

THE BELL NEWS

And Ringers' Record:

A Weekly Journal of the Ringing Exercise; and Compendium of Information for the Clergy and Churchwardens.

No. 1406.—VOL. XXVIII.]

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1909.

[PRICE ONE PENNY.]

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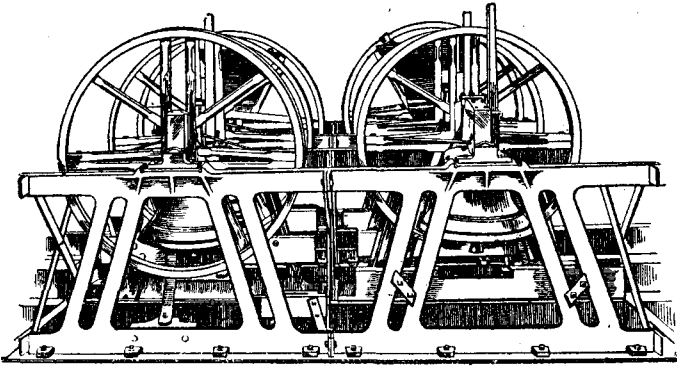
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The Bell News and Ringers' Record.

No. 1406

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1909.

[Vol. XXVIII.]

WONSTON, HAMPSHIRE.

It was a very great pleasure to the Rector of the above-named village (the Rev. R. F. Bigg-Wither) and to the parishioners to hear, as they did on a recent Monday evening, the sweet tone of the five bells of the parish church. There are not many living who had heard them, for until Monday they had not been rung for over twenty years. The dilapidated condition of the frame made it dangerous to ring them. After the fire which nearly destroyed the church on Aug. 14th, the Rector, having long known that a desire existed among the parishioners that the bells should be rehung, determined to take the opportunity afforded by the general restoration of the church to try and get this done. He took upon himself, we understand, without coming upon the General Restoration Fund, to raise the sum needed—£142. It speaks highly for the pluck of the little village that—withstanding the great drain upon its resources owing to the restoration of the parish church—this amount should have been raised, and mainly in small sums.

Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, the well-known church bell founders, of Whitechapel, were the contractors, and they have supplied and fixed an iron bell frame with entirely new fittings for the five bells, which have been quarter-turned. Provision has been made in the new frame for a new sixth bell, which is much needed for charge-ringing, and which with fittings will cost an extra £36. The work was completed on Friday, February 19, and on Monday, the 22nd, Mr. A. Hughes and his son (representing the Whitechapel firm), Mr. J. W. Elkins, Mr. Andrews, and Mr. Lampard (representing the Winchester Cathedral ringers), and the Rev. W. E. Colchester (Rector of St. Maurice), rung 6-scores of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles from 7 to 8 o'clock in the presence of the local ringers.

The Wonston tower has now been affiliated to the Winchester Diocesan Guild, who have granted an instructor, and given a donation of £2 2s. towards the sixth bell.

INDUCTION OF A NEW RECTOR AT SUTTON COLDFIELD, WARWICKSHIRE.

Saturday, February 27th, was quite a red-letter day in the ecclesiastical history of Sutton Coldfield, it being the date fixed for the institution of Canon C. W. Barnard to the living of Holy Trinity parish church. The vacancy was occasioned by the retirement of the Rev. W. C. R. Bedford, in whose family the living has been for upwards of two centuries.

The service, which was of a solemn and impressive character, was conducted by Dr. Charles Gore, D.D., Lord Bishop of Birmingham, assisted by the Archdeacon. The Bishop preached a sermon which was particularly appropriate to the occasion. Sutton Coldfield, he said,

was one of the most important parishes in the diocese of Birmingham, and they required for Rector a man of broad mind and sound character. It was with great confidence, said his lordship, that he commended Canon Barnard to their prayers and their help.

The Bishop also paid a high tribute to the conscientiousness, trustworthiness, and piety of the late Rector, and wished him God-speed in his new sphere of action.

The service closed with the hymn "Through all the changing scenes of life"; other hymns were "Come, Holy Ghost," and "Praise to the Holiest in the height."

At the conclusion of the service the bells, which are a very fine peal of eight (tenor 24 cwt. in E flat), burst forth in merry peal, and from the organ came the triumphant strains of Mendelssohn's "March of the Priests" from *Athalie*. During the evening the ringers rang a peal of Stedman Triples, this being the first peal by five of the band, including the conductor. It is also the first peal on the bells by a band all belonging to the church.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(EASTERN DIVISION.)

The last of the quarterly meetings for the year was held at Rotherfield on Saturday, February 13th. Ringing commenced at 2.30 p.m., good practice being done in the standard methods—Minor, Triples, and Major. Regret was expressed at the absence of the general hon. secretary, Mr. Geo. Watson. Touching reference was made to the loss the Association had sustained in the death of Canon Hodges, one of the vice-presidents, and a keen supporter of bells and bell-ringers.

"THE BELL NEWS" of February 13th contained a peal conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson, and it delighted the company present to know the Master of the Oxford Guild was well again and able to add yet another to his already long list. Sussex sends him greetings.

Shortened evensong at 5 o'clock was much enjoyed. The Rector gave a short but practical address on the duties and privileges of bell-ringers. One noticed during the singing that those present were choir men as well as ringers, for the singing is quite a feature of these division meetings. Service over, the members partook of tea, by kind invitation of the Rector, the Rev. F. W. Champneys, M.A., in the church institute, about 70 sitting down to a bountiful repast, the Rector presiding.

At the business meeting, which followed the minutes being read, it was decided to ring the next quarterly peal (Bob Major), at Waldron, Mr. E. Gower, of Eastbourne, conducting. The following branches and members were elected:—Warbleton and Waldron bands. The Rev. W. R. Buchanan-Dunlop, M.A., life member of Eastbourne; Mr. W. Henley and Mr. R. Dunster, both of Rye. Independent members, Mr. C. W. Player and Mr. F. Batt, of Stone-in-Oxney, Kent; non-resident life members, Mr. W. Latter, of Tunbridge Wells, was elected August 26th, 1908. Mr. G. Penfold proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for his kindness that day. This was carried with acclamation.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The third quarterly meeting of the Wellingborough District of the above Association was held at Higham Ferrers with every success on a recent Saturday. By the kind permission of the Vicar (the Rev. W. J. Davidson), the ringing of the Higham Ferrers bells was indulged in by various companies, and subsequently an admirable tea, served at the Church Room by the Higham ringers and their wives, was thoroughly enjoyed, about thirty-eight members being present from Northampton, Earls Barton, Wellingborough, Rushden, Irthlingborough, Easton Mauduit, Kettering, Raunds, Irchester, Chelveston, and Higham Ferrers. Tea over, a short business meeting was held, the Vicar presiding, supported by the General Secretary (Mr. F. Wilford, of Northampton).

The minutes of the last meeting were read by Mr. W. Newman (District Secretary). The Vicar of Higham, who is also Vicar of Chelveston-cum-Caldicote, said how much he would like the Association to hold a meeting at the latter place. The bells there (a ring of five), needed some repairs, and he thought it would stimulate enthusiasm, and also assist him in gaining some knowledge of the extent and cost of the repairs required. It was decided to hold a special meeting there. Two new members were elected from Finedon and Chelveston. Heartly thanks were accorded the Rev. W. J. Davidson for the use of the bells, and for presiding at the meeting; also to the ringers for providing the tea.

The Vicar of Higham Ferrers, in the course of his remarks, said how pleased he was to once more welcome them to Higham Ferrers. He would like to say how proud they were of their ringers at Higham Ferrers, not only of their ringing capabilities, but of their general character. He thought it was the general feeling amongst ringers that their work for the Church was not appreciated. He was very pleased to say that was not the case at Higham.

