

THE RINGING WORLD

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13th, 1916.

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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.

A PROPOSED MEMORIAL.

The report of the recent meeting of the Midland Counties Association, which we published last week, contained a reference to the proposed memorial to the late Sir Arthur Heywood. The subject had been before the Association's Committee, but apparently consideration had not been carried far enough to enable anything like a definite scheme to be placed before the members, and the matter was therefore postponed until the next meeting. It was a wise proceeding to make known the fact that such a proposal is on foot before any formal scheme is launched, so that the matter may be more widely considered. It was only to be expected that the Midland Counties Association should be anxious to initiate the movement for perpetuating the memory of Sir Arthur, because the late baronet was so intimately connected with that organisation. He was its president and for many years he watched its progress with parental interest. He took a special pride in the Midland Counties Association, and in his more active ringing days helped substantially in building up its history. What more natural, therefore, than that the Association should seek to prepare a memorial scheme?

The honouring of Sir Arthur Heywood's memory, however, seems to us to be a question which rings throughout the Exercise would desire to see take on a wider scope than that of a purely Association one, for Sir Arthur's connection with ringing, through his presidency of the Central Council for a quarter of a century, was, as it were, national, and he was brought into direct official relationship with ringing organisations throughout the country. Doubtless this aspect of the question has not escaped the consideration of the Midland Counties Committee and when their scheme is formulated we imagine it will be such that it can be expanded to meet any desire there may be on the part of other associations to participate in honouring the memory of one who rendered so much service to the Exercise. The Committee have, no doubt, also considered the fact that the Central Council may wish to be officially associated with a memorial to their late president. Apart from what private individuals may desire to do this seems, indeed, obvious. At the same time, unless there are some specially strong reasons to the contrary, it would be unwise to have more than one scheme promoted. But all this, as we have said, the Midland Counties Committee will be certain to take into consideration, even if they have not already done so, and while they may be ready in a month or two with their own proposals, it is hardly likely that any general scheme, appealing to the Exercise at large, can be launched until after the Central Council have met next Whitsuntide.

MODERN WORK.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford

Dear Sirs,

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

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

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

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs. C. CARR, LTD.,
Smethwick.

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

**SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM**

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SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.**

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PEALS AUGMENTED,
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

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HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, September 29, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH, SHOREDITCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5043 CHANCES;

MRS. FRANK I. HAIRS ...	1—2	WILLIAM SHEPHERD ...	5—6
GEORGE R. PYE ...	3—4	JAMES HUNT ...	7—8
		CHARLES T. COLES ...	9—10

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and
Conducted by GEORGE R. PYE.

Umpire: ERNEST J. BUTLER.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. Arthur T. King, I.S.O., President of the above association, on his 71st birthday, which took place on the day following the peal.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following are now serving in H.M. Forces:—

Pte J. A. Trollope, of Ealing, Yorkshire Regt.
Gnr. J. Claypole, of St. Mary's, Finedon, Royal Field Artillery.
Gnr. Cyril Middleton, of Gooles Parish Church, Royal Field Artillery.

Pte E. G. Cooper, of Pettistree, Suffolk, 28th Middlesex Regt.
Pte J. F. Smallwood, of Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham, 13th Batt. Royal Berks Regiment, now in France.

Gnr. William Oakes, of St. Mark's, Worsley, Lancs, Royal Garrison Artillery.

Pte W. Reeves, of All Saints', Lower Marlow, Hertfordshire Regiment.

Pte C. Horne, of All Saints', Lower Marlow, Devonshire Regt. From St. Cuthbert's Church, Ackworth, Yorks:—

Gunner Albert Lamprey, R.F.A., now at Salonica.

Trooper Willie Lindsay, Queen's Own Yorkshire Dragoons, now in France.

Pte Willie Waller, West Yorkshires, wounded, now in Hospital at Blyth.

Driver Walter Beetham, R.F.A.

FARNHAM ROYAL RINGER KILLED.

Another member of the Farnham Royal belfry has been killed in action on the West Front (France). Pte H. Skuse, of the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry, fell on the 24th August last. He was a member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

SEC.-LIEUT. PRYCE TAYLOR WOUNDED.

Following upon the news of the loss of a second son in France, Mr. J. W. Taylor, of Loughborough, has had news that another son, Second-Lieut. Pryce Taylor, of the Leicestershire Regt., has been wounded in action. He has a gunshot wound through the left wrist, and is now in hospital at Worsley Hall, near Manchester. Mr. Taylor's daughter, who has been nursing the wounded in France, has also been invalided home with blood poisoning. Ringers throughout the land will wish them both a speedy recovery.

GERMANS COMMANDEERING BELLS.

A recently exchanged prisoner of war, who had been interned in the Ruhleben Camp in Germany, writing in a daily paper, bears out the frequent reports which have been received, of the removal of church bells from towers in enemy and enemy occupied country for use as munitions. The writer says: "The Ruhleben Camp lies just opposite the main line that runs from Berlin to the west, and we were thus always able to see in what direction the troops were travelling. If they went west in large numbers we knew that another offensive was developing in that region; if east, we concluded that the Russians were becoming troublesome again. We saw hundreds of trains daily, truck-loads of ammunition, and cannon of various sizes. We also saw the Red Cross trains coming back from the west with their helpless burdens. The most remarkable spectacle that we ever saw was some trucks bearing immense church bells to the west, doubtless to be melted down for their copper in some foundry. The tallest of these bells appeared to be at least eight feet. By a curious coincidence, the train stopped just when the trucks with the church bells came opposite the main gate of the camp, and as the railway line is on a raised level we were all able to see and wonder. Along that same line are also regularly conveyed the trucks overflowing with the English tin-boxes that are collected in the camp, after they have been emptied of their food contents, in order to be used afterwards for ammunition purposes."

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**NORTHERN BRANCH OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.**

A very successful quarterly meeting, in connection with the Worcester Northern Branch, was held at Kidderminster, about 45 members being present, representing Smethwick, Hartlebury, Kidderminster, Wolverley, Arley Kings, Selly Oak, Edgbaston, Clent, Stourbridge, Wollaston, Belbroughton, Brierley Hill, Old Hill, Oldswinford and Wordsley. Ringing in the tower was indulged in during the afternoon, and the service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Canon L. B. Sladen). The address given by the Rev. Richards was very much appreciated.

The tea, which was kindly provided by the Vicar, and arranged by Miss Palmer, was thoroughly enjoyed. At the business meeting which followed, the Vicar being in the chair, letters of apology were read from Mr. Harry Mason, Pte Robert Matthews and Mr. Geo. Hayward.

Old Hill was selected for the next quarterly meeting in January. Two new members were elected, and Mr. Samuel Grove was re-elected Ringing Master. Mr. Joseph Pigott, who is serving with the heavy artillery in France, was re-elected representative on the Central Committee, and Mr. E. J. Dowler was re-elected secretary and treasurer.

Mr. Albert Parsons, in a few well-chosen remarks, spoke of the absence of many of the members serving their King and country, and said he trusted they would all soon be back again in more peaceful occupations.—In proposing a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and the Rev. Richards for arranging the service and the address, and also to the ladies for their very welcome help, Mr. Parsons remarked on the attendance of ringers at service after ringing. While regretting that there was still plenty of room for improvement, he could claim that within the last ten years there had been a great improvement in that direction, and he was sure the clergy would bear him out. But many ringers did not reside as close to the church as the clergy. In most cases they had to come any distance from half a mile to three or four miles, and be at their post an hour or so before service began. He thought, therefore, it was too much to expect ringers to stay at every service, but he would suggest that ringers should stay at least at one of the services for which they rang.

The Vicar, who acknowledged the vote of thanks, said how pleased he was to have the meeting at his church once again, and at any time he would be pleased to offer them the same hospitality. With reference to the remarks of Mr. Parsons, he was of the opinion that if all ringers would attend one of the services for which they rang it would give him the greatest pleasure. He knew how very difficult it was under the present circumstances to get any ringing at many churches, but he hoped everyone would do his or her best to keep the bells going until the war was over.—A very successful gathering was then brought to a close.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

A very successful and enjoyable meeting of the Sheffield District and Old East Derbyshire Amalgamated Society was held at Dore on Saturday week, over 40 ringers being present, representing 16 towers, viz.: Anston, Barlborough, Beighton, Bolsover, Bolsterstone, Chesterfield, Darley Dale, Dore, Dronfield, Eckington, Norton, North Wingfield, Rotherham, Sheffield (Cathedral and All Saints'), and Worksop. Owing to a late interment, a start was not possible with ringing until 4 o'clock, after which time the inhabitants were reminded that the tower still held a very pretty peal of bells full of sweet music, which they had not heard rung for more than twelve months. Short touches of Major, Triples and Minor following each other in rapid sequence until 7.30, did not fully exhaust the appetite of the ringers, and some would still have liked another touch, but this was the time of ceasing fixed by the authorities, so a very good "fall" completed the programme, which had contained a good measure of excellent striking. Mr. Vice-President Biggin presided over a brief business meeting, when two new members were elected, and the usual routine business transacted.

