

BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

CHANGE-RINGING.

The Essex Association.

At St. Edward's, Romford, Essex, on October 20th, a peal of LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 changes, in 3 hrs. Tenor, 17 cwt.

Wesley Watson ..	1	William Keeble ..	5
John R. Sharman ..	2	George R. Pye ..	6
Harry F. Dakins ..	3	William Pye ..	7
Isaac G. Shade ..	4	Ernest Pye ..	8

Composed by Gabriel Lindoff, and conducted by William Pye.

The Ancient Society of College Youths.

At St. Peter's, Walworth, on October 20th, a peal of LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 changes, in 2 hrs. 50 mins. Tenor, 14 cwt.

Thomas Langdon ..	1	George N. Price ..	5
Henry Hodgetts ..	2	Alfred B. Peck ..	6
Herbert P. Harman ..	3	James Willshire ..	7
Hubert Eden ..	4	John W. Golding ..	8

Composed by Frederick Dench, and conducted by J. W. Golding.
A. B. Peck's 50th peal.

The Middlesex County Association, and the London Diocesan Guild.

At St. John-the-Baptist's, Erith, Kent, on October 22nd, a peal of LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 changes, in 3 hrs. 1 min. Tenor, 18 cwt.

Reuben Charge ..	1	John R. Sharman ..	5
John D. Matthews ..	2	Charles Wilkins ..	6
Isaac G. Shade ..	3	Ernest Pye ..	7
Bertram Prewett ..	4	William Pye ..	8

Composed by Gabriel Lindoff, and conducted by William Pye.

The St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.

At St. Barnabas', Erdington, Warwickshire, on October 22nd, a peal of DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5056 changes, in 2 hrs. 59 mins. Tenor, 15 cwt.

Harry Dickens ..	1	George F. Swann ..	5
Horace F. Street ..	2	Charles Dickens ..	6
Ernest T. Allaway ..	3	Bernard W. Witchell ..	7
Frank Fay ..	4	Arthur E. Piegler ..	8

Composed by H. Dains, and conducted by Bernard W. Witchell.

The Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford.

At St. Matthew's, Walsall, Staffordshire, on October 22nd, a peal of STEDMAN CATERS, 5017 changes, in 3 hrs. 4 min.

Thomas J. Elton ..	1	A. John Seabrook* ..	6
William Fisher ..	2	John C. Adams ..	7
Frank Hallsworth (sen.) ..	3	Frederick J. Cope ..	8
William Griffin ..	4	Herbert Knight ..	9
Bernard Jealous ..	5	Frank Hallsworth (jun.) ..	10

Composed by Gabriel Lindoff, and conducted Herbert Knight.
[* First peal of STEDMAN CATERS.]

The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.

At the Watch Tower, Morpeth, Northumberland, on October 22nd, a peal of SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 changes, in 3 hrs. 7 mins. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

James Baxter ..	1	Charles L. Roulledge ..	5
Robert S. Story ..	2	Alfred F. Hillier ..	6
Joseph E. R. Keen ..	3	John J. Leighton ..	7
William Story ..	4	Thomas T. Gofton ..	8

Composed by G. Lindoff, and conducted by T. T. Gofton. First peal of SURPRISE on the bells.

The Yorkshire Association.

At St. Paul's, Shipley, on October 29th, J. W. Washbrook's peal of STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 53 mins.

Joseph Broadley ..	1	George T. Marshall ..	5
George Barraclough ..	2	Charles Jackson (condr.) ..	6
John Boddy ..	3	Francis Parker* ..	7
Fred W. Dixon ..	4	Sam Palframan ..	8

The above are also members of the Leeds and District Society. This is the conductor's 200th peal. [* First peal in the method.]

MACCLESFIELD BELL-RINGERS IN CONFERENCE.—The quarterly meeting of the Macclesfield Branch of the Bell-ringers' Association was held at St. James' School, Higher Sutton, on Saturday week. Eleven members from the various towers were present, and peals were rung on the bells from four until five o'clock, when the party adjourned to the schoolroom, where tea was partaken of, and the business meeting was afterwards held, presided over by the Vicar (Rev. W. R. Gough).

