



No. 396. Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18th, 1918.

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

Price 2d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



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

MESSRS. WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918.
Gentlemen,

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

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

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

MODERN WORK

DECENTRALISATION.

There is a good deal of truth in the statements contained in the letter from Lieut. Fright, published in another column, as to the failings of the present system of organisation of many of the ringing associations. Lieut. Fright urges that reconstruction after the war will be no easy matter in many areas with the existing method of control, on account of the difficulty there is in the officials keeping in touch with all the members, particularly in the large districts. He suggests, as a remedy, the further subdivision of large and unwieldy areas. The idea is certainly one which might well have attention, for it offers a means by which the work of the associations could be extended and made decidedly more virile. It is, we think most of our readers will agree, quite an impossible thing even for district officers to keep themselves adequately in touch with the towers under their care merely by the holding of quarterly meetings in different parishes, resulting often in some particular belfry being visited perhaps once in five years, or even more seldom.

Without actually proposing the subdivision of districts, we have often advocated the combination of neighbouring towers for the purpose of combined practices and the general advancement of the art, and it is gratifying to think that the steps that have been taken to this end in various places, have resulted in keeping change-ringing alive when otherwise it might have flagged, or died. The actual setting up of these small groups as a part of the machinery of associations is what is now suggested and it could be done without in any way interfering with the present organisation. It has long been generally acknowledged that the best method of running a territorial association covering a wide area is by means of the divisional system, and to subdivide the districts is only to extend the same principle. Long before the various ringing societies included as many towers as they claim to embrace to-day, it was found necessary, in order to maintain touch with all the branches, to decentralise. Obviously, therefore, the same argument applies in the case of those large districts which exist under the auspices of the county and diocesan organisations. There seems to be much to be gained by the adoption of Lieut. Fright's suggestion. It would be the means of bringing the members of neighbouring towers together much more often, with consequent greater mutual help in ringing; it would increase interest, and doubtless add to the number of members which would eventually be secured, while the greater activity that would result would, we feel sure, prevent the secession of towers that, under present conditions, drop away because they feel that membership has no advantages.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM**

BELLS
FOR CHURCHES,
SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

PEALS AUGMENTED,
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

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IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
STEEL OR IRON.

Chiming Machines.

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Satisfaction Guaranteed.

FITTINGS

OF ALL KINDS.

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BRACKETS.**

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

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
and report on Bells and Towers.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Wymondley 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.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

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

ESTABLISHED 1780.

JOHN NICOLL,

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

TEN BELL PEAL.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD
AND THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, October 12, 1918, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANCES;

*ALBERT T. SCRIVENS 2	... Treble	WILLIAM FISHER 6
JOHN BASS 2		*JOHN EATON 7
WILLIAM A. COOPER 3		*ABRAHAM GREENFIELD 8
†CHRISTOPHER WALLATER 4		BENJAMIN GOUGH 9
*ALBERT E. NORMAN 5		JOHN BARBER Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.
Conducted by WILLIAM FISHER.

Rung as a special act of thanksgiving to Almighty God for the successes of the Allied Armies in the Great War, also as a birthday compliment to Messrs. G. Hughes, Wednesbury, A. E. Parsons (Master of the Worcestershire Association) and Pte. R. Matthews who is serving with His Majesty's Forces in Egypt.

* First peal of Stedman Caters. † 100th peal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

DEANE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 5, 1918, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

GEO. FINGOTT 2	... Treble	THOMAS B. WORSLEY 5
TITOS BARLOW 2		PTE. PETER CROOK 6
JOHN WELSLEY 3		JOHN POTTER 7
ROBERT DAVIES 4		AMOS TRIPPIER Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK.
Conducted by J. POTTER.

Rung half-muffled in memory of R. Greenhalgh, School Organist and Chorister.

