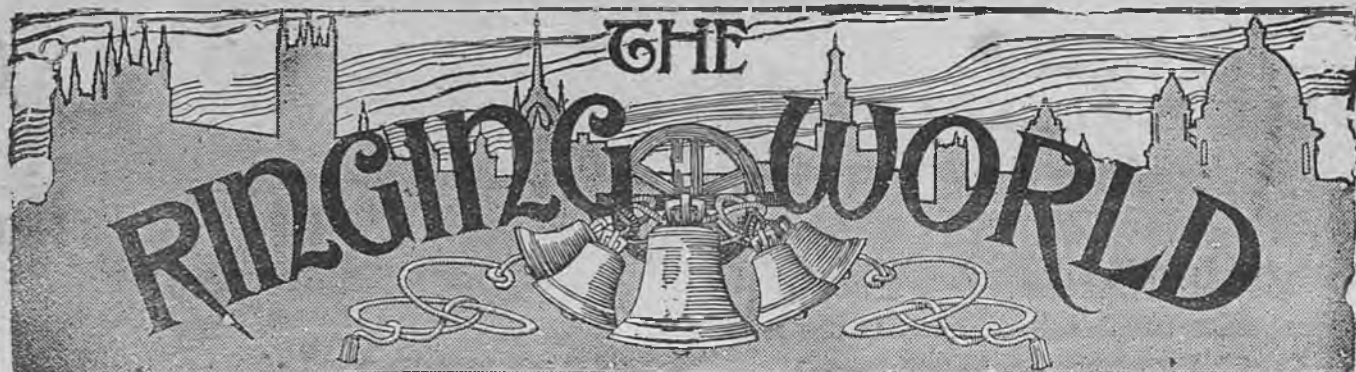




No. 616. Vol. XVIII.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 5th, 1923.

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

Price 3d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, SURREY.



The Recast Tenor (30 cwt.) at
ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL.
New Ring of Ten opened May 14th, 1921.

**BELLS,
CARILLONS,
CLOCKS.**

A HINT TO CONTRIBUTORS.

With our first number of a new year and a new volume, we want to say a few words affecting ourselves. The increasing activity in the Exercise makes the pressure upon our space heavier and heavier as the months go by, and our sixteen-page journal cannot now provide room for all the matter which we would like to include in its columns. Every week we have to hold over, or put aside entirely, reports of doings of varied importance, simply for lack of space. The majority of ringers like to see their performances recorded, the general interests of the Exercise demand that the numerous ringing meetings should be noticed, and it is essential, in order that there shall be no break in the records, that the peals rung should find their proper place in the paper. Yet these requirements already more than fill our available space, and articles of general and special interest, whenever they occur, can only be given at the expense of other matters. It is a matter of real regret to us, that many things have from time to time to 'go overboard,' but where there has been any disappointment to contributors, we must ask them to bear with us and believe that it is no fault of ours.

The remedy lies in a larger paper, which would of course be welcomed by all our friends, but we are equally sure they will realise that this is a step which can only be taken if the financial support given to the journal warranted it. When, nearly two years ago, we emerged from the 'war stage,' we asked ringers to help us raise the circulation by at least a thousand copies a week. It may be news to many to know that only about half that number of additional subscribers was obtained. To provide a larger paper than the present, without increasing the price, it would be necessary to double the circulation, and, the apathy which exists among a large body of the Exercise, and the pernicious habit which still prevails in many places of taking just one copy for 'the tower,' makes us hesitate before even considering such a step. Obviously it could not be taken without some guarantee against financial loss.

Until it is possible to provide more pages to accommodate the matter sent in, there is one means by which contributors can help us, and that is by sending in their reports and other communications without loss of time. It is an every week occurrence just as we are on the point of closing our pages for press, to receive numerous reports of peals, meetings and minor performances which have taken place not on the preceding Saturday or Sunday, but ten, seventeen and sometimes many more days before! This is hardly fair to us and it is certainly not fair to our

(Continued on page 2.)

BELLS! BELLS! BELLS!

Let the Music of the Bells celebrate Peace.

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readers. If reports are worth sending in, they are worth sending at once, otherwise they lose interest, and, in the endeavour to publish them without further loss of time, other more recent matter is often displaced and arrangements are dislocated. We appeal, therefore, to those responsible, to send in all contributions immediately after the event, and not leave their despatch till the next or some subsequent Monday evening.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(St. MARGARET'S GUILD.)

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Three Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF St. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5060 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb.

ERNEST MORRIS Treble	CHARLES CATTELL 7
FREDERICK W. SHARMAN ... 2	REDEVERS F. ELKINGTON ... 8
G. STEDMAN MORRIS 3	JOSIAH MORRIS 9
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 4	ARTHUR CATTELL 10
ALFRED BALLARD 5	HARRY BROUGHTON 11
EDWARD WHITEHEAD 6	JOHN VERNON Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

First peal of Grandsire Cinques on the bells, and by the Association, also by all the band except the conductor. Rung on the first anniversary of the opening of these bells.

GLoucester, GLOUCESTERSHIRE

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION,
AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF PAINSWICK YOUTHS.

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5189 CHANGES;

GEORGE ORCHARD Treble	ALFRED HANNIS 7
FRANK COLE 2	WILLIAM HASTINGS 8
WILLIAM IRELAND 3	JOHN BALLINGER 9
FRANCIS LEWIS 4	SYDNEY LOXTON 10
CHARLES GARDINER 5	CHARLES BOND 11
ALBERT WRIGHT 6	ALBERT HANKS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

TEN BELL PEALS.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, Dec. 23, 1922, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF St. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5041 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. 0 qr. 18 lb.

BERT HORTON Treble	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ... 6
GEORGE HUGHES 2	EDWARD F. MITCHELL 7
EDGAR MARLOW 3	BENJAMIN GOUGH 8
FRANK W. PERRENS 4	HERBERT KNIGHT 9
*LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ... 5	JAMES GEORGE Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by CHRISTOPHER WALLATER.

* First peal of Caters and first attempt. First peal of Caters as conductor. Quickest peal of Caters on the bells. Specially arranged for the ringer of the 5th, who was on a visit from Church Kirk, Lancs.

CREWE, CHESTER.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

At CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

ROBERT SPERRING Treble	JOSEPH DAVIES 6
*GEORGE R. JONES 2	JAMES H. RIDING 7
*RICHARD D. LANGFORD ... 3	*SAMUEL JONES, JUN. 8
*HARRY F. HOLDING 4	RICHARD T. HOLDING 9
*HARRY OVERTON 5	*WILLIAM CHADWICK Tenor

Composed by A. B. CARPENTER. Conducted by R. T. HOLDING.

First peal of Stedman Caters on the bells. * First peal of Stedman Caters. First peal of Stedman as conductor. It is 30 years since Mr. Joseph Davies, an old Crewe ringer, now of Kidderminster, rang a peal at the above tower.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Three Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 33 cwt.

WILLIAM FISHER... ..	Treble	WILLIAM A. COOPER	5
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER	2	HERBERT KNIGHT	7
JOHN PERRY	3	BENJAMIN COUGH	8
FRANK W. PERRENS	4	BERT HORTON	9
EDWARD F. MITCHELL	5	JAMES GEORGE	Tenor

Composed by J. E. GROVES. Conducted by FRANK W. PERRENS.

Rung after meeting short for Cinques. W. Fisher's 250th peal.
A birthday compliment to C. Wallater.

GREAT YARMOUTH, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH ST. EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH
DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Three Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt.

*BERTIE NEWSON... ..	Treble	FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN	6
BEN S. THOMPSON	2	*THOMAS TOOLEY	7
WILLIAM B. DUNCAN	3	JOHN A. GODFREY	8
GEORGE P. BURTON	4	NORMAN R. BAILEY	9
GEORGE H. CROSS	5	GEORGE MAYERS	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

The ringer of the 7th was re-elected a member of the Association prior to commencing the peal. * First peal of Royal.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 24½ cwt.

ARTHUR KNIGHTS... ..	Treble	WILLIAM J. THYNG	6
WILLIAM LAMBERT	2	WILLIAM T. PALMER	7
JOHN FLINT	3	A. PERCIVAL KNIGHTS	8
JOHN T. BROTHWELL	4	WALTER ALLWOOD	9
WILLIAM T. PEGLAR	5	BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

WALTHAMSTOW.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, Dec. 22, 1922, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HALEY'S VARIATION.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

ALBERT A. HUGHES	Treble	GEORGE B. LUCAS, SEN.	5
HERBERT WOOD	2	ERNEST D. LILLYWHITE	6
HAROLD A. EDWARDS	3	WALTER STRED	7
GEORGE R. PYE	4	JOHN COLEMAN	Tenor

Conducted by WALTER STRED.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Ernest D. Lillywhite and Mr. and Mrs. John Colman on their silver wedding. Quickest peal on the bells.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, Dec. 22, 1922, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF COURT BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

*G. BRANCH	Treble	†J. BRANCH	5
J. COOK	2	W. STANFORD	6
W. PETTIFER	3	W. CHARMAN	7
†P. CHARMAN	4	ALBERT CHARMAN	Tenor

Conducted by J. COOK.

* First peal. † First peal in the method.

DARESBUURY, CHESHIRE
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, Dec. 23, 1922, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;

WILLIAM BIBBY	Treble	FRANCIS BIBBY	5
GEORGE H. RANGLES... ..	2	*LEONARD BOSTOCK	6
ERNEST PALMER	3	JOHN E. BIBBY	7
HENRY C. COLLYER	4	EDWARD JENKINS	Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

* First peal in the method. Composition No. 163, C.C.C., Sec. 111.

HORSHAM, SUSSEX

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Dec. 23, 1922, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt.

ALBERT FEIST	Treble	WALTER CHARMAN	5
JOHN AKEHURST	2	FRANK BENNETT	6
JAMES BURDFIELD	3	JOHN COOK	7
PETER CHARMAN... ..	4	WILLIAM STANFORD	Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Dec. 23, 1922, in Two Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF THURSTANS.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

SHIRLEY BURTON	Treble	*EDWARD WHITEHEAD	5
REDVERS F. ELKINGTON	2	HARRY BROUGHTON	6
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	3	ERNEST MORRIS... ..	7
*GEORGE S. MORRIS	4	WILLIAM THORLEY	Tenor

Conducted by HARRY BROUGHTON.