BELL FOUNDRY SHAREHOLDERS.

The following letter has appeared in the "Birmingham Daily Post" from the well-known firm of bell founders, Charles Carr, Ltd., of the Woodlands Foundry, Smethwick:—

"Dear Sir,—We note in the 'Birmingham Post' of to-day (Oct. 7th) a paragraph respecting the assumed trading names of firms ventilated by the Wholesale Traders' Association, Birmingham, and would thank you to insert in your valuable paper, that we—Charles Carr, Ltd., the capital of which is £15,107—are constituted as follows: James J. W. Carr (managing director), Hannah Carr (director and secretary pro tem), Elizabeth M. Carr (assistant to above), Charles H. Carr (manager of factoring department), Mrs. F. Walker (Frogall, Staffs), Charles Carr's trustee (to wit J. J. W. Carr), Major S. N. Thompson, J.P. (chairman), J. W. B. Brown (accountant), who hold £12,228. The six first-mentioned are the children of the founder of this business (Charles Carr, deceased), and beyond this, we may state there are no alien shareholders for the small amounts outside the Carr family.—Yours faithfully,

JAMES J. W. CARR."
CHARLES CARR, LTD.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.**"MRS. GRUNDY" OBJECTS TO LADY RINGERS.**

A very pleasant meeting of the North Notts Association was held at Everton recently, when there were upwards of thirty ringers and friends present, Worksop supplying by far the largest contingent. More were expected from towers closer at hand, but in spite of their absence the meeting was fairly representative considering the fact that so many of our boys are serving their King and country. Ringing of a mixed sort was indulged in until tea-time, the ringers being then invited to the Vicarage lawn to partake of a good substantial meal, presided over by the Vicar of Everton, who was supported by Mr. W. H. Ord (churchwarden), and the two honorary secretaries, together with 25 ringers and friends of the Vicar and churchwarden. The catering for the tea had been put into the capable hands of Mrs. Ord, and it is needless to add that the visitors were well provided for.—The Hon. Secretary (Mr. H. Haigh) congratulated the ladies at the conclusion of the meal upon their splendid catering.

The Vicar, in giving a most hearty welcome to the ringers, said at the present time the bells of Everton were silent on the Sabbath in consequence of the village being depleted of young men, gone to serve their King and country. Some two years ago a new band of lady ringers came upon the scene, and did so well that they were able to ring their bells in rounds, and were anxious to go further, but old Mrs. Grundy turned up her hands in pious horror at the very idea of ladies being allowed to go into a ringing chamber where there were a lot of men, so the poor girls had to give up this useful branch of Church work which they were so anxious to accomplish. He (the Vicar) thanked the ringers for coming to Everton that day, as the sound of the bells was always acceptable, and he hoped they would soon come again.

A comprehensive vote of thanks was carried unanimously to the Vicar of Everton for the use of bells and presiding over the meeting; to Mr. W. H. Ord (churchwarden) and Mr. Stevenson for helping the ladies to provide the tea, and to all the ladies who had helped to make the gathering such a success.—Mrs. Ord suitably replied, and hoped the ringers would soon pay them another visit.

Mr. W. H. Ord was elected a Vice-President of the Association, with acclamation.

Some good ringing was done in the evening, when Grandsire Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Violet Treble Bob were rung, in which three of the Everton veterans took part. At sunset the bells were ceased, and the visitors made tracks for home. The following towers were represented: Everton, Ordsall, Tuxford, Blyth and Worksop.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

Dear Sir,—The statement made by your contributor in his recent article on John Garthon—"that you cannot set down more than forty true courses of Stedman Triples"—requires more proof than we have at present for the following reasons:—

(1) With 5-6-7 fixed in Stedman Triples there are eight true courses—four Even and four Odd.

(2) With 6-7 fixed the extent in Even courses is fifteen only, but, in addition, there are five Odd courses that will run true with the fifteen Even courses, making twenty true courses altogether with 6-7 fixed.

(Another way of obtaining twenty true courses with 6-7 fixed is by using ten Even and ten Odd courses.)

(3) We know there are forty true Even courses with the 7th a fixed bell, and the problem that requires solving at the present time is: How many Odd courses are there true in conjunction with the forty Even courses?

Judging from analogy it is almost certain there are additional true Odd courses because in the known forty Even courses the 4th is never in 6th place, while the other bells (1-2-3-5-6) are each eight courses in 6th's.

Although I am not in a position to prove it, my belief at the present time—judging by the eight true courses with 5-6-7 fixed—is that there are at least 48 true Even and Odd courses altogether, perhaps more.—Yours faithfully,

Brighton,

GEORGE BAKER.

TRIBUTE TO A FALLEN OFFICER.

A memorial service for Second-Lieut. Alexander Piggott Wernher, Welsh Guards, youngest son of Lady Wernher, killed in action on Sept. 10th, was held in the private chapel at Luton Hoo, on Oct. 1st, General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien and Col. Lord Harlech, Welsh Guards, being among those present. A service was also held simultaneously at the Luton Parish Church, and attended by the Mayor and members of the Corporation. As a token of respect the bells of the Parish Church were rung half-muffled before and after the service, the touches including: 504 Grandsire Triples: J. Shaw 1, B. Wilson 2, A. E. Sharman 3, A. King (conductor) 4, T. Kendall 5, J. Rookwood 6, Pte H. Walker (Beds Regt.) 7, H. Shaw 8; and 224 Bob Major: J. Shaw 1, A. King 2, A. E. Sharman 3, Pte H. Walker 4, J. Rookwood 5, B. Wilson 6, T. Kendall 7, Pte W. Payne (the Queen's Royal West Surrey Regt.) 8.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

BY "BOB MAJOR."

From various sources in the last few weeks we have read quite a nice little lot of "grumbles." This is the kind of thing that rather appeals to me. When people begin to grumble I always think they are beginning to take an interest, and, besides, no one knows what excitement may develop, when someone replies to the grumbler—and these little wordy battles always entertain the lookers-on. Sometimes, of course, our anticipations of a good skirmish do not mature, but we are not always disappointed, and out of all the grumbles that we have had just lately surely one at least will keep us interested, for a week or two. It is an Englishman's privilege, they tell us, to grumble, and when you come to think about it, there isn't much we do not grumble at. Recently some outsiders—by outsiders I mean those who are not inside the ringing fold—having got tired of grumbling about the weather, and the conduct of the war, have turned their attention to bells. But what I can't understand is why people who don't like bells go and settle down close to a belfry. With all the world to choose from, there ought to be room enough for them to enjoy life out of range of bell sounds. I'm not a lawyer, but I have always understood, when it comes to a question of supposed annoyance, that it depends which came first to the neighbourhood, the annoyance or the resident. I believe I am right in saying that several years ago the question was raised in connection with a ring of bells in London. Some new-comer wanted to have the bells suppressed, but the bells had been rung in that tower for nearly 300 years, and, as the grumbler couldn't claim residence for much more than that number of days, the bells won.

AFTER THE FIRE.

I hardly know whether it is a subject I ought to touch upon, but I think most of my readers will agree that "The Ringing World" scored in the Wargrave discussion. With the details of the arrangements made for the ceremony, no mere ringer had the right to interfere, and, although that leading article suggested a revision of the arrangements in a perfectly courteous spirit, the protest from "the ringers" badly missed fire. The Parish Magazine had given the game away. I don't know, however, that the local ringers quite deserve the wholesale condemnation heaped upon them in "A Sonning Deaneryite's" letter. Although they apparently acquiesced in the "protest," it doesn't require a lot of imagination to realise what probably happened at that meeting of the ringers with the Vicar in the chair. The protest would probably have been best left unpublished, for it has only added fuel to the fire, which was well on the way to extinction. Now there has been a fresh blaze, and while 'peace at any price' folks may say, 'Let it drop,' there are others who like to get at the bottom of these things and know who really are their friends.

A MEAN SPIRIT.

