

THE RINGING WORLD

No. 49. Vol. II.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd, 1912.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 1d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

MODERN WORK.

HELPING THE BEGINNERS.

A correspondent invites us to appeal to those who do a great deal of peal ringing to give a little of their time in visiting towers where beginners are struggling to make headway in the Art. He says: "I see every week the same names occurring, sometimes ringing two peals in the week. Although I have every admiration for the skill of these men it seems to me that if they spent some of their time in assisting some of us beginners they would be doing still more to further the cause of ringing."

There is no doubt that the Art would benefit if a few more of the experts were to give their services in assisting those on the lower rungs of the campanological ladder. That is a point upon which all agree, but it must not be supposed that those who do a big share of the peal ringing do nothing to help the beginners. Many of these men give up a good deal of their leisure in visiting neighbouring towers where their assistance is valued. Most of the associations are willing to send out an instructor if a band shows a desire to get on, but funds, of course, do not permit of this help being extended indefinitely. And if associations are unable to do it, private individuals also, where out of pocket expenses are involved, would be unable to continue for any length of time.

It might be possible for associations to organise, more generally than they do, voluntary helpers in extending the Art. Our county and diocesan organisations are recognising to an increasing extent the value of this work, by, in many cases, holding special meetings for combined practice, when all the available time is spent in advancing beginners a step forward. To get one man, whether he be a prominent peal ringer or not, to devote himself to assisting one particular tower, however, is a matter for direct influence upon the individual. Our correspondent asks if some system could not be brought into existence to meet such cases as this, but we do not see how, beyond appealing generally to their members, the associations could do anything in the matter. It would be a great thing if a more adequate scheme for helping beginners could be devised on a voluntary basis, and so increase that missionary spirit to which we have before now alluded. The ideal would be magnificent, if it could be achieved, but we feel it is beyond accomplishment. At the moment the practical way seems to be for each tower, where there is real keenness to progress, to get into touch with the nearest ringer capable of imparting knowledge, endeavour to interest him in the band—that ought not to be difficult if he be an enthusiast in the Art as most peal ringers are—and then the rest would be easy. But when the obstacles of distance and expense arise they are not readily overcome.

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**FOUNDERS OF
MAIDEN PEALS.**

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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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IN ALL BRANCHES.

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and report on Bells and Towers.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 17, 1912, in Three Hours and Fifty-two Minutes,

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF S. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANCES;

Tenor 33 cwt., in C sharp.

*ROBERT PICKERING Treble	*WILLIAM G. HALL 7
GEORGE HUGHES 2	ROLAND CARTWRIGHT 8
JAMES E. GROVES 3	HORACE BELCHER 9
THOMAS H. REEVES 4	*JOHN C. ADAMS 10
WILLIAM FISHER 5	†HERBERT KNIGHT 11
REV. E. V. COX 6	*ISAAC PURSER Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and
Conducted by HERBERT KNIGHT.

* First peal of Cinques. † First peal of Cinques as conductor.
First peal on the bells since being re-cast and augmented by Messrs. Gillett & Johnston, the "go" being excellent.

LIVERPOOL.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 17, 1912, in Three Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 39 cwt. 3 qrs. 10 lbs.

ARTHUR R. JACOB Treble	JOHN HOLMAN 7
HARRY BOWER 2	SAM THOMAS 8
GEORGE HOLMES 3	RICHARD NEWTON 9
JOHN THORPE 4	WILLIAM DAVIES 10
WILLIAM BURGAR 5	FRED SALMONS 11
*GEORGE R. NEWTON 6	HARRY CHAPMAN Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, and
Conducted by HARRY CHAPMAN.

* First peal on twelve bells. First peal of Maximus ever rung in Liverpool by twelve men only. This composition has the 6th its extent at home without the 2nd or 3rd in sixth's place. A. R. Jacob is of Warner's, London, G. R. Newton and Davies belong to Liverpool, R. Newton to Manchester, Salmons to Halifax, and Chapman to Pendleton, the others to the St. Peter's Society, Sheffield.

TEN BELL PEAL.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICTS GUILD.

On Saturday, February 17, 1912, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5075 CHANCES;

Tenor 22 cwt.

*SAMUEL PEARCE Treble	WILLIAM GOODMAN 6
JOHN GOODMAN 2	HERBERT SHEPPARD 7
FRANK G. BURLEIGH 3	BENJAMIN GOUGH 8
SAMUEL SPITTLE 4	HARRY GOODMAN 9
JOHN GOODMAN, Senr. 5	CHARLES FAULKS Tenor

Composed by the late WILLIAM MICKLEWRIGHT, and
Conducted by JOHN GOODMAN, Junr.

* First peal of Caters. This peal was arranged and rung as a compliment to the Churchwardens (Messrs. J. W. Naylor and J. Nichols) for their kindness in providing the ringers with a new set of bell ropes.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

THORVERTON, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, February 10, 1912, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS A BECKET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT's TEN-PART.

*J. EDWORTHY Treble	A. W. SEARLE 5
A. MONKLEY 2	*J. RIDLER 6
F. J. MILFORD 3	F. J. DAVEY 7
F. GARDNER 4	R. B. FORD Tenor

Conducted by FRANK J. DAVEY.

* First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to J. Ridler.

GLODWICK, OLDHAM.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 12, 1912, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.

ALBERT CLEGG Treble	SAMUEL STOTT 5
HARRY HAMPSON 2	ISAAC SCHOFIELD 6
WILLIAM HOLBROOKE 3	HARRY PAGE 7
JAMES LEES 4	RICHARD NEWTON Tenor

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON, and
Conducted by H. HAMPSON.

GARSTON, LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(LIVERPOOL BRANCH.)

On Monday, February 12, 1912, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANCES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN ALLEN Treble	GEORGE R. NEWTON 5
GEORGE WOODHALL 2	EDWARD CAUNCE 6
*THOMAS GILMOUR 3	WALTER HUGHES 7
*HENRY FYLES 4	JAMES MARTIN Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and
Conducted by WALTER HUGHES.

* First peal in the method.

HARLOW COMMON, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 13, 1912, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALEN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

REV. W. S. WILLETT Treble	HARRY BOTTRILL 5
WALTER HOBBS 2	JOHN SMITH 6
GEORGE DENT 3	JOHN CORDELL 7
ISAAC CAVILL 4	HARRY SMALE Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY, and
Conducted by G. DENT.

This composition, published in "The Ringing World" of Nov. 10th, 1911, contains the 4th and 6th the extent in 5—6 and eleven 8—6s. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

ASHTEAD, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 13, 1912, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT's ORIGINAL.

Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN WYATT Treble	WILLIAM H. CORBETT 5
JOHN HOYLE 2	THOMAS TUTTE 6
*GEORGE COOK 3	RICHARD KENDALL 7
JOHN CRAWFORD 4	WILLIAM COOK Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM H. CORBETT.

* First peal with a bob bell. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Crawford, eldest daughter of Mr. J. Crawford, also to G. Cook.

CHESTER.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(CHESTER BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, February 13, 1912, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY WITHOUT-THE-WALLS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

A VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

SAMUEL JONES, Senr. Treble	JAMES MORGAN 5
ROBERT SPERRING 2	PERCY H. SMITH 6
WILLIAM SCONCE 3	HENRY W. WILDE 7
ARTHUR L. SMITH 4	WILLIAM THOMAS Tenor

Conducted by HENRY W. WILDE.

This peal was specially arranged for Mr. A. L. Smith, of Fenton, Staffordshire.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 14, 1912, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN SMART Treble	WILLIAM J. ALLISS ... 5
ERNEST LISH 2	HENRY STALHAM ... 6
*GEORGE GANDER 3	EDMUND LINDUP ... 7
†GEORGE PAYNE 4	GEORGE GATLAND ... Tenor

Conducted by E. LINDUP.

* First peal. † Fiftieth peal.

NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 15, 1912, in Three Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, ELSWICK,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S No. 6.

Tenor 30 cwt.

WILLIAM STORY Treble	ERNEST E. FERRY ... 5
BENJAMIN C. DIXON ... 2	THOMAS T. GOFTON ... 6
JOSEPH E. R. KEEN ... 3	WILLIAM H. BARBER ... 7
ALFRED F. HILLIER ... 4	OSWALD SIMM ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM H. BARBER.

The composition was rung as a five-part. The peal was rung with the bells half muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. W. D. Crudas, donor of the church tower and bells.

BODMIN, CORNWALL.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, February 17, 1912, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETROC,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qrs. 18 lbs.

WARREN HORNBRIDGE ... Treble	JOSEPH WOODLEY ... 5
ERNEST W. MARSH ... 2	FRANK HOCKADAY ... 6
REGINALD A. H. DOBSON ... 3	WILLIAM FORD ... 7
WALTER H. MARSH ... 4	GEORGE R. STROUD ... Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST W. MARSH.

Ringling was started at 3.33 p.m. and there was service at 6.30 p.m., the Vicar kindly allowing the ringers to finish the peal after the service had started.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 17, 1912, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

ALBERT MITCHELL ... Treble	ALBERT HARMAN ... 5
FREDK. W. RICE ... 2	GEORGE F. HOAD ... 6
HENRY F. EWINS ... 3	GEORGE ILLMAN ... 7
ALFRED D. MILLS ... 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS ... Tenor

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL, and
Conducted by OLIVER SIPPETTS.

BECKENHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 17, 1912, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

*GEORGE WICKENS ... Treble	FREDERICK TERRY ... 5
GEORGE DURLING ... 2	JOHN B. LOVELL ... 6
*GEORGE W. CLARKE ... 3	WALTER SMITH ... 7
FREDRICK KING ... 4	†JOHN WINN ... Tenor

Conducted by WALTER SMITH.

* First peal in the method. † First peal. Rung in honour of the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. F. Terry.

STANFORD-ON-SOAR, NOTTS.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 17, 1912, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

WILLIAM TRIGG ... Treble	JOHN YATES, Senr. ... 5
GEORGE WILSON ... 2	*JOHN OLDHAM ... 6
HARRY WHITTLE ... 3	EDWARD READER ... 7
WILLIAM PERVIN ... 4	*WILLIAM THORLEY ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by HARRY WHITTLE.

* First peal of Grandsire. This peal was rung to celebrate the coming of age of the only son of the Rev. C. L. Vashou Baker, Rector of Stanford. The ringers of 6 and 7 belong to All Saints, Loughborough, the rest to the Stanford Band.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 17, 1912, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt., in E.

*ALLEN F. BAILEY ... Treble	JAMES M. BAILEY ... 5
CHARLES F. BAILEY ... 2	ERNEST S. BAILEY ... 6
FREDERICK W. BAILEY ... 3	NORMAN R. BAILEY ... 7
CHARLES SAMSON ... 4	EDGAR H. BAILEY ... Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS, and
Conducted by NORMAN R. BAILEY.

* First peal in the method by A. F. Bailey, who is 15 years of age. First peal in the method as conductor.

DARLINGTON.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 17, 1912, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

*FRANK SMITH ... Treble	LEONARD F. TAYLOR ... 5
RICHARD MONCASTER ... 2	JAMES BAXTER ... 6
HARRY PEVERELL ... 3	WILLIAM BROADLEY ... 7
G. W. PEVERELL ... 4	WILLIAM H. PORTER ... Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES, and
Conducted by JAMES BAXTER.

* First peal in the method. L. F. Taylor hails from Croydon and was elected a member of the Association before starting.

ROCHESTER, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 17, 1912, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION.

Tenor 13½ cwt., in G.

WILLIAM HAIGH ... Treble	THOMAS MANNERING ... 5
WILLIAM EASTER ... 2	WILLIAM I. WALKER ... 6
*CHARLES WINNER ... 3	EDWARD A. G. ALLEN ... 7
FRANK BENNETT ... 4	*WILLIAM R. HUNT ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

* First peal in the method. First peal of Stedman on the bells.

THRAPSTON, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 17, 1912, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt. 0 qrs. 7 lbs.

*JOHN COLEMAN ... Treble	LEONARD J. WYMAN ... 5
JAMES M. NICKERSON ... 2	THOMAS JERVIS ... 6
†DANIEL REDHEAD ... 3	†REGINALD C. LOVEDAY ... 7
*FREDERICK ARNOLD ... 4	*CHARLES ARNOLD ... Tenor

Conducted by JAMES M. NICKERSON.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal in the method. ‡ First peal with a bob bell. First peal in the method as conductor.

MIDDLETON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(ROCHDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 17, 1912, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN HOLLOWES Treble	JOSEPH OGDEN 5
WILLIAM SCHOFIELD 2	WILLIAM CRABTREE 6
THOMAS OLDHAM 3	HUGH REYNOLDS 7
*HARRY WHITEHEAD 4	THOMAS WELLEN Tenor

Conducted by HUGH REYNOLDS.

* First peal. The ringers wish to thank Mr. and Mrs. Hollows, who kindly entertained them.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 17, 1912, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH, CITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN W. JONES Treble	WILLIAM KNIGHT 5
ARTHUR E. MORGAN 2	GEORGE CONDOCK 6
GEORGE SEWARD 3	JOHN A. BURFORD 7
HENRY T. HOWELL 4	HARRY BROWNJOHN Tenor

Conducted by JOHN A. BURFORD.

This peal was arranged for Messrs. J. W. Jones and A. E. Morgan, of Newport, Mon.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, February 18, 1912, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. REMIGIUS,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

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

Composed by the late Rev. H. EARLE BULWER, and
Conducted by F. J. HOWCHIN.

SUNBURY, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
THE LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, February 19, 1912, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

BERTRAM PREWETT Treble	WILLIAM WELLING 5
JOHN HOWES 2	GEORGE SPENCER 6
JOHN H. B. HESSE 3	ALAN R. MACDONALD 7
HENRY C. CHANDLER 4	WILLIAM WARNE Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. MACDONALD.

First peal of Triples as conductor. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. P. C. West, the new Vicar of Sunbury.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

BARTON SEAGRAVE, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 10, 1912, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 16 Six-scores of Plain Bob and 26 Six-scores of Grandsire.
Tenor 12 cwt.

*ALBERT FAIRMANS Treble	THOMAS ABBOTT 3
G. HENRY PATRICK 2	VICTOR CLARKE 4
MATTHIAS HOBBS Tenor	

Conducted by MATTHIAS HOBBS.

* First peal. A. Pairmains was elected a member previous to starting.

STONY STRATFORD, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, February 13, 1912, in Two Hours and Fifty-one Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, College Pleasure, College Exercise, London Scholars' Pleasure, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent.
Tenor 12½ cwt.

ALFRED CLARK Treble	WALTER W. BONHAM 4
*HERBERT J. TUCKER 2	THOMAS C. TOMPKINS 5
EDWIN YATES 3	CECIL A. VALENTINE Tenor

Conducted by CECIL A. VALENTINE.

* First peal of Treble Bob Minor. First peal of Treble Bob on the bells; also the first by a local band.

BROMFIELD, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, February 15, 1912, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 42 Six-scores.

Tenor 9 cwt.

*GEORGE D. ACTON Treble	*CHARLES H. SPARKS 4
FRANCIS S. WILSON 2	WILLIAM SHORT 5
WILLIAM R. NASH 3	ARTHUR NASON Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

* First peal on the bells. W. Short hails from Clent, C. H. Sparkes from Withington, and the rest of the band hail from Ludlow. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar, the Rev. James Mackay, for kindly granting the use of the bells.

CRANSLEY, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 17, 1912, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Oxford Bob, Grandsire, Canterbury, and Plain Bob.

DAVID J. NICHOLS Treble	GEORGE HOLLAND 4
FREDERICK C. WOOLLEY 2	ALBERT E. WYKES 5
PERCY J. LENTON 3	HORACE W. SHARMAN Tenor

Conducted by DAVID J. NICHOLS.

First peal in seven methods on the bells, and the first in seven methods by all except the conductor.

HARTLIP, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 17, 1912, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

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

WILLIAM G. KITCHINGHAM Treble	WILLIAM NYE 4
WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS 2	THOMAS JULL 5
WILLIAM T. HYLAND 3	ALBERT J. DAY Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT J. DAY.

BRANDON, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, February 18, 1912, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 11 cwt.

*FREDERICK SALTER Treble	*ALFRED TURNER 4
ALFRED MACRO 2	WILLIAM STANNARD 5
*PERCY FORDHAM 3	THOMAS FITZJOHN Tenor

Conducted by T. FITZJOHN.

* First peal. First peal on the bells. Mr. Stannard was proposed a member before starting.

HANDBELL PEALS.**CAMBRIDGE.****THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.**

*On Wednesday, February 14, 1912, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,
IN THE PRESIDENT'S ROOMS, TRINITY COLLEGE,*

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANCES;

REV. A. H. F. BOUGHEY... 1—2	*REGINALD O. STREET ... 5—6
E. MAURICE ATKINS ... 3—4	REV. H. S. T. RICHARDSON 7—8
REV. B. H. TYRWHITT DRAKE ... 9—10	

Composed and Conducted by E. M. ATKINS.
Umpire, F. R. WHITE.

* First peal of Royal.

KETTERING, NORTHANTS.**THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

*On Wednesday, February 14, 1912, in Two Hours and Twenty-five Minutes,
AT 7, THE BROADWAY,*

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

REGGIE CHAPMAN ... 1—2	DAVID J. NICHOLS ... 5—6
J. EDWARD CHAPMAN ... 3—4	ALBERT V. INNS ... 7—8

Composed by G. H. MARTIN, and
Conducted by DAVID J. NICHOLS.
Umpire: L. CHAPMAN.

SHEFFIELD.**THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

(ST. PETER'S AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.)

*On Thursday, February 15, 1912, in Two Hours and Twenty-seven Minutes,
AT 31, BURGESS STREET,*

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANCES;

JOHN THORPE ... 1—2	*GEORGE LEWIS ... 5—6
CLEMENT GLENN ... 3—4	R. WILFRED COLLIER ... 7—8

Composed by H. HUBBARD, and
Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.
Umpire: JOSEPH ATKIN.

* First peal in the method. This is the first handbell peal to be rung in the method.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.**THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

*On Tuesday, February 20, 1912, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. J. PARKER, 97, EDENBRIDGE ROAD,
BUSH HILL PARK,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

WILBY J. HAZELL ... 1—2	JOHN THOMAS ... 5—6
MISS E. K. PARKER ... 3—4	JAMES PARKER ... 7—8

Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

Umpire: MR. JOHN H. BENSTEAD.