* First peal in the method.

ILSLEY, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, Dec. 23, 1922, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 8½ cwt. in G.

ROBERT WARWICK	Treble	JOSEPH HANDS	5
RICHARD T. HIBBERT... ..	2	GEORGE ESSEX	6
WILLIAM HIBBERT, SEN.	3	REV. C. W. O. JENKYN	7
WILLIAM HIBBERT, JUN. A. 4		HENRY BROWN, SEN.	Tenor

Conducted by R. T. HIBBERT.

UPTON-ON-SEVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.

HENRY CHANCE... ..	Treble	WILLIAM RANFORD	5
WILLIAM NIBLETT	2	SIDNEY T. HOLT... ..	6
ERNEST E. BARBER	3	ERNEST GIBBS	7
*DAVID HORNE	4	CHARLES CAMM	Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by C. CAMM.

* First peal of Major.

RUNCORN, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5072 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

ERNEST PALMER	Treble	JOHN E. BIBBY	5
FREDERICK HANCOCK	2	WILLIAM BIBBY	6
HENRY C. COLLYER	3	FRANCIS BIBBY	7
LEONARD BOSTOCK	4	EDWARD JENKINS	Tenor

Composed by G. H. CROSS.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

First peal in the method on the bells.

WORLINGWORTH, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH, ST. EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH
DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, Dec. 24, 1922, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN Treble	THOS. H. CHAPPELL 5
*FRANK RUFFLES 2	JAMES BETTS 6
GEORGE BROWN 3	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY 7
WILLIAM CLOVER 4	WALTER RUFFLES Tenor

Composed by GEO. H. CROSS. Conducted by W. C. RUMSEY.

* First peal in the method and first attempt. A birthday compliment to the treble man. The conductor's 50th peal of Double Norwich.

SHEFFIELD, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Cathedral,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION.

Tenor 14 cwt.

SIDNEY F. PALMER Treble	*SIDNEY BRIGGS 5
FRANCIS WARD 2	GEORGE LEWIS 6
JOHN THORPE 3	*RALPH S. LONG 7
*HAYDN THORP 4	*THOMAS E. LEE Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE LEWIS.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. Rung after meeting for Stedman Cinques, which had to be abandoned owing to the clapper of the tenor falling out. The peal was in honour of the engagement of Mr. Ralph S. Long, of Grimsby, to Miss May Robinson, of Sheffield.

WHITBY, YORKSHIRE.
THE OLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S ONE-PART.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

THOMAS STEEL Treble	THOMAS METCALFE 5
ALFRED E. OXLEY 2	WILLIAM A. BRECKON 6
ALBERT COATES 3	WILLIAM BROADLEY 7
*GEORGE H. CORNER 4	*JOHN W. WATERS, JUN. Tenor

Conducted by W. A. BRECKON.

* First peal.

ASHTED, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM COOK Treble	JOHN HOYLE 5
JOHN WYATT 2	WILLIAM H. CORBETT 6
GEORGE A. COOK 3	ARTHUR DEAN 7
GEORGE MARRINER 4	DAVID ANSCOME Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM H. CORBETT.

This peal was rung specially in honour of the golden wedding of Mr. J. E. Smith, J.P., and Mrs. Smith, of St. Margaret's, Ashted.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DAY'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qr. in E.

ERNEST CUTSFORTH Treble	JOHN E. MARKLAND 5
ARTHUR STEWART 2	†ARTHUR HILL 6
*EDWARD EDWARDS 3	PETER CROOK 7
*ARTHUR HEYWOOD 4	*JOHN W. KAY Tenor

Conducted by PETER CROOK.

* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell. Rung to commemorate the 45th anniversary of the first peal rung by the Lancashire Association. That peal was rung in the above church, and its present conductor, Mr. H. W. Jackson, is the only survivor of the band. The peal was also a wedding anniversary for the treble ringer. The ringer of the 4th was home on holiday from London.

CRANBROOK, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Dunstan,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PENNING'S ONE-PART.

Tenor 23 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb.

MRS. H. BAKER Treble	BENJAMIN BAKER 5
WILLIAM E. PITMAN 2	GEORGE BILLENNESS 6
*HAROLD WANT 3	EDWARD R. BURGESS 7
HARRY BAKER 4	ERNEST VICKERS Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE BILLENNESS.

* First peal. The above is the first occasion on which a lady has rung a peal at Cranbrook. The peal is No. 51 in the Central Council Collection and contains 160 calls.

BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Three Hours,

At the Church of SS. Mary and Lawrence,

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

Tenor 14½ cwt.

WALTER ALLWOOD Treble	CHARLES MASON 5
WILLIAM LAMBERT 2	A. PERCIVAL KNIGHTS 6
JOHN T. BROTHWELL 3	ARTHUR KNIGHTS 7
EDWARD ROBBINS 4	JOHN FLINT Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by JOHN FLINT.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

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

Tenor 11½ cwt.

*LESLIE J. CLARK Treble	HENRY HEAD 5
HENRY W. KIRTON 2	*JOHN WOOD 6
THOMAS LINCOLN 3	WILLIAM LINCOLN 7
PERCY TIMSON 4	ARTHUR HEAD Tenor

Composed by E. TIMBERELL.

Conducted by WILLIAM LINCOLN.

* First peal in the method.

HENLEY, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH, ST. EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH
DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 8 cwt. 0 qr. 3 lb. in A flat.

JAMES ROSE Treble	HARRY R. ROPER 5
REV. WILLIAM C. PEARSON 2	ALBERT A. FLEMING 6
WILLIAM J. GROOM 3	CHARLES WOODCOCK 7
CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE 4	GEORGE A. FLEMING Tenor

Composed by JAMES MOTTS.

Conducted by JAMES ROSE.

No. 874 Association Report, 1879. Rung as a birthday compliment to James Rose, being his first peal as conductor and first attempt.

HOOK NORTON, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM TANDY Treble	RICHARD G. RICE 5
JAMES BUTLER 2	JAMES H. JARVIS 6
DANIEL G. COOMBS 3	JAMES S. NAPPER 7
MAURICE SMITH 4	*THOMAS IMPEY Tenor

Conducted by RICHARD G. RICE.

* First peal.

ALFRED BOWELL,
CHURCH BELL FOUNDER,
IPSWICH.

SUNDERLAND, DURHAM.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS THE MARTYR,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

*WHEELR. H. B. DITCHBORN <i>Treble</i>	†SGT. R. WALKER, D.S.M.	5
GEORGE S. TAYLOR 2	GMR. THOMAS H. NAISBY...	6
†WILLIAM OXLEY 3	JOSEPH W. PARKER 7	
MICHAEL F. HARRISON ... 4	SFR. ROBERT L. PATTERSON	<i>Tenor</i>

Composed and Conducted by JOSEPH W. PARKER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled in honour of our glorious dead, immediately after the unveiling of the Sunderland War Memorial.

* First peal of Treble Bob. † First peal of Surprise.

GLOUCESTER.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
AND THE ST. MICHAEL'S JUNIORS, GLOUCESTER.

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-DE-CRYPT,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES:

Tenor 12½ cwt.

GEORGE L. BRUNSDON ... <i>Treble</i>	CHARLES H. AUSTIN 5
THOMAS BALDWIN 2	EDWARD EVANS 6
JOHN AUSTIN... .. 3	GEORGE CONDUCK, SEN. ... 7
JESSE GILLET 4	ERNEST E. DAVIS... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by JAMES HENRY.

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

HEREFORD.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qr

*WILLIAM H. SYMONDS ... <i>Treble</i>	WILLIAM POSTERN 5
CHARLES EDWARDS 2	WILLIAM H. WILLIAMS ... 6
ALLEN GWYNN 3	*WALTER TAYLOR 7
*IVOR D. PROBERT 4	JOHN CLARK <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by CHAS. EDWARDS.

* First peal of Major. First peal of Major in the city.

BAMPTON, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

(OXFORD SOCIETY.)

On Wednesday, Dec. 27, 1922, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

THOMAS PAYNE <i>Treble</i>	ALBERT E. LOCK 5
MRS. ALBERT E. LOCK ... 2	THOMAS SHORT 6
FRANCIS TAYLOR 3	GORDON CADEWELL 7
WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS ... 4	WILLIAM STONE <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by W. HODSON.

Conducted by ALBERT E. LOCK.

First peal of Major on the bells W. H. B. Wilkin's 201st peal.

WHITTLE-LE-WOODS, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

(PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, Dec. 27, 1922, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES:

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 21½ cwt. in E flat.

ALEC MARTIN <i>Treble</i>	JOHN H. GARTSIDE 5
*WILLIAM SHARPLES 2	*WILLIAM LANCASTER ... 6
ROBERT ARMSTRONG... .. 3	EDWARD ARMSTRONG... .. 7
E. R. MARTIN 4	ALBERT E. WOODHOUSE ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by EDWARD ARMSTRONG.

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

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DAVID MAXON, Rope Works, Grantham.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

STRETTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, Dec. 14, 1922, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Court, Double Oxford, Double Bob, St. Clement's, College Single Reverse, Oxford Single and Plain Bob.

*GEORGE VERNON <i>Treble</i>	LEONARD BOSTOCK 4
†HARRY FAIRCLOUGH 2	†JOHN H. DAVENPORT ... 5
†ERNEST BOSTOCK 3	EDWARD JENKINS <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

* First peal. † First peal in seven methods. First peal in seven methods on the bells by a local band.

RODMERSHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Sunday, Dec. 17, 1922, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, and two 720's of College Single, Plain Bob and Oxford Bob.

VERNON PAGE <i>Treble</i>	EDWARD W. TUMBER... .. 4
CHARLES TUMBER 2	EDWARD HODGES... .. 5
EDWARD W. GAMBELL ... 3	WILLIAM NYE <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by WILLIAM NYE.

BRETTFORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTHERN BRANCH)

On Friday, Dec. 22, 1922, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

RAYMOND JELFS <i>Treble</i>	STANLEY WEYMAN 4
JOHN C. PERKINS... .. 2	LEONARD J. JELFS 5
THOMAS HANDS 3	JOHN HALL <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by JOHN HALL.

All belong to the local band.

SAXMUNDHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE NORWICH, ST. EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH
DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Dec. 23, 1922, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising 720 each of London, York, Canterbury, Beverley, Chester, Carlisle and Cambridge.

FREDERICK W. WATLING ... <i>Treble</i>	JAMES M. BAILEY 4
GEORGE BAILEY 2	EDGAR H. BAILEY 5
CHARLES F. BAILEY 3	FREDERICK W. BAILEY ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by CHAS. F. BAILEY.

First peal of Surprise Minor by all except the 2nd ringer, and the first in the district.

BARTHOMLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(CREWE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, Dec. 23, 1922, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BERTHOLINE,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

*HAROLD EDWARDS <i>Treble</i>	ALBERT CRAWLEY 4
GEORGE H. CRAWLEY 2	†WILLIAM SUTTON 5
JOHN BRASSINGTON 3	ARTHUR ALLMAN 6

ALBERT ASTBURY *Tenor*

Conducted by A. ALLMAN.

* First peal. † First peal away from the treble. First peal of Bob Minor by all the band and on the bells. First peal as conductor. Rung after meeting short for Triples, and as a birthday compliment to the Rector (the Rev. W. Skene) and the conductor.

BURBAGE, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
 (HINCKLEY DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, Dec. 23, 1922, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CATHERINE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being eleven 120's each of Canterbury and Old Doubles, and ten 120's each of Plain Bob and Grandsire. Tenor 9 cwt.

SAM WHITE Treble	WILLIAM COPE 3
ERNEST RIVETT 2	GEORGE DUDLEY 4
FRED COTTON Tenor	

Conducted by F. COTTON.

YARDLEY-HASTINGS.
THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Dec. 23, 1922, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores in 10 different callings. Tenor 14 cwt.

HARRY WOODING Treble	BERNARD BURGE 4
ERNEST FRAIL 2	JOHN HORNSBY 5
ARTHUR BERRILL 3	WALTER WITNEY Tenor

Conducted by B. BURGE.

Rung at the first attempt and the first known peal on the bells by all Yardley ringers.

WOODSTON, PETERBOROUGH.
THE PETERBOROUGH AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Dec. 23, 1922, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford Bob, St. Clement's, Double Court, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford and Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb.

HERBERT HOARE Treble	MISS PHYLLIS HARE 4
*STEPHEN H. HOARE 2	†MISS ANNIE PARKINS 5
WILLIAM H. WALDREN 3	ROBERT RICHARDSON Tenor

Conducted by RUPERT RICHARDSON.

* First peal in seven methods. † First peal in seven methods with an 'inside' bell.

WITHAM, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Dec. 23, 1922, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Woodbine and two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court and Plain Bob. Tenor 18 cwt.

VICTOR GLASS Treble	HENRY DORRING 4
ARTHUR CHALK 2	ANDREW EVERS 5
WILLIAM BUTLER 3	ERNEST BRIGHT Tenor

Conducted by E. BRIGHT.

† Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringers of treble and 4th.

GREAT HAMPTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
 (SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, Dec. 26, 1922, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Oxford, College Single, Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

JOSEPH D. JOHNSON Treble	JOHN HALL 4
MISS NELLIE JOHNSON 2	FREDERICK J. JOHNSON 5
JAMES HEMMING 3	GEORFFREY J. HEMMING Tenor

Conducted by J. HEMMING.

Rung after a peal attempt on handbells had failed.

A QUERY ABOUT A PEAL.

A correspondent, writing with regard to the peal of Bob Major rung at Headcorn on December 16th, 1922, composed by Frank Bennett, conducted by A. E. Edwards, that he presumes the ringers that took part in this peal feel justified in publishing the record. He understands that no Singles were 'made' or 'called,' although the conductor warned the band that two Singles were in the peal, and 2 and 3 made them. He asks Mr. Edwards to be good enough to tell those who are interested (through the columns of this paper) where to find the figures of the peal called, and so satisfy the members in that district of the Kent Association.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
BISHOP'S TRIBUTE TO RINGERS.

A large gathering of ringers assembled at Corston, near Bath, on December 16th, at the invitation of the Rector (the Rev. C. C. Parker), who is Master of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association. There was ringing during the afternoon, and a special service was held, at which the Bishop of Bath and Wells was the preacher. The branches of the association represented, included Burnham, Ilminster, St. James's (Taunton), Midsomer Norton, Weston-super-Mare, Wilton, Bridgwater, Uphill, Cheddar, Taunton St. Mary's, and Wedmore. Among the representatives of the association who numbered about 60, were Messrs. E. E. Burgess (hon. secretary), F. C. Rich (hon. secretary, Bath Deanery), W. J. Prescott (the late Bath secretary), W. A. Cave (Bristol), C. H. Jennings (Salisbury Guild), G. Yeo (Chew Deanery secretary), D. G. Taylor (Ilminster), and J. T. Lyke (secretary, Midsomer Norton Deanery), W. Farley (Wells), and T. F. King (Bath). Most of the Bath towers were represented.

The special form of service authorised by the late Lord Bishop for the use of this association was adopted. Prayers were read by the Rector (the Rev. C. C. Parker), Preb. F. A. Bromley (Vicar of All Saints, Weston) acted as the Bishop's chaplain, and the lesson was read by Preb. M. E. Hoets, R.D. The Rev. Paget L. Bayly (Rector of Newton St. Loe) was also present. The churchwardens took their accustomed part in the service, and the surpliced choir attended. The service included three special hymns, among them the 'Ringers' Hymn,' an adaptation of a passage of Tennyson's 'In Memoriam.'

The Bishop took for his text, Isaiah lxii. 6, 'I have set watchmen upon thy walls, O Jerusalem, which shall never hold their peace day nor night: ye that make mention of the Lord, keep not silence, and give Him no rest, till He establish, and till He make Jerusalem a praise in the earth.' In the course of his address, Dr. Wynne Wilson said the ringers in the glorious towers of the churches of Somerset, the county's pride, were the watchmen on the wall. As they stood in the belfry towers calling God to hear men and calling men to praise God, they should realise that theirs was a great office; they should realise theirs was a great function in the life of the Church. They were the Lord's remembrancers in church life and in the life of the nation. The bells announced a birth into the world, rang merrily as a man and maid took life's most stupendous step, and in the deep solemn notes told of the passing of a human soul. Their bells, too, celebrated the great Christian festivals. Their appeal was almost human, and the sound of the bells on a still summer's Sunday brought back memories of Sundays in childhood's happy days. Sometimes the bells tore the very heartstrings. In national life the bells were the people's common expression, and rang for victory or for sorrow. In the winter months they were the messengers who proclaimed the coming of a new year and a new life. In that county he hoped the bells of the Lord's remembrancers would ring out every careless, foolish and selfish thought. It was the bells of every belfry tower which called men to remember—'Lest we forget' was their message. Might the bells, as they rang, reach their hearts and help them to the realisation of the full worship of God.

A LIVE BODY OF CHURCH WORKERS.

After the service the company adjourned to tea in the Village Hall. After tea the Rector of Corston welcomed the Lord Bishop and the other guests. In doing so, Mr. Parker observed that he was enabled to welcome the company in a dual capacity, firstly as Rector of Corston, and, secondly, as Master of that association. As Rector of that parish, he was proud to welcome the Bishop that day. Corston was one of the most ancient parishes in that diocese. It was mentioned in Domesday Book, and the church was evidently of very considerable antiquity. He was glad that the Bishop's first official visit to Corston was in his capacity of President of the Association. That association consisted of a thoroughly live body of church workers (hear, hear). He believed that the ringers in their association were as good as any other church workers who could be found, and he did not believe that any other body of church workers excelled them in intelligence. He did not mean to imply that other church workers were necessarily unintelligent, but he referred to the particular qualities which change ringing demanded. He did not suppose that their president had yet fully realised what those qualities were. Change ringing demanded the exercise of very great intelligence, very great concentration, and very great perseverance. The Rector then referred to the patriotism which the ringers of Somerset had displayed in the European war and to the memorial tablet in Bath Abbey, which recorded that 30 of the members of their association had sacrificed their lives for their King and country. Not only had they this record of sacrifice, but they gave help in other ways during the struggle. During the war the association continued its activities in spite of the difficulties of running such an organisation at such a time. Their thanks were due to their secretary, Mr. Burgess, who carried them through those difficult times. They did

so well that they did not even have to raise the subscription of their members above a shilling. They had found it necessary, however, to adopt the rule that every parish in which there was a band of ringers belonging to that association should affiliate itself to the association by paying a small fee for that honour. They felt that it was a very great advantage to have a band of ringers in a parish who belonged to that association. In the case of probationers—persons desirous of learning change ringing—an affiliation fee of 2s. per tower annually was paid, and he believed that most Church Councils if approached in the right way would be only too willing to give a small sum as an affiliation fee of 5s.

In the usual way the members of that association exercised a self-denying ordinance at their meetings by foregoing any charge for tea, but at that evening's gathering the tea had been provided by certain friends in his parish, his Church Council, and ladies associated with the ringers without any charge on the association funds. Notwithstanding their difficulties their finances had materially improved, and they had been able during the past year to publish a full report of their activities. The Rector expressed his regret at the fact that several churches in Bath were not affiliated to the association, and that several others had not their full band of ringers. The Rector acknowledged the services of Mr. F. C. Rich, the local secretary, and remarked that he believed the association had been doing and was continuing to do a good work. He again expressed his thanks to the Bishop for encouraging the work of that association by his presence that day.

THE BISHOP'S APPRECIATION OF RINGERS.

