let us say again that there is a responsibility upon the ringers themselves, as well as upon the Council. They should send to the Council the best men they can find, men in whom they have confidence, and, having sent them, they should be ready to support them by accepting the Council's view on matters of ringing concern as the considered opinion of some of the best brains of the Exercise, and not treat the advice or recommendations as something to be passed over without thought. This attitude it is which reduces the Council's work to futility. Let there be a strong Council composed of the best men representing all branches of the science and art of bell ringing, and let the Exercise be ready to accept the decisions of the Council. That is the only satisfactory solution.



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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.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,  
Vicar of Broomfield.

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## TEN BELL PEALS.

ASTON, BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Saturday, December 15, 1917, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERPS, 5031 CHANCES;

Tenor 22 cwt. in D.

THOMAS ROSSAM ... .. Treble	SAMUEL GROVE ... .. 6
FREDERICK DICKENS ... .. 2	GEORGE F. SWANN ... .. 7
ALBERT WALKER ... .. 3	A. PADDON SMITH ... .. 8
CHARLES DICKENS ... .. 4	WILLIAM KENT ... .. 9
MORRIS J. MORRIS ... .. 5	JAMES E. GROVES ... .. Tenor

Composed by JAMES E. GROVES, and  
Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

Rung in honour of the "Old Contemptibles," representatives of which immortal little army assembled on this day to pay homage to the memory of their fallen comrades of the "First Seven Divisions," who, in the words of the Prime Minister, "gathered the Prussian spears into their breast, and thus saved Europe and civilization itself."

Also to commemorate the defeat of the Turkish Army in Palestine and the capture of the Holy City of Jerusalem by British Forces under the command of General Allenby.

This composition is now rung for the first time.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, December 15, 1917, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERPS, 5039 CHANCES;

Tenor 36 cwt.

MRS. E. J. WILSON ... .. Treble	WILLIAM WHITE ... .. 6
F. G. MAY ... .. 2	THOMAS HARRIS ... .. 7
ALFRED PEARCE ... .. 3	FREDK. W. WADE ... .. 8
RICHARD CLARKE ... .. 4	ISAAC LONG ... .. 9
WILLIAM PROBERT ... .. 5	URIAH BRAVEN ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FRED. G. MAY.

First peal of Caterps by ringers of treble and 7th, and the first peal of Grandsire Caterps in which any lady has taken part in Gloucestershire for the Association.

This peal was rung as a joy peal to commemorate the success of the British Army in reaching Jerusalem.

## HANDBELL PEAL.

SAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 4, 1917, in One Hour and Fifty-two Minutes,  
IN THE CHURCH TOWER,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being seven 720's each called differently.

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

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

Rung to oblige Pte. C. Poulson, of the Royal Fusiliers, who was home on leave.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HUDDERSFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 8, 1917, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

Tenor 23½ cwt.

JAMES BARRACLOUGH ... .. Treble	WILLIAM B. FRITH ... .. 5
JAMES COTTERELL ... .. 2	JOSEPH BROADLEY ... .. 6
JOHN ROLLINSON ... .. 3	BENJAMIN THORP ... .. 7
ALBERT ARMITAGE ... .. 4	JOSEPH E. SYKES ... .. Tenor

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD, and  
Conducted by JOSEPH E. SYKES.

Rung in honour of the 70th birthday of Mr. Jim Barraclough, the esteemed leader of the Huddersfield company. It was the first peal of Major on the new bells, and was the first peal by A. Armitage.

## LONDON.

## THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION

(LATE THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY).

On Saturday, December 15, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR, SOUTHWARK, S.E.,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THE LATE SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTAN'S  
FOUR-PART.

Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qrs. 7 lbs.

*ARTHUR W. DAVIS ... .. Treble	WALTER G. MATTHEWS ... 5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER... 2	JOSEPH MILNER ... .. 6
EDWARD A. KREEVE ... .. 3	C. W. ROBERT GRIMWOOD 7
LOUIS ATTWATER ... .. 4	† HENRY DYAS ... .. Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

\* First attempt for a peal.

† First peal.

Rung to celebrate the occupation of Jerusalem by the Allied troops.

## SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of the Western Division was held at Horsham on Saturday last, a good number of ringers being present from the following towers: St. Peter's, Brighton; Shoreham, Heene, Balcombe, Warnham, Pulborough, Steyning, Henfield, Shipley, Cranleigh, Guildford, and the local band, also Mr. J. Shepherd, of Swindon. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung. Nineteen sat down to tea, and at the business meeting, Mr. P. Doick was voted to the chair.—One new member was elected, viz., Mr. James Shepherd, and it was proposed to hold the next quarterly meeting at Arundel some time in March.

The Secretary proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar of Horsham for granting the use of the bells, and also to Mr. Leo Paice for having the bells in readiness, and making the necessary arrangements.

The tower was again visited, and the bells kept going till 8 p.m.

## BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held at Curry Rivel on Saturday last, when 34 members were present, representing Bridgwater, Curry Rivel, Huish Episcopi, Ilminster, Langport, Midsley, St. James' and St. Mary's, Taunton, and Trull.

A short service was held in the Parish Church, at which the Rev. P. H. Unwin (the Vicar) officiated.

Refreshments were served in the old schoolroom, after which the business meeting was held. Owing to the bad train service, the Master was unable to be present, and the Rev. Unwin was voted to the chair.

It was announced that the next meeting would be held on the second Saturday after Easter, probably at Wrington.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for arranging the service, the use of the bells and for presiding at the meeting, and this was carried with acclamation.

During the afternoon and evening, Grandsire Doubles and Triples and Stedman Triples were rung on the bells.

## MUFFLED RINGING AT READING.

At St. Giles' Church, Reading, recently, 336 Stedman Triples: A. W. Osborne (conductor) 1, G. Boddington 2, Nelson Cox 3, C. Pullen 4, Miss F. Goodship 5, H. Egley 6, A. Wiggins 7, G. Cook 8. Also 220 Stedman Triples: H. Simmons, Corpl. C. Sconce and A. Phillips taking part. Also, on Sunday, Nov. 11th, for evensong, 504 Stedman Triples: A. W. Osborne (conductor) 1, G. Boddington 2, N. Cox 3, Miss E. Goodship 4, Corpl. C. Sconce 5, H. Egley 6, A. Wiggins 7, A. Phillips 8. After service, 336 in the same method, G. Cook and H. Simmons taking part.

Rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect both to Mr. P. Griffin, one of St. Giles' ringers, who was killed in action, and to the late Mr. J. J. Lawrence, who was vergor of St. Giles' for 35 years. The whole pull and stand 70 times, to correspond with Mr. Lawrence's age, terminated the ringing.

**BIRMINGHAM.**—At St. Chad's R.C. Cathedral, for evening service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 44 mins. This was rung on the occasion of the annual conference of the Catholic Young Men's Society: A. T. Scrivens (conductor) 1, J. Porter 2, C. Mackenzie 3, O. G. Norman 4, W. B. Webb 5, F. Miller 6, T. Kelly (first quarter, and first attempt) 7, T. Fearick 8.

**ACTON, MIDDLESEX.**—On Sunday, Nov. 11th, for morning service, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: J. H. Hunnisett 1, C. Abbott 2, A. Phillips 3, C. Edwards 4, E. Vicary 5, Pta. V. Holloway, R.F.C. 6, W. Lawrence (conductor) 7, A. E. Smith 8.

## LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

## SUGGESTION FOR HELPING DEPLETED TOWERS.

On Saturday last, a most successful meeting of the Manchester Branch was held at Eccles, when members attended from Ashton-under-Lyne, Barlow Moor, Flixton, Manchester, Pendlebury, Pendleton, Prestwich, Stretford, Worsley. Several members of the Bolton branch were also present.

In the absence of the Vicar of Eccles (through illness) the Rev. Vaughan (curate) took the chair at the meeting, and was supported by the churchwardens, Messrs. J. F. Moore and R. Bowker. He said he regretted the inability of the Vicar to be present, through illness, and expressed an earnest desire for his speedy recovery. This was endorsed by all present.

Reference was made to past associations of Eccles, and the Chairman trusted still greater things were in store in the coming time of peace.

The following were elected members of the Association: Messrs. W. Amor, J. Fishwick, and F. Coley.

The Cathedral was chosen as the next meeting-place, failing which it is to be at St. Thomas's, Pendleton.

Mr. Foster, of Prestwich, asked which towers in the neighbourhood had any surplus ringers, and this brought a reply from Mr. J. Ridyard (vice-president), who a short time ago appealed for assistance to keep the bells of Worsley going. He mentioned a few towers from which he thought a little assistance might be given from time to time.—Mr. Foster was of opinion that Prestwich had a great claim to any help that might be given as no less than fourteen members had been called up from that tower.

The meeting was of one mind, that where any tower had surplus ringers they might occasionally visit some of the less fortunate bell-fries, and in this manner keep alive the embers of a cherished art, and the bells of our beloved church ringing till peace shall once more reign.