First peal on handbells by all except the conductor. Rung at the third attempt. First peal by a lady with two bob bells. First peal in the method by Miss Parker.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.**THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

*On Tuesday, February 20, 1912, in Two Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH,*

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATER, 5079 CHANCES;

JAMES HUNT ... 1—2	CHARLES WILLSHIRE ... 5—6
ALFRED H. PULLING ... 3—4	MAURICE SMITHER ... 7—8
FRANK BLONDELL ... 9—10	

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, and
Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.
Umpire: S. RADFORD.

This composition has the quarter peals alternately in the tittums and handstroke positions. The conductor's 250th peal and F. Blondell's 150th.

LATE PEAL.**EPSOM, SURREY.****THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.**

*On Monday, February 19, 1912, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,*

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

WILLIAM ROBINSON ... Treble	JOHN CRAWFORD ... 5
RICHARD KENDALL ... 2	THOMAS TUTTE ... 6
THOMAS GOTT ... 3	ALLAN GOWER ... 7
THOMAS MILES ... 4	ROBERT ETHERINGTON ... Tenor

Conducted by ALLAN GOWER.

RINGING CONTEST.**HALIFAX ASSOCIATION'S COMPETITION.**

The general meeting and eight-bell contest of the Halifax and District Association was held at Earlsheaton on Saturday week, when the bells and schools were kindly placed at the disposal of the members by the Vicar (the Rev. C. P. Davies). Four companies entered for the contest, each set ringing 672 changes of Treble Bob, preceded by a plain course for practice. The judges were Mr. Broadley, of Bradford, and Mr. Idle, of Earlsheaton. During the afternoon a splendid tea was served to the visitors, who numbered about 70.

The general meeting was held in the Schoolroom at the conclusion of the ringing, the president (Mr. Lawson) being in the chair, supported by the Vicar and the society's officers. It became known that the first and third companies had tied in the contest, and at an emergency committee meeting it was decided they should each ring a long course. The general meeting then proceeded, Mr. Cotterell acting for the secretary, who was in one of the teams that had to ring off.

The place for the next meeting was left in the hands of the committee. A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of their bells and schools, and to the local company and the ladies for providing the tea so admirably, was proposed by the chairman, who wished the Earlsheaton company every success in the next contest. The motion was seconded by Mr. Dransfield, and carried by acclamation.

The Vicar, in responding, welcomed the Association to Earlsheaton. He said he had heard about lady ringers in the Midlands, and he thought there ought to be some in their district. They were very proud of their bells at Earlsheaton, upon which had been rung a peal of 16,608 changes in about 10 hours. That afternoon he had had the pleasure of meeting two of the ringers who had taken part in the peal, Mr. Bailey and Mr. Garforth. The Vicar added that the ladies were always ready to help, and no doubt would do so next week, if required (applause).

THE RESULT OF THE CONTEST.

The judges announced that in the first attempt the following was the result: No. 1 company, Liversedge, 280 faults; No. 2, Pudsey, 294; No. 3, Brighouse, 280; No. 4, Mixed Company, 383.

In the deciding course the result was:—

Brighouse	183 faults.
Liversedge	187 faults.

Brighouse were, therefore, declared the winners.

The Vicar, in presenting the cup to Mr. Drake, the conductor of the winning team, said he had heard that Brighouse had won the cup ten times. He thought it was a great performance, and he congratulated them heartily.

Mr. Drake, in acknowledgment, said he hoped every company would try to win the cup. He referred to the readiness with which the Vicar had allowed them the use of the bells, and to the encouragement which he gave the ringers. Mr. Drake then proposed a vote of thanks to the judges. This was seconded by Mr. Robinson, and carried, and Mr. Broadley having replied, a vote of thanks to the chairman brought a very successful meeting to a close.

DEATH OF MR. RICHARD RIDYARD.

With much regret we have to announce the death of Mr. Richard Ridyard, one of the most prominent and respected members of the Lancashire Association, who has passed away at his residence at Worsley, near Manchester. The deceased was a member of the Committee of the Lancashire Association, and had rung a large number of peals. The funeral will take place at St. Mark's Church, Worsley, near Manchester, to-morrow (Saturday) at 3 p.m.

ECCLESTON, CHESHIRE.—Chester Diocesan Guild.—On Tuesday, Feb. 6th, in honour of the marriage of Mr. Basil Kerr (Estate Agent to His Grace the Duke of Westminster) and Miss Winifred Blezard, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. Edwards 1, W. Morgan 2, J. Thomas 3, R. Sperring (conductor) 4, W. Thomas 5, P. H. Smith 6, J. Morgan 7, Jos. Thomas 8.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, GUILD.**ANNUAL DINNER.**

Under the chairmanship of the Rector and President (the Rev. H. S. Anson), the annual dinner of the Southover, Lewes, Guild took place on Wednesday week at the King's Head Inn. Mr. J. R. Lusted (people's warden and vice-president) was in the vice-chair, and others present included Messrs. T. A. Stewart-Jones (Rector's warden) and J. T. Glandfield (vice-presidents), A. J. Turner (captain and secretary), W. Boyes, E. A. Card, A. Cooper, V. Green, W. Groves, J. A. Hart (Uckfield), Keith Hart (Brighton), John Hillman (who was a ringer 60 years ago), Edward Hillman, W. Moore, G. W. Moppett, Richardson (2), S. W. Shoesmith, F. Sturt, G. Sturt, D. Turner, J. Walker, A. Whale, etc.

The loyal toasts were given from the chair, and Mr. F. Sturt then proposed "The President and Vice-Presidents of the Guild" in an appreciative little speech, especially thanking the Rector and churchwardens for the great interest they took in the Guild.—The Rector, in reply, said how pleased he was to meet them all again on that festive occasion. In passing, he mentioned their old friend and secretary, Mr. H. H. Ebrall (who is now in Western Australia), and referred to the absence of the steeple keeper (Mr. A. Langridge), who met with an accident in the belfry more than two months ago, and was still in hospital. He (the Rector) was, however, in hopes that he would soon be about again. The reverend gentleman gave the ringers some very good advice, and said that their ringing on Sundays was really a part of the service of the day. They must look on it as an honour and privilege. The Rector wished he could take a greater part in what they did in their especial way, but he frequently thought of them, and he now and always wished them everything that was good.

Mr. T. A. Stewart-Jones returned thanks in a semi-humorous manner, which much amused the company. He recounted little incidents of his boyhood which caused much laughter. He much appreciated their kind toast, and said that he hoped to meet the Guild at their next quarterly meeting, when he would be able to have some business talk to them.—Mr. J. R. Lusted also responded, and thanked the Guild for their kind reception. He alluded to the muffled peals which had been rather frequent of late years, for respected parishioners who had gone beyond, and which tended to show that bell-ringing was not always the cheerful occupation which it was generally supposed to be. He was proud to be a vice-president, and hoped he might long occupy that position.—Mr. J. T. Glandfield, in response, gave a short dissertation on various matters connected with the Guild, and obtained permission to again celebrate St. George's Day in the usual (Southover) manner.

Mr. E. A. Card, in proposing "The Southover Bell Ringers' Guild," alluded to the time given by the ringers, who were a voluntary body, and who were always ready to give their expert services when required.—Mr. A. J. Turner, who replied, said he was pleased to say that they had got through the last year satisfactorily. He gave a short account of what had been done, and hoped that they would progress more and more as the years went on.

Other toasts were "The Vice-Chairman" and "The Hostess," which were enthusiastically received.—During the evening the two churchwardens placed some extra refreshments on the table, and were heartily thanked for their kindness. Among those who contributed to the harmony of the evening were Messrs. J. R. Lusted, G. Sturt, Card, F. Baker, Groves, J. A. and K. Hart, Moppett, F. Richardson, A. J. Turner and D. Turner. Mr. John Hillman gave a recitation, and members of the Guild contributed several selections on their beautiful handbells. The accompanist was Mr. A. E. Avis.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**READING BRANCH PROGRESS.**

The members of the Reading branch held their annual meeting at Reading, on Saturday week, but the funeral of one of the members (Mr. A. W. Reeves), who was interred in Caversham Cemetery in the afternoon, naturally cast a gloom over the proceedings. The bells of St. Mary's and St. Giles' Churches, Reading, were rung half-muffled, the whole pull and stand being rung at St. Giles'. Service was held at St. Mary's, and a splendid sermon was preached by the Master (the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn). Afterwards the meeting was held at St. Giles' Hall, Mr. W. P. Routh being in the chair. The balance sheet was passed as satisfactory.—Mr. W. P. Routh was re-elected president of the branch; Mr. A. W. Osborne, hon. secretary and treasurer; and Mr. W. Appleby (of Henley-on-Thames) was elected to serve on the committee. The foremen of the various towers gave their report of the year's work, all with one exception being very satisfactory. The Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis also gave some very interesting information as to the progress of the Guild compared with twenty-one years ago.

Members were present from Checkendon, Henley, Binfield, Caversham, and the three Reading towers.—Regret was expressed by Mr. Routh at the death of Mr. A. W. Reeves, and he asked them to postpone the musical part of the evening on that account. This was at once agreed to, and it was decided to hold the 'smoker' at Henley-on-Thames on Saturday, April 20th.—The members then dispersed and visited the three towers in the town, where ringing was again indulged in.