The Bishop thanked the Rector for his welcome, and humorously congratulated Mr. Parker on the success with which he had extended that welcome in a dual capacity. He also thanked him for his hospitality, and expressed his appreciation of the service in the church. He also further thanked Mr. Parker in his capacity as Master, for the information which he had given him about the work of that association. Dr. Wynne Willson described with evident enjoyment, the attempt which he made to 'cram' himself hurriedly, with the assistance of a book he procured from his chaplain, on the subject of change ringing, and the mysteries of 'Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, and other things.' He could assure the Rector that he already appreciated the enthusiasm of those who practised change ringing, and the value of the work of that association. As he went about his diocese, he had learned to realise the value of that work, even before Mr. Parker told him. He hoped that the bell ringers would continue to realise the sacred character of their office, and

that when they had concluded their task of calling people to church they would themselves remain for the service, and that the bell-ringers' pew would always be full. There was no county, he added, in which such exquisite towers were to be found as these which were the glory of Somerset. Personally he should never forget the deep impression made on him by the peal rung in the evening on Nov. 19th, 1921, on the bells at Wells Cathedral under the direction of his friend, Mr. J. T. Dyke, to celebrate his induction and enthronement as Bishop of the Diocese. He wished the members of that association every success in their endeavours in that diocese (applause).

A SILENT BATH TOWER.

Prebendary M. E. Hoets, R.D., in proposing a vote of thanks to their entertainers for their hospitality, expressed regret that the tower of Christ Church, Bath, was still silent. He explained that to put the bells in a condition for change ringing would involve an expenditure of possibly £150; and at present his church had to meet other urgent claims. Perhaps a friend of the church might make a thankoffering in the future which would enable this work to be carried out. The probable sequel would be complaints from the proprietors of lodging houses and other residents in the vicinity of the noise of the bells (laughter).

Prebendary F. A. Bromley (chairman of the Bath Deanery), who seconded, said he considered that Corston possessed a peal of bells with sweet and beautiful tone. He regretted that there were still some towers in the Bath Deanery without sufficient ringers; and he hoped that some influence might be brought to bear to remedy this. In his parish of Weston they were very grateful for the help which other ringers very kindly gave them.

Thanks were expressed to the Rector of Newton St. Loe and to the Vicar of Twerton who had also placed their towers at the disposal of the visitors.

Mr. C. H. Jennings, of the Salisbury Guild, brought the meeting best wishes and greetings from his Guild.

At the business meeting, the members of the association agreed to assist the Vicar of Mells, whose bells have just been rehung by helping to complete a band of ringers, and a collection was taken at the suggestion of Mr. Parker, towards the fund for the carrying out of this work.

The collection towards the rehanging of the bells at Mells realised £2 5s. 8d.

The next quarterly meeting will be held at Thimister on the second Saturday after Easter.

JOHN TAYLOR & Co.,

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

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ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

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in Sets of any number.

BELL ROPES, MUFFLES, &c.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

When the representatives of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild invited the Central Council to visit their Cathedral City for the next meeting, they promised the members a great welcome. We understand a unique programme is under consideration, and of such a nature that members of the Council should make every effort to reach Salisbury for this gathering. They will assuredly enjoy the visit.

Our recent reference in this column to the first peal in Scotland, at Dundee in 1873, leads a correspondent to say that he believes the first peal over the border was rung by a party of York ringers, when they opened a ring of eight from Whitechapel, at St. Andrew's, Edinburgh, about a century ago. The method was Treble Bob. Can any of our readers give us information upon this?

Claimed to be 'the first true peal ever rung in London in that method,' a peal of Norwich Court Bob Major was rung at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, on Monday, January 7th, 1788, by the Senior Society of Cumberland Youths. It was called by John Reeves, and the claim is especially significant in view of a peal in the same method rung at Bethnal Green by the Junior Cumberlands in 1786. It is generally accepted that the latter peal was false.

The first peal of Oxford Treble Bob Caters was rung at Birmingham on January 7th, 1817.

The College Youths, on January 6th, 1851, rang a peal of 7,524 Stedman Cinques at Cripplegate, and this length stood as the record in the method until 1858. It was a band of men who became famous in London ringing that took part in this peal: John Cox, John Bradley, William Cooter, William Banister, James Mash, Matt. Wood, R. Haworth, George Ferris, Ed. Lansdell, H. Littlechild, James Dwight, and John Austin.

Several of them were in the peal which recovered the record for the College Youths in 1861, and concerning which Jimmy Dwight lapsed into verse. His poetry on the subject is still remembered by some of the London ringers of to-day.

On January 11th, either 1716 or 1717, the London Scholars rang a peal of Grandsire Caters at St. Bride's, Fleet Street. This is believed to have been the first ten-bell peal ever rung, and the only peal of Caters rung at St. Bride's while the tower contained 10 bells.

Henry Johnson died on January 7th, 1890.

The peal of Bob Minor at Pickleton, recorded in our issue of Dec. 22nd, was rung on Dec. 16th, not Dec. 2nd as printed.

On Dec. 18th last there passed away, at Mortlake, at the advanced age of 94 years, Mrs. Edwin Sykes, widow of the late Mr. Edwin Sykes, solicitor, and mother of the late Mr. D. F. E. Sykes, historian, novelist and solicitor. She was the grandmother of Mr. Joseph E. Sykes, of Huddersfield.

Mr. R. O. Street points out that the date touch of Stedman Caters published in our last issue is false in the second and ninth courses.

It is hoped that the dedication of the bells at Lambeth Parish Church, which Messrs. Mears and Stainbank are recasting and rehanging, will take place at the forthcoming Parish Festival on Feb. 2nd.

Mr. A. Prior has been elected Ringing Master of the South-West Division of the Essex Association, in place of Mr. E. Wightman, who has been accorded the thanks of the members for his services during the past two years. The divisional secretary was re-elected.

The Yorkshire Association, and particularly the Leeds district, has suffered a great loss by the death of Mr. John Thackray, of Christ Church, Upper Armley, who passed away on Dec. 23rd, at the age of 68. He had been a ringer at his church for over 40 years.

The bells at Stanmore, Middlesex, with the 3rd recast and two trebles added, were, after rehanging by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, rededicated on Dec. 23rd.

In reference to our recent article upon twelve bell peals, Mr. G. E. Symonds calls attention to the fact that a peal of Cinques at Ipswich, rung on May 5th, had apparently been omitted from our calculations. This is correct. The record was overlooked through it not appearing under the customary heading.

This makes a total of 35 twelve-bell peals on tower bells rung during 1921 up to the date of our article, of which 19 were rung in or around London, four at Painswick, three at Birmingham and three at Ipswich, leaving only six, spread over five towers, viz., Wolverhampton (2), and Leicester, Norwich, Chelmsford and Sheffield.

FARNBOROUGH BELLS RESTORED.

The bells of St. Peter's Church, Farnborough, Hants, which have been restored by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon, were dedicated by the Rector (the Rev. Canon W. A. Challicombe) at the morning service on Christmas Eve, and afterwards rung by the local band of ringers. The bells have been rehung in a new steel frame for six bells. The 4th was recast, and the whole ring of five accurately tuned.

A TIME FOR GOOD RESOLUTIONS.*To the Editor.*

Sir,—May I add to your suggestions under this heading one or two minor, but not unimportant, subjects for good New Year resolutions by the ringing fraternity?—

(1) Punctuality in keeping appointments. A man who keeps seven others waiting in a belfry is wasting their time, not his own; one who fails to turn up without urgent excuse commits an act of great discourtesy to others. Whenever I read in peal reports that 'meeting one short' for one method, a band had to substitute another, or possibly ring on fewer bells, I wonder what was the defaulter's reason (or no reason) for non-appearance. If it was 'cussedness,' or carelessness—of both which mental states I have known examples—will he turn over a new leaf this year?

(2) Civility in disagreement. Why cannot men who disagree with each other on matters where difference of opinion is possible and legitimate, do so without imputing either gross ignorance or crooked motives? That they cannot always behave thus, your columns, sir, have recently shown some flagrant examples; and here again, I would respectfully suggest is a field for good New Year resolutions.

(3) But someone will say, 'You clergy also ought to make good resolutions in regard to your belfries and ringers.' I quite agree. I have in the past spent much time and trouble in this direction with my clerical brethren, I fear without much result. Many years ago, when I spoke to the Rector of an important parish, who allowed a set of paid ringers to monopolise his belfry and keep change ringing out of it, he declined to interfere on the ground that this had nothing to do with the church! More recently I have heard of a parish with a fine ring of bells, and a well-established band of change ringers, respectable men and (I am told) regular communicants, where a newly-appointed incumbent took no notice whatever of belfry or of ringers; until, after he had addressed the local branch of C.E.M.S. upon 'Sociability,' it was suggested to him that he should put his teaching into practice, find out who rang the church bells, and himself pay a visit to the belfry. For some clergy, as well as for ringers, there is obviously 'a time for good resolutions.'

T. L. PAPILLON

(Formerly Master of the Essex Association).

41, Brittany Road, St. Leonards.

LLANDAFF & MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**THE CARE OF BELFRIES.**

The annual meeting was held at Llandaff on Tuesday, Dec. 26th. There was a good attendance, including visitors from Bristol and Reading. The Vicar of St. John's, Cardiff, had readily given permission for the use of his bells during the day, and full advantage was taken of it. The bells of the Cathedral were also kept busy until service time, at 4 o'clock. In the unavoidable absence of the Dean, through indisposition, the Archdeacon of Llandaff kindly took the service. Tea followed in the Prebendal House, and the business meeting was afterwards held, the Archdeacon taking the chair.

A very cordial welcome was accorded to the association by the chairman, on behalf of the Dean.

The Bishop's letter sanctioning the alteration of the title of the association was read by the hon. secretary.

Officers for the ensuing year were next elected, including Master, hon. secretary and auditors.

It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at All Saints', Newport, the next Monmouthshire quarterly meeting at Chepstow, and the next Glamorgan quarterly meeting at Sully.

Instructors' reports were received, and showed good progress at several towers.

A suggestion was made that the attention of the clergy throughout the association's area should be called to the desirability of all ringing chambers receiving the same regular care and attention by those responsible as the other parts of the church.—The Archdeacon said that it would be a pleasure to him to bring it before the clergy at his next visitation.