Mr. G. Randall, in responding for the ringers, said they were always pleased to do what they could to make the meeting at Higham a success. He thought some of these meetings were made too much of a ringing meeting, whereas the other side of the meeting was forgotten—that of brotherhood and social welfare.

The General Secretary, in a few remarks, said he would like to endorse what Mr. Randall had said, although he was very fond of ringing upon a peal of eight bells, yet he thought it was their duty to visit belfries where there was only five or six bells. Many of these belfries had been members of the Association a great number of years.

Ringling in various methods were indulged in until 7.30, after which a social gathering was held at The Griffin hotel. Singing and handbell ringing closed an enjoyable and profitable day's proceedings.

THE ST. THOMAS'S GUILD, DUDLEY.

The annual meeting of this Guild was held at Dudley on Saturday, March 16th. Although snow was falling thick all the day, between forty and fifty were present, including members from Tipton, Sedgley, West Bromwich, Smethwick, Rowley Regis, Brierley Hill, Wordsley, Wollaston, Netherton, and Dudley. The bells were started ringing at 4 o'clock, and continued until 5 o'clock, when a service was conducted in the church, and an interesting address given by the President of the Guild, the Rev. A. Gray Maitland, Vicar of Dudley. At the

close of the service a move was made to the schoolroom, where a bountiful tea was provided, the only fault being that through the inclement weather the number present was not sufficient to dispose of it all. At the business meeting, the President in the chair, the minutes of the last quarterly meeting were read and confirmed. The officers were all re-elected, several new members being added to the roll. The prize (a book), was awarded to the Brierley Hill company for ringing the most peals and gaining the largest number of points for the Guild during the year. West Bromwich (Christ Church) was selected as the place to hold the next quarterly meeting. It was arranged to attempt during the quarter, the following peals at the various towers, viz., Kent Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Triples at Tipton; Treble Bob Royal and Grandsire Triples at Dudley; Bob Major at Rowley Regis; Duffield Major and Stedman Triples at Brierley Hill. Other routine business being transacted, votes of thanks to the Vicar, the other officers, the donors and the ladies who assisted in preparing and serving the tea, brought a very pleasant meeting to a close. The bells were kept going until 9 o'clock.

UNVEILING OF A PEAL TABLET AT ST. CHAD'S, BIRMINGHAM.

Saturday, January 16th, was a day that will be remembered for some time to come by the ringers and their friends of St. Chad's (R.C.) Cathedral. The peal tablet was erected to record two peals rung during 1908, and were such remarkably good performances that the congregation generously paid the cost of the same. The Rev. A. Watt, previous to unveiling the tablet, complimented the ringers on the skill they had displayed, and said that anyone might be proud of this memorial. How one with music in his soul could fail to be enraptured at St. Chad's chimes he was at a loss to say. A gentleman like Othello who could say—"Silence that dreadful bell," was not fit to associate with christians. But Othello unfortunately never visited England, and had not heard the Cathedral ringers at work. The tablet was then solemnly unveiled. After a vote of thanks had been proposed to his reverence by Mr. E. Mullins, and seconded by Mr. T. Miller, which was carried unanimously, the proceedings were brought to a close by ringing five courses of Bob Major. J. Corrigan, A. Gardner, W. Bryant, W. Webb, T. Collinson, E. Mullins, G. Taylor, T. Miller conductor.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE TONBRIDGE DISTRICT.

For a town of its size, and considering the large number of churches that are to be found within its boundaries, Tunbridge Wells is somewhat unfortunate in the possession of one peal of bells. Several of the sacred edifices of the borough have towers of sufficient size and strength to carry them, but—with the exception of a fixed carillon of six gongs at St. Augustine's—St. Peter's is the only church equipped with a full peal of those clarion-throated messengers that have through the course of centuries not only been utilised for their legitimate purpose of calling the faithful to worship, but have been regarded as a means of demonstrating our national and parochial joys and sorrows, ringing out merrily to celebrate victories, coronations, marriages, and other occasions of rejoicing, or sounding in mournful muffled cadences

times of sorrow and death. The bells at St. Peter's when first hung were only five in number, and were cast by Messrs. Warner. A sixth bell was added shortly afterwards, and these remained until 1886, when through the generosity of two lady parishioners the two trebles were added to complete the octave. The tenor bell weighs 14½ cwt., the key-note being F. Amongst the ringers the fascinating and essentially English pastime of scientific change-ringing is enthusiastically pursued, Mr. W. Latter, the captain of the band, being the District Secretary of the Kent County Association, to which the other members are all affiliated.

On Saturday, January 30th, the annual meeting of the district was held, Tunbridge Wells being selected for the gathering for the first time for ten years. Over sixty members attended from various parts of the county, including Tonbridge, Westerham, Shipbourne, Speldhurst, Hadlow, Seal Chart, Chiddingstone, Hever, etc. The bells were kept going merrily until 5.30, when the whole party adjourned to the parish room for the business meeting. This was preceded by an excellent meat tea, the catering being done by members of the Secretary's family. The Vicar of St. Peter's (Rev. Chas. Courtenay, M.A.), occupied the chair, and was supported by Miss Macalpine Leny (sister-in-law of the Rector of Speldhurst, and a lady well-known to ringers all over the country), and the Rev. F. L. Schreiber, Vicar of Shipbourne. Mr. Latter having introduced the chairman, grace was said, and heavy inroads were speedily made into the good things provided.

Tea over, Mr. Courtenay addressed a few words of welcome to those present, and the more formal business of the meeting was proceeded with. Letters of sincere regret for inability to be present were read from the Ven. A. T. Scott, M.A., Archdeacon of Tonbridge, and Vicar of St. James', Tunbridge Wells, and the Rev. Donald D. Mackinnon, Rector of Speldhurst. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, the District Secretary presented his annual report.

Mr. G. Stonestreet (Tonbridge), with a few complimentary remarks, proposed the re-election of Mr. W. Latter as District Hon. Secretary. This was seconded by Mr. E. Hoad, and carried with acclamation, Mr. Latter briefly returning thanks.

Mr. G. Edwards proposed, and Mr. Wolfe seconded, the re-election of Mr. Wright as district representative on the Central Council, this being also unanimously agreed to.

The next business on the agenda was the selection of meeting places for the ensuing twelve months, and after some discussion, the following arrangements were agreed to:—Spring meeting—Marden, or in case re-hanging operations are not completed, Chiddingstone. For the summer meeting the Secretary announced that Miss Leny had again kindly invited them to Speldhurst. Miss Leny said she wished to make a little correction, and explained, amid much laughter, that Mr. Latter had invited himself. She however, assured them of a hearty welcome, and hoped everyone there would make a point of being present. For the autumn meeting it was decided to visit Lamberhurst and Horsmonden; and for the next annual meeting Staplehurst was selected.

Other business included arrangements for ringing a peal each quarter under the direct auspices of the district officials. It was decided to attempt the first of these at

Tonbridge, Stedman Triples being the method selected, with Mr. Wright, of Westerham, as conductor.

Mr. Steed proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the ladies who had so kindly assisted at the tea. This was seconded by Mr. Stonestreet, and enthusiastically carried.

Votes of thanks to the chairman for presiding; to Miss Leny for her presence and kind invitation; and to the Rev. F. L. Schreiber for his hearty co-operation, each of which were acknowledged by short breezy little speeches, brought a pleasant gathering to a close. Most of those present again adjourned to the belfry, where they indulged in touches of Grandsire and Stedman, Treele Bob and Double Norwich, and many other curious things intelligible only to those duly initiated into the arts and mysteries of change-ringing.