BRIGG BELLS.**CAN THE TREBLES BE REPLACED?***To the Editor.*

Sir,—I carefully perused your leading article of the 2nd inst. regarding the action of the Church authorities at Brigg, and it appears to me that, although they did a thing—by parting with their two trebles—that all members of the change ringing community deplore, there is still a faint ray of hope for the church to possess a peal of eight bells. If they have nearly £100 in hand, what are they going to do with that money? I, for one, think it ought to be devoted to the purpose it was intended for—the restoration of the bells, and for nothing else. It seems to me that if the Church authorities could be persuaded, they could purchase their bells back from Messrs. Warner and Sons, who may not have melted them down yet. I do not profess to know much about the cost of bells, but I presume that at any rate they would not have to raise a very large sum, in addition to what they have in hand, in order to do this, for the trebles must be very light, as the tenor only weighs 9 cwt. If the founders have disposed of the bells, why not purchase new ones, when there is this large sum in hand from the fund. But how can the Church officials at Brigg be persuaded to adopt one of those two courses? I suggest, if they have not taken the matter in hand, that the Lincoln Diocesan Guild use their best endeavours to persuade the Church officials to secure their two old bells or two new ones. Perhaps that great exponent of change ringing, the Rev. H. Law James, could use his influence to adjust the deplorable state of affairs, if he has not had an opportunity of speaking on the subject up to the present. The iron wants striking while it is hot. No time ought to be lost, or delay may mean that the balance in hand may be handed over to some other object, and then every opportunity of bringing back to Brigg, that which never ought to have been parted with, will never occur again.—Yours truly,
Rye. GEO. BILLENNESS.

ASTON RINGER'S DEATH.

We regret to have to announce the death of Mr. John Paulton, a member of the Aston Parish Church Society.

Deceased, who was 35 years of age, succumbed to pneumonia on Thursday, the 8th inst., after a week's illness. He was a most popular member of the Aston Society, his geniality, good humour and uprightness commending him to all with whom he came in contact. His ringing career, unfortunately, was a short one, extending only over a period of three years, in the course of which he had taken part in five peals—three of Grandsire Triples and two of Grandsire Caters. His last peal was rung exactly a month previous to the day of his death, this being a half-muffled peal on the occasion of the funeral of the late Mr. Thos. Reynolds. The Aston Society have lost a most loyal supporter, one who was always in his place at either practice or service ringing. The deceased had been looking forward to his first peal of Stedman, a method he had taken up very earnestly.

The funeral took place on Tuesday week, at Aston, the mortal remains being carried to the grave by six of the deceased's fellow ringers.

An attempt was made on Tuesday night for a half-muffled peal of Grandsire Caters (conducted by Mr. John Carter), but owing to the muffle on the tenor becoming loose, the bells were brought round, after ringing 1 hr. 10 mins.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**NEW WESTERN BRANCH SECRETARY.**

A most successful meeting of the Western Branch was held at St. John-in-Bedwardine, about 40 members being present, representing nearly every tower in the district, and including the Rev. Sidney Phillips (clerical secretary), the Rev. J. F. Hastings, of Martley, and the Master, Mr. T. J. Salter. Service was held in the church, the address being given by the Vicar, the Rev. J. H. Waugh. A most enjoyable tea was provided by the kindness of the Vicar and Mrs. Waugh, who were heartily thanked for their kindness.

At the business meeting, the Rev. S. Phillips took the chair. The gentleman appointed as branch secretary at the last meeting being unable to accept the office, two names were brought forward for the post, Mr. R. G. Knowles, of Madresfield, being elected by a large majority.—It was decided to hold the next meeting at Martley, on July 6th, an invitation from Strensham being held over for consideration then. As usual, the quarterly peal was arranged to be rung at the tower at which the meeting was held, and Mr. R. G. Knowles was appointed conductor.—Several new members were elected, including the Strensham ringers, and the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman, the organist, and the Rev. and Mrs. Waugh.

The bells, a peal of six, tenor 16 cwt., originally cast by R. Sanders, of Bromsgrove, in 1707, were kept going during the afternoon and evening in various methods of Minor and Doubles.

ASTON MANOR.—On Sunday, Feb. 18th, at the Parish Church, for evening service, 1260 Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: W. Davies 1, J. Jones 2, A. Jones 3, H. Jones 4, J. Hopkin 5, W. G. Ellis 6, F. Bennett (conductor) 7, C. Allen 8.

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All communications should be addressed to the office of
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rung after Saturday will be accepted up to Wednesday
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OUR ILLUSTRATION.

THE SECRETARY OF THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

To-morrow Birmingham will commemorate the birthday of one of the most celebrated men that ever adorned the Exercise—Henry Johnson, who was born 103 years ago. It is, therefore, not inappropriate that our illustration this week should concern a member of the St. Martin's Guild, in the making of whose history Henry Johnson played so prominent a part. The Guild is one of the oldest of the provincial organisations, and its members are scattered throughout the country. For a century and a half the organisation was merely one attached to the mother church of Birmingham, one of the great centres of twelve-bell ringing. When, however, in 1905 Birmingham was elevated to the dignity of an Episcopal See, and St. Martin's became a cathedral church, the society, progressing with the times, widened its sphere and became St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham.



MR. ALF. PADDON SMITH.

Mr. Alf. Paddon Smith, who is now the honorary secretary of the Guild, is one of that younger generation of ringers who are carrying on, and adding lustre to, the great traditions of the society. Mr. Smith comes of ringing stock. He is the fourth successive generation of his family to take up the Exercise, and ringing is "in the blood," so to speak. Born on March 26th, 1881, at West Bromwich, not very far from the Old Church, at which his father was then a ringer, his maternal grandfather, Paul Cashmore, was in his day a well-known Treble Bob composer, and one of his peals of Treble Bob Major is a very excellent composition, and is to be found in "Treble Bob." Paul Cashmore married a daughter of Mr. William Marsh, who, on April 17th, 1820, rang the eleventh at St. Martin's to the first peal of "New" Treble Bob Maximus (which we now know as Kent) ever rung. This was a 7200, and occupied 5 hours 8 minutes. He also rang the tenor in the same tower to a peal of Stedman Cinques on December 28th, 1820. This was a 6600

in 4 hours 35 minutes, and is supposed to be the first peal of Stedman Cinques rung out of London. If any of our readers have any record of an earlier peal than this Mr. Smith will be glad to have chapter and verse.

One of Mr. Smith's earliest recollections is that of being taken to the belfry on Sunday mornings by his father, and it was on one of these occasions that, at the tender age of five years, he first pulled off a bell. It happened thus: On Sundays the bells were frequently chimed, and in the intervals the interested young man used to swing on the ropes. One morning, however, the bells were rung, and, on the conclusion of a touch, before anyone noticed him, he caught hold of a rope, and the inevitable happened. Smith, junior, was soon floundering on the floor, while the rope went up and became entangled with the guides. After being duly admonished he was escorted hurriedly from the belfry, and dire penalties were threatened if ever he came to the belfry again and failed to sit quite still.

Mr. Smith was taught to ring at Handsworth by the late Mr. William Verry, and rang his first peal there—Grandsire Triples—at the age of 15 years, with the Staffordshire Society. Eventually he gravitated to St. Martin's, where the opportunities for twelve bell ringing and the grand peal of bells formed a very great attraction. He became a regular attendant, and rang his first peal of Stedman Cinques on September 16th, 1901. Mr. Smith simply glories in the traditions of the ancient Guild, which in twelve bell ringing, at any rate, are quite unique. He is extremely proud of the position which he holds of secretary to the Guild, to which he was elected in October, 1909, on the retirement of Mr. W. H. Godden, who had held the office for more than 20 years. Mr. Smith's favourite ringing is Stedman Cinques, than which, in his opinion, no finer or more majestic music can be produced on church bells, and he has rung every bell in St. Martin's tower to a peal in this method. He has never, however, turned his attention to conducting, probably because in Birmingham there is to-day, as there always has been, a plentiful supply of first class conductors.

Mr. Smith's peal record is as follows:—

Stedman Cinques	46
Stedman Caters	18
Stedman Triples	20
Grandsire Maximus	1
Grandsire Caters	4
Grandsire Major	1
Grandsire Triples	13
Kent Treble Bob Maximus ..	2
Kent Treble Bob Royal ...	3
Kent Treble Bob Major ...	2
Bob Maximus	1
Bob Royal	1
Bob Major	3
Bob Triples	1
Forward Maximus	2 (only 2 ever rung).
Double Norwich Major ...	6
Superlative Surprise Major	10
Cambridge Surprise Major	7
Cambridge Surprise Royal	1
Erin Cinques	1 (only 1 ever rung).

Total ... 143

Of three of the peals of Stedman Cinques rung at St. Martin's he is particularly proud. The first of these was a short course peal on November 25th, 1902, one of the only two short course peals of Stedman Cinques ever rung (the

other, by-the-by, having also been rung in Birmingham); another rung on February 21st, 1905, was absolutely faultless, not a word being spoken except the calls, and not a bad blow struck; the third was rung by the Sunday ringers on June 22nd, 1911, and was the only twelve bell peal rung on Coronation Day.

ODD CHANGES.

A peal of Doubles on handbells in ten methods by two ringers would be a distinctly clever performance. It was attempted at Brewood, Staffs, the other day by J. Perry 1-2-3, T. Perry 4-5-6, but after ringing 2520 changes in six methods in 1 hour 12 minutes a change course brought the ringing to an end. The umpire was Mr. R. Pickering. Previously an attempt had been made at the Parish Church for Holt's Original, but it was lost owing to a change course after 1 hour 7 minutes.