The letter from the former foreman last week, must be a bit of a bombshell in the Wargrave camp. Happily its incendiary nature will not damage the fabric of the church, but there is another fabric which it has somewhat spoilt. It has taken the shine out of the "protest," which assured us that everyone was perfectly satisfied with the arrangements. It has always struck me as having quite a humorous touch, that statement that neighbouring ringers had expressed themselves as satisfied with their exclusion from the proceedings. If anybody had told me before that ringers were thankful to be kept away from the opening of a grand peal of bells, I shouldn't have believed them, and it came as a shock to me to hear that there were any such down Sonning Deanery way. But the statement doesn't, after all, square very well with the facts. There is one thing I must add, and that is my sympathy with the man, who, after 40 years of loyal service to the church and parish, was allowed to retire in the way that Mr. William Fuller was permitted to go. Whatever difference of opinion may have caused the resignation, the spirit which allowed such a man to lay down his office after so long an active career, without a word of thanks, is a mean one. But it seems fairly characteristic of the whole proceedings.

THE RINGING MASTER.

A very active ringing friend of mine, now in the army, attended an Association meeting—which shall be nameless—the other day, and this is what he writes me: "Having seen a meeting advertised at — I thought I would like to add a new tower to my list, so I found my way to the place. I haven't had much experience in conducting, and thinking there might be an opportunity to call a touch, I looked one up in case I was asked. But I wasn't. There was a 'Ringing Master' who took charge of the ringing, and he not only saw that the touches were what he wanted, but also that he called them all. I was in the tower a very considerable time, and as there were a good many present we couldn't all ring in every touch, but the 'Ringing Master' did, and took good care to call them all, as well. Now, don't you think it would have been a bit more 'sporting' to have passed the compliment to others now and again?" Candidly, old pal, I do. But I have met that sort of 'Ringing Master' myself, and the

only way to get up-sides with him is to say 'go' before he does. Never mind about upsetting him, you can settle that afterwards, although he probably wouldn't admit his selfishness by saying anything to you about it. I have heard a yarn about a well-known old London ringer who used to monopolise the calling when he was in a belfry. But one day he apparently opened his heart and asked someone else to call. When the ringing was finished, however, he seemed very dissatisfied with something, and got quite 'huffy.' Presently one of his cronies asked him what was the matter. 'Matter!' replied he in an agrieved tone, 'matter, indeed. Why I asked — to call a touch and he did.' But there are lots of such men about—and they are not always the best, either."

CONGRATULATIONS

If it is not too late I really must extend my congratulations, and I am going to couple everybody else's to them, to our old friend Frank Bennett, and his good wife, upon their silver wedding. Five and twenty years is a goodish spell, not so long to look back upon as to look forward to, perhaps, but I hope I may be here to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Bennett when they reach the golden celebration. A good many men give up peal ringing when they get married, but Frank Bennett didn't really begin until he joined the benedicts, and he will be the first to own that a good deal of his success has been due to the encouragement received from his better half. If he only rings as many peals in the next 25 years as he has rung in the last quarter of a century he will have a decent tally when the golden wedding arrives. I never knew a keener man for peals than he, and when he was in London he "bucked things up considerable" among some of the ringers. He did some capital work, too, as secretary of the Cumberlands, a post which he took over when things were not going too well with the Royal Society. They got hold of a ringer of real ability when Frank Bennett came among them, and it was a sad loss for them when he returned to Brighton. Gentlemen, fill up your glasses and drink to the health of Mr. and Mrs. Bennett!

FOOT THE BILL.

Can't we ringers somehow or other manage to finish off this job at King's Cliffe pretty soon? I know it's war-time, and all that kind of thing, but that £38 that the Rector wants to recast his tenor bell seems to need a deal of getting together. There must be plenty of ringers who are not only 'doing their bit' at home, but 'making their bit' also, and these might 'spare their bit' for this very worthy cause. They are ready to give, I know, if only the collector goes round with the hat. I should like to be the collector, only I'm afraid it would take rather too long. But the Rev. H. A. Orlebar has a hat at King's Cliffe into which the pence, the shillings and the pounds can be dropped if only you will send them to him. That tenor has got to be recast in time to ring in the 'peace' that is now approaching. 'Settling day' with the Huns is coming, and it will be somewhat of a reproach if we ringers haven't managed to foot that little bell of £38 for King's Cliffe, who quite a little while ago raised unaided nearly £200 for the bells, so that the peal at that church can join in celebrating the victory of the Allies.

THE BELLS OF FRANCE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I see in the "Ringing World" of Sept. 22nd, under the heading "In Bucks and Berks," that several men had been to — (West Front) and had rung the bells, a peal of eight. I have been at — for the last sixteen months, and did not know a peal of eight existed. Perhaps your correspondent will see my letter and let me know. I believe there are five bells at the Cathedral, if they can be called bells. The tenor I should think would go about 70 cwt.; they are out of tune with each other and themselves. At the ruined Church, St. Bertin, there is one bell (there were more originally) This bell I should think would go about 35 to 37 cwt., and is a beauty, and is one of the longest bells I have come across, and a fine casting. If any of my ringing friends are passing this way will they please look me up?

J. H. B. HESSE, Captain, A.S.C.,
358 Co., 3rd Repair Shops, B.E.F., France.

A WEST EALING PRACTICE MEETING.

Fourteen ringers were present at the united practice held at St. Stephen's, West Ealing, on Saturday afternoon last. No great things were attempted, but many touches were rung to suit everyone. Three ladies were present, and they rang together in Grand-sire Triples—the Misses E. M. and D. Filleul, and Miss E. Jones. The District Master of the Middlesex Association (Mr. T. Beadle) and Messrs. G. M. Kilby (Willesden), A. Diserens (Sunbury), Pte C. Raison (Trowbridge, Wilts), J. Fruin (Acton), and G. Harbour were also present. A good finish to a useful practice was a 336 Bob Major, by: C. Edwards 1, Miss Edith Jones 2, A. W. Davis 3, R. Holloway 4, T. Beadle 5, G. M. Kilby 6, W. Lawrence (conductor) 7, E. Newell 8. The Misses Filleul learnt change ringing at St. John's, Devises (where their father was then Vicar), under the tutorship of Mr. S. Hillier.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of the Kettering District was held at Stoko Albany, when members of the Association were present from Northampton, Kettering, Rothwell, Isham, Desborough, and the local tower. The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. R. Copeman), Vice-President of the District, who, in his address, spoke of his experiences in his early days of ringing, and said how glad he was to see a vast improvement in ringers and ringing generally.

Tea was served in the Schools, and at the meeting which followed, the Vice-President presided, supported by the general secretary (Mr. F. Wilford), and the district secretary (Mr. R. F. Turner). The committee suggested that Burton Labimer be chosen for the next meeting, and this was confirmed.—The District Secretary reported that they had lost another member, who had been killed in action, viz., Pioneer Sergt. A. Plant, 5th Northants.

A vote of thanks to the Rev. R. Copeman and Mrs. Copeman for providing the tea and to the local ringers for their welcome, brought a most successful meeting to a close.

During the day touches of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob Minor were rung, and some of the ringers also paid a visit to Wilbarston, where Grandsire Doubles were rung.

NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT MEETING.

The quarterly meeting of the Northampton District was held at Harlestone on Saturday week, the following towers being represented: St. Edmund's, St. Peter's, St. Giles' and All Saints', Northampton; Kingsthorpe, Weston Favell, Duston, Great Brington, and the local ringers. A short service was held, the Rev. R. Pattinson (Rector) giving a most inspiring address, in the course of which he said that during his service at the front as chaplain to the forces, he was convinced that our soldiers were realising God's supreme command, and were trying to live a more godly life, and he hoped all would try and help them to keep their faith when they returned.

Tea was provided at the Rectory, 20 members responding to the Rector's invitation. After doing full justice to the splendid repast the business meeting was held, Mr. J. Clarke presiding.—It was unanimously decided to make a 6d. collection in aid of the Red Cross funds, for which special efforts are being made throughout the county during the next week. The sum of 11s. 6d. was collected.

One new member was elected, and Ecton was chosen for the next meeting.—On the suggestion of one of the members it was decided to ask the authorities at the military hospitals in the district for permission to put on their notice boards an invitation to ringers to correspond with Mr. F. Wilford, 149, Ashburnham Road, Northampton, who will make arrangements with local ringers to visit our heroes who so nobly changed their ropes for rifles.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rev. and Mrs. Pattinson for giving such a splendid tea, and to the local ringers for having the bells ready.—The Rector, in reply, said how very pleased he was to welcome the visitors, and hoped they would soon come again under happier circumstances.