Quite a number of new members were elected, including the whole of the ringers at St. Andrew's, Dinas Powis.

The usual vote of thanks was accorded to the chairman, and also to the Dean and Mrs. Griffith for their kindness in arranging everything, and providing the tea.

The bells of both the Cathedral and St. John's, Cardiff, were again rung during the evening, bringing to a close a most useful and pleasant meeting.

VISITORS FROM ACROSS THE ATLANTIC.

Mr. G. W. Sturgiss, of Groton, Massachusetts, U.S.A., is on a visit to this country, and on Dec. 21st took part in a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples on handbells with the College Youths, the ringers being W. Roughton 1-2, C. F. Winney (conductor) 3-4, H. Langdon 5-6, G. W. Sturgiss 7-8.

Mr. Chaney F. Ellis, home from Canada, took part in a peal of Grandsire Triples for 'watchnight' service at Holy Trinity, Guildford.

TEN-BELL TOWERS.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Your Editorial on the twelve-bell towers of our 'Ringing Isle' forces us to the conclusion that it is not from them that we got that name, and I am certain that it is not from the ten-bell towers. These do not even help to uphold our claim to the title. No one can dispute your assertions, nor can they dispute the fact that the ten-bell towers are as $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 in proportion to the twelve-bell towers, who are now fast hastening to set their house in order. I believe that only seven of the 12-bell rings are now unpealable. But one shudders when one thinks of the ten-bell towers. Out of 140 I find that only 60 put up a peal (or attempt) during the year, and only a very few of these can claim that half or more of the band were regular service ringers at these churches. So the twelve-bell towers have it with a percentage of 2.857 towers, putting up a peal against a percentage of 2.3 for the ten-bell towers.

We must, of course, bear in mind that the percentage of ten-bell towers which are not pealable for various reasons, is greater than that of the twelve-bell towers. But when towers are unused even for Sunday services because the 'neighbours' object, and because not enough ringers can be had, one must come to the conclusion that there is a screw loose. I know of several such towers. One I know where six is the rule for morning service—they are only paid to ring eight at any time—and another where more than six are never heard unless a visiting band calls in. One could use up reams of paper describing the state of the ten-bell towers, but only dynamite and the undertaker will remove many of the obstacles to reform. Let us hope that this new year will cause a few more of our Tens to help us to uphold our title of 'The Ringing Isle.'—Yours sincerely,
ONCE A BEGINNER.

REOPENING OF LAXFIELD BELLS.

The six bells of All Saints' Church, Laxfield, were reopened on Thursday, December 21st, when ringers assembled from Badingham, Cratfield, Demington, Framlingham, Fressingfield, Ipswich and Wingfield. At about 11.30 a.m. the first 720 of Plain Bob was brought round by W. Hollingsworth (Laxfield), conductor, 1, J. Etheridge (Fressingfield) 2, W. Emeny (Laxfield) 3, T. Hembling (Laxfield) 4, F. Warren (Laxfield) 5, A. Bowell (Ipswich) 6.

During the day touches of Plain and Treble Bob were rung, and for the service at 7 p.m. a well-struck 720 of Oxford Treble Bob by W. J. G. Brown (Laxfield) 1, G. A. Wightman (Cratfield) 2, A. H. Watson (Badingham) 3, G. Filby (Wingfield) 4, A. Riches (Fressingfield) 5, J. Filby (Wingfield), conductor, 6. After the service, 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob was splendidly rung by F. Reeve (Demington) 1, W. J. G. Brown (Laxfield) 2, J. Garrett (Badingham) 3, G. Filby (Wingfield) 4, J. Filby (Wingfield) 5, H. Hall (Framlingham), conductor, 6.

At the well-attended service, which was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. V. M. White, an interesting and appropriate address was given by the Rev. J. R. C. Darling, Archdeacon of Suffolk.

The ringers and friends did justice at 5 p.m. to a substantial tea provided in the Boys' School by the churchwardens, Messrs. T. J. Goram and C. Bloomfield.

The recast tenor and the bells with steel headstocks, the cannons having been taken off, have been rehung with bearings in oil boxes, on the strengthened old wooden frame by Mr. Alfred Bowell, of Ipswich, and the ringers present spoke highly of the 'go.'

DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM WARD.

By the death of Mr. William Ward, at Watford, on December 10th, the Exercise loses one of the most careful of ringers, and a man of most obliging and unselfish character. Mr. Ward was not a prolific peal ringer, mainly owing to the fact that he nearly always confined his attempts to peals arranged by the local band to which he belonged, and seldom travelled afield. This is strikingly illustrated by the fact that his first 40 peals were rung at Crawley, Sussex, in the tower in which he learned to ring.

Altogether he took part in 98 peals, of which a list is here given. These include the first peal of Alliance Major and the long peal of 9,312 of Superlative (in which he did not make a single trip), both of which were rung at Crawley.

The deceased moved to London in 1896, and took part in several peals with the Royal Cumberland Youths, and with the Edmonton band. Later he went to Watford, but business curtailed his ringing, although he rang with the Oxhey band until about seven years ago, when failing health compelled him to give up ringing altogether. He leaves a widow, a son and two daughters. His peals were Grandsire Triples, 6 (conducted 1); Bob Triples, 1; Court Bob Triples, 1; Stedman Triples, 15 (conducted 2); Treble Bob Major, 9 (conducted 2); Alliance Major, 1; Double Norwich Major, 10; Superlative Surprise Major, 46 (conducted 2); Cambridge Surprise Major, 1; London Surprise Major, 6; Stedman Caters, 1; Treble Bob Royal, 1; Treble Bob Maximus, 1; total, 98.

GILLET & JOHNSTON

ESTABLISHED 1844.



ROYAL EXCHANGE, 1921.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL, 1921.

THE CROYDON BELL FOUNDRY

CARISBROOKE, 1921.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL, 1921

DEATH OF MR. ARTHUR SLATER.

Mr. Arthur Slater, of Norton, near Sheffield, whose death has already been briefly announced, was a former member of the St. James' Society, Norton, which he joined in 1890. He was a member of the old East Derbyshire Association, and took part in many six-bell peals and contests.

At a later period (1896) he joined the Yorkshire Association, and rang eleven peals of 5,000 and upward under the banner of this prominent and illustrious society. His most noteworthy performance was at St. Mary's Church, Bolsterstone, in the year 1900, when he rang in a peal of 8,288 Kent Treble Bob Major, composed by Mr. Arthur Craven, and conducted by Mr. Arthur Knights. This peal contained the 60 course ends. It was a singular fact that five of the ringers in this peal possessed the Christian name of Arthur.

Failing health for the last few years kept Mr. Slater from following the art which he loved, although his deep interest many times prompted him to undertake journeys to be amongst members of the craft in the various towers of the district. His geniality and kindness drew around him a large circle of friends, both in the ringing and commercial world. He leaves a widow, daughter and two sons to mourn their loss.

The interment took place at the Abbey Lane Cemetery, Norton.

On Saturday, Dec. 23rd, at Dronfield Parish Church, six members of the old East Derbyshire Association, as a last mark of esteem and regard to the memory of the deceased, rang, with the bells half-muffled, a well-struck 720 of Violet Treble Bob Minor: Heber Allen 1, Thomas Barker 2, Amburn Wilson 3, Edward Allen (conductor) 4, Ernest Platts 5, Leonard Allen 6.

On Wednesday, Dec. 27th, at St. James' Church, Norton, eight members of the Yorkshire Association, rang a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Triples (1,260 changes), with the bells half-muffled: C. Oldfield 1, T. O'Hara 2, B. Shaw 3, G. Butcher 4, T. Seals 5, F. Allen 6, W. Biggin (conductor) 7, A. P. Knight 8.

WHAT IS DIOCESAN?

To the Editor.

Sir,—May I be allowed a word in reply to the Rev. H. Drake's letter appearing in your issue of December 22nd? I submit that your correspondent confuses the case and evades the issue, and that it is necessary to descend from the clouds whither he takes us, and get to fundamentals.

First, as to the three charges he prefers against the Norwich, St. E. and I. Association—annexation, monopoly, and inflated title. If these things are to be reckoned as faults against us, his new association equally falls under the condemnation; a detail he quite overlooks.

Then as to the diocesan title. For 45 years past (the association was founded in 1877) the ringers of East Suffolk have consistently used the title 'diocesan,' and during all that time have enjoyed the confidence of their diocesan. In 1914, in common with other churchmen in the Suffolk Archdeaconry, they were placed under the first Bishop of St. E. and I., who gave them, thereupon, his blessing. And to-day the East Suffolk ringers continue their work under their clergy exactly as heretofore. Hence it is with reason that they claim recognition as parochial and as diocesan workers, just as, for instance, the organists and the choirmen do.

And they cannot, if they would, belong to any other diocese than St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich. It is not evident, therefore, in what respect the ringers of East Suffolk fail in a duty in which the West Suffolk ringers succeed. In deserting the majority of his ringers, as he has done, the present Bishop has, it seems, been badly advised.

Lastly, as to 'St. Edmundsbury.' Ipswich, and the whole of East Suffolk, are as much in the diocese of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich, as is West Suffolk; and it follows that in amending and amplifying their diocesan title, it must be the full, and nothing but the full, title taken. Besides, it must be remembered that for many years—long before the new association was thought of—ringers in West Suffolk have been members of the Norwich, St. E. and I. Association; and more may yet wish to join it. Mr. Drake's advocacy of the diocesan style for his association is inconsistent with the brief history of the new society. At first, the title 'Suffolk County' was chosen; then changed, on second thoughts, to 'Suffolk Diocesan.' It was only after the Norwich, St. E. and I. Association had adopted their new style, that it occurred to the West Suffolk men that the title was in any way desirable—a case, in fact, of second-comers jumping a claim previously pegged out.—Yours very truly,

Manor House, Bracondale, Norwich.

G. B. BURTON.

SHREWSBURY.—On Nov. 9th, at St. Chad's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), in 57 mins.: G. Bylin 1, J. Griffiths (aged 14) 2, J. E. Lilley 3, R. R. Pole 4, D. J. Boucher 5, W. Fairhead 6, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 7, J. Evans 8. First quarter-peal of Stedman by the 2nd and tenor ringers. Rung on back eight.