The band at Cransley are heartily to be congratulated upon their perseverance with change ringing, and upon scoring their first peal in seven methods. They have been confronted with difficulties, not the least being that the bells are badly out of repair, and are rung with over 60 feet of rope and without guides. The bells were thought by ringers in the district to be unringable in changes, as it was always a speculation whether the man at the end of the rope would catch the salley. With the assistance of Mr. D. J. Nichols, the local men have triumphed over obstacles, and it is hoped, now that there is a good hard working band at Cransley, that the Churchmen will see that their bells are put into good ringing order.

A correspondent writes to point out that a peal of Grandsire Doubles was published last week in which it was stated that the six-scores were "each called differently," whereas this was not the case, only three callings being used. Those who are responsible for sending in reports of peals ought to be, before everything else, accurate. There can be no object in misleading the Exercise, and it must be poor satisfaction to the ringers to take credit for something they have not done. *Verb. Sap.*

Among the great performances of the past one frequently hears reference made to the peal of 40,000 rung at Leeds in Kent. Some people still treat the matter with scepticism, but the performance was duly recorded in the newspapers of that time. A cutting from the "Country News," dated April 10th, 1761, is preserved by Mr. F. A. Barnett, of Farnham, who came into possession of it with a box, upon the lid of which the record is stuck. A few of the words are unreadable owing to age, but the paragraph will doubtless interest many of our readers.

"On Tuesday last, the day of election of members to represent. . . (1) in Parliament when the Hon. Robert Fairfax, of . . . (2) Sir Wyndham Knatchbull, Bart., were chosen . . . the Leeds Youths went off to ring a peal of Bob Major, consisting of 40,300, being the whole number of changes upon eight bells, which was completed in 27 hours by fourteen men only, namely, James, Thomas, and Abraham Barham, Henry and William Tilbury, Thomas Lacey, John Crips, Richard Masters, James Hampton, William Davis, Edward Cook, William Hatwood, Stephen Bayley and John Boorah. The peal was never rung or ever attempted to be rung by any set of

ringers in this kingdom. Whenever it is performed by any other set the above named Youths are determined to maintain their superiority in all others by ringing all the changes upon ten bells." (1) Mid-Kent; (2) Leeds Castle.

Allen Bailey, the youngest of the eight Leiston brothers, has rung his first peal of Treble Bob Major, and as there were six of his brothers ringing with him, there will doubtless soon be a Bailey peal of Treble Bob, followed by a family peal in a Surprise Method.

The first peal of Maximus upon the bells of St. Nicholas, Liverpool, was rung on Saturday night, by a band of Sheffield, Manchester and Liverpool ringers, and the performance sets the seal upon the excellent work which Messrs. Warner and Sons have carried out in rehanging the bells. The restoration was carried out under difficulties, but the Treble Twelve shows how completely the bell founders have done their work. It is 30 years since a peal was rung at St. Nicholas, and everyone was delighted with the "go" of the bells, and Mr. Robert Warner was afterwards congratulated by the ringers. Mr. Arthur Jacob, who is one of Messrs. Warner's employes, and who used to be more conspicuous in the Exercise than he is to-day, took part in the peal.

The Henry Johnson commemoration dinner at Birmingham to-morrow promises to be a big success. A large and representative company is expected, and a most enjoyable programme has been arranged.

DEATH OF AN OLD RINGER.

REMINISCENCES OF THE "FORTIES."

The death of Mr. George Walder, of Bolney, Sussex, took place on Monday, 12th February, at his residence at Bolney Street, after a short illness. The deceased, who was in his 89th year, was connected with the choir and ringers at the Parish Church for upwards of 65 years. In the "forties" the Bolney ringers were famed throughout the county for their excellent striking; in fact, their pride in that respect eventually proved their downfall.

In the early forties, Mr. Walder, with several other young men, were anxious to learn something about ringing, but owing to the conservatism of the older men they never had a chance to do anything beyond raising the bells or ringing a few rounds. In 1847 the churchwardens granted the young men a separate practice night, and requested the older men not to molest them. Soon after this, however, the leader of the young men, with other members, joined the Mormon movement, eventually going to Salt Lake City; and the hand of death was also busy among the older men, three being removed in one year. As a result, ringing at Bolney sank to a very low ebb for many years, but Mr. Walder stuck to the bells, and obtained all the ringing that was possible. The present "Bolney Ringers' Society" was formed in 1886, and provision made for regular practice, but it was not until 1894 that the first peal, Grandsire Triples, was achieved. This was Mr. Walder's first and only peal, and was the first by a local band for upwards of 49 years. Mr. Walder was then in his 72nd year. On his 80th birthday his brother ringers presented him with a grandfather's chair, fitted with a book rest, and on his 85th birthday he assisted in ringing a 504 Grandsire Triples, in which three generations of the Walder family took part. He was appointed parish clerk in March, 1862, and held the office until October, 1902 (46½ years), when advancing years compelled him to resign. Owing to the generosity of the late Vicar (the Rev. T. Austen Holcroft), and other leading gentlemen of the parish, he was enabled to end his days in comparative ease and comfort. He was twice married, and celebrated two silver weddings. He leaves a widow and four sons and two daughters by his first marriage.

The interment took place at the Parish Church on Saturday last, amid every token of sympathy and respect. The newly-appointed Vicar (the Rev. E. W. Michell) officiated. The coffin, which bore the inscription: "George Walder, died Feb. 12th, 1912, age 88 years," was borne from the house to the church, and from thence to the grave by four of his brother ringers, and was lowered into its final resting place by three sons and three grandsons.

After the funeral the bells were rung half-muffled, as a token of respect and esteem, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Vincent, being brought round; also a 504 and 168 in the same method.

St. Nicholas, Liverpool, Tenor.

39 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lbs.



JOHN WARNER & SONS, LIMITED

(By Royal Warrant to H. M. King George V),
Bell Founders and Bell Hangers,

CRESCENT FOUNDRY,
Spelman Street, LONDON, N.E.

ESTABLISHED 1763.

THE LINCOLN GUILD. GAINSBOROUGH DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Gainsborough District of the Lincoln Guild was held at Gainsborough on Saturday last, ringers being present from Brigg, Hirston-in-Lindsey, Willingham, Haxey, West Stockwith, and Workop, in addition to the local company. During the afternoon and evening touches of Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Minor, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major, were rung.—A short service was held in the Parish Church, when an instructive address was given by the Rev. A. C. P. Burles (curate).—Tea was provided at the King's Arms Coffee Tavern, and Mr. F. F. Linley presided at the business meeting which followed. Three members were elected, and the following officers were re-appointed: Vice-president, Canon Standen; district secretary, F. S. W. Butler; district ringing master, J. C. Tinker; representative on the Northern branch committee, J. T. Ladd.—It was decided to hold each of the district meetings one month earlier, so that the annual meeting will fall in January instead of February, as in previous years.—The District Secretary read a letter of appeal asking for assistance toward the rehanging of Shoreditch Parish Church bells, but it being pointed out that a tower in the Northern branch was making an appeal of the same kind, it was decided to let the letter from Shoreditch lie on the table.—Votes of thanks brought the business to a close.—The ringers then returned to the church, and indulged in further ringing.

EASTERN COUNTIES BRANCH.

A meeting of the Eastern Counties branch was held at Moulton on Saturday last, and was well attended, ringers being present from Moulton, Long Sutton, Clenchwarton, Terrington, Spalding, Pinchbeck, Surfleet, Donington, Bicker and Deeping St. Nicholas. Dinner was provided by Mrs. Redhead at the Swan Inn, about 35 sitting down to an excellent repast, under the presidency of the Vicar (the Rev. C. J. S. Ward), supported by the Revs. H. Law James, J. P. S. Harris, Canon Hicks, of Lincoln, and the churchwardens (Messrs. R. F. King and H. Clark). After the toast of "The Church and King," several new members were elected. Gosberton was selected for the next meeting, on Whit-Monday.—The Treasurer presented the balance sheet for the past year, which was duly passed, subject to audit by Mr. R. Richardson.—Service was afterwards held in the church, when an excellent address was given by Canon Hicks.—Tea was kindly provided by the ladies of the parish, their kindness, needless to say, being much appreciated. During the day the bells were kept going in touches of Bob Minor, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, etc.

PRESENTATION AT MACHYNLLETH.

A very enjoyable evening was spent by the members of the Machynlleth Guild at their annual dinner, held at the Ship Hotel, on Thursday week. The President of the Guild (the Rev. C. P. Price, Rector) was in the chair, supported by Major H. E. Bousall, Dr. A. O. Davies, and Messrs. F. M. Campbell, D. E. R. Griffith and R. Gillart. The loyal toast was enthusiastically honoured, followed by "The Bishop and Clergy" and "The Army, Navy and Territorial Forces." "The Machynlleth Guild" was proposed by the Chairman, who complimented the members upon their progress during the year, and upon their excellent attendance.—Mr. Thomas Hughes (foreman) and Mr. J. Blayney responded, and thanked the Rector and vice-presidents for the kind support they had given to the Guild.

The Rector then presented a handsome marble clock to Mr. W. E. Evans, the gift bearing the inscription: "Presented to William Edward Evans by the Machynlleth Guild of Bell Ringers, as a mark of their appreciation of his services for upwards of ten years as hon secretary and treasurer of the Guild, Feb. 15th, 1912." The Rector said the gift had been subscribed to by the whole of the Guild as a mark of their respect. He was glad to say Mr. Evans was continuing his services, and he hoped he would do so for many years to come.—Mr. Evans, who was received with the singing of "For he's a jolly good fellow," suitably acknowledged the gift.—The toast of "The Host and Hostess" was also honoured. The speeches were interspersed with some enjoyable musical items and recitations.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. ENCOURAGING MEETING AT NORTHENDEN.