RANGEMORE, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

A large chiming clock with three dials is to be erected on Rangemore church tower as a memorial to the late Lord Burton, by the inhabitants of Rangemore and neighbourhood. The work has been placed in the hands of Messrs. John Smith and Sons, Midland Clock Works, Derby, who made the Burton-on-Trent Town Hall Clock for the late Lord Burton twenty-eight years ago.

QUEEN CAMEL, SOMERSET.

Having read the remarks by "G. H. H." in last week's "BELL NEWS," the following will probably interest some of your readers:

	cwt.	qr.	lbs.
Treble	8	2	27
2	10	—	1
3	15	3	9
4	20	—	11
5	26	3	9
Tenor	36	3	7

118 1 8 exact weight.

The tenor of this beautiful ring was cast by Roger Purdue, of Bristol. It is inscribed—

HEARE I AM YOV MAY SEE
WILLIAM PIRRI AND HIS WYFE GAVE ME
TO THIS CHVRCH FREE TO BE
MAINTAINED FOR EVER 1633. R (BELL) P.

From a MS. by John Alfred Parnell, 10th February, 1815, Sheffield:—

"At Queen's Camel, in Somersetshire, at the church, a peal of six bells, and the tenor is 48 or 50 cwt. in key of C flat, and here they have sixteen men in the band to raise them. Changes here are out of the question, never any can be rung on them, nor have they any tufting in their bell ropes (salleys). They do not make use of salleying their bells when ringing, says the 'Gothic Traveller.'"

This most interesting MS. was kindly shown me by Mr. C. H. Hattersley.
Salisbury. W. W. GIFFORD.

BATTERSEA.—On Sunday, January 10th, at St. Mary's, for men's service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins. W. J. Barber, A. Whittington, H. Mance, E. J. Webb, W. J. Dean, E. Cassell, F. Skevington conductor, F. Davis.

A DIAGRAM OF UNION TRIPLES (1893), may be had gratis, on application by letter to W. H. THOMPSON, 5, Sillwood Street, Brighton, to whom the unsold remainder has been returned by the publishers.

Peal-Boards made by JAMES HUNT, Change Ringer, of 19 Dapdune Road, Guildford, most with great favour.

Correspondence.

While allowing the utmost freedom for the expression of opinion, it must never be considered that we are in any way bound to statements made by correspondents.

To the Editor of "THE BELL NEWS AND RINGERS' RECORD."

TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH.

SIR,—In the footnote to a peal of Treble Bob rung at Sheffield parish church, and recorded in this week's "BELL NEWS," your correspondent makes the assertion that Mr. Richard Collier is the oldest ringer in the county, which statement I venture to contradict, as Mr. Francis Allen, also of Ranmoor, has reached the age of 74 years, and rang a 720 of Plain Bob as far back as 1853 at Witham-on-the-Hill, Lincolnshire, and as recently as the 17th of February this year rang the 3rd in a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples at Ranmoor, conducted by Francis Ward. So these veterans keep in touch with their younger brethren, and long may they both be spared to come among us.

SAM THOMAS.

P.S.—Yorkshire is a big county, and it is a large order to state that a ringer of 70 is the oldest out of about 2000 ringers.

PEALS OF DOUBLES.

SIR,—I wish to thank Mr. Jerram for his courtesy in replying to my queries, and endorse his views that the C.C. should deal with this question at their next meeting, when I would suggest the following: A peal of Doubles (without a covering bell), forty-two 6-scores, each called differently, in one or more methods, a peal of Minor, seven 720s, each called differently, in one or more methods, to be allowed as a true peal; and until the decision of the C.C. is given I would suggest to Mr. Editor that no bogus peals be allowed to appear in the columns of "THE BELL NEWS," as it is quite apparent that at the present time we have to wait a long time before we get genuine peals recorded. Perhaps this restriction would keep us a little more up to date.

HEREFORDIAN.

[Our esteemed correspondent will hear all particulars within a few days.]

Re THE MEETING AT NEW MILLS.

SIR,—I beg to say that if the Rev. A. T. Beeston wants to hold special meetings for the express purpose of practising intricate methods, why trouble to send the notice to "THE BELL NEWS" as a special meeting for the Chester Diocesan Guild? When such notices appear I take it that the meetings are for combined practice of all its members, and not only for a selected few. Might I ask if it is a rule in the Chester Diocesan Guild for a member before he can be counted as efficient, must, before attending the meetings be able to ring Surprise methods?

FRED A. HOLDEN.

A CORRECTION.

SIR,—I should like to inform G. H. H. that a peal has been rung on Queen Camel bells. Forty-two 6-scores of Grandsire Doubles was rung by a band hailing from Shepton Mallet, Somerset, under my conductorship on Saturday, May 16th, 1908, in 2 hrs. 58 mins., and was recorded in "THE BELL NEWS" of May 23rd, 1908.

H. C. MOUNTED.

INFORMATION WANTED.

SIR,—I want to ask through "THE BELL NEWS" if any kind readers could give me a little information of some of our Cathedral bells. I would like to know the weights of the following tenor bells: Southwark Cathedral, Oxford, Worcester, and Gloucester; also of the number of bells and weights of tenors at Carlisle Cathedral, Bath Abbey, Peterborough, St. David's, St. Asaph, and Bangor. I am a constant reader of "THE BELL NEWS," and sign myself

CONSTANT READER.

RINGERS' WEDDINGS.

Two very pretty and interesting weddings have taken place here just lately. The first, on January 20th, Mr. J. W. Unwin (Tenterden), to Miss L. A. Spice, organist of Tunstall church, and eldest daughter of Mr. W. Spice. The little church was full of congratulating friends, and very appropriate music was

rendered by the choir, and Mrs. Greensted played the Wedding March as the bridal party left the church. The wedding presents numbered about eighty, including a very nice silver cake basket to the bride from the Rector, churchwardens and choir; silver cruet and salt cellars to the bridegroom from Tenterden postal staff, also a clock from the Tenterden band. A reception was afterwards held at the house of the bride's father. A seven method peal of Minor was attempted by old friends of the Kent County Association, but after ringing four 720s it came to grief. An adjournment was made to join the bridal party, where a much easier method was attempted, and needless to say was successfully brought round to the satisfaction of all. This peal was conducted by the newly-married couple. The ringers were C. Tribe, E. C. Lambert (Tenterden), J. E. Greensted, W. H. B. Wilkins, T. Jull, and A. J. Day (Tunstall). A very happy time was spent in singing and handbell ringing until the early hours of the 21st.

Also on February 20th a very pretty wedding between Joseph E. Greensted (of the Tunstall band), and Miss E. E. French. The church was filled with friends, amongst them being many of the bridegroom's old ringing chums and brother choirmen, he being a very good and energetic man in both capacities, having rang nearly 100 peals on six, eight and ten bells. The new organist, Mr. L. Sellen, and the choir attended and officiated. A peal was successfully brought round in 2 hrs. 36 mins., particulars of which appear in its proper place. The bride and bridegroom were the recipients of many useful presents, among them being a very nice silver cruet and pair of flower vases, subscribed for by a number of his old ringing friends, and a biscuit barrel from the Tunstall ringers. W. Spice wishes to thank all those who responded to the call. After the peal the ringers joined the party at 27, Park Road, Sittingbourne, where "go" was called for a peal of knife and fork surprise. This was greatly appreciated, as was also a musical evening which followed. The happy pair will shortly leave the old country for Brantford, Canada, and they have the hearty wishes of all brother-strings.

We shall meet, but we shall miss him,
There will be his rope to spare;
We shall hope again to meet him,
In the old familiar tower.

A RINGER'S SILVER WEDDING.

