

THE RINGING WORLD

No. 40. Vol. I.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22nd, 1911.

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Price 1d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (34 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

MODERN WORK.

ONE THOUSAND PEALS.

The Exercise has never seen a greater ringer than William Pye, and those who know him best will realise this most. His thousand peals, completed last Saturday, set the seal, as it were, to a career which is unparalleled. It may be said that his opportunities have been great, but the skill and personality of the man have been greater, and few things of merit are practicable in this Art of ours which he has not accomplished. His capacity as a ringer, his masterly ability as a conductor, and his sincerity of purpose make him the admiration of all who have had the pleasure of ringing with him. With his wide experience, and his knowledge of campanological matters generally, there is no more interesting companion, but no man in the whole Exercise is less self-assertive or more reticent with regard to his own performances than William Pye. Publicity is distasteful to him, and it was only under the greatest pressure that his consent was obtained to publish his portrait in *The Ringing World*. But a man's 1,000th peal is a remarkable event, and deserves more than passing notice.

Only once before has an individual reached four figures in his peal total. The late Rev. F. E. Robinson, in his long career as a ringer, passed a thousand, and everyone considered him a marvellous man. In very truth he was, but it is no disparagement to his great achievement to say that William Pye's 1,000 peals are a still greater accomplishment. When one considers the number of peals rung, the proportion conducted, the quality of the methods (more than 420 Surprise peals, to say nothing of 400 odd peals of Stedman Triples, Caters and Cinques), the weight of metal often handled, and the fact that the performances include ringing the tenor and conducting the world's record peal, William Pye's achievement mark him as our premier ringer—a position in which to-day he is unassailed and unassailable. Like successful folk in other spheres, he has not escaped the criticism of men actuated by jealousy or ignorance of the man they have criticised. One of the best answers to those who have attributed selfish motives to his peal ringing is the fact that Mr. Pye has, during his career, helped over 50 ringers to ring their first peal of London Surprise, nearly 40 their first peal of Bristol and over 60 their first peal of Stedman Cinques, not to mention the many scores who have rung with him their first peals of Stedman Triples and Caters, and various of the other Surprise methods. Nobody, probably, has done more for peal aspirants than William Pye, and ringers generally will, metaphorically, lift their hats to the man who, while doing so much to raise the standard of peal ringing, has reached a point which will remain of historical interest to the Exercise.

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MAIDEN PEALS.**

**Twelve Gold Medals
Awarded.**

TESTIMONIAL.

John O. Sager, Todmorden,
Solicitor, December 10, 1910
Messrs. Charles Carr, Ltd.,
Bell and Brassfounders,
Smethwick.

Dear Sirs,—As a Church Officer of St. Paul's, Cross Stone, Todmorden, and one who has taken a great interest in the Peal of 8 Bells which you recently hung in the Church Tower, I am pleased to be able to tell you that the bells are giving the utmost satisfaction, in fact I hear nothing but the highest praise and recommendation on all sides.

The day after you completed the work, a peal of 5040 changes was rung on the bells. This of course was a creditable performance on the part of the Ringers, but it also proves how well balanced and how accurately the bells must be. I am sure the tone and the workmanship leave nothing to be desired. All our people and neighbouring ringers too have a good word for them.

I understand you will be over here when the bells are consecrated and you will have the satisfaction of hearing this letter verified.—

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) JOHN O. SAGER.

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BEST BELL ROPES.

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IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
and report on Bells and Towers.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

TEN BELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 9, 1911, in Three Hours and Thirty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN, STEPNEY, E.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES ;

Tenor 31 cwt.

EDWIN GIBBS Treble	FREDERICK J. HARDY ... 6
SAMUEL E. JOYCE 2	HENRY SPRINGALL 7
WILLIAM TRUSS 3	JOHN H. B. HESSE 8
GEORGE FAULKNER 4	HERBERT LANGDON 9
JAMES SCHOLES 5	EMANUEL HALL Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES, and
Conducted by HENRY SPRINGALL.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. E. Hall.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
THE LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Three Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SEPULCHRE, HOLBORN,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES ;

Tenor 31 cwt.

REUBEN SANDERS Treble	ALBERT W. COLES 6
BERTRAM PREWETT 2	JAMES E. DAVIS 7
ISAAC G. SHADE 3	ERNEST PYE 8
CHARLES T. COLES 4	ALFRED W. GRIMES 9
GEORGE R. PYE 5	WILLIAM PYE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

This was the conductor's 1,000th peal and A. W. Grimes' 100th. The band wish, through the medium of "The Ringing World," to thank the Vicar, the Rev. E. Rogers, for the use of the bells.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICTS GUILD.

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES ;

JOSEPH WEST Treble	WILLIAM GOODMAN 6
GILBERT GUEST 2	SAMUEL SPITTLE 7
HERBERT SHEPPARD 3	BENJAMIN GOUGH 8
JOHN GOODMAN, JUNR. 4	HARRY GOODMAN 9
THOMAS WATTON 5	CHARLES FAULKS Tenor

Composed by the late WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT, and
Conducted by SAMUEL SPITTLE.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters. This peal was arranged and rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. S. Spittle, master of the above Guild, and of the St. Thomas' Society, Dudley, on attaining his 75th birthday.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES ;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

RICHARD HOATHER Treble	GEORGE ADES 6
CHARLES PALMER 2	JOHN CAPP 7
WILLIAM PALMER 3	ALBERT D. STONE 8
HERBERT RANN 4	KEITH HART 9
WILLIAM C. HART 5	JOHN JAY Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, and
Conducted by KEITH HART.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

DERBY.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 11, 1911, in Two Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES ;

Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lbs.

*WM. DAVIES Treble	J. PAGETT 5
†J. HAYNES 2	L. LOMAS 6
GEO. TOMLINSON 3	R. G. BASSON 7
J. W. GLEW 4	FRED. FOSTER Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER, and
Conducted by GEO. TOMLINSON.

* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell. First peal as conductor. The ringer of the treble was elected a member of the association prior to starting.

ROLVENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 12, 1911, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES ;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

EDGAR BURDEN Treble	WILLIAM R. LAMBERT ... 5
ALFRED JOHNSON 2	GEORGE BILLENESS ... 6
ROBERT EDWARDS 3	CHARLES TRIBE 7
FREDERICK G. BURDEN 4	ALFRED BLACKMAN Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE BILLENESS.

WOLSTANTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 12, 1911, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES ;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

*ARNOLD AUSTIN Treble	WILLIAM FITCHFORD, SENR. 5
WILLIAM H. FITCHFORD, JUNR. 2	JOHN MORLEY 6
*WILLIAM ALLMAN 3	CHARLES MORLEY 7
HARRY ROBERTS 4	THOMAS HARLEY Tenor

Conducted by C. MORLEY.

* First peal. First peal with a bob bell by W. H. Fitchford, Junr., who is only 15 years old.

ILKESTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 12, 1911, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES ;

A. P. HEYWOOD'S No 1. Tenor 17 cwt. 0 qrs. 3 lbs., in E.

*JOSEPH H. ILFFE Treble	HENRY FLETCHER 5
*CECIL J. BAKER 2	HENRY HARRISON 6
ALBERT H. WARD 3	EDWARD C. GOBEY 7
NEVILLE WIDDOWSON 4	ALFRED T. BAKER Tenor

Conducted by E. C. GOBEY.

* First peal of Stedman. First peal of Stedman as conductor and first peal of Stedman on the bells since they were recast in 1910, by Messrs. Taylor and Co., Loughborough. Rung to commemorate the first anniversary of the opening of the bells.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND THE
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 12, 1911, in Three Hours and Forty-two Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, SPITALFIELDS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES ;

Tenor 33 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lbs., in C sharp.

ALFRED W. GRIMES Treble	FRANK BENNETT 5
GEORGE R. PYE 2	JAMES E. DAVIS 6
HENRY J. RANZETTA 3	ERNEST PYE 7
ALFRED PYE 4	HARRY FLANDERS Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON, and
Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

BIRCHINGTON, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 12, 1911, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' FIVE-PART. Tenor 9 cwt.

BEN REED Treble	RICHARD SUTTON 5
GEORGE WILLSHIRE 2	WILLIAM WENBAN 6
ALBERT H. SAYER 3	HENRY J. LARKINS 7
ERNEST WILSON 4	ALBERT GOLDER Tenor

Conducted by G. WILLSHIRE.

Rung to celebrate the Coronation Durbar.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SALOP ARCHDIACONAL GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 12, 1911, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qrs. 10 lbs.