BRISTOL SURPRISE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It is quite easy to prove that the methods given in to-day's 'Ringing World' are not even remotely related to Bristol Surprise Major, and what is still more strange is the fact that the Maximus given by Mr. Bramble is not even related to the Royal.

In March of this year, I commenced canvassing the views of other composers to see if there was any likelihood of my views being accepted by the majority, with the following result.

Of the 23 composers written to, 15 agree with me that the following Minor, Major, Royal and Maximus are in proper progression, or, as we generally say, the same method. Of the remaining eight two agree with me that the Major, Royal and Maximus are all one, but they are doubtful about the Minor. Three composers have not replied, one prefers to remain neutral, one says it is an Oxford extension, and one says, 'No, they are all different methods.'

THE METHOD.

Minor	Major	Royal	Maximus
123456	12345678	1234567890	1234567890et
214365	21436587	2143658709	2143658709et
241356	24135678	2413567890	2413567890et
423165	42315768	4231576980	4231576980et
432615	43251786	4325179608	4325179680et
346251	34527163	3452719680	3452719680et
	35472618	3547291086	3547291086et
364521	53746281	5374920168	5374920168et
		5739402818	5739402818et
	57364821	7593246281	7593246281et
		7950364821	7950364821et
			9e7150364821

LEAD HEADS.

135264	17856342	1089674523	10816e492735
165342	14263857	1352749608	1795e3f20486

The above is a single method and can be doubled, the lead heads being then as follows:—

To the double method, if we apply the Treble Bob hunt, the lead heads are the same as in the plain method, the essential shunts are exactly the same in both plain and Treble Bob methods, the subsidiary shunts that are necessary for carrying on the Treble Bob hunt are precisely the same from Minor to Maximus, and the method is 'Bristol Surprise.'—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE BAKER.

December 29th.

N.B.—Subsidiary shunts have no effect whatever on the lead head, a truth which can be easily demonstrated if necessary. G. B.

THE AUTHOR'S PREFERENCE.

Dear Sir,—I cannot but admire Mr. York Bramble's admirable system of arriving at his conclusions. The plan seems to be this: Choose the method whose claims you are going to bolster up. Find all the points that will help you in your argument, and call them 'inevitable inter-relationships'—a nice long word that—ignore any essential facts that militate against your argument; and there you are!

Mr. Bramble has given us a complete octave of these 'i-i-r's,' and he allows that there are others: he is right, there are. Here is one of them: In Bristol Surprise Major no bell ever dodges on the lead or behind with any other bell than its course bell, or the bell that is coursing it!

Your readers may be interested to apply this rule to the figures that Mr. Bramble offers us as Bristol Maximus.

Of course, I was aware long ago that by an Oxford extension it was easy to produce some such extension as that which he has given us, but I preferred the extension that I give here.

With regard to his inevitable inter-relationships, (b) and (c) are obviously untenable.

With regard to (b), I might just as well say that in Superlative Royal the bell that strikes in ninth's place when the treble is in fifth's must go on dodging until the treble turns her from behind; and as to (c) I might assert that in Cambridge Royal the bell that is being coursed down by the 'bell-behind-at-the-lead-head'—another fine word that!—must run straight in to lead.

I may add that I am still convinced that the extension that I sent you is correct, but, as I do not expect that there is more than one in a thousand of your readers who is at all interested in the matter, I will not waste your valuable space in enlarging on the subject.—Yours truly,

E. BANKES JAMES.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

HIGH WYCOMBE.—At the Parish Church, for evensong, on Christmas Eve, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,347 changes): F. Hayes (conductor) 1, R. Coles 2, G. White 3, E. Markham 4, S. T. Goodchild 5, G. Twichen 6, F. Boxell 7, P.S. C. A. Smith 8, J. Gransbury 9, W. H. Plumridge (1st quarter-peal) 10.—For Choral Communion, on Christmas Day, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) by the following: F. Hayes 1, J. Gransbury 2, R. Coles 3, G. Twichen (conductor) 4, F. Boxell 5, P.S. C. A. Smith 6, G. White 7, W. H. Plumridge 8.

GREAT YELDHAM.—At St. Andrew's Church, on Nov. 12th, for memorial service, rung with bells half-muffled, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: A. Hardy 1, B. Argent 2, W. Cutmore 3, H. Cooper (conductor) 4, S. Dace 5, F. Wilkin 6. Before service and after service, 360 Oxford Treble Bob was rung.

NORTHAMPTON.—At All Saints' Church, on Sunday, Nov. 12th, 500 Grandsire Triples: W. G. Farey 1, A. Robinson 2, A. P. Hensman 3, J. C. Dean 4, H. Rainbow 5, H. Blundell 6, W. Farey (conductor) 7, L. Farey 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late W. J. Allen, who was a member of this band for 22 years, and who was laid to rest on the 9th. A quarter-peal unfortunately came to grief.—On Sunday, Nov. 19th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 50 mins.: W. G. Farey 1, A. Robinson (first quarter on eight bells) 2, A. P. Hensman 3, H. Rainbow 4, J. C. Dean 5, H. Blundell 6, W. Farey (conductor) 7, L. Farey 8.

NETHERTON.—On Sunday, Nov. 12th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 minutes by St. Andrew's Society: L. Prestidge 1, W. Massey 2, R. Round 3, A. Prestidge 4, W. Prestidge 5, J. Faulkner, senr., 6, H. Hubball 7, J. Faulkner, junr., 8.—In the evening, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 48 mins., by the same band. Both quarter-peals were conducted by A. Prestidge. Specially rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. W. Rock Small.

LEICESTER.—On Sunday, Nov. 19th, at St. Margaret's, for morning service, 846 Grandsire Caters: E. Morris 1, C. Cattell 2, A. Ballard 3, T. Bent 4, H. Peach 5, G. S. Morris 6, E. Whitehead 7, H. Lock 8, J. Morris 9, J. Grant 10.—For evening service, 647 Grandsire Caters: E. Morris 1, J. Morris 2, A. Ballard 3, T. Bent 4, G. S. Morris 5, H. Peach 6, E. Whitehead 7, H. Lock 8, A. Cattell 9, J. Grant 10. Both conducted by Ernest Morris.

LIVERPOOL.—At the Church of St. Nicholas, for Divine service, on Sunday evening, Nov. 19th, 660 Grandsire Cinques: A. Lindsay 1, W. Davies 2, W. Fisher 3, G. R. Newton (conductor) 4, T. Hammond 5, C. S. Benwell 6, B. Bounphrey 7, E. Jones 8, J. Martin 9, G. Fisher 10, E. Counce 11, J. Owen 12. This is the longest touch on twelve bells rung in this tower for Sunday service for many years.

NEWBURY.—Oxford Guild.—At the Parish Church, on Nov. 19th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins.: C. Pool 1, E. Smith 2, C. Pearce 3, H. W. Curtis 4, W. A. Dormer (first quarter as conductor) 5, E. Crocker 6, S. Quinten 7, E. Challis 8.

BEACONSFIELD.—On Sunday, Nov. 12th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: R. Turner 1, H. Wingrove 2, J. Batting 3, F. Buckland 4, C. C. Mayne 5, J. Blackmore 6, R. Buckland (conductor) 7, W. Fletcher 8. Rung by an entirely local band.

LONDON.—On Sunday, Nov. 19th, for evening service, at St. Mary's, Rotherhithe, S.E., 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: S. E. Moye (first quarter-peal of Major) 1, J. Carter 2, T. W. Taffender, junr., 3, G. W. Harris (first quarter-peal of Treble Bob) 4, J. S. Hawkins 5, W. Berry 6, J. R. Gammon 7, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 8.

STREATHAM.—On Sunday, Nov. 26th, at St. Leonard's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins.: W. E. G. Hewson 1, Miss E. Hardcastle 2, J. C. Mitchell, Esq., J.P., 3, J. Lee, A. Heywood 5, T. Welbourne 6, J. W. Chapman (conductor) 7, S. Gardiner 8.

EAST HILSLEY, BERKS.—On Sunday, Nov. 26th, for morning service, 546 Grandsire Triples: R. Warwick 1, R. T. Hibbert (conductor) 2, W. Hibbert, junr., 3, W. J. Field 4, T. East 5, W. Hibbert 6, J. S. Napper 7, H. Brown 8.—For evening service, 350 Grandsire Triples: E. Sneller 1, E. Warwick 2, C. Parfitt 3, W. J. Field 4, W. Hibbert, senr., 5, R. J. Hibbert 6, H. Brown, junr., 7, H. Brown, senr., 8. Other short touches were rung, in which P. S. Woolridge and E. R. Robey took part.

GOOLE.—On Sunday, Nov. 26th, for Confirmation service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): H. Drake 1, L. Drake 2, R. Wand 3, A. White 4, C. King 5, C. Hill 6, M. Tate (conductor) 7, J. Drake 8.

PETERBOROUGH.—At St. Mary's, on Sunday evening, Nov. 26th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: J. J. Judson 1, Miss E. Brandon 2, E. T. Tilley 3, J. Hulifax (Fleet, Lincolnshire) 4, W. Waldon 5, F. Rowlinson (conductor) 6.

BUCKLAND, SURREY.—On Christmas Day, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor (1,260 changes): E. Holman 1, F. Wallis 2, F. Judd 3, A. Holman 4, F. J. Sanders 5, H. R. Thorpe (conductor) 6. First quarter-peal by a local band since 1906.

CHRISTMAS BELLS.

The following were among the touches rung on Christmas Day:—**BILLINGBOROUGH, Lincs.**—On Christmas Day, at St. Andrew's Church, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor, in 25 mins.: W. E. Allen 1, W. H. Hare 2, A. Chilton 3, G. Carpenter 4, H. Louth (conductor) 5, C. T. H. Bradley 6. First 720 in the method by a local band.