Churchwarden Bowker expressed his pleasure at being present at the meeting, which was the first ringers' gathering he had attended and took it as an honour, after 14 years as a churchwarden and workers to come among them.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, not forgetting the man behind the scenes who finds his way among the bells to see that all goes smoothly, and without whom a successful meeting would be a rarity. In the case of Eccles, these thanks are due to Mr. Malcolm Oldfield.

An adjournment was made to the Bull, where refreshments were provided for the visitors, through the kindness of Mr. Amos Trippier. The handbells were requisitioned, and a pleasant time was spent.

W. W. W.

## ST. MARY ABBOT'S, KENSINGTON.

## BELLS' LONG SILENCE BROKEN.

On the afternoon of Sunday, December 9th, St. Mary Abbot's bells were rung open for the first time for nearly two and a half years. The occasion was the induction of the new Vicar (the Rev. E. Marling-Roberts, M.A.) by the Lord Bishop of London. The actual ringing was necessarily of short duration, for the same reason as the long silence, viz., the proximity of three military hospitals, but short touches were rung both before and after the service. The only other occasion on which the bells have been heard at all during the period before mentioned was at the funeral of the late Vicar, when they were, of course, muffled.

Numerous visitors were present, and took part in the ringing on Sunday week. It was a source of satisfaction to the members present, and will be to those now scattered about the world, that a band composed entirely of members of the St. Mary Abbot's Guild could be got together to ring Stedman Caters after such a long time.

The Guild, in common with all others, has been badly hit by the war, but the unavoidable suspension of ringing has not entirely prevented the members who are left getting some practice together. This pleasure is due to the courtesy of other towers and societies, and the members of the Guild would like to take this opportunity of expressing their appreciation of the privilege, with especial mention of All Saints', Fulham.

News was received recently of the death of another member of the band, J. H. Payne, North Staffordshire Regiment. He was stationed for some time in Dublin, and while there rang at the Cathedral, but had been in France for about a year. Ringing friends will be sorry to hear that he died in France from wounds received in the recent fighting.

The Guild has had its share of honours, two members E. G. Stibbons and J. Hargott having been awarded the Military Medal. The many friends of the former will be sorry to hear that he is still in hospital in this country, suffering from wounds.

What time will elapse before the bells are rung again it is difficult to say, but it is unlikely that when the occasion arises the band will be lacking.

## THE PEAL AT ASTON.

The figures of Mr. J. E. Groves' interesting composition, rung, as recorded in another column, at Aston last Saturday, will be published next week.

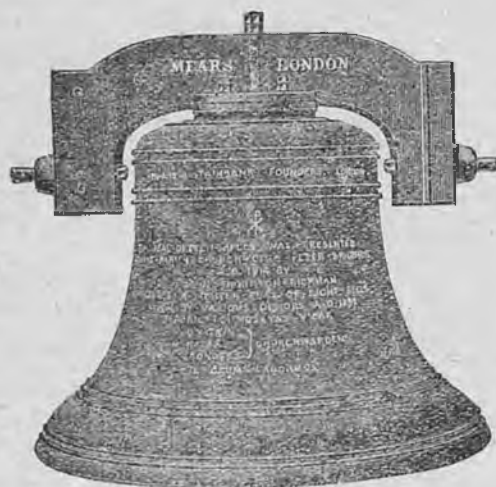
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*At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.*

## "THE YULE BELLS."

"TO MY FRIEND, A. C., IN FRANCE."  
The Yule bells ring, and in my soul  
Your image burns.  
For you, dear friend, my constant whole  
With rapture yearns.

The Yule bells ring, ah! come to me  
And lull the pain  
Which parting leaves; my anchor be,  
Chief of the twain.

The Yule bells ring, shall war or death  
Our love divide?  
No! not since heart, and soul, and breath  
With Angels bide!

The Yule bells ring, and in their song  
Methinks I hear  
A melody filling the long,  
Long wait with cheer.

For with the Yule bells joy awakes  
Happy and new.  
Christ comes again, and once more takes  
My heart to you.

The Yule bells ring, and you will know  
All I would say.  
"God keep you in His Mercy," lo,  
'Tis thus I pray.

H. J. W., 1917.

The above poem, dedicated to Bandsman Albert Coppock, 10th Durham Light Infantry, a well-known Midland ringer, reached him in France on December 14th. It was written by one of his best chums, and came to him as a cheering message for Christmas. The author, Mr. Harold J. Winfield, of Kimberley, Notts, has struck a note that will echo in many a heart.

## THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—I have just received in "this prison called France," to misquote Hamlet, copies of the "Ringing World" for November and very glad I was to see them. I was interested in Mr. Trollope's articles on the Central Council. The decision is vital to the interests of the Exercise. Ringing all over the country is at sixes and sevens and unless some centralised effort is made after the war to re-establish it on a firm foundation, there is grave danger that the grand old English art of change ringing may follow the other old institutions into the limbo of the past. Every ringer and many who are not ringers, must feel that a great blank would be left in the life of the Church and the countryside if this happened, apart from the pity of losing an art and science supremely interesting for its own sake.

There is no need at all for this to happen if a definite arrangement is made whereby all ringers can pull together for the common good. It is useless to rely on the individual efforts of broken and depleted bands to re-build an organisation extending over the whole of the United Kingdom. There is bound to arise the objection that more than half the local companies would be unwilling—in fact, would probably refuse—to delegate any authority to a central body. But with the very existence of ringing at stake, it is "up to" the Central Council, through the associations, to put it to the ringers and incumbents at all towers where there are ringable peals, that they must either come into line or face the chance of there being no such thing as ringing, as we know it, in a few years' time.

Having got the necessary authority, it should be easy to start the Exercise anew on a firm footing. But the great thing to realise is that although the Exercise is undoubtedly the purest of democracies, it is vital to its very existence that every band should be prepared to sacrifice some of its freedom of action to the common good, and recognise the authority of its elected representatives acting as a body. And it is not a bit too soon for the Central Council and the Associations to begin circularising towers to this effect.—Yours truly,

H. W. FRIGHT,  
Second-Lieut., 5th N. Lances.

## KILLED IN ACTION.

The Sharnford, Leicestershire, band, has lost one of its members by the death of G. Mason, who has laid down his life for his country on the battlefield of Europe. On Sunday, December 2nd, as a token of respect to the deceased soldier, a quarter-peal of Plain Bob Minor (1260 changes) was rung in 47 mins., on Sharnford bells, by: H. Webb (Croft) 1, George Wood (Sharnford) 2, H. Wright (Sapcote) 3, C. Briggs (Stoney Stanton) 4, E. Chamberlain (Sharnford) 5, F. Cotton, conductor (Hinckley) 6.

St. Giles' band, Reading, have lost one of their number, in Pte. F. Griffin, who has been killed in action.



## IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Owing to Christmas falling on Tuesday in next week, all communications intended for insertion must reach "The Ringing World" office not later than first post on Monday.

## A YORKSHIRE BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

## HONOURING A HALIFAX VETERAN.

On Saturday, December 1st, ten strings were gathered at the meeting house in Halifax, when in popped Mr. Jim Barraclough, the "grand old man" of the Huddersfield company, and said, "Nae, lads, peal at Huddersfield next Saturday, at 2 p.m. sharp, an' a bit of a do after, now all be there."

"Right," said all ten as one man. "What's it for?"

"Why, for my 70th," said the convener of the meet, and we all went.

The G.O.M. and seven of his old ringing friends pulled off at 2 p.m. to the tick, and at 2.3 p.m., "Young Joe" said "Go, Kent," and the bells rolled off course after course in Yorkshire's favourite method in Yorkshire's best style on Taylor's finest ring, and one of Mr. Sam Woods' most musical compositions. At 5.19 p.m. came "that's all, and lower the bells," and then all went down and found some thirty ringers outside waiting to congratulate the G.O.M. and wish him many more birthdays and peals like that one. The good old Yorkshire dialect was heard in reminiscences of when Jim B. and Joe B. rang their first peal together, just thirty years ago this month at Halifax, and what a peal it was! and many more such, until we were reminded that Mine Host awaited us, and that the pies were steaming hot.

So at the Crown Hotel, Huddersfield's headquarters, twenty ringers sat down to a fine hot supper, and talk was "off" till the last course and came up (it was middle and before, and the pies were so good that some wished there had been two bobs middle).