HERBERT BAILEY Treble	JAMES YORK 5
GEORGE J. TAYLOR 2	FRANK S. DAVNING 6
E. R. TREVOR CORBETT 3	WILLIAM SAUNDERS 7
*ALBERT WOODVINE 4	HAROLD ASTON Tenor

Conducted by WM. SAUNDERS.

* First peal on eight bells.

Rung with the bells fully muffled, as a token of respect to Mrs. O'Brien and Mr. W. G. Norris; the former being interred at Holy Trinity Church, and the latter at the Society of Friends' burial ground, Coalbrookdale, on the above date. First fully muffled peal on the bells, and by all the band.

WORKSOP, NOTTS.
THE NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 12, 1911, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 12 cwt.

*CHRISTOPHER E. PECK ... Treble	HUBERT HAIGH 5
*HARRY H. CARTWRIGHT ... 2	*THOMAS BARTHOLOMEW ... 6
*CORNELIUS HUDSON 3	*THOMAS WILSON 7
*ALBERT JOHNSON 4	*FREDERICK HIND Tenor

Conducted by HUBERT HAIGH.

* First peal and first attempt. This is the first peal ever rung by a Worksop company and the first on the bells since the restoration. It was rung to commemorate the marriage of Sir John Robinson, of Worksop Manor, with Miss Eveline Alderson, elder daughter of the late Mr. D. F. Alderson, of Park House, Worksop, which took place on Dec. 12th, at Holy Trinity Church, Sloan Street. It was also a birthday peal to the ringer of the tenor.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, December 13, 1911, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 21 cwt. 3 qr.

ROBERT H. YOUNG Treble	BERTRAM PREWETT 5
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 2	RALPH H. BIGGS 6
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE 3	GEORGE MARTIN 7
GEORGE F. WILLIAMS 4	RICHARD BUCKLAND Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, & Conducted by BERTRAM PREWETT.

First peal of Superlative on the bells.

TAMWORTH, STAFFORDSHIRE.
SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Wednesday, December 13, 1911, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDITHA,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 22½ cwt.

WILLIAM CHAPMAN Treble	JOSEPH H. CHAPMAN 5
JOSEPH W. TIMMS 2	ALFRED CHAPLIN 6
CHARLES CHAPMAN 3	ALBERT E. YOUNG 7
ARTHUR J. MARKS 4	JAMES PRATT Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH W. TIMMS.

NUNEATON.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Thursday, December 14, 1911, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

*ROWLAND POLLARD Treble	THOMAS DICKENS 5
*ERNEST STONE 2	THOMAS W. CHAPMAN 6
*GEOFFREY STONELEY 3	HARRY STONELEY 7
JAMES F. CLARKE, JUNR. ... 4	HARRY ARGYLE Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and
Conducted by HARRY ARGYLE.

* First peal of Major.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 14, 1911, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. REMIGIUS,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

GEORGE RINGER Treble	ALBERT G. WARNES 5
WILLIAM A. HEMPEL 2	GEORGE HOWCHIN 6
GEORGE H. CROSS 3	GEORGE MOORE 7
BERTIE J. HOWCHIN 4	FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and
Conducted by FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN.

GRIMSBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, December 14, 1911, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

PARKER'S ONE-PART.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

*GEORGE SNELL Treble	CHARLES KENNINGTON 5
HAROLD RUSBY 2	JOHN E. KENNINGTON 6
W. ERNEST MEFFIN 3	ARTHUR B. SHEPHERD 7
JOHN W. SEAMER 4	JAMES LAMB Tenor

Conducted by J. W. SEAMER.

* First peal.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, December 15, 1911, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

JOSEPH J. ALLEN Treble	BERTRAM PREWETT 5
*WALTER S. INWOOD 2	FREDERICK EDWARDS 6
*WILLIAM SEELEY 3	WILLIAM HEWITT 7
FRANCIS A. SMITH 4	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT Tenor

Composed by HENRY W. HALEY, and
Conducted by BERTRAM PREWETT.

* First peal in the method.

READING, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(READING BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

WALTER A. WEBB Treble	ARTHUR W. PIKE 5
CHARLES GILES 2	REV. C. W. O. JENKYN 6
FRANK T. MARTIN 3	*ALFRED WATMORE 7
AMBROSE W. OSBORNE 4	CHARLES R. LILLEY Tenor

Composed by HENRY W. WILDE, and
Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal of Superlative. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. FitzWilliam J. C. Gillmor to the parish of St. Giles. He was inducted by the Lord Bishop of Oxford, on Friday, Dec. 15th.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND THE LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Three Hours, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, BATTERSEA, S.W.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

*HAROLD BURTON Treble	WILBY J. HAZELL 5
MISS EDITH K. PARKER 2	HARRY F. DAWKINS 6
EDWIN BARNETT, JUNR. 3	JAMES PARKER 7
GEORGE A. CARD 4	GEORGE PAICE Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH, and Conducted by MISS E. K. PARKER.

* First peal in the method.

ALBURGH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Three Hours, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lbs., in G.

FREDERICK BORRETT Treble	GEORGE BAXTER 5
CHARLES BAKER 2	*ERNEST WHITING 6
CLAYTON PARNELL 3	ERNEST LINCOLN 7
WALTER MOBBS 4	FREDERICK SMITH Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD, and Conducted by F. BORRETT.

* First peal in the method.

REDDISH, STOCKPORT.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. (STOCKPORT AND MOTTRAM BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ELISABETH.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

H. W. WILDE'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOMAS JACKSON Treble	*WILLIAM JACKSON 5
HIRAM MEAKIN 2	ALFRED BARNES 6
REV. A. T. BEESTON 3	GEORGE D. WARBURTON 7
†HAROLD JACKSON 4	GEORGE MARSHALL Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD JACKSON.

* First peal in the method. † First peal as conductor.

LUTTERWORTH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Three Hours and Four Minutes, AT THE WYCLIFFE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

LINDOFF'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

JOSEPH B. FENTON Treble	*FREDK. J. HERBERT 5
*PETER ROURKE 2	*WALTER WILLIAMS 6
†JOSEPH A. FENTON 3	WALTER MALINS 7
ALFRED J. HESSIAN 4	*WILLIAM G. TILCOCK Tenor

Conducted by WALTER MALINS.

* First peal. † First peal in the method. First peal as conductor on tower bells. See note elsewhere.

BARKING, ESSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Three Hours and One Minute, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 22½ cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNEY Treble	THOMAS FAULKNER 5
WILLIAM T. COCKERELL 2	ALBERT C. HARDY 6
*WILLIAM H. HOTTEN 3	RICHARD F. DEAL 7
GEORGE W. FAULKNER 4	CHARLES S. BURDEN Tenor

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

* First peal in the method.

LENTON, NOTTINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 8¾ cwt.

ALBERT WARD Treble	J. CHARLES DICKEN 5
ERNEST J. OLIVER 2	EDWARD C. GOBEY 6
SAMUEL WESLEY 3	*WILLIAM BELLAMY 7
THOMAS R. HENSHER 4	LAWRENCE CHADBURN Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM BELLAMY.

* First peal of Stedman Triples as conductor. The band wish to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. and Mrs. Wesley for kindly entertaining them to tea after the peal.

MOTTRAM-IN-LONGDENDALE.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD AND ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5312 CHANCES;

Tenor 15 cwt., in F.

ISAAC SIDEBOTHAM Treble	ISAAC SCHOFIELD 5
FRANK HALL 2	JOHN HARROP 6
ROBERT WALKER 3	JOSEPH GODDARD 7
SAMUEL STOTT 4	CHARLES MARSLAND Tenor

Composed by E. TIMBRELL, and Conducted by ISAAC SIDEBOTHAM.

NORTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. (SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANCES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

SAM THOMAS Treble	FRANCIS WARD 5
ARCHIE BREARLEY 2	WILFRED R. COLLIER 6
GEORGE LEWIS 3	WALTER ALLWOOD 7
DAVID BREARLEY 4	WILLIAM BIGGIN Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN, and Conducted by GEORGE LEWIS.

First peal in the method as conductor.

HARBORNE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTER AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

BIDDLESTONE'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt.

JAMES SUCH Treble	HENRY GROSVENOR 5
J. WILLIAM TILLEY 2	ALBERT BEACHAM 6
TOM GIBBS 3	*ALLEN J. CARTWRIGHT 7
HAROLD PRATT 4	GEORGE HITCHMAN Tenor

Conducted by HENRY GROSVENOR.

* First peal with a bob bell. All the above are members of the local company and residents of Harborne.

NETHERSEALE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Three Hours, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

W. W. WORTHINGTON Treble	J. H. SWINFIELD 5
J. OLDHAM 2	C. DRAPER 6
W. J. SMITH 3	E. READER 7
J. W. TAYLOR 4	F. SHEPHERD Tenor

Conducted by E. READER.