The following methods were rung during the afternoon and evening: Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court and Plain Bob Minor; Stedman and Grandsire Doubles.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A meeting of the Wirral Branch was held at Upton, a village situated near Birkenhead, on Saturday week, ringers being present from Bidston, Birkenhead, Heswall, Liscard, Oxtun, Lower Bebington, Wallesley, Woodchurch, and the local company. This was the first meeting of the branch at Upton, where the tower contains a ring of five bells, tenor 9½ cwt. The Vicar (Canon Bellamy) held a service for the ringers in the church, and gave an appropriate address, and the choir and organist also gave their services. Afterwards tea was served in the Schoolroom, and the business meeting followed, Canon Bellamy taking the chair. He was very pleased, he said, to welcome the Guild to Upton, and hoped they would come again at some future time. He was very pleased to see present ladies, who were learning bell ringing, and so filling the places of the men who had been called to the colours. He was going to learn himself. This statement was received with loud applause.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar, and the ladies who assisted at the tea tables for their generosity and for the use of the bells, and to the local ringers.

Ringling was kept up until 8.15 p.m., the methods rung being Stedman, Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles.

SIXTY YEARS A RINGER.

In honour of the 73rd birthday of Mr. H. Porter, who has been a ringer at the Church of St. George, Easton-in-Gordano, Somerset, for 60 years, a quarter-peat of Grandsire Doubles was rung last Saturday, in 42 mins., by: H. Sealy 1, J. Gould 2, G. Bennett 3, Pte S. Quinton (Oxford Guild) 4, J. Caple 5, H. Porter 6. Also 720 Bob Minor: H. Sealy 1, T. Atherton 2, G. Bennett 3, Pte S. Quinton 4, J. Gould 5, J. Caple 6. Both touches were conducted by J. Caple.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**BIG MEETING AT DEWSBURY.**

A most successful meeting of the Western District was held at Dewsbury (by invitation) on Saturday week, when over 100 members and friends attended, representing 27 towers. During the afternoon and evening the bells at Dewsbury, Batley and Batley Carr were well utilised, Stedman, Grandsire and Kent Treble Bob Major, and several Minor methods being rung, as well as numerous touches on handbells. A committee meeting was held during the afternoon, and at 5 p.m. the visitors sat down to tea in the Schools.

The business meeting followed in the Moot Hall (an ancient building, recently restored, situated in a corner of the churchyard). Mr. G. B. Bolland presided, supported by the Rev. C. O. Marshall (President of the Association), Mr. P. J. Johnson (Ringing Master), Mr. J. Cotteroll (treasurer), etc.—Thirteen new members were elected, including three of the local company.

Owing to no invitations being forthcoming for the December meeting, it was left in the hands of the committee to select a place.—The Rev. C. C. Marshall explained to the members that the Ilkley meeting was postponed owing to the difficulty of getting the brass for the tablet for the late Mr. W. Snowdon's memorial, and the sub-committee thought it best not to hurry matters, but to wait a time for the completion of the tablet.

A hearty vote of thanks to the church authorities for the use of the bells, and Moot Hall, also to the local ringers and ladies who helped at the tea, was proposed by the Rev. C. C. Marshall, seconded by Mr. P. J. Johnson, and carried unanimously.—Mr. E. A. Parker, Master of the local company, in replying, said they were very pleased to welcome the Association to Dewsbury. They were a set of young ringers, and they had improved considerably since joining the Association, and were very much indebted to the Earlsheaton company, who had helped them a great deal with their practices. He hoped, before long, that they would have another visit from the Association, and they would do all they could to make them again welcome.—A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

The Committee thank, through the medium of "The Ringing World," the Vicars and local ringers at Batley and Batley Carr for the use of their bells and having everything in readiness for them.

VISIT TO WOLVERLEY.

After the recent Worcestershire Northern Branch meeting at Kidderminster, at the invitation of Mr. T. J. Salter, of the Queen's Head Hotel, Wolverley, a few ringers accepted the invitation to stay with him for the week-end. They were welcomed by Mrs. Salter, who soon proved a real ringers' friend, and after the needs of the inner-man had been supplied, a pleasant hour was spent with the handbells, which Host Salter had got for the use of the ringers. Touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples were successfully brought round. After breakfast next morning, a move was made for St. Mary's, Kidderminster—a three mile walk—where a quarter-peat of Stedman Triples had been arranged for morning service. This is one of the churches where, owing to the war, it had been impossible to get a band for ringing without outside help. The bells on this occasion were going at 10 a.m., and a quarter-peat was successfully brought round by the following: J. Dowler 1, G. Davies 2, N. Davies 3, G. F. Swann (conductor) 4, T. J. Salter 5, J. Eaton 6, S. Grove 7, J. Woodbury 8. The return journey was pleasantly accomplished, and dinner was then served up in fine style by Hostess Salter, whose efforts, needless to say, were very much appreciated. A walk round the village and the Seabright Institute, which was built in the 16th century, was enjoyed, followed by several touches of Grandsire Triples and Caters on the handbells. After tea a visit was paid to Wolverley Church, where, for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor was brought round by J. Dowler 1, C. F. Woodbury 2, G. F. Swann 3, J. Eaton 4, T. J. Salter 5, S. Grove (conductor) 6. Also 360 Bob Minor: F. Shaw 1, J. Dowler 2, T. J. Salter (conductor) 3, J. Eaton 4, G. F. Swan 5, S. Grove 6. The visit to Wolverley was much enjoyed by all concerned.

ACCIDENT TO AN ESSEX RINGER.

Ringers generally will be sorry to hear of a serious accident which befel Mr. H. Dawson, of Great Baddow, on Sunday night, October 1st. A party of ringers went to Danbury to ring for the harvest festival evening service, and, when walking back, and about half-a-mile from Baddow, Mr. Dawson was run into from behind by a motor-car, which was travelling on its wrong side of the road. The unfortunate ringer was picked up, severely cut about the head, hands and arms, and conveyed in the car to a doctor's in Chelmsford, who dressed the wounds, and fortunately found no bones were broken. The car then took Mr. Dawson to his home. Although confined to his bed, Mr. Dawson's many friends will be glad to know he is going on as well as can be expected.

ACKWORTH.—On Sunday morning, Oct. 1st, 1916, at the Parish Church of St. Cuthbert, 720 Bob Minor: F. Lindsay 1, Gnr. Albert Lamprey, R.F.A., 2, F. Atkinson 3, K. Macaulay 4, T. Harrop 5, C. E. Lamprey (conductor) 6.

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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.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT CHILVERS COTON.

What proved to be a successful and enjoyable meeting of the Warwickshire Guild was held on Saturday week at the historical Church of Chilvers Coton, which is associated with the name of George Eliot. About 30 members were present from towers representing Allesley, Barwell, Birmingham, Coventry, Chilvers Coton, Grendon, Nuneaton, Rugby, Stoke Golding. The bells were kept merrily going in a variety of methods till 5 o'clock, when service was held, which was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. J. Dodds), who gave a stirring and eloquent address from Psalm 150, verses 3, 4, 5. Mr. Dodds also extended a hearty welcome to the Guild.

Tea was afterwards partaken of, and then more ringing was indulged in till dusk. Special mention must be made of the band of six lady ringers who have been trained by the energetic tower-keeper, Mr. H. Reader. Several of Mr. Reader's pupils are now able to ring inside, to Grandsire Triples, and the others are also able to pilot the treble. Mr. Reader has got together a band of good material of which the residents are very proud, and it speaks volumes for the care and patience displayed by their instructor, whose action might with advantage be copied by other towers in the county, whose ringers have been called away to serve their country, some of them, alas, never to return.

A short business meeting was held, and Rugby was selected for the next meeting in January. At the close of the ringing the members were invited to the adjoining Schoolroom, where a concert had been arranged as a welcome to them. This pleasant surprise was much enjoyed. A programme, which included songs, piano-forte solos, etc., was provided, added to which were tune and change-ringing on handbells by the Guild members, with a six-score of Grandsire Doubles, with three of Mr. Reader's lady pupils standing in.

LADIES' GIFT TO RINGING INSTRUCTOR.

The surprise of the evening, however, was the presentation by Miss Lewis to Mr. Reader of a small handbell which had been made from the metal of one of the old bells dated 1616. Miss Lewis, in a happy little speech, asked Mr. Reader to accept it as a small token of thanks for the care and attention which he had given them in teaching them to ring.—Mr. Reader, in reply, thanked all those who had associated themselves with the gift, which he said had taken him quite by surprise, but he assured them he was always very pleased to help any of them in the art. Mr. Lewis proposed "Success to the Guild," and coupled it with the name of Mr. James George, who he said he had heard of many years ago as a peal ringer. Although not a ringer himself, he related an experience in which he once watched an attempt for a peal of Triples. The ringers broke down after 2½ hours, and then wanted to start again.—Mr. James George replied, and mentioned that although he is 64, he is still good for half-a-dozen peals a day, and that the older he gets the heavier the bell he likes to ring.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for his address; to Mr. Reader for having everything in readiness; and to all those who arranged for the tea and the entertainment which had helped to make a successful and very pleasant meeting.