On Saturday, February 20th, Mr. and Mrs. G. A. O. Nettleton celebrated their silver wedding, having been married at Bradford parish church on February 23rd, 1884. Mr. Nettleton is a ringer of over thirty years' standing, and during the whole of that time he has been a member of the Shipley company. During the afternoon his brother-ringers rang a peal of Treble Bob Major in 3 hrs., composed by A. Knights and conducted by J. A. Ross. After the peal, which was rung in his honour, he entertained the ringers along with numerous other friends to a whist drive and social evening. Supper was partaken of, and the rest of the evening was spent in handbell ringing.

At an interval Mr. Exel proposed, and Mr. Ross supported the toast of the evening, which was received with musical honours. Mr. Nettleton suitably responded. The presents were numerous, notable among which was one from his brother-ringers, consisting of a very handsome silver-mounted walking stick for himself, and a silver-backed hair brush for Mrs. Nettleton.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

SOUTHAMPTON.—On Saturday, February 6th, a capital muster turned up at St. Michael's for the monthly practice, when some touches of Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich, and also 448 Supernative Surprise Major (first in the method on the bells), was rung by G. Smith, H. W. Wilkes, J. W. Taylor (Loughborough), A. M. Stewart, F. S. Bayley, W. T. Tucker, W. H. George, G. Williams conductor. Others who took part in this ringing were—J. W. Whiting, G. Noice, C. Fray, J. E. Buckle, and L. Page. Next practice at Romsey Abbey on April 21st, and at St. Michael's on May 1st. No practice at either tower during Lent.

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Notices.

The charge for the insertion of notices in this page is one Penny per line (five words) may be reckoned to a line. Repetitions at half that price. Notices should come to hand not later than Wednesday morning.

The Ancient Society of College Youths. Established 1637. Meetings for practice will be held at St. John's, South Hackney, on the 22nd; St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, on the 23rd; St. John's, Hackney, on the 16th; St. Maguns, Lower Thames Street, on the 18th; and St. Dunstan-in-the-East on the 25th; all at 8 p.m.

WILLIAM T. COCKERILL, *Hon. Sec.*
32, Edgley Road, Clapham, S.W.

The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths—There will be no practice at St. Martin-in-the-Fields during Lent. Due notice will be given of the next meeting.

F. BENNETT, *Hon. Sec.*

The Kent County Association, Rochester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Newington to-day, Sat., March 13th. Tower open at 2.30. Half railway fares up to 25. allowed. Subscriptions are now due.

A. B. ROBSON, *Hon. Dis. Sec.*

The Lancashire Association, Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Grassen' dale to-day, Sat., March 13th. Bells ready at 4.30. Tea at 6. WALTER HUGHES, *Sec.*
1, Railway Street, Garston.

The Chester Diocesan Guild.—Stockport Branch.—Special practice meeting at New Mills to-day, Sat., March 13th, at 5 o'clock. Grandsire, Plain and Treble Bob barred. Ringing friends welcomed. A. T. BEESTON.

The Essex Association.—South-Eastern District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Brentwood on Saturday, March 13th, by kind permission of the Rev. A. C. Newton. Bells ready at 4 o'clock. Tea at 5.30 in the Coffee Tavern, 5, High Street, 6d. each. Cheap fares for eight or more on G.E.R. Those intending to be present at tea kindly give me notice not later than the 17th inst. H. F. COOPER, *Dis. Sec.*
County Offices, Chelmsford.

The Sussex County Association.—Central Division.—Meeting at Withyham on March 20th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Service at 5. Tea at 5.30 at The Dorset Arms, 6d. each to those who let me know by Tuesday, March 16th. ROBERT J. DAWE, *Hon. Div. Sec.*
15, Priory Street, Southover, Lewes.

The Lancashire Association.—Blackburn Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at Oswaldtwistle on Saturday, March 20th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. JOHN WATSON, *Branch Sec.*

The Lancashire Association.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Brookfield church, Gorton, on Saturday, March 20th. Bells ready at 5. Meeting at 7. W. H. SHUKER, *Branch Sec.*

Leeds and District Amalgamated Society.—A supplementary meeting will be held at Drighlington on Saturday, March 27th. Peal attempt at 2.30 p.m. Business meeting in the schoolroom at 7.30 p.m.

GEO. W. SLACK, *Hon. Sec.*

The Kent County Association.—Ashford District.—A meeting of the above will be held

at Willesborough, near Ashford, on Saturday, March 27. Ringing to commence at 4 o'clock. Every member and all other ringing friends cordially invited to attend, and no methods "barred."

C. TRIBE, *Hon. Sec.*

The Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, March 27th. By kind permission of the Rev. A. E. Bull, the bells of St. Paul's, Bath Road, Hounslow, will be available from 3.30 to 5.30. Ringing will afterwards be continued at Heston, at which place tea (free) will be provided at 6 o'clock. Both towers contain rings of 8 bells. All ringing friends heartily welcome.

H. C. CHANDLER, *Hon. Sec.*

Halifax and District Association.—The next quarterly meeting and six-bell contest will be held at Tong on Saturday, April 10th. Draw for order of ringing at 2.45 p.m. Tea will be provided at 6d. each for those who order from me by April 12th.

J. COTTERELL, *Hon. Sec.*
302, Hopwood Lane, Halifax.

The Yorkshire Handbell Ringers' Association.—Sixth Annual Tune-ringing Contest on Saturday, April 10th, 1909, at Sunnyvale Gardens, Hipperholme, near Halifax.

The entries include the following bands: Birstal, Clifton, Crosland Moor United, Dewsbury, Horbury, Higher Walton, Holmfirth, Royston, Sheffield, Thurlstone, Ossett (St. Aidan's), Crosland Moor Public, Clifton Juniors, Thurlstone Juniors, and Ecclesfield. For full particulars apply to Ashville, Ossett. W. H. GIGGLE, *Sec.*

The Yorkshire Association.—Preliminary Notice.—The next meeting will be held at Ecclesfield on Saturday, May 15th. Circulars in due course.

CLEMENT GLENN, *Hon. Sec.*
40, Percy Street, Rotherham.

NOTE TO PEAL.

THE PEAL AT DONCASTER.—G. H. Bemrose's 100 Peals.—Grandsire Triples 2; Caters 2; Stedman Triples 3; Caters 4; Minor (Plain Bob) 3; Major 7; Royal 1; Forward Major 1; Kent 22; on handbells 3; Oxford 2; Oxford Royal 1; Kent 11; Double Norwich Major 15; on handbells 1; Royal 3; Yorkshire Major 1; Superlative 14; Cambridge 4. Total—100. Rang in 21 different towers.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES (Sussex).—On Sunday, January 31st, at the parish church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins. R. J. Wirks, E. J. Pannett, W. Burrell, G. H. Sturt, J. T. Rickman, A. J. Turner, R. J. Dawe conductor, A. S. Langridge. Rang as a birthday compliment to G. H. Sturt.

ROCHESTER (Kent).—On Sunday, February 7th, at St. Margaret's church, 1260 Stedman Triples W. Kidd, J. Tullett, W. Paine, W. Baker, O. J. Sullivan, F. A. Holden conductor, E. Rayner, J. Rayner.

RAWTENSTALL (Lancashire).—On Tuesday, January 5th, at St. Mary's church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins. with the bells deeply muffled, as a mark of respect to the late Mrs. R. H. Hardman, formerly of Cliffe Tower, Rawtenstall. T. Collinge, Rev. H. Drake, E. Taylor, G. H. Hargreaves, R. Rideough, T. Rollerson, J. Rollerson conductor, A. Rideough. The Rev. H. Drake hails from Braisworth, Suffolk.

DEBARRED.

Gone are my joys, to Fate I bow,
Since that the truth claims my regard;
My talents small, from ringing now
I'm barred.

Closed are the doors, wide-opened once,
Inviting all with me poor bard!
But now it seems that every dunce
Is barred.