OLDSWINFORD, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, October 12, 1918, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTONS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOMAS J. SALTER 2	... Treble	CHARLES DICKENS 5
WILLIAM COLEY 2		WILLIAM SHORT 6
ALBERT E. PARSONS 3		GEORGE F. SWANN 7
WILLIAM BIRD 4		JOHN WOODBERRY Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

Rung to celebrate the Allies' successes in Palestine and France, and as a birthday compliment to Private Robert Matthews, serving in Egypt, and Mr. A. E. Parsons (Master of the Association).

HANDBELL PEAL.

HINTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, October 7, 1918, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. F. J. JOHNSON,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor, size 12 in F.	
MISS ELLEN M. JOHNSON ... 1-2	FREDERICK J. JOHNSON ... 5-6
CORPL. J. D. JOHNSON ... 3-4	JAMES HENNING ... 7-8

Conducted by CORPL. J. D. JOHNSON.

Arranged for the conductor, who was home on leave. This is the first time the band has met for twenty-two months.

**PLAIN LEADS AND BOB LEADS.
A STUDY OF TRIPLE METHODS.**

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—At the Central Council Meeting, at Norwich, I stated the main facts on which the Report on Legitimate Methods was afterwards founded, and during the interval between that meeting and the issue of the report, I published all the reasons in the pages of the 'Bell News'; but that is many years ago, and, as some of the younger generation of ringers cannot possibly remember it, I will endeavour to restate the reasoning as shortly as possible.

In the old ringing books there are many methods given, but only one principle—Stedman's Principle—and we must first of all find out the difference between a method and a principle. How does Stedman's Principle differ from all the methods? In just one point; all the bells do the same work, there is no division into hunt (or hunts) and working bells.

We, therefore, call all systems of ringing in which all the bells do the same work principles, and all those in which there are one or more hunts and working bells we call methods. Obviously the plain hunting course is a principle, and from it all the methods in common use have been formed.

The simplest of these—Grandsire Bob, commonly called Grandsire, on odd numbers, and Plain Bob on even numbers. Let us study it in the form of Triples, and then compare it with other Triple methods. It has two hunts, the treble and second, and five working bells; the whole of the bells plain hunt until the treble and second come together in front, and when they change places in front 3rd's place is made instead of seventh's, and the other four bells dodge. This happens five times, and the whole has been called, for many years, a plain course, which is made up of plain leads.

What are these plain leads? Each one of them is a complete plain hunting course, which, but for the division into two hunts and five working bells, will come round at the end, making five complete plain hunting courses. Therefore, each plain lead of Grandsire considered by itself is a complete plain hunting course, thus:—

- 1234567 Lead End
- 2135476 Lead Head
- 2314567
- 3241657
- 3426175
- 4362715
- 4637251
- 6473521
- 6745312
- 7654132
- 7561423
- 5716243
- 5172634
- 1527364
- 1253746 Lead End
- 2135478 The same Lead Head as above.

But these five leads are connected together by the making of third's place and a dodge on the other four bells.

What is this third's place and this dodge?

We can find out what it is by separating the two hunts from the working bells, and we can do that by keeping the two hunts together in front, and keeping the working bells together behind thus:—

- 1234567 Lead End
- 2135478 Lead Head
- 1253748 L B
- 2157364 L H
- 1275634 L B
- 2178543 L H
- 1267453 L B
- 2164735 L H
- 1246375 L B
- 2143657 L H
- 1234567 L B

And, let the whole of the five working bells are plain hunting backwards, so that the five plain hunting courses are joined together to make a plain course by plain hunting the five working bells backwards, when the two hunts change places in front.

Now consider Single Court Triples:—

- 1234567
- 2143657
- 2416375
- 4261357
- 4623175
- 6432715
- 6347251
- 3674521
- 3765412
- 7356142
- 7531624
- 5713264
- 5172346
- 1527364
- 1253746
- 2135476

What do we find? The work inside the lead is not plain hunting, but the result of the lead is exactly the same as in Grandsire, and produces the very same lead ends; so that although it is not plain hunting it is equivalent to plain hunting, and so we are justified in calling it a plain lead, unless we are going to say that Grandsire is the only plain lead which exists. The same reasoning applies to Double Court Triples, Oxford Bob Triples, Double Oxford Triples, etc.