The methods rung during the afternoon were Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, Bob Major, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major.

RINGING ASSOCIATIONS' FUNDS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In a recent issue you commented upon the fortunate position, financially, of the Chester Diocesan Guild, and said that ringing societies are not money-making concerns, etc. For years I got hold of as many reports as I could to see how they spent their money, and seldom, if ever, could I find any payments made to a professional instructor, which, as I understood it, was the major object of these Associations. The Hereford Guild, I find, have paid an average of £30 a year for the last 30 years, besides travelling expenses, to their instructors, and oh! what a quartet they have had—Messrs. Washbrook, Fussell, Groves and Short—and through the instrumentality of these gentlemen practically the whole of the bells in the Diocese have been rehanged, and the belfries made clean and comfortable. The hon. secretary was always happy if there was no decrease in the balance in hand, which was never very large. The annual subscription was only 1s. 6d., the hon. members' subscriptions made any increase unnecessary, and we all got 9d. for 4d. I sent up 18s. a year, and got £3 worth of instruction. St. Martin's Guild pay four shillings and fourpence a year, and pay a dividend of three shillings, and give you instruction in anything from Bob Minor to London. I suppose the Chester Diocesan Guild are satisfied with the proficiency at which they have arrived in the art, so may I suggest they give £100 towards a new and up-to-date peal of twelve for the Cathedral, which is badly wanted, and would add dignity to the edifice and its surroundings.—Yours faithfully,
T. J. B.

ENGLISH TWELVE-BELL TOWERS.

CIRENCESTER, ST. JOHN.

The tower contains thirteen bells, *i.e.*, a peal of twelve with a tenor of 29 cwt., 54 inches diameter, and a flat sixth, which is used as a fire bell, and enables a light peal of eight to be formed with the ninth as a tenor. This bell was added by Taylor & Co. in 1895, who recast the ninth and rehung all the bells at the same time. The inscriptions are as follows:

Treble.

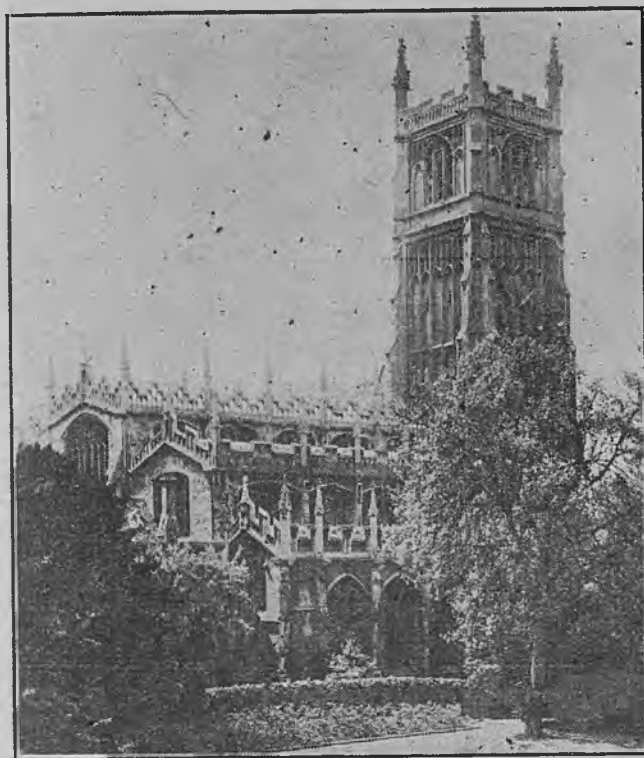
BY A SUBSCRIPTION PROCURED BY MR. HERBERT MASTER. MR. JOHN SMALL, M.P., and MR. THOMAS FEREBIE CHURCHWARDENS. A Ⓐ R. 1722

Second.

PROSPERITY TO ALL OUR BENEFACTORS. A Ⓐ R. 1722.

Third.

PROSPERITY TO THIS PLACE. A Ⓐ R. 1713.



ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, CIRENCESTER.

Fourth.

PROSPERITY TO THIS PARISH. 1786.

Fifth.

JOHN TOMBS and JAS. DEIGHTON CHURCHWARDENS. 1729

Sixth.

INO. BEDWELL and THOS. VAISEY CHURCHWARDENS. 1787

Seventh.

JACOB HANCOCK and SAM'L. HEAVEN CHURCHWARDENS. A Ⓐ R. 1761.

Eighth.

PROSPERITY TO ALL OVR BENEFACTORS. A Ⓐ R. 1718.

Ninth.

PROSPERITY TO ALL LOVERS OF CHURCH AND BELLS. A. R. 1715. RECAST 1895. [Taylor's medallion, a bell surrounded by label "John Taylor and Co., Loughborough," surmounted by an Agnus Dei.]

Tenth.

PROSPERITY TO THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND. A Ⓐ R. 1746

Eleventh.

JOHN CRIPPS and THOMAS MASTER CHURCHWARDENS. 1734. A Ⓐ R.

Tenor.

WILLIAM IONES and THOMAS FORDER CHURCHWARDENS. 1736. CAST BY ABEL RUDHALL.

Five-bell (flat sixth).

THE GIFT OF THE CIRENCESTER SOCIETY IN LONDON. A.D. 1895.

The present commanding tower of Cirencester Church, which is 132ft. high, was completed about the year 1400, being built under the auspices of the adjoining Abbey of St. Mary. According to William of Worcester, two bells were consecrated at Cirencester in October, 1238, but it is uncertain whether he refers to the Abbey or the Parish Church. However, it is known that there were bells in the tower in 1499, in which year there appears in the will of Agnes Benett directions that, in connection with her funeral, "the belle callid Trinite belle and Jesus belle be at sondry tymes rong on the tyme of the said obit." These bells, it is thought, may have been the gifts of the Jesus and Trinity Guilds, and for that reason there may also have been other bells, the gifts of other guilds connected with the church. And whatever number there might have been it is clear from a memorandum in the vestry book that they were sufficient for clock chimes at the beginning of the 16th century. It is possible that these bells, with other treasures of the church, were seized some time between 1550 and 1553, and shared the fate of those of the great church in the dissolved monastery. It is interesting to note that in the Augmentation Office Miscellaneous Book No. 494, among an account of the goods of the recently dissolved monastery, mention is made of "Bells remaynyng in the steeple therē viii poiz, by estimacon xiiii. m. lib. weight reserved to the use of the Kynges Majeste." And though there is no account now in existence of the ultimate disposal of these bells, there can be small doubt that they were sold, but at what exact time they disappeared cannot be said.

When change ringing began to develop in the early part of the seventeenth century and belfries began to receive attention and to have rings of bells placed in them, Cirencester was not behind hand, and it is probable that what mediæval bells were left were melted up and recast into a lighter peal. At a vestry meeting held in the year 1634 it was agreed "that the bell founder in respect of his losse and paynes in melting the bells so often shall have £13 over and above his bargayne, to be paid this time twelve months if the bells shall be whole and tuneable then." It is probable that the old bells were recast into a peal of eight, which bells, at the time of the Commonwealth, were threatened with confiscation, and the town paid the Parliamentarian £30 to redeem them. The earliest bell among the present ring, as will be seen from the inscriptions given above, is the 3rd, dated 1713, at which date it is believed the old peal of eight were increased to ten, the second of the two trebles then added being recast in 1786. Further, it is evident that the ring was increased to its present number of twelve in 1722, for both the trebles bear that date. The dates on the other bells show when they passed through the melting pot.