After the tables were cleared, Mr. Joe Broadley was voted to the chair, and in a few well-chosen words, on behalf of Mr. Barraclough, bade welcome to some five-and-thirty ringers and friends from Almond-bury, Dewsbury, Earlsheaton, Halifax, Shipley, Ashton-under-Lyne, Meltham, etc., who had gathered in great force and good fettle to do honour to Huddersfield's well-respected leader. The harmony commenced with a pianoforte selection by Mr. Law Walker who was followed by Mr. Allen Carter with a couple of good comic songs. Then came a fine course of Grandsire Royal, in hand, by: J. Cotterell 1-2, B. Thorp 3-4, Garforth Taylor 5-6, H. Dransfield 7-8, J. Garforth 9-10; and next, a song, "Thorn," by Mr. J. E. Carter, the Almond-bury tenor singer and ringer. A song by Mr. H. Bedford was followed by a course of Stedman Triples, by: B. Thorp 1-2, J. Cotterell 3-4, Joe Sykes 5-6, H. Dransfield 7-8. A duet, "Excelsior," by Mr. J. E. Carter and Mr. H. Bedford; a song by Mr. George Collins, and "The Village Blacksmith," by Mr. H. Bedford, came in turn, and then the chairman called upon Mr. W. Brogden, of the Huddersfield company, to present Mr. Barraclough with a fine walking stick and a pouch with a bit of "baccy" in it, subscribed for by the Huddersfield band, to cheer him on life's way, which, up to now, he has trodden so well and honourably. After Mr. Barraclough had suitably replied, it was a treat to hear five-and-thirty sets of good Yorkshire lungs, all reared on Yorkshire hillsides, give of their best and lustiest in singing "For he's a jolly good fellow," again and yet again. Then the company were treated to a Yorkshire dialect song by Mr. George Collins, and the Holmfirth Anthem by Mr. J. E. Carter. Two superb courses of Grandsire Triples and Grandsire Major followed, by: Messrs. J. Barraclough 1-2, Garforth Taylor 3-4, J. E. Jenkinson 5-6, J. Garforth 7-8, four old ringing friends of very many years' standing. More songs and ringing brought "Time Gents, please," and regrets that we could stay no longer and do honour to whom honour is due. So "good-byes" were said, with praise of and thanks to "Mine Host" of the Crown Hotel for the way he had catered for the party in these difficult times. He had saved the "nut brown" special for the "do," and, be it whispered, another 70th is due very soon in the New Year. May those two veterans and old friends live long to enjoy their comradeship is the wish of all who know them.

Mr. Barraclough was born on December 5th, 1847, and started ringing at the age of 16. He rang his first peal at Birstall in 1871, which was the centenary peal for the old tenor. He has rung just 60 peals for the Yorkshire Associations and 36 others for independent societies. He joined the Huddersfield company in 1882—thirty-five years ago—and among other peals he took part in were the last peal on the old bells, and the first on the new bells, both peals of Royal, and by ringing in his birthday peal on December 8th has now rung in the first of Major on the new bells. He has taken a prominent part in "inging contests in the district, and has shared in many first, second, and third prize awards.

J. E. S.

## DEATH OF MR. HENRY PORCH, BRISTOL.

## AN APPRECIATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have just read the newspaper announcement of the death of Harry Porch, and I feel that I cannot let the occasion pass without writing a few lines in appreciation of the services he had rendered to the cause of change ringing in Bristol.

When first I took up the art we did not often meet, as Harry was strictly non-Association, while I was the direct opposite, and this state of affairs lasted for several years. He got together an excellent band, who used to ring at All Saints', on Thursdays, while I was making progress by practising at St. Stephen's on Tuesdays. I well remember the first peals of Stedman Triples and Double Norwich Major by local bands, which he conducted at All Saints', and excellent peals they were, my only regret being that they could not be counted as Association peals. This band rang several peals of Stedman Triples before going on to Double Norwich, being very successful in view of the fact that upwards of 40 attempts by various bands had all ended in failure. The first peal of Double Norwich did not take long, and then came the struggle for the first peal of Superlative, Jim Hinton, at St. Stephen's, on Wednesdays; and Harry Porch, at All Saints', on Thursdays, had many good attempts; the honour eventually going to St. Stephen's.

I venture to record that this friendly competition did more for the advancement of Bristol ringers in the art than any other circumstance, for the reason that soon after this Harry joined the Association, and Jim Hinton made arrangements for combined practices at St. Mary Redcliffe, with the object of ringing a peal of Stedman Cinques; and, with his proverbial unselfishness, asked Harry to do the conducting. Although not in the original band, I was always present on practice nights (in case of the band being one short), and on one occasion sat in the tower to assist with the tenor if needed. Harry was a very safe conductor, and eventually an excellent peal was rung, to be followed by peals of Bob Maximus and Grandsire Cinques, all conducted by him, and in which it was my privilege and pleasure to take part.

The annual reports of the Gloucester and Bristol Association will tell better than I can of the great strides made in the way of peal ringing in Bristol following this period. I regret it was not possible for me to pay my respects to him by attending the funeral, but hope on some future occasion to take part in a muffled peal to his memory on the bells of St. James', where he had been conductor for more years than I can remember. May he rest in peace.—Yours faithfully,

Christchurch, Hants.

W. A. CAVE.

## ACCIDENT TO WELL-KNOWN RINGER.

A very nasty accident befel Mr. Robert H. Hayward, of Marlesford, Suffolk, on December 5th. It appears that driving home in the evening from Wickham Market (locally called Ashe) Station, he had reached a place where five roads converge on one point, when, for some reason, the cab Mr. Hayward was driving went too near the side of one angle of the crossing, the wheel of the trap ran up the bank, and Mr. Hayward was thrown out on to the road very heavily, breaking his left arm in two places near the elbow, and sustaining a severe cut over the left eye.

The writer has received a letter, stating: "He is feeling a little better, although his arm is painful still, but the doctor said that he might be able to ring again in about a year's time."

Mr. Hayward is particularly well known in the Norwich Association. He went to London on Queen Alexandra's birthday, and rang Stedman Caters at the Imperial Institute, with the College Youths. The next morning he rang at Marlesford Church. Mr. Hayward's enthusiasm knows no bounds, for the letter continues: "Only a few weeks ago we were driving in Parham, and when we heard the bells ringing in Framlingham, we went on and drove round the town to listen to them."

In the Marlesford Parish Magazine for this month is the following: "Mr. R. H. Hayward, of this parish, who has had life-long experience of bell ringing, and is well known in this part of the county for his ability in that respect, is at present engaged in training a youthful band of bell ringers for the beautiful bells of Marlesford Parish Church, to take the place of the senior members who have gone to the front."

Ringers will unite in wishing him a speedy recovery. G. E. S.  
Latest reports state that Mr. Hayward is improving, and has gained strength in the last few days.

LEIGH.—Lancashire Association.—At St. Mary's Church, on Nov. 11th, for afternoon service, 672 Grandsire Triples: D. Smith 1, H. Smith 2, M. Allred 3, J. Smith 4, W. Hayes 5, W. Smith 6, R. Allred (conductor) 7, S. Hayes, senr., 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: H. Smith 1, H. Allred (Tyldesley) 2, R. Allred (conductor), Tyldesley, 3, Pte. H. Hayes 4, W. Hayes 5, J. Smith 6, W. Smith 7, S. Hayes, senr., 8. Arranged for Pte. H. Hayes, who was home on leave from France. The band gave him a hearty send-off, and wished him a safe and speedy return.

## THE CAPTURE OF JERUSALEM.

### BELLS CELEBRATE THE VICTORY.

Two ringers at least were among the troops who were present at the capture of Jerusalem. One was Corpl. Alan Macdonald, R.E., formerly of Bournemouth, and the other, Pte. J. S. Alliss, one of the Henfield, Sussex, band.

By special request of the Vicar, the war-time ringers of St. Michael's Church, Aldershot, met on Wednesday evening, December 12th, to ring for the thanksgiving service held for the capture of Jerusalem, the following touches being brought round: Three six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, the first by: Miss Bowditch 1. Pte. Kirton, A.O.C. 2. Mrs. Newman 3, Sapper Newman, R.M., 4. Miss Mills 5, J. Mann 6; the second by: Miss Sliff 1. Pte. Kirton 2, Miss Warren 3, J. Mann 4, Spr. Newman 5, Miss Mills 6; and the third by: Miss Masters 1. Pte. Kirton 2, Miss Sliff 3, Sapper Newman 4, J. Mann 5, Miss Mills 6. Two Plain Courses were also rung, Miss Masters and Miss Bowditch taking part, each ringing the third in turn. The conducting was done by Pte. Kirton, A.O.C.

At the Parish Church, Leatherhead, on Dec. 11th, on receiving the news of the capture of Jerusalem, four of the local band, with the assistance of four (the ringers of 2, 3, 4 and 6) from Ashted, rang a 1260 of Grandsire Triples and 336 Oxford Bob Triples: E. Hull 1, W. Cook 2, J. Wyatt 3, H. Corbell 4, W. Marks 5, J. Hoyle 6, A. Dean (conductor) 7, A. Dixon 8.

At Biggleswade, Bucks, on Dec. 11th, at St. Andrew's Church, to celebrate the event, 1344 Grandsire Triples, in 52 mins. by: E. Hussey 1, W. Wagstaff 2, C. Pratt 3, E. Stratton 4, W. J. Mayes 5, Dvr. W. Essery 6, Corpl. H. Taylor, R.E. (conductor), 7, A. Franklin 8.

At St. Peter's, Henfield, Sussex, on Tuesday, Dec. 11th, in celebration of the capture of Jerusalem, 1008 changes of Stedman Triples, in 36 mins., by: H. Markwell 1, G. Gander 2, S. Burt 3, W. Markwell 4, C. Tyler 5, G. Payne (conductor) 6, W. J. Alliss 7, A. Hodges 8.

At the Parish Church, Wednesbury, Staffordshire, on Saturday, Dec. 15th, after meeting short for a peal of Caters to celebrate the capture of Jerusalem touches were rung in the following methods: Double Norwich Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, Forward Major, and Court Bob Triples, by George Hughes (conductor), Wm. Rock Small, Wm. Fisher, Wm. A. Cooper, Alf. Rowley, Tom Cattell, Chris. Wallater, E. Marlow, and Ben Gough. Rung on the eve of Mr. Wm. Fisher's birthday.

