

THE RINGING WORLD

No. 713 Vol. XIX

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14th, 1924.

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GILLETT & JOHNSTON CROYDON, SURREY.



The Recast Tenor (80 cwt.) at
ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL.

New Ring of Ten opened May 14th, 1921

**BELLS,
CARILLONS,
CLOCKS.**

TRADITION AND CEREMONIAL.

The festival of the Ancient Society of College Youths on Saturday was a memorable one, chiefly from the fact that the society resuscitated the ancient custom of holding a service before their annual dinner, and because that service was held at the church which was aptly described as the old home of the Society. There is authentic record connecting the Youths with the college and church erected by Sir Richard Whittington on College Hill, and that connection has been retained in the title of the Society through nearly three centuries of history. In the distant past the members used to march in procession to attend service at Bow Church, Cheapside, but there can be no question about the appropriateness of transferring the revived custom to the church at which the Society came into being.

With the revival of the service came a renewal of some of the ancient ceremonial. The Society has had in its possession since the year 1702 a silver mace, in the shape of a bell, with decorated supports embossed with miniature reproductions of City towers, and this mace was carried before the Master as he entered the church for the service, as it was carried in procession a hundred and fifty or two hundred years ago when the College Youths of those distant generations visited Bow Church. Such a revival of ancient procedure is most becoming to an organisation with traditions extending over nearly three hundred years, and there is a fitness in the action of the College Youths in not only maintaining the customs which have come down in unbroken practice throughout their history, but in reviving those which for various reasons have lapsed. Although it is true that the College Youths are not the oldest ringing society in point of years, it cannot be denied that in point of continuity of activity they have a record unsurpassed by any other ringing organisation, and, whatever views may be held as to form and ceremony in other societies, ringers look to them to uphold the dignity of their ancient heritage, and accept with ready acquiescence procedure which with any other ringing society might be considered antiquated and out of place. It is not unlikely, even, that the ancient 'procession' to the church may be revived, and Canon Coleridge, in his address last Saturday, gave very good reason why it should be.

Of the dinner itself it can be said that never was there a more successful gathering in London. The company that assembled came almost from the four corners of the kingdom, from Dorset in the South to Yorkshire in the North, from Bristol in the West to Norfolk in the East,

(Continued on page 722.)

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

and from South Wales. Ringers were there in numbers from all the home counties, and the Oxford Guild was well represented to honour the Master, who is their own general secretary. Mr. Tom Hibbert is to be congratulated upon having had a successful year of office, and he himself has contributed in no small degree to that success by the diligence with which, despite residence so far from the Metropolis, he has carried out the duties of his mastership.

TEN BELL PEAL.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 8, 1924, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

ALBERT D. STONE Treble	OLIVER SIPPETTS... .. 6
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ... 2	STAFFORD H. GREEN ... 7
ERNEST GOWER 3	ROBERT J. DAWES... .. 8
EDWARD C. MERRETT... .. 4	FREDERICK WHITE 9
FRANK BENNETT 5	KEITH HART Tenor

Composed by the late N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by F. BENNETT.

First peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal by the association, on the bells, and by all the band with the exception of Mr. Trollope. It was also a birthday compliment to Mrs. R. J. Dawe.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

LAUNCESTON, CORNWALL.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, November 1, 1924, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN-BY-LAUNCESTON,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

TOM BARTLETT Treble	WILLIAM LETHBRIDGE ... 5
THOMAS LAVER 2	FREDERICK MILFORD ... 6
JOHN ARBURY 3	FRANK J. DAVEY... .. 7
JOHN C. OKE 4	HARRY POOK Tenor

Conducted by FRANK J. DAVEY.

* First peal. First peal on the bells. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar (Canon E. Dewe) for all he had done to ensure success before the peal, and his hospitality after.

HANDSWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, November 1, 1924, in Three Hours and One Minute.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM GODDEN Treble	JOE GARTH 5
HENRY WILSON 2	WILLIAM H. TAYLOR ... 6
*MISS NOEL CAWTHORNE ... 3	HAROLD TAYLOR 7
FREDERIC CARDWELL 4	FRED WATKINSON Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by F. WATKINSON.

* First peal.

CHIPPING BARNET, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, November 3, 1924, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 23½ cwt.

ALFRED G. CRANE Treble	† JACK CARMAN 5
*SAMUEL CASLEY 2	NORMAN A. TOMLINSON ... 6
*WILLIAM TARLING 3	JOHN ARMSTRONG 7
HERBERT J. ELDRED... .. 4	WILLIAM PICKWORTH ... Tenor

Composed by J. TROLLOPE. Conducted by JOHN ARMSTRONG.

* First peal. † First peal in the method.

LINCOLN.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, November 6, 1924, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-AT-ARCHES,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5050 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.		Tenor 20 cwt.	
LEWIS SNELL	Treble	H. LESLIE PASK	5
CHARLES MCGUINNESS ...	2	STANFORD J. WOLFE ...	6
JOHN WALDEN	3	WILLIAM H. LLOYD ...	7
*GEORGE CHESTER	4	JOHN A. FREEMAN ...	Tenor

Conducted by JOHN A. FREEMAN.

First peal of Cambridge Surprise Major by a resident band in the City of Lincoln. First peal in the method by all except the ringers of 4th and 7th. * First peal in the method with a working bell.

NORTH MYMMS, HERTS.
THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 6, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

ALBERT R. LAWRENCE ...	Treble	*LEONARD SHEPHERD ...	5
ARTHUR SHEPHERD	2	H. E. C. GOODENOUGH ...	6
WILLIAM NASH	3	JOHN T. KENTISH	7
THOMAS J. HULL	4	P. S. ALBERT LAWRENCE ...	Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by JOHN T. KENTISH.

* First peal in the method. Also first peal in the method on the bells. The ringer of the 3rd belongs to the local band; treble, 2nd, 5th, 7th and tenor, Hatfield; 4th, 6th, St. Albans Abbey.

ROLVENDEN, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 6, 1924, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES,

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' VARIATION. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

MISS ROSE THOMAS	Treble	*REGINALD E. LAMBERT ...	5
FREDERICK G. BURDEN ...	2	CHARLES TRIBE	6
CHARLES W. PLAYER	3	HARRY PARKES	7
*ROBERT T. LAMBERT	4	ALFRED BLACKMAN ...	Tenor

Conducted by HARRY PARKES.

* First peal of Stedman.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, November 7, 1924, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

JAS. GOODSSELL	Treble	EDWARD MILLS	5
FREDERICK MORGAN	2	GEORGE MILLS	6
TRAYTON BOOTH	3	WILLIAM HOAD	7
CHARLES CREASEY	4	GEORGE KING	Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM HOAD.

Rung in honour of the 21st anniversary of the wedding of Edward Mills, ringer of the 5th; also as a compliment to George Mills, ringer of the 6th, son of Edward Mills, on his 20th birthday.

SUTTON COLDFIELD, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, November 8, 1924, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS'. Tenor 24 cwt.

FREDERICK DICKENS	Treble	WILLIAM G. ANKER	5
BERNARD W. WITCHELL ...	2	HARRY DICKENS	6
MORRIS J. MORRIS	3	BERTRAM G. LEEDHAM ...	7
HERBERT C. SPENCER	4	JAMES REYNOLDS, SEN. ...	Tenor

Conducted by BERTRAM G. LEEDHAM.

This peal was specially arranged and rung as a compliment to Mr. Charles George Bloore and Miss Margaret Gibbs, on the occasion of their marriage, which took place at Holy Trinity Church the same day. The ringers tender their best thanks to Mr. Thomas Bloore, father of the bridegroom, for his kind hospitality after the peal.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, November 7, 1924, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION.

Tenor 18 cwt.

