

THE RINGING WORLD

No. 625. Vol. XVIII.

FRIDAY, MARCH 9th, 1923.

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GILLETT & JOHNSTON CROYDON, SURREY.



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

BELLS, CARILLONS, CLOCKS.

PEAL RINGING.

Peals, we think it is rightly held, are the best indication of the advance of change ringing. Once get a man interested in the art and, if he has any ambition at all, he will not be content until he has rung a peal. Afterwards, much depends upon the kind of band he is ringing with and the manner in which his enthusiasm is developed. If the band is progressive, or even earnest, and the ringer's zest is maintained, they and he will go on to further peals and more advanced methods. And as the peals increase and new methods are practised, so the actual ringing, ought, and we believe in the majority of cases, does improve; indeed, if we may use a paradox, it takes a good band to ring a bad peal in a difficult method, because bad ringing will more often than not bring disaster. On the other hand, a good band, in the true sense of the word, would not tolerate bad ringing in a peal, and would stop.

Peals, then, are as a barometer to our art, and Canon Papillon points out in a letter which appears in another column, how the records in our last issue indicate gratifying progress. As a matter of fact, an analysis of the reports, in almost any week, show that quite a number of new peal ringers are coming into the arena. Probably the next best thing to a 'first peal' is the first in a fresh method, and in this direction again there is constant evidence of advance. One must not overlook the fact that, particularly in country districts, bands have sometimes the greatest difficulty in making progress. They may have the best will in the world to go forward, but circumstances, over which they have no control, place constant obstacles in the way. On the other hand, there are not a few bands in the country who show by their constant ringing of the simpler methods that something is lacking in their enterprise. Yet there is plenty of scope. Recently a peal in thirty methods spliced into seven extents has shown what opportunities there are for six-bell ringers; no eight-bell band should be content until they have reached the 'Surprise' standard, and even on ten bells there have been recent demonstrations proving that there is no reason to remain in the rut, as witness the peals of Clifton and Middlesex Surprise Royal. Never did ringers have finer opportunities to advance than are presented to-day. Rings of bells are growing rapidly in number, composers have given us a vast variety of methods and compositions to ring, and from the time a man sets his foot on the bottom rung of the campanological ladder there ought to be no pause till he reaches the top. But there are still large numbers apparently content to go on just as they have done for years. It is another instance of that apathy which seems characteristic of many ringers, and out of which even dynamite would hardly move them.

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TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, Mar. 3, 1923, in Three Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD, SHOREDITCH.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 6021 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.

JOHN D. MATTHEWS Treble	* ROBERT J. DAWE 7
* ALBERT C. V. GASSON 2	THOMAS NEWMAN 8
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 3	FRANK SMITH 9
ARTHUR N. HARDY 4	GEORGE A. CARD 10
JOHN SPARROW 5	CECIL J. MATTHEWS... .. 11
FRANK BENNETT 6	HARRY SEAR Tenor

Composed by G. T. DALTRY. Conducted by JOHN D. MATTHEWS.
* First peal on twelve.

TEN BELL PEALS.

DUBLIN.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, Feb. 26, 1923, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes.

AT ST. PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 45 cwt.

WILLIAM GIBSON Treble	ROBERT S. F. MURPHY 6
GABRIEL LINDOFF 2	WILLIAM E. LYNCH 7
RICHARD LYNCH 3	GEORGE F. WILMOT 8
* CECIL G. HARRISON 4	THOMAS GRANT 9
WILLIAM W. WILSON 5	DAVID ATKINSON Tenor

Composed and Conducted by G. LINDOFF.

Rung with the bells muffled as a last tribute to their late President, the Right Hon. R. R. Cherry, P.C. * First peal.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
(BRISTOL BRANCH.)

On Monday, Feb. 26, 1923, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt.

† HENRY J. WAY Treble	* ERNEST DIBBEN... .. 6
EDWIN J. BROWN 2	† FRED E. TYLER... .. 7
EDGAR GUISE 3	† WILLIAM HUNTER 8
ALFRED PEARCE... .. 4	HENRY T. HOWELL 9
GILBERT PEARCE 5	ISAAC LONG... .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by EDGAR GUISE.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Royal. First peal of Royal as conductor. Arranged as a birthday compliment to Miss Peggy Guise, daughter of the conductor.

NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF PAINSWICK YOUTHS.

On Saturday, Mar. 3, 1923, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes.

AT THE PRO-CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. WOOLDS.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5147 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb.

JOHN BUTLER Treble	FREDERICK ATWELL 6
JOHN W. JONES 2	* FRANK COLE... .. 7
WILLIAM IRELAND 3	WILLIAM PHILLIPS 8
ALBERT WRIGHT... .. 4	WALTER FARLEY... .. 9
CHARLES GREEDY 5	ALBERT HANKS Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Mar. 3, 1923, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes.

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt. in E flat.

PERCY HARRISON Treble	SHIRLEY BURTON 6
HAROLD J. POOLE 2	* JAMES F. CLARKE, JUN. 7
† MISS PHYLLIS HARE... .. 3	DET.-SGT. H. G. JENNEY... .. 8
* REDVERS F. ELKINGTON 4	R. HENRY BARTRAM... .. 9
HARRY BROUGHTON 5	FREDERICK H. DEXTER Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by F. H. DEXTER.

* First peal of Royal. † First peal of Royal in the method.

LONDON.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, Mar. 3, 1923, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND,

A PEAL OF MIDDLESEX SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

WILLIAM J. NUDDS Treble	WILLIAM HEWITT 6
JOHN THOMAS 2	*FRANK I. HAIRS... .. 7
GEORGE R. PYE 3	HAROLD W. CLARK 8
ALBERT W. COLES 4	REUBEN SANDERS 9
CHARLES T. COLES 5	WILLIAM PYE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

* First peal in the method, also first peal in the method on the bells.

KETTERING, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Mar. 3, 1923, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

*ROBERT G. BLACK Treble	FREDERICK W. SAWFOOT ... 6
*MATTHIAS HOBBS 2	ANDERSON Y. TYLER... .. 7
CHARLES W. BIRD 3	*ARCHIE HENMAN 8
WILLIAM ROGERS 4	DAVID J. NICHOLS 9
BERTIE O. SODEN 5	FRED WILFORD Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by D. J. NICHOLS.

* First peal of Stedman Caters on the bells. * First peal of Stedman Caters and first attempt. First peal of Stedman Caters as conductor.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH ST. EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH
DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Feb. 24, 1923, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. 1 qr.

GEORGE T. PEGNALL Treble	JOHN A. GODFREY 5
ROBERT HARDY 2	GEORGE H. CROSS 6
BEN S. THOMPSON 3	FREDK. J. HOWCHIN 7
WILLIAM B. DUNCAN 4	WILLIAM E. BASON Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

This composition is now rung for the first time, and contains the full combination of 4-5-6 in 5-6, without the 2nd in 5-6, or the 3rd in sixth's, in the minimum number of changes.

NORTHFLEET, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, Feb. 27, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

LESLIE STACEY Treble	ERNEST B. CROWDER 5
GEORGE H. DAYNES 2	GEORGE E. LINGHAM 6
STEPHEN J. C. BRIDGLAND 3	WILLIAM J. JEFFRIES 7
THOMAS A. EASTERBY... .. 4	EDWARD HADLOW Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. JEFFRIES.

First peal of Grandsire Triples on the bells. First peal by the ringers of treble, 3rd and 6th, who belong to Northfleet. The ringer of the 2nd hails from St. Nicholas, Deptford, ringers of the 4th, 5th and 7th from St. John's, Deptford, and the tenor from Gravesend. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. T. A. Easterby.

PENDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Mar. 3, 1923, in Three Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5936 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

ERNEST CETSFORTH Treble	TITUS BARLOW 5
ALLAN F. BAILEY 2	SAM WOOD 6
JOHN POTTER 3	EDWARD JENKINS... .. 7
HARRY CHAPMAN... .. 4	JAMES W. WASHBROOK ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, Mar. 2, 1923, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5344 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*ERNEST PALMER Treble	GEORGE H. RANGLES... .. 5
WILLIAM BIBBY 2	FRANCIS BIBBY 6
JOHN E. BIBBY 3	JAMES MORGAN 7
EDWARD JENKINS 4	HENRY W. WILDE Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 68). Conducted by E. JENKINS.

* First peal of Superlative.

HARBORNE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Friday, Mar. 2, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

PERCY C. LAFLIN Treble	JOHN WITHERS 5
*ERNEST T. ALLAWAY ... 2	*CHARLES WEBB 6
GEORGE F. GARRISON ... 3	SAMUEL GROVE 7
WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT 4	JAMES GEORGE Tenor

Conducted by S. GROVE.

This was the quarterly peal for the above Branch. * First peal of Cambridge Surprise Major. James George's 750th peal.

HALESOWEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, Mar. 3, 1923, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 17 cwt. in E flat.

WILLIAM SHORT Treble	ROBERT MATTHEWS 5
WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT... 2	JOHN WITHERS 6
JOHN BASS 3	SAMUEL GROVE 7
WILLIAM H. BALL 4	*ALFRED HACKETT Tenor

Conducted by S. GROVE.

* First peal in any Surprise method.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH ST. EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH
DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Mar. 3, 1923, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. REMIGIUS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt. 16 lb.

BEN S. THOMPSON Treble	WILLIAM B. DUNCAN 5
FREDK. J. HOWCHIN ... 2	ROBERT HARDY 6
GEORGE H. CROSS 3	JOHN A. GODFREY 7
*GEORGE T. PEGNALL ... 4	GEORGE MAYERS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

* First peal 'inside' in the method.

LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Mar. 3, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S NO. 1.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

ALBERT H. WARD Treble	JOSEPH BAILEY 5
FREDERICK S. PRICE 2	WILLIAM A. JANES 6
ALBERT COPPOCK 3	PERCY PRICE 7
ALLEN R. HICKTON 4	CHARLES GEARY Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT H. WARD.

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DAVID MAXON, Rope Works, Grantham.

OTLEY, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Mar. 3, 1923, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

SAMUEL BROWN 2	...Trebble	JOSHUA WOODHEAD 5
ARTHUR SMITH 2		JOHN MCKELL 6
JOSEPH BROADLEY 3		JOHN L. PHILLIPS 7
STANLEY WALKER 4		FREDERICK W. DIXON ...Tenor

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW. Conducted by F. W. DIXON.

This is the first peal on the bells since they were recast and rehung by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, Croydon, the tone and 'go' are alike excellent.