At the Parish Church, Coscely, Staffs, on Tuesday, December 11th, in honour of the capture of Jerusalem, 377 Grandsire Triples (Wm. Fisher, conductor), and a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), composed by Jas. George, and conducted by Ben Gough. The following took part in the ringing: W. A. Jeavons Arthur Baker, Sam Baker, Wm. Bayliss Sam Pearce, Wm. Fisher, A. E. Law, Arthur Grainger, Ben Gough, W. Grinsell and Len Barnett.

At Wyke Regis Weymouth, on Sunday afternoon, December 16th, at All Saints' Church, 720 Bob Minor, with treble leading and tenor covering: F. Anderson 1, A. Muntz 2, L. W. Wiffen (conductor) 3, C. H. Jennings 4, Sapper F. W. Booth R.E. (Emberton, Bucks), 5, Pte. H. G. Smart, Dorset Regiment (Andover) 6, A. J. Rose 7, K. Anderson 8.

### MR. W. FISHER'S 200 PEALS.

Mr. Wm. Fisher, of Coscely, rang his 200th peal in connection with Mr. W. Rock Small's birthday celebration:—

Bob Minor, 1; seven Minor Methods, 1; Grandsire Triples, 31, conducted 9; Grandsire Caters, 12; Bob Triples, 1, conducted 1; Darlaston Bob Triples, 1; Oxford Bob Triples, 4, conducted 3; Stedman Triples, 47, conducted 14; Stedman Caters, 18, conducted 4; Stedman Cinques, 9; Bob Major, 22, conducted 6; Bob Royal, 2; Bob Maximus, 1, conducted 1; Canterbury Pleasure Major, 2, conducted 1; Double Norwich Major, 18, conducted 2; Double Norwich Caters, 1; Double Oxford Major, 2; Double Oxford Royal, 1; Kent Treble Bob Major, 6, conducted 2; Kent Treble Bob Royal, 2; Kent Treble Bob Maximus, 1; Oxford Treble Bob Major, 2; Superlative Surprise Major, 4; Cambridge Surprise Major, 2; New Cambridge Surprise Major, 1; Bristol Surprise Major, 6; London Surprise Major, 2; total, 200, conducted 43.

### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

HILLINGDON, ST. JOHN'S.—On Sunday, Nov. 11th, for evensong, 1317 Stedman Caters, in 57 mins.: Wm. Hewett, Chamberwell (conductor) 1, Mrs. F. I. Hairs (Willesden) 2, G. H. Gutteridge (Iver) 3, E. T. Hooper (Slough) 4, J. J. Pratt 5, Wm. Henley (Epsom Royal) 6, A. Mason (Erith) 7, Wm. Lawrence (Ealing) 8, H. H. Chandler 9, Wm. Honor 10. The ringers of 5, 9, 10, are local men. First quarter of Stedman Caters by the ringers of 2, 4, and 7.

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER, GLOS.—On Sunday, November 11th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. E. Gillett 1, H. Gillett 2, H. Packer 3, T. Banning 4, J. Collett 5, F. Pitts 6, W. Stratford (conductor) 7, J. Buttler 8.—On Sunday, November 25th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: F. Pitts 1, T. Banning 2, H. Packer 3, H. J. Hill (first quarter-peal) 4, H. Gillett 5, J. Collett 6, W. Stratford (conductor) 7, J. Buttler 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 (Estab. 1637).—A meeting will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on Dec. 27th, at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1/8, which entitles members who have not attended twenty meetings in the past year, to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Saviour's Church, Bolton, on Saturday, Dec. 22nd, 1917. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Meeting 6.30.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Secretary, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The annual District Meeting of the North-Western Division will be held at Bishop's Stortford on Boxing Day, Dec. 26th, 1917. Bells available from 1 o'clock. Service 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting will be held at the Chequers Hotel at 4.45 p.m. Members 6d. each; non-members 1/- each. All those that require tea please let me know by Friday, Dec. 21st. No ringing after dark.—Wm. Watts, District Secretary, Mont House Cottage, Stansted, Essex.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Newport on Boxing Day, 26th December. Owing to the death of the Vicar of All Saints it will be held at St. Woolos in lieu of All Saints as previously arranged. Bells of both churches available. Service at 4.30. Business meeting to follow in Waters Lane Mission Room.—Hon. Secs., Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., John W. Jones, 29, Barrack Hill, Newport.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—A district meeting of the above will be held at Ordsall (Retford) on Boxing Day, Dec. 26th. Bells (6) available from 10 a.m. to sunset. A cordial invitation is given to members of kindred associations to attend the meeting.—H. Haigh, Hon. Sec.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—The peal of ten at St. Mary's will be available to all ringers on Boxing Day, December 26th, from 2 to 5.30 sharp. "Punctuality begets confidence."—A. J. Perkins, 3, Mellons Road, South Beddington, Wallington.

THE CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Kettering District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Isham on Saturday, December 29th. Short service at 4 p.m. Tea and meeting 4.30.—Walter T. Wilson, District Sec., Isham, near Kettering.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The monthly meeting of this society will be held at St. Chad's, Far Headingley, on Saturday, Jan. 5th, 1918. Bells will be available from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. The business meeting will be held in the Parochial Hall adjoining the Vicarage at 7 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Estab. 1775).—The annual meeting will be held at the Tamworth Arms Hotel, Moor Street, City, on Tuesday, Jan. 8th, 1918, at 7.30 p.m. All subscriptions are due at this meeting.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

**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.

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**HANDBELLS.**—WANTED set of 8, secondhand. Address J. Puplett, Victoria Nurseries, Leighton Buzzard.

#### GREETINGS.

To all our readers, and particularly to our friends overseas, we extend hearty greetings for Christmas and the New Year.

The President of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild of Ringers desires to send greetings to his ringing friends at this season. Doubtless some are sad and many are anxious, but all may find comfort in the remembrance of the heroism and endurance of their loved ones, who have fought and fallen in the service of their King and country.

107A, Wood Street, High Barnet.  
Christmas, 1917.

#### CHRISTMAS GREETINGS FROM OVERSEAS.

A Merry Christmas and a Happy and Victorious New Year is the sincere wish to all ringing friends both far and near of Spr. F. W. Naunton, 896th Garrison Guard Coy., A.P.O., S/7, B.E.F., France.

Heartiest good wishes for Christmas and a victorious New Year to all ringing friends at home and overseas is the sincere wish of Rifleman B. Prewett, L.R.B., France.

Heartiest Good Wishes for Christmas and a Victorious New Year to all "Brother Strings," from Air Mechanic Frank I. Hairs, No. 5 Wing, No: 7 Squadron, R.N.A.S., c/o G.P.O., London.

Bandsman Albert Coppock, of the 10th D.L.I., sends from France, greetings for a happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year.

A Bright and Happy Christmas and Victorious Peace in the New Year to all ringing friends from Sapper C. T. Coles, R.E., Salonica.

Sincere good wishes to all Ringing Friends.—Alan R. Macdonald, Corporal R.E., 46th Advance Base Park, E.E.F. Egypt.

**DALTON-IN-FURNESS.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Nov. 18th, for morning service, 336 Bob Major: Miss M. Sharpe 1, Miss E. M. Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson 4, J. Huddleston 5, T. Stuart 6, W. S. Forshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8. First touch of Major for Miss Sharpe. For evening service, 560 Bob Major, T. R. Jackson 1, the rest as before, conducted by J. Burrows.

**OSWESTRY, SALOP.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday evening, November 18th, for evening service, in honour of the birth of a son and heir to Major and Mrs. A. Wynn Corrie, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: R. Edwards 1, R. Martin 2, J. Hughes 3, Ed. Jones 4, H. Jarman 5, G. Williams 6, G. Beaton 7, R. Evans 8.

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This charming model in Solid Hall Marked Silver  
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No. 354. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28th, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

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CROYDON, Surrey.  
BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



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

WULFEUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,  
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.  
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 CLOSING YEAR.

Another year will shortly join the limbo of the past, another year of war, marked with its appalling sacrifices, with suffering and misery for millions of men who are called upon to bear the burden and the horrors of the fighting, and lighted only by those innumerable instances of heroism and endurance which tell of the greatness of human nature. The task which lies before this nation and its allies grows not less but greater, but the spirit which prompts them to carry on to the very end—to victory which is the only one end possible for them—is as grim and determined as ever. More than ever it is realised that this is a war not merely of armies, but of peoples, and every able man is called upon to do his share. It is not alone in the fighting line that the only peace that is possible for us will be won, but in the less dangerous and less exciting walks of life at home. In the year that is closing this has more than ever become apparent to us all, and among ringers at any rate it can be said all have been "doing their bit."