FRED. J. CULLUM, SEN. ...	Treble	FREDERICK A. COLEY ...	5
ISAAC G. SHADE	2	JOHN WHEADON	6
JOHN H. CHEESMAN	3	C.-S.-M. J. BENNETT, R.M.	7
HERBERT E. ADDSLEY ...	4	FRED. J. CULLUM, JUN. ...	Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. F. J. Cullum, senr.

SWANSCOMBE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 8, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION.

Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM J. WHEADON ...	Treble	CHARLES WINNER	5
JOHN BURLES	2	C.-S.-M. J. BENNETT, R.M.	6
ISAAC G. SHADE	3	HERBERT E. ADDSLEY ...	7
JOHN H. CHEESMAN	4	HARRY SIMMONS	Tenor

Conducted by J. H. CHEESMAN.

COLERNE, WILTS.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 8, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 18 cwt.

JOHN TAYLOR	Treble	JESSE HALLETT	5
JESSE FRANCIS	2	THEODORE GRANT	6
ARTHUR PRINCE	3	CHARLES W. BELL	7
GEORGE JAMES	4	THOMAS HOGSFLESH ...	Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR PRINCE.

CHESTER.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 8, 1924, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY WITHIN-THE-WALLS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT SPERRING	Treble	GEORGE R. JONES	5
EDWARD HARRISON	2	EDWARD V. RODENBURST ...	6
SAMUEL JONES, JUN.	3	ALBERT J. HUGHES	7
ARTHUR NEWALL	4	JAMES H. RIDING	Tenor

Composed by F. ROBINSON.

Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.

Rung as a birthday compliment to G. R. Jones, E. V. Rodenhurst's 100th peal.

THRAPSTON, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 8, 1924, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

JOHN COLEMAN	Treble	REGINALD C. LOVEDAY ...	5
DANIEL REDHEAD	2	AMOS SMART	6
WALTER PERKINS	3	ANDERSON Y. TYLER	7
JOHN R. MAIN	4	JAMES M. NICKERSON ...	Tenor

Composed by J. S. WILDE.

Conducted by JAMES M. NICKERSON.

Rung with the bells half-muffled, in memory of those who fell in the great war, and for Armistice Day. This was the 20th peal by the conductor on these bells. The ringers were entertained to tea by the Rector (the Rev. A. G. Bagshaw) after the peal.

THOS. J. GROOMBRIDGE

Church Bell Hanger,

GRAYFORD, KENT.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED FOR NEW OR REPAIR WORK

GILMORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 8, 1924, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 11 cwt.

HAROLD J. POOLE Treble	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 5
MISS PHYLLIS HARE 2	GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS ... 6
*ALFRED G. GRANT 3	JOSEPH A. FENTON 7
*GEORGE A. WATSON 4	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ... Tenor

Conducted by H. J. POOLE.

First peal of Surprise, and 1st attempt. + First peal of Cambridge. First in the method on the bells. The ringer of the 4th was proposed a member previous to starting for the peal. The band wish to thank Mr. G. Broughton for having everything in readiness for them.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, November 8, 1924, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb.

FREDERICK BORRETT Treble	CHARLES CUTTING 5
CHARLES BAKER 2	CHARLES ROOPE 6
JOHN SNELLING 3	FREDERICK ROOPE 7
ERNEST WHITING 4	GEORGE H. CROSS Tenor

Composed by N. J. PISTOW.

Conducted by F. BORRETT.

100th peal in the method by the conductor.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 8, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. in E flat.

STEPHEN W. HOLDAWAY ... Tenor	ALFRED H. WINCH 5
FRANK E. DARBY 2	FREDK. G. WOODISS 6
ALBERT HARMAN 3	CHARLES H. CHAPMAN ... 7
*ALFRED J. TRAPPIST 4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN Tenor

Composed by FREDK. ROBINSON.

Conducted by FRANK E. DARBY.

Rung as a 19th birthday compliment to the ringer of the 7th. First peal as conductor. * 100th peal for the association. Quickest peal of Major on the bells.