HACKINGTON, CANTERBURY, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Mar. 3, 1923, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,

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

Tenor 11 cwt.

*WALTER ANDREWS 5	...Trebble	WILLIAM SPICE 5
FREDERICK G. BRETT 2		CHARLES W. BRETT 6
REV. F. J. O. HELMORE 3		*FREDERICK FAIRBEARD 7
EDWIN G. BUESDEN 4		*GEORGE JENKINSTenor

Composed by F. A. HOLDEN. Conducted by E. G. BUESDEN.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringers of the 2nd and 5th.
* First peal of Double Norwich Major.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EAST BERKS & SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, Mar. 3, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

W. GOODCHILD 5	...Trebble	A. G. JAMES 5
*ROLAND BIGGS 2		R. H. BIGGS 6
ALFRED SMITH 3		FRANK BOREHAM 7
F. G. BIGGS 4		VICTOR EVANSTenor

Conducted by F. BOREHAM.

* First peal on a working bell.

SWANSCOMBE, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Mar. 3, 1923, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

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

Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. 5	...Trebble	HENRY T. WILSON 5
WILLIAM HARPER 2		GEORGE E. WILSON 6
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 3		CLR.-SGT. J. BENNETT, R.M. 7
*WILLIAM DUDLEY 4		HERBERT E. AUDSLEYTenor

Composed by GEO. HAYWARD. Conducted by J. H. CHEESEMAN.

* 50th peal. This peal was arranged to oblige Messrs. W. Dudley, H. T. and G. E. Wilson, who hail from Prittlewell, Essex.

CRANLEIGH, SURREY.
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, Mar. 3, 1923, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 19 cwt.

*LESLIE WARNER 5	...Trebble	ALWYN CHARMAN 5
CECIL CHARMAN 2		†ERNEST WARNER 6
MRS. R. WHITTINGHAM 3		WILLIAM CHARMAN 7
HORACE CHARMAN 4		THOMAS WORSFOLDTenor

Conducted by WILLIAM CHARMAN.

* First peal. † First peal away from tenor. Rung as a birthday compliment to Cecil Charman and to celebrate the 31st anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. R. Whittington's wedding day.

SLATE PEAL TABLETS.—Free Estimates and Drawings, also photographs of designs, sent on receipt of full particulars of Peals to Jones, Brookside Cottage, Dunchurch Road, Rugby.

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

On Sunday, Mar. 4, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIAM C. RUMSEY 5	...Trebble	ERNEST E. GRIMES 5
EDWARD G. GRINDELL 2		THOMAS W. LAST 6
WALTER RUFFLES 3		THOMAS H. CHAPPELL 7
ALFRED H. WATSON 4		LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ...Tenor

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

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, Feb. 26, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Violet, New London, Duke of York, Oxford Delight, Woodbine, Kent and Oxford. Tenor 13 cwt.

ALBERT CARTER 4	...Trebble	BARNARD PATMORE 4
SIDNEY CARTER 2		WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE 5
GEORGE H. CARTER 3		ERNEST A. OVERALLTenor

Conducted by SIDNEY CARTER.

First peal as conductor. Rung in honour of the wedding of Miss Lily Carter, sister of the brothers Carter.

GREAT MUNDEN, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, Mar. 2, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of City Delight, New London, Duke of York, Woodbine, Oxford Delight, Kent and Oxford. Tenor 11 cwt.

NATHAN PATMORE 4	...Trebble	BARNARD PATMORE 4
SIDNEY CARTER 2		HENRY WALLACE 5
ERNEST A. OVERALL 3		GEORGE H. CARTERTenor

Conducted by BARNARD PATMORE.

STEVENTON, BERKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTH BERKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, Mar. 3, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores in 10 different callings.

REGINALD C. SMITH 4	...Trebble	DANIEL H. WOODLEY 4
JOHN NOBES 2		PERCY W. FLETCHER 5
FRANK W. BUNCE 3		ALFRED BREAKSPEARTenor

Conducted by JOHN NOBES.

First peal ever rung on the bells. First peal by all the band except the conductor. All are members of the local band except the ringer of the 4th, who hails from Milton, and all are members of the choir. This peal was rung in honour of the 98th birthday of Mr. R. H. Betteridge, the oldest inhabitant of the village.

TRUMPINGTON, CAMBS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, Mar. 3, 1923, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 10 six-scores of Oxford Single, 10 of April Day, 8 of Plain Bob, and 14 of Grandsire in 21 different callings. Tenor 10 cwt.

*HAROLD J. HAZELL 3	...Trebble	MISS KITTY WILLERS 3
ARTHUR WILSON 2		*JOHN T. NEWINGTON 4
PERCY WEBB 4		...Tenor

Conducted by P. WEBB.

* First peal of Doubles.

KING'S LYNN.—At the Parish Church, on February 19th, touches of Kent Treble Bob, Royal and Major, in which the following took part: S. Dyson, — Davies, — Curston, C. Chrome, T. Greenacre, — Hewson, Capt. W. Brooke, R. Greenacre, W. G. Cross, W. J. Eldred and F. Rose.

REOPENING OF BAMPTON BELLS.

A DEVON RESTORATION.

A day, for which ringers in Bampton and the neighbourhood had waited many years, dawned on Saturday, Feb. 10th, when the six bells were reopened after having been rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. The churchwardens' accounts showed that the bells have not been allowed to remain undisturbed during the past 200 years, for in 1726-27 'Mr. Thomas Wrath was paid £16 19s. for casting the third bell and for adding 120 pounds of mettell at 12d. a pound,' and in 1729-30 another entry records 'pd, for casting the 2nd bell and for adding 121 pounds of mettell at 12d. a pound, £15 15s.,' whilst on Easter Monday, 1799, it was agreed 'that the five bells in the tower be now cast into six bells, and completed with an entire new cage of timber, the frames 10in. x 6in., the brace pieces 10in. x 4in., and that Thomas Billie, of Cullompton, do complete the whole as aforesaid for £90, to be completed by 5th of November.' A later note adds that 'the bargain was extended to May 1st, 1800, and the price of all work was £123 12s. 6d.' The bells have now been quarter-turned and hung with self-aligning ball bearings in totally enclosed dustproof housings, and the old oak frame has been bolted together. Much satisfaction was expressed at the 'go' of the bells.

A special service was held in church at two o'clock, during which the Vicar's warden requested the Rural Dean (the Rev. T. C. Boves) to dedicate the work which had been done to the bells, after which a few rounds were rung on the bells by the local hand. The Rev. E. I. Teesdale (Nymet St. George) read the lesson, and an excellent sermon was preached by the Rev. E. J. Barton, chairman of the N.E. branch of the Devonshire Guild, in the course of which he congratulated the Vicar and the parishioners upon the ready response which had been accorded to their efforts to raise the necessary funds not only in Bampton itself, but amongst ringing friends far and wide. Tracing the history and use of bells from the seventh century, he referred in strong terms to the evil of 'clocking,' and attributed the improvements in our belfries to the introduction of scientific ringing. He spoke of the curfew, the market bell, the gleaming bell which gave the signal to the poor that they might go and gather the corn, the fire bell, the parish bell, and the distinctly religious use of bells to call men to worship in their Parish Church. He bore testimony to the need of mental alertness in ringers, and said how valuable a mental training change ringing supplied. He concluded with an appeal that the religious character of a ringer's work should not be overlooked, so that God's Kingdom might be enlarged by their lives and by their service.

Nearly eighty ringers were present from Bickleigh, Calverleigh, Dulverton, Exeter, Exminster, Halberton, Holcombe Rogus, Huntsham, London, Morebath, Nymet St. George, Skilgate, Stoodleigh, Thorverton, Tiverton and Washfield. Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, and a few courses of Bob Minor, as well as call changes, were rung during the afternoon and evening, whilst a clever exhibition upon handbells of raising and falling the bells, etc., was given by four members of the Morebath band in the Drill Hall during the tea, as also double-handed Grandsire Triples by ringers from Bampton, Halberton, Exeter, London and Tiverton, which was keenly appreciated by the parishioners.

During the tea, the Vicar (the Rev. E. V. Cox), in the course of his remarks, referred to the generous and friendly support which he had received from many of his ringing friends in different parts of the country.

Of the £160 required for rehanging the bells, new ropes, etc., only £17 still remain to be raised. The local hand is hopeful of speedy progress, and looks forward to ringing 720's of Minor before many weeks have passed.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The annual meeting of the Ludlow and Church Stretton District, held at Bromfield, was a great success, there being 45 ringers present, including the Diocesan Ringing Master (Mr. Chas. Edwards) and three clergy ringers—the Rev. H. S. T. Richardson, Hopesay (District Ringing Master); the Rev. H. J. Scott, Clun; and the Rev. — Jones, Knighton, together with members from Berrington, Bitterley, Clun, Clunbury, Hay, Knighton, Ludlow and Tenbury, and the local ringers, who are making remarkably good progress under the conductorship of Mr. Geo. Randle.

The Guild service (which the organist, Mr. F. Brayshaw, and choir very kindly attended) was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Cheshire, who also gave a most interesting and delightful address, which was much appreciated.

Canon and Mrs. Cheshire afterwards generously entertained the whole party to an excellent tea at the Vicarage, and the ringers take this opportunity of recording their sincere thanks to them and to all who helped to make the day so very enjoyable.

During the afternoon and evening ringing took place in the following methods: Plain Bob and Grandsire Minor, Stedman and Grandsire Doubles, whilst assistance was also readily given to beginners. Twenty-one new members were enrolled.

GUARDIAN OF BOSTON'S BELLS.

THE LATE DR. A. H. NICHOLS.

'Boston,' said the Boston Sunday Herald in a recent issue, 'has lost the guardian of her bells.'

The man who knew and loved every bell of any size and value in the city and who is responsible for nearly every set of chimes placed in belfries of the Hub and adjoining towns—Dr. Arthur H. Nichols, of 55, Mt. Vernon Street—died recently while visiting one of his tenants in Roxbury.

He was 82 years of age, and one of the most public spirited and esteemed physicians of his times.

Medicine and surgery were his vocation, and bells his avocation. Modesty on his part has prevented his remarkable story from being told, and only now—when his ears are deaf to the music of the steeples—are the facts available telling of his identity with the great bronze voices of church and school.

Seventy years ago as a boy he made friends with the bells of the old North Church, and was proud and happy to be assistant to the bell ringer. Many a time he clambered up the dusty stairways to the belfry loft, made famous by the lanterns of Paul Revere, and with the pigeons watched and listened.

He was more interested to know that Paul Revere was founder and ringer of bells than that he made his midnight ride to Lexington.

