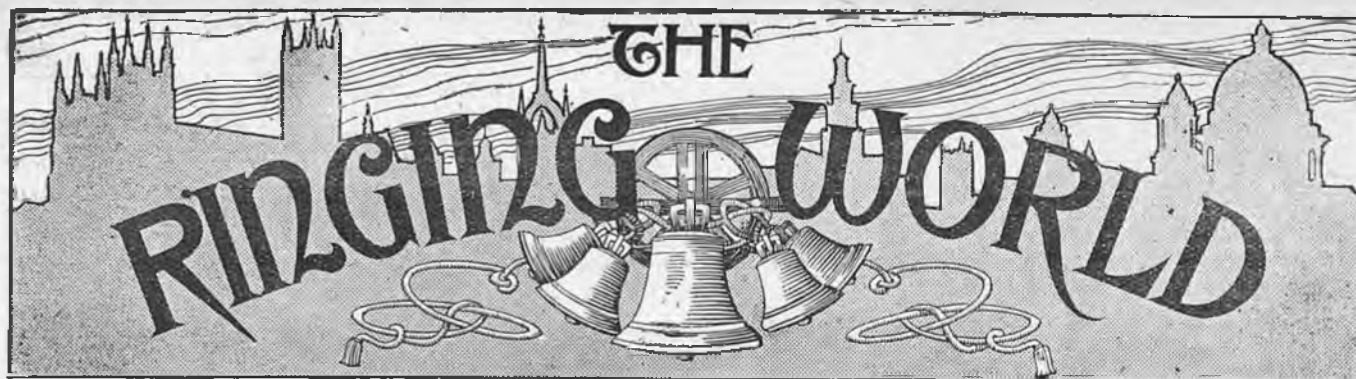




No. 205. Vol. VIII.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19th, 1915.

[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.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS GILLET and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

A RECRUITING GROUND.

The present is a time when the ordinarily smooth routine of many towers is much upset by the absence of members engaged in the sterner tasks which now confront the nation. Gaps in the personnel of a belfry company cannot easily or hastily be filled, for it takes time, patience and perseverance to make a ringer qualified to take his place in the Sunday service ringing, and just now we hardly expect to find in our towns and villages young men available for the work. All who are fit and able, feel, or ought to feel, an imperative call to other duties, so that there arises the double difficulty, first of the loss of good men, and then of the lack of recruits.

In some towers, as we have seen, the strength of the company has been brought up by the addition of ladies, and probably the present opportunity will provide the occasion for a larger influx of the fair sex into the Art than has taken place in any previous period. At the same time, we hope where towers are suffering from the loss of men, that efforts are not lacking to replace the absent ones from among the men of the congregation. There ought to be found plenty among those who, for various reasons, are unable to undertake military duties, and we should like to see far more use made of the C.E.M.S. as a recruiting ground for ringers.

There are now few parishes where there is not a branch of this organisation, and as the members are definitely pledged to church work, some, at any rate, would find an outlet for their energies in the duties of the belfry. During the present winter there have been several papers on bells and ringing read by ringers to C.E.M.S. branches in different parts of the country, and, in those cases, we doubt not, advantage was taken to hold out the fascinations of the Art and to bring recruits to the Exercise. This example might be followed with profit in many places, but, whether the subject of ringing can be brought in lecture form before the society or not, there is no reason why more use should not be made of its ranks than in the past for the purpose of the belfry. Where ringers are members of the C.E.M.S. it will be generally found that they have joined the society from the belfry, and not the belfry from the society. Hitherto, to a large extent, ringers have been left to recruit their strength where they could, but in the C.E.M.S. there is now, it seems to us, a ready-to-hand organisation, composed of the right type of men, upon which we ought to be able to draw in order to keep filled and to increase our ranks. We see no reason for continuing shorthanded in any parish where the C.E.M.S. is carrying on active operations, for co-operation in this matter seems to be a perfectly natural arrangement.

MODERN WORK.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs. C. CARR, LTD.,
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract,—we may be able to assist you.

SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM

BELLS

FOR CHURCHES,
SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

PEALS AUGMENTED,
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

FRAMES

IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
STEEL OR IRON.

Chiming Machines

Best Workmanship and
Satisfaction Guaranteed

FITTINGS

OF ALL KINDS.

ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON
BRACKETS.

MALLEABLE IRON BRACKETS,
BEST BELL ROPES.

REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
and report on Bells and Towers.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

TAMWORTH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD
On Wednesday, February 10, 1915, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDITHA'S,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

LATES' VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 22 cwt.

JOSEPH W. TIMMS Treble	ALFRED CHAPLIN 5
GEORGE CHAPLIN 2	JAMES PRATT 6
WILLIAM CHAPMAN 3	FREDERICK J. COPE 7
CHARLES CHAPMAN 4	HENRY GALLIMORE Tenor

Conducted by JAMES PRATT.

Rung, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to Private F. Keen, Grenadier Guards, who was recently killed in action, and also to the late Miss Margery Sampson, both of whom were formerly members of the belfry.

ERDINGTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, February 13, 1915, in Three Hours,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF SS. THOMAS AND EDMUND (R.C.),

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION.

Tenor 13 cwt.

BERNARD W. WITCHELL ... Treble	JAMES GEORGE 5
GEORGE PARSONS 2	THOMAS BLOORE 6
JOHN JENNINGS 3	BERTRAM G. LEEDHAM ... 7
BERTIE W. HAYWOOD ... 4	*BRO. WOLSTAN Tenor

* Proposed a member before starting. Rung, with the bells half-muffled, in memory of the donor of the bells (Mr. Genders) on the 24th anniversary of his death.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 9, 1915, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH, SHOREDITCH.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

BERTRAM PREWETT ... 1-2	ERNEST PYE 7-8
WILLIAM SHEPHERD ... 3-4	JAMES HUNT 9-10
GEORGE R. PYE 5-6	ALFRED W. GRIMES ... 11-12

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and
Conducted by WILLIAM SHEPHERD.

NATIONAL RELIEF FUND.

The following further contributions to the Prince of Wales' Fund have been received :—

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	68	14	6
York Minster Society, January collection (per Mr. G. Horner)	0	5	0
Ringers of Christ Church, Southgate, second contribution (per Mr. J. E. Miller)	0	5	0
Ringers of St. Mary's, Harrow-on-the-Hill (per Mr. W. H. Oram)	0	7	6
Total	£69	12	0

COMMISSIONS FROM THE RANKS.