Now, assuming that these are all plain leads, let us see if we can use any one of them to do the work of a Bob; in other words, can we join three or more courses of Grandsire Triples together by using, say, a lead of Oxford Bob Triples instead of a lead of Grandsire Triples, thus:

- 1234567
- 2135478
- 2314567
- 3241576
- 3425167
- 4352617
- 4536271
- 5463721
- 5647312
- 6574132
- 6751423
- 7615243
- 7162534
- 1726543
- 1275634

We have produced the 2nd lead end of the plain course of Grandsire Triples, so that we are still in the same plain course, and by ringing Grandsire Triples from this lead end it will come round in three leads, and the same is true of all the other methods mentioned above.

Now consider Union Triples. The lead consists of these rows:—

- 1234567
- 2135476
- 2314567
- 3241657
- 3426175
- 4362715
- 4637251
- 6473521
- 6745312
- 7654132
- 7561423
- 5716243
- 5172634
- 1527643
- 1258734

The lead head is 2135476, the lead end is 1256734. Will any amount of plain hunting, forwards or backwards, carry us from 35476 to 56734? Answer: None. Plain hunting will not connect them, and, therefore, they are not plain to each other.

Can we use this lead to connect three or more courses of Grandsire Triples together? Will it do the work of a Bob? Answer: Yes,

- 1234567
- 1258734 Union
- 1275463 Grandsire
- 1247358
- 1234675

Twice repeated.

Therefore, this lead is not a plain lead, it is a bob lead.—Yours, etc.,
H. LAW JAMES.

RAISING AND LOWERING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—There is much, I think, to be said in favour of the suggestion made by Mr. F. W. Richardson in last week's paper. The more musical method is to let the third bell down first; then 2, 5, and 7 together, and finally 1, 4, 6, 8 in a similar way. These chords form the ending to many tunes, and the result is harmonious.

West Ealing.

WM. LAWRENCE.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—The Lancashire Association.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, August 4th, for evening service, 672 Bob Major: T. Watson 1, Miss Lindsay 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, Miss E. M. Stuart 4, W. H. Dennison 5, T. Stuart 6, W. S. Forsshaw 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8.

SHIPLAKE, OXON.—On Sunday, Aug. 4th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins.: A. Sheppard 1, G. Watking (St. Luke's, Chelsea) 2, O. W. Porter 3, Miss E. Pibworth (Twyford, Berks) 4, W. Hiscock 5, W. Fuller (Wargrave, Berks) 6, G. Cleave (conductor) 7, W. Tompkins (Tring) 8. Arranged for Miss Pibworth, it being her first quarter-peal and also her first attempt.

OLDHAM.—Lancashire Association.—On Sunday, August 4th, in 45 minutes, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, on the occasion of Remembrance Day: H. Wright 1, J. Cox 2, M. Newton 3, S. Butterworth 4, W. Hodgson 5, S. Stott (conductor) 6, J. W. Taylor 7, A. Waites 8, C. H. Marsland 9, J. Garlick 10.

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LONDON, E.**



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Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

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

Foundry
Established
A.D. 1570.

THE SUB-DIVISION OF ASSOCIATIONS.

To the Editor.

Sir.—In your leading article entitled 'After the War' which has just reached me, you emphasise the need for Associations taking an active part in reconstructional work. May I submit that with the present organisation this is almost impossible. The unit of most Associations is the 'district,' which includes the towers in, on the average, about the sixth part of a county and may total as many as fifty or upwards. To represent the interests of the Association in this area there is one secretary, on whom the whole organisation devolves. The result is that he is entirely out of touch with nine-tenths of his towers; he can take no part in the ringing life of the district; he only sees those members who are able and willing to spare the time to attend district meetings, which involve a train journey for most people; and it is rare for him to get a representative from every tower even at the district annual meeting. In short, the Association can be of small use to the towers, and the towers are out of touch with the Association; and, therefore the functions of the latter become purely routine and nominal.