What happy hours I once enjoyed,
When Treble Bob no cloud had marred
Fraternal pleasures, unalloyed
Are barred.

London Surprise I can't aspire;
My sluggish brains will not be stirred
Beyond the scope of old Grandsire—
That's barred.

Should zeal entice my steps to stray
Where the proud eagles' notes be heard,
What anguish then to find the way
Is barred.

Remote, unfriendly, sad, I pass
Those belfries I must now discard;
For truth informs me I'm no class—
So barred!
G. F. M.

SHIPLAKE, OXON.

The bells of this church after being silent for six months, rang out again on Sunday, November 8th. Mr. Justice Phillimore, who is one of the churchwardens, brought about a better understanding between the ringers and the Vicar. The memory of reconciliation will linger long with Shiplake ringers; the hearty shake of hands, words of welcome, and letters of encouragement will never be forgotten. O. W. PORTER.

ST. PETER MANCROFT (NORWICH) EXTRA BELL FUND.

The object of this fund is to provide a new bell—a flat 6th—as an addition to the existing peal, and thus to form a light octave of the "middle eight" with a 19 cwt. tenor. The tenor of the full peal of twelve (and of course of the back eight, weighs 43 cwt. Amount required £115.

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Mr. A. G. Howlett	...	2	2 0
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Mr. W. A. Nudd (Norwich)	...	0	5 0
"T. W." (Durham)	...	0	5 0
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THE RINGING CAREER of the REV. F. E. ROBINSON, M.A., late Vicar of Drayton, Berks.; Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Written by himself.

Edited by the REV. T. L. PAPILLON, M.A., Vicar of Writtle, Essex. 32 pp., illustrated by 21 half-tone reproductions of photographs of Churches and Ringers, with 18 descriptions of Bells.

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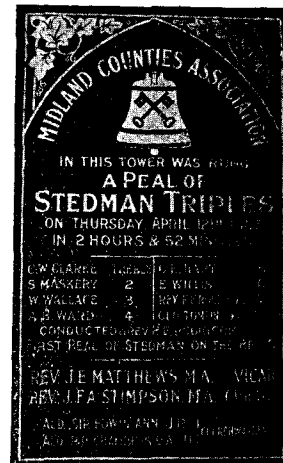
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The Provinces.**SILVERDALE, STAFFORDSHIRE.****STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.***On Saturday, January 30, 1909, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,***AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,****A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;****IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 10 cwt.**

GEORGE A. SMITH Treble.	CHARLES MORLEY 5.
JOHN WOODWARD 2.	WM. CARTER 6.
WM. WOODHEAD 3.	SIDNEY CHURTON 7.
FRED PAGE 4.	JOHN JOHNSON Tenor.

Composed by WM. HARRISON, and Conducted by J. JOHNSON.

HARTLIP, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.*On Saturday, January 30, 1909, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,***AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,****A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being 720 each of Double Oxford, College Single, Oxford Treble Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM G. KETCHINGHAM Treble.	JOSEPH E. GRENSTED .. 4.
Cecil E. Bishop 2.	WILLIAM J. WALKER .. 5.
FREDERICK A. HOLDEN .. 3.	WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS.

First peal in seven methods on the bells

BANGOR, CARNARVONSHIRE.**THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.***On Thursday, February 11, 1909, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,***AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DAVID,****A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES.****Tenor 13½ cwt. in F.**

WILLIAM CRANE, SEN. .. Treble.	WILLIAM CRANE, JUN. .. 5.
WILLIAM T. PEGLER 2.	MORRIS J. MORRIS 6.
JAMES H. MIDWINTER .. 3.	ALBERT J. HUGHES 7.
THOMAS H. DYER 4.	ARTHUR E. PEGLER .. Tenor.

Composed by M. J. MORRIS, and Conducted by A. E. PEGLER.

*First peal of Major. This composition, which is now rung for the first time, was rung as a birthday compliment to the Rev. T. Lewis Jones, Vicar of St. David's, and also the conductor, the band wishing them the usual congratulations.

EMBERTON, BUCKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**(NORTH BUCKS. BRANCH.)***On Sunday, February 14, 1909, in Two Hours and Twenty-eight Minutes,***AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,****A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being 720 each of Violet, College Pleasure, College Exercise, London Scholars' Pleasure, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent. Tenor 9½ cwt.

WILLIAM SHARP Treble.	ERNEST G. MYNARD .. 4.
FREDERICK W. BOOTH .. 2.	FREDERICK J. MYNARD .. 5.
JOHN LOVELL 3.	EDWIN S. MYNARD .. Tenor.

Conducted by F. J. MYNARD.

Rung to commemorate the coming of age of Lady Wiseman, daughter of the Rev. G. F. Sams, R.D., Rector of Emberton.

GREAT MUNDEN, HERTS.**THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.***On Wednesday, February 17, 1909, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,***AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,****A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being 720 each of Duke of York, Woodbine, Oxford Delight, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Oxford and Oxford Bob.

JOSEPH B. MILLER Treble.	WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE .. 4.
FREDERICK WILLIAMS .. 2.	HENRY WALLACE 5.
EDWARD SAGGERS 3.	BARNARD PATMORE .. Tenor.

Conducted by BARNARD PATMORE.

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Wednesday, February 17 1909, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,***AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,****A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;****THURSTANS'S Tenor 13½ cwt.**

ARTHUR B. CORDEN .. Treble.	HUGH W. HERRINGTON .. 5.
STEPHEN STONE 2.	ALFRED GREENFIELD .. 6.
PERCY H. DOICK 3.	JOHN NETLEY 7.
ALBERT FEIST 4.	*PETER KNIGHT Tenor.

Conducted by A. GREENFIELD.

*First peal.

WEST TARRING, SUSSEX.**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.***On Wednesday, February 17, 1909, in Two Hours and Thirty three Minutes,***AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,****A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;****Tenor 10 cwt.**

H. STANFORD Treble.	*S. F. HAFENDEN 4.
C. STREET 2.	C. GOLDRING 5.
G. SKINNER 3.	*H. J. SCOTT Tenor.

Conducted by C. GOLDRING.

*First peal. Rang on the occasion of the marriage of F. Chipper, his brother-ringers wishing him every happiness.

LINCOLN.—THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**(NORTHERN BRANCH.)***On Wednesday, February 17, 1909, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,***AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-AT-ARCHES,****A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;****PARRER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.**

WILLIAM BEE* Treble.	†ERNEST VICKERS 5.
REV. REGINALD BOND .. 2.	HENRY W. KIRTON 6.
JOHN A. FREEMAN† .. 3.	JOHN W. WATSON 7.
CHARLES H. CHESTER .. 4.	JAMES MUSSON Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY W. KIRTON.

*First peal. †First peal in the method.

DUNSTER, SOMERSETSHIRE.**THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Thursday, February 18, 1909, in Three Hours,***AT THE PARISH CHURCH,****A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.****Tenor 21 cwt.**

HERBERT SIEVENS* .. Treble.	GEORGE STACEY 5.
WILLIAM HOYLE 2.	CHARLES GREEDY 6.
CHARLES THRUSH 3.	HENRY MOORE 7.
ALBERT J. CHILCOTT .. 4.	*HERBERT J. HOLE .. Tenor.

Composed and Conducted by HENRY MOORE.

*First peal on eight bells.

WESTON, NEAR BATH.**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.***On Thursday, February 18, 1909, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,***AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,****A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;****Being seven 720s, each called differently.**

JOSEPH MOORE* Treble.	*FRANK W. NEATE 4.
HERBERT BECKETT† .. 2.	†JOHN TAYLOR 5.
FRANK W. CANNINGS .. 3.	CHARLES W. BELL .. Tenor.