The ancient records of Cirencester contain many quaint references to the ringing or tolling of the bells. The first is to be found as far back as the year 1599: "At the church accompt. the xxist of October 1599, Imprimus yt was then agreed that John Baker the parish clarke shall have for the ringing of the day bell yearly at foure of the clocke in the morninge as accustomed heretofore he hath done ffrom the morrow after all saints untill candlemas thirteē shillings iiiid." In 1648 there appears to have been some divergence of opinion between the clerk and the sexton with regard to the nature of their duties, which were defined at the vestry meeting, for we find that while William Webb "shall have the benefit of the bells, and he is to keep the bells, clock and churchyard in order, and ring the four o'clock bell in the winter quarter," the other, William Portlock, amongst other things, is "to have a ringer's place in the belfry." Various regulations were made at different times as to the charges for having the bells rung, and in 1661 it was ordered that "when any stranger shall desire to hear the bells rung, or to have a peal, he shall pay for the peal 3s., whereof 1s. go to the church, and if any person of the town shall desire to have a peal he or she shall pay 2s. 6d., whereof 6d. shall remain to the church, and the rest to the ringers' club; that the ringers shall have liberty to ring every Thursday from six of the clock in the morning until 10 in the morning for practice, conditionally that they shall ring at all other times that the churchwardens shall appoint at the wages aforesaid, and that the sexton shall give an account to the churchwardens, or to either of them, once every month concerning the ringing and tolling, under his hand in writing." In 1678 it was decided

"that there shall be no more ringing on the Lord's Day, formerly called Sunday, to church, but chiming two, three, or four bells, more or less, and that the sexton shall see that this order is observed for the time to come."

Although the "day bell" is now no longer rung, many ancient customs are retained at Cirencester, where the curfew and the "pancake bell" are retained, as well as the "Epistle and Gospel" bells and the "sermon bell," while on the Monday and Tuesday in Easter and Whitsun weeks the bells are rung two at a time, commencing with the treble and second. On Saturday mornings the bells are chimed one by one at eleven o'clock.

The first peal rung on Cirencester bells was in 1767, when a band of College Youths visited the tower, apparently at the invitation of Mr. Samuel Blackwell, of Williamstrip, and afterwards of Ampney Park, and who subsequently became one of the Members of Parliament for the Borough. He seemed to be a great patron of the art, and there are still preserved in the belfry an old peal of handbells, a handsome oak chair, inscribed with a bell, and a ram's horn drinking cup, all of which he presented to the ringers. The College Youths' peal book contains the following entry: St. John, Cirencester, Gloucestershire. The underwritten members of this society rang a peal of 5082 changes, Grandsire Cinques, which was performed in three hours fifty-seven minutes, as follows: William Underwood treble, James Darquitt 2nd, Thomas Bennett 3rd, George Meakins 4, William Moss 5th, Winstanley Richardson 6th, William Mills 7th, John Lokes 8th, William Scott 9th, William Clay 10th, Robert Bly 11th, Joseph Monk and Thomas Fifield tenor. The above is the first peal of Cinques ever completed upon the twelve bells in the tower above named. It was performed on Wednesday, January 7th, 1767, and was conducted by Mr. William Underwood. A peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on the bells on March 29th, 1824, and another on December 31st, 1868. These two are recorded on tablets in the belfry as well as some more recent peals, which have included Grandsire Triples, Caters and Cinques, Stedman Triples and Cinques, Plain and Treble Bob Maximus.

For the information regarding Cirencester bells we are indebted to Mr. J. R. Jerram, Mr. F. J. Lewis, of Cirencester, and an article which appeared in the "Wills and Gloucestershire Standard," at the rehanging of the bells in 1895.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

THE BELLS AT ST. PHILIP'S CATHEDRAL.

The last quarterly meeting of the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham for the current year was held at the Cathedral Church of St. Philip, Birmingham, on Saturday week, and was very well attended. The bells—a ring of ten, with tenor about 30 cwt. in D—have previously been fully described in "The Ringing World" so that it is unnecessary to say anything further about them, beyond the fact that they had not been raised since the Guild held a meeting there twelve months ago. However, thanks to the attention of an enthusiastic member, who willingly spent a few hours greasing, etc., on the day prior to the meeting, the bells went quite as well, or better, than could be expected with the exception of the ninth, which still maintains its reputation as a veritable "chest-cracker." The eighth and sixth also show insipient signs of anxiety to share this unenviable reputation.

The position is not quite hopeless, however, thanks to the keen interest of one of the wardens, the veteran, Dr. Malins, who came amongst the ringers during the ringing, and who will not be satisfied until "something" is done so that regular ringing may be resumed. It was again explained to him that that "something" should include the recasting of the entire peal, and its augmentation to twelve, so that St. Philip's may possess a ring of bells in consonance with its dignity as the Cathedral Church of the Diocese. The only objection to this appears to be the monetary consideration, but—well, we may at least hope.

The business meeting was held in the belfry, the Guild's Presiding Ringing Master, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., presiding over an attendance of upwards of fifty members.—Three new life members were elected, viz.: Messrs. H. Morton, of Evesham; G. Bass, of Stourbridge; and E. Mitchell, of Wolverhampton.—It was decided to hold the next meeting, which is the annual, at headquarters.

The bells were kept going during the afternoon and evening until dusk, and were finally lowered in peal, to be heard again—?

The thanks of the members are due, and are hereby tendered, to the Rector, Bishop Hamilton Baynes, for granting permission to ring, and to the indefatigable Dr. Malins for obtaining the said permission, and for the interest he takes at all times in the Guild's doings.

A. P. S.

CLIFTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.—Midland Counties Association.
—On Sept. 2nd, 720 Bob Minor: W. J. Sevier 1, S. Woolley 2, J. Barrett (conductor) 3, G. Pallett 4, S. Wesley 5, W. C. Hunt 6. Afterwards, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor: G. Pallett 1, S. Woolley 2, James Barrett 3, W. J. Sevier 4, S. Wesley 5, W. C. Hunt (conductor) 6. These are the first two 720's rung upon the bells.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

NORTH WESTERN DIVISION.

A most successful meeting of the North Eastern Division was held at Great Bentley on Saturday, ringers being present from Bocking, Feering, Felsted, Tendring, Ipswich, Colchester, Earl's Colne, Great Bromley, and the local company. The bells of the Parish Church were available during the afternoon, when touches of Double Norwich, Treble Bob and Plain Bob were rung. An invitation was extended to the visitors to go to the Sunday School, where an excellent spread had been very kindly provided by Mr. W. J. Nevard.

At the business meeting, Mr. Nevard presided, and the District Master and secretary were re-elected. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Coggeshall.

A hearty vote of thanks were accorded Mr. Nevard for his kindness in entertaining the ringers; also to the Vicar for use of the bells and school. Handbell ringing followed, and included touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, Treble Bob, Stedman Triples, and a course of Grandsire Caters by: F. Claydon 1—2, W. Chalk 3—4, J. Motts 5—6, Corpl. Wakley (Burton-on-Trent) 7—8, W. J. Nevard 9—10.

The annual district meeting of the North Western Division of this Association was held at Bishop's Stortford, about 25 members putting in an appearance. Touches in various methods were rung during the afternoon, and a short service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. H. T. Lane), who also gave an address. After further ringing, an adjournment was made for tea at the Chequer's Hotel.

This was followed by the business meeting. Owing to the Master (Mr. F. Pitstow) being unable to be present through illness, Mr. J. F. Penning presided, with Mr. H. J. Tucker as deputy chairman. Mr. F. Pitstow and Mr. W. Watts were again re-elected Master and Secretary respectively, and Mr. W. Watts thanked the members on behalf of Mr. Pitstow and himself for again re-electing them to office.

One new member was elected, viz., Mr. W. E. Carr, of Stansted.—It was resolved to hold the next meeting at Harlow, St. Mary's.

Mr. W. H. Lawrance proposed, and Mr. H. Dew seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and for his splendid address, and this having been carried, Mr. H. J. Tucker moved that a vote of thanks to the Master and Secretary for their past services.

During the time the bells were available touches in the following methods were rung: Stedman and Grandsire Caters, Treble Bob Royal, London Surprise Major and Grandsire Triples. Ringers were present from Bishop's Stortford, Stansted, Rickling, Saffron Walden, Sawbridgeworth, Romford, Little Munden, Walthamstow, Great Tottenham, and St. John's, Deptford. In the evening several courses of Grandsire Caters and Triples were rung on the handbells.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

REV. H. C. WILDER RETIRES FROM DISTRICT SECRETARYSHIP.

The annual meeting of the Bradfield Branch of the above Guild was held on Saturday week, at Streatley-on-Thames. The service was well attended, and an excellent and appropriate address was given by the Rev. E. A. Phillips, Vicar of Basildon, whose text was: "Greater works than these shall ye do." Fifty members sat down to tea, to which they did full justice. This was followed by the business meeting, the chief feature of which was the resignation of the hon. secretary, the Rev. H. C. Wilder, owing to pressure of business. All attempts failed to persuade the reverend gentleman to reconsider his decision, so the meeting, voiced by the Rev. G. Gore-Skipwith and Mrs. A. E. Reeves, thanked him for his past services, and voted him to be Vice-President of the Bradfield Branch, while Mr. Arthur West, of Pangbourne, was elected to carry on the work of hon. secretary for the ensuing year.