NEWPORT, MON.—On Christmas morning, for 7 a.m. service, at the Church of All Saints, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), in 46 mins.: B. Wilson 1, T. Ford 2, F. Greedy 3, A. E. Morgan (conductor) 4, H. Morgan 5, F. Whitfield 6, C. Greedy 7, W. Ridout 8.

OLD WINDSOR.—At the Church of St. Peter, for morning service, on Christmas Day, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: J. Burt (first quarter on treble) 1, R. Franklin 2, D. Tindall (first inside) 3, J. Guttridge 4, A. Cross 5, E. Gosling (conductor) 6, W. Welling 7, F. Guttridge 8.

LONG STANTON.—For early Communion service, on Christmas Day, 720 Bob Minor: C. W. Woolley 1, J. B. Woolley 2, F. J. Cook 3, G. Crisp 4, * — Warrington 5, C. W. Cook (conductor) 6. * First 720.

NEWINGTON-NEXT-SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.—On Christmas morning, for 7 a.m. service, 720 Oxford Bob, in 23 mins.: Edwin A. Gilbert 1, C. Millard 2, Edwin Gilbert, senr., 3, T. Jull 4, F. W. White 5, W. J. Walker (conductor) 6.

TUNSTALL, KENT.—On Christmas morning, for early service, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: J. Webb 1, E. Spice 2, G. Spice 3, W. E. Spice 4, T. Jull 5, William Spice (conductor) 6.

EARLS COLNE, ESSEX.—On Christmas morning, for 7 a.m. service, the ringers met in full force at 6.15, and rung a well-struck touch of 672 Bob Major; also a short touch of Grandsire Triples.—For 11 o'clock service, a 640 Double Norwich Major (conducted by J. French) and 224 Grandsire Triples (conducted by F. Claydon). The ringers included S. Fleuty, J. Fleuty, R. Fleuty, J. Turner, W. Scillitoe, W. Arnold, S. Warne, J. French and F. Claydon. These bells have been rung at least twice every Sunday throughout the year 1922 by ringers residing within a half-mile radius of the church.

TAINTON.—At St. James's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans), 1,260 changes, in 45 mins.: J. Hunt (conductor) 1, W. H. Tarr 2, F. Millard 3, W. Dobie 4, A. W. Thorne 5, S. J. Every (Tiverton) 6, E. Fiddle 7, H. J. Hole (Paignton) 8. First quarter of Stedman by ringers of 2, 6, 8.

SWANMORE, HANTS.—At St. Barnabas' Church, for early service, 720 Bob Minor: W. Allen 1, E. Jacobs, junr., 2, J. Silvester 3, E. Jacobs, senr., 4, R. Linter 5, W. Linter (conductor) 6.—For the 11 o'clock service, 720 Canterbury Pleasure Minor: A. Watson 1, R. Linter 2, J. Silvester 3, E. Jacobs 4, H. Ainsley 5, W. Linter (conductor) 6.—In the afternoon, 720 Bob Minor: W. Allen 1, E. Jacobs, junr., 2, J. Silvester 3, A. Millard 4, R. Linter 5, W. Linter (conductor) 6; and 720 Bob Minor: A. Watson 1, E. Jacobs, junr., 2, J. Silvester 3, R. Linter 4, W. Linter 5, A. Millard (conductor) 6.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Christmas Day, for morning service, at St. Mary's, 630 Grandsire Triples: G. Cluett 1, F. W. Rogers (conductor) 2, J. J. Symons 3, S. J. Harding 4, J. D. Harris 5, R. J. Stone 6, E. J. Harding, junr., 7, E. J. Harding, senr., 8.—On Sunday, December 10th, for evensong, 560 Double Norwich Major: J. J. Symons 1, J. D. Harris 2, W. Tate 3, T. R. Taylor 4, E. J. Harding, junr., 5, R. J. Stone 6, F. W. Rogers 7, E. J. Harding, senr. (conductor) 8.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Christmas Day, for early morning celebration, 720 Bob Major: S. Rowe 1, S. Hammond 2, P. Woods 3, L. C. Wightman 4, W. C. Rumsey 5, T. H. Chappell 6, G. S. Rowe 7, E. E. Grimes 8.—For the 11 o'clock service, 448 Cambridge Surprise Major: F. Ruffles 1, S. Rowe 2, P. Woods 3, W. Ruffles 4, T. H. Chappell 5, E. E. Grimes 6, W. C. Rumsey (conductor) 7, G. S. Rowe 8.

KENSINGTON.—For service, on Christmas Eve, at St. Mary Abbots, 1,299 Stedman Caters: W. E. Judd 1, A. Cutmore 2, C. W. Roberts 3, F. V. Sinkins 4, P. L. Miles 5, G. W. Frayne 6, P. E. Clark 7, A. Congreave-Pridgeon (conductor) 8, W. E. Garrard 9, H. G. Miles 10.—On Christmas morning, 504 Stedman Caters: A. Cutmore 1, W. E. Garrard (conductor) 2, H. Dyas 3, F. V. Sinkins 4, G. W. Frayne 5, C. W. Roberts 6, P. L. Miles 7, A. Congreave-Pridgeon 8, A. V. Selby 9, H. G. Miles 10.

GREAT TEY, ESSEX.—On Christmas Day, for morning service, 1,120 Bob Major: W. King 1, W. Saunders 2, H. Warn 3, H. Theodora 4, C. Barcham 5, G. Cook 6, A. Galley 7, W. Latham (conductor) 8.

CALVERTON, BUCKS.—On Christmas Day, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes): H. Tomkins 1, H. E. Tomkins (first quarter-peal as conductor) 2, J. Taylor 3, H. C. Edwards 4, R. Underwood 5, J. Tomkins 6.—For morning service, on Christmas Day, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: T. C. Tompkins 1, W. G. Edwards (first 720 of Cambridge) 2, H. C. Edwards 3, E. C. Lambert 4, H. E. Tomkins 5, E. Yates (conductor) 6.

CHEERIO!

By 'W. W.'

This is the festive season—that is, as I write; but by the time this appears in print the frisky feeling will have fizzled out somewhat, and we paterfamilias will be scrounging around the corners of our pockets in a forlorn hope of discovering—what we know is 'not there,' no, not there—some flotsam and jetsam from the wreck of the good ship Treasury.

There are certain signs of the approach of the festive season which are unmistakable, and can be diagnosed by anyone accustomed to being 'touched.' The dustbin men, who, for fifty-one weeks have taken a pure delight in shaking surplus refuse over the front pavement, suddenly alter their tactics, call me 'Sir,' give me their unasked opinion of the weather, and hope I am well in health. Everyone who brings anything to the door, hands it over reluctantly, and with an expectant air as though I ought to give it back again in return for bringing it.

As Christmas approaches, those of us who have families, are not allowed to forget it. After being under an apprehension for several days, we feel that the blow is about to fall—and it does.

'I believe in giving sensible presents; don't you, dad?' Then I tremble all over like a horse that has just been down for the first time. You may appear to be too busy to hear, but it gets there all the same. Such a question puts you in a cleft stick, or, in the vulgar tongue, 'up the pole,' for 'sensible presents' may mean anything from a box of nose-powder to an automobile, and in any case there is a sudden drop of the financial barometer from fair to freezing.

Then the letter-box rattles incessantly, and every time I go to pick up the missives I find nothing but bills, bills, and still more bills. I wonder why tradesmen will persist in pestering one with these reminders of filthy lucre at such a season of goodwill.

Still, I am no Scrooge nor curmudgeon, and for the sake of the younger generation we will laugh with those who laugh, though we are conscious of having reached the hilltop, and are taking the first steps down the other side, when Christmas and the festivities which it brings in its train do not appeal to us as they did. The ghost of 'Christmas Past' peers over our shoulder, and brings back memories of years ago when the festive season was a landmark in our history, in the days when we set our faces to the rising sun, fearless of the future. We have passed many milestones since then. Memories of our dearest and our best; the friends of the home and of the belfry who made merry with us it may be only one short year ago, and who have preceded us to the land of shadows, come back to us at this time, and we would not have it otherwise, for some day, we hope that those who follow us, will recall our happiest hours. Omar felt the kindred spirit when he wrote:—

And when thyself with shining foot shall pass
Amid the guests star-scattered on the grass,
And in thy joyous errand reach the spot
Where I made one—turn down an empty glass!

And that reminds me, 'Landlord! Landlord! mine is also empty. A mild and bitter, please, and a word in thine ear, good Boniface—not so much froth (no personalities), Thanks, Selah, we'll don the cap-and-bells to drive dull care away, we'll make them ring, what time we sing, "Taro-ro-roo-alay." Avaunt the spectre of Christmas Past, we laugh Ha! Ha! Ho! Ho! Here's to the spirit of Christmas present, so cheecrierio.'

'Christmas present,' that's the right slogan, for it turned the trick and the unexpected has happened. I am the recipient of a souvenir from an unknown admirer. 'A box for you,' said the verger, 'and there is a hundred at least.' 'A hundred of what?' said I. 'Why, cigars,' says he, adding a moment later, 'I should try them, you always look well behind a cigar.' I rattled the box. 'These are not cigars,' I said, and then a wild thought struck me for a moment, to be dispelled the next, for folk don't send boxes full of money through the post!

When the lid was prised off, a card came to view, inscribed 'These choices are not poisoned.' We dug deeper through the stuffing, when there lay revealed two polished steel—Battle-axes! Attached to each was a coat-of-arms. The joke was 'on me,' as the Yankees say, but it was too good to waste, and I can appreciate it anyway, so here they are reproduced on this page.

The smaller weapon bore the message: 'This to be used only on special occasions.' The larger one: 'Under this sign thou shalt conquer,' and the accompanying parchment read:—

'Greetings and salutations to William at ye Camp at Leicesters, Your Majesty's recent outcries just tickled ye palate of Your Majesty's armourer. Methinks when ye King doth Axe for his Battle-axe he shall have it, because he axed for it. Herewith are ye requisite tools to Joust. Now let thine adversaries look to it, those of ye masks, dark lanterns, and jemmies, smite them, and take ye twist out of their tails. Thou art ye man.