Conducted by CHARLES W. BELL

*First peal in the method. †First peal. ‡First peal with a bob bell.

MATLOCK, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, February 19, 1909, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM HOUSLEY* .. Treble.	†WALTER E. PAULSON .. 5.
GEORGE H. PAULSON* .. 2.	WILLIAM FOX .. 6.
FREDERICK KNOWLES† .. 3.	BENJAMIN GREATORREX .. 7.
JOHN H. PAULSON .. 4.	JOHN TOPLIS .. Tenor.

Conducted by BENJAMIN GREATORREX.

*First peal. †First peal with a bob bell.

TETTENHALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 20, 1909, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s each called differently. Tenor 13 cwt.

ROBERT PICKERING Treble.	DANIEL JONES 4.
WILLIAM FISHER 2.	*GEORGE H. TUDOR 5.
GEORGE HUGHES 3.	HERBERT KNIGHT Tenor.

Conducted by HERBERT KNIGHT.

*First peal. First peal on the bells. First peal of Minor by all the band, and by the Society. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. H. J. Powell, who was interred on this date.

DONCASTER, YORKS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 20, 1909, in Three Hours and Twenty-three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES.

Tenor 30 cwt.

GEORGE CLARKE Treble.	WILLIAM LAMBERT 5.
THOMAS RILEY 2.	HARRY MOSS 6.
JESSE J. MOSS 3.	GEORGE W. BEMROSE .. 7.
WILLIAM KEEBLE 4.	JOHN FLINT Tenor.

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS and Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

This is the first Surprise peal on the bells, and G. W. Bemrose's 100th peal, a list of which appears elsewhere.

ILKLEY, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1909, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 18 cwt.

CHARLES RALPH Treble.	WILLIAM B. SMITH 5.
THOMAS M. THOMPSON .. 2.	JOHN NELSON 6.
GEORGE THORNTON 3.	JAMES HONNER 7.
JOHN B. JACKSON 4.	FREDERICK W. DIXON .. Tenor.

Composed by HENRY DAINS, and Conducted by FREDK. W. DIXON.

LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1909, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5260 CHANGES.

Being 720 each of Duke of York, Woodbine, Oxford Delight, Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Double Oxford, and 360 College Single, 400 Oxford and 180 Oxford Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

ALBERT CARTER Treble.	EDWARD H. KING 4.
HENRY WALLACE 2.	BARNARD PATMORE 5.
REV. ALFRED G. LANGDON 3.	WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE .. Tenor.

Conducted by WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE.

Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. G. H. Barker, of Ware, an esteemed ringing friend, which took place that day.

WOLSTANTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1909, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS'S Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM FITCHFORD .. Treble.	CHARLES MORLEY 5.
WILLIAM WOODHEAD .. 2.	CHARLES PAGE 6.
FREDERICK PAGE 3.	HENRY PAGE 7.
SIDNEY CHURTON 4.	JOSEPH SIMESTER .. Tenor.

Conducted by HENRY PAGE.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1909, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES.

Tenor 20½ cwt.

JAMES M. BAILEY Treble.	FREDERICK J. SMITH .. 5.
NORMAN R. BAILEY 2.	EDGAR H. BAILEY 6.
ERNEST S. BAILEY 3.	CHARLES SAMSON 7.
GEORGE BERRY 4.	CHARLES F. BAILEY .. Tenor.

Composed by C. MIDDLETON, and Conducted by CHAS. F. BAILEY.

CAYTHORPE, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 20, 1909, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. VINCENT,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

IN THE KENT VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt.

ARCHIE C. STOKES Treble.	JOHN A. FREEMAN 5.
JOHN P. PALEY, SRN. .. 2.	GEORGE FLINTHAM 6.
STANLEY WOLFE 3.	JOHN CRAGG 7.
GEORGE CHESTER 4.	JOHN W. WOOD Tenor.

Composed by H. DAINS, and Conducted by JOHN W. WOOD.

EVERCREECH, SOMERSET.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1909, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS'S FIVE-PART No. 2. Tenor 21 cwt.

JAMES CORAM† Treble.	WALTER WORGAN 5.
ALFRED ROUTLEY 2.	GABRIEL CHAMBERLAIN .. 6.
JOHN HARRIS 3.	GEORGE H. PRUEN 7.
FREDERICK ILEY 4.	*WILLIAM CRANDON Tenor.

Conducted by GABRIEL CHAMBERLAIN.

†First peal away from the tenor. *First peal. First peal of Grandsire on the bells.

TUNSTALL, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1909, in Two Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Oxford, Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob, and College Single. Tenor 9½ cwt.

ONSLow J. FOREMAN .. Treble.	WILLIAM T. HYLAND .. 4.
CECIL C. BISHOP 2.	THOMAS JULL 5.
WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS 3.	ALBERT J. DAY Tenor.

Conducted by ALBERT J. DAY.

Rung in honour of the wedding of J. E. Grensted, of the Tunstall band, to Miss E. E. French, also of Tunstall, who were married that day at the above church, the band wishing them every happiness and prosperity.

PATTINGHAM, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 20, 1909 in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS'S FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN OVERTON Treble.	BERTRAM HEAD 5.
ALBERT T. BAKER 2.	WILFRED OVERTON 6.
JOHN ELCOCK 3.	HORACE W. OVERTON 7.
ERNEST FOXALL 4.	HARRY JONES Tenor.

Conducted by WILFRED OVERTON.

This is the first peal of Stedman on the bells. from the information of the clerk, Mr. T. Harper. Rung as a birthday compliment to John Overton.

GRAVESEND, KENT.—THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1909, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S. Tenor 19½ cwt.

WILLIAM GATES* Treble.	*ARTHUR MARTIN 5.
ROBERT TALL* 2.	FRANK BELSEY 6.
AMOS CONSTANT* 3.	†RICHARD CONSTANT 7.
JOSEPH CONSTANT* 4.	†EDWARD HADLOW Tenor.

Conducted by FRANK BELSEY.

*First peal. †First peal of Grandsire. First peal as conductor.

BRAMLEY, NEAR LEEDS, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.

On Saturday, February 20, 1909, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London Scholars' Pleasure, City Delight, College Pleasure, Arnold's Victory, Duke of York, Violet and Oxford.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*SAMUEL HELLIWELL Treble.	JAMES PEACOCK 4.
TOM LATIMER 2.	WALTER BROWN 5.
J. W. T. HOLGATE 3.	JAMES GUY Tenor.

Conducted by WALTER BROWN.

Rung in honour of the marriage of Charles Lockwood, a member of the local company to Miss Cooper, of Armley, which took place at Armley on February 17th, his brother-ringers wishing them every happiness.

OADBY, NEAR LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1909, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s each called differently. Tenor 14 cwt.

ARTHUR BRIERS Treble.	FRED STAINFORTH 4.
W. NEAL ADKINSON 2.	T. HENRY HARDY 5.
ALFRED ROE 3.	ERNEST MORRIS Tenor.

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

BRIGHTWELL, BERKS.—THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 20, 1909, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES.

Tenor 11 cwt.

W. KIMBER Treble.	G. HIGGS 4.
A. STRANGE 2.	G. CAUDWELL 5.
A. FINCH 3.	T. FORD Tenor.

Conducted by G. CAUDWELL.

First peal on the bells, and first peal by all the band

BALDOCK, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND THE LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 20, 1909, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR,
5024 CHANGES. Tenor 28 cwt.

REUBEN SANDERS Treble.	ALBERT W. COLES 5.
JOHN R. SHARMAN 2.	WILLIAM PICKWORTH 6.
SAMUEL J. BIRD 3.	HARRY FLANDERS 7.
BERTRAM PREWETT 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by G. LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

First peal in the method on the bells. The band wish to thank Canon Nairne for his kind hospitality after the peal, and also the local ringers for having everything in readiness for them.