WITTON, NORTHWICH.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, November 8, 1924, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Helen,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. in E.

GEORGE VERNON Treble	SAMUEL MOORE, SEN. 5
HARRY PARKER 2	THOMAS WILKINSON 6
ERNEST BOSTOCK 3	JOHN H. DAVENPORT 7
JOSEPH ASHMOLE 4	EDWARD JENKINS Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

* First peal. + First peal on eight bells.

CROYDON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 8, 1924, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

At the Church of St. John the Baptist,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 31 cwt. in E flat.

JAMES RUMBLE Treble	JOSEPH TALBOT 5
MRS. AMOS W. CLARK 2	GEORGE H. DAYNES 6
HERBERT J. SKELT 3	JAMES E. COOPER 7
AMOS W. CLARK 4	DANIEL COOPER Tenor

Conducted by JAMES E. COOPER.

Rung to celebrate the 55th anniversary of the opening of the bells, which were first rung on November 6th, 1869. With the exception of Mr. G. H. Daynes, who hails from St. Nicholas', Deptford, all are regular Sunday Service ringers at the church. Mrs. A. W. Clark is the first lady to ring a peal in this tower, and in Croydon.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 8, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicolas,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

OWEN H. GILES Treble	*WILLIAM E. CHEATER ... 5
D. CECIL WILLIAMS 2	*RICHARD J. STONE 6
GEORGE PULLINGER 3	WILLIAM T. TUCKER 7
WALTER G. ROWE 4	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal of Cambridge. The conductor's 100th peal on the octave.

SIX BELL PEALS.

LINCOLN.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, November 4, 1924, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter-at-Gowts,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Single Court, Oxford Bob, Double Oxford, Double Court, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

GEORGE COLLINS Treble	HERBERT LOWMAN 4
*ROBERT CHESTER 2	JOHN A. FREEMAN 5
ROBERT H. HURST 3	WILLIAM H. LLOYD Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM H. LLOYD.

First peal in seven methods ever rung in the City of Lincoln. First in seven methods for ringers of treble, 2nd, 3rd and 4th. * First peal of Minor.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 5, 1924, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob Canterbury Pleasure. Plain Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... Treble	FREDERICK M. MITCHELL ... 4
HERBERT E. AODSLEY ... 2	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 5
C.-S.-M. JAMES BENNETT ... 3	GEORGE MORRAD Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

This is F. M. Mitchell's 25th peal on these bells. Birthday peal for Miss R. F. Mitchell, sister of the ringer of the 4th, and Mr. Guy R. Ambrose, of Milton-next-Gravesend.

THEALE, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(BRADFELD DEANERY BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 8, 1924, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four 720's of Oxford Single Bob, and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

MISS STELLA DAVIS Treble	JAMES SMITH 4
GEORGE PARSONS 2	GEORGE ABERY 5
JAMES ABERY 3	ERNEST TIGWELL Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST TIGWELL.

Rung on the occasion of the induction of the Rev. — Duckworth to the parish of Theale.

BRETTFORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 8, 1924, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Leonard,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

JOHN C. PERKINS Treble	JOHN HALL 4
THOMAS HANDS 2	HARRY COLLEY 5
RAYMOND JELFS 3	LEONARD J. JELFS Tenor

Conducted by JOHN HALL.

This was the quarterly peal for the branch. All belong to the local band.

PATTISHALL, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD
AND THE TOWCESTER AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 6, 1924, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of three 720's of Oxford Bob, and four 720's of Plain Bob.
 Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb.

*GEORGE HOWARD Treble	J. WILFRED SHARP 4
JAMES HAYNES 2	JOHN M. GRAY 5
GEORGE MANSFIELD 3	TOM TEBBUTT Tenor

Conducted by TOM TEBBUTT.

* First peal on six bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to J. Haynes.

FIVE BELL PEAL.

MESSINGHAM, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, November 6, 1924, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 30 six-scores of Grandsire (10 callings), and 12 Plain Bob (4 callings).