As the seasons rolled by, with many a new year rung in from Christ Church and from other Boston belfries, this young enthusiast conceived an ambition for his city; that it might be noted for its beautiful bells and for its trained bell ringers.

He read eagerly all literature on bell ringing and on the qualities of bells. He studied right methods of bell hanging, and he listened for exceptional tones and overtones. The bells became his friends, his companions, and he felt he could understand something, at least, of the messages they sent out over the city.

His interest in this aerial music was more than that of a musician or of an expert mechanic; his soul was filled with aspirations and emotions lifted high and carried out over the city with the mammoth notes of harmonious bells.

He dreamed of a bell-laden Boston singing to the heavens from the up-reaching steeples. He was sure that a city of bells and of experienced bell ringers would help to lift its people to higher planes of thinking and of acting.

Each new bell installed was an eventful occasion for this youth, and he studied inscriptions and learned the history of each newcomer.

Much of his interest in Boston's bells was instinctive; his ancestors had been bell ringers, and their ancestors before them. It was in the blood, and his very nerves were knit together in tune with steeple melody.

To the very last he kept closely in touch with each belfry and tower, the homes of his beloved bells. He knew them all, and on a Sunday morning would call attention of friends to this and that note as it rolled its way across housetops and gardens.

The voices of Boston's bells were as familiar to him as were words spoken by close relatives. Christ Church, Advent, Second Parish, Dorchester, Old South, the steel bells of the German Catholic Church in the South End—he understood and recognised them all.

Individual bells, however, had not the same attraction for this artist as had sets of bells such as those in the church of the Advent, Christ Church, Perkins Institute, Groton, and in a few other New England towers. It had long been the ambition of this veteran to have a 'peal' rung in Boston such as 30,000 bell ringers in England achieve frequently, in 3,000 or 4,000 belfries.

This bell guardian of Boston watched opportunities for new peals, and when the Government began construction of the Custom House tower he and his friends brought pressure upon those responsible for the tower to place in the top a reproduction of the famous Bow bells, the largest and finest in the world.

The order was in its final stages, and the old man gloried in what he believed would be a great artistic and musical addition to the city. He described to his friends the inspiring effect of those prospective chimes sending out their messages of melody and harmony to the busy citizens of Boston. Ships coming into the harbour would be met with a song; immigrants would be welcomed to the new world; and fishermen, after weeks of storm and stress, would sail up the harbour to the tune of sweet bells.

It was too good to be true, and sinister political forces—prominent among whom was a bell foundry trust—became busy, and finally compelled the Government to reject the Bow bells from London. And to-day the tower stands in dumb protest against forces which deprive mankind of joy and art and inspiration.

Although this Boston lover of bells was one of the busiest professional men, he found time to keep track of all his bronze family, and held in his memory a store of information amazing to those who have had no such avocation as bell ringing.

In spite of great enthusiasm on the part of a few bell ringers and bell lovers in New England and in America, with one exception there has been no peal rung in the United States. Once in Christ Church, Philadelphia, there was a successful peal, but that stands alone.

SIMPSON TUNING.

'THE BAGPIPE DRONE.'

Dear Sir,—I cannot congratulate the Rev. Cecil H. Clarke upon his feeble attempt, in your issue of the 2nd inst., to stultify my contention that the accentuation of the harmonics in church bells spoils their melody when rung in peal, and is productive of that dismal 'howl' which is so justly complained of by lovers of a clear, toned peal of bells. The platitudes about consecutive octaves and fifths are beside the point, and are only red herrings drawn across the track—another instance of underestimating the intelligence of ringers. My sincere thanks are, however, due to him for the opportunity he has afforded for the opinions of the other side to be ventilated.

The contribution of Mr. Paddon Smith upon the subject is a most intelligible and lucid exposition of what has been latent in the minds of many experienced ringers for some time past.

We may all rest assured that with their modern equipment for tuning bells upon mathematical calculations, there will still be founders, as in former days, producing well tuned bells, whose timbre, or tone colour, are not unduly interfered with by blatant harmonics.

In concluding my part in the controversy of 'Theory versus experience,' I most heartily thank you, sir, for your courtesy in throwing open the columns of 'The Ringing World' for the purpose of elucidating the cause of the bagpipe drone—yes! bagpipe, that is the phrase—that we have had lately inflicted upon us.

I am now convinced that it is produced by a medley of sounds occasioned by accentuated harmonics, when such bells are rung in peal.

The subject of harmonics is far too complicated a physical study to be entered into here, and the serious student is referred to Helmholtz's 'Sensations of Tone,' etc., or Hills' 'Catechism of Harmony, Thorough Bass and Modulation,' which contains all that is to be learned of common chords, consecutives, triads and my non-de-plume. —Yours truly,
A FLAT SEVENTH.

SOME EFFECTS OF SIMPSON TUNING.

Sir,—The preference of many persons for a bell tuned on the old system is, I think, due to the fact that the harmonics of such a bell are a major third and a perfect fifth, the hum-note being judged to be of secondary importance (if not obtainable in unison), provided it is not too sharp. Such bells are bright in tone and distinctly heard, inside the ringing chamber and outside, when rung in peal. It is assumed by many persons nowadays that if a bell is 'Simpson' tuned it is bound to be in tune, but I do not find this to be the case with many 'Simpson' bells, having under certain conditions of the wind and atmosphere heard such bells emit a group of notes which to a musical ear are offensive. It appears that in order to get, say, the fundamental, nominal and hum-note of a C bell in unison, the other harmonics are sacrificed, and become 'hazy,' the E becoming almost B flat, whilst the F also emerges, and clashes with G. At times one would suppose the bell was in F. This is considered by many musicians to be quite wrong. It is, I think, the cause of the 'dismal howl' complained of by some of your readers and if tried on a piano or other instrument the effect would be a great deal worse. I do not think any attention to the ringing chamber will avail anything, for often no bell in a peal has a true harmonic third at all, except the top-note of the sixth, which is often difficult to hear in the ringing chamber, on account of its being 'swallowed up.' Certain atmospheric conditions increase this slight discord by flattening the bells still further; but the same conditions tend to improve the tone of a bell with a flat seventh. We have heard nothing from the founders upon this question; they may have good reasons for what they do, and some remarks by them would doubtless be very interesting. There is no doubt that the Simpson principle of tuning does not find favour with a large number of ringers and others.—Yours, etc.,
A LOVER OF MUSIC.

THE REMOVAL OF CANNONS.

Sir,—The chief objection to Simpson tuning seems to me to be the destruction of so many good ancient bells, and good modern ones, too, for the sake of this craze. I have two cases in my mind at the present time, viz., Rochester Cathedral and Westbury (Wilts). But there are many others which I cannot enumerate. Probably bells tuned on the Simpson principle are all very well for carillons for tune playing, but not for ringing purposes. Anyhow, the destruction of good bells, whether old or new, is quite unwarrantable; let alone the money spent thereon which might be devoted to more useful objects.

With regard to cutting off cannons, I am sorry to say that this seems positively necessary in the case of large ancient long-waisted bells with very high cannons (the argant often projecting considerably above them) if they are to be made pealable.

With regard to the case of Chalk, mentioned in the 'Guardian,' and in your issue of the 2nd inst., there seems no reason whatever for the removal of the cannons, as they are only a light peal of three with a tenor under 10 cwt.—Yours, etc.,
J. R. JERRAM.

'NOT HALF DONE.'

Sir,—Being an admirer of 'true' Simpson tuning, I was very interested in the question raised by Mr. E. Barnett, 'Is the Simpson tuning overdone?' The answer is given clearly and concisely by the Rev. Cecil H. Clarke, and I am of the same opinion as the reverend gentleman, but would have answered another way. No! it's not half done (sometimes), and it is my candid opinion that it has come to stay. Now, when Mr. Barnett says, 'That not one ringer in a thousand cares a snap of the fingers for any of the notes above the clapper strikes,' I say, 'Oh, well, I think that's an horizontal, fallacious hyperbole!' And that's that! But wait, he then goes on and says, 'The true judge of the musical qualities of a bell is the experienced ringer with 'an ear.' Now where are we? Another problem raised pertaining to acoustics, which is in my opinion equally as diversified as the views of ringers on the subject of 'S.T.'—however, it would be of interest to hear the views of ringers with 'two ears' (probably they be more evenly balanced and unbiassed), especially on peals which are 'tuned,' I believe, on the S. P., such as Bradford Cathedral, Westbury, St. George's, Hyde, Ditcheat, Exeter Cathedral, and that insignificant peal of ten at Beverley Minster, which has in 'Great John' a bass accompaniment. Are these peals melodious? or are they odiously ornithological? Then Mr. Barnett speaks of 'broken skin' (and in a former letter of sacrilege). Now I have been in a few towers seeking knowledge in one of the ramifications of English archeology, and I find as a ringer and archeologist, that more sacrilege and vandalism were perpetrated by parsons and churchwardens in towns as well as villages, at the beginning of the 19th century, when it was the craze to obtain bells cast by a pet founder, who was at that period enjoying a monopoly. This was responsible for the loss of more old bells than the 'S. P.' craze is to-day! Concerning 'broken skin,' the skinning as done upon 'S. T.' bells is, in my opinion, an advantage; for it shows up 'porosity' (if there), and this skinning is by far superior to the hacking as much as three-quarters of an inch off the whole circumference of the lip! and at times the whole harrowing of the entire internal waist, in perpendicular lines reaching from soundbow to shoulder, in a succession of ridges such as one finds on a leg of roast pork, or a lady's accordion-pleated skirt. The question has now resolved itself into this: If ancient bells, which have been abominably hacked and disfigured to achieve the brilliancy of tone which they are attributed to possess, can and do retain both resonating breath and elasticity, I fail to see why a good, sound, homogeneous cohesive bell casting of the 20th century, tuned (skirted, if that phrase is preferred) on the 'S. P.,' will not retain both tone and resilience equal to its post-Reformation or mediæval predecessors which have been hacked and chopped internally by the old tuner.

If a bell, old or new, is porous, and unhomogeneous in composition, and literally 'blow holes and sand,' no tuning in the world will produce tone to equal the resonance of 'O. A. B.'s' evenly cut, or cast 'Laskit!' Nor will it have the resilience of the aforesaid 'Laskit,' or even the ineffaceable memory of cohesive attraction and repulsion which is to be found when ruminating a mediæval whelk!