LIVERSEDGE, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF "ROSE OF ENGLAND" TREBLE BOB MAJOR,
5184 CHANCES;**

SID GOODALL Treble	H. DRANSFIELD... .. 5
EDWARD CRABTREE 2	W. THOMAS 6
W. CLARK 3	F. ROBINSON 7
J. F. CLAYTON 4	W. BREARLEY Tenor

Composed by J. BARKER, and
Conducted by FRED ROBINSON.

The first peal in this method was rung on these bells on Jan. 12th, 1857.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, ROTHERHITHE,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES ;
Tenor 18 cwt.**

THOMAS JAKEMAN Treble	ARTHUR N. HARDY 5
FRANK BENNETT 2	HARRY FLANDERS 6
JOHN D. MATTHEWS 3	WILLIAM SHIMMANS 7
FRANK J. HAIRS 4	WILLIAM BERRY Tenor

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH, and
Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

First peal of Double Norwich on the bells.

COLWALL, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES THE GREAT,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES ;

Tenor 11 cwt.

CHARLES THOMAS Treble	ERNEST GIBBS 5
WILLIAM RANFORD 2	ANDREW LAYTON 6
LIONEL LONGNEY 3	*WILLIAM J. TURNER... .. 7
CHARLES LAYTON 4	CHARLES L. SADDLER Tenor

Composed by G. CROSS, and
Conducted by LIONEL LONGNEY.

* First peal of Major.

HORLEY, SURREY.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 17, 1911, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES ;

Tenor 13 cwt.

FREDERICK W. RICE Treble	ALFRED D. MILLS 5
OLIVER SIPPETTS 2	GEORGE ILLMAN 6
ALBERT E. MITCHELL 3	FRANCIS T. HOAD, JUNR. 7
ALBERT HARMAN 4	ALBERT ELLIS Tenor

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH, and
Conducted by FREDERICK W. RICE.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor and ringer of the seventh.

SIX BELL PEALS.

PENARTH.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 9, 1911, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES ;

Being seven 720's each called differently.

†HARRY BURCOMBE Treble	SIDNEY DAWE 4
DAVID THOMAS 2	*DR. ARTHUR BOYTON 5
WILLIAM B. BISS 3	FRED CHAMBERLAIN Tenor

Conducted by DAVID THOMAS.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

GROBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 11, 1911, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PHILIP AND JAMES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES ;

Being two 720's each of Grandsire, Colledge Single and Plain Bob, and
720 Oxford Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

JAMES SPENCER Treble	ERNEST GEARY... .. 4
ARTHUR MEASEY 2	GEORGE H. GEARY... .. 5
EDWARD GEARY 3	VICTOR GEARY... .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE H. GEARY.

ISHAM, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 12, 1911, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES ;

Being 720 each of Woodbine, Kent, Oxford Treble Bob, Double
Oxford, Double Court, Oxford and Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

BERNARD J. SADDINGTON ... Treble	WILLIAM C. LEWIS 4
WALTER T. WILSON 2	*WILLIAM D. JAMES... .. 5
GEORGE A. BLAXLEY... .. 3	E. MAURICE ATKINS... .. Tenor

Conducted by W. D. JAMES.

* First peal of Minor as conductor.

DONNINGTON-IN-HOLLAND, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EASTERN COUNTIES BRANCH.)

On Thursday, December 14, 1911, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND HOLYROOD,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES ;

Being two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three
of Plain Bob. Tenor 15 cwt.

*CYRIL G. WOODS Treble	HERBERT WOODS 4
JOHN T. STAPLES 2	*JOSEPH FOVARGUE 5
JOHN H. STAFFORD... .. 3	RUPERT RICHARDSON Tenor

Conducted by RUPERT RICHARDSON.

* First peal. First peal in three methods by all except the conductor.

PRESTON, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES ;

Being a 720 of Woodbine, two 720's each of New London, Oxford
and Kent.

STEDMAN H. SYMONDS Treble	*FREDERICK POULSON 4
CHARLES VARO 2	ARTHUR SYMONDS 5
HARRY CRICH 3	ROBERT JOHN POULSON Tenor

Conducted by STEDMAN H. SYMONDS.

* First peal.

WHITBY, YORKS.

THE CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE
ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF OB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES ;

Being seven 720's each called differently.

†MERVYN DUCK Treble	WILLIAM BRECKSON 4
*CHARLES WATSON 2	JOHN W. WILKINSON 5
GEORGE WELLBURN 3	GEORGE F. ALEXANDER Tenor

Conducted by G. F. ALEXANDER.

† First peal on tower bells. * First peal. This peal was arranged for Messrs. Duck and Watson. Rung upon the front six of the peal which was recently augmented to ten by Messrs. Mears & Stainbank in commemoration of the Coronation of King George and Queen Mary. The weight of the tenor of the full peal is 18½ cwt.

WILTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Two Hours and Forty-two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's. Tenor 12 cwt.

*THOMAS J. LLOYD Treble	HENRY CHAPLIN 4
WILLIAM H. CHAPLIN 2	†TOM W. CREED 5
HENRY J. CREED 3	ISAAC CREED Tenor

Conducted by ISAAC CREED.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Bob Minor and rung at the first attempt. This peal was arranged for T. J. Lloyd and T. W. Creed who hail from Langport.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 16, 1911, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's each called differently.

T. J. HULL... .. Treble	R. CHALKLEY 4
*C. WALKLATE 2	*E. HUNT 5
J. MALYAN 3	F. JEFFS Tenor

Conducted by J. MALYAN.

* First peal with a bob bell. This is believed to be the first peal rung on the bells,

HANDBELL PEALS.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, December 13, 1911, in One Hour and Fifty-three Minutes,
AT 19, DAPDUNE ROAD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR PART.

ALFRED H. PULLING ... 1-2	JAMES HUNT 5-6
CHARLES WILLSHIRE ... 3-4	FRANK BLONDELL 7-8

Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

Umpire: S. RADFORD.

PADDINGTON, LONDON, W.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, December 14, 1911, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT 52, SHIRLAND ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

MISS ELSIE L. BENNETT ... 1-2	GEORGE B. EDSER ... 5-6
ARTHUR F. SHEPHERD ... 3-4	WILLIAM SHEPHERD ... 7-8

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD, Bart., and
Conducted by WILLIAM SHEPHERD.

Grandsire Caters had been arranged, but owing to unforeseen circumstances Bob Major had to be substituted.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, December 15, 1911, in One Hour and Forty-eight Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

ALFRED H. PULLING... .. 1-2	JAMES HUNT 5-6
CHARLES WILLSHIRE... .. 3-4	MAURICE SMITHER 7-8

Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, December 17, 1911, in One Hour and Forty-four Minutes,
AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. A. H. PULLING,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Handbells, Size 11 in G.

ALFRED H. PULLING ... 1-2	JAMES HUNT 5-6
CHARLES WILLSHIRE ... 3-4	SEPTIMUS RADFORD ... 7-8

Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

Umpire: M. SMITHER.

The quickest peal of Triples on record.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 18, 1911, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5031 CHANGES;

JAMES HUNT 1-2	MAURICE SMITHER 5-6
ALFRED H. PULLING ... 3-4	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH ... 7-8
FRANK BLONDELL 9-10	

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE, and
Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

The peal of Minor at Netherseale last week should have been credited to the Midland Counties Association.

The umpire in the peal of Stedman Caters, rung at Guildford, on December 8th, was Mr. T. Radford.

WHY NOT A BENEVOLENT FUND?

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—You ask "Why not a Benevolent Fund?" I will give you four reasons why not, and perhaps you can find answers to them.

- 1.—The cost of administration.
 - 2.—The impossibility of preventing fraud. There are various degrees in which a fund of this could be imposed on from a harmless desire to get as much of a good thing as one could to downright fraud.
 - 3.—The impossibility of judging fairly the relative merits of the various genuine cases.
 - 4.—The fact that it can all be done much better and cheaper by existing organisations, and also the fact that the Insurance Bill will come into operation next year, and its inevitable result will be, sooner or later, to absorb or kill all the benevolent funds now in existence.
- Yours sincerely,
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The question of a benevolent fund amongst ringers is no new idea, at the same time it is a subject well worth the earnest attention of the ringing community, as is proved by cases of want and partial destitution brought before our notice in the columns of ringing papers during the past few years. That such a boon to our more unfortunate brothers could be effectively managed, I have not the slightest doubt. As one who under ordinary circumstances will never require assistance from such a fund, I shall be pleased to promise £1 1s. per annum in order to give a start to what we sincerely believe would be of great assistance to those of our ringing brethren who from time to time (through no fault of theirs) are in need of assistance. Trusting the question will be taken up by a capable committee of ringers, and given a fair trial, I remain, yours faithfully,
Whitwick

STORER W. WEST.