If Associations are to become a live factor in ringing life, it is essential that there should be a much smaller sub-division of districts—a sub-district of some half-dozen towers, within easy walking (or at the most cycling) distance of each other. Such a group could work together for the common good. It would be easy to organise joint practices and get good attendances. One tower could help another to learn and practise advanced methods. It should be possible to foster an esprit de corps, now sadly lacking in Associations; and with a little tact and organisation a scheme could be started whereby neighbouring towers could help a tower that would otherwise meet short on any particular occasion. The sub-district secretary should be able to foster a very valuable spirit of competition between local companies; and much might be done by holding weekly or fortnightly meetings, at which the secretary could, among other things, arrange and announce the results of competitions, and keep everybody informed of anything interesting happening outside their sub-district. It would be possible too, for a successful secretary to make the Association a real thing to the local clergy, by inviting them to the sub-district meetings, by getting to know them all and letting them see how the Association was helping their towers, and last, but not least, by endeavouring tactfully to act as arbitrator and peacemaker if any company should be unlucky enough to differ with their incumbent.

These smaller divisions should make ringing more interesting, and get more and better ringing done, and I think are well worthy of formation.—Yours truly,

5th St. Lanes Regt.,
B.E.F.

H. W. FRIGHT
(Second-Lieut.).

EAST TEIGNMOUTH BELLS REHUNG.

The tower of St. Michael's, East Teignmouth, Devon, contains a fine ring of eight bells, cast by Messrs. Llewellyn and James, of Bristol, in 1897. The tenor was cast from three mediæval bells, and weighs 24 cwt. They have not been rung for over three years, owing to several of the ringers joining the army, but on Sunday week their sweet sounds were again heard pealing out over land and sea. The occasion was the harvest thanksgiving, and the ringing was done by a band from St. James's, West Teignmouth. The bells were found in excellent ringing order, having been recently rehung in an iron frame, and all the bells put upon adjustable bearings by Messrs. Aggett, of Chagford.

ANOTHER TUNSTALL RINGER KILLED.

The Tunstall branch of the Stoke Archidiaconal Association have to record the death of another member of their tower, namely, Pte. J. Darlington, of the Lincolnshire Regt., who was killed in action in France on October 1st. Deceased was a keen ringer, who always did his duty in the tower. He had rung altogether about six peals in the four standard methods, he being one of a promising band of ringers. He was an enthusiastic Churchman, a Sunday School teacher, and altar server, also a secretary of the C.E.M.S.

A DEVON RESTORATION.

The fine ring of eight bells at Bradinch, East Devon, has been thoroughly overhauled by Messrs. Aggett and Sons, of Chagford. Six of them were cast by T. Bilbie, of Cullompton, in 1748, and two trebles added in 1903. The tenor weighs about 24 cwt. All the bells are hung on Messrs. Aggett's adjustable bearings, and the ringers are well pleased with their easy manipulation.

MR. C. WALLATER'S 100 PEALS.

Grandsire Triples 12, conducted 5; Caters 9; Cinques 1; Stedman Triples 32, conducted 4; Caters 14; Erin Triples 1; Caters 1; Boh Major 12, conducted 4; Royal 4; Kent Treble Bob Major 6; Royal 1; Oxford Treble Bob Royal 1; Double Norwich Major 5; Cambridge Surprise Major 1; total 100; conducted 13.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Members are informed that the windows in memory of the late Dean Lawrence will be dedicated at 3.15 p.m. on Thursday, November 7th, at St. Albans Abbey.

**LEAD ENDS.
MUSIC VERSUS CUSTOM.**

To the Editor.

Sir,—It is only quite recently that I have seen Mr. Davies' pamphlet on this subject; and with your permission I should like to make a few remarks, as I feel that it will be too late to say anything when the matter is closed.