In all probability the Greek 'phylosiper' Pythagoras was alluding to bells tuned on the old plan, when he spoke of 'the music of the spears'! (Give it just another eyestricker, Mr. Editor, to make it a five tone, please!) As an archeologist I advocate preserving mediævals and early post-Reformation, and any tuned on the old plan which are full of splinters, sound and fury, signifying nothing but sentiment, hang them up dead! and use them for Angelus, curfew, or odd service bells!

But as a progressive Campanist and Churchman I advocate a new peal, of one homogeneous composition and tuned on the true Simpson principle, leaving a heritage for the generations of Churchmen yet unborn that is worthy, lasting and harmonious! In conclusion, let future generations draw for themselves a comparison of the tone, which we inherited, and that which we leave to posterity.

IRENÆUS PISTOR.

THE D-FECTS AND E-FECTS.

Sir,—How thin must be Mr. Barnett's opinion of Simpson tuning, when he states: 'It is probably an accident or the tower hides their D-fects.' Now, if the tower hides their D-fects, other towers must hide their E-fects. I think myself your leader of this week touches the vital spot. It seems to me to be a case of it being always the neighbour's cat which howls. One wonders if it is a case of the fox and the grapes. Yet these critics advocate bell buffers, which, while deadening the clapper blow, must increase the hum note, for which they have no liking. 'Once a Beginner's' argument sounded all right, with a glass of ye olde beverage. It filled the place of the cruet. But 'ye bell is not cut from ye solid block,' merely skimmed and in some cases practically untouched, and what relation rubber is to copper and tin my poor knowledge cannot grasp. We have all heard the wonderful stories of what our ancestors did. No doubt our 'cum-cestors' will hear similar tales of ourselves. I contend that, if a bell is cast heavy enough for its size, Simpson tuning will neither damage its tone nor life.—Yours truly, A FLAT.

ST. MARY ABBOTS' GUILD.

The annual dinner of the St. Mary Abbots' Guild took place in the Vicarage Hall, and proved a great success. The splendid arrangements, coupled with the excellent catering, made the gathering extremely enjoyable. The Rev. Marling Roberts, Vicar, presided, supported by the Rev. S. A. Spackman, chaplain, and Mr. Garrard. The visitors present were Major-General Sir Stanley Von Donop, Sir James Brooks and Mr. Reginald Carter, churchwardens; Capt. Fielding and Messrs. A. B. Bennett, W. T. Cockerill, B. A. Daniel, C. P. Winney, A. R. Macdonald and Miss Bolton. The chaplain read a letter of regret from the Rev. R. F. R. Routh—an enthusiastic ringing member, who is now Rector of a church near Saffron Walden—at being unable to be present.

The toast of 'The King' was enthusiastically honoured. Mr. A. V. Selbie, in a few well-chosen words, welcomed the visitors, and said what a great pleasure it gave the Guild to have them with them that night.—Mr. Cockerill replied.

Mr. Bennett submitted 'The St. Mary Abbots' Guild,' coupling with it the name of the worthy and much esteemed conductor, Mr. Garrard, who, despite the ups and downs a conductor encounters, is always the same.

In reply, Mr. Garrard thanked the company for the way the toast was received, and gave a summary of the annual report, mentioning that owing to increased membership, and the progress made by junior members, he had been able to revive the Sunday rota, which worked so well in pre-war days. A heavier clapper, with rubber buffers, has been fitted to the tenor bell with splendid results.

Sir James Brooks and Major-General Sir Stanley Von Donop both spoke of the genuine pleasure it gave them to be with the party, the latter stating that having spent a lot of time abroad nothing appealed to him more than the sound of church bells on Sundays in England.

The rest of the evening was spent in songs and with handbells. The Rev. S. A. Spackman, an accomplished musician, was at the piano. Mr. Bennett gave a couple of songs in his usual artistic manner. Mr. Selly rendered in fine style 'The Deathless Army,' for which an encore was demanded and given. Mr. R. A. Daniel contributed a few of his 'evergreens,' which proved most acceptable. Mr. Percy Clarke was in good form, and rendered 'Friend o' Mine' and 'Thora.' Other contributors to the programme were Messrs Brown and Macdonald. Courses of Stedman and Grandsire Caters were also enjoyed and brought round by the following: Messrs. Cockerill, Winney, Garrard, Roberts, Judd and Holloway. The singing of 'God save the King' and 'Auld Lang Syne' brought a jolly evening to a close.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

FOLKESTONE ASKS FOR TRANSFER.

The annual meeting of the Canterbury District was held at Faversham, and ringers were present from Faversham, Ospringe, Boughton, Canterbury, Dover, Birchington, Littlebourne, Wingham, Wickhambreux, Teynham, also visitors from Charing, Ashford District, Sittingbourne, Rochester District. Mr. C. Deau (Croydon) was also present. Ringing in standard methods were successfully accomplished by the mixed bands.

A short service, in which the association form was used, was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. Reeve), assisted by the Rev. A. H. Kennedy. The subsequent tea was followed by the business meeting.

—The Vicar presided, and gave the visitors a very hearty welcome to Faversham. Messrs. K. Guyler and C. Wilkins were elected full members of the Dover band, and there were also elected Messrs. R. Baldock and W. Baldock, St. Stephen's, Canterbury; the Rev. A. H. Kennedy and Mr. A. Sands, Faversham; and Mr. E. Lincoln, of Bungalow, non-resident life member.

The district secretary (Mr. E. Buesden) was re-elected; Messrs. C. Millway and F. Brett, Canterbury, were elected as representative for 1923 on the Central Committee.

The meetings arranged for the ensuing year are: Deal and Walmer, on Whit Monday; autumn meeting at Elham; annual meeting, 1924, Canterbury.

A short discussion took place with regard to the application of Folkestone to be transferred to Canterbury District from Ashford District. It was proposed that a district meeting be arranged at Folkestone by the Canterbury district secretary.—The Secretary, however, explained that he could not make any arrangement for a meeting out of the district, unless it was a combined meeting, and the proposition not being seconded, was eventually dropped.

A letter of congratulation was sent to the Rev. F. J. O. Holmore from the meeting on his accomplishing 200 peals.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar and church officials, also the local secretary (Mr. Harman) for carrying out the duties of ringing M.C. for the afternoon, were carried unanimously, as was also a vote of thanks to Mr. Drake for presiding at the organ.

The Vicar proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the district secretary for his past services, saying it must have taken a lot of time and patience to keep the district up to the present standard of excellence. It appeared to him that young people had not the patience of the older generation to stick to ringing.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The new ring of eight at Norwich (by Messrs. Taylor and Co.) is to be dedicated next Tuesday evening, and a ringers' meeting is to be held on the following Saturday.

A peal at Steventon, Berks, is worthy of special note. The band, with one exception, was local, and it was the first peal by all except the conductor. Moreover, all the ringers are members of the choir. This latter adds unique distinction to the performance.

Mr. James George is creeping on—not in years, of course. Judged by performances he gets younger. His peal total now reaches three-quarters of a thousand; his age, shall we say, half a hundred?

The peal of eight bells at Trowbridge, Wilts, which were restored in 1912 by Messrs. Llewellyns and James are to have two new trebles added by the same firm. This will be the first peal of ten bells in the county of Wilts, and all ringers are invited to attend the opening ceremony on Easter Monday afternoon.

A great performance was completed on March 10th, 1784, when the College Youths rang a peal of 7,008 Oxford Treble Bob Maximus at Southwark, and Samuel Mugeridge rang the tenor single-handed in 5 hrs. 48 mins. This record length of Treble-Twelve stood until the year 1802.

It was on the same bells on March 12th, 1758, that the society rang the first peal of Treble Bob Maximus on record.

The first peal on the bells at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields was rung on March 14th, 1727, by the London Scholars, about whose history very little is known. Only three peals are on record, although they probably rang others. The peal at St. Martin's was 6,006 Grandsire Cinques, and on the following day the College Youths rang 6,314 in the same method on the same bells.

The first peal by the Eastern Scholars was a 5,040 'Grandsire Tribbles' at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East on March 13th, 1733.

On March 14th, 1837, a peal of 10,133 Grandsire Caters was rung at Christ Church, Bristol, in 5 hrs. 54 mins.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the Council will be held on May 22nd (Whit Tuesday) next, at Salisbury. Full particulars of the meeting will be published later. Notice of any proposed motion should be sent before April 21st.

Secretaries please note that the annual subscription is now due, and should be sent to the hon. secretary, Mr. E. Alexr. Young, 155, Rushey Green, S.E.6.

The following Associations have paid: Durham and Newcastle, Stafford, Central Northampton, Dudley and District, Salop, London County, Kent County and Oxford Diocesan.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

NOTTINGHAM DISTRICT'S NEW SECRETARY.

A very successful monthly meeting of Nottingham district was held at Ilkeston on Feb. 24th, attended by about 40 members, representing Greasley, Beeston, Bulwell, Bottesford, Cotgrave, Radcliffe, Breadsall, Long Eaton, Eastwood, Nottingham and Southwell; also visitors from Leiston (Suffolk), Derby and Duffield, including one lady member, and the local band. About 40 sat down to tea in the local cafe, the Vicar (the Rev. A. W. Bell) presiding supported by the Rev. C. Fogarty (curate), and Mr. H. Simpson, churchwarden. The vice-president (Mr. Albert Coppock) presided at the business meeting. Two towers were proposed for the next meeting, Whatton (6) and Lenton (8). On being put to the meeting Lenton was decided upon.

Mr. T. H. Kirkby resigned the office of secretary, owing to pressure of business, and it was resolved that Mr. F. Blood be asked to carry on.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Kirkby, on behalf of the members, for his great service to the association for a number of years as local representative, and wished him good luck in his future venture.—Mr. Blood also replied, thanking the members for his election, and asking them to rally round and make the district a little more alive.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar (the Rev. A. W. Bell) for the use of the bells, and for his presence at the meeting, was carried unanimously; the Vicar responding.

The tower was again visited, and the bells rung until eight o'clock, when a social hour was spent with the local men in song and handbell ringing, this concluding one of the best meetings ever held by this branch.

An interesting event during this meeting was the presentation of a gold pendant to Mr. E. C. Gobey by his fellow ringers at St. Mary's Church as a mark of their esteem.—Mr. Iliffe gave a short account of his career, and the presentation was made by Churchwarden Mr. H. Simpson, who spoke in glowing terms of Mr. Gobey, and wished him long life and success.—Mr. Gobey suitably acknowledged the gift.