The Rev. H. C. Wilder has rendered invaluable service to the Oxford Guild for many years as hon. secretary to this branch, and previously to the East Berks and South Bucks Branch.

Touches of Grandsire Doubles, Bob Minor, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob were rung. The Gosting bells were also available during the evening.

DEATH OF A MIRFIELD RINGER.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Ralph Ellis, of Mirfield, Yorks, which took place on Sept. 23rd. The funeral took place at Mirfield Parish Church on Tuesday week, many relatives and ringing friends attending.

Deceased was 60 years of age, and had been a ringer with the local company many years, and a member of the Yorkshire Association for 28 years, but at the time of his death was unattached to any tower.

For evening service, on Oct. 1st, at the Mirfield Parish Church, a touch of Oxford Treble Bob Minor (600 changes) was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a last tribute of respect by the following members of the local company: T. Cranshaw 1, P. Goll 2, A. North 3, J. W. Dews 4, H. Fraynor 5, R. Elam (conductor) 6, J. E. Dawson 7 (covering).

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday last a quarterly meeting of the Devizes Branch of the Salisbury Guild was held at St. Nicholas' Church, Bromham, and although the weather was very wet and unsettled, a fairly good number of ringers assembled. The bells were raised in peal, and some good touches of Grandsire Doubles, etc., were brought round before tea, which was provided at the Hope Coffee Tavern, and to which 18 ringers sat down to the good spread put forth by Host Sumsion.

After tea the usual business meeting was held, presided over by Mr. C. D. Heginbotham (who kindly took the chair in the unavoidable absence of the Branch Chairman), he being supported by Mr. Hy. Brownlee West, hon. branch secretary, and ringers from the towers of Devizes (St. John's), Southbroom, Bromham, Holt, and Steeple Ashton.—Two new members from Bromham tower were elected members of the Guild. A discussion on the places for the next three meetings then took place, and Chirton and Marden were fixed upon for November 4th; Market Lavington for December 2nd; and St. John's, Devizes, for the annual meeting on January 6th.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector of Bromham for the use of the church bells, and a little more ringing in the tower then brought to a close a very pleasant and successful meeting.

RINGERS' OUTING.

ST. HELEN'S, DARLEY DALE.

On Saturday week the members of St. Helen's belfry, Darley Dale, chartered a motor—a seven-seater Daimler, with the versatile Tommy at the wheel—and enjoyed the first outing they have had together since 1913. There are now only seven members left, but fortunately one of the soldier members came home during the week and joined the party. This was L.-Corpl. J. Siddall, just discharged from hospital, after being wounded in July. Starting off about 9.30, the first halt was at Edensor, the Duke of Devonshire's model village by Chatsworth, where a pleasant three-quarter's of an hour was spent ringing the six beautiful bells which are everything to be desired by six bell ringers. Afterwards the party travelled to Baslow, another six bell tower, but here the bells are very ancient, being about the same age as the church. However, the ringing was very enjoyable, and the sound of the bells soon brought on the scene Mr. W. Wallace, of Derby, who was staying in the neighbourhood. From here the route was to Tideswell Church, the Cathedral of the Peak, where the six bells were put through their paces for an hour or so. These bells thoroughly deserve attention by the hangers, the date they were last touched being wrapped in antiquity. The next halt was at the Bull's Head, across the road, where a splendid luncheon was served up. The party then set out for Dore, and arrived there in time for some of them to take part in raising the bells (8) for the Sheffield District meeting, at which naturally enough there was some excellent ringing. Although only one of the party is a member of this society, they all received a hearty welcome from Mr. Sam Thomas, the secretary, and other members. The visitors wish to record their thanks to the clergy for permission to ring at the various churches, and, through Mr. Thomas, to the Sheffield District Society for their reception at Dore.

5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

By A. J. PITMAN, Port Talbot.

First three parts.		Last three parts.	
	continued		continued
234567		324567	
752634 1	435627 5 S	573624 1 S	743562 4
347265 2	764235 1	245367 2	257643 1
523647 1	527364 1	672534 2	432765 2
475362 2	345627 1 S	456372 1	734526 5
234675 1	273564 2	674523 3	427365 3
752463 2	642357 2	236457 2	654732 2
457326 5	736542 1	572643 2	546732 4
574326 4	647325 3	245736 3	275346 1
365274 1 S	256734 2	742653 5	732654 5 S
423765 1	342675 2	537264 2	467532 1
574623 1	273456 3	425637 1	254367 1
635274 1 S	742635 5 S	374562 2	
746523 2	567342 1		
627435 3	235467 1		
276435 4	472635 1 S		
542376 1	354267 2		

Repeat twice with S for B at the third part-end.

Repeat twice with S for B at the last part-end.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

HEENE, SUSSEX.—On Sept. 16th, 1312 Double Norwich Major: H. Tullett 1, *B. Challen 2, *Mrs. F. I. Hañs 3, Air-Mechanic P. I. Hairs (R.N.A.S.) 4, F. Bennett (conductor) 5, A. W. Groves 6, G. Smart 7, E. H. Lindup 8 * Longest touch in the method. Rung after meeting too late for a peal of Stedman Triples.

BUSHEY.—Hertfordshire Association.—On Sunday, Sept. 17th, for divine service, 324 Stedman Triples: J. J. Allen 1, T. L. Simmons 2, R. Darlow 3, B. Prewett 4, W. J. Oakley 5, F. A. Smith 6, R. E. Stavert (conductor) 7, J. Bates 8. 240 Double Norwich Major: R. Darlow 1, T. L. Simmons 2, A. Andrews 3, B. Prewett (conductor) 4, F. A. Smith 5, F. Edwards 6, J. J. Allen 7, R. E. Stavert 8. 224 Kent Treble Bob Major: A. Cooper 1, R. E. Stavert 2, A. Andrews 3, R. Darlow 4, W. J. Oakley 5, F. Edwards 6, B. Prewett 7, F. A. Smith 8. Cadet R. E. Stavert and Rifleman B. Prewett were both home on leave, it being the first time they have met since December, 1914.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Sunday evening, Sept. 17th, on the occasion of the harvest festival, at St. Edmund's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: B. Soden 1, W. Rogers 2, T. Haynes 3, J. Metherell 4, J. Mackay 5, T. Tebbutt 6, F. Wilford (conductor) 7, W. Gammage 8.

BLETCHLEY.—At St. Mary's Church, for the harvest festival, on Friday, Sept. 22nd, and Sunday following, touches of Stedman Triples, Double Norwich Major, Bob Major and Grandsire Triples, the following taking part: W. Mead, J. Mead, H. Morris, T. Best, F. Hedges, H. Sear, W. Sear, F. Stonton, A. Crane, J. Atkins, Gnr. W. Pether, R.G.A. (Bexhill), E. Marks.

TENTERDEN, KENT.—On Sunday, Sept. 24th, for harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 50 mins.: H. Baker 1, C. Tribe 2, G. Cramp 3, C. W. Player 4, Pte A. Snelling (Buffs) 5, G. Neve 6, Trumpet-Major Farley (Wells), conductor 7, L. Honess 8.

NORTHAMPTON.—Central, Northants Association.—On Sunday, Sept. 24th, for morning service, at St. Giles' Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters: W. Rodgers (conductor) 1, A. Andrews 2, H. Blundell 3, B. Soden 4, W. J. Allen 5, J. Metherell 6, F. Hopper 7, A. Moore 8, G. Flavell 9, W. Farey 10. First quarter-peal of Stedman Caters by A. Moore and A. Andrews, both of Daventry.

GUILDFORD.—At Holy Trinity Church, on Sept. 24th, for harvest festival evensong, 504 Grandsire Triples: Miss Hood (first 504) 1, R. W. Melville 2, H. Hutton 3, W. Jelley 4, B. Chorley 5, C. Hazelden 6, W. R. Melville (conductor) 7, H. Harris 8.

CALVERTON, BUCKS.—On Sunday, Sept. 24th, on the occasion of the harvest festival, for early service, 720 Grandsire Doubles: E. Yates (conductor) 1, T. Tompkins 2, J. Taylor 3, W. T. Tucker 4, W. Bonham 5, H. Tompkins 6.

STONY STRATFORD, BUCKS.—On Sunday, Sept. 24th, for morning service, 360 Bob Minor: A. Clarke 1, E. Gates 2, T. Tompkins 3, W. Bonham 4, W. Tucker (conductor) 5, A. J. Giles 6. Also 120 Bob Minor. W. T. Tucker hails from Eastleigh, Hants.