A very encouraging meeting of the Bowdon and Stockport branch was held at Northenden on Saturday last, members turning up from 12 out of the 17 towers in union. At the previous meeting the Rector of the parish was elected chairman of the branch, and it was on the present occasion that he first met the members in that capacity. At the service in church, with which the proceedings commenced, he gave an address most fitting to the occasion, and full of inspiration to all present, and supplemented this, in the course of the business transactions which followed, with remarks of much encouragement. The agenda contained nothing beyond the usual routine of such meetings. Mottram is to be the place of the next gathering of the branch at the end of April or beginning of May. Quite a variety of Minor methods were adopted in ringing the numerous touches brought round during the time the bells were available for use; and a healthy interest in the Art and in the affairs of the branch was manifested in such a measure as to make the meeting most encouraging and enjoyable.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION. A SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENT.

The Pre-Lent meeting of the Durham and Newcastle Association was held at Whickham, and on this occasion a departure from the general rule was made, the meeting being held on Wednesday week, instead of, as is usual, on a Saturday. The change of day proved quite a success, as it enabled many members to attend who are engaged on Saturdays, and now that the precedent has been established, no doubt at least one Wednesday meeting will be arranged each year. It is a long continuous climb from Swalwell or Dunston to the village of Whickham, which stands on an eminence overlooking the Tyne, but the hearty welcome given by the Rev. Arthur Allwork removed any tired feeling, and those who attended spent a very pleasant afternoon and evening.

The members were entertained to tea at the Rectory in a kindly manner, amongst those present being Mr. J. T. Atkinson (churchwarden), Messrs. C. L. Routledge, J. Stuart, E. Ferry, Rev. B. Jealous, and members from Newcastle, West Hartlepool, Chester-le-Street, North Shields and Gateshead, and the hon. secretary (Mr. C. Todd).—In proposing a vote of thanks to the Rector and Mrs. Allwork for their hospitality, the President (Mr. Routledge) mentioned that this was the first occasion upon which the Association had been so entertained at any of their meetings.—Mr. Allwork, in replying, expressed the very great pleasure it was to himself and Mrs. Allwork to have the ringers there that day, as it was many years since there had been a meeting at Whickham.—The President announced that owing to pressure of business, the secretary had asked for some assistance in his duties, and Mr. R. Stephenson, of West Hartlepool, had been appointed hon. treasurer pro tem.—The ringers at Hexham Abbey and at St. Aidan's, West Hartlepool, were elected members of the Association, in addition to a new band at Wylam-on-Tyne.

DEATH OF MR. A. W. REEVES.

Mr. A. W. Reeves, of Reading, for whom an appeal was made through these columns, has, we regret to say, passed away, at the age of 53 years. At the funeral, which took place at Caversham Cemetery on Saturday week, the Master of the Oxford Guild (the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn) officiated, and a large number of ringers were present. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells over the open grave, by C. R. Lilley 1—2, W. A. Webb 3—4, C. Giles 5—6, A. W. Osborne 7—8, and during the evening the bells of St. Giles' and St. Mary's Churches, Reading, were rung, muffled.—The total amount subscribed to the appeal was £26 3s. 9d., and the widow desires to thank all who have so kindly contributed.

VISIT TO HENLEY.

PAST GREAT PERFORMANCE RECALLED.

In one of the quiet and most pleasant streets of Henley there dwells at a small inn, the one-time famous tenor man of the Appleton Society, William Robbins, now in failing health, but still an enthusiast on ringing. On receiving a message from him, through his devoted daughter, that he wanted to hear the bells again in change ringing, and to see the ringers once more, the Shiplake band took the first opportunity to visit Henley, and on Thursday week rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples on the beautiful bells of the Parish Church. The visitors were welcomed by the steeple keeper, and despite the bad ropes, succeeded in their efforts, being congratulated upon the striking by several listeners as they descended from the tower. Wending their way to their old friend's house, they found him very frail, but pleased to see the party. Tunes were rung on the handbells, and there was a pleasant chat on former days.

Mr. Robbins' first peal was at Appleton, viz., Stedman Triples, on Feb. 12th, 1861. His next at Appleton was Grandsire Caters, on Oct. 11th, 1861, being the first on the bells after their augmentation to ten. In 1869 he rang in the first peal at St. Helen's, Abingdon, and on Feb. 2nd, 1871, in the first peal of Triples at Bicester. Then on March 4th in the same year, he took part in the 10,080 Grandsire Caters at Appleton, in 6 hrs. 21 mins. Many more peals has he rung, but he cherishes the memory of none so much as this long peal.

ROYSTON.—Hertfordshire Association.—At the Parish Church, on Feb. 14th, 720 of Bob Minor: W. L. Darlow 1, W. Mansfield 2, A. Gilbert 3, R. Wilkerson 4, R. G. King (conductor) 5, S. E. Roberts 6. First 720 of Minor by W. Mansfield, who hails from Barley.

LUDLOW, SHROPSHIRE.—Hereford Diocesan Guild.—On Saturday, Feb. 17th, at the Church of St. Lawrence, an attempt was made for a peal of Grandsire Triples, but it came to grief owing to a change course, after ringing 2520 changes: G. D. Acton 1, G. J. Taylor (Shrewsbury) 2, F. S. Wilson 3, E. R. T. Corbett (Dorrington) 4, Wm. Short (conductor) 5, G. Acton 6, W. R. Nash 7, A. Nason 8. It was the longest touch of Triples for G. Acton and G. D. Acton, and was rung on the occasion of the visit of W. Short, instructor to the Guild.

COALBROOKDALE.—Salop Archidiaconal Guild.—At Holy Trinity Church, on Saturday, Feb. 17th, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples, with five local men taking part, the band being completed by three from Bridgnorth. The attempt, however, came to grief, after 3268 changes had been rung, in 1 hr. 50 mins.: J. Hanley 1, J. Overton 2, H. Batley 3, J. Elcock 4, F. S. Downing 5, W. Overton (conductor) 6, W. Saunders 7, H. Aston 8.

PEAL BOARD UNVEILED AT OLDHAM.

An interesting event took place on Wednesday week, at Oldham Parish Church, when the ringers and their wives, together with the Vicar, churchwardens and sidesmen, assembled in the tower for the unveiling of a peal board. The Vicar offered suitable prayers, and, having explained the object of the gathering, unveiled the board, which bears the following inscription: "Lancashire Association. On Easter Day, April 16th, 1911. The following members of the above Association rang a true and complete peal of Grandsire Caters, consisting of 5003 changes, in 3 hrs. 19 mins. Ringers: Samuel Elson treble, Samuel Stott 2, Mills Newton 3, Harry Hampson 4, James H. Bastow 5, Alfred Waites 6, Samuel M. Butterworth 7, Herbert E. Fielding 8, Isaac Schofield 9, Jamees Garlick tenor. Conducted by Samuel Stott; Rev. George Perry-Gore, Vicar; William Aspden, Edmund Mills, Albert Cheetham, James Whitmore, wardens; John Booth, Albert Broadbent, sidesmen.

The new board is fixed next to one dated January, 1783, which goes to show that change ringing in Oldham Church is an old-established art.

After the ceremony the party adjourned to the Central Cafe, High Street, where an excellent repast was enjoyed.—The Vicar took the chair, and thanked the ringers for the services they rendered to the church. He hoped there would be many more peals to follow.—Messrs. E. Mills, A. Cheetham and W. Aspden also expressed their thanks as wardens.—Afterwards, songs, recitations and courses on the handbells were given by Messrs. S. M. Butterworth, S. Stott, I. Schofield and J. Priestley. The evening was brought to a close by Messrs. J. Booth and A. Broadbent, on behalf of the wardens and sidesmen, proposing a vote of thanks to the ringers for their hospitality.—Mr. S. Elson replied, and thanked the Vicar, the wardens and sidesmen for their kindness in presenting the tablet.—This concluded one of the most enjoyable gatherings ever held by the ringers of the Oldham Parish Church.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT WELLINGBOROUGH.**

The quarterly meeting of the Wellingborough District was held at Wellingborough on Saturday last, about 45 members being present from Irthlingborough, Higham Ferrers, Rushden, Earl's Barton, Mears Ashby, Doddington, Burton Latimer, Kettering, Northampton, Raunds, and Olney, together with the local ringers.

Grandsire and Stedman Triples were rung during the afternoon and evening, the bells, a fine peal of eight, tenor 30 cwt., being the heaviest in the county. They are, however, in a bad state of repair, and it is hoped something may be done to them in the near future.

Tea was served at the Church Institute, after which a short business meeting was held, the Vicar, the Rev. R. G. W. Smeaton, being in the chair, supported by the general secretary (Mr. F. Wilford), and the district secretary (Mr. W. Perkins). One new member was elected, and it was resolved to hold the next meeting at Irthlingborough.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the ladies who had provided tea.—The Vicar, in reply, said he was sorry the bells were not in good order. This they had known for some time, but they were short of funds; in fact, they were in debt on other things, but they were in hopes of having the bells in proper order in the near future.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

An excellent meeting of the Bolton branch was held at Deane, on Saturday last, when 34 members were present from Newchurch, Tyldesley, Worsley, Walkden, and Leigh, together with the local company. Some very good practice was had on the bells.