INDICATIONS OF PROGRESS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Though never much of a peal ringer, and now long past any such effort, I take much interest in your weekly record of peals, as an indication of the progress of change ringing from time to time. May I note one recent feature of this record that strikes me as very satisfactory, viz., the large proportion of peals in the simpler and easier methods with footnotes indicating 'first peal' by individual members or by a whole band? The 'big guns' no longer monopolise the field with 'Surprise' performances; there is room for those humbler efforts which in many a country parish represent as much patient perseverance as more conspicuous successes. For example, in your record of last week (March 2nd), I note three 10-bell peals, one Treble Bob Royal, one Stedman Caters, and one of Bob Royal. This latter, the first by all except three of the ringers and the first as conductor, with a lady of the 2nd, in honour of whose approaching marriage the peal was rung. Of twenty-two 8-bell peals, 7 were Grandsire Triples, 6 Stedman Triples, 2 Treble Bob Major, 3 Plain Bob Major, 1 Double Norwich, and 3 in 'Surprise' methods. We admire the skill of our 'Surprise' ringers, and look to them to uphold the highest standards of our art. But, remembering how many change ringers will never attain to such heights, we value equally the modest efforts of a village band, and 'first peal' successes by unknown ringers.

In the same issue of your paper is recorded a new departure, which to many will appear an undesirable precedent, viz., an annual district meeting held on Sunday. Let us hope that this will not 'catch on.' It will do no good, and may do much harm, to the cause.—Yours faithfully,

T. L. PAPILLON.

Late Master of the Essex Association.

IRISH ASSOCIATION'S LATE PRESIDENT.

On Monday of last week the Irish Association rang a muffled peal of Grandsire Caters at St. Patrick's Cathedral in memory of their late President, the Rt. Hon. R. R. Cherry, P.C., whose death has already been recorded, and who was buried at St. George's Cemetery, Dublin, on February 13th. The funeral service was held at St. Patrick's Cathedral, the Dean officiating. As the cortege left the building the 'whole pull and stand' was rung on the twelve bells, and the St. Patrick's band, of which the late Mr. Cherry was a member, sent a wreath made in the shape of a bell.

The Rt. Hon. Richard Cherry showed his interest in bells not only by taking his part in the service ringing while health and the claims of high office enabled him to do so, but he gave the two trebles to St. Patrick's in 1909, and had the semi-toned bell hung to make a light octave. He had rung ten peals, viz., Grandsire Triples 3 (on tower bells 1, on handbells 2), Grandsire Caters 2, Grandsire Cinques 1, Stedman Triples 2, Stedman Caters 2.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT DISCUSSES DIVISION OF DIOCESE.

A very successful meeting of the Portsmouth district was held on Saturday last at Wickham and Sheffield, and glorious weather prevailed. Both towers were available during the afternoon and evening, and were used to full advantage by the 38 ringers present, the methods rung including Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Bob and Treble Bob Minor, Oxford and College Single and Cambridge Surprise.

A service was held at Wickham at 5 o'clock, at which the Rector (the Rev. E. H. Duke) officiated; the Guild form of service was used, and the address was given by the Rector, who being a ringer himself, was able to impress those present by his few words.

Tea was served at a local cafe, at which a good spread awaited the ringers. This was followed by the business meeting, presided over by Mr. W. Tate (chairman), supported by Mr. E. J. Harding, senr. (district secretary) and Messrs. H. J. Smith and F. W. Rogers (Central Committeemen). Several new members were elected, after which the representatives gave a report of the Central Committee meeting held at Winchester on the previous Saturday, and this was unanimously adopted.

The question of the proposed division of the diocese was next discussed by the members, and the general feeling of those present was that, if possible, instead of forming three new Diocesan Guilds, the present 'Winchester Diocesan Guild' should continue as in the past under some such title as 'The Winchester, Guildford and Portsmouth Diocesan Association.'

It was decided to hold the next meeting at West Meon on Saturday, May 26th, due notice of which will appear in 'The Ringing World.'

At the conclusion, the Chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks both to the Rector of Wickham and the Vicar of Sheffield for the use of the bells, which was carried unanimously.

During the day members were present from Alverstoke, Curdridge, Fareham, Gosport, Havant, North Stoneham, Portsmouth (St. Mary's and St. Thomas's), Shedfield, Swanmore, Titchfield, Wickham and Winchester. The visitors included Mr. G. Williams (Master), Mr. G. Pulinger (Recorder of peals) and Mr. H. Marriott (Hythe), also Mr. J. Bruce Williamson and a friend of Whitwell (I.O.W.).

WEST WYCOMBE CHURCH BELLS.

AN APPEAL FOR HELP.

The little village of West Wycombe, Buckingham, about two miles from High Wycombe, is known to tourists and many others throughout the land. This village is famous for its church, mausoleum and caves, half-way up the steep hill, leading to the church. Erected by Lord Despencer, the mausoleum contains various monuments to members of the Dashwood family, and adjoins the church, but, unfortunately, is seldom, if ever, open to visitors. The Parish Church, which is dedicated to St. Laurence, is a remarkable structure, and stands on the top of a steep hill, around which are remnants of British entrenchments. Inside the church is to be seen the beautiful picture of the Last Supper on the chancel ceiling; the 'eye of Judas' being very noticeable. The font, with the snake and doves ('evil after good'), and the arm chairs used as pulpit and reading desk, are also interesting; entrance to the pulpit being gained by means of some drawers pulled out to serve as steps! At the top of the tower is a large ball, capable of holding, it is said, 'twelve persons and a gallon of beer.' Local historians assert in reference to this ball, 'that the designer of this church seems to have had "a screw loose somewhere," for the eccentric nobleman who was responsible for the curiosities of the church would call his friends and neighbours together, ascend the tower with them, and hold informal meetings in this queer chamber.'

The tower contains six bells, but for many years they have been practically unringable, and for a long time, owing to the danger of the framework, only a little chiming has been allowed. An old bell in the church loft bears the date 1688. Some of the bells in the tower are even older, and it may be interesting to give their weight and makers: Treble, weight, 5 cwt., makers, Lester and Pack, 1756; second, 5½ cwt., Henry Knight, 1821; third, 6½ cwt., Joseph Carter, 1581; fourth, 8½ cwt., Henry Knight, 1820; fifth, 10½ cwt., Lester and Pack, 1762; tenor, 13½ cwt., Thomas Mears, 1828.

A movement has been on foot for some time to improve matters, with a view to rehanging, and an estimate was obtained for a new oak frame for eight bells and rehanging the present six. The tenor of Mr. White, of Appleton, for this work is £268 10s. 6d. This gentleman also added an estimate for two new treble bells, to complete the ring of eight, this amounting to over £126 10s. The local friends have been working tremendously hard by means of fetes, etc., to raise sufficient money for the reframing and rehanging, and, considering the size of the village, are to be highly complimented. Now, two generous donors, who wish to remain anonymous, have offered to provide money for two new bells, providing the work is put in hand at once, and practically finished by Whitsuntide. That the organisers have done remarkably well as proved by the fact that they now require only about £160; and the Church Council are making herculean efforts to obtain that sum.

These few notes are penned in the hope that many among the ringing fraternity will assist with contributions, and, if possible, ask their friends to subscribe. The raising of such a sum is a big task for a small village; and when one considers the advantages of a ring of eight in a church of such historic association, ideal, old-world surroundings, one is filled with hope that the ringers' contribution will be handsome and worthy of their reputation. Mr. W. A. Day, churchwarden, of West Wycombe, will be most grateful for any donations towards the cost of the proposed work.

G. T.

RINGERS WANTED IN BOSTON, U.S.A.

HINTS TO INTENDING EMIGRANTS.

Mr. Richard Newton, late of Manchester, and now of 23, State Street, Boston, U.S.A., sends a few words of advice to those ringers who think of seeking fortune across the Atlantic. He writes:—

You who wish to come to the United States to make a new start, or on a visit, in the first place, must not expect anyone to have a job of work waiting for you, for it is impossible, and it is against the laws of the country to promise work to anyone before they land. You must come here, like we all did, on the chance of making new friends and so getting acquainted. Do not write to me or any of us saying you are a clerk, for a clerk here is a shop assistant in a dry goods store or big department store. Book-keeping and clerks' work here is somewhat different to what it is in England, on account of the difference in the coinage, and nearly all book-keepers go to some special college to study for the particular line which they intend to follow, for everyone here specialises, and they are mostly very good, too. We would welcome a few ringers in Boston. There are only six of us now—so some of you come; we will do our best—after you get here. Work is fairly good, but not so good as it might be.

BEDFIELD.—On Feb. 23rd, at St. Nicholas' Church, 720 Cambridge Surprise: D. Read 1, F. Ruffles 2, E. Curtis 3, G. Stannard 4, P. Potter 5, W. Ruffles (conductor) 6. First 720 in the Surprise method on the bells and by all the band.—720 Woodbine Treble Bob was also rung by D. Read 1, G. Stannard 2, F. Ruffles 3, W. Ruffles (conductor) 4, P. Potter 5, E. Curtis 6.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

ESTABLISHED 1844.



ROYAL EXCHANGE, 1921.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL, 1921.

THE CROYDON BELL FOUNDRY

CARISBROOKE, 1921.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL, 1921

HENRY JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER*(Continued from page 139.)***BROTHERHOOD AND GOOD COMRADESHIP.**

Mr. J. F. Smallwood submitted the toast of 'Kindred Ringing Societies.' He said there were three objects which it was generally claimed ringing societies stood for, the first was the promotion of the art of change ringing, the second was the recognition of ringers as church workers, and the third was belfry reform; but their societies also stood for something else. In promoting the art of change ringing they promoted the spirit of brotherhood and good comradeship (applause). Among the societies represented that night was the Ancient Society of College Youths, which had stood for nearly three hundred years for the objects for which all their societies existed. They stood also for progress, and were looked up to as an example. It was necessary that they should continually introduce new blood into their societies if they were to live to the same great age as the College Youths, who had a splendid system of perpetuating the society by electing their officers from year to year. They appointed stewards who, in a kind of Masonic way, were promoted until they got to the top of the tree. It was a great thing for young ringers to look forward to, to reach the highest office in their society. They brought in new blood, new enthusiasm and new ideas. Among the other societies whom they were pleased to welcome were the Royal Cumberland Youths, the Worcester and Districts Association, the Staffordshire Society and Warwickshire Guild, the Yorkshire Association, which was the biggest ringing society in the country, the Ladies' Guild, the Bath and Wells Association, the North Wales Association, the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association, the Hereford and Salop Guilds, the Gloucester and Bristol Association, the Kent, the Middlesex, the Essex and the Surrey Associations. They wished them all godspeed in their work, and hoped they would continue in their efforts until there was not a single belfry in this country where ringing was unknown. He coupled with the toast the names of Mr. A. A. Hughes, of the College Youths, and Mr. P. J. Johnson, hon. secretary of the Yorkshire Association.