FARNHAM ROYAL, BUCKS.—On Dec. 6th, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Stedman Triples, which came to grief in the 14th course, 1248 Kent Treble Bob: J. J. Parker 1, G. H. Guttridge 2, W. Welling 3, G. F. Williams (conductor) 4, W. Henley 5, J. Blackmore 6, R. Young 7, R. Buckland 8.

CROYDON, SURREY.—On Wednesday, Dec. 6th, on handbells, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): T. Groombridge, junr., 1-2, W. Wise 3-4, A. J. Perkins (composer and conductor) 5-6, A. W. Clark 7-8. Longest length double-handed by two of the band; also three different 500's, in which Mr. T. Colburn took part.

WESTMINSTER.—At St. Margaret's Church, on Sunday evening, Dec. 10th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters: A. Hughes (longest length in the method) 1, F. Perrin 2, F. Davis 3, W. Matthews 4, E. F. Pike 5, J. E. Davis (composer and conductor) 6, J. A. Trollope 7, F. Harris 8, E. Brett 9, A. Grimes 10.

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Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

*At the Handbell Contests, held annually in Manchester the
First Prize for the last 13 years has been awarded to bands
using our bells, and on eleven of those occasions they have gained
the Second Prize also.*

NOTICE TO READERS, CORRESPONDENTS, ETC.

All communications should be addressed to the office of "The Ringing World," Woking, Surrey, and matter intended for publication should reach the Editor not later than *first post* on Tuesday morning. Records of peals rung after Saturday will be accepted up to Wednesday morning first post, but all reports should be sent in as early as possible.

Terms as to advertisement spaces, etc., can be had upon application.

"The Ringing World" will be on sale every Friday morning, and is obtainable through any newsagent. Should any difficulty be found in securing the paper punctually, information should at once be sent to the office.

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" 6 "	3/3
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OUR ILLUSTRATION.

WILLIAM PYE—THE GREATEST RINGER OF TO-DAY.

Last Saturday's peal of Cambridge Royal at St. Clement Danes was one of singular interest to the Exercise, for it was Mr. William Pye's 1,000th peal. It did not, however, require this achievement to stamp him as the greatest ringer of to-day, his previous triumphs have done that, and it was but another addition to the laurels he had already won. In the short space at our disposal it is impossible to do full justice to the record of such a man, who, by his own indomitable energy, and his infinite capacity has climbed to the top rung of the ladder. Mr.



MR. WILLIAM PYE.

Pye always puts into his ringing the whole of his great ability, for he believes in the old adage that what is worth doing at all is worth doing well, and to this may be attributed his phenomenal success. He is one of the men who can rise to great occasions—the Exercise has seen many and ample proofs of this—and no task, however great, in the whole field of practical ringing seems to be beyond his powers.

Born at Chadwell Heath, Essex, on August 14th, 1870, Mr. Pye commenced to learn the Art at a very early age, and rang a 720 of Minor on handbells as early as 1881. His ringing on tower bells began the following year, on the peal of five at Little Heath, but it was not until 1888 that he did any ringing on eight bells. A quarter of a century ago ringing was very different to what it is to-day—the opportunities were much more limited—and it would

do some of the present generation of ringers good to go back to those times for a while. They would then, perhaps, appreciate the assistance they receive much more than they do to-day. Many a weary mile has Mr. Pye tramped to get a pull, and often failed to do so; but perseverance in the face of disappointments is the only means of progressing, and this has been typified by Mr. Pye. What would some of the ringers of to-day think if it took them eight years to ring their first five thousand?

Mr. Pye rang his first peal at Brentwood on October 16th, 1889. This was Grandsire Triples, conducted by Mr. Ackland J. Perkins, who also, curiously enough, called the first peal which the three brothers, William, Ernest and George, rang on handbells about $4\frac{1}{2}$ years later. After ringing the peal at Brentwood, Mr. W. Pye went nearly a year before he rang his next. This he conducted, but it was not until 1893 that he was able to score many peals. About that time, in company with his brothers, G. R. and Ernest, he used to visit St. Mary's, Walthamstow, almost every Sunday to ring for evening service, and, through the kindness of that most unselfish conductor of the company at that time, Mr. W. B. Manning, he was often given the opportunity of calling quarter-peals of Stedman Triples. In 1894 Mr. Pye rang his first peal of Stedman at Walthamstow, and just afterwards scored his first peal of Double Norwich at Lavenham, under the conductorship of that well known ringer, Mr. F. Pitstow. But peal attempts were scarce, and Mr. Pye came to the conclusion that if he wanted to get to the top of the tree he would have to reach it by his own efforts, and so he set about the task of arranging peals for himself. He found, however, that it was no easy matter to get a band. The old ones would say: "Who is going to call? You can't call a peal in that method." But success attending his efforts, this state of affairs was soon altered, and there was no longer difficulty in getting a band.

In 1898 the then secretary of the young Middlesex Association (Mr. A. T. King) was working very hard to advance the society, and was able to secure many towers for the use of members for peal attempts, but most of them ended in failures. Then Mr. Pye was introduced to the secretary by Mr. A. W. Brighton. He joined the new organisation, and the efforts of Mr. King and Mr. Pye lifted the Association to the forefront of ringing societies. An almost unbroken run of success has since attended the Association, and Mr. Pye, who has rung over 500 peals for this society, is now its esteemed Master, a position to which he was elected just over twelve months ago. He is a member of nineteen different associations.

To enumerate all Mr. Pye's great feats would require more space than is available in this one issue. He has taken part in five peals of over 10,000 changes, including the longest peal ever rung by one set of men, and has on 67 different occasions rung two peals in a day, while twice he has rung three peals in a day. He once rang twelve peals in a week without a break, and in the year 1903 almost reached a century, scoring no fewer than 98 peals in the twelve months. He has rung bells to a peal, varying in weight from 1 cwt. to $72\frac{1}{2}$ cwt., being the only man to ring Exeter Cathedral tenor to a peal single-handed. He has taken part in the first peals of Superlative, Cambridge, New Cambridge, London and Bristol rung out of England; the first peal of Treble Bob Royal in Ireland, and the first peals of Stedman Caters and Double Norwich in Scotland. He took part in the first silent peal of Superlative ever rung and also in Thurstans'

four-part the first time it was rung silent. He also took part in the first peal of Cambridge on handbells and the only peals of London and Bristol ever rung in hand. He was the first to call a peal of Stedman Cinques from every bell, and his thousand peals have been rung in 290 different towers, in 42 counties. Only his brother Ernest has rung peals in more counties than he. The peals have been rung in England, Ireland, Wales and Scotland, while Mr. Pye also took part in the peal of Stedman Caters rung on handbells while crossing the Irish Sea.

	Tower Bells.		Handbells.	
	Rung.	Condt'd.	Rung.	Condt'd.
Seven Minor Methods	2			
Grandsire Triples	12	3	1	
Grandsire Caters	4	2		
Grandsire Cinques	1	1		
Stedman Triples	149	116	33	19*
Stedman Caters	143	110e	26	24
Stedman Cinques	44	31b	9	9
Bob Major	4			
Kent Treble Bob Major	20	15a	6	4
Kent Treble Bob Royal	26	18	4	2
Kent Treble Bob Maximus ...	6	5		
Oxford Treble Bob Major ...	7	6		
Oxford Treble Bob Royal ...	2	1		
Double Oxford Major	1			
Double Norwich Major	72	55d	4	2
Duffield Major	1			
Superlative Surprise Major ...	206	148	7	4*
Cambridge Major	15	10		
Cambridge Royal	5	4		
Cambridge Maximus	1			
New Cambridge Major	23	16	3	3
New Cambridge Royal	3	3		
New Cumberland Major ...	1	1		
London Surprise Major	110	99c	5	4
Bristol Surprise Major	41	35	3	2
Totals ...	899	679	101	73
Rung 1,000. Conducted	752.			

* Including one non-conducted; a including 10,464; b including 11,111; c including 14,112; d including 15,072; e including 18,027.

AN APPRECIATION.