The two sons of Mr. John Taylor, the respected head of the Loughborough foundry, who joined the Public Schools Battalion of the Royal Fusiliers some months ago, have both been given commissions. Mr. Arnold Taylor has been appointed Second Lieutenant in the 9th Leicestershire Regiment, and Mr. Pryce Taylor, Second Lieutenant in the 10th Leicestershire Regiment.

ESTABLISHED 1780.

JOHN NICOLL,

Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope
Manufacturer,

40, QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.

(Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway).

Late 188, Keeton's Road, Bermondsey.

Makers to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester and Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers serving with H.M. Forces:—
Sergt. A. Jackson, of St. John's, Goole, 9th Service Battalion,
East Yorks Regiment, now at York.

Pte Drury, and

Pte Thorley, junr., of St. Nicholas', Thorne, near Doncaster,
Kitchener's Army, now at Pontefract.

Lieut.-Col. F. T. Martin (2070), of St. Peter's, Caversham, 7th
Service Battalion Rifle Brigade.

Tpr. J. Clutton, of Wrexham, Army Service Corps, now at Aber-
gavenny.

Shoebur Smith Geo. A. Wightman, of Creetingham, Suffolk, Army
Service Corps, now at Earl's Colne, Essex

From the Langham, Essex, lower, the three following:—

Alf. Smith, 8th Essex Cyclist Battalion, now at Southminster.

L. Goldsmith, Essex Yeomanry, now at Cambridge.

T. Denton, 5th Essex Regiment, now at Shoreham.

The following ringers from Bolton are serving:—

Spr. W. H. Makin, West Lancs Division, Signal Co. R.E., now in
Kent.

Fitter J. Nuttall, 3rd East Lancs, R.F.A., now in Egypt.

N. Neweth, 20th Battery, R.F.A.

T. Beatty, 5th Battalion, Loyal North Lancs Regiment.

A. Thornley, R.A.M.C.

J. H. Ridyard, R.A.M.C.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.

PRESENTATION TO A VALUED MEMBER.

The Pre-Lent meeting of the Durham and Newcastle Association was held at Chester-le-Street, on Wednesday of last week. By the Rector's kind permission the bells were open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Twenty-two members were present from Newcastle Cathedral; All Saints', Gosforth; St. Andrew's, Bishop Auckland; St. Margaret's, Tanfield; and SS. Mary and Cuthbert, Chester-le-Street. Mr. A. W. Layng, of Swindon, was also present.

A committee meeting was held in the Church Institute, and afterwards the members sat down to tea, to which ample justice was done. The President (Mr. C. L. Routledge) occupied the chair, and was supported by the Rev. A. B. De Moleyns (Rector) and the Rev. A. W. Lister, of Tanfield.

The President addressed the meeting, and referred to the lack of ringing at the present time, owing to the war, but he asked the members of the Association to remember that when news of a victory of the Allies was received, every effort should be made to have the bells in every tower rung. By this means everyone in the parish would know there was good news being spread, and probably the sound would bring joy to many who were otherwise unable to obtain the glad tidings. He thought it was a pity there was no ringing on the occasion of the victories at the Falkland Islands and in the North Sea. He also mentioned that he hoped every belfry would keep a note of any of the ringers who were now serving their King and country with the naval or military forces, with a view to a record being prepared and preserved of all names in a roll of honour, which it was proposed would be sent to each tower and kept as a treasured memorial.

The Hon. Secretary was instructed to obtain from the local secretaries all the information necessary as to name, rank, regiment, etc.

The President next referred to a very pleasing matter, of which possibly some of those present were unaware, and in doing so, said: "We have present with us Mr. Alf. F. Hillier, a very old friend of all, and who has been with us since 1890, so that for 25 years his ungrudging services have been among the ringers of the North. He has done a tremendous amount of work, and has always responded to any call for a ringer at any time. He has put his whole heart and soul into ringing. Some time ago Mr. Hillier had the misfortune to lose, by accident, his horse, and as the possession of another animal was absolutely indispensable for the carrying on of his business, a meeting was held in Newcastle, when it was decided to raise sufficient funds to purchase another one. There was not the least difficulty in the matter, and the required sum was soon forthcoming. A horse was obtained, and handed over to Mr. Hillier on December 1st. I have here a little book containing the names of the subscribers, which I have much pleasure in giving to our friend."

The recipient returned thanks, and said although he was no great speaker, he could and did appreciate the very kind thought which prompted the gift. He had now a most useful and valuable animal, and he would never forget the kindness shown to him.

A vote of thanks was cordially given to the Rector for his presence, and for allowing the ringers the use of the bells, and the Institute in which to hold the meeting.—The Rev. A. B. De Moleyns, in his reply, said he was only too delighted to have the meeting in his parish, and hoped all had enjoyed themselves.—Mr. Adam Thompson, an old ringer of Chester-le-Street, proposed a vote of thanks to the president, which was most heartily agreed to.

During the afternoon and evening touches of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Forward and Double Norwich Major, and Stedman Triples were rung, all those taking part expressing themselves as highly pleased with the "go" of the bells, which were from the foundry of Messrs. J. Taylor and Co.

BRAY.

UNIQUE BELL HANGING ACHIEVEMENT.
OXFORD GUILD MEMBERS' SATISFACTION.

When Oxforde gave the two decrees in Art,
And have possess the master of my heart.
Thy College fellowship thou lefst for mine,
And naught but death could sep'rate me fro thine.

February fill-dyke storms failed to deter enthusiastic ringers from attending the annual meeting of the South Bucks and East Berks branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, held at the ancient Parish Church of St. Michael, Bray, on Saturday week, when the following towers were well represented: Hughendon, High Wycombe, Marlow, Beaconsfield, Boyne Hill, Cookham, Waltham, Twyford, Swindon, Woodburn, Missenden, Amersham, Binfield, Winkfield, Shottesbrook, Stoke Pogis, Fulmer, Farnham Royal, Slough, Old Windsor, Reading, Caversham and Bray.

Upwards of 80 ringers attended the choral service, the kindness of the Vicar (the Rev. C. A. Raymond), the choir and organist, being much appreciated by those present. The Master of the Guild (the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, M.A.) read the prayers, and the anthem, "O how amiable are thy dwellings (Tours), taken from the 84th Psalm (4-7), was well rendered by the choir. The sermon by the Rev. W. A. Thackeray, M.A., a homely, beautiful address given in deep clear words, with just a slight touch of that directness peculiar to Yorkshiremen, was founded upon the first book of Corinthians, "Work together in God," i. 6. Looking across the nave one saw a number of familiar old faces who have for upwards of 30 years past endeavoured to carry on that work which had brought so many together that evening. Even the chancel walls seemed to speak to us, for upon its south pier exists to-day an early brass bearing the lines which head this contribution, while standing near the north pier was our well-known Master wearing Cambridge honours with his Oxford appointment. I would just like to mention for the information of those who care to look them up that Psalms 19, 84 and 150 were selected, and the Magnificat and Nunc Dimittis were sung to Goss in A. A solemn service concluded by the Blessing by the Vicar, who had generously supplied a specially printed order of the evensong. The collection in church was given to the Maidenhead Cottage Hospital funds.