When we remember that our ranks include all ages, from boyhood to years well over the allotted span, it says much that the number of men from the belfry who are actually in the fighting forces of the country runs literally into thousands. Of the rest, large numbers are in the factories making munitions, or in agriculture, which must play an all-important part in winning the war, while the others not thus accounted for are contributing their quota to work of the State either directly or indirectly. The net result is that there has been during the year a still greater depletion of the available hands in the belfries of the land; but those whose opportunities have left them in a position to carry on, have continued to keep the flag flying to a most praiseworthy degree, and in many instances a great deal of good work has been done by enlisting new recruits.

The year 1917, like its two immediate predecessors, will be black in the annals of the Exercise—black in many ways, and not least by the many splendid lives that have been lost—but despite the inevitable drawbacks, there is much to be thankful for in that matters stand as well as they do. But for the determination of the comparative few that are left, ringing might be in a much more parlous plight. Everyone hopes that before the end of another year war will be a thing of the past, and while we shall not next Monday be able to assemble in our towers at midnight to "ring out the old," Tennyson's words will find an echo in many a heart—

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;  
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;  
Ring out the thousand wars of old,  
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

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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 esteem. 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 Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc.

## EIGHT BELL PEAL.

PENN, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD  
AND THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, December 22, 1917, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

HORACE SADLER... .. Treble	EDWARD G. BOWYER ... 5
DANIEL JONES ... .. 2	BENJAMIN GOUGH ... 6
*EDWARD F. MITCHELL ... 3	WILLIAM FISHER ... 7
ARTHUR RODEN ... .. 4	BENJAMIN FULLWOOD ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM FISHER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Rev. O. A. Holden, M.A., Vicar of Penn, who died for King and country whilst serving with His Majesty's forces in France as Chaplain.

\* First peal in the method with an inside bell. Messrs. Sadler and Roden were proposed members of the Guild previous to starting for the peal.

## SIX BELL PEAL.

ALLESLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, December 15, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being seven 720s each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

*WILLIAM PRYCE... .. Treble	ALFRED WILSON... .. 4
OSWALD J. HUNT ... .. 2	HARRY THORPE ... .. 5
JOHN TAYLOR ... .. 3	JOSEPH H. W. WHITE ... Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH H. W. WHITE.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect and esteem for Pte. George H. Kettle, who died of wounds in France on Nov. 28th. \* First peal of Minor.

## PROGRESS AT HARPENDEN.

At Harpenden, only four old members of the band are left, but ladies are taking their place, and rang their longest touch on November 28th, for practice, viz., a 504 Grandsire Triples: C. Dellar 1, G. Newson 2, Miss Eileen Shannon 3, W. Hill 4, Miss Molly Kuish 5, — Gillett 6, B. Jarman (conductor) 7, D. Dellar 8. The ladies have only been under tuition about twelve months.—On December 2nd, for men's service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 55 mins., by: Miss Sybil Wilson (first quarter) 1, W. Hill 2, G. Newson 3, R. Coburn 4, D. Dellar 5, — Gillett 6, B. Jarman (conductor) 7, C. Dellar 8. R. Coburn was home on furlough from France.

## THE CAPTURE OF JERUSALEM.

KINGTON MAGNA RINGERS' BUSY DAY.

On Tuesday December 11th, when news was received of the British occupation of Jerusalem, joyous peals were rung on the bells of Kington Magna Church, Dorset, and the ringers subsequently visited five other towers, in order to enable neighbouring parishes to participate in the celebration. Ringing also took place at Dorchester, Devizes and elsewhere in the Salisbury Diocese.

To celebrate the capture of Jerusalem, 420 Stedman Triples was rung at St. Mary's Church, Acton, at 7.30 a.m. on December 12th, by: C. Edwards 1, F. Skevington 2, F. W. Frin 3, E. W. Abbott 4, R. Holloway 5, G. Vickery 6, W. Lawrence (conductor) 7, A. H. Smith 8.

At Oxtou, Birkenhead (Chester Diocesan Guild), on Dec. 11th, 1100 of Grandsire Doubles, to celebrate the taking of Jerusalem by the troops under the command of General Allenby: H. J. Samuels 1, H. Brocklebank 2, W. Hughes 3, T. F. Barnes 4, H. Martin (conductor) 5, S. Moston 6.

After a silence of many months, the bells of St. Peter's, Colchester, were rung at noon on Dec. 11th to celebrate the entry of the British troops into Jerusalem. Touches of Bob Major and Kent Treble Bob were rung by: A. Burch, G. Raebrook, W. Button, H. Evers, R. W. Stannard, W. J. Schofield, W. Chalk, and H. T. Pye.

At Lavenham, on Sunday morning, Dec. 16th, to celebrate the entry of the British Army into Jerusalem, 560 Grandsire Triples: S. H. Symonds (conductor) 1, W. F. F. 2, S. Smith 3, W. W. J. Roper 4, H. Smith 5, F. Parker 6, L. Leeks 7, F. Fryke 8.



## THREE YEARS IN FRANCE.

## INTERESTING LETTER FROM FORMER ELY ASSOCIATION SECRETARY.

Spr. T. R. Dennis, of Cambridge, who for three years past has been in France in the Signal Section, R.E., has written the following interesting letter, which his many friends will read with pleasure. He says:—The "Ringing World" has been regularly received, and I don't think I have missed a single number during the whole time. If they have been overdue they have always turned up sooner or later. Reviewing events in ringing circles, many old friends have passed out of this world, and it makes one wonder how we shall all shape up at the end of this war. However, looking on the bright side, I was very pleased to see that the public at last want us ringers to cheer them up when we have a victory, and I wish I could for just five minutes have heard the merry old church bells ringing for a victory, and, better still, have been helping. To-day being All Saints' Day, the bell in the village church has been clanging all day. Not a bad bell in tone, but so awfully monotonous. I think some of the residential critics, who so often go up in the air about bell noises, would have something to complain about if they heard this. I have read with great interest all the little items of news from brother ringers serving in different parts, and have wished I could run across them. I have met very few out here, although, of course, many must have been in and around where I am. The only person I knew was Lieut. Atkins, who I ran against in 1915 just before the battle of Loos.

Yesterday (October 29th), I believe, was the anniversary of the first battle of Ypres, which was my first day's work in the signal office to which I was then attached. Although we did not know then the importance attached to that great battle, it was quite a time of stress and tension for us, and news was very eagerly awaited. Although firing of greater intensity has often taken place, nothing ever impressed me so much as when I first arrived from base at 4 a.m. in the morning, and hearing the heavy cannonading that preceded that great battle. Being attached to headquarters, I have never travelled about so much as those who are attached to other units or divisions. Naturally army headquarters is a big organisation now, and a move must be somewhat a big affair. One thing that is very striking as regards our branch, and that is the tremendous growth and organisation of the signals, and I can safely say I have seen it grow up from a poky little signal office in a side street, to the tremendous offices of the present day, when we have to be accommodated in a small theatre. Communication in the early days of the war was often precarious, and we were often stopped till lines of cables could be repaired. Now we have permanent poles, and miles of them, too carrying wires just as if we were on the great north road in England, and, of course, linemen in their thousands to keep communications going, with hundreds of test points and small offices dotted here and there for test purposes.

## THE ATTENTIONS OF FRITZ.

It fell to my lot to be placed at one of these test points for about eight months in 1915, where day after day these lines had to be repaired. Needless to say, the French lines were not to be compared with ours as regards reliability, and often on stormy nights we had to make the broken down cables, etc., good. I had many pleasant memories of this small office, and was very happy here, inasmuch as it gave an opportunity to look after the inner man, and I became an expert cook, and we very often rendered a good service to our less fortunate brethren on the road. Only once did we receive the attention of Fritz, who came over the latter end of May, 1915, and dropped a few bombs, which gave us some work to do all night, repairing lines. However, he had full sway, but never did us much damage. He has been over many times since, but has never done us much harm. Towards December, 1915, I was brought back to Advance Headquarters, and I have been with them ever since. Life at Advance Headquarters was somewhat rural, and though, of course, no worse than others, the sleeping quarters were rather rude, and required some getting used to. To be pitched amongst the straw for a bed in the midst of winter, after having had a fairly good time, altered the complexion of affairs somewhat. But I think no one can blame us for making ourselves comfortable when the opportunity arises. About February, 1916, we joined Army Headquarters again, and were once more housed in hospitable barracks and a nice Cathedral town. Here we were "put through it" properly, and as soldiering goes, we had plenty of parading to do, and many show parades. Polishing, etc., was quite a fine art. Routine work was quite a feature, and I don't think there is much more I can say on that point. A part of the canal ran near the town, and many a pleasant walk along the banks, trying to imagine myself along the banks of the Cam, made up for some of the deficiencies. It was particularly nice in summer, and I think most of us appreciated it.

## BEHIND THE LINES.

In August, 1916, we again shifted to a town about seven miles away, and here we passed the winter and summer of this year. Although not so pleasantly situated as the Cathedral town, it was

fairly lively. Here the authorities were able to get one of the best and most accommodating signal offices in the whole of France, and an official photograph has been taken of it which will no doubt be reproduced after the war. This place marked the commencement of concert parties, boxing contests, and the exhibition of cinema films, all of which was under the control of our company.

