

Bells and Bell-ringing.

Meetings for Practice.

The Ancient Society of College Youths: at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, on May 7th; at St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington, on May 8th; at St. Mary Matfelon, Whitechapel, on May 9th; at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, and St. Magnus', Lower Thames Street, on May 10th; at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on May 12th, at 7.30 p.m.
The St. Luke's Society: at St. Luke's, Chelsea, on May 9th.
The Waterloo Society: at St. John-the-Divine, Kennington, on May 7th, and St. John's, Waterloo Road, on May 9th.
The St. John's Society: at St. John's, Wilton Road, on May 10th.
The St. Alfege's Society: at St. Alfege's, Greenwich, on May 11th.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.

ON Saturday, April 21st, the above Society held a smoking concert at the 'Ship Inn,' Ivy Lane, E.C., which was attended by a distinguished company of members and friends, amongst whom we may mention Miss R. M. Leny, the only lady member of the College Youths. There were also present many prominent members of the exercise both from London and the country. The Chairman (the Master) opened the proceedings by proposing the toast of 'Our Most Gracious Queen,' which was received right royally. Songs followed by Messrs. D. S. Prime, W. Prime, W. Chamberlain, and Rosier, and handbell-ringing by Messrs. Wood, Winney, Newton, Barkus, and Breed, after which came the principal song of the evening, composed and conducted by Mr. J. W. Rowbotham.

The Chairman then said: 'Mr. Vice-Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It gives me great pleasure to perform what is the chief feature of the evening, a task which might have been left in better hands. Mr. Cockerill, our worthy secretary, has now held that honourable position for many years, and it occurred to some of us that a suitable testimonial would be a good way of showing our appreciation of his valuable services. With that object a committee was formed, and as one of that committee I must say that the feeling, not only in London, but throughout the country, was one of esteem and good-fellowship extended on all sides towards Mr. Cockerill. I have very great pleasure, therefore, in asking your acceptance, Mr. Cockerill, of this mahogany writing-table, with silver bell inscription, this address and album, with the names of a few of your friends, and a purse of money, as a token of our esteem and affection, and we trust that these gifts may be useful to you, and also serve to remind you of many pleasant hours spent with the Ancient Society of College Youths.'

After further handbell-ringing by Messrs. Pasmore (2), Taffender, and Golding, and songs by Messrs. Hunt and F. Prime, Mr. Cockerill thanked the Society for the handsome gifts, and hoped that all the members would rally round the officers for the good of the Society. The Vice-Chairman, Mr. H. R. Newton, proposed the health of the old veteran, Mr. J. R. Haworth, who was seventy-nine years old that day, and the Chairman proposed 'Mr. Cockerill,' both of which were drank with musical honours. Mr. E. A. Davies (Barking) proposed a vote of thanks to the committees of both concert and testimonial, and wished to add that, had the testimonial been ten times what it was, he was only voicing the general opinion that their Secretary was more than worthy of it. The Chairman having replied, the meeting broke up, after 'Auld Lang Syne,' all hoping the Secretary would organize many more such pleasant evenings.

The Hertford County Association.

THE Annual Meeting was held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, when representatives attended from all parts of the county. The towers of the Cathedral and St. Peter's Church were open to the ringers at two o'clock. At five o'clock the members attended choral evensong at the Cathedral, when the Dean gave an address appropriate to the occasion. Tea and business meeting was held at the Town Hall, the room being packed, and the gathering marked a record attendance. The President, Canon Wigram, occupied the chair, supported by the Mayor

of St. Albans (H. J. Toulmin, Esq.), Messrs. J. Field (Bushey), A. T. King (Barnet), and others. The Secretary's report and balance-sheet were adopted, and the officers elected as follows: President, Canon Wigram; Hon. Secretary, Mr. E. P. Debenham; Hon. Auditor, Mr. E. E. Huntley; Representative to the Central Council, Mr. W. H. L. Buckingham. The question of dividing the Association into East and West branches, to obviate the present difficulty of meeting in remote places, was brought forward by Mr. Huntley, and the meeting appointed a Committee, consisting of the President, the Hon. Secretary, and the Hon. Auditor (with power to add to their number), to go into the question. At the conclusion of the business the pealing of the bells again burst forth, and many a record was scored.

Obituary.

It is our painful duty to record the death, at the age of fifty-nine years, of Mr. John M. Hayes, which took place on Sunday, April 22nd, after a short illness (nine days), which terminated with bronchitis and pneumonia. Shortly after his removal to Gravesend and London from his native village of Bocking, Essex, where he first became acquainted with change-ringing, Mr. Hayes was elected a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and owing to his endurance and prowess as a heavy-bell ringer, many excellent performances have been credited to this Society. He had been a regular ringer at St. Paul's Cathedral from the opening service on All Saints' Day, 1878, to Palm Sunday morning last, when he rang his last touch of STEDMAN CINQUES. The funeral was on Thursday, April 26th, at Norwood Cemetery, the first part of the Burial Service being read at St. Gabriel's, Pimlico. A course of GRANDSIRE CINQUES was rung on handbells at the grave by six of his fellow-members, in the presence of his bereaved family and other relatives.

CHANGE-RINGING.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.

At St. Peter's, Caversham, Oxon, on April 25th, a peal of LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 changes, in 2 hrs. 58 mins.

Harry Simmonds ..	1	Edwin J. Menday ..	5
Ernest W. Menday ..	2	George Essex ..	6
John Hands ..	3	Harry W. Smith ..	7
Thomas H. Taffender* ..	4	Thomas Newman ..	8

Composed by J. W. Washbrook, conducted by Thomas Newman.
 [* First peal in the method.]

Also at St. Clement Danes, Strand, on April 28th, with bells half-muffled, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Mr. J. M. Hayes, a peal of DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB ROYAL, 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 43 mins. Tenor, 24 cwt.

Challis F. Winney ..	1	Henry S. Ellis ..	6
Henry R. Newton ..	2	John W. Golding ..	7
Arthur G. Ellis ..	3	Frederick Dench ..	8
Charles T. P. Brice ..	4	William H. Pasmore ..	9
Henry R. Pasmore ..	5	John N. Oxborrow ..	10

Composed by Frederick Dench, conducted by John N. Oxborrow.

BOSTON.—At St. Botolph's, on April 15th, for Divine service, 672 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. J. M. Rylatt, 1; F. Davoto (conductor), 2; J. Goodwin, 3; F. Davey, 4; T. Boyens, 5; G. Moore, 6; C. R. Lilley, 7; L. Goodwin, 8.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX.—On Easter Sunday, April 15th, for morning service, at the Parish Church, 504 STEDMAN TRIPLES. G. Payne, 1; W. A. J. Ives, 2; A. E. Lish, 3; C. Tyler, 4; H. Markwell, 5; L. Payne (conductor), 6; A. Heasman, 7; W. Markwell, 8. And another 504 in the evening. L. Payne, 1; W. A. J. Ives, 2; A. E. Lish, 3; C. Tyler, 3; S. Burt, 5; G. Payne (conductor), 6; H. Markwell, 7; W. Markwell, 8.

KENSINGTON.—At St. Mary Abbot's, on April 15th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of STEDMAN CATERS, 1260 changes, in 52 mins. G. R. Fardon, 1; W. E. Judd, 2; H. G. Miles, 3; C. F. Winney, 4; A. E. Bradley, 5; E. Bishop, 6; A. F. Harris, 7; W. Fox, 8; W. E. Garrard (conductor), 9; J. Judd, 10.

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