The toast was cordially drunk, and Mr. Hughes, who first responded, said St. Martin's Guild enjoyed a great reputation in twelve-bell ringing societies. They much admired the very high standard that was set in Birmingham, and they of the College Youths greatly admired the performances of the Guild. Particularly would he refer to the peal of Sextuples and to the Treble Bob Fourteen, which were extraordinary performances. In conclusion, he thanked the Guild for their hospitality to the visitors.

Mr. P. J. Johnson said they in Yorkshire always had and always would connect Birmingham with the greatest traditions of change ringing. Birmingham had been famed for such men as Thurstans, John and Thomas Day and Henry Johnson, and while they were there to do honour to one of the brightest gems in the ringing tradition, he claimed that his association was a lusty infant created from the venerable societies such as the College Youths and St. Martin's Guild (applause). In coming there that night it was an honour to the visitors to be allowed to be associated with the traditions built up by that Guild, and he hoped the Guild would take their presence as indicating not merely their desire to meet in a fraternal gathering, but for the purpose of honouring some of the greatest names that had ever been associated with change ringing (applause).

A HINT TO WRITERS.

Mr. A. P. Smith proposed the toast of 'The Ringing World,' and appealed to those present to do all in their power to assist in extending the circulation of the ringers' only paper. He said a recent census showed that there were over 30,000 ringers in this country, and it was a disgrace that only a very small proportion supported the paper. If only one-half of the ringers supported it they would probably be able to have a paper double the size at half the present price. Proceeding, Mr. Smith condemned in scathing terms those who inflicted on the rest of the Exercise letters full of acrimony, ill-feeling and bad taste. It was humiliating to think of the snappy, snarling and nasty letters which sometimes appeared from men who were distinguished exponents of the art all the while they were at the end of a rope, but who lost their halo when they took up a pen. He also suggested that some of those who could not agree upon theoretical questions should not inflict their dissensions upon the readers of a ringing paper, but should find out each other's addresses and conduct their correspondence through the post (hear, hear).

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith responded to the toast. The Chairman, who said he spoke with an intimate knowledge of journalism, said ringers were a very close body, and the circle to which such a paper as 'The Ringing World' appealed was extremely limited, and, therefore, it behoved everyone to support it. If they did that he was sure the paper would grow in power and grow in excellence (applause).

Alderman Eritchett, in a felicitous speech, proposed 'The Chairman.' That night, he said, they had spent one of the pleasantest and happiest evenings of their lives, and it had been greatly contributed to by the genial and kindly presence of their chairman (applause).—The toast was drunk with musical honours.

The Rector of Birmingham, in responding said he was proud to occupy the chair. He had particularly enjoyed the evening, for one

had felt that a real spirit of friendliness pervaded the gathering (applause), and he would take away a pleasant feeling of gratitude for much kindness shown.

At the conclusion of the speech-making, the gathering concluded with the National Anthem.

A feature of the proceedings was the musical programme, some capital songs and duets being sung by Miss D. Walker, Mr. A. A. Walker, Mr. Dai Thomas and Mr. W. Dowding, all of whose efforts greatly delighted the company. The accompanists were Mrs. T. Davies and Miss R. Faulkner. Handbell selections were given by Mr. Mansell's party and Mr. T. Miller's party, and both were enthusiastically encored.

DINNER ITEMS.

The dinner programme is always an interesting souvenir of the gathering, and this year was again of striking interest from the apt quotations with which it was adorned.

Speakers found these quotations useful pegs for some of their remarks, but an amusing incident was provided by an old Yorkshire toast which headed the programme. While admitting that it was necessary to go to Birmingham to hear Stedman Sextuples, Mr. Percy Johnson, the Yorkshire Association's popular secretary, claimed it was necessary to go to Yorkshire to hear this toast correctly given.

The Chairman seized upon the opportunity to ask the man from Leeds to let the company hear the toast in the real vernacular, and great laughter followed the admission of the Yorkshire secretary that he was born in London. The toast proved too much even for him.

The 'Johnson Dinner' does not end with the Saturday night's gathering, it is a festival which extends to the Sunday, and would probably go on until Monday if some could have their way.

Among the company were several who could claim to have attended a considerable number of Johnson Dinners, and it was the 25th consecutive occasion upon which Mr. A. Paddon Smith (the secretary) and Mr. Harry Withers had been present. Mr. Tom Russam was, however, the only one present who could claim to have been at the whole series from their foundation.

An exchange of umbrellas (quite involuntarily) took place after the dinner on Saturday night, some visitor being given in the cloakroom the umbrella belonging to the churchwarden of King's Norton, and leaving his own in place of it. The one that was taken, however, was one that was much valued by its owner, being a presentation umbrella, and if this meets the eye of the visitor who found on his arrival home that he had got the wrong one, he should communicate with Mr. P. Laffin, 33, Midland Road, King's Norton.

THE PEAL AT HEADCORN.

Dear Sir,—In reply to Mr. Charles Tribe's letter, I want to point out, in the first place, that I simply ask Mr. C. Edwards for the figures of the peal he called. I am not a busybody in other men's matters, or asking him, in spite, but just a member of the K.C.A. anxious for right.

I cannot say, sir, that there is any member suffering grievously over the validity of the peal, but I do know that there are several like myself anxious to see the figures. I consider that it concerns more than the band that took part, whether the peal was true or false. I think it concerns all members of the Exercise. However, Mr. Tribe says he knows of seven who are satisfied. What's wrong with the eighth? Can all these seven forward the figures of the peal they rang; in fact, have they any idea? As regards recording the peal, let me say Mr. Tribe may find space to insert it on the same page as a recent peal of Bob Major at Tenterden. As regards revealing my name, I have no wish to do so at present. Mr. Edwards has the same opportunity of placing the figures before the Exercise, which will give him little or no trouble.—Yours, etc.,

A CORRESPONDENT.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**NORTH BUCKS BRANCH.**

A quarterly meeting of the above branch was held at Great Linford on Saturday last, when about 35 members attended, representing Bletchley, Beachampton, Emberton, Penny Stratford, Calverton, Stony Stratford, Shenley, Newport Pagnell, and the local tower. The bells were rung in various methods from 2 p.m. to service time. The Rector of Great Linford (the Rev. Andrews Uthwatt) gave the address, the president of the branch (the Rev. L. Moxon), Newport Pagnell, assisting in the service. Tea in the School Room had been prepared by the local ringers, etc. Afterwards the secretary announced that there was no special business to transact. There was, however, a general discussion on various points in relation to the general working of the branch.

Great Linford has only recently been enrolled in union with the branch, and the secretary expressed hearty thanks to the Rector for so kindly having the meeting at his tower, and hoped it would not be long before another was held there. This was responded to by the Rev. Andrews Uthwatt, and brought the meeting to a close.

The bells were then set going until 8 p.m., some good ringing being done. The methods rung during the day were Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Bob Minor, Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Cambridge and London Surprise Minor.

Sunday Service Ringers' Page.

BURSLEM, STAFFS.—On Sunday, March 4th, at the Parish Church, for the morning service, a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: F. Shuker 1, H. Box 2, A. Lees 3, T. Hurd 4, P. Kelsall 5, T. Hilditch (conductor) 6.

SWINDON, GLOS.—On Sunday, March 4th, at St. Lawrence, Swindon, near Cheltenham, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire and St. Dunstan's Doubles, in 45 mins.: H. Webb (first quarter-peal) 1, H. Voice 2, A. H. Cook 3, R. Cook 4, W. Yeend (conductor) 5. All are local service ringers.

LEEK, STAFFS.—On Sunday, March 4th, for evening service, 672 London Surprise Major: G. Wilkinson 1, F. Spilbury 2, E. Sharratt 3, J. Newall 4, F. White 5, J. Rider 6, E. Sharratt, senr., 7, E. A. Ridgway (conductor) 8. Longest length by all in the above method.

ABBOTS LANGLEY, HERTS.—For evensong, on Sunday, March 4th, at the Church of St. Lawrence, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes), in 40 mins.: Cyril C. Ridgeway (conductor) 1, J. Brown 2, F. Huckle 3, C. W. Ridgeway 4, W. F. Swallow 5, H. Robins 6. First quarter-peal by all the band (except ringer of 3rd), and first by entirely local band on these bells.

WEST BALING, MIDDLESEX.—At St. Stephen's Church, on Sunday, March 4th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major, in 47 mins.: F. S. Palmer, junr., 1, E. J. Walsom 2, P. E. Clark 3, C. Edwards 4, A. R. Macdonald 5, W. H. Hollier (conductor) 6, E. Harris 7, H. Belcher.

CHARING, KENT.—On Sunday morning, March 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles, in 44 mins.: W. Hodges 1, A. Mills 2, W. Good 3, F. Hodges 4, F. Good (conductor) 5, W. Hemiker 6. The ringers of 1, 2 and 4 belong to Kingsnorth.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On Sunday evening, March 4th, for Divine service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (part of Carter's Odd and Even), in 52 mins.: E. Jones 1, R. W. R. Picton 2, S. Hoare 3, G. Seaman 4, W. E. Onkley 5, F. Edwards 6, C. H. Horton (conductor) 7, W. Hewitt 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled, owing to the death of Mr. R. G. Lake (churchwarden).

HAWKHURST, KENT.—On Sunday, March 4th, for a confirmation by the Bishop of Croydon, 1,050 Grandsire Triples (from Reeves' Variation): W. Button 1, G. Talbot 2, W. A. Penfold 3, J. Blake 4, J. Powell 5, O. Waghorn 6, G. Billenness (conductor) 7, H. M. Bateup 8. Ringer of No. 1 comes from Rolvenden; the rest local.

FULBOURNE, CAMBS.—On Sunday, March 4th, at the Church of St. Vigor and All Saints, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,280 changes), composed by G. Hollis, in 45 mins.: E. Webb 1, C. E. Patten 2, C. Hull 3, J. T. Newington 4, A. G. King (first quarter-peal) 5, A. Page 6, G. Bridge 7, B. D. Buttress (conductor) 8.

BALING, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday, March 4th at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes), in 48 mins., for morning service: F. W. Goodfellow 1, A. H. Fulwell 2, J. E. Churchill 3, A. M. Stacey 4, J. H. Hummisset 5, H. J. Hummisset 6, A. Harding 7, L. H. Page (conductor) 8. Rung for morning service.