In the first place, I cannot accept Mr. Davies' fundamental statements. I want to know the reason why we are always to change as many bells as possible. On what principle is it laid down. The rule that I have always worked by is to get as much music as possible, and I do not see any objection to making two or more places in a row, as long as they are not contiguous. I have often thought that it was the result of this rule that caused Triple ringing to be so restricted. The method that I give here breaks the rule, and I should like to know whether there is any reason, save old custom, why it should not be practised. The same remark applies to place making. I utterly fail to see why a bell should not strike more than two blows in the same place, as long as no other bell makes a contiguous place. But here I must remark that I refer only to an inside place. In the method that I give the 6th lies three blows in 6th's place, but no other bell is next to her for two consecutive blows. I cannot see that it would be unpleasant to ring, and I am sure that the music is good.—Yours, etc.,

E. HANKES JAMES.

1234567	12345678
2143576	21354687
2415367	23145678
4251376	32416587
2453167	23461578
4235617	32645187
2453671	23654817
2543761	32568471
5234716	35286741
2543176	53827614
5241367	35872164
2514376	53781246
2153467	35718264
1235476	53172846
1253746	61327864
	15372846
	13527486

MR. CLAYTON'S REPLY.

Sir,—I hasten to reply to Mr. Davies' letter. In regard to Duffield, I will say at once that I was in error, and I thank Mr. Davies for correcting me. Theoretically, Duffield commences with rounds and ends with 13254768; practically, it commences with 21436587, and ends with rounds. I had not seen the method for years, and was under the belief that, as rung, the Plain Bob order of succession is departed from, but I now see that such is not the case. Nevertheless, Duffield is not an acceptable method to me, and its fault, to use the expression that Henry Dains furnished me with, is the very serious and extremely unusual one that it is only three-quarters of a method.

In regard to the leads of Plain Bob being hunting cycles, Mr. Davies says: What of that? I answer, a great deal. The hunting-cycle lead ends are the natural lead ends, and when the hunting-cycle is broken an advantage is gained by returning to it at the lead end. I submitted a proof of this, which Mr. Davies holds up to ridicule. But notwithstanding this advantage I am of opinion that the Legitimate Methods Committee was not justified in calling methods, otherwise good, illegitimate because they do not have the regulation lead ends. So doing debases them to the level of Grandsire Major and Bob Triples, and a softer word should have been used. Sparkbrook is a good method, though it is no better than other methods with Plain Bob lead ends, and the main use of the rule is to set aside many hundreds of methods which, while not bad, are certainly not wanted.

When I said that Grandsire must go off from rounds, I obviously meant that the dividing line must be drawn after the treble's whole pull at lead. Grandsire is obtained from Original by 3rd's across the line precisely as Plain Bob is obtained by 2nd's across the line, and when the lines are drawn anywhere else, the leads cease to be hunting cycles. In both methods alike the places indicated are the lead-linking places, and the first 3rd's in Grandsire are the course-linking places. In saying that I have every authority on my side from Stedman ('Tintinnalogia') downwards, including Mr. Davies himself, who has a remarkable propensity for saying one thing and doing another. In view of my frank acknowledgment of error I shall be glad of Mr. Davies' further remarks.

In regard to symmetry, Mr. Davies wants proof, as he also does for the lead ends, and he asks for what he knows he cannot get. The human body is symmetrical, and everyone is satisfied with the arrangement without absurdly demanding proof. Mr. Davies must have it one way or the other, and if he is not ignorant of the arguments that have been adduced, not by myself as I would remind him, in favour of symmetry, then he must be told, to use ecclesiastical language, that he cannot endure sound doctrine. Unlike lead ends and the order of succession in which a reasonable amount of freedom is or should be allow-

able, symmetry requires to be insisted upon absolutely. I do not think Mr. Davies is used to being contradicted, but I contradict him when he says that Grandsire is not symmetrical. It is true that it loses this quality when a call is made, which shows that it is radically inferior to Plain Bob.

I now have something more to say about the Holt single. In Mr. Davies' pamphlet on lead ends, he says at page 7: 'This statement would not hold true if two pairs were caused to lie still, but such a case is too monstrous to contemplate.' And yet on page 22 he uses the Holt single, which does the very thing that he so unsparingly condemns. In extenuation, he refers me to Mr. Thompson's researches, and to the 'Report on Calls 1894.' Mr. Davies' knowledge is much greater than mine, and I am sorry to say that I am ignorant of Mr. Thompson's researches, or, to be quite exact, I cannot think of anything of the kind. The 'Report on Calls' I am not ignorant of, and I reject it. The Holt single, to use Mr. Davies' own word, is a monstrosity, and its use should be sternly prohibited.