The Master took the chair at the tea which followed in the School-room, and was supported by the local and general Guild secretaries (the Rev. P. Gordon Levy and Mr. A. E. Reeves, Reading), and amongst those present one heard in between the trickle of the tea cups, a well-known voice every now and again recalling distant belfries and past efforts at the ropes. Additional arrivals necessitated relaying one of the tables, the total number present exceeding a hundred, whose hearty onslaught speedily lessened the excellent provision by Mr. Spindlow, of Maidenhead. Seated at the tables I saw three ringers, who, in the prime of manhood years ago, had rung a 720 at the Parish Church by turning in the tenor (when it was supposed to weigh 36 cwt., since reduced to 30, like Olney and the Curfew at Windsor Castle)—a well-nigh impossible feat at that time. There were also three others who have recently done so with the greatest of ease, thanks to the bell-hanger—or, was it because we now know she weighs only 26 cwt. 0 qrs. 9 lbs.?

THE BUSINESS MEETING.

"Tea fights" do not last long, especially in the absence of the ladies, and in this case it was very expeditious. As soon as the chairman had said grace we commenced the agenda of the business meeting.

A balance sheet was explained by the hon. treasurer, by which we were assured of solvency, notwithstanding the serious demands upon men and money of a six months' European War. Careful attention to arrears of subscriptions, the continued support of honorary members and an increase in the probation and ordinary (total strength 355 from 25 towers) allowed a sum of £7 14s. 5d. to be carried forward, about £3 10s. less than in the year previous.

The accounts had been duly audited by Mr. George Martin, and the following footnote added, which will bear repetition in your columns: "Subscriptions fall due at the beginning of each year, and it would be esteemed a favour if they could all be paid before the end of March."

A report on peals and ringing for the past year was read by Mr. Jos. J. Parker, of Farnham Royal, giving details of 16 performances, from Minor to Cinques, scored mostly before the "declaration of war with Germany." He also explained the successful scheme propounded by Mr. G. Martin, dividing the branch into four districts, and holding a series of combined general practices at various towers: 1 High Wycombe (Mr. Evans, organiser); 2 Beaconsfield (Mr. Buckland); 3 Farnham Royal (Mr. Parker); 4 Boyne Hill (Mr. Martin). These were highly patronised judging by the methods employed, and the numbers attending, and it was decided to continue the same. At one belfry, which may be termed "hot stuff," no less than 14 men rang inside to more than one course of London Surprise, after six practices. At two towers, Wycombe and Fulmer, the unveiling of peal tablets took place, and at three others the visitors were kindly entertained to the "cup that cheers," by the local incumbents, who appear to be emulating the ancient custom of free hospitality to all wayfarers.

The Chairman read letters of regret from the Rev. Hart Davis, the Rev. Canon Drummoud, of Maidenhead, and president of the branch, who suggested a successor (which no one would hear of), owing to his

years and indisposition; but why not a vice-chairman to help bear the burden?

GUILD'S ROLL OF HONOUR.

The Master gave an address, in the course of which Mr. Reeves mentioned that 148 members of the Guild have joined His Majesty's Forces, drawn from 66 towers, the branch contributing 14 from nine towers. Foremen of towers are asked to send any other names so that a complete Diocesan Guild list may be published in the annual report for 1915.

A most refreshing letter from Mr. C. S. Tuthill, of Fakenham, Norfolk, was read to the meeting, stating that "a good number of our Oxford Guild ringers were stationed with units of Lord Kitchener's Army, camped around the town, and he had been happy to arrange a combined practice for them, and a welcome to his beffry."

The growing strength of this branch enabled eight additional members of the committee to be elected, and the following were unanimously approved, thus forming a good all-round peal band in themselves: Messrs. George White (Wycombe), George Alder (Burnham), George T. Leader (Slough), W. Welling (Old Windsor), J. C. Truss (Marlow), R. Buckland (Beaconsfield), J. Evans and R. Biggs (Hugghendon).

The election of officers simply meant "As you were," with the addition of an assistant secretary, for which Mr. G. Martin was selected, as he had done so much good work during recent and frequent changes in the secretaryship.

A vote of thanks to the local clergy, churchwardens, choir and organist, was proposed by Mr. W. H. Fussell, and carried with applause, showing that the warm reception given to the Guild by the local authorities was fully appreciated by the visitors.

Various touches were rung during the afternoon. An officer and two privates in khaki agreeably relieved the crowded groups in civilian garb, and carried one's thoughts from instruments of peace to weapons of war. Although a spacious room (18 by 20 ft. square) the numbers present gave little elbow room. It again became packed from 7.15 to 9 p.m. Excepting, perhaps, some half a dozen men, everyone had a pull on this doughty ring of six, even Mr. "Rounds" obliging some, an excellent mace coming to a close with the last sounds of the grand old tenor booming out.

THE UNOFFICIAL PROGRAMME.

As is usual in Early English villages there is, not far from the church, "a place" licensed under the Act for affording refreshment to man and beast. The one in this particular parish discovered by the laity concerned bore the name of "The Ringers," but it would be better described as the "Cycle-House." Here we trimmed our lamps, inflated cycle tyres, and our own inner tubes with sustenance for the homeward journey, another hour booming out upon the moist still night air, suggesting a parody upon the words of a famous song:—

And this is Law I will maintain,
Unto my dying day, Sir,
Yet, whatsoever King may reign,
I'll still be the Tenor of Bray, Sir.

The prowess of the ringers of Bray must have been great at one time, to be thus honoured by licensed victuallers. It occurred to me that similar distinction may well have been bestowed on "The Parson," for after all the famous inns throughout the country only continue the mediæval work of our monasteries, in giving food and shelter to the traveller, and care and aid to their neighbours.

During the afternoon an energetic party of ten men visited Cookham tower on the way, ringing Cambridge and London Surprise Minor.

RESTORATION OF THE BELLS.

Cast by Thomas Swain, of Reading, in 1656, Bray tenor originally covered a peal of five, the treble being added in 1678, while the 2nd and 3rd are dated 1612 and 1613. The 4th was a modern bell cast by Thos. Mears, of Whitechapel, which was recast in 1914. The 5th was founded in 1771. She measured in 1882 4ft. 4ins. diameter and 3ft. 4ins. high—lip to shoulder—but a friend from Swindon discovered the circumference to be untrue, and gave the diameter 52 5-8 ins. in one direction. The note is D.