†ARTHUR W. HOODLASS ... Treble	*HAROLD EASTOE 3
WILLIAM LEANING 2	ARTHUR TOMLINSON 4
JACK BRAY Tenor	

Conducted by J. BRAY.

* First peal of Doubles. † First peal of Doubles on tower bells. Believed to be the first peal on the bells. This is supposed to be the first church in this country to have had a peal of bells.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 3, 1924, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. J. MORRIS, 11, DEVONSHIRE STREET,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 17 in A.

*GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS ... 1—2	ERNEST MORRIS 7—8
HAROLD J. POOLE 3—4	REDVERS F. ELKINGTON 9—10
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD 5—6	†JOSIAH MORRIS 11—12

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by H. J. POOLE.

Umpire: ED. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal of Cinques, with two working bells. † First peal of Cinques 'in hand.'

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Thursday, November 6, 1924, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT KIRKMANSHULME LANE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION.

ALFRED BARNES 1—2	ALLAN F. BAILEY 5—6
FRED. PAGE 3—4	HARRY CHAPMAN 7—8

Conducted by ALLEN F. BAILEY.

First peal in the method on handbells by all the band. Also first in the county, and by the association. Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. A. Barnes on their 30th wedding anniversary.

GILMORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 8, 1924, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE RED LION INN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 15 in C.

HAROLD J. POOLE 1—2	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 5—6
*JOSEPH A. FENTON 3—4	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ... 7—8
*ALFRED G. GRANT 9—10	

Composed by W. H. INGLESANT. Conducted by W. P. WHITEHEAD.

Umpire: G. S. MORRIS. Witness: MISS P. HARE.

* First peal 'in hand,' and first attempt by both. This is also the first handbell peal in Gilmorton.

'ARMISTICE SUNDAY.

NOTTINGHAM.—For service, at St. Mary's Church, for ex-Service-men, 871 Grandsire Caters. E. C. Shepherd (composer) 1, A. Coppock (conductor) 2, M. Ward 3, F. Bradley 4, L. Chadburn 5, W. A. James 6, F. Blood 7, G. West 8, F. W. Bailey 9, P. Price 10. All the above saw service in the Great War.

LEICESTER.—On Armistice Sunday, at St. Margaret's, with half-muffled bells, morning service, 629, and for evening, 1,169 Grandsire Caters: W. L. Johnson 1, F. Sharman 2, A. Ballard 3, T. Bent 4, G. S. Morris 5, W. J. Tanser 6, E. Whitehead 7, J. Morris 8, E. Morris 9, J. Grant 10. In the inverted titlums and home positions. Composed and called by E. Morris.

STONY STRATFORD.—On Nov. 9th, Armistice Sunday, at St. Giles', Stony Stratford, for evening service, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. Edwards 1, W. Smith 2, W. Pedley 3, E. Yates 4, T. Tompkins 5, W. Bonham 6, E. C. Lambert (conductor) 7, W. Clarke 8.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—On Sunday, Nov. 9th, for evening service, with the bells muffled, 1,263 Stedman Triples: F. White 1, H. Markwell 2, W. Collison 3, R. T. Lambert 4, R. E. Lambert 5, W. Latter (capt.) 6, S. H. Green 7, R. Rush 8.

ERITH, KENT.—On Sunday, Nov. 9th, at St. John's Church, for Armistice service, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: L. Cullum 1, W. Axtell 2, F. Axtell, R. Cullum 4, H. A. Holden (conductor) 5, E. Hott 6, E. J. Cullum, junr., 7, O. Robinson 8.