Few, we imagine, will be inclined to dispute that William Pye is, and has been for many years, *primus inter pares*, as a ringer. Whether we look at his prowess as a conductor, as a composer, or as a practical ringer, his credentials are high and unassailable. His ability as a composer is probably not so generally known as his wonderful capacity for conducting any and every kind of method, on eight, ten, or twelve bells; but we remember that his first peal of Bristol Surprise was both conducted and composed by him, while he has also more than one composition of Cambridge Surprise Royal which he has rung and conducted. On the score of accuracy of striking, he certainly leaves nothing to be desired, and, as might naturally be expected, he expects those who ring with him to follow the example he sets them. Delinquents may think that they are being called back to a sense of duty with unnecessary vigour; but some ringers need it, or they would fall asleep. We can say, however, that though his criticisms are forcibly expressed, there is never any impropriety of language. O! si sic omnes!

In all that pertains to the art of ringing William Pye is

undoubtedly a Master. He has, moreover, the rare gift of infusing keenness into those who ring with him, by the sheer force of example; for a peal with him is not a mere holiday incident, but must be undertaken seriously. The best work must be put into it by all the band, or they may expect to hear of it. One great characteristic of William Pye is that he endeavours to make every peal he rings of educational value to somebody else, and few indeed are the occasions on which he chooses a band, without including in it one or more persons who are desirous of rising by such stepping stones to higher things. There is a positive fascination, too, in ringing peals with him—so many peals are successful under his guidance, and so many are first class, both as regards the quality of the ringing, and the difficulty of the methods attempted. Many a ringer has been heard to speak with pride of peals rung with William Pye, in which there has been no semblance of a hitch; peals where no voice is heard in the belfry but that of the conductor; peals noted for perfect striking, with every bell set at the close. Such peals are rare, because faultless peals are rare; but we venture to think that William Pye can justly pride himself in having rung a larger share of them than most people, among the thousand peals which he has just accomplished.

The best mood to find William Pye in, is the holiday mood; and in this he is simply delightful. He enters upon every ringing holiday with an almost boyish delight which is catching. Nothing comes amiss. Difficulties of time and place are got over with perfect good humour; and as in mythical lore contact with mother earth made the strength of a mighty wrestler invincible, so does the handling of a rope seem to lend life and vigour to William Pye in his great career as a ringer. May he long retain that vigour, and help to show us, in his own inimitable way, what can be done in the world of Art which he has made so peculiarly his own, and how it ought to be done. He is a delightful companion, full of reminiscence and anecdotes, and there is no man seeking to profit by his stores of accumulated experience who is sent empty away. His success as a ringer has been little short of phenomenal, and the secret of it all has been his indomitable pluck and perseverance, coupled with a lifelong habit of taking infinite pains, so indicative of true genius.

There are many who in the past have contributed to raise the art of ringing to the high position it occupies today; but it is not too much to say that William Pye has shown himself to be no ordinary man, and that he may fitly be inscribed in the ringers' roll of honour as not less distinguished than any of the distinguished men who have gone before him.

LIVERPOOL.—The Lancashire Association.—At St. Mary's Church, Grassendale, on Dec. 12th, a date touch of Minor (1911 changes), in 1 hr.: R. Hurst 1, R. H. Green 2, T. Jennion 3, G. R. Newton (conductor) 4, E. Counce 5, J. Allen 6. The methods were: 720 Oxford, 360 each of Woodbine and Kent Treble Bob, and 471 changes of Plain Bob. Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. Alfred Williams, of Whitehaven, and Miss Amy Jones, of Grassendale.

BINFIELD, BERKS.—Oxford Diocesan Guild.—On Dec. 13th, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: *J. White 1, J. Rance 2, *W. J. Paice 3, E. C. Lambert 4, J. North (first as conductor) 5, *H. Bungay 6. * First 720 in the method.

BOURNEMOUTH.—The Winchester Diocesan Guild.—At St. Peter's, Bournemouth, on Dec. 14th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: H. Bennett 1, E. T. Green 2, A. R. Macdonald 3, C. Forfitt 4, E. Waters 5, G. Preston (conductor) 6, C. Goodenough 7, F. Forsyth 8. Rung as a welcome home to A. R. Macdonald, whose previous touch was rung in Vancouver, 6,000 miles away.

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EIGHT.



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ODD CHANGES.

Collected from all Quarters.

Owing to the pressure on our space this week several reports are unavoidably held over.

To all our readers we extend the heartiest greetings. "A Merry Christmas" is the time-honoured sentiment, and that it may be this in very truth to ringers throughout the length and breadth of the land, and beyond the seas, is our sincerest wish.

Bell ringing is traditionally associated with Christmas, and it is certainly the season when the public look forward to the pealing of the bells more than at any other time. Ringers seldom fail to see that in this respect anticipations are fulfilled, and we look forward to seeing a big crop of peals recorded next week.

Everyone will wish success to the long peal attempts, the 12,896 Cambridge Surprise Major at Bromsgrove, and the 12,000 of Bristol at Knebworth on Boxing Day.

The Truro Diocesan Guild award a silver medal to all members able to ring any inside bell to 120 Doubles. On Thursday week three members of the St. Kea band, Miss E. E. Fisher, W. C. Greet and H. W. Chegwidan, were examined by Dr. J. Symons, of Penzance, and passed the test.

Cowden bells, Kent, have been augmented to six by Messrs. Warner and Sons, and on Wednesday week the Edenbridge ringers paid a visit to the tower and rang the first 720's on the bells. 720 Kent: J. Heasman 1, H. Markwell 2, A. Belton 3, E. Leigh 4, G. Maylon 5, J. W. Steddy (conductor) 6. The 720 Bob Minor was conducted by J. Heasman. The bells go well now, and it is hoped the local band will join the County Association.

The Guildford band have done a good many things on handbells this year, and on Sunday they put to their credit the quickest peal of Triples on record. This was rung in 1hr. 44mins. on bells size 11 in G.

Fifty years' service in the church as chorister and ringer is a remarkable record. On Thursday week Councillor Isaac Dean, J.P., of Iikley, who joined the parish church choir on December 14th, 1861 (the day upon which the Prince Consort died), completed half a century of church work. Although the choir has claimed his chief attention, he was a ringer for a number of years, but gave up about 24 years ago. He used to ring regularly with Jasper Snowdon and his brothers. In honour of his 50 years' connection with the church, a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Triples was rung by R. Richmond 1, A. South 2, H. Verity 3, C. Stephenson 4, W. Cook 5, J. R. Feather 6, T. W. Crawshaw (conductor) 7, S. Rayner 8.

Mr. F. Bashford writes pointing out that the peal rung at Godstone, Surrey, and published last week, was not, as stated, the first peal on the bells. A peal of Minor was rung there by the Nutfield branch of the Surrey Association on March 27, 1892.

It is interesting to note that the band in Mr. Pye's 1,000th peal on Saturday had rung between them over 4,800 peals, made up approximately as follows: R. Sanders 116, B. Prewett 740, I. G. Shade 913, C. T. Coles 142, G. R. Pye 510, A. W. Coles 92, J. E. Davis 415, E. Pye 805, A. W. Grimes 100, W. Pye 1,000; total 4,833.

The peal of eight, tenor 18½ cwt., at the Parish Church, Whitby, Yorkshire, has recently been increased to ten by the addition of two trebles, the sixth bell, which was cracked, being recast, and the whole peal thoroughly overhauled by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank in commemoration of the Coronation of their Majesties King George and Queen Mary. The new bells were dedicated by the Rev. Canon Austen, M.A., Rector of Whitby.

The church stands on the east cliff, overlooking the town, and is reached by ascending 199 steps, a position which is unique from a ringing standpoint. The music of the bells across the river Esk (which divides the old town from the modern part) is charming in its effect.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

The annual meeting of the Crewe branch was held at Alsager, on Saturday last, about forty members being present from Barthomley, Lawton, Crewe, and Alsager. Mr. J. Stringer, one of the vice-presidents of the branch, and Mr. J. H. Shepherd, of Wolverhampton, also attended. Stedman and Grand-sire Triples were rung during the afternoon. Tea was provided by the generosity of the Vicar (the Rev. H. A. Arnold, M.A.), and was served in the Schoolroom. The business meeting followed, Mr. J. Stringer presiding in the unavoidable absence of the president (Mr. C. J. Bowen-Cooke). Mr. C. J. Bowen-Cooke was unanimously re-elected president; the vice-presidents were also re-elected. Mr. R. T. Holding, junr., was re-appointed secretary, with Mr. W. T. Holding as assistant, Mr. J. H. Riding as treasurer, and Mr. Fred Edwards, of Alsager, as representative of the branch on the general committee. The auditors and instructor were also re-elected. A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for allowing the use of the bells, and for providing the tea, and a vote of thanks was also accorded to Mr. Stringer for presiding at the meeting.—The ringers then attended service in the church, the form used being that approved by the Bishop of Lichfield for use in the Salop and North Stafford Associations.—The Vicar (the Rev. J. H. Arnold) gave an address on the duties of bell ringers as officers of the church.—Ringing was again indulged in in the evening, and the meeting was a most enjoyable one.

