

A NEW RINGERS' BADGE OR MEDAL (COLDWELL)

As with Potts & Sons (*q.v.*) George H Coldwell was better known for its clocks:

GEORGE H. COLDWELL
 MAKER OF
CHURCH, TURRET,
 AND
PUBLIC CLOCKS,
MIRFIELD, YORKS.
 ESTIMATES FREE.

'Bell News' 18.v.1901 page i

A New Ringers' Badge or Medal,

In Gold, Silver, or Bronze.

This arrangement of badge is in the form of a Church Bell, of a true and correct shape, and can be worn as a pendant, medal, brooch, or badge. On the waist of the bell there is a handsomely-engraved shield, suitable for an inscription.

The bell is 1½ ins. deep from headstock to clapper-flight; three quarters of an inch broad; and can be had with ring or pin attachment.

PLEASE NOTE:—This handsome jewel is made in the CORRECT FORM of a CHURCH BELL.

Silver (one side)	0 3 0
" both sides alike	0 5 0
Bronze "	0 3 0
9-carat gold "	1 10 0
Smaller size in gold from	0 15 0

MANUFACTURED BY

GEO. H. COLDWELL,
[Member of the Ringing Society]
 CHURCH CLOCK MAKER, AND
 Ringers' Jeweller,
MIRFIELD, YORKSHIRE

Their first advertisement for badges appeared in *'Bell News'* on 25th May 1901, and this or one of the two shown below appeared regularly until 8th May 1909.

THE ONLY RINGERS' TRUE BADGE.—In Gold, Silver or Bronze.—COLDWELL (Ringer), Mirfield, Yorks.

THE RINGERS' ONLY TRUE BADGE.—In Gold, Silver or Bronze.—Clocks, Watches, and all kinds of jewellery.—COLDWELL (Ringer), Mirfield, Yorks.

The new offering drew these editorial comments:

'We call attention to an advertisement on another page of a new ringers' badge or jewel, which is being manufactured by Mr. George Coldwell, Church Clock Maker, etc., of Mirfield, Yorkshire. The shape of this invention takes the form of a bell, and as Mr. Coldwell is in active pursuit of the Art of change-ringing, it has the advantage of being made in the exact shape and orthodox form of a Church Bell. It is being made in several kinds of metal, as the advertisement informs us; the specimen we have seen, in silver, being particularly neat, and pleasing to the eye. We should say this little ornament will be patronised most extensively by ringers and others. It is quite suitable for the use or adornment of the gentler sex; and would be a most suitable present for every occasion and circumstance.'

'Bell News' 25.v.1901 p43

'The New Ringers' Badge.—Mr George H. Coldwell, of Mirfield, Yorks , has made, we hear, a change in the manufacture of this little article, by affixing cannons to the bell instead of a bead-stock. Intending purchasers can of course have the article in any shape they please—they pay their money and they take their choice, as the old showman used to say. If they would like a wheel affixed, and a stay, they can have them. Mr. Coldwell, being a ringer, is anxious to oblige and please all his friends and patrons in this and in every other article of jewellery they require. The badge in question has become popular, notably, we suppose on account of the correct shape of the bell.'

'Bell News' 15.vi.1901 page 83

None of the advertisements has a drawing of the badge and the only details known come from the maker's description, 'a church bell, of a true and correct shape. On the waist of the bell there is a handsomely-engraved shield, suitable for an inscription.' This, together with information from the two news items below, suggest that the badge may well have been the one used for the Central Northants Association 100 peal badge.

'The Secretary of the Central Northamptonshire Association' 'In 1906, in recognition of his having rung 100 peals, he (*Mr Fred Wilford*) was presented with a gold badge in the shape of a bell.'

'The Ringing World' 16.ii.1912 p117

'INTERESTING PRESENTATION The ringers of the various churches in Northampton met on Friday evening last in the large room at the Volunteer Inn, Wellingborough Road (kindly lent by Mr. E. Copson) for the purpose of presenting to Mr. Fred Wilford, who is the esteemed Captain of St. Giles' team, a gold badge in honour of his having rung 100 peals. The badge is in the form of a church bell, of a true and correct shape, and is the work of Mr. G. H. Coldwell, Mirfield, Yorks.'

'Bell News' 29.ii.1908 p593

See under Central Northants Association 100 peal badge for an illustration of the badge.