On Saturday week, the members of the Rochdale branch held their monthly meeting at Rochdale Parish Church, when 24 members were present from Rochdale Parish, Balderstone, Milnrow, Middleton, Todmorden Parish and Unitarians, Walsden, Crosstones, Goldwick, Oldham, Manchester. The meeting was presided over by Mr. Samuel Brierley, and one new member was elected.—The bells were kept going in touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Major.

THE KENT ASSOCIATION.**GIFT TO MISS MACALPINE LENY.**

Mr. W. Latter has been re-elected district secretary of the Tonbridge District of the Kent Association, and Mr. G. Edwards, of Chiddingstone, has been appointed representative on the Central Committee, in succession to Mr. D. Wnight. The district has decided to support the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore's scheme for an Association Benevolent Fund, and has approved of the committee's proposals to hold the district meetings for the ensuing year at Staplehurst, Seal Chart, Penshurst and Edenbridge (annual).—Nearly all the bands in the district have contributed to the gift to be made to Miss Leny, as a small appreciation of the many kindnesses extended at Speldhurst to the members. The present consists of a gold bar brooch with eight miniature bells attached.—The presentation was made privately, Miss Leny having been seriously ill. Owing to her indisposition, Miss Leny was unable to be present at the district meeting at Chiddingstone, and hopes were expressed for her speedy recovery.

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION AT FELTHAM.

A pleasant and successful meeting of the South and West district was held at Feltham on Saturday last. Between thirty and forty members and friends were present from Feltham, Heston, Isleworth, Iwer Heath, Chalfont St. Peter, Hillingdon, Chertsey, Old Woking, Hounslow, Southall, Sunbury, St. Margaret's, Highgate, Teddington, Earl's Court, and Reading. Ringing in various methods was indulged in during the afternoon, and an adjournment was made to the Mission Hall for tea, the Rev. F. J. Browell (the Vicar) presiding. Tea over, the Vicar (who has recently been inducted to Feltham) bade the Association a very hearty welcome.—The District Master (Mr. T. Beadle) took the chair for the business meeting. Three new members were elected, and it was arranged that the next meeting should be held at Heston, on Saturday, March 23rd.—On the motion of the Master, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells and the Mission Hall, and the motion was acknowledged by the Vicar. The members then adjourned again to the tower, where the bells were kept going until 9 o'clock in touches of Stedman, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich, etc.

CROMER AND RINGING.**A GOOD PEAL REMAIN IDLE.**

It is a great pity when good bells are allowed to remain idle. At Cromer there is a nice ring of six, with a tenor of about 12 cwt., but owing to the opposition of one or two neighbours, only service chiming is allowed upon them. Last Wednesday week, however, they were ringing merrily for the wedding of Miss L. A. Dowding, of Cromer, and Mr. C. Newdick, of Walsingham. In the afternoon 360 and 120 Bob Minor were rung, and 720 Oxford Treble Bob was lost in the last part. A 720 was, however, rung for evening service, by J. Godfrey 1, G. Soame 2, E. Suffling 3, F. W. Elliott 4, E. H. King 5, G. Moy (conductor) 6. The band was organised by Mr. J. Godfrey, formerly a ringer of Great Yarmouth, and those who took part in the day's ringing were: Messrs. G. and J. Moy, of Aylsham; G. Soame and E. Suffling, of Marsham; and E. H. King and F. Elliott, of Overstrand.

The last occasion upon which the bells were rung was at the Relief of Mafeking, with the exception of a not very successful attempt to ring for a wedding about five years ago, when the whole of the ropes came down at least once during the ringing. Apart from the ropes, the fittings are in good order, and it is hoped that it will be possible to get permission for a local band to be got together, so that the bells may be rung properly in the future. There is practically a band of change ringers in the neighbourhood.

RINGERS' DINNER AT HODDESDON.

The annual dinner of the St. Paul's Society took place on Monday week at the Salisbury Arms Hotel, the Vicar (the Rev. P. E. S. Holland) presiding, supported by the Rev. T. Walton (curate), Mr. Dew (churchwarden), Mr. N. P. Christie (one of the donors of the bells), Mr. C. Puppelt (Master), Mr. L. Knight (secretary), and about twelve ringers. After an excellent dinner, the evening was spent in social intercourse. Various toasts were submitted, and selections were given on the handbells. Some good songs were also rendered, showing that ringers can be singers as well. Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem, accompanied by the handbells and piano, brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

IN AID OF BELL RESTORATION.

The ring of six bells in the Parish Church of Northiam, East Sussex, are sadly in need of restoration, and the church folk are endeavouring to secure the necessary money to have the work carried out. Two grand entertainments were given in the Six Bells Hotel Assembly Room on Thursday afternoon and evening in last week, the proceeds being devoted to the bells repair fund and the Northiam Boy Scouts. The hall is a fairly large building, and at both performances was packed to its uttermost holding capacity, both objects receiving substantial sums as a result of the undertaking. The programme consisted of music and amateur theatricals, and was much enjoyed.

ROUND THE FESTIVE BOARD.

The first annual supper of the St. John's, Cardiff, ringers was a very enjoyable gathering. Dr. Wachell (churchwarden) presided, and several toasts were honoured, including "The King and Royal Family," "The Bishop and Clergy of the Llandaff Diocese," "The Vicar and Churchwardens of St. John's," and "Our Captain, Mr. W. B. Bies."—Mr. S. Williams (secretary) presented a report recording a good year's work.—Mr. Miller pointed out that if the ringers were allowed at least three Saturdays during the year for peals it would give some members a better opportunity of taking part.—Mr. Allen (the vergor) said the Vicar had been obliged to refuse peals on Saturdays, on account of the complaints received from the tradespeople in the immediate neighbourhood of the church, but he was always willing to permit peals on Thursdays.—After some discussion, the churchwardens promised to do all in their power to assist in the matter.—A most enjoyable musical evening was carried out, and the hostess was thanked for her excellent catering.

THE BEGINNERS' CORNER.

In order to make a successful conductor, a ringer has got to be able to mentally transpose, while ringing, the coursing order of the bells, so that if a trip occurs, or two ringers attempt to "change course," i.e., take up each other's work, he may at once correct the error. Now, this ability to "course the bells," as it is called, largely comes by practice, but what the beginner must first acquire is a knowledge of how each plain or bob lead affects the order of the bells. It might not be an easy thing to watch for each bell to lead, to see that it is the right one—there is an easier method than this of noting the coursing order of the bells. It is by observing the order in which the bells are met both in hunting up and in hunting down.

Let us look, for example, first of all at the plain course, and let us suppose the conductor is ringing the 7th. After dodging with the 6th and lying the whole pull behind, the order in which the bells are met is 5, 1, 2, 3, 4, 6. Then the 7th leads, and again come the 5, 1, 2, 3 (with which the 7th dodges in 4-5), 4, 6. Going down again the 7th meets 1, 2, 5, 3, 4, 6, and, after leading, meets once more 1 and 2. Third's place comes in this lead, and as the 7th goes back again to lead it is over the 1 and 2, while in hunting up the order of meeting the bells is 5, 3, 4, 6, 1, 2, and in hunting down 5, 3, 4 (with which the 7th dodges in 4-5 down), 1, 2, 6. In hunting up it is again 5, 3, 4, 1, 2, 6, and in returning, 5 (with which the 7th dodges in 6-7 down), 3, 1, 2, 4, 6. Once more hunting up, it is 5, 3, 1, 2, 4, 6, and this brings the bells round. Careful examination of these figures shows that throughout the course the 7th always meets 5, 3, 4, 6 in the same order, 1, 2 intervening in a different place in each lead. What really happens to cause 1-2 to course after different bells is that the bell which in a lead comes down immediately in front of 1-2, courses in the next lead immediately after 1-2, being turned round by having made the 3rd's place. This, of course, puts a fresh bell in front of the treble.

Let me put it in another way, by giving the whole of the seven bells in the order in which they come to lead, because it will show accurately the transposition which is made, and how the order of the working bells is retained:—

1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 5
1, 2, 5, 3, 4, 6, 7
1, 2, 7, 5, 3, 4, 6
1, 2, 6, 7, 5, 3, 4
1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 5, 3

Now when it comes to transpositions of the coursing order at the bobs the thing is not a great deal more involved. It is really only a case of turning round two bells instead of one. The bob brings another bell into the hunt, which has to be substituted after the treble for the bell that goes out, and with this change, and the ordinary transposition brought about by the unaffected 3rd's place, the coursing order is resumed. What this means will be seen by giving the coursing order of a few leads from the touch given in my last notes.

Lead ends	Coursing order
234567	1234675
—752634	—1752346
—467352	1467523
436275	1436752
—524736	1524367
572643	1572436

While in a plain lead, then, the bell in the coursing order before the treble, is placed after the bell in the hunt, at a bob, the two bells before the treble are placed between the treble and the bell in the hunt.

By studying the figures of the coursing order and comparing them with the lead ends which they succeed, my readers will be able to work out the coursing order of the bells through the complete touch, and then go into the tower and endeavour to carry it out mentally while the touch is being rung. To begin with the young conductor will probably have to be content to apply his knowledge from bell to bell, as it were, but by practice he will be able to transpose the coursing order ahead of his position, and so know which bells to expect a lead or even more before he reaches them. It is the man who has this knowledge that is the most successful when it comes to conducting peals.

CONDUCTOR.

CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE.

6TH THE EXTENT IN 5-6 IN ROYAL AND MAXIMUS.