AMERSHAM, BUCKS.—On Sunday, Nov. 9th, for special Armistice service, 720 Kent Treble Bob: A. Alburn 1, W. Redrup 2, L. Belts 3, J. Crook 4, F. Starr 5, W. H. Joiner (conductor) 6.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday, Nov. 9th, for Armistice service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, composed by the late Harvey Reeves: E. Webb 1, T. Beadle 2, W. F. Ellingham 3, F. G. Goddard 4, E. F. Coles 5, J. Milner (first quarter as conductor) 6, G. Spencer 7, H. Brooks 8.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.—On Sunday, Nov. 9th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), in 45 mins.: W. Lago 1, B. Rixon 2, A. S. Bayley 3, W. Wase (conductor) 4, R. Jones 5, L. Hewitt 6, E. V. Rodenhurst 7, W. Saunders 8. Also for the afternoon service, attended by the local branch of the British Legion, at which a short open-air service was held at the war memorial, conducted by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Hereford, short touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples were rung, with the bells half-muffled: also the 'whole pull and stand.'

GREEN'S NORTON, NORTHANTS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday morning, Nov. 9th, with the bells half-muffled, for a special memorial service, when a wreath was placed at the foot of a memorial tablet in the church with the names of the men of Green's Norton, who fell in the war, inscribed upon it, a quarter-peal (1,260 changes) of Double Oxford, in 40 mins.: A. Booth 1, A. Mansfield 2, G. F. Lucas 3, J. M. Gray 4, G. Mansfield 5, J. Wilfred Sharp (conductor) 6.—For evening service, with the bells open, a quarter-peal in seven methods, consisting of 216 each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, 180 each of St. Clement's, Double Oxford and Oxford Bob, 168 of Double Court, and 120 of Plain Bob, in 40 mins.: A. Booth 1, A. Mansfield 2, G. Mansfield 3, T. Tebbutt (conductor) 4, J. M. Gray 5, J. Wilfred Sharp 6. First quarter in seven methods by 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD,

THE WINCHESTER DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Winchester district was held at Winchester on Saturday, November 1st. The twelve bells at the Cathedral and the ring of six at St. Maurice's were available during the afternoon and evening. The tea and meeting took place in St. Maurice Hall, presided over by the district chairman (the Rev. Canon Braithwaite), supported by Mr. G. Williams (Master), Mr. G. Pullinger (gen. secretary), Mr. F. W. Rogers (secretary, Portsmouth district), Mr. W. Andrews and Mr. J. W. Faithfull (Central Committee), Mr. J. H. Shepherd (Swindon), and members from North Stoneham, Southampton, Romsey, Twyford, Ringwood, Portsea and Winchester. The balance showed receipts amounting to £12 6s. 2d., and expenditure to £4 1s. 10d. The sum of £7 was handed over to the Guild treasurer, leaving a balance in hand of £1 4s. 4d.

It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Romsey on Saturday, Nov. 2nd, 1925, and to hold quarterly meetings at Southampton, the first Saturday in February; at Stockbridge the first Saturday in May; and at Titchborne and Cheriton on the last Saturday in August.

All the officers were re-elected, viz., chairman, Rev. Canon Braithwaite; secretary, Mr. W. T. Tucker; Central Committee, Mr. W. Andrews and Mr. J. W. Faithfull; auditor, Mr. G. Smith.

A vote of thanks was passed to the district secretary (Mr. W. T. Tucker) for the way he had carried out his duties, and, in reply, he said he hoped the members would support him by attending the district meetings, and that they would also take 'The Ringing World' every week.

A vote of thanks was accorded the chairman for presiding, after which further ringing took place at the Cathedral.

THE OXFORD GUILD FESTIVAL.

THE HIGH WYCOMBE RESOLUTION.

A meeting of ringers was held at High Wycombe on Saturday last, for the purpose of discussing the position created by the decision to again hold the Diocesan Guild Festival at Oxford. The tower was available for visitors during the afternoon and for an hour in the evening; and some enjoyable ringing was indulged in. One visitor was especially pleased to score his first touch of Treble Bob, and three others were highly delighted in getting through their first attempts at Grandsire Triples. A short devotional service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar of Wycombe, who also gave a brief address. Tea was held in the Church House, and much enjoyed.

