BELLS AND BELL-RINGING.

CHANGE-RINGING.

Northampton and District Bell-ringing.

The following peals are the result of five days' ringing in Northampton and district, arranged specially for the Rev. F. E. Robinson by the Central Northamptonshire Association.

At St. Edmund's, Northampton, on July 3rd, a variation of Thurstans' Four-part peal of Stedman Triples, 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 11 mins. Tenor, 18 cwt.

Henry George	1	William R. Hensher ..	5
William Rogers	2	William Roberts* ..	6
Fred Wilford	3	Rev. F. E. Robinson (condr.)	7
Walter Perkins	4	Samuel Wesley	8

[*First peal in the method away from the tenor.]

At SS. Peter and Paul's, Kettering, on July 4th, a variation of Thurstans' Four-part peal of Stedman Triples, 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 3 mins. Tenor, 23 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

Henry George	1	James Houghton, jun. ..	5
Thomas R. Hensher ..	2	William R. Hensher ..	6
Samuel Wesley	3	Rev. F. E. Robinson (condr.)	7
Sidney J. Lawrence ..	4	Walter Perkins	8

At the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Northampton, on July 5th, a variation of Thurstans' Four-part peal of Stedman Triples, 5040 changes, in 2 hrs. 55 mins. Tenor, 18 cwt.

Tom Harris*	1	William R. Hensher ..	5
Samuel Wesley	2	Henry George	6
Sidney J. Lawrence ..	3	Rev. J. E. Robinson (condr.)	7
Thomas R. Hensher ..	4	Fred Wilford	8

[*First peal in the method.]

At St. Peter's, Northampton, on July 6th, a variation of Thurstans' Four-part peal of Stedman Triples, 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. 8 mins. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

Samuel Wesley	1	Henry George	5
Sidney J. Lawrence ..	2	William R. Hensher ..	6
Fred Wilford	3	Rev. F. E. Robinson (condr.)	7
Thomas R. Hensher ..	4	Abram G. Smith	8

First peal in the method on the bells; also rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. F. E. Ward (sidesman of St. Peter's) and Miss M. E. K. (Nellie) Hewitt.

At St. Peter's, Irthlingborough, on July 7th, a variation of Thurstans' Four-part peal of Stedman Triples, 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. Tenor, 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lbs.

Frederick Palmer	1	Walter Perkins	5
James Garratt	2	Anderson Y. Tyler ..	6
William R. Hensher ..	3	Rev. F. E. Robinson (condr.)	7
Fred Wilford	4	John J. Mawby	8

This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled as a taken of respect to the late Mr. William Askham, of Irthlingborough.

The St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.

At SS. Thomas and Edmund's, Erdington, Warwickshire, on June 24th, a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 5088 changes, in 2 hrs. 59 mins. Tenor, 15 cwt.

Harry Dickens	1	George F. Swann	5
Charles Dickens	2	John Neal	6
Bernard W. Witchell ..	3	Arthur E. Pegler	7
Alf Paddon Smith ..	4	James George	8

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

The Norwich Diocesan Association.

At St. Margaret's, Ipswich, Suffolk, on July 3rd, a peal of Superlative Surprise Major, 5056 changes, in 2 hrs. 56 mins. Tenor, 15½ cwt.

Edgar Pemberton	1	William J. Nevard ..	5
Edward Evans	2	James Motts	6
William Motts	3	Ernest W. Beckwith ..	7
Lewis W. Wiffen ..	4	David Elliott	8

Composed by H. Dains, and conducted by James Motts.

The late Rev. T. A. Turner, of Ickford.—This clergyman, who had held the incumbency of Ickford since 1895, having for some years previously been curate of the parish, had taken a great interest in bells from boyhood. 'For many years,' says the 'Waddesdon Deanery Magazine,' he was President of the Lancashire Association of Change-ringers, and could take a hand at change-ringing with much skill and efficiency, and no temperance lecturer had done grander work than Mr. Turner amongst the bell-ringers in the north. A veteran bell-ringer once said of him, "I believe Mr. Turner has been up more towers than any man in England."'