The bell frame is a unique piece of engineering, and is cleverly designed, providing for two additional bells at a future time, the whole to swing on one level. There are no upper and lower bearers with struts and braces so familiar in all modern frames of wood or iron. It can best be described as a square table with four vertical corner legs, its top perforated for bell pits, no part of which has any connection or contact with the tower walls whatever. These legs are about 14ft. long, and rest on the centre of heavy short steel joists built diagonally across each corner of the tower, thus forming angle ties to the four walls. Little or no effect of the "vibration" or "oscillation" which is given to the table top, while the bells are being rung, is conveyed to the bearers of the tower, and the latter has been tested to the fraction of an inch. The weak condition of the upper storey of this Campanile was such that special efforts had to be made to avoid its destruction, for the walls are rather thin for their broad surface, the buttresses inadequate, and the rubble, flint and soft chalk stone employed were not sufficiently bonded. Hence the frame was planned to remove the whole weight to a lower and stronger storey, and thus destroy the "strains and stresses" upon the fabric, a danger which has so recently been brought to our general notice. The first of its

kind, this undertaking promises a further revolution in bell craft, for it will now be possible to erect steel supports for both bells and frame as high as, say, 100ft. from the ground-level clear and independent of any brick or stone casing that may constitute the architectural design, and considerable lessening the cost of the latter. What daring architect will be found to advise such a structure I leave to providence, but the suggestion is quite ripe for adoption in our Colonies. As to the bells, they hang to C.I. headstocks, and fitted with Messrs. Warner and Sons' patent self-aligning, self-lubricating and oil ring bearings, and go in changes with an easy machine-like smoothness almost incredible for the weight of metal. They have also been machine-tuned, a decided advantage upon the old notation, and with the new 4th and the excellent 6th make up a rare sounding peal, worth going a long way to hear. The firm was represented by Mr. Jas. Hunt, a practical ringer, who also took part in the ringing, and was in attendance upon the visitors. He received their favourable comments upon the firm's successful contract at Bray; in fact, following the Cookham restoration, and with Boyne Hill as an old recommendation, they have obtained a sound footing in this part of the county of Berks.

RECOLLECTIONS.

Bray bells formed one of my boyhood expeditions, and led to a friendship with the sexton, Mr. Warrell, which continued till his death recently, well into his 90's. A small marble tablet on the south wall of the church records his long term of office, having been placed there by parishioners. One of his favourite duties was to carry a huge key of wrought iron (that appeared to be larger still on account of his small stature), which he was often tempted by our American cousins to dispose of. There was also an oak windlass some 25 years old to be seen in the clock room, exactly as it was left for hoisting the bells, but this has disappeared, together with the mighty timbers of the old bell frame and its curved braces with their hand-moulded edges. The churchwardens are to be congratulated upon their completion of a heavy task, but their consolation will be no more make-shift and costly patching up, such as has been the case for the past 25 years, and the preservation of the tower.

"While swiftly one by one
The years go rolling by."

W. H. F.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHERN BRANCH ENTERTAINED AT TODDINGTON.

A quarterly meeting of the Southern branch of the Worcestershire and Districts Association was held at Toddington on Saturday last in very unfavourable weather, which considerably diminished the attendance, but despite the downpour, ringers were present from Evesham, Hampton, Fladbury, Hinton, Bretforton, and Childswickham. Service was held in the church, at which the Vicar (the Rev. W. A. Warner) gave an excellent address, the surpliced choir being also in attendance. The church, which resembles a cathedral, is a beautiful structure, and is situated near to the mansion of the late Lord Sudeley.

After service, tea was partaken of at the Vicarage, about 30 sitting down, the Vicar of Stanway (the Rev. E. Bateman) and the Rev. W. A. Warner being present.

A business meeting followed, at which the Vicar presided, and he and the Vicar of Stanway were elected honorary members. Two performing members were also elected, and it was decided to attempt the quarterly peal at Toddington, with Mr. F. Johnson as conductor. It was further decided to arrange a meeting for united practice at Evesham some time in April.

An invitation having been received of the secretary from the Vicar of Pershore (the Rev. A. H. Philips) to hold the summer meeting at his church, it was, needless to say, accepted with acclamation.—A vote of sympathy was passed with Mrs. Shawcross, of Bretforton, in her recent bereavement.

As several more members of this branch have joined the colours, it was decided to open a roll of honour, in the minute book.

Upon the proposition of Mr. F. Johnson, votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for his address, and for the hearty welcome he had given the members; also to the ladies who had attended to the wants of the visitors, and to the organist and choir for attending at the service.—These votes of thanks were carried with applause, and the Vicar of Stanway suggested that the visitors should sing "For he's a jolly good fellow," in which the whole company heartily joined.—The Vicar made a humorous reply in acknowledgment, and the meeting closed. The handbells were then brought into use, tunes and touches being rung by the Johnson family, and two courses of Bob Major by: Miss E. M. Johnson 1—2, J. D. Johnson (conductor) 3—4, F. J. Johnson 5—6, J. Hamming 7—8. After about an hour's harmony the ringers made another move to the tower, where some short touches were brought round. Another call was then made at the Vicarage, where refreshments were dispensed before the visitors made for home, some having to cycle ten miles through the drizzling rain. This, however, did not damp their spirits, for all had thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

HYDE, MANCHESTER.—At St. George's Church, on Sunday, Dec 6th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins.: J. Lancashire (first quarter-peal) 1, J. Shaw 2, J. Brierley 3, A. Houghton 4, Tom Wilde 5, S. Bowker 6, A. Hough (conductor) 7, J. Howcroft 8.

THE BELL OF RUGBY SCHOOL CHAPEL

(Weight 64cwt. 2qrs. 20lbs.)

DEDICATED 21st JULY, 1914.



— CAST BY —

JOHN TAYLOR & CO.,

LOUGHBOROUGH.

MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry
Established
A.D. 1570.

Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road,
LONDON, E.



Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

At the Handbell Contests, held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also

UNIQUE FOR PRESENTATION.



An Inkstand in the
— design of a —
Well-shaped Bell.

This charming model in Solid Hall.
Marked Silver will make a most
appropriate and useful Gift.

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DAVENTRY'S BROKEN BELL.

The new seventh bell to replace the old one which broke last August at Daventry tower has been hung, and on Saturday week was dedicated by the Rural Dean, after the service of induction of the new Vicar (the Rev. Alexander S. Lindsay). The old bell, it may be remembered, broke completely in two round the shoulder, and the result of the accident can be seen in the accompanying picture.