No doubt it is a far cry from lead ends to Stedman, but Mr. Davies says in his pamphlet that Stedman is an odd-bell method, which is his indirect way of saying that it is not an even-bell method. Now, Sir, if not trespassing too much on your space, and if not troubling Mr. Davies too much, I shall take it as a kindness if he will show cause why the under-noted method is not Stedman. In this method, as in Kent, there are consecutive triple changes, but that, of course, is outside the question. When the method was first published, I made it to commence with a quick eight, and I afterwards found, or someone told me, that by commencing with a slow eight, the tittums row comes up in the third eight, in addition to Queens in the first. When tapped on the piano with all the notes equal in value, charming music is produced, particularly in the eighth eight, but on tower bells the effect may not be nearly so good.

WALTHAMSTOW STEDMAN MAJOR.

12345678
13254768
2457
4275
4725
7452
7542
5724
31527486
35172846
7182
7812
8721
8271
2817
2187
53127864

GEORGE T. CLAYTON.

SOME QUESTIONS.

Dear Sir,—We are told that fools rush in where angels fear to tread but at the risk of being included in the category of the former, I venture to intrude into the correspondence upon the above subject, because I fail to see how the Rev. C. D. P. Davies can substantiate his statement in your last issue, that the division between the leads in Grandsire is immediately before the treble's handstroke blow, while he agrees, in his letter that the division in Plain Bob is between the handstroke and backstroke lead of the treble. He admits, I suppose, that Grandsire is the application of the Plain Bob system to odd bells, and that being so, will he kindly tell us:—

- (1) Why, if the 2nd's place in Plain Bob is the connecting link between the leads, the 3rd's place in Grandsire is not the connecting link in that method?
- (2) If the 3rd's place is the connecting link, why should not the division between the leads be cut through that place just as it is through the 2nd's in Plain Bob?
- (3) If the leads are divided between the rows in which 3rd's place appears, what is the matter with the symmetry of Grandsire?—Yours, in search of information, D. SMITH.

LEYTONSTONE RINGERS AT CANNING TOWN

On Saturday last, six members of the Essex Association paid a visit to Holy Trinity Church, Canning Town, E., in order to ring on the peal of six bells which had not been rung for a long time. 720 Kent Treble Bob was brought round by the following: W. Riches 1, H. Gowers 2, G. Dawson 3, A. Prior 4, W. Doran 5, J. Moule (conductor) 6. Other touches were also rung.—The Vicar (the Rev. J. Rushby Smith) came into the tower, and gave the visitors a hearty welcome, and afterwards entertained the party to tea, the hospitality being greatly appreciated.

The Vicar is very keen on having a band of ringers at his church, and it is hoped something may be done to assist him in his efforts when peace comes.

The company return many thanks to the Vicar for granting permission to ring, and for his kindness in entertaining the party.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

A MEETING AT THE CATHEDRAL.

The last quarterly meeting for the current year was held by the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham at the Cathedral (St. Philip's) on Saturday week. The bells were raised about four o'clock, and as they have been previously described in detail in these columns, we will briefly remark in passing that they are a ring of ten, tenor 29 cwt. in D, the latter being a really grand bell—the only one in the tower that should escape the melting pot if ever recasting comes within reach. The other nine range from muffs to duffs. Also they badly need rehanging. With all its faults, however, it is nice to visit the place now and again, for much history has been made in the old belfry in bygone times, especially during the reign of Wm. Chetwode, of whom many and wonderful tales are told by those who remember him. In later years, John Carter and his merry men continued the good work, but now, alas! the tower does not boast a single ringer, and the bells are never heard except on the odd occasions when the Guild meets there.