A VICAR WELCOMED.

The peal at Rolvenden, recorded elsewhere, was rung as a welcome to the Rev. Lynn Fryer, who comes from Delsay, near Rochester. The reverend gentleman was inducted incumbent on the same day by the Archdeacon of Maidstone.

The change ringers of the district are exceedingly sorry that his predecessor (the Rev. Drabble) felt compelled, owing to advancing years, to resign the living, for the reverend gentleman was always ready to welcome ringers and grant permission for peals, practices and meetings to take place at Rolvenden. The campanologists look forward to receiving the same privileges under the new Vicar.

There was an account of a ringing tour in Kent in these columns in August last, and in it the condition of Rolvenden bells was referred to. It appeared that peal ringing on them was out of the question. The writer of that article, no doubt, will be pleased to know that Mr. F. G. Burden has thoroughly overhauled the fittings, and the "go" of the bells is now excellent. All that was needful was simply the tightening up of bolts, which had got loose owing to the dry summer we have experienced.

THE PEAL AT LUTTERWORTH.

This was the first peal by the ringers of the 2nd, 5th, 6th and tenor, who belong to the local band, and was the first to be rung by a resident ringer who had learned his change ringing at Lutterworth. The peal was attempted on the two previous Saturdays, but on the first occasion it came to grief, after ringing two hours, and on the second a change course occurred in the last 200 changes. The ringers of the treble, 3rd, 4th and 7th hail from Rugby, and wish to take this opportunity of thanking the local ringers for kindly entertaining them after the peal, and also after the previous two attempts.

THE PEAL OF 12 AT WOLVERHAMPTON

NEW RING DEDICATED.

Wolverhampton now rejoices in the possession of a magnificent peal of twelve bells, which have been hung in the tower of St. Peter's, Collegiate, Church. The work has been splendidly carried out by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon, and has given the greatest satisfaction to all concerned. The old peal was recast and trebles added, the weight of the peal being now 132 cwt. 2 qrs. 8lbs., with a tenor of 33 cwt. 0 qrs. 21 lbs. The bells, tuned on the Simpson principle, are hung in massive H frames, and an important thing from the ringers' standpoint is that the small bells can be heard distinctly, both when dodging among the large ones, or when out among themselves.

The dedication took place on Sunday, by the Bishop of Stafford, the clergy also taking part in the service being: The Rector (the Rev. Prebendary Alfred Penny), the Rev. W. Caldicott Ridding, and the Rev. R. L. Hodson. The anthem, "Who are these," was sung, and the Rector announced that, owing to the generosity of the donor of the two bells to make up twelve (and who wished to remain anonymous), a sum of £200 had been received. This meant that the bells would be dedicated and opened free from debt. — After the hymn, "We love the place, O God," the Bishop preached from Romans xii., 15,

"Rejoice with them that do rejoice and weep with them that weep." He remarked that it was not always easy to rejoice with those that rejoiced, for that required a very noble soul, while the need of sympathy between all classes was greater to-day than ever. That day he was with them to rejoice with them, and he congratulated them on having their bells rehung and recast. After the long silence it would be most pleasing to hear the bells pealing forth, calling people to worship. The bells would rejoice with them when they rejoiced, and when sorrow came they would ring in mournful tones, and so weep with them when they wept. The bells also spoke to those who were prevented from attending the public worship of God, and also to those who lay on a sick bed. The ringers of the bells were very important members of the Church, and they should so order their lives that they might be an example, and not only call others to worship, but also attend themselves.

After the dedication, the hymn, "Lifted safe within the steeple," was sung. Then the bells rang out as the congregation left the church, and the splendid tone of the peal was greatly admired by everyone.—A large party of ringers assembled for the opening, and Stedman Cinques, Kent Treble Bob Maximus, and Double Norwich Court Bob Major on the back eight were successfully brought round. There will be a meeting for practice, to-morrow (Saturday), from 3 to 7 p.m., at which all ringers will be welcome.



LINCOLN GUILD AT LEA.

A meeting of the Northern branch of the Gainsborough District was held at Lea, on Saturday, ringers being present from Gainsborough, Haxey and West Stockwith. Some good ringing was accomplished during the afternoon, in Grandsire Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor. One of the local band also rang the treble through a six-score of Grandsire Doubles, in a very creditable manner. Later on, the visitors adjourned to the Rectory, where they were received in a most welcome manner by the Rev. and Mrs. R. G. Fookes, who had kindly provided an excellent tea. The meeting followed, at which Mr. F. F. Linley presided, and was supported by the Rector. The business was of a brief nature.—Mr. Linley proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells, also to the Rev. and Mrs. Fookes for the hospitable manner in which they had entertained the ringers that afternoon. The Chairman made reference to the interest which the late Sir Charles Anderson always took in bells and bell ringers, and stated that had he been alive at the present day he would have felt gratified at the way in which the ringers had been entertained on that occasion.—The vote of thanks was seconded by Mr. J. C. Tinker, and, after being unanimously carried, was duly responded to by the Rector.—A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the meeting.—After ringing two plain courses of Grandsire Triples upon the handbells, the ringers then returned to the church, where other touches were rung, including a six-score of Plain Bob Doubles, in which two of the Lea ringers took part; also a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 28 mins.: C. H. Baker (first 720 of Treble Bob) 1, F. S. W. Butler (conductor) 2, W. Dickenson 3, J. C. Tinker 4, J. T. Ladd 5, W. Ayre 6.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT MANCHESTER TOWN HALL.

The December meeting was held at Manchester Town Hall, on Saturday, a representative gathering being present, members and friends coming from Stoke, Sheffield, Stockport, Pendleton, Pendlebury, Swinton, Worsley, Stretford, Prestwich, Manchester Cathedral and Eccles, together with the local company of police sergeants and constables. Touches of Stedman and Grandsire, Caters and Triples, Kent Royal and Bob Minor were rung to give all a chance of a pull on the heaviest ten in Lancashire. An amusing incident happened when the tenor man got his bell a bit down, and he gave an extra pull which lifted him off the box, and the next stroke landed him back again, although, needless to say, the touch was spoilt.—The business meeting was presided over by Mr. Barratt, and the Cathedral was chosen for the first meeting in the new year.—Owing to an organ recital, ringing had to cease at 7.15, just when the visitors were getting used to the pull of the bells.

ROCHDALE BRANCH.

The monthly meeting of the Rochdale branch was held on Saturday at St. Barnabas, Shore, Littleboro'. Members were present from Todmorden, Oldham, Rochdale, Middleton, Milnrow, Balderstone, Walsden.—Mr. S. Brierley presided over the meeting, at which one new member was elected, and a vote of condolence with relatives was passed upon the death of Mr. Jas. Crossley, of Hamer, and Mr. E. Stansfield, of Todmorden, two members of the branch.—During the day touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung.

BELLS DEDICATED AT MACHEN.

PEAL RESTORED AND AUGMENTED.

The dedication of the newly-spliced ring of eight bells at Machen, Monmouthshire, took place on Saturday afternoon. Until recently the ring consisted of only six bells, which were hung on an old-fashioned framing of oak beams, but being out of order they have not been rung for nearly 30 years. In March last, experts reported that the framework was in a most dilapidated and dangerous condition, and the bells were liable to fall to the ground at any moment. The bells were accordingly at once taken down. They bore the following inscriptions:—

- Treble. My treble voice makes hearts rejoice.
 2. Good ringing might, yields great delight.
 3. Health, peace and plenty to this neighbourhood. Cast by Thos. Bayley, 1768. David Edmunds, Churchwarden.
 4. Faith, hope and grace attend the place. David Edmunds, Churchwarden. Cast 1768, Thos. Bayley. C. Mears, Founder, London. Recast 1856. Rector, Rev. A. Morgan. Churchwardens, Philip Woodruff, W. Jones.
 5. Public subscription gave us birth, and now we six here joy in mirth. Cast by Thos. Bayley, 1768. David Edmunds, Churchwarden.
- Tenor. "Me resonare pieta more atque voluptas." David Edmunds, Churchwardens. Thos. Bayley, Founder, Bridgewater, 1768.