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL BELLS.—The two new bells for Rochester Cathedral were successfully cast, also four of the old bells recast, at the foundry of Messrs. Mears & Stainbank, 34 Whitechapel Road, on Saturday last. The peal is to be rehung and in ringing order by the end of November.

EXETER CATHEDRAL BELLS.—Two years ago, in response to an urgent appeal by the Dean of Exeter (Dr. Earle) to the citizens of Exeter and inhabitants of Devon generally, a large sum of money was contributed for the purpose of putting the grand peal in the southern Norman tower of the Cathedral into ringing order. The work was well and thoroughly done, but, to the surprise and regret of all lovers of bell-ringing, the bells have since been as silent as they had been heretofore. This regrettable continued omission is attributed to the Dean and Chapter, who, in their apathy, continue to neglect appointing suitable and skilled ringers.

DEATH OF AN OLD SALISBURY BELL-RINGER.—There has lately passed away at Salisbury, in his 82nd year, the oldest bell-ringer in the neighbourhood, Mr. T. F. Stevens, who for the past nine years has been a valued member of St. Martin's Company. Mr. Stevens was a member of both the Salisbury and Winchester Diocesan Ringers' Guilds, and had rung in nearly every London belfry. He rang his first peal at Holy Rood Church, Southampton, in 1849, and fifty years later, November 10th, 1899, took part in a peal of 5000 changes at St. Martin's, Salisbury.

THE STRANGE HISTORY OF A BELL.—The bell at the modern church at Llandeaud, in Monmouthshire—a church built about fifty years ago—has a curious history. The present building was erected on the site of a pre-Reformation church, and whilst the building was in hand a local farmer offered to give an old bell which was in one of his barns. The offer was gladly accepted, and the bell turned out to be the original bell from old Llandeaud, which, after some 300 years' silence, once more calls the people to church.

ELY DIOCESAN BELL-RINGERS AT WHITTLESEY.—A meeting of the Ely Diocesan Association of Bell-ringers took place at Whittlesey recently, a preliminary service being first held in St. Mary's Church, when the service was conducted by the Vicar, Rev. C. E. B. Bell. Afterwards an adjournment was made to St. Mary's Parish Room, where tea was provided, the number of guests being about fifty. The Rev. C. E. B. Bell presided, supported by the Rev. H. J. B. Walters, of St. Andrew's, the Rev. J. M. Clarkson, of Brington, Hunts, the Rev. E. B. May, curate of St. Mary's, Dr. Waddelow (the vicar's warden of St. Mary's), Miss S. Lefevre, and others. In addition to the Ely Diocesan ringers were the ringers of St. Mary's and St. Andrew's (Whittlesey), and members from Ramsey, Stamford, St. Neots, Cambridge, and Peterborough. Tea being over, the chairman made a few remarks with regard to the Association, and welcomed the members. Referring to the ringing generally, he threw out a few broad hints that the long peals on the bells of St. Mary's, which had taken place since they had been rehung, were somewhat irritating to many of the parishioners who did not understand change-ringing. These people, he said, had his sympathy, but at the same time he was bound to sympathise with the ringers, who thoroughly enjoyed the ringing of a long peal which had to be gone through and worked out on scientific principles. Being somewhat placed between two stools, the rev. gentleman went on to suggest that it might be possible for the ringers to curtail this long spell of ringing and have shorter touches, but he wished it to be distinctly understood that it was only as a suggestion that he made these remarks. The minutes of the last meeting were then read by the district secretary, Mr. G. D. Coleman, of St. Neots, and passed. New ringing members were enrolled, and it was resolved that the next meeting be held at Yaxley, near Peterborough. In the evening, several touches were rung by the members of the Association on the bells in St. Mary's and St. Andrew's belfries.

A COMPREHENSIVE illustrated catalogue has just been issued by Messrs. F. Hodgson & Sons, of Leeds, of goods offered for autumn, 1904, and spring, 1905, the stock including an immense variety of articles required in the home, &c. The catalogue is well worth writing for.

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