The winter passed quickly, and much of the very cold spell we experienced, but nearly all of us came through none the worse, although morning after morning we were not able to get any water to wash with until the pump had been thawed. Shaving was a great trial, but we did it somehow. I hope we shan't have the same again this winter. Our sports held last September were quite a feature in army life, and easily the best that had hitherto been held. Prizes were good, and the best of athletes from all other armies came to compete. One little incident of interest I must not forget, was in May, when a house caught fire in the town, and all the garrison troops were requisitioned by the town major to assist in putting it out. The appliances consisted of two sets of hand pumps, and we had to form a cordon to the nearest pump and pass the pails of water along to feed the pumps. Neighbours also lent their utensils of various descriptions for carrying water, and much amusement was caused by the assortment of articles which were passed as water carriers. The jet of water when it came forth was a little bit larger than a good size garden hose, and to see the chief of the fire brigade with his tin helmet in "civies" operating with this hose caused much amusement. However, the weather was very kind to us, and as there was no wind we were able to get the fire under after two hours' hard struggle.

## MEMORIES OF CAMBRIDGE.

Many air fights took place round about while we were there, and I had the pleasure of seeing a Boche brought down in flames on one occasion. Last September I was again moved to another pretty little village nearer the line, and here we expect to spend this winter. Leave seems to be the only tonic out here to live for, and I was very pleased to be in old Cambridge last August Bank Holiday. It brought memories of three faces, alas! I shall never see again, and for whose loss the Exercise is all the poorer. I had a walk round St. Mary's that afternoon en route to the sports at the 1st Eastern General Hospital, and tried to imagine that peal of Cambridge Maximus being rung. How things will have changed by the time this war is finished! I understand from the late George Taylor's brother that they have only five Cambridge Youths to ring for victory and peace, so I don't know how they will manage, and, of course, it's the same all the way round. If the public want the bells rung properly they must have us back, that is all. I think the War Office ought to be able to release all ringers when peace is declared, and let them come back and ring the joy bells, *toute de suite*.

## A CINEMA PICTURE OF THE BELLS.

## CANADIAN RINGER'S SUGGESTION.

Sapper A. C. Limpus, of the Canadian Engineers, writes: "I have just been reading the article in 'The Ringing World' of Dec. 7th, headed 'A libel on ringers.' I am one of what must have been a number of other lovers of our art who saw and bitterly resented that advertisement, which has likely done more harm to our cause than anything else could do with the exception, perhaps, of poor striking and clashing. Now, I beg to make a suggestion. It has become generally acknowledged that the Cinema is a very powerful educator of the public. Could it not be arranged for some good reliable Cinema firm to take a picture of a band in some spacious tower? Surely there are many quite suitable in this country, and I am sure a good steady band would be only too pleased to ring for that purpose. The bells and their mechanism should also be shown, and the details explained in the usual method. It was, I think, some time in September, 1914, that I had made just such arrangements with a 'movie' operator in Vancouver, who was on a tour for some firm in New York, and about the time the 'Boston Herald' had a long article explaining the art, then being taken up with such determination by Mr. G. Mackman, Mr. H. A. Petts and others. But the 'movie' man was unfortunately called away unexpectedly, and so a splendid opportunity was missed. I was given to understand that with a minimum distance of five feet from the nearest man a good picture could be taken. I should think there could be no better time than now for such an experiment, when the man in the street is anxiously listening for 'victory bells.'"

DITCHLING, SUSSEX.—At the Parish Church, for evening service, on September 16th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, as a farewell compliment to H. Bish, who was leaving Ditchling to take up business at Shoreham: G. Edwards 1, H. Stalham (conductor) 2, E. E. Bish 3, H. Horney 4, J. Parsons 5, A. Cripps 6, J. Feist 7, H. Bish 8.—On November 25th, 720 Bob Minor, rung in honour of the victory in France: G. Edwards 1, W. Horney 2, J. Parsons 3, J. Backshaw 4, J. Feist 5, E. E. Bish (conductor) 6, J. Vigor 7, C. Merritt 8.

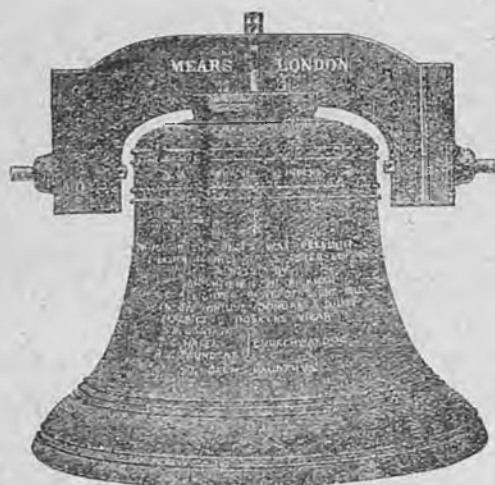
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*Bellfounders & Bellhangers,*

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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring  
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*

## DEATH OF MISS MAUD FIGOTT. SMETHWICK BAND'S LOSS.

It is with the deepest regret that we have to record the death of Miss Maud Pigott, of Smethwick, which took place on December 14th, from heart trouble. The deceased lady, who was only 22 years of age, was one of a family of ringers, and was taught to handle a rope by her brother, Mr. Joseph Pigott. When he volunteered in the early days of the war, she, with her sisters, undertook to "carry on" until "Joe" came back. Miss Maud Pigott was a capable ringer in several methods, and had taken part in four peals. She was a member of the Worcestershire and Districts Association, the Ladies' Guild, and the Dudley and District Guild.

This is the second death in the ranks of the members of the Ladies' Guild, and her loss will be greatly felt amongst those whose pleasure it had been to take a rope with her.

The interment took place on the 17th inst., and most of the local ringers were present at the church. Many beautiful floral tributes were sent, including one from the local band.

In the evening the bells were rung muffled as a last tribute of respect by Messrs. W. Farrow, C. Trycross and Douce, and the following lady ringers: Mrs. E. Reading and Miss M. Caffey (of Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham), and Misses R. M. Howat, O. Gare and L. Holbrook, of the local band. The deepest sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Pigott and family in their great loss.

## 5031 STEDMAN CATERS.

BY JAMES E. GROVES, BIRMINGHAM.

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514362978	1	2	4	5	6	7	11	
415263				5				16
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312564								16
213465				5				16
513462					6		13s	
315264				5				16
214562								16
312465								16

512463978	3	4	6	8	11	12	13	
215364				5				16
214563								16
412365				5				16
512364					6		13s	
215463				5				16
213564								16
214365								16

514362879	3	4	6	8	11	12	13	
415263				5				16
413562								16
314265				5				16
514263					6		13s	
415362				5				16
412563								16
413265								16

513264978	3	4	6	8	11	12	13	
315462				5				16
312564								16
213465				5				16
513462					6		13s	
315264				5				16
214562								16
312465								16

512463879	3	4	6	8	11	12	13	
215364				5				16
214563								16
412365				5				16
512364					6		13s	
215463				5				16
213564								16
214365								16

Composed by James E. Groves. First rung at Aston Parish Church, December 15th, 1917. Conducted by Albert Walker.

LAVENHAM.—On Sunday, Nov. 4th, on handbells, 720 Bob Minor by: A. Symonds 1-2, Bert Keeble (first 720) 3, S. Smith 4, S. H. Symonds (conductor) 5-6.

**KILLED IN ACTION.****CORPL. FRANK S. ANDREW, OF ISHAM.**

News has just been received that Corpl. Frank S. Andrew, 9th Royal Fusiliers, a member of the Isham (Northants) Society, has been killed in action by a shell during the German counter-attack on the Cambrai salient on November 30th.

Twenty-seven years of age, he was one of the original band which learned to ring when the bells of Isham Parish Church were restored in 1906, and he had made great strides in the art. Under the able tuition of Mr. J. E. Chapman, of Kettering, this band became attached to the Central Northamptonshire Association, and succeeded in ringing its first peal on Boxing Day, 1907, which was seven 720's of Bob Minor. The first peal in seven methods was accomplished on September 16th, 1909, and this was done without any outside help. The deceased took part in both these peals.

Removing to Coventry in 1913, his interest in the art continued, and under the guidance of Mr. Roberts, he became proficient in the standard eight-bell methods, including London and Bristol Surprise. He was not a great believer in peal ringing, having only rung about a dozen, of which at least one was conducted by himself.

As recently as November 11th he was home on leave and his cheery smile was in evidence in the belfry, when he conducted several touches for the Sunday services.

The sad news of his death was received on Saturday, Dec. 15th, and the same evening a band was got together, and a 720 of Double Oxford Minor, his favourite method, was rung with muffled clappers. This was rung at a very slow rate, the time being nearly 30 mins., and the band was as follows:—A. Green 1, E. M. Atkins (conductor) 2, J. E. Chapman 3, W. C. Lewis 4, W. T. Wilson 5, G. A. Blaxley 6.

On Sunday afternoon last, the 23rd, a special memorial service was held, after which the whole pull and stand and some muffled touches were rung.