Mr. Henry Dains (Royal Cumberland Youths) has, after great labour, obtained peals of Cambridge Royal and Maximus, with the 6th the extent in 5-6, it being the first time that peals with these qualities have been published in this method.

	7200			
23456	M	W	H	
64352	—	—	—	
56342	—	—	—	c
36245	—	—	—	
42563	(— —)	(— —)	(— —)	d
64523	a (— —)	(— —)	(— —)	
54326	(— —)	(— —)	(— —)	
23645	(— —)	(— —)	(— —)	*
42635	—	—	—	e
56234	—	—	—	
23564	—	—	—	
52364	—	—	—	g
35264	—	—	—	
25463	—	—	—	
45362	—	b	—	
63254	—	—	—	
52436	—	—	—	
35426	—	—	—	f
42356	—	—	—	
34256	—	—	—	
23456	—	—	—	

This composition contains the 6th the full extent at six course ends each way in 5-6, and is the first published with these qualities in this method.

By omitting the bracketed bobs M and W at a and b, adding a bob H at *, the peal is reduced to 5040 changes. By adding three bobs H at c, d and e, the composition will be of 26 courses, and contain 9360 changes.

As the composition stands it contains 10,560 changes of Maximus. When augmented by bobs at c, d and e, it is increased to 13,728 in number. Finally, by omitting the bobs W and H bracketed at f and g, the changes in Maximus are reduced to 5280.

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.).

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The Annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at "Ye Olde Royal Hotel," Temple Row, Birmingham, on Saturday, February 24th, at 6.30 p.m., Francis Edward Dawe, Esq., in the chair. Tickets free to all fully qualified members whose subscriptions are paid up to date, to other members and friends 2s. 6d. each. The bells of St. Martin's (12) will be available from 3 to 5 p.m.—A. Paddon Smith, Honorary Secretary, 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Central Division.—Next meeting will be held at Lewes (Southover) on Saturday, February 24th. Tower open at 3. Service at 5.—Robert J. Dawe, Divisional Honorary Secretary, "Southover," Alfriston Road, Seaford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's Church, Ashton-under-Lyne, on February 24th. Bells available from 4 p.m.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Tenterden on Wednesday, February 28th; ringing to commence at 3 o'clock. A short special service will be held in the church at 5 o'clock. Tea at 5.30, kindly provided by the Vicar, the Rev. J. A. Babington, after which a proposed benevolent fund for the Association will be discussed and a resolution moved thereon.—C. Tribe, Honorary District Secretary, British School Villas, Tenterden.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus, Lower Thames Street, on February 29th; at Southwark Cathedral on the 27th; also at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, each Saturday at 7.30. A district meeting will be held at St. Alphege's, Greenwich, on March 2nd. Tower open 4.30 to 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Honorary Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Padiham on Saturday, March 2nd, 1912. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—A meeting for practice will be held at Samlesbury on March 2nd. Bells available from 3 o'clock.—E. R. Martin, Branch Secretary, Walton-le-dale.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICTS GUILD.—The annual meeting of the above Guild will be held at Dudley on Saturday, March 2nd, bells available at 3 o'clock. Service in Church at 5 o'clock, conducted by the Rev. A. Gray Maitland (President), and an address by the Rev. H. C. Burnett. A free tea will be provided for those who notify me not later than Wednesday, February 28th. Business meeting afterwards. All past and present members and other ringing friends of the Guild are cordially invited.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 66, Himley Road, Dudley.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Armley on March 2nd. Peal attempt at 2.30, business meeting (nomination) at the White Horse Hotel at 7.30.—Frank R. Cundale, Secretary, 24, Recreation View, Holbeck, Leeds.

THE ST. PETER'S AMALGAMATED SOCIETY, SHEFFIELD.—The annual dinner to commemorate the memory of the late John Lomas and Thomas Hattersley will take place at the Yorkshireman's Arms, Burgess Street, Sheffield, on Saturday, March 2nd, at 6.30 p.m. The chair will be taken by the president, Mr. C. H. Hattersley. Tickets 2s. each. Will all intending visitors kindly notify me not later than Tuesday, February 27th? The bells of the Parish Church (12) will be available from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.—Sidney F. Palmer, Honorary Secretary, 87, Bradley Street, Crookes, Sheffield.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next monthly meeting of this Society is fixed for Doncaster on Saturday, March 2nd. Parish Church of St. George, 8 bells (tenor about 30 cwt.), available 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.—J. E. L. Cockey, Honorary Secretary, 504, Ecclesall Road, Sheffield.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late the St. James' Society, Established 1824).—Southern District.—A meeting for united practice and social intercourse will be held on Saturday, March 9th, at SS. Peter and Paul, Mitcham. Tower open from 4 p.m. to 7.45 p.m. Business meeting at the Queen's Head at 8 p.m. All members and friends invited.—Frank A. Smith, Hon. Sec., 86, Gaskarth Road, Balham Hill.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The half-yearly meeting of the above will be held at Kendal, on Saturday, March 9th, 1912. The Parish Church bells (10) available from 3 p.m., meeting in the School at 5 p.m.—William Robinson, Branch Secretary, Thom Fold, Smithy Brow, Ambleside.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Borden, near Sittingbourne, on Saturday, March 16th, 1912. Bells available from 3 p.m. Half rail fares up to 2/- allowed at this meeting. Subscriptions are now due. It is hoped that all members who possibly can, will attend to discuss the proposed Benevolent Fund.—Edward A. G. Allen, Honorary Secretary.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary Notice.—The annual meeting will be held at Cheltenham on Easter Monday. Notice has been given of a resolution affecting the latter part of Rule 1 (*re* Central Council).—W. A. Cave, Honorary Secretary.

VISITORS TO BRISTOL will find every convenience and moderate charges at Mrs. Walker's, Admiral Duncan, Nicholas Street, Bristol Headquarters of the Bristol Ringers.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. Albert Walker has removed to 81, Baker Street, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

HANDBELLS FOR SALE AND WANTED.

Set of 18 musical handbells for sale, cost £2 10s., or willing to exchange for church handbells.—Apply H. F. Hunt, 18, St. Michael's Square, Southampton.

WANTED, set of handbells (about 19), suitable for tune ringing. State price and size to F. Shackleton, 43, Coningsby Road, Pitsmore, Sheffield.

HIGH SHERIFF'S GIFT OF BELLS.

A peal of bells, five in number, the gift of Mr. James Luther Greenway, C.C., J.P., the High Sheriff of Radnorshire, has just been added to Llanbadarn Fawr Church, near Llandrindod Wells. The bells form the completion of a scheme of restoration and improvement of the ancient building which has been in progress for some years. Owing to shortage of room in the tower, only five bells could be erected, the cost being about £250. They are fixed in an iron frame. The bells were hung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, London, who have carried out their work admirably, and the "go" is splendid.

The Treble bears the inscription: "To the Glory of God, in commemoration of the Coronation of King George V and Queen Mary and the Investiture of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, K.G." The 2nd is in memory of Mr. Greenway's father and mother; the 3rd to the memory of Dr. A. Griffiths Greenway and Mr. William Knibb Greenway; the 4th to the memory of Miss Lucy Greenway and Mr. Daniel Laybourne, of Liverpool; and the tenor to Mr. A. E. Greenway, Mr. H. H. Greenway, Mrs. L. L. Laybourne and Mrs. C. Rising.

The dedication, performed by the Lord Bishop of Swansea, on Wednesday week, was attended by a very large congregation, many people being unable to gain admission. Before the Bishop's address 240 Grandsire Doubles were rung by the following members of the Hereford Diocesan Guild: E. Hayton, F. R. Sparkes, C. Powell and R. E. Sparkes (Builth Wells), L. Lewis (Glasbury).

The Bishop then delivered a stirring address from the text, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." He gave the history of church bells, and pointed out that it was under a sense of thankfulness for many blessings received that the High Sheriff had provided a peal of bells for that ancient church. The Bishop also referred to the threatened disestablishment of the Church in Wales.

After the service the congregation adjourned to the Church Schoolroom, where tea was provided by the High Sheriff. Several 120 of Grandsire Doubles were rung by the Builth Wells ringers, who were afterwards entertained to tea at the Schoolroom, at the invitation of the High Sheriff and the Rector (the Rev. A. Jordan, M.A.).

BURNHAM.—The Bath and Wells Association.—On Jan. 13th, at St. Andrew's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins.: P. Cox (first quarter-peal) 1; E. Cox 2, J. Harris 3, E. B. Crowder (first quarter-peal as conductor) 4, G. Chamberlain 5, W. Worgan 6, G. Pruen 7, E. Reed 8.

MERROW, SURREY.—On Feb. 9th, at practice, 726 Plain Bob: Reg. Nichols 1, A. Bridger 2, H. Mason 3, G. J. Nichols 4, A. J. Boniface 5, H. Stovell (conductor) 6. First 720 by Reg. Nichols, age 14.

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

GRANDSIRE. 2s. 6d.; second ed.; 264 pages; commencing on five bells; complete with the Thompson Charts, etc., etc.

STANDARD METHODS. 2s. 6d.; fifth ed.; revised; to follow either of the above; Diagrams alone 1s. 6d.; 41 pages; Letterpress alone 1s. 6d.; 100 pages.

STEDMAN. 2s. 6d.; 275 pages, by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, M.A., with an appendix by Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., etc., etc.

TREBLE BOB. Part I. 1s. 6d.; second ed.; with appendix; 108 closely printed pages. Part II., suited for Conductors only; very scarce; 2s. 1½d.; 236 pages.

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