A number of the parishioners and others in the diocese, who are interested in bell ringing, took the matter up with a view to having the bells restored on modern lines, and a suggestion was made by the Hon. secretary of the Llandaff Diocesan Association (Mr. J. W. Jones) to increase the ring from six to eight bells. At a public meeting, held on March 9th, it was unanimously decided to carry out the scheme as suggested, and the contract was placed in the hands of Messrs. Llewellyn and James, of Bristol, whose specification comprised a new modern frame, having a foundation of massive rolled steel joists, with webbed ends, over which is a new frame of cast-iron sections braced with steel bars. Each bell is provided with a complete set of mountings of the latest improved design, the total cost being £183 5s. The new treble bell weighs 3 cwt. 0 qr. 14 lbs., and bears the inscription: "Praise to the holiest in the height. Canon C. E. T. Griffith, Rector. W. R. Lloyd and Frederick Stratton, Churchwardens." The new tenor, weighing 12 cwt., concludes the quotation: "And in the depths be praise." These two bells were added by public subscription, at a cost of £97. A chiming apparatus of the latest improved design, consisting of independent chiming hammers fixed underneath the bells, was added at a cost of £16 16s., with a new double floor packed with silicate cotton to prevent sound.

The total cost of the work was £350 11s., of which over £320 has now been collected, while the balance will probably be wiped out in a short time.

The Dedication service was performed by the Bishop of Llandaff, and the clergy present included the Rev. Canon Griffith (Rector of the parish), the Rev. Canon Lister (St. Mark's, Newport), the Rev. Connop L. Price (Caerphilly), the Rev. A. A. Matthews (Newport), the Rev. G. Aubrey Baile (Nash, Newport), the Rev. S. G. Morgan, and the Rev. D. Dudleyke (curates of the parish). The hymns, "Praise the Lord, ye Heavens adore him," "Praise my soul, the King of Heaven," and "They are lifted to the steeple," were sung during the service by a very large congregation, the church being crowded.—The Bishop congratulated the parishioners on the splendid effort which they had made.

After the service, the ringing was done by the ringers from All Saints' and St. Woolos Churches, Newport, under the leadership of Mr. J. W. Jones, Grandsire and Stedran Triples being rung. Amongst the visiting ringers were Mr. A. W. Brighton (London), Mr. Hobbs (Cardiff), and Mr. Davis (Caerleon). Tea was afterwards provided in the old schoolroom for all the ringers present, the gathering being presided over by Messrs. F. Stratton and Newton Wade, who were ably assisted by Mrs. Stratton, Mrs. N. Wade, the Misses Stratton and McKinnon, the Rev. D. Dudleyke, the Rev. S. G. Morgan, and Mr. W. R. Lloyd. After tea, the bells were kept going for the remainder of the evening.

The work carried out reflects the highest possible credit upon the bell founders, Messrs. Llewellyn and James, the tone and "go" both being perfect.

DENTON BELLS TO BE REHUNG.

On Saturday week, a whist drive and social were held at the Schools, the first of a series of efforts towards meeting the expenses of the re-hanging of the bells at St. Anne's, Denton. About 160 people assembled. During the evening, the Rev. F. Parratt announced that an encouraging letter had been received from Mr. I. W. Sidebotham, who enclosed a subscription.—A vote of thanks to those who had assisted in making the social a success was proposed by the Rev. R. O. Lloyd, and carried.—On behalf of the ringers, Mr. Jas. Pollitt (secretary) responded, and expressed appreciation of the support which had been given.—The proceeds and subscription amounted to £7 13s.

DEATH OF MR. J. BASDEN.

LATE MASTER OF THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

It is with much regret that we have to record the death of Mr. J. Basden, late Master of the Middlesex County Association, and London Diocesan Guild, which occurred at his residence, 2, Oaklands Road, Hanwell, on Wednesday week, after a protracted illness. The deceased, who was in his 54th year, and was always prominent in the Art in West Middlesex, was instrumental in forming the first Guild for that part of the county. He, together with Messrs. T. Beadle, A. H. Taber, E. J. Walsom, and a few other enthusiasts, met at Isleworth early in 1894, and formed what was subsequently known as the South and West Middlesex Guild of Change Ringers. Mr. Basden was elected Master, and owing to his ability and energy, the Guild made rapid progress. On the amalgamation of the Guild in 1907 with the Middlesex Association, the deceased was unanimously elected Master, and from that time until illness overtook him, at the end of 1907, he carried out his duties with a cheerfulness and tact which gained for him the respect and esteem of all who came into contact with him. By his illness, the Association (particularly the South and West District with which he was more intimately connected) has lost not only a courteous and kindly officer, but also a valued friend. The number of peals the deceased had rung for the Middlesex Association was 74, of which he conducted 51. His first peal (Grandsire Triples) was rung at Isleworth, on August 6th, 1894, and his last (Stedman Triples), at Hounslow, on September 28th, 1907, both of which he conducted.

The interment took place on Monday last, at Greenford Cemetery, when the following members attended at the graveside to pay a last tribute of respect to an old comrade: Messrs. T. Beadle (District Master), H. C. Chandler (hon. sec.), E. J. Walsom, A. H. Taber, E. Harris, J. J. Pratt, F. G. Goddard, G. A. Ransom, G. Spencer, and W. H. Lidbetter.

NEW BRANCH FOR BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday afternoon, a meeting was held at the Potton Parish Church, in order to form a branch of the Association for North Bedfordshire.—The Vicar (the Rev. A. Long) kindly took the chair, when the following were elected to start the branch: The Potton Society (en bloc), consisting of seven members, with two members from Sandy and one probationer, and F. Blood (Biggleswade). The following officers were also elected: President, the Rev. A. Long (Vicar of Potton); secretary, Mr. F. Blood (Biggleswade); committee, Mr. A. Bailey (Potton) and Mr. W. Deacon (Sandy). After tea, which was kindly provided by the Vicar (the Rev. A. Long), the members adjourned to the tower, where ringing was indulged in, several Minor methods being rung.—A unanimous vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for his kindness in granting the use of the bells and the schoolroom for the meeting, and for providing tea.—The following ringers were present: Mr. Harlow and Miss E. Steele (Bedford), Mr. E. White (Elstow), Mr. W. Deacon and Mr. G. Jefferies and Mr. T. Kendall (Sandy), Mr. C. A. Pratt (Clifton), Mr. F. Blood (Biggleswade), and the members of the Potton Society. This was the first meeting a lady ringer has attended in this district and taken an active part in the ringing. Now that a local branch of the Bedfordshire Association has been formed, it is hoped that the Vicars of all the parishes of this district will lend the movement their support.

A KENT MEETING.

A quarterly meeting of the Rochester district was held on Saturday, at St. Mary's, Newington, Sittingbourne. Members were present from Sheerness, Queenborough, Tunstall, Hartlip, Upchurch, Chatham, Gillingham and Rochester, and the local ringers, about 20 in all. The bells were kept going in the various methods, including Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise.—The business meeting was held in the belfry, at 6.15, Mr. W. H. B. Wilkins, of Sheerness, being voted to the chair. Two new members of the Gravesend band were admitted into the Association, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Bordon, in March, 1912.—A vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar of Newington (the Rev. P. L. Hunt) for the use of the tower and bells, also to the Vicar of Hartlip (the Rev. J. S. McMillard) for his bells.—After the meeting, eight members from the Rochester part of the district walked over from Newington to Hartlip, where some touches of Plain Bob, Grandsire and Stedman were rung.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Northern district was held at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, W.C., on Saturday last, and is believed to be the first one held at this tower. The bells were kept going during the afternoon in various methods, including Erin Triples, Treble Bob Major and Double Norwich. Tea was provided in the Church House, after which the business meeting was held, the District Master (Mr. A. D. Barker) presiding.—Mr. E. A. Young was appointed to audit the accounts of the district, and two new members were also elected. St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, was chosen as the place for the annual district meeting, on January 20th, and failing that, St. Sepulchre's, Holborn.

PRESENTATIONS TO RINGERS.**THE MASTER OF THE DUDLEY GUILD.**

At the conclusion of the peal at Dudley, on Saturday (recorded in another column) an adjournment was made to the Griffin Hotel, Stone Street, where a pleasing presentation was made to Mr. S. Spittle, the Master of the St. Thomas' Society and the Dudley and District's Guild, in honour of whose 75th birthday the peal had been rung. The gift took the form of a gold-mounted umbrella, with the inscription: "Presented to Mr. S. Spittle by the Dudley bell ringers, December 16th, 1911." The presentation was made on behalf of the ringers by the senior member of St. Thomas' band, Mr. John Mills, who, in a few well-chosen remarks, offered Mr. Spittle congratulations and good wishes upon reaching his 75th birthday, and expressed the hope that he may be spared in health and strength to continue as Master for many years to come. The presentation, he said, was made as a slight token of the esteem and affection in which Mr. Spittle was held by his band of ringers, and also as an appreciation of the services he had rendered to them both inside and outside of the belfry.—Mr. Spittle, who was taken by surprise, feelingly thanked the ringers for their present, and said it was always a pleasure to him to do anything for them that lay in his power, especially for the benefit of younger members to encourage them in the art of change ringing.