Until recently a "stone" band, with no ambitions, was connected with the tower, but steps have been taken, which, thanks to the efforts of the well-known Lincolnshire ringer, Mr. A. Andrews (formerly of Billingborough), who has recently gone to reside in Daventry, have resulted in a start being made with change ringing, and Bob Minor can now be rung with 6-8 covering. Those who took part in the touches



RESULT OF THE STRANGE ACCIDENT.

after the dedication service were: A. Towers, W. Moore, A. Clarke, G. Chapell, A. Moore, A. Andrews, W. Bradshaw and H. Abel.

The band are fortunate in having for the new Vicar one who, although not a ringer himself, is so keenly interested in the art as the Rev. A. S. Lindsay, who was formerly a vice-president of the Central Northants Association. His appointment may lead to further interest being taken in the bells and ringers at Daventry by the church authorities than has been the case in the past, while if some steps are taken to lessen the din which the bells cause in the immediate vicinity of the church, it may be possible to open the tower again for meetings and peals, which are now barred.

LINCOLN GUILD.

GRIMSBY BRANCH MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Grimsby district was held recently at St. James' Church, but the attendance of members was disappointing. The bells were rung in the afternoon, but not in the evening, owing to their proximity to the coast. A short service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Canon Markham), president, and, owing to his unavoidable absence at the subsequent business meeting, Mr. J. W. Seamer was voted to the chair.—It was decided that the matter of having the names of those members of the Guild fighting for the country inserted in the annual report be placed in the hands of Mr. T. H. Parkin, district secretary, to bring forward at the next committee meeting.

In the election of officers the Rev. Canon Markham was re-elected president; Mr. T. H. Parkin, secretary; Mr. J. W. Seamer, ringing master, with Mr. C. Kennington as his deputy, while Mr. W. A. Miller was appointed representative of the branch on the Guild Committee.

A proposal to have no ringing meetings in the district until after the cessation of the war was unanimously agreed to.

The retiring officers were cordially thanked for their services, and those present made suitable replies.—A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and Mr. J. W. Seamer for presiding, terminated the proceedings.

RINGER'S DEATH IN AMERICA.

The death of Mr. Ernest C. Hunt, at the age of 41, occurred on January 18th at Philadelphia, U.S.A. He went to the States about seven years ago, where he met with a very serious accident, from which it was never expected that he would recover. He has left a widow and two children.

Mr. Hunt descended from a ringing family, his father, grandfather and great-grandfather having been ringers, and successively held the office of clerk at St. Andrew's, Droitwich. There are records of peals rung on those bells in which his ancestors took part, the ring being, by-the-way, the oldest peal of eight in Worcestershire.

Mr. Ernest Hunt joined the Kidderminster band about 1892, and rang the treble to his first peal on December 9th, 1893. A good opportunity presented itself at Kidderminster for a young ringer about that



THE LATE MR. E. C. HUNT.

time, and he took part in his first peals of Stedman and Double Norwich in 1894, Superlative in 1896, Duffield, Cambridge, and London in 1897. He removed to Darlington in 1901, where he rang in several peals for the Durham and Newcastle Association. At the end of 1901 he returned to Kidderminster, and his last peal in the district was Double Norwich, at Oldswinford, conducted by Mr. T. J. Salter. His total number of peals was about 70, a few of which he conducted. He was always good-tempered and willing, with any amount of pluck, and what he lacked in his ringing was easily made up for by perseverance and courage. His ringing friends will sympathise with his widow who mourns his loss, and with the children who have been deprived of a father's love.—S.

BENFIELDSIDE'S RECORD.

The following is a record of ringing by the band of St. Cuthbert's, Benfieldside, County Durham, from October 1st, 1913, to September 30th, 1914, which is their recognised year: 87 1080's and 20 720's; total, 107. The 1080's were made up as follows: Nine each of Lightfoot, Wearmouth, Wells, Canterbury, Newcastle, Chester, Alnwick and Morpeth Surprise Minor; eight of London, two each of Lancashire, York and Durham, and one of Stamford Surprise. The 720's were one each of Staniford, York, Wells, Alnwick and Newcastle; two each of Durham, London and Canterbury, and three of Chester Surprise, and six of Plain Bob. The ringers taking part were: J. W. Forster 105, John Marshall 107, Robert Dixon 106, T. H. Surtees 107, Arthur Charlton 105, Frank Barron 107, Walter Rochester 4 and A. G. Shorter 1. F. Barron was conductor for all.

The band's record from January 1st to December 31st, 1914, was 25 720's and 73 1080's made up of one each of York and Alnwick, two each of Newcastle, Wells and Durham, three each of Canterbury and London, five of Chester Surprise, and six of Plain Bob. The 1080's were two of York, four each of London and Wells, eight each of Lightfoot and Wearmouth, nine each of Canterbury, Chester and Newcastle, ten each of Alnwick and Morpeth Surprise Minor; total, 98. They were rung by: J. Marshall 98, R. Dixon 98, F. Barron 98, T. H. Surtees 98, J. W. Forster 96, A. Charlton 94, W. Rochester 4 and A. G. Shorter 1; conductor, F. Barron. With the exception of twelve 720's, the foregoing were rung for divine service.

THE BELLS OF ST. MARGARET'S, LEICESTER.

By ERNEST MORRIS.

(Continued from p. 70, Feb. 5th.)

On these famous bells many notable peals have been rung, the first known peal being as early as 1730, as the following extract from the "Norwich Gazette" of February 23rd of that year shows:—

"Leicester. This morning, upon the celebrated peal of St. Margaret's, Leicester, was rung by the Leicester Scholars, the whole peal of 5040 Triples, in 3 hrs. 6 mins. and 27 secs., to the great satisfaction of all the hearers; and (save one bell) the same was performed on the best peal of eight in England; and considering the length of pull, the weight of the bells (the tenor being 32 hundred) and short space of time in which the same was rung, it's one of the greatest performances that has been heard in this age; except by the College Youths and London Scholars, the only performers in England, to whom all preference in this Art must be given, and who have rung much longer peals on greater numbers of bells."