NORTHAMPTON.—On Sunday, Sept. 24th, for divine service, at St. Giles' Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1275 changes): W. Rogers (conductor) 1, A. Andrews (Daventry) 2, H. Blundell 3, B. Soden 4, W. Allen 5, J. Metherell 6, F. Hopper 7, A. Moore (Daventry) 8, G. Flavell 9, W. Farey 10.

GOSFORTH.—On Sept. 30th, at All Saints' Church, Thurstan's quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): A. M. C. Field 1, J. S. Richardson 2, A. Payne 3, J. F. Bird 4, C. L. Routledge 5, J. W. Parker 6, J. Foreman 7, E. E. Ferry 8. After making two attempts for a peal, the above quarter-peal was rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of Lieut. R. W. Falconer, who was killed on the 1st July at the Battle of the Somme.

EASTON-IN-GORDANO, SOMERSET.—At St. George's Church, on Sunday, Oct. 1st, for harvest festival, 360 Bob Minor: H. England 1, T. Atherton 2, G. Bennett 3, Pte S. Quintin 4, T. Wyatt 5, J. Caple (conductor) 6.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, Oct. 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), in 41 mins.: J. Goodsell 1, W. H. Perry 2, W. Cramp 3, C. Creasey 4, A. E. Edwards (conductor) 5, T. Booth 6. First quarter of Doubles by W. Cramp and C. Creasey. Arranged for C. Creasey, late member of the local band, and now of Faversham, Kent.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Oct. 1st, for the harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins.: A. Ellis 1, P. Tylor 2, A. E. Wood 3, G. H. Croucher 4, F. Hawkins 5, J. Rice (conductor) 6, F. W. Rice 7, A. Thornton 8. Also 504, standing as before, conducted by G. H. Croucher. Rung on the anniversary of the conductor's birthday.

BOCKING.—Essex Association.—At St. Mary's Church, for Matins on Sept. 17th, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major: S. Sargent 1, C. H. Howard (conductor) 2, W. Grimwade 3, W. H. Dyson 4, H. Redgwile 5, G. Lindridge 6, E. Radley 7, L. C. Crow 8.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.—Oxford Diocesan Guild.—On Sunday evening, Oct. 1st, for harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 44 mins.: H. Smith 1, W. Hibbert 2, G. Essex 3, R. T. Hibbert (conductor) 4, C. Pullen 5, A. D. Cullum 6, E. J. Mendey 7, H. Simmonds 8. The touch was also rung as a birthday compliment to Ernest W. Menday, who was unable to take part.

FLIXTON, LANCASHIRE. — On Sunday, Oct. 1st, on the occasion of the harvest festival, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins.: A. Johnson 1, W. E. Ryder 2, R. Davies 3, J. P. Potter 4, S. Collier 5, Lieut.-Col. S. Stott, V.D., 6, J. H. Collier (conductor) 7, W. Johnson 8.

ACTON.—On October 1st, as a "parting" touch to Pte J. A. Trollope (who is going abroad), 464 Bob Major: C. Edwards 1, E. Newell 2, J. Frin 3, G. Harbour 4, R. Holloway 5, W. E. Garrard 6, W. Lawrence 7, Pte J. A. Trollope (conductor) 8.

SELLY OAK, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, October 1st, for harvest festival, 720 Plain Bob Minor: A. E. Norman (first 720) 1, J. Dowler 2, W. Mumford 3, O. G. Norman 4, S. Grove 5, G. Pigot (conductor) 6.

HERSHAM, SURREY.—On Sunday, Oct. 1st, for morning service, on the occasion of the harvest festival, and as a welcome to the new curate (the Rev. T. H. Evans) a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: Miss Ida Woodrow (first quarter-peal) 1, W. Shepherd (conductor) 2, G. Edser, senr., 3, Pte J. Loveridge 4, W. A. Woodrow 5, A. Woodrow 6, J. Emery 7, R. J. Polley 8.

"HELPING HAND" FUND.

The total amount received by Mr. W. W. Wolstencroft for the John Potter "Helping Hand" Fund is £4 Os. 3d., made up of the following: Manchester Cathedral ringers, 5s.; Pendleton, 10s.; Ashton, St. Michael's, 7s. 6d.; Eccles, 5s.; Pendlebury, 5s. 9d.; Flixton, 5s. 6d.; Manchester Town Hall, 8s.; Worsley, 3s. 6d.; Barlow Moor, 2s.; Swinton, St. Peter's, 8s.; Richard Newton, Boston, U.S.A., 5s.; A. Barnes, Reddish, 2s. 6d.; J. Watson, Blackburn, 2s. 6d.; W. E. Wilson, Blackburn, 2s. 6d.; W. C. Hunt, 2s. 6d.; W. J. Moss, Stretford, 1s.; W. W. W., Ashton, 2s.; W. Brown, Manchester, 1s.; J. Shaw, Hyde, 1s.

WEDDING BELLS.

On Sept. 27th, at the Parish Church, Luton, the wedding took place of Lieut.-Col. C. A. Stidston, M.D., R.A.M.C. (F.F.), of Wolverhampton, 2/3rd North Midland Field Ambulance, stationed in Ireland, and Olive, youngest daughter of Mr. Hugh Cumberland, J.P., of The Lynchet, Luton. As the bridal party were leaving the church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1386 changes) was rung in 47 mins.: J. Shaw 1, B. Jarman 2, A. E. Sharman 3, J. Rookwood 4, B. Wilson 5, T. Kendall 6, A. King (conductor) 7, H. Shaw 8. This touch contains the 12, 7-4s, 4-6s, and 6-7s.

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NOTICES.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. John's, Worcester, on Saturday, October 14th next. Service at 4 o'clock.—R. G. Knowles, Branch Secretary, Madresfield, Malvern.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Havant on Oct. 14th. By kind permission of the Rector, bells available at 2.30. Service at 6 o'clock; ringers' own form of service will be used. Tea and business at the Institute after; tea, 3d. to members, 1s. to visitors.—E. J. Harding, District Secretary, 76, Carnavon Road, Portsmouth.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Blackburn Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Church (Kirk) on Saturday, October 14th, 1916. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting 7 p.m. Tea will be provided for visitors at the invitation of the Rector.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.—The quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, Oct. 14th, 1916, at Wellington, Salop. Ringing at 2.30 p.m. Belfry Prayer at 4 p.m. Tea at 5, meeting and ringing after.—Rev. F. Tennison, St. Alkmund's Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. — Quarterly meeting on October 14th at Shoreditch. Tower open 2.30.—H. J. Bradley, 25, Winchester Avenue, Brondesbury.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Long Ashton on Saturday, October 14th. Bells available 3.30. Tea at the Church House at 5 o'clock. Business meeting to follow.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Secretary.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Thrapston District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Woodford on Saturday, October 14th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—F. Stubbs, District Secretary, Grove Street, Raunds.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION—Canterbury District.—Next meeting will be held at Littlebourne on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Littlebourne and Bekesbourne Towers available for ringing. Service at 5 p.m. Tea and business meeting after at Littlebourne.—Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe, Dist. Sec., Charlton Lodge, Elham, near Canterbury.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on October 19th for handbell practice, and on the 24th for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION—Southern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Stanton on Saturday, October 21st. Service will be held in Church at 5 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. All intending to be present please oblige by letting me know on or before the Wednesday previous. The bells (6) will be available.—James Hemming, Branch Secretary, 29, Church Bank, Hampton, Evesham.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Lewisham District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at Eynsford on Saturday, October 21st. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service and address by the Rev. M. C. Elphinstone (Vicar) at 6 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. The Vicar has kindly promised to provide tea, and it is essential that all who intend being present should notify me not later than Tuesday, October 17th. — T. Groombridge, Hon. District Secretary, 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Preliminary Notice. — The annual festival will be held on Saturday, October 28th. Further particulars next week.

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.

RINGING PRACTICES, ETC.

ALFRETON, DERBYSHIRE. — Weekly practices have been arranged at the Parish Church for the winter months, on Saturday afternoons, commencing at 3.30 on October 7th, 1916. All ringing friends will be welcome. —F. Watkinson, Secretary, 18, Park Street, Alfreton.

ST. MARY'S CHURCH, PUTNEY.—The tower will be open for practice between 3 and 5 o'clock on Saturdays until further notice. Ringers welcome.

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36254	S	—	—	32654	S	—	—
62354	—	—	—	25634	—	—	—
23654	—	—	—	36524	—	—	—
56324	—	—	—	62534	—	—	—
63524	—	—	—	23564	—	—	—
25364	—	—	—	Twice repeated with bob			
53264	—	—	—	for single.			
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