BALING.—At St. Stephen's Church, on Sunday morning, March 4th, 1,280 Bob Major: F. S. Palmer 1, E. J. Walsom 2, P. E. Clark 3, C. Edwards 4, A. R. Macdonald 5, W. H. Hollier (conductor) 6, E. Harris 7, H. Belcher 8.

NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—On Sunday, March 4th, for morning service, at the Church of All Saints, 504 Stedman Triples: J. W. Jones 1, A. E. Morgan (conductor) 2, F. Morgan 3, B. Wilson 4, F. Whitfield 5, C. Greedy 6, W. Farley 7, H. Forbes 8. W. Farley hails from Wells, Somerset.

LUTON, BEDS.—At the Parish Church, on Missionary Sunday, March 4th, for morning service, 1,280 Superlative Surprise Major, in 50 mins.: T. Blackburn 1, A. Smith 2, R. Wilson 3, C. Rollings 4, A. King 5, F. Hunt 6, T. Kendall 7, L. A. Goodenough (conductor) 8.

KETTERING.—For evening service, on Sunday, March 4th, 720 Cambridge Surprise Royal: R. G. Black 1, A. N. Wood 2, M. Hobbs 3, H. Peet 4, B. F. Turner 5, F. W. Lamport 6, C. W. Bird 7, A. Henman 8, A. E. Payne 9, D. J. Nichols (conductor) 8.

ALDINGTON, KENT.—For morning service, 720 Bob Minor: Chas. Slingsby 1, W. Sherwood 2, W. Slingsby 3, V. Sherwood 4, J. Ovenden 5, H. Parker (conductor) 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to W. Sherwood, and on the anniversary of the wedding of the Rector (the Rev. S. W. Long), J. Ovenden's first 720.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Sunday, March 4th, for evening service, at St. Mary's, 504 Stedman Triples: J. J. Symons 1, W. Tate 2, C. Groves 3, J. D. Harris 4, T. R. Taylor 5, R. J. Stone 6, F. W. Rogers (conductor) 7, E. J. Harding, senr., 8. Also Double Norwich Major and 224 Cambridge Surprise Major.

DEPTFORD, KENT.—At the Church of St. John-the-Evangelist, on Sunday, March 4th, for evensong, 720 Bob Minor: E. W. Pannett 1, Miss Mabel A. Nye 3, E. J. Pannett 4, T. A. Easterby 5, W. J. Jeffries 6, R. J. Dawe (conductor, Southover, Lewes) 7, C. H. Macklin 8. Rung after meeting short for Stedman.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday, Feb. 25th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major: P. W. Norton 1, H. Kilby 2, G. M. Kilby 3, E. Lankester 4, R. A. Watts 5, T. Newman 6, R. Kilby 7, C. V. Ebberson (composer and conductor) 8. Also three courses of Stedman Triples.

BEDFIELD.—On Sunday, Feb. 25th, for Divine service, 720 Double Court: D. Read 1, E. Curtis 2, G. Stannard 3, F. Ruffles 4, P. Potter 5, W. Ruffles (conductor) 6.

ACTON.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, Feb. 25th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples by entirely local Sunday service ringers: Robt. Fardon (conductor) 1, S. D. Breeze 2, C. Brown 3, R. H. Bodington (first in this method) 4, H. Wincote 5, Robt. Holloway 6, E. W. Coulson 7, J. W. Fruin 8.

ELVEDEN, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, Feb. 25th, at the memorial tower of SS. Patrick and Andrew, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor, with 7-8 covering: Mrs. P. Fordham 1, O. Ford 2, A. King 3, A. Macro 4, P. Fordham 5, F. A. Salter (conductor) 6, B. Grimwood 7, B. Roper 8. First 720 by Mrs. P. Fordham and first attempt. Also longest length by B. Grimwood and B. Roper, who are local men, and learned to pull a bell since November 4th, 1922, when the bells were opened. Mr. and Mrs. Fordham and Mr. King hail from Mildenhall; Messrs. Ford, Macro and Salter from Thetford.

BECKENHAM, KENT.—On Sunday, Feb. 25th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): H. Hawkes 1, W. Smith (conductor) 2, C. F. Ellis 3, F. Scutcher 4, P. King 5, G. Wickens 6, F. Terry 7, W. Meek 8. Rung as a farewell to C. F. Ellis, who is shortly leaving for Canada, the band wishing him every success.

HACKINGTON, CANTERBURY.—On Sunday afternoon, Feb. 25th, for men's service, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Major (1,260 changes), in 45 mins.: W. Andrews 1, J. Unwin 2, Fred Brett 3, E. Buesden (conductor) 4, C. Brett 5, F. Jenkins 6, F. Fairbeard 7, G. Jenkins 8.

FOLKESTONE, KENT.—On Sunday, Feb. 25th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins.: E. Vickers 1, S. Binfield (conductor) 2, E. Bridges 3, A. Kedwell 4, A. Henley 5, F. Jordan 6, A. Binfield 7, W. Knight 8. E. Vickers hail from Brabourne, and this was his first quarter-peal.

SWANMORE, HANTS.—At St. Barnabas Church, on Sunday, Feb. 25th, for evening service, 720 Oxford Single Bob Minor: W. Allen 1, W. Linter 2, T. Silvester 3, E. Jacobs 4, H. Ainsley 5, Roy Linter (conductor) 6.

HARLOW COMMON.—On Sunday morning, Feb. 25th, 1,168 Double Norwich: *W. Wedlock 1, W. Morris 2, V. Tipton 3, H. Smale 4, G. Dent (conductor) 5, S. Clark 6, J. Cordell 7, W. Wheeler 8.—For evensong, 560 Bob Major: †A. J. Mansfield 3, W. Wedlock 4, W. Wheeler (conductor) 8. * Longest length of Major. † First touch of Major, both belong to Epping Upland.

SANDIACRE, DERBYSHIRE.—On Sunday, Feb. 25th, for evening service, 720 Wells Surprise, in 26 mins.: W. Thornley 1, W. Halford 2, J. Hall 3, W. R. Drage 4, R. H. Cox 5, H. Turner (conductor) 6. Also 380 London Surprise, conducted by R. H. Cox.

HATFIELD, HERTS.—For Sunday evening service, on Feb. 25th, 504 Grandsire Triples: S. Cull 1, J. G. Dunham 2, H. Nobbs 3, S. Honour (conductor) 4, A. Shepherd 5, Dudley Richardson 6, L. Shepherd 7, G. B. Richardson 8. All except the ringers of the 4th and 5th are under 20 years of age, and the time was 20 minutes exactly.

CURDRIDGE, HANTS.—On Sunday afternoon, Feb. 11th, a stained glass window was unveiled at St. Peter's Church, given by Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Leo in remembrance of all from the parish who gave their lives in the great war, their only son being among the number. Previous to the unveiling a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung, with the bells deeply muffled, with the exception of the tenor, which was open at back stroke: W. Dowdy 1, G. Bull 2, R. Ryves 3, Andrew Mears 4, W. J. Ryves 5, Alfred Pook 6, A. Mears (conductor) 7, C. Johnson 8. The ringer of the 2nd motor-cycled from Berks, after ringing in a 720 Bob Minor for morning service, and wanted to get back to ring again at St. Paul's Church, Berks, to ring for evening service. All are local men except Mr. Bull, who belonged to the band before the war, and learnt most of his ringing at St. Peter's Church.

Groombridge & Palmer, CHURCH BELL HANGERS.

Inquiries invited for new or repair work. Satisfaction guaranteed.

6, Vauxhall Road, Skirbeck, Boston, Lincs

THE LATE MR. W. W. GIFFORD.

COLLECTION OF RUBBINGS FOR SALISBURY CLERICAL LIBRARY.

As many of his friends are aware, the late Mr. W. W. Gifford amassed a considerable collection of rubbings of inscriptions on ancient and modern bells, which are of much value from an antiquarian standpoint. These rubbings, in four folio volumes, have been presented by his relatives to Salisbury Clerical Library.

Mr. Gifford's peal book has been presented to the Salisbury St. Martin's company of ringers to be kept in the vestry for reference. Appended is a list of the peals. The large number rung in the standard methods is an indication of the assistance which Mr. Gifford gave to many a struggling band.

Treble Bob Maximus	2
Grandsire Cinques	1
Stedman Cinques	5
Treble Bob Royal	10
Grandsire Caters	9
Stedman Caters	23
Double Norwich Court Bob Major	49
London Surprise Major	3
Cambridge Surprise Major	6
Superlative Surprise Major	47
Treble Bob Major	14
Bob Major	19
Grandsire Triples	88
Stedman Triples	107
.....	383
Handbell Peals	41
Total	424

Peals conducted: Grandsire Caters, 1; Double Norwich Major, 1; Treble Bob Major, 1; Bob Major, 5; Grandsire Triples, 15; total, 23. On handbells, 3.

MR. C. T. COLES' 400 PEALS.

A peal at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, London, recently completed the fourth century of peals by Mr. Charles T. Coles, the enthusiastic and popular hon. secretary of the Middlesex County Association. The following is the list:—

	Tower Bells.	Conducted.	Handbells.
Grandsire Triples	5		
Grandsire Caters	1		
Stedman Triples	66	19	2
Stedman Caters	54	16	5
Stedman Cinques	39	5	
Bob Major	2		
Bob Royal	1		
Kent Treble Bob Major	5	1	
Kent Treble Bob Royal	5	4	
Kent Treble Bob Royal	1	1	
(Granta Variation)			
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	2		
Oxford Treble Bob Major	1		
Double Norwich C.B. Major	13		
Superlative Surprise Major	58	7	
Cambridge Surprise Major	19	2	
Cambridge Surprise Royal	29		
Cambridge Surprise Maximus	9		
Norfolk Surprise Major	1		
London Surprise Major	25		
Bristol Surprise Major	54		
Middlesex Surprise Royal	2		
Total	393	55	7

ERITH RINGER'S DEATH.

After a long and painful illness, Mr. John T. Lowrey, captain of the ringers at St. John-the-Baptist's Church, Erith, passed away on February 2nd. He was a ringer at this church for 30 years, and was the mainstay of the company, being always regularly in his place on Sunday morning and evening.

The local ringers attended the funeral, and a course of Grandsire Triples was rung at the graveside. On Feb. 8th a half-muffled peal of Stedman Triples was rung on the tower bells.

