

THE RINGING WORLD

No. 330. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, JULY 13th, 1917.

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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, 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.

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

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CHARLES GARR, LTD.



OPINION OF OUR MODERN WORK.

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

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

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

The 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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BIRMINGHAM**

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

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

PEALS AUGMENTED,
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

FRAMES

IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
STEEL OR IRON.

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Best Workmanship and
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OF ALL KINDS.

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BRACKETS.**

MALLEABLE IRON BRACKETS.
BEST BELL ROPES.
REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
and report on Bells and Towers.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

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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, Caers 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.

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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 Iyc; Mr. Arthur Symonds, of Lavenham; Mr. Hawkins English of Coddensham; Mr. W. Souler, of Stowmarket; Mr. F. Whitting, of Saxmundham; Mr. R. E. 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. Kirby 4, W. J. Sorier 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 Cosely, 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; Cosely; 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 Guild in 1881) will be celebrated by a special meeting of the committee on 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.

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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, Walkhamstow; Stelbing, Dummow, Thetford, Fairs 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 Solo; 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-upon-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-upon-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-upon-Trent gentlemen will establish them as the most skillful 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. Betleridge, 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-upon-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-upon-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, Edgely 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, Six 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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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 Llaugonoyd, 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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