TURVEY, BEDS.—THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 20, 1909, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
IN THE KENT VARIATION.

THOMAS WRIGHT* Treble.	SIDNEY SMITH 5.
BERNARD FISHER† 2.	WILLIAM ROBINSON 6.
FREDERICK MYNARD 3.	WILLIAM FREEMAN 7.
FREDERICK BOOTH 4.	*ROLAND PERKINS Tenor.

Composed by JOHN W. BARKER, and Conducted by W. FREEMAN.

*First peal of Treble Bob. †First peal with a bob bell. B. Fisher was proposed a member before starting.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 22, 1909, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

BERTRAM PREWETT Treble.	EDWARD WHITEBREAD 5.
THOMAS L. SIMMONDS 2.	WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD 6.
FRANCIS A. SMITH 3.	ROBERT E. STAVERT 7.
JAMES MERRICK 4.	FREDERICK EDWARDS Tenor.

Conducted by BERTRAM PREWETT.

Rung as a compliment to T. L. Simmonds on his 20th birthday.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND THE LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 23, 1909, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR,
5024 CHANGES. Tenor 17 cwt.

WERLEY WATSON Treble.	ALFRED J. T. CARTER 5.
WILLIAM MILLER 2.	HARRY F. DAWKINS 6.
GEORGE GAY 3.	SGT.-MAJOR A. PYE 7.
GEORGE R. PYE 4.	WILLIAM PYE Tenor.

Composed by G. LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Handbell Peals.

ROTHERHAM, YORKS.—THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.)

On Friday, February 12, 1909, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT 10, WELLGATE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES.

SIDNEY F. PALMER 1-2.	CLEMENT GLENN 5-6.
ALBERT NASH 3-4.	WALTER COATES 7-8.
*JOHN THORPE 9-10.	

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, and Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

Umpire—George Oakes. *First handbell peal of Caters,

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SAXMUNDHAM DISTRICT.)

On Wednesday, February 17, 1909, in Two Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes.,

AT 11, KITCHENER ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES.

ERNEST S. BAILEY .. 1-2.	CHARLES F. BAILEY .. 5-6.
NORMAN R. BAILEY .. 3-4.	JAMES M. BAILEY.. .. 7-8.

Composed by A. T. KING, and Conducted by CHAS. F. BAILEY.

Umpires—E. H. Bailey and F. J. Smith. First peal on handbells by all, first in the district, and first handbell peal in the Association by four brothers.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(GUILDFORD DISTRICT AND THE HOLY TRINITY SOCIETY.)

On Sunday, February 21, 1909, in Two Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF C. WILLSHIRE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS'S FOUR-PART.

ALFRED H. PULLING .. 1-2.	MAURICE SMITHER .. 5-6.
CHARLES WILLSHIRE .. 3-4.	HENRY L. GARFATH .. 7-8.

Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

Umpire—G. Gunner. This is the first peal of Stedman on handbells by all, and also the first by the above Guild.

Date Touches.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

STONY STRATFORD (Bucks).—On Monday, October 12th, a date touch of Bob Minor, 1908 changes. H. Hansell, C. A. Valentine conductor, A. Clark, T. Tompkins, H. J. Tucker, J. A. Giles. This is the longest length in any method by H. Hansell and T. Tompkins.

SELSTON (Nottinghamshire).—On Saturday evening, February 20th, at the parish church, a date touch of 1909 changes, comprising two 720's of Kent Treble Bob and 469 of Plain Bob in 1 hr. 15 mins. J. Dobbs, H. C. Harrison, J. E. Anness, A. Elliott, W. Dobbs, W. Wharmby conductor. Longest touch on the bells.

Miscellaneous.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

ABBOTS LEIGH (Bristol).—On January 2nd, for practice, 720 each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. G. Bennett, L. Moore, W. Frampton, G. Chamberlain, E. Frampton, J. Thomas conductor. Both rang at first attempt. First touch of Oxford by all the band except J. Thomas. Also on January 3rd, 360 College Single standing as above, except G. Gale taking 5th.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

LYMINGTON (Hants).—On Tuesday, November 17th, 1908, for practice, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, 1260 changes, in 45 mins. E. W. Keeley, E. C. Elliott, T. Waldox, T. Figgures, G. W. Arnold, C. A. Hughes conductor, H. F. Elliott, A. Ayles. First quarter-peal as conductor, and first quarter-peal by T. Figgures.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WALTHAMSTOW (Essex).—On Sunday evening, November 29th, at St. Saviour's church, for confirmation, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins. G. W. Ayres, W. J. E. Jones, E. D. Lillywhite, H. Rumens, F. W. Butler, J. Milner, H. F. Hull conductor, O. L. Twist. On Sunday morning, December 13th, 504 Grandsire Triples, rung with the bells half muffled as a mark of respect to the late Lord Bishop of Colchester. G. W. Ayres, H. T. Scarlett conductor, C. J. Bartlett, W. J. E. Jones, E. D. Lillywhite, H. Rumens, H. F. Hull, O. L. Twist. For evening service 447 Grandsire Triples. S. E. Townsend, H. T.

Scarlett, C. J. Bartlett, G. W. Ayres, W. J. E. Jones, J. Milner, H. F. Hull conductor, O. L. Twist.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

STANSTED (Essex).—On Monday, October 19th, at the church of St. Mary the Virgin, a quarter-peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major, 1152 changes. A. Jordan, G. Gray, W. Prior, J. Luckey, T. J. Watts, G. Jordan, W. T. Prior, W. Watts conductor. On Thursday, November 12th, on the occasion of the wedding of Miss Annie Gold, of The Limes, Birchanger, to Mr. L. R. Carr, of Ingatestone, 504 and 864 Stedman Triples. G. Gray, W. Prior, G. Jordan, W. T. Prior, J. Luckey, T. J. Watts, W. Watts conductor, T. Jordan. On Wednesday, November 18th, for practice, 704 New Cambridge Surprise. W. Prior, W. Watts, J. Luckey, W. T. Prior, H. J. Tucker, T. J. Watts, T. Jordan, G. Jordan conductor. Also 408 Stedman Triples. G. Gray, J. Luckey, W. Prior, H. J. Tucker conductor, W. Watts, T. Jordan, T. J. Watts, A. Jordan. Tenor 13 cwt.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

STONY STRATFORD (Bucks).—On Sunday, October 11th, at the church of St. Giles, for evening service, 720 of Bob Minor. H. Hansell, H. J. Tucker, E. Yates, W. W. Bonham, C. A. Valentine conductor, J. A. Giles. On Sunday, November 1st, 720 Bob Minor. G. Horwood, C. Hopkins, A. Clark, W. W. Bonham, H. J. Tucker, C. A. Valentine conductor. On Sunday, November 8th, 540 Bob Minor. A. Clark, C. Hopkins, T. Tompkins, W. W. Bonham, H. J. Tucker conductor, C. A. Valentine. On November 9th, 360 Kent Treble Bob Minor. A. Clark, C. Hopkins, E. Yates, W. W. Bonham, H. J. Tucker, C. A. Valentine conductor. On Sunday, November 29th, 720 Oxford Single Bob. A. Clark, C. Hopkins, H. J. Tucker, E. Yates, T. Tompkins, C. A. Valentine conductor. On Monday, December 14th, 720 College Single. A. Clark, H. J. Tucker, F. Yates, W. W. Bonham, T. Tompkins, C. A. Valentine conductor. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor. On Wednesday, December 16th, for service, 720 of Minor, being 240 each of Oxford Single College Single, and Plain Bob. A. Clark, H. J. Tucker, E. Yates, W. W. Bonham, T. Tompkins, C. A. Valentine conductor.