LONDON.—On Feb. 2nd, at 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Carter's odd bob): J. Carter 1—2. W. T. Cockerell 3—4, O. F. Winney (conductor) 5—6, E. A. Young 7—8.

LAXFIELD.—At All Saints' Church, Laxfield, on Tuesday, Dec. 26th, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob: H. Hall (Framlingham), conductor. 1, T. Reeve (Dennington) 2, W. J. G. Brown (Laxfield) 3, A. H. Watson (Badingham) 4, F. Warren (Laxfield) 5, J. Hall (Framlingham) 6. First 720 in the method by the ringer of the fifth.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

MATHON, HEREFORDSHIRE.—On Friday, Dec. 1st, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: G. Jordon 1, R. Lewis 2, A. Morris 3, G. Lewis 4, E. W. Turner (conductor) 5, D. Horne 6. First 720 in the method by 1st and 3rd. Also the first 720 in the method as conductor.

SOUTH CERNEY, GLOS.—On Saturday, Dec. 9th, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Mr. W. Attwater, churchwarden, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles: D. Wheeler 1, A. H. Painter (conductor) 2, J. S. Morgans 3, G. Timbrell 4, S. R. Hicks 5, J. Gealer 6.—On Thursday, Dec. 14th, a date touch, 1,922 changes of Grandsire and St. Dunstan's Doubles: J. S. Morgans 1, W. C. Cuss (conductor) 2, A. H. Painter 3, H. Gassor 4, S. R. Hicks 5, J. Gealer 6.

CHIPPING, CAMDEN, GLOS.—Four Shires Guild.—At St. James' Church, on Saturday, Dec. 16th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) on the back six, in 50 mins.: W. Harris 1, H. Terry 2, F. Boswell 3, E. Withers 4, W. Large (conductor) 5, S. Russell 6. This is the greatest length these heavy bells have been rung to, and this band hopes to attempt a peal upon them shortly.

BRISTOL MINOR.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I notice in 'The Ringing World' a desire from Mr. F. Blood for the method, rung by the Aldrington band, under the name of Bristol. As one of the band who rang it, I should like to mention that it was taken from a collection of methods compiled by the late Mr. H. Burstow, of Horsesham, and, I am informed, was rung some years ago under this title. However, I append the figures of a lead, which, it will be noted, bears no resemblance to the Major of the same name.—Yours truly,

ARTHUR H. WHITE.

123456

214365

124635

216453

261543

625154

621543

265134

625314

652341

563214

536241

356421

365412

634521

643512

463152

641325

643152

461325

416235

142853

412563

145236

142563

Bob

154263

It will be seen from the figures that Bristol Minor is not a Surprise Method, and that it is not 'regular.' It is a 3rd's place 'Delight' method, without Plain Bob lead heads or lead ends.—Ed. 'R.W.'

NOTICES.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary Notice.—The General meeting of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Brislington on Easter Monday, April 2nd. Bells (8) available throughout the day. Details later.—P. J. Johnson, Hon. Gen. Sec., 90, Blackman Lane, Leeds.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held (D.V.) at St. Albans, on Easter Monday. Ringing at the four towers from 2 p.m. Earlier ringing can be had at the six-bell towers by request. Choral service in the Cathedral 'Under the Tower' at 5 p.m. Tea and business meeting in the Abbey Institute at 6 p.m. Can we include you in our tea party? I hope so. Please let me know.—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., Duffield, St. Albans.

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NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with a minimum charge of 1/6.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 63, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4/- per quarter.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Mangotsfield on Saturday, March 10th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30, followed by tea.—Edith Smith, Sec., 23, Somerset Street, Kingsdown, Bristol.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at St. James' Church, Barrow-in-Furness, on Saturday, March 10th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m.—W. T. Clark, Branch Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Widnes on Saturday, March 10th. Bells ready at 3. Service 5.30. Tea at 6. Farnworth tower will be open at 7. Members intending being present please send word to Sec.—Walter Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mark's, Preston (bells 6), on Saturday, March 10th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting 5.30.—W. Taylor, Branch Sec., Tower House, Penwortham.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Braughing on March 10th, when the bells will be available from 3 p.m. Tea will be provided at 1/- per head at the Brown Bear. Business meeting after. All ringing friends will be welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, Little Mundon.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Next meeting at St. George-in-the-East on Saturday, March 10th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Short service at 5. Tea, by invitation of the churchwardens, at 5.30. A good attendance is desired.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 49, Wood Street, E.17.

ST. CLEMENTS YOUTHS.—St. Clement Danes, Strand, London, W.C.—Practice every Wednesday 6.30 to 8 o'clock. Ringing Sunday mornings, March 11th and 25th, 10 till 11 o'clock; Sunday afternoon, March 11th, 2.15 to 3.15; also Saturday afternoon, March 24th, 2 to 3. Monthly business meeting, March 28th, at 8 p.m.—F. W. H. Sergison, Hon. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—The Dedication of Nantwich Church Bells, augmented by John Taylor & Co. to a peal of 8, takes place Tuesday, March 13th, at 7.45 p.m. By permission of the Rector, a Ringers' meeting will be held on Saturday, March 17th. All welcome.—W. Sutton, H. Edwards, Hon. Secs. Bell Fund.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus, Lower Thames Street, on March 15th; *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 20th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The Annual meeting will be held at Ranmoor, Sheffield, on Saturday, March 17th. Bells ready at 3. Service at 5. Tea (1/- each) at 5.30 to those who notify Mr. C. Haynes, 439, Sandygate Road, Sheffield, by Wednesday, the 14th. The Association's Annual Report, price 2/-, will be on sale at this meeting.—F. Clark, 18, Royston Avenue, Bentley Road, Doncaster.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Feltham on Saturday, March 17th, from 3.15 p.m. Will arrange tea at a small cost. Welcome to all.—W. H. Hollicr, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The annual meeting will be held at York, on Saturday, March 17th. The Minster bells (12) available from 2.30 to 4 and 6.30 to 8.30; also the rings of 6 at SS. Philip and James, Clifton, and St. Mary the Younger, Bishophill, from 2 to 8.30. Choral Evensong in the Minster at 4. Tea at 5.15 in the Ebor Rooms, Coney Street, to those who notify Mr. G. Horner, 16, Clifton Green, York, by first post, Tuesday, March 13th. Business meeting immediately after in the St. Michael-le-Belfry Schoolroom, Stonegate. For further particulars see circular.—A. B. Cook, Hon. Dist. Sec., 58, Wyndham Street, Hull.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Practices, Mondays at 7.30 p.m. St. Clement Danes, March 19th. Bishopsgate, March 12th. 1st and 3rd Sundays at 10 a.m., St. Clement Danes.—A. D. Barker, Hon. Gen. Sec., Stoke Green, Nr. Slough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Whitworth on Saturday, March 17th. Bells ready at 3. Meeting at 6.30. All ringers welcome.—T. K. Driver, Branch Sec., 31, Samuel Street, Middleton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Ashton Parish Church (12 bells) on Saturday, March 17th. Bells at liberty from 3 till 8 p.m. Meeting at 7 o'clock. Subscriptions due; reports ready.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting, Manchester.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Eaton Socon on Saturday, March 17th. Bells (6) ready at 3. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—C. J. Ball, 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The Annual General meeting will be held at Beddington on Saturday, March 17th. The bells will be ready at 3 o'clock. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea at the Village Hall at 5.45. Please advise Mr. A. J. Trappitt, of 47, Beddington Grove, Wallington, Surrey, not later than the Wednesday previous, of intention to be present in order that arrangements may be made for tea.—Chas. Dean, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting of the Bristol Branch of the above association will be held at Warmby on Saturday, March 17th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 2.30, tea to follow. Please notify by March 12th.—P. C. Williams, Branch Hon. Sec., 22, Bruce Avenue, Easton, Bristol.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A District meeting will be held at St. Mary Magdalen, Harlow Common, on Saturday, March 24th. Bells available 2 p.m. A tea will be kindly provided at 5 p.m.

(followed by a business meeting), only to those who let me know by March 21st. Buses leave Bishops Stortford 2.30 passing through Sambridgeworth, Harlow Town, Epping, 1 and 3.45.—F. Dench, Hon. Dist. Sec., 39, Pleasant Valley, Saffron Walden.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at St. Anne's, Highgate, on Saturday, March 24th. Bells available from 3.30 until 5. Business meeting to follow. It is hoped tea can be arranged. All welcome.—E. E. Holman, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting of the above Branch will be held at Church Kirk, on Saturday, March 24th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Sec, 33, Langham Road, Blackburn.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Anne's-on-Sea, on Saturday, March 24th. Bells (8) ready at 2.30 p.m. Teas, 1/6 to all who send in names not later than Tuesday, March 20th, to Mr. F. Youles, 73, Clifton Street, St. Anne's.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 3, Rutland Gate, Blackpool.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The Annual meeting will be held at Chatham on Easter Monday, April 2nd. Nominations of Central Council Representatives signed by two members to be sent to the Hon. Sec. before March 24th. Dinner tickets 1/- each. Further particulars next week.—Fred J. O. Helmore, Hon. Sec., Precincts, Canterbury.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—Preliminary Notice.—Opening of Ten-bell peal at St. James', Trowbridge. A Quarterly meeting will be held at Trowbridge on Easter Monday, April 2nd. The existing 8 bells available for visitors from 2 till 3 p.m. Service 3 p.m. After the service the peal of ten available for afternoon and evening. A free meat tea will be kindly provided in St. James' Hall at 5 p.m. All ringers invited. Those intending to be present should advise me by March 28th.—F. Green, Hon. Branch Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes, Wilts.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Derby on Easter Monday, April 2nd. The bells at All Saints', St. Alkmund's, St. Peter's and St. Luke's will be available for ringing from 10 a.m. to 3.45 p.m., and from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. The Certificate Sub-Committee will meet at 2.45, and the Ordinary Committee at 3.15 in St. Alkmund's Institute. There will be a service at All Saints' Church at 4 o'clock. Preacher, the Ven. Archdeacon of Derby. Collection for the Bell Repair Fund. Tea will be at 4.45 in the Assembly Rooms, Market Place, and the general meeting will follow immediately after tea. The charge for tea will be 2s. per head, and I am asked to give particular notice that all requiring same should give notice to the Derby hon. sec., Mr. A. Braines, 1, Clarence Row, Mansfield Street, Derby, not later than Wednesday, March 28th. A smoking concert has been arranged to commence at 8 o'clock in the Assembly Rooms.—A. Coningsby Wright, Hon. Sec., Strathallan, Darley Dale, Derbyshire.

PUBLICATIONS.

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