At 5.30, the bells were lowered, and members to the number of 51 adjourned to the Imperial Hotel, where they were the guests of that old friend of Birmingham ringers, Dr. Malins.

After tea, the formal business of a quarterly meeting was transacted, under the chairmanship of the Presiding Ringing Master (Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A.).

Routine matters having been disposed of, the Chairman announced that, on the suggestion of Mr. James George, and with the hearty support and goodwill of many members of the Exercise in all parts of the country, it had been decided to issue an appeal to all ringers to subscribe to a testimonial to the Editor of 'The Ringing World,' Mr. John S. Goldsmith. He spoke at length on the difficulties Mr. Goldsmith had to face in keeping the paper going at the present time, and mentioned how severely he had been handicapped by his long and serious illness. Applause greeted the reading of a letter Mr. George had received from the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, President of the Central Council, who wished God-speed to the project, and promised a subscription of three guineas. In conclusion, the alderman proposed that the sum of two guineas be voted from the Guild's funds to the testimonial, which he laughingly remarked, would not affect the personal subscriptions he hoped everyone would give.—This was seconded by Mr. Charles Dickens, a trustee, supported by Mr. A. E. Parsons, the Master of the Worcestershire Association, and others, and carried unanimously.—Mr. Parsons said he hoped every Association and ringer in the country would do their bit, so that a really substantial sum might be handed over in due course.

In proposing that a very hearty vote of thanks be accorded to Dr. Malins for so kindly entertaining the members to tea, Alderman Pritchett said that the doctor was one of the oldest and best known members of the medical profession in the city. There must be thousands of grateful people who had been his patients at one time or another and they had reason to be very proud of him.—In seconding the proposition, Mr. G. Walker reminded Dr. Malins that he had frequently been his guest, with the other members of the old St. Philip's band, on New Year's eve.—Speaking in support, Mr. A. E. Parsons claimed that he had probably known Dr. Malins longer than anyone in the room. He had known him since he was five years of age (laughter), and his (the speaker's) wife was one of the grateful patients referred to by the chairman.—C.-O.-M.S. W. A. Cave, Mr. W. H. Godden and Mr. W. N. Lawrence, of Little Munden, also added their tributes, the last named observing that it was a pity ringers had not more friends in the country equally generous.—On being put, the vote was carried with acclamation.

On rising to reply, Dr. Malins received quite an ovation, and proceeded to say that the number of the speeches, and the nice things that had been said about him reminded him of the custom they had in Eastern countries, and especially in Greece, of holding funeral orations over the bodies of dead relatives. On one occasion, a very young child had died, and the person who was officiating apologised for making such a long oration over such a small corpse. He felt very much like that at this moment (laughter). He had quite as much pleasure in asking them to come, as they could possibly have in coming, and it was to him a real treat to hear the old bells pealing out as they had been that afternoon. He was sorry that the Food Controller could not permit him to give them something more substantial than the war-time tea they had just partaken of, but better times were coming, he hoped, before very long.

In referring to the doctor's remark, that he would have liked to have 'stood' something better in the way of food, Alderman Pritchett said he was reminded of an old story of a man whose friend had sent him a bottle of Sice Gin. In thanking him for it, he said that although he did not care much for the fruit, he was thankful for the "spirit" in which it was sent.

Among those present were Messrs. W. N. Barber, of Newcastle-Upon-Tyne; Harry Chapman, of Manchester; J. W. Jones, of Newport, Mon.; W. N. Lawrence, of Little Munden; Coy.-O.-M.-S. W. A. Cave, of Bristol, and that hale youngster from Tinton, Mr. Wm. Rock Small.

After the meeting, a touch of Stedman Cincos in hand was rung by Messrs. J. Pigott, A. Walker, T. Miller, J. C. Groves, G. F. Swann, and C.-O.-M.-S. W. A. Cave.

The annual meeting will be held, as usual, early in January.

A. P. S.

NOTICES.