THE LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD.

WIGAN (Lancashire).—On Thursday, February 18th, at the parish church, the first half of Holt's ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples, 2520 changes, in 1 hr. 38 mins. R. Fisher, W. Major, J. E. Gummerson, Alex. Shaw, Jno. F. Hall, H. Meadow, J. Barker, G. Roberts. Tenor 28 cwt. The above was non-conducted, and witnessed by G. C. Hall and H. Meadows, jun., as correct.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BRADING (Isle of Wight).—On Sunday, January 19th, 573 Grandsire Triples. A. White, M. Squibb, E. Simmonds, P. Dowden, W. Pain, G. Wilkins, H. Jennings conductor, W. Attrill. On Sunday, January 26th, 518 in the same method. A. White, M. Squibb, G. Wilkins, E. Simmonds, W. Pain, P. Dowden, H. Jennings conductor, W. Attrill. On Sunday, February 2nd, 504 Grandsire Triples, standing as above. On Sunday evening, February 23rd, 546 Grandsire Triples. A. White, M. Squibb, E. Simmonds, G. Wilkins, W. Pain, Rev. R. J. P. Burbury, H. Jennings, W. Attrill. On Thursday, February 20th, a peal of Grandsire Triples was lost after ringing 2856 changes in 1 hr. 43 mins. A. White, M. Squibb, E. Simmonds, G. Wilkins, J. W. Pain, P. Dowden, H. Jennings conductor, W. Attrill.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.

APPLEDORE (Kent).—On Friday, February 19th, with bells deeply muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins. Wm. Law, Geo. Johnson, Clifton S. Noakes, Alfred Johnson, Ernest G. Johnson, Frank S. Brown, Charles W. Payer conductor, Wm. Sharp. This quarter was rung as a last token of respect to the late Archie Boon, he being one of the local ringers, and much respected by all, who was called to his rest at the early age of 18 years.

Obituary.**W. F. MEADS.**

It is with deep regret that we report a further loss to the Exercise in the death of Mr. W. F. Meads, member of the Croydon parish church band, which sad event took place on February 25th, 1909. He was buried on March 2nd, at Streatham Cemetery, being carried to the grave by four of his brother ringers, Messrs. W. Hill, A. Jones, E. Goss, and W. Martin.

The late Mr. W. F. Meads was well known in and about London. He took part in 53 peals, and was a member of the Ancient Society of Croydon parish church bellringers, which he joined in April, 1904. Also member of Royal Cumberland and College Youths Societies and Oxford Diocesan Guild. First peal Christ Church, Southgate, Royal Cumberland Society, February 12, 1887. Last peal St. Mary's,

Baddington (Surrey Association), June 1st, 1907. With the Royal Cumberland Society he rang in 29 peals, the last on December 26th, 1894, at St. Stephen's, Hampstead. Also 12 peals with Waterloo Society, the first on February 27th, 1894. St. Peter's, Walworth, the last in conjunction with Waterloo and St. Margaret's Society on March 9th, 1895, at St. Margaret's, Westminster. R.I.P.

HORACE SMITH.

The Stoke Archidiaconal Association have recently been thrown into mourning by the loss of one of their members, Horace Smith, a constant ringer in the tower of Christ Church, Tunstall, who died suddenly from heart failure in the early hours of Sunday morning, February 28th, 1909. He was 37 years of age, and leaves a widow and son to mourn his loss. For many years he had been employed by the

N. S. R. Co. Reference was made to the sad event by the Vicar from the pulpit on the same day. He pointed out that undoubtedly God meant this unexpected call as a warning to those who were left behind, reminding his hearers of the well-known words of the burial service, "In the midst of life we are in death." Though not amongst the most brilliant or successful of ringers, he was always painstaking and assiduous in his duties. Not seldom did his method book accompany him with his horse and dray.

The members of Christ Church band will surely miss one who for a decade has been so well known amongst them. The funeral took place at Tunstall Cemetery on Wednesday, March 3rd.

ISLEWORTH.—On Sunday, March 1st, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins. A. Whittington, J. H. B. Hesse, J. Howes, T. Cutforth, A. Harding, T. Beadle, F. Skevington conductor, G. Spencer.

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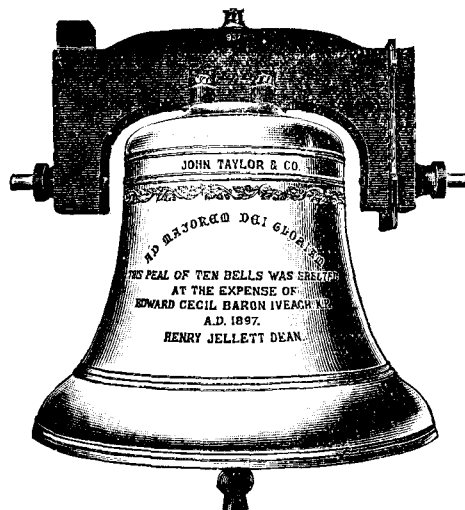
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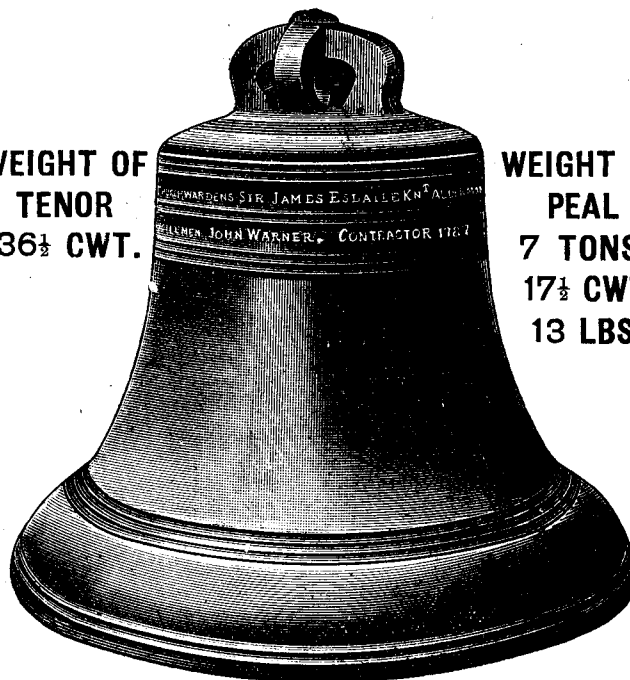
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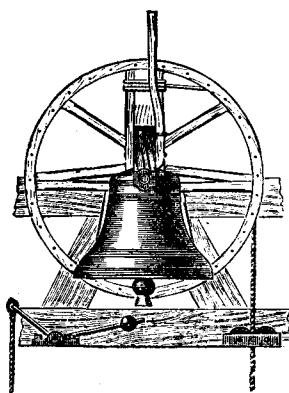
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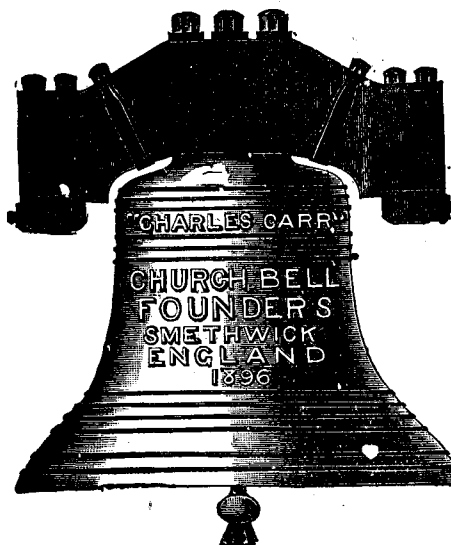
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