**RINGERS MEET AT SALONICA.**

Writing from Salonica, Sapper C. T. Coles, R.E., hon. secretary of the Middlesex Association, says:—"We all out here hope to be home long before another year has passed by, and I think we shall be. I have had the good fortune to meet an old ringing friend in Sergt. Fred J. Pittsow, who is situated about two miles away from me, and who is in the A.O.C. He knew of my presence here in Salonica by seeing a paragraph some long time ago in 'The Ringing World,' and by what he read he came to the conclusion that I was somewhere not far from him. He only knew that I was in the R.E.'s, and so found some difficulty in tracing my whereabouts. He inquired of every R.E. whom he met, but with no success, and after about four months of fruitless inquiries he wrote home for my address. I had a very pleasant surprise when I heard from him, and at the earliest opportunity I paid him a visit. You may guess we had a lot to talk about, especially in discussing the whereabouts of our many ringing friends, and ringing matters in general. Later I met Fred again, and had a few hours with him in town, looking at the ruins, and making a call or two. One difficulty in town is to get a fair meal, but we got over this by going to three places, and as a result we felt that we had done very well in difficult circumstances. Unfortunately what would have proved a nice walk back was spoiled by a very strong, and very cold, wind, which sprang up, and which we faced all the way. Fred had nearly two miles to go when I left him, and he had quite enough before he got back to camp. However, it was a real treat for both of us (I am sure I can speak for Fred as well as for myself) to meet each other, and we look forward to the next outing together. He told me that Peter Lafin had been out here, but a day or two before I first met Fred he had been sent to somewhere else across the sea. They had had the paper regularly, and I think it was the means of Fred eventually getting on my track.

Whilst on the topic of old friends, I must tell you that I only just missed meeting Percy Webb, of Ickleton, Cambs. I happened to go, one Sunday recently, for a walk with a friend in the A.S.C., and at a Greek village we paid a visit to a small church. There was a small steeple with a very decent toned bell, which I had to try by chiming it. My friend asked if I was interested in bells, and when I had replied, he said he would like me to meet his friend Percy Webb. Of course, I told him that I had many times heard or read of that ringer, and asked where I could find him. My friend could not say at the moment, but later on he found him, but before I could find time to pay Webb a visit he, and my A.S.C. friend as well, had been packed off to a place where they may be by the time you get this letter, where there are bells which ring and not chime only. Lucky men! There has been a very welcome change in the weather since I last wrote. We no longer suffer from the continuous and great heat, and although sometimes it is much warmer than it would be in England, there have been a few days when it has been quite cold. I understand that for this time of the year it is unusually cold for this country, and it may be because there is a large amount of snow upon the mountains, and the cold air is

blown towards us by a wind that always seems to be with us. It is especially cold in the mornings, just when you have got comfortably warm in your blankets. I am pleased to say I am keeping in very good health, and am looking forward to the end of the war to return home again. What a blessing that will be, to be sure! I shall be glad if you will convey to all friends by the usual means, my very best wishes for a bright and happy Christmas, and peace in the New Year."

**POPULAR YORKSHIRE OFFICIAL MARRIED.****PRESENTATIONS TO MR. PERCY JOHNSON.**

On Saturday, December 8th, at St. Matthew's Church, Holbeck, Mr. Percy Johnson, the genial Ringing Master of the Western District of the Yorkshire Association was married to Miss Annie Flockton, of Holbeck. Both bride and bridegroom are well known in the district, having been connected with St. Matthew's Church many years, the bride as a church worker, and Mr. Johnson as chorister and conductor of the ringing.

Many friends attended the service, which was conducted by the Rev. C. C. Marshall, M.A., Vicar of St. Chad's, Headingley, President of the Association, and a very intimate friend of the bridegroom for many years. He gave the young couple a short address, full of good advice and homely counsel. The service was fully choral, and after the ceremony the organist played the Wedding March. Meantime, ringers from many churches rang the bells in "Queen's" and "Tit-tums," and they were "fired" as the party left the church.

Afterwards a 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung by: Willie Gage 1, Johnny Whitaker 2, Robert Thomas 3, Rev. C. C. Marshall, M.A., 4, John W. Moorhouse 5, Henry Lindsay 4, H. Williams (conductor) 7, Walter Wood 8.

For some years prior to the war, Mr. Maude, of Pudsey, organised a party of ringers each Whitsuntide for a four or five days' ringing excursion. These outings were always a great success, Mr. Johnson being a regular member of the party, and adding much to the success by his prowess, both on tower and handbells. His fellow members, therefore, decided to honour the occasion of his marriage by presenting him with a handsome eight-day clock to tick away the happy hours of wedded bliss and to be a constant reminder of their good wishes for health and happiness.—On Sunday, Dec. 9th, before ringing for morning service, Mr. Johnson's comrades at St. Michael's, Headingley, gave him a barometer as a mark of their esteem, and in recognition of his valuable services in the tower.—Mr. Walter Wood, the ringer with the longest service, made the presentation, and in a few well-chosen words, voiced the feelings of the members, and conveyed their good wishes for long life and happiness to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson.

**RINGER'S WEDDING AT WYKE REGIS.**

On Thursday of last week, the wedding of Mr. Percy Willshire and Miss May Rose was solemnised at the Parish Church, Wyke Regis. The bridegroom is one of the esteemed ringers at the church, and the bride is the daughter of Mr. Wm. Rose, who was captain of the Wyke Regis band for 25 years, and niece of the present captain, Mr. Alf. Rose. The bridegroom was attended by Pte. W. Rose, A.S.C., brother of the bride, also a member of the local band, and just home from France. The ceremony was performed by Canon Davies (Rector), and the service was fully choral, as the bride's father and brothers not only have a long connection with the ringers, but also with the choir. The organist played suitable wedding music, and after the ceremony the bells rang out a merry peal, first in "rounds" and "queens," and then in fine touches of Grandsire Triples and Plain Bob, the local band being assisted by the soldier ringers in the district, who are always welcome. Afterwards the ringers were kindly entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Willshire. Among the many useful presents was a fine set of carvers from the bridegroom's brother ringers.

**DATE TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.**

The year 1918 lends itself to the composition of date touches of Grandsire Triples—and other Triple methods with the treble a plain hunt—in that the number provides 137 complete leads. No doubt numerous such lengths will be composed, here is one by Mr. G. H. Newton, of Liverpool:—

234567	326457
532746 5	423785 5
325746 4	234765 4
543267 3	732546 5
435267 4	467253 2
354267 4	234567 1a
723654 1	
547362 2	
235647 1	

The foregoing four times repeated with S for B at 3rd part and produces: 326457



## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**PORTSEA.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday evening, Sept. 16th, 504 Stedman Triples: J. Harris 1, C. Groves 2, S. Thomas 3, W. A. Cave (conductor) 4, J. Chaffey 5, E. Reynolds 6, E. J. Harding 7, A. Harding 8.—On Sunday evening, Dec. 16th, 504 Grandsire Triples: J. Harris 1, C. Groves 2, Pte. Umberston (conductor) 3, J. Symonds 4, J. Chaffey 5, G. Holloway 6, E. J. Harding 7, J. Green 8. Sergt.-Major Cave belongs to Bristol and Pte. W. Umberston to South Wighton.

**READING.**—Oxford Diocesan Guild.—On Sunday, Nov. 4th, for evensong, at St. Giles' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins.: G. Cook 1, A. W. Osborne 2, N. Box 3, Corpl. C. Sconce 4, Miss E. Goodship (conductor) 5, H. Egby 6. Second A.-M. E. Butler 7, A. Wiggins 8. First quarter-peal by Miss Goodship as conductor.—On Nov. 25th 504 Grandsire Triples: Miss D. Batten 1, A. W. Osborne 2, G. Cook 3, Pte. A. Bailey 4, N. Cox 5, H. Egby 6, A. Wiggins (conductor) 7, A. Phillips 8.—On Sunday, Dec. 16th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (composed by J. George), in 46 mins.: Miss D. Batten (first quarter-peal) 1, G. Boddington 2, G. Cook (first quarter with a bob bell) 3, Lce.-Cpl. D. William (first quarter-peal as conductor) 4, Miss E. Goodship 5, A. W. Osborne 6, H. Egby 7, A. Phillips 8.

**REDDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.**—At the Parish Church for evening service, on Nov. 11th, Johnson's 504 Grandsire Triples: T. Bicknell 1, W. Stringer 2, H. Spencer 3, G. F. Swann 4, W. J. Meers (conductor) 5, J. Preston 6, J. W. Pemberton 7, W. C. Rhodes 8.—On Sunday, December 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: E. Hobbs 1, A. T. Scriven 2, J. Preston 3, H. Spencer (longest length) 4, W. E. Webb 5, W. J. Meers (conductor) 6, J. W. Pemberton (first in the method) 7, T. Bicknell 8.

**BROMLEY, KENT.**—At SS. Peter and Paul's, on Sunday, Nov. 18th, for a Confirmation service by the Bishop of Rochester, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: Miss E. F. Burch 1, I. Emery (conductor) 2, A. E. Newick 3, P. J. Spice 4, W. H. Hewelt 5, G. Huxley 6, G. Durling 7, G. F. James 8.

**KEYMER, SUSSEX.**—At the Parish Church, 720 Grandsire Doubles, in honour of the success of the British arms in France: C. Merritt 1, W. Horner 2, E. M. Bish 3, J. Backshaw 4, J. Parsons (conductor) 5, J. Feist 6.