From an old book belonging to the late John Martin, I find mention of many peals, amongst others the following: "August ye 12th. 1776. On Monday Being his Royal highness the Prince of Wales Birth Day it was observed By the Leicester Ringers who Rang this peal of 6,012 Grandsire Caters in the Tittoms, which took in performing Four Hours and Twenty Minutes, which we can safely say that a peal of such a Length Never was performed so Compleat By Never a Society in this Kingdom, it Being the first Attempt Ever made for the same, and was Rung on those Much Esteemed peal of ten Bells of St. Margaret's, Leicester, the Tenor of which weighs 29 hundred 3 qrs. The Names of the Ringers:

Wm. Ryder	Treble	Mark Graham	7th
Benjm. Warburton	2nd	John Martin	8th
Thos. Armstrong	3rd	Wm. Bull	9th and call'd
Thos. Scott	4th	Samuel Nichols	} Tenor
Wm. Thacker	5th	and	
Thos. Michell	6th	James Slack	

"February 25th, 1777. It was Agreed on By the Leicester Change Ringers to go for a peal of Ten Thousand and Eighty Caters in ye Tittoms, which They Did Every Monday Morning and after a Tryal of Several, They Complented Their Desires. Four Times They Rung Eight Thousand and Once they Rung Nine Thousand, and then ye man that Rung the Third Miss'd his salley, and ye peal was Lost.—Another Tryal Twok place on the 25th Day of February 1777, and 5000 Changes was Rung in the Morning and In ye afternoon of ye same Day they Complented the Great peal of 10,080 Grandsire Caters in ye Tittoms, in Seven hours and Twelve Minutes; the Next Day the Society met and chear'd Three of the Oldest Members Through the principle Streets of the Town, and the Inhabitants of ye town made a Subscription and it Ris to the Eight of Thirty Three pounds and upwards which Names are hear wrote under.

Begin from St. Margrets Church." (then follows 22 columns of Names of Subscribers). The ringers of this peal were as follows:—

William Ryder	Treble	Mark Graham	7
Benjamin Warburton	2	Joseph Smith	8
Thomas Armstrong	3	William Bull	9
Thomas Scott	4	James Slack	} Tenor
William Thacker	5	and	
John Martin	6	Richard Wright	

Composed by John Martin, and Conducted by William Bull.

On Monday, May 30th, 1803 a peal of Bob Royal, 5040 Changes was rung in 3 hrs. 32 mins. Composed and Conducted by Thomas Sibson, who also on April 4th, 1807, called Annable's 5040 Bob Major, the whole hand being Woolcombers.

The following is an extract from the "Leicester Journal" of the date of June 20th, 1806:—

"The Amateurs of the Art of Chango Ringing must regret that the musical bells of St. Margarets are no longer engaged in that science—the Society, it is said, plead the pressure of the times, and cannot afford to sacrifice theirs, without a little assistance; as a small subscription would be sufficient to defray the expenses attendant on these meetings—it is hoped the inhabitants will contribute to remove the impediment and once more give a tone to that rational and interesting amusement."

Whether this appeal met with any remunerative success it is hard to say, nevertheless, as already shown, the Society rang a peal the following year, and almost every year they rang a date touch of either Grandsire Triples, Caters or Bob Major, of which the records are still extant. In 1848 a peal of 6012 Grandsire Caters was rung in 4 hrs. 1 min., conducted by Edward Biggs, and on December 27th, 1853, the S. Philip's Society, Birmingham, came over, and rang 5160 Stedman Caters, conducted by John Day.

On February 26th, 1877, to celebrate the centenary of the long peal of 10,080 Grandsire Caters, the St. Margaret's Society rang 5075 in the same method, which was composed and conducted by the late Mr.

John Buttery, who for many years was the recognised conductor of the Leicester ringers, and who conducted the first peals of Grandsire and Stedman Caters ever accomplished by the Midland Counties Association, both being rung at St. Margaret's on April 18th, 1885, and March 19th, 1887, respectively, the latter peal being to celebrate the Jubilee of Queen Victoria's reign. He also turned the tenor into 5000 Kent Treble Bob Royal on December 5th, 1891, in 3 hrs. 40 mins., the only peal ever rung in that method on the bells. The last peal to be rung here was 5003 Grandsire Caters on December 20th, 1902, occupying 5 hrs. 37 mins., composed by Wm. Willson, and conducted by the late Alfred Millis.

CLANDON TOWER AND BELLS RESTORED.

In the month of October, 1913, the tower and bells of the Parish Church of SS. Peter and Paul, West Clandon, Surrey, were destroyed by fire; last Sunday the restored steeple and a new peal of bells were dedicated by the Bishop of Guildford. The ceremony took place at a special service in the afternoon, at which a large congregation was present. In the reconstruction of the tower the roof has been covered with oak shingles, and all round the top half of the bell chamber are oak louvres.

The bells were cast originally at the Whitechapel foundry in the year 1714. Messrs. Mears and Stainbank were entrusted with the work of making and erecting an exactly similar peal to the old one. The new bells are in the key of E natural, and the weights are:—

	cwt.	qrs.	lbs.		cwt.	qrs.	lbs.
Tenor	17	0	0	3rd	8	2	8
4th	9	3	23	2nd	7	2	25
5th	12	2	18	Treble	6	1	24

making a total weight of 62 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lbs. About 37 cwt. of the old metal has been used in casting the new bells, this being the total amount of clean metal recovered after the fire.

The bells have been fitted with iron headstocks, and hung in a new frame of best season English oak, constructed to carry also two additional bells to complete the octave. Owing to the war these have not yet been added, but it is hoped they will be obtained when peace is restored.

The inscription on the tenor is:—

Thomas Lester made us 1741.
Mears and Stainbank remade us 1914,
After the fire of October 1913.
G. F. Dalton, Rector.
Thomas Goacher, } Churchwardens.
Arthur H. Wood, }

"I BELIEVE IN THE LIFE EVERLASTING."

The service was of a specially appropriate and interesting character, the special prayers used indicating that services in the ancient church "have been maintained in unbroken order for more than 700 years by the Rectors and people of this village."

BISHOP IN THE BELFRY.

The Bishop's address made fitting reference to the restoration which had taken place. After the Blessing, his lordship, with the clergy, churchwardens and ringers, proceeded to the belfry, where the ringers uttered the responses to prayers offered by the Bishop, at the conclusion of which the Bishop handed to the secretary of the ringers a book in which to keep their records, and in which he signed his name in memory of his visit. After the Bishop had left the tower a short touch was rung.

Subsequently, at the kind invitation of the Rector and churchwardens, the ringers, choir, members of the C.E.M.S., and others, proceeded to the residence of Mr. A. H. Wood (churchwarden) to meet the Bishop and have tea. Returning to the tower they then rang half-muffled touches in memory of the late Mr. G. Bone, a much respected inhabitant of the village, and of Pte Chas. Rump, a member of the choir, who enlisted in "The Queen's" Royal West Surrey Regiment at the outbreak of war, and was killed in action just before Christmas.