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

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Southam on Saturday, October 19th. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock; service at 4.30; business meeting after tea.—J. H. White, Hon. Sec., 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at St. John's (Lewisham High Road) on Saturday, October 19th. Bells available at 3 p.m.; service and address by the Rev. W. F. Jepson (Vicar) at 6 p.m.; business meeting to follow.—T. Groombridge, Hon. District Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. H. M. Eyton Jones), at St. Paul's, Bath Road, Hounslow, on Saturday, October 19th. Tower open for ringing 3 p.m. sharp. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting will be held at Rickmansworth on Saturday, October 19th. Bells available from 3 p.m. till dusk; tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—F. A. Smith, 85, Glencoe Road, Bushey, Herts, and F. Edwards, 24, Glencoe Road, Bushey, Herts, Joint Secs. (*pro tem.*)

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Deanery Branch.—The quarterly meeting of the above Association will be held at Chedzoy on Saturday, October 19th. Bells available 3 p.m.; service 4 p.m.; tea and meeting to follow, 5 p.m.—A. E. Moulton, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A Branch meeting will be held at Accrington on Saturday, October 19th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of this Branch will be held at Ashwick (near Shepton Mallet) on Saturday, October 26th. The bells (6) will be available from 2 p.m.—I. B. Holmyard, Hon. Sec., School House, Midsomer Norton.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society), Estab. 1824.—A by-meeting will be held on Saturday, October 26th, at the Church of All Saints, Fulham, S.W. Ringing from 3 p.m. till dusk.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Barnet on Saturday, October 26th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—Wm. Nash, Hon. District Sec., North Mymms, Hatfield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Bartholomew's, Bolton, on Saturday, October 26th. Bells from 4 to 7; meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 507, Wigan Road, Bolton.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual festival will be held at Newcastle-on-Tyne on Saturday, October 26th. The following peals of bells will be available from 12 noon till 4 p.m.: Cathedral (12), tenor 37½ cwt.; All Saints (8), tenor 19 cwt.; and St. John's (8), tenor 12½ cwt. Service at 4 p.m. in the Cathedral Lady Chapel, with address by Canon G. E. Nursom, Vicar of Newcastle. Committee meeting in Cathedral Vestry 4.45 p.m. Tea at the Douglas Hotel, Grainger Street West, at 5.30 p.m., to be followed by the general meeting. Tickets for tea 2/- to members, 3/6 to non-members; only those who notify the Secretary before Tuesday, October 22nd, can be supplied with tea.—G. T. Potter, 13, Park Parade, Whitley Bay, R.S.O., Northumberland.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South Eastern District.—The annual District meeting will be held at Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday, October 26th. Bells available 3 o'clock; business meeting in the tower after ringing. It is hoped that members will make a special effort to attend, as this will be the final meeting at the tower until the spring.—F. W. Edwards, Writtle.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Mathern, near Chepstow, on Saturday, October 26th. Bells available all the afternoon and evening. Tea free, at 5.30; business meeting to follow.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., and J. W. Jones, Hon. Secs., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

BECKENHAM, KENT.—A meeting for practice will be held at St. George's Church on Saturday, October 26th, at 3 p.m. till dusk. All ringers cordially invited.—W. Smith.

PARISH CHURCH, HIGH WYCOMBE.—Special Service and Organ Recital on October 27th, at 3.30. Tower open for ringing 1.30 to 3.30 and after the service. Collection for Bell Fund. Visitors are asked to attend service.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—(Estab. 1637.)—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on October 31st, and for general business on the 22nd, at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Moorside on Saturday, November 2nd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting to follow. A good attendance is requested, business important. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., Middleton.

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

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OXTON, BIRKENHEAD, CHESHIRE.—On Sunday, August 11th, at St. Saviour's Church, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major: H. Samuels 1, W. Battle 2, H. Brocklebank 3, W. Hughes 4, H. Martin 5, E. Brookes (Wolverley) 6, S. F. Barnes 7, H. Ludkin (conductor) 8.—On Sunday, August 18th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major: H. Martin 1, W. Battle 2, H. Brocklebank 3, W. Hughes 4, E. Brookes 5, J. Evans 6, S. F. Barnes 7, H. Ludkin (conductor) 8.

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