SERVICES RECOGNISED AT NUNEATON.

A very pleasing incident took place at Nuneaton on Saturday, when the members of the Parish Church Society of Ringers presented to their leader, Mr. Thomas Chapman, a pipe and pouch, together with a supply of tobacco, as an earnest of their goodwill and appreciation of his untiring efforts to raise the status of the band as change ringers.—Mr. H. Argyle made the presentation, and, in reply, Mr. Chapman said it was indeed a pleasant surprise for him, though what he had done had always been done as a labour of love. The fact that the band was making headway was sufficient reward for any time he had spent with them. He contrasted the present with the time when he commenced ringing some 25 years ago, when some of the old ringers would rather sit down and chime with their feet than be at the trouble to pull the bells up. Now, however, they were always able to ring the bells for the church services, and if this were only maintained, he did not think the Vicar and churchwardens would begrudge them any reasonable use of the bells for meetings or peals. He thanked them heartily for their present and good wishes.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Bath and Wells Association was held at Milverton on Saturday, when the following towers were represented: Bridgwater, Ilminster, Milverton, Fitzhead, Chipstable and Taunton St. James' and Bishop's Hull.—A short service, with address, was held in the Parish Church, the Rev. E. F. Felton officiating.

At the business meeting, held afterwards in the Church Room, an apology for absence was read from the Bishop of Taunton.—The Master of the Association (the Rev. C. C. Parker) presided over the business meeting, supported by the Rev. Felton. About 30 new members were elected.—A letter was read from Mr. J. B. Holmyard, secretary of the Midsomer Norton branch, inviting the members to hold their next meeting at that place.—After some discussion it was thought that the western part of the diocese had a meeting due to them, and Dulverton was selected.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rev. Felton for officiating at the service for the excellent address he had given, for the use of the church room and the use of the bells, on the proposition of the Master, who remarked that, although they had rather a small meeting, they really represented over 1,200 ringing members. The railway service and the weather no doubt kept many away.—The Rev. Felton having responded, this concluded the business.—A meat tea was then partaken of.—During the afternoon and evening, the bells were utilised, and touches of Bob Major, Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung, including two 504's of Stedman Triples, being the longest length of Stedman by the members of the local band.

RINGER'S WEDDING.

The marriage of Mr. Arthur Holmes, of Edenham, Bourne, Lincolnshire, with Miss Mary Maze, of Belfast, on Saturday week, drew a number of ringers to the village to celebrate the event in the true ringers' style, and many members of the Exercise in South Lincolnshire and elsewhere will join in congratulating Mr. Holmes and his bride. A peal in seven Minor methods was rung in 2 hrs. 50 mins.—and a good one at that. It was conducted by Mr. Rupert Richardson, and has already been recorded in our columns. It was the quickest peal on the bells.

In the afternoon a 720 was wanted, among other things, but some of the ringers had gone off to Grimsthorpe to watch a football match. Only five were left, but when the bridegroom heard of this, he promptly came to the rescue, and a capital 720 was rung. Among those who signed the marriage register were: The Bridegroom, with 50 peals to his credit; Mr. Jas. Osborne, with just on 40; and Mr. Rupert Richardson with 113. Who, then, will say, asks our correspondent, that South Lincolnshire is not a ringing district? Congratulations and good wishes were extended to the bride and bridegroom by many friends.

SHOREDITCH SOCIETY.

On Saturday week, the above Society met to celebrate its first birthday. The bells, which cannot be rung, owing to the weakness of the frame and fittings, were merrily chimed for about an hour, during the afternoon. Tea was served in the ringing chamber at 4.30 p.m., the Chairman of the Society (the Rev. A. A. Duffield Harding, B.A.), who is taking a keen interest in the work and welfare of the Society, presiding.—In proposing the health of the Society, he apologised for the absence of the Vicar and President, who was suffering from a severe attack of influenza, and had been ordered away for the weekend. He said that, although the Society was only one year old, still it was a baby that had the germ of manhood in it. He called attention to the records on the walls of some peals rung by the Royal Cumberland Youths, the College Youths, and other Associations, and said he hoped the Society would grow and revive the former reputation and glories of the tower. As they all knew, a fund had been started, and was progressing very favourably, to put the bells in ringing order, and he hoped that soon they would be able to welcome all ringing associations to the tower. Altogether the first year's work was indeed very satisfactory. The ringing chamber, which a year ago was unfit to go into, had been made habitable and comfortable, and chiming had been done regularly for Sunday services during the year. He wished the Society all good fortune, and coupled with the toast the names of Mr. F. W. Sallaway, the hon. secretary, and Mr. Herbert J. Bradley, the secretary of the appeal fund, whose action in the first place led to the starting of the Society.

The toast was heartily drunk in the cup that cheers, but does not inebriate. The bells were then again chimed and fired.

Subscriptions are still earnestly asked for. In a neighbourhood like Shoreditch, where there are so many poor people, money for such a purpose cannot be obtained. Sums, however small, will be welcomed by the Vicar, the Rev. E. R. Ford, M.A., Shoreditch Vicarage, E., or Mr. H. J. Bradley, the hon. secretary of the fund, the Parish Church, Shoreditch, E. The committee would rejoice to have this famous peal of 12 bells in ringing order by Easter next, but at present the old rhyme, "When I grow rich said the bells of Shoreditch," is the burden of their hope and patience.

NOTICES.

The charge for notices under this heading is at the rate of 2d. per line (average nine words), with a minimum of 1s. Three insertions at double the charge for single insertion (minimum 2s.).

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—

The annual meeting will be held at St. Woolos, Newport, Mon., on Boxing Day, December 26th, at 3 o'clock. The bells of St. Woolos and All Saints' Churches available all the evening.—Rev. Connop L. Price and John W. Jones, Honorary Secretaries.

PETERBORO' AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—

The proposed meeting at Wisbech will not take place on Dec. 26th on account of bells being in bad repair.—F. T. Cooke, Hon. Sec., 195, Gladstone Street, Peterboro'.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—

Western Division.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Horsham, on Saturday, December 30th. Tower open from 3.30 p.m. Tea at 5.30. Business to follow. Members intending to be present please inform me by Thursday, December 28th.—H. Evans, Hon. Secretary, Northbrook, Goring, Worthing.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF

BIRMINGHAM.—Established 1755.—The annual meeting will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 2nd, 1912, at the Tamworth Arms Hotel, Moor Street, City. Chair will be taken at 8 o'clock p.m. Subscriptions, annual and otherwise, are payable at this meeting. The Balance Sheet will be presented, and an alteration to Rule 4 will be proposed. The Peal book will be on view.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST

DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, Jan. 6th, 1912, at Eckington. Church of SS. Peter and Paul, 8 bells (tenor 16 cwt.), available from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.—J. E. L. Cockey, Hon. Sec., 504, Ecclesall Road, Sheffield.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meeting at Dunstable, January 6th.

NOTICES (continued).

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Bramley on January 6th, 1912. Peal attempt at 2.30, business meeting at the Cardigan Arms at 7.30.—Frank R. Cundale, Secretary, 24, Recreation View, Holbeck, Leeds.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late the St. James' Society.)—The quarterly general meeting will take place on January 8 at St. Clement Danes. Tower open from 8 to 9.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow at the headquarters' room, The Cheshire Cheese, Milford Lane, Strand, W.C. All members should attend.—Fredk. J. Hardy, Hon. Gen. Sec., 34, Guildford Road, South Lambeth, S.W.

GREETINGS.

A HAPPY CHRISTMAS and good luck in the New Year to all ringing friends at home and abroad is the sincere wish of

BERTRAM PREWETT.

Alderbury,
Oxhey Avenue, Watford,
December 22nd, 1911.

HEARTY CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR'S GREETINGS to all ringing friends is the wish of

ALAN R. MACDONALD,

St. Ronans, Frances Road,
Bournemouth,
December, 1911.

CHANGE OF ADDRESSES.—Mr. Henry Dew has removed from Chester to 10, Bond Street, Clerkenwell, London, W.C.—Mr. W. H. Pasmore's address is now 61, Boundary Road, Merton, Surrey.—Mr. James W. Washbrook, late of Arklow, has removed to Summer Bank Road, Tunstall, Staffs.—Mr. C. W. Clarke has removed to 72, Cauldwell Street, Bedford.

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ROPE-SIGHT. 1s. 6d., sixth ed.; 150 pages; treats Plain Bob, commencing on three bells.

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