The ringers present during the day were: Messrs. J. J. Jones (hon. secretary of the Guildford District of the Winchester Guild), A. H. Pulling and C. Haselden (Guildford), H. L. Garfath (Croydon), S. Lawrence (representing the founders, the head of the firm, Mr. Arthur Hughes, being prevented by civic duties in London), and the following members of the local company: Tpr. W. Day (17th Lancers), Messrs. F. Bennett, J. Goacher, F. Day, H. Blackman and H. Neish, and all were well pleased with the extremely good work done by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. The tone of the bells gives the greatest satisfaction, and the "go" leaves nothing to be desired. The only drawback is the rather considerable noise in the ringing chamber, which is immediately under the bells. A concrete floor has been put in under the bells, but has not entirely obviated the disadvantage to the ringers of being so near to the bells.

PORTISHEAD BELLS.

We dare say that the opinion has been very generally expressed that Portishead bells, with a tenor of 16 cwt., "must go pretty well for ladies to ring a peal on them." That is unquestionably so, and not only does it, in that respect, reflect credit upon the steeple-keeper, but upon the bellhangers (Messrs. Llewellyn and James, of the well-known Bristol foundry), whose work carried out in 1907, when they rehung and retuned the peal, has thus stood the most exacting test.

TORONTO TENOR BELL.

Note A. Weight 60 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lbs.



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The above is the largest bell of the carillon of 21 bells which is now being erected by our men at the Timothy Eaton Memorial Church, Toronto, Canada. The weight of the smallest bell is 1 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lbs, Note A, and the total weight of the 21 bells is 265½ cwt. The "WARNER" self-aligning headstock for chimes is fitted to all the bells, with the exception of the Tenor, which has a ringing headstock and special balanced clapper and also the "WARNER" self-aligning, self-lubricating, oil ring bearings, Type G (Patent No 18896).

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The February meeting of the Manchester branch was held at Pendlebury on Saturday week, when one of the best meetings ever held in that tower took place, some 40 members calling some time during the evening, while at times the belfry was uncomfortably full. Most of the towers in the Manchester branch were represented, as well as several in the Bolton branch, a most welcome visitor being Mr. J. W. Taylor, of Loughborough, who was motoring in the neighbourhood, and paid a call. The business meeting was presided over by Mr. W. E. Ryder, of Rusholme, and he had a fairly easy task on this occasion. An apology was sent from the branch secretary for his non-attendance. Whitefield was chosen as the place of the March meeting, and two new members were made. After a few questions had been asked and answers given on local matters, a vote of thanks to the authorities and ringers was passed and acknowledged by Mr. A. Wallwork, the chief ringer. The bells were kept going to the various standard methods until nearly nine o'clock, the local ringers being quite pleased with the number of visitors who turned up.

A successful meeting of the Bolton Branch was held at St. Saviour's Church on Saturday last, when 24 members were present. Some good touches of Stedman Triples, Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major were rung. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Tyldesley.

SALISBURY GUILD.

On Saturday last, a monthly meeting of the Devises branch was held at the grand old Parish Church of All Saints', Westbury, Wilts, which contains a heavy ring of six bells, with a tenor weighing close upon 35 cwt. The day was very wet and stormy, but notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather 13 ringers mustered from the towers of Holi, Trowbridge, Swindon, Westbury and Southbroom. Some well-struck touches of Grandsire Doubles were rung in the afternoon, and the handbells were also in requisition. Tea was partaken of in the "Library" adjoining the churchyard, kindly placed at the disposal of the Guild by the Vicar of Westbury (the Rev. W. H. McCann Clarke, B.D.), who presided at the meeting in the unavoidable absence of the chairman of the branch, and was supported by Mr. H. Brownlee West. of Devises, the honorary branch secretary.—Afterwards the ringers again ascended the tower, and indulged in more music.

CENTRAL NORTANTS ASSOCIATION.

A largely attended quarterly meeting of the Central Northants Association was held at Finedon on Saturday week, about 40 members being present from Irthlingborough, Wellingborough, Burton Latimer, Higham Ferrers, Isham, Earls Barton, Rothwell, Bedford, Kettering, and Northampton, as well as the Finedon ringers. By the kind permission of the Vicar, the bells were at liberty during the afternoon and evening. The methods rung during the day were London, Superlative, Norwich, and Stedman. Tea was served in the Star Hall, and a short business meeting followed, presided over by the Vicar. Others present included the Rev. C. Owen, Miss E. Steele, and Mr. F. Wilford (general secretary).—It was resolved to hold the next meeting at Earls Barton.—Two new members were elected. It was hoped to compile a roll of honour of the members of the association who had answered the call of the country, for insertion in the annual report. The response of the members had been very good indeed.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, and for presiding at the meeting, and to the local ringers for their kindly welcome.—The Vicar suitably replied.

DEATH OF MR. W. DYER, COGGESHALL.

The death took place, on February 9th, of Mr. William Dyer, the oldest member of the Coggeshall (Essex) company of ringers, in his 73rd year. He had been a ringer for about 40 years, and had rung 13 peals: One in seven methods on six bells, four of Bob Major, including 6,160; seven of Treble Bob Major, including 6,336 each of Oxford and Kent, and one of Double Norwich. Being of a kind and genial nature, he was liked and respected by all who met him, and he will be greatly missed, especially by his fellow ringers at Coggeshall, who valued him alike for his cheerful willingness, safe ringing, and good striking. His father and grandfather were ringers, the latter conducting a celebrated local peal of 5,690 changes of Oxford Treble Bob in 3 hrs. 47 mins., in 1828, at Great Tey, as a peal board in the tower records, and several other members of the family have been, and still are, ringers there. He was laid to rest on Saturday last, being carried from his home to the church on the shoulders of his fellow workmen as he desired. The church bells were rung before the funeral service, and half-muffled during the afternoon and evening.

ALDERSHOT.—At the old Parish Church, 720 Kent Treble Bob-W. Dwyer (1st 720) 1, Alf. Croucher 2, G. Fisher 3, Pte F. T. Bindley 4, W. Fisher 5, Pte W. H. Day (conductor) 6. Rung for service of dedication of decorations in the side chapel of the above church.

WIST EALING.—For evening service, at St. Stephen's Church, on December 20th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: A. Hubbard (Fulham) 1, G. Harbour 2, J. Hunnisett 3, G. Iles (Shepherd's Bush) 4, V. Holloway 5, J. A. Trollope 6, W. Lawrence (conductor) 7, O. Edwards 8.

NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Ringing for Divine service at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields the first Sunday in the month, and at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, the third Sunday, both at 10 o'clock. Meetings for practice at Shoreditch every third Monday at 8 p.m.—H. J. Bradley, Parish Church, Shoreditch.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting and contest (6 bells) will be held at Thornhill on Saturday, February 20th, 1915. Draw for order of ringing at 3 p.m. at the Saville Arms. — F. Salmons, Secretary, 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District. —A meeting of the above will be held at High Halden (6 bells) on Saturday, February 20th. Ringing to commence at 3 o'clock. Special service at 5 o'clock. Tea at 5.30, in the Schoolroom, kindly provided by the Rector, Rev. B. W. Gilpin. A new treble has recently been added and the rest rehung.—C. Tribe, Honorary District Secretary, British School Villas, Tinterden.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Todmorden Unitarian on Saturday, February 20th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Business meeting 6.30. — Joseph Ogden, Secretary.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The Annual Meeting of the Eastern District will be held at Pontefract on Saturday, February 27th, 1915. Bells at All Saints' available all day. Subscriptions may be paid at this meeting.—Thos. Smith, Hon. Dist. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division. —A quarterly meeting will be held at Springfield on Saturday, February 27th. Service, with short address by the Vicar, the Rev. F. S. Paynter, at 5 o'clock. Tea 9d. each, and business meeting to follow at the Plough Inn. Bells available from 4 o'clock. Will those intending to be present please notify me not later than Wednesday, February 24th. — F. W. Edwards, Honorary District Secretary, Clifton Villa, Writtle, near Chelmsford.

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, Birmingham, on Saturday, February 27th, at 6.30 p.m., when the chair will be taken by Canon J. W. Willink, Rector of Birmingham. The bells of St. Martin's (12) and St. John's (8) will be available from 3.30 to 5 o'clock. Tickets free to fully qualified members whose subscriptions are paid up to date. Other members and friends tickets 2s. 6d. each, may be obtained from A. Paddon Smith, Honorary Secretary, 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting of the above Guild will be held at Dudley on Saturday, March 6th. Tower open for ringing at 4 o'clock, service in St. Thomas' Church at 5 o'clock, to be conducted by the President, the Rev. Dr. A. Gray Maitland

(Vicar of Dudley). A free tea will be provided for those who notify me not later than Wednesday, March 3rd. Business meeting afterwards. All contributions should be paid at this meeting. — Herbert Sheppard, Honorary Secretary, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

FOR CONCERTS, SOIREES, BAZAARS, ETC.—The Premier Handbell Ringers Renowned Entertainment, 44 handbells, sleigh bells, songs, sketches, etc., new Welsh artistes. Conductor J. G. Harris. Pamphlet free. February 8th, St. Andrew's Hall, Canonbury, N.; March 17th, Institute, Stanmore, Harrow. Apply for dates, moderate terms, Secretary, 35, Trehurst Street, Clapton, London.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

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

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House,

BELLS FOR SALE.

A CARILLON of Fifteen Church Bells, largest 18in. diameter, to 6in. diameter, cheap for quick sale.—Thomas Bond, Burford, Oxon.

RINGERS ENTERTAINED AT CREWE.

On Friday last the ringers of Christ Church, Crewe, numbering 14, spent a very enjoyable evening at the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Bowen Cooke, at their residence, "Chester Place." A splendid repast having been partaken of, the party indulged in songs and recitations, which were contributed by Messrs. R. Langford, H. Overton, W. Gartside, R. D. Langford, and the Revs. W. Bidlake (Vicar), and J. E. Amies (curate). Mr. J. Platt (Crewe's favourite humorist) also amused the party, his share in the programme being much appreciated, whilst short touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the handbells.—A vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Cooke for their kindness to the ringers, proposed by the Vicar, seconded by Mr. R. T. Holding, brought the evening to a close.

SHREWSBURY.—Salop Guild and St. Chad's Society. On Nov. 29th, at St. Chad's, 501 Stedman Caters: G. Byolin 1, W. Brooks 2, E. M. Atkins, R.E., 3, W. R. Stockdale 4, Major E. R. T. Corbett 5, T. W. Belton 6, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 7, G. Jones 8, A. E. Fullick 9, J. T. Wall 10.—On Dec. 13th, 207 Stedman Caters and another touch of 207. Recently, 198 Grandsire Cinques: C. R. Lilley 1, T. Peel 2, W. Brooks 3, G. Byolin 4, G. Scarratt 5, W. R. Stockdale 6, E. R. T. Corbett 7, R. Belton 8, T. W. Belton 9, E. M. Atkins 10, A. E. Fullick 11, E. V. Rodenhurst 12.—On December 18th, 207 Stedman Caters: G. Byolin 1, G. Pickering, R.E. (of Middlesbrough) 2, W. Brooks 3, W. R. Stockdale 4, E. R. T. Corbett 5, T. W. Belton 6, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 7, G. Jones 8, A. E. Fullick 9, H. Jones 10. Also 168 of Grandsire Triples and 112 Double Norwich Major.—On Dec. 17th, at St. Mary's Church, 168 of Stedman Triples: W. Brooks 1, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 2, E. R. T. Corbett 3, J. Tudor 4, W. R. Stockdale 5, G. Pickering 6, A. E. Fullick 7, J. Wynn 8. Also 168 of Stedman, with 9, 8, 10 covering: J. Wynn 9, E. Auslow 8, H. Jones 10 (the rest as before).—At St. Julian's Church, on Dec. 15th, 180 Bob Minor: Rev. H. B. Beckwith 1, C. R. Lilley 2, R. Belton 3, A. E. Fullick 4, E. V. Rodenhurst 5, E. M. Atkins (conductor) 6. Also 240 Stedman Doubles: C. R. Lilley (conductor) 1, R. Belton 2, J. Tudor 3, A. E. Fullick 4, E. M. Atkins 5, E. V. Rodenhurst 6.

PONTSEA.—At the Parish Church, on December 27th, for evening service 504 Stedman Triples: H. Hoptrough 1, C. Groves 2, E. Reynolds 3, F. Burrow 4, J. Symonds 5, C. Creasy 6, E. J. Harding (conductor) 7, R. Stove 8.

NORTON-IN-THE-MOORS.—Stoke-on-Trent Association.—On Tuesday, December 1st, in honour of Queen Alexandra's 70th birthday, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob: Jno Walker (first 720) 1, S. B. Bailey 2, Bertram Pegg 3, Jno. E. Wheelton 4, Geo. E. Lawrence 5, F. P. Dawson (conductor) 6.—On Sunday, Dec. 6th, for evensong, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: W. C. Lawrence 1, Geo. E. Lawrence 2, Jno. E. Wheelton 3, Jno. Turner 4, Wm. Wibberley 5, Jno. F. Rylance (conductor) 6.

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