Bell-ringing at Hoddesdon.—The local Society of Bell-ringers held their annual meeting recently in the vestry of the church, the chair being occupied by the Vicar, who was supported by Mr. J. Dew (warden), and others. Mr. E. Dixon resigned the position of secretary to the Society, and Mr. S. Knight was elected to fill the office. The report was satisfactory, and showed a small balance in hand. Mr. Puplett was re-elected Master, and Messrs. J. Cavill, W. H. Roe, C. Matthews, and G. Plummer were elected on the Committee. It was proposed to purchase a set of handbells for the Society. A vote of thanks was passed to the late Hon. Sec.

Herefordshire Bell-ringers' Association.—Colwall was the place selected this year for the anniversary of the above Association. There were seventy-five ringers present, as representatives of the thirty or forty towers which are in union with the Association. The Rector, the Rev. F. W. Carnegy, was the preacher, and selected as his text 1 Cor. x., part of 31st verse, 'Do all to the glory of God.' He impressed on his hearers that they were as much Church-workers as the choirmen, and begged them to remember that the belfry was a part of God's house, and that the bells were instruments of sacred music and the property of God. Miss Smith presided at the organ. The business meeting followed. All the officers were re-elected, including the Rev. A. C. Lee as Hon. Secretary, and Mr. Buchanan as Master. The funds were in a satisfactory condition, and good work had been done during the year. A luncheon was afterwards partaken of at the Oddfellows' Hall. Parties of ringers then proceeded to Colwall, Coddington, Mathon, Cradley, Eastnor, and Ledbury towers.

Lincoln Diocesan Guild of Church Bell-ringers.—The annual meeting, which is usually held on April Fair Saturday, was this year, owing to the typhoid epidemic, deferred until a recent Saturday. A strong contingent of ringers were present from the northern, southern, and the eastern branches which form the Guild, and some capital touches of the standard methods were rung at the Cathedral (eight bells), St. Peter-at-Arches (eight bells), St. Peter-at-Gowts (six bells), and St. Botolph's (five bells). The annual business meeting of the Guild was held afterwards, Mr. P. O. Bixley presiding. The balance-sheet showed the Guild to be in a satisfactory financial condition. The Dean of Lincoln was re-elected President; the Rev. Law James, Master of the Guild; the Rev. J. F. Flowers, Secretary; and Mr. F. Linley, Treasurer. The Rev. Law James moved that Rule 2 (c) should be altered, and that the officers of the Guild should be elected annually at a special meeting held alternately in each of the branch districts. After considerable discussion this was negatived by a large majority. After the meeting a ringers' service was held in the Morning Chapel at the Cathedral, when a splendid address, based on Ps. cxx. 1, was given by Chancellor Crowfoot, who beautifully pourtrayed the lesson taught by the bells, their use in divine service, and the high call of all bell-ringers. Immediately after this service the annual meeting of the Northern Branch was held in the Ringers' Chapel at the Cathedral, Mr. C. W. P. Clifton presiding. Mr. F. Linley submitted the financial statement, which showed an income, including money in hand, of £85 6s. 8d., and an expenditure of £34 2s. 11d., leaving in hand £51 3s. 9d. Owing to the death of Canon Andrews, the Branch has lost its President. On the motion of Mr. Tingle (Gainsborough), Mr. F. Linley was unanimously elected to succeed the Canon as President. On the motion of Mr. Linley, it was resolved that, to mark the twenty-first year of the existence of the Northern Branch, a sum of £5 be set aside to form the nucleus of a fund for the renovation of the Ringers' Chapel. In order to relieve the Lincoln District, to extend the influence of the Branch in the neighbourhood of Caythorpe, the Branch to be divided into five districts, viz., Lincoln, Gainsborough, Grimsby, Market Rasen, and Caythorpe. A vote of thanks was accorded the Dean and Chapter, Chancellor Crowfoot, and Mr. Dunkerton for the great help they had extended the ringers that day. The bells were kept running till 9 p.m., affording a very pleasant outing for the visiting ringers.

Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild.—North and East District.—A meeting of members of this Association will be held on Saturday, July 22nd, at St. Sepulchre's Church, E.C. (ten bells) by kind permission of the Rev. Edgar Rogers. The bells will be raised at 4.30 p.m.

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