**WINDSOR.**—At St. John's Church, for evening service, on Nov. 18th, 504 Grandsire Triples: G. Bedford 1, T. S. Smith 2, W. Henley 3, W. H. Fussell 4, G. T. Leader 5, E. T. Hooper 6, Gunner L. Stillwell 7, H. Farr 8. These touches were specially arranged and rung as a welcome to Sapper Young and Gunner Stillwell, who were home on leave.

**NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.**—On Nov. 22nd, in celebration of the British success on the Cambrai Front, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 51 mins.: J. Simmonds 1, W. Chambers 2, W. Upton 3, W. Scott 4, H. Phillips 5, W. Johnson 6, H. Jennings (conductor) 7, J. Leal 8. First quarter-peal on the bells since they were rung.

**PORTISHEAD, SOMERSET.**—On Nov. 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Mrs. J. E. Staley 1, Miss D. Sage 2, Mr. T. Wyatt 3, Miss M. C. N. Jukes 4, Mr. G. Tippet 5, Miss E. M. Hole (conductor) 6, Mr. W. Gillingham 7, Mr. J. Nisbett 8. Rung in honour of the British successes in Palestine and France.

**MERSTHAM, SURREY.**—At St. Katherine's Church, on Sunday, November 25th, for morning service, a quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles: H. Morley 1, Miss C. M. Orlebar 2, E. Atkins (conductor) 3, G. Morley 4, A. Wood 5, W. Francis 6. Miss C. M. Orlebar's first quarter-peal.

**SLOUGH, BUCKS.**—On Sunday, Nov. 25th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: C. J. Kazer (first quarter-peal) 1, C. N. Leman 2, G. Bedford 3, T. S. Smith 4, W. Henley (conductor) 5, F. W. Brinklow 6, E. T. Hooper 7, G. T. Leader 8. Rung after meeting short for Stedman. Arranged for the ringers of 1, 2 and 6, who cycled over from Oxley, Herts.

**BRIDGEND, GLAMORGAN.**—At St. Illtud's Church, on November 25th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins.: W. Nardwick 1, T. J. Evans 2, A. J. Stanley 3, R. Evans 4, C. H. Perry 5, J. Evans 6, A. J. Pitman (conductor) 7, B. J. Toby 8. Rung as a farewell to C. H. Perry, who is called up for service with the colours. This makes the eighth member of the band to join His Majesty's Forces.

**ASHTON, SURREY.**—At the Parish Church, on Nov. 26th, on the occasion of the wedding of Lieut. Templey, R.G.A., to Miss M. Joyce Grandsire Doubles: V. Hemus (longest length on the treble) 1, H. Corbett 3, H. Boxall 4, W. Marks 5, J. Wyatt 6, A. Dean (conductor) 7, R. Hull 8.

**ELSTON, NOTTS.**—On Dec. 1st, at the Parish Church, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: G. Nowell 1, Walter White 2, Rev. G. J. Sturton 3, William White 4, F. Spencer 5, A. Mackears (conductor) 6. Also 360 Single Court: Rev. A. D. Hill 1, William White 2, Rev. C. J. Sturton 3, A. Mackears 4, Walter White (conductor) 5, T. Squires 6; and several touches of Double Court Plain Bob and Grandsire.

**MITCHAM, SURREY.**—On Sunday, Dec. 2nd, at the Church of SS. Peter and Paul, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: J. A. Lambert 1, J. D. Drewett 2, D. W. Drewett 3, W. H. Joiner 4, C. Bance 5, A. Calver 6, W. S. Smith 7, J. Currell 8. Rung as a welcome to Mr. Douglas W. Drewett, who was home on leave from France, after a long absence, his brother ringers wishing him the best of good luck for the future.

**BLETCHLEY.**—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday evening, Dec. 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Sapper E. Leonard, R.E., 1, F. Hedges 2, T. Best 3, A. Crane 4, W. Sear 5, E. Marks 6, H. Sear (conductor) 7, V. Sear 8. Arranged for Sapper E. Leonard, of the Railway Operating Division of the R.E., who was home from France on leave, and as a birthday compliment to F. Hedges.

**EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM.**—On Sunday, Dec. 2nd, ten 120's Grandsire Doubles: V. Hemus (longest length on the treble) 1, M. Withers (conductor) 2, W. Bryant 3, J. Eaton 4, G. Pigott 5, J. Johnson 6.—On Sunday, Nov. 25th, 720 Bob Minor: Miss K. Pigott (first 720) 1, Miss S. Pigott 2, J. Pigott 3, G. Pigott 4, J. Eaton 5, H. Withers (conductor) 6.

**BIRMINGHAM.**—St. Martin's Guild.—On Monday, Dec. 3rd, at 125, Victoria Road, Aston, Birmingham, on handbells (size 14 in D), a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 40 mins.: T. J. Bratton 1—2, W. Kent 3—4, M. J. Morris 5—6, J. George (composer and conductor) 7—8. Witness, J. B. Collett.

**BIGGLESWADE, BEDS.**—On Dec. 6th, at St. Andrew's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins.: E. Huxsey 1, W. Wagstaff 2, Cadet G. W. Newton 3, E. Stratton 4, W. J. Mayes 5, Dvr. W. Essery 6, C. Pratt (conductor) 7, A. Franklin 8.

**ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.**—At St. Peter's Church, on Dec. 8th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: Mrs. Wolstencroft 1, J. W. Holme 2, Miss Cissy Thorp 3, R. Wimpenny 4, Miss S. Holt (first quarter-peal) 5, F. Stonely 6, W. W. Wolstencroft (conductor) 7, J. Rolls 8.

**MALVERN LINK.**—Worcestershire Association.—On Sunday evening, December 9th, at St. Matthias' Church, 504 Stedman Triples, also Stedman and Grandsire Doubles: R. G. Knowles (conductor), Lance-Corpl. A. Hill, E. E. Barber, W. Ranford, F. Stanton, C. Camm, C. Layton, G. Jordan, and A. Richings. Lance-Corpl. A. Hill is a member of the Worcester Cathedral Guild, and was married on the previous day at St. John's. The heartiest good wishes of the band were offered to him and his bride.

**WORKSOP.**—North Notts Association.—At the Priory Church, in honour of the brave Byng boys of the district, who took part in the recent victory, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. The bells were also "fired" in volleys at intervals: H. Haigh (conductor) 1, H. H. Cartwright 2, S. C. Walker 3, G. Hardwick 4, W. Roberts 5, A. Johnson 6, E. Clark 7, T. Bartholomew 8.

**LONDON.**—On Sunday, December 9th, for morning service, at St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 44 mins.: C. Stevenson (first quarter-peal in the method) 1, A. Diserens 2, A. W. Davis 3, H. T. Powlett 4, W. G. Matthews 5, H. N. Davis 6, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 7, A. R. Davis 8.

**ACTON, MIDDLESEX.**—On Sunday morning, Dec. 9th, 420 Grandsire Triples, preceded by touches of Bob Major: Sergt. G. W. Trollope, 21st Canadian Regiment, 1, R. Holloway 2, E. W. Abbott 3, C. Edwards 4, W. Lawrence 5, C. Vickery 6, J. Armiger Trollope (conductor) 7, A. E. Smith 8.

**RYHL.**—North Wales Association.—On Sunday, Dec. 9th, for evening service, at St. Thomas's Church, two 720's of Bob Minor, with tenor covering: F. Homan 1, B. Collis 2, W. Bell 3, T. Evans 4, C. Egerton 5, J. Ellis (conductor) 6, F. Bailey 8. The first in the method by a local band.

**DALTON-IN-FURNESS.**—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Dec. 9th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss E. M. Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson 4, J. Huddleston 5, J. Burrows (conductor) 6.—On Sunday, Dec. 18th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss E. M. Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson 4, T. Stuart 5, J. Burrows (conductor) 6; and for evening service, two courses of Bob Major: Miss Sharpe 1, Miss E. M. Stuart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson 4, J. Huddleston 5, T. R. Jackson 6, T. Stuart 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8.

**NOTICES.**

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

**THE CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**—Kettering District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Isham on Saturday, December 29th. Short service at 4 p.m. Tea and meeting 4.30.—Walter T. Wilson, District Sec., Isham, near Kettering.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on January 1st, 15th and 29th, and for handbell practice on the 10th and 24th, at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1/8, which entitles members who have not attended twenty meetings in the past year to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The monthly meeting of this society will be held at St. Chad's, Far Headingley, on Saturday, Jan. 5th, 1918. Bells will be available from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. The business meeting will be held in the Parochial Hall adjoining the Vicarage at 7 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

**THE CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**—Northampton District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Kingsthorpe on Saturday, Jan. 5th.—Bells ready at 3 p.m. Service 5.30. Tea and meeting 6 p.m. (no sugar provided).—T. Low, District Secretary, Weston Favell, Northampton.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM** (Estab. 1775).—The annual meeting will be held at the Tamworth Arms Hotel, Moor Street, City, on Tuesday, Jan. 8th, 1918, at 7.30 p.m. All subscriptions are due at this meeting.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

**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.**

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**GREETINGS.**

The season's greetings to all ringing friends is the hearty wish of Sergt. J. E. Davis, 921 Coy. R.E., B.E.F., France.

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LTD. Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.