'With ye compliments of Your Majesty's Armourer,
Ireneus Pistor.'



I have not the remotest knowledge who is the donor of the 'choppers,' but from the samples of previous letters in this journal, I must say he is a born humorist, and a worthy follower of Mark Twain. It gives me an idea. And now, Go to, I will tell thee what I will do with my Axes. I will invite my correspondents to a 'convivial evening.' Notice the spike on the business end of the Axe. It reminds me of Rider Haggard's Zulu hero of 'King Solomon's Mines,' and how Umslopoga got some fine work in with a similar tool—the 'woodpecker.' I will beguile 'A London Ringer,' and that thorn in the flesh, 'Once a Beginner,' to pay me a visit and receive them behind the door. The psychological moment will be great.

'So 'here's to our noble selves and our next merry meeting.' Ireneus Pistor, I am looking towards you. Cheerio!

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

A very successful meeting was held at East Retford on Boxing Day. The ten bells of the Parish Church were at the disposal of ringers from 9 a.m., by the kind permission of the Rev. C. Bailey, Vicar. Members attended from Anston, Doncaster, Misterton, Gainsborough, Wigan, Worksop, East and West Retford, Ordsall and Tickhill. During the day the following methods were rung: Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, Forward Major, Erin and Stedman Triples and Doubles, Grandsire and Stedman Calers, Kent Treble Bob Royal, and other methods, in which three ladies took part. Mr. John Segar also tapped courses of Bob Minor, Bob Major and Grandsire Caters on the handbells. A very pleasant day's ringing ended at 7 p.m. by lowering the ten bells in peal.

PEAL TABLET AT NEWPORT.

UNVEILING AND DEDICATION CEREMONY.

At the evening service, at All Saints' Church, Newport, Mon., on Sunday, December 24th, a beautifully designed oak tablet was unveiled and dedicated by the Vicar (the Rev. W. Williams, M.A.). The clergy and choir having proceeded to the entrance of the church where the board is fixed, Mr. J. W. Jones, the conductor of the peal, requested the Vicar to unveil and dedicate the tablet in commemoration of the peace peal. The Vicar performed the ceremony, and dedicated the tablet 'to the glory of God and in grateful commemoration of the termination of the great war.' He mentioned what a tremendous sacrifice had been made by the lads of that parish. After several most appropriate prayers had been said, a processional hymn was sung, and the choir returned to their places.

NOTICES.

ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM, SOUTH HACKNEY.—Tower will be open for practice every Thursday evening, commencing Jan. 4th, 7.45 to 9.30 p.m. All ringing friends will be welcome.—A. Riley.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A Quarterly meeting will be held at Northfleet on Saturday, Jan. 6th, 1923. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service at 5, conducted by the Rev. W. Hurwood (curate-in-charge). Tea in the Church Schools at cost price per head; business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—Fred M. Mitchell, District Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The next Quarterly meeting will be at Mansfield on Saturday, Jan. 6th, 1923. Tower open 2 o'clock. There will be a meeting of the sub-committee at 4 o'clock, and of the general committee at 4.15. Tea will be ready at 5 o'clock and will be followed by general meeting.—A. C. Wright, Hon. Sec., Strathallan, Darley Dale.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE SOCIETY.—Saturday, January 6th, at Rotherham, bells available from 3 p.m. Tea in Parish Church Hall, 5 p.m., 1s. 3d. each. Intending visitors are requested to send notice to Mr. Colin Ryder, 16, Godstone Road, Rotherham.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Hon. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at All Saints', Hastings, on Saturday, Jan. 6th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m., to be followed by business meeting.—George W. Stokes, Hon. Dis. Sec., 22, Melbourne Road, Eastbourne.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The annual meeting of this branch for the election of officers for 1923 will be held at Hinckley on Saturday, Jan. 6th. Bells available 4 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—F. Cotton, Local Hon. Sec., Hinckley.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly General meeting, Monday, Jan. 8th, 1923, St. Clement Danes, 6.30 p.m. Business meeting at 8.15 p.m. Practices: Mondays at 7.30 p.m.; Bishopsgate, Jan. 15th; St. Clement Danes, Jan. 22nd; Sundays, St. Clement Danes, 1st and 3rd, at 10 a.m.; Bishopsgate, 2nd and 4th, at 5.15 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Hon. Gen. Sec., Stoke Green, near Slough.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Annual meeting will be held at St. Martin's Hotel, St. Martin's Lane, City, on Tuesday, Jan. 9th, 1923, at 7.30 p.m. Ringing at St. Martin's, 6 o'clock to 7.15.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (established 1637).—The subscription of 1/8, which enables members who have not attended 20 times in the past year to vote on matters of finance, is now due. Meetings for practice will be held at Southwark Cathedral, on Jan. 30th; St. Magnus, on the 18th; *St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, on the 9th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 11th, and *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 23rd, all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The Annual Dinner will be held at Spread Eagle Hotel, on Thursday, January 11th, at 7.30 p.m. Chairman, J. G. Buchanan,

Esq., Vice-chairman, Rev. G. W. Turner. Tickets 3s. each, which must be obtained by Jan. 9th.—C. Edwards, Gt. Bampton, Madley, Hereford.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The Hunts district meeting will be held at St. Neots on Saturday, Jan. 13th. Bells, St. Neots (8), Eynesbury (6), and Eaton Soham (6). Service at St. Neots Church 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting in the Parish Room. Those requiring tea (members 9d., non-members 1s.) please notify me not later than Tuesday, Jan. 9th.—Rev. H. B. Woolley, Long Stanton.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—A meeting will be held at Leighton Buzzard, on Saturday, Jan. 13th. Bells (10) will be available at 3 p.m. A hearty welcome to all.—A. E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street North, Dunstable.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Bromham, on Saturday, Jan. 13th. Bells available from 2.30. Tea at 5 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—H. L. Harlow, District Sec., 14, Newnham Lane, Bedford.

LADIES' GUILD.—Southern District.—A Quarterly meeting will be held at St. Nicolas, Guildford, on Saturday, January 13th. Bells from 3.30. Service 4.45. Tea and meeting to follow. All welcome. Will those intending to be present for tea notify me by Tuesday, Jan. 9th?—Hilda F. Mills, 125, St. Michael's Rd., Aldershot.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting at Christ Church, West Bromwich, Saturday, Jan. 13th. Bells (12) available at 3 p.m. Service in Church, with address by the Rev. J. Goodacre, Vicar, at 4.45. Tea at 5.30 (for those only who send notice by Jan. 9th) 1/-.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby St., Wolverhampton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Accrington on Saturday, Jan. 13th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South-West District.—A meeting will be held at Chiswick (by permission of the Rev. E. P. Gough, Vicar), on Saturday, Jan. 13th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30 at a small charge, but kindly let me know by the 10th. Combined practices are again resumed at Heston the first Saturday, and at Isleworth the third Saturday in the month.—W. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—A Quarterly meeting will be held at Barming, on Saturday, Jan. 13th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. A short Service at 5 o'clock. Tea at the Cross House at 5.45, provided by the Rector. All those intending to be at the tea please let me know not later than Tuesday, Jan. 9th.—Stephen Hayzelden, Hon. District Sec., Lower Street, East Farleigh, near Maidstone.

BRISTOL UNITED GUILDS.—SECOND ANNUAL DINNER will be held at the Grand Hotel, Broad Street, on Saturday, Jan. 13th, 1923, at 6.30 p.m. The City church bells—12, 10, 8 and 6—will be available from 2.30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Secure tickets early.—Edgar Guise, 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's, Bristol.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, Jan. 13th. Bells ready 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Committee meeting 4 p.m.: all towers to send one representative. Business important. Short service 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m.

Business meeting 6 p.m. The officials desire this meeting to be fully as popular as those that have been held every month during past year. Tea 1s. each.—G. D. Potter, Sec., 119, Doncaster Road, Barnsley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—The Annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Belgrave, Leicester, on Tuesday, Jan. 16th. Ringing from 7.30 till 8.45 p.m. Business meeting in Smoke Room, Talbot Inn, 9 p.m. Subscriptions for 1923 become due at this meeting.—H. E. Norman, District Sec., 52, Ivy Road, Leicester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Swinton Parish Church, on Saturday, Jan. 20th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 7 o'clock. Reports now ready. All ringers welcome.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver St., Miles Platting, Manchester.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The next Quarterly meeting will be held at St. Alfege, Greenwich, on Saturday, Jan. 20th. Further particulars next week.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The Quarterly meeting will be held at Harborne, on Saturday, Jan. 20th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service in Church at 4.30. Tea will be provided for those who notify me not later than Jan. 15th.—A. J. Skelding, Branch Sec., 7, Cecil St., Stourbridge.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next Branch meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Ramsbottom, on Saturday, January 20th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30. Subscriptions are due. Reports to hand.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's St., Ramsbottom.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A combined meeting of the Fylde and Preston branches will be held at Kirkham, on Saturday, Jan. 20th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30 to all who send in their names not later than Tuesday, January 16th, to either W. Taylor, Preston Branch Sec., Tower House, Penwortham, or C. Sharples, 3, Rutland Gate, North Promenade, Blackpool.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The Annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Jan. 20th., at All Saints', Fulham. Tower open from 4 to 8 p.m. Business meeting to follow, election of officers, etc. All ringers invited.—F. A. Smith, Hon. Sec., 14a, Oxford Avenue, Merton Park, S.W.20.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held on Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Ringing at St. Mary's (10 bells) 2.30 to 6 p.m. and St. Peter's (10 bells) 4 to 6 p.m. Business meeting in St. Peter's tower 4.45 p.m. There will be a short service in St. Mary's Church 4.15.—Thos. H. Kirkby.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—A dinner will be held at the Flying Horse Hotel, Market Place, Nottingham, on Saturday, Jan. 27th, at 6.30 p.m., to honour the memory of William Doubleday Crofts (1737—1809), one of the greatest ringers of his day. A first-class musical programme will be given. Applications for tickets (6s. each) to be in the hands of the local Secretary by Tuesday, January 23rd.—Thos. H. Kirkby, 7, Selkirk St., Carrington.

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