After the removal of the cloth, the meeting took place, the Rev. F. M. Molyneux, M.A., presiding, supported by the Rev. W. S. Riddelsdell, M.A. (chairman of the branch) and the Rev. H. O. F. Whittingstall.

The Chairman, after opening the meeting, announced that many letters of encouragement had been received.—The Master and the general secretary had written that, owing to their attendance at the College Youths' Dinner they were unable to be present. The chairman asked for a free discussion; and then called on Mr. Ralph Coles to move the following resolution: 'That Rule X be altered to read: The annual festival and general meeting shall be held in July in the three Archdeaconries in turn; and members here assembled pledge themselves to attend and vote for the suggested alteration at the Guild Festival.' Mr. Coles gave a lucid resume of the steps the Wycombe Society had taken to get the annual festival held in various centres, and remarked that if the resolution was carried it would be forwarded to the proper quarter in good time, and then brought up in the form of a 'private members' bill'; as, of course, they could not, nor had they ever claimed to, alter rules at a meeting such as the present one. The whole gist of the affair was to attend and vote at the annual festival.

Mr. F. Hayes seconded the motion, cordially agreeing with the mover's remarks.—Mr. J. W. Wilkins supported, and gave interesting details of the early days of the Guild. He reminded those present of the remarks of the late Master (the Rev. F. E. Robinson), who used to maintain that if members would not come to the Guild, the Guild must go to them.

The Rev. W. S. Riddelsdell spoke very strongly in favour of the suggested alteration. The holding of the festival continuously in one centre did not work for the welfare of the Guild as a whole. He would certainly support the motion when it was brought on; and he appealed to all those present, not only to pledge themselves, but to try and influence others to attend the annual festival. He was glad of the opportunity to be present to take part in such a frank and free discussion. He would do all he possibly could to help forward the cause they were striving for.

Other representatives having expressed themselves, the Chairman put the proposition, which was carried unanimously, and a pleasant meeting terminated.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—As it is not a new thing for a person to resort to personal abuse when their actions are exposed, we may take the letter of Mr. G. Twitchen for what it is worth. He would practically have your readers believe that—'Black is white, also red.'

The doings of the late branch secretary must not be held up for too much criticism, as he is at present unable to defend himself, but, the branch meeting in May, of which your correspondent writes, was arranged by the late branch secretary, in defiance to a resolution, expressing the wishes, and passed by members, of this branch. The arrangements at High Wycombe were cancelled by order of the branch chairman, who was then informed by the late branch secretary that 'it was not supposed to be a branch meeting at all, but was a gathering at the invitation of the High Wycombe ringers.' This statement can be verified by anyone who cares to communicate with the branch chairman, the Rev. W. S. Riddelsdell, M.A., Bray Vicarage, Maidenhead, Berks.

The following is taken from a copy of my letter to High Wycombe, in answer to their refusal of the tower for a branch meeting:—

'Dear Sir,—I thank you for your prompt reply, but would like you to understand that I do not consider the Master's ruling as applicable to any meeting of this branch. I have made a rule for myself, and, in keeping it, I expect all members of the branch to follow suit, i.e., to keep the fourth Saturday in each month open for a branch practice. As twelve-bell practice is equally as important as six-bell, I do not expect any questions from any other of our members as to why I wrote. To be quite frank, there were a few who knew something of my ideas, and who want to see a branch practice at High Wycombe. Of course, I can understand the repairs difficulty [we have had it brought home rather forcibly at Stoke Poges], but I would like to see a regular branch twelve-bell practice with not too many months between each one. I shall be pleased to answer any questions from your members, and will continue to forward any notices at the same time as they are sent to the other towers.'

If this is compared with the statement in last week's 'Ringing

World,' it will be at once seen that a different meaning is implied by the letter than is suggested by your correspondent in his subtraction of words to suit his purpose.

The suggestion of arrogance comes badly from High Wycombe, whose members have been trying for some time to force their will on the Oxford Diocesan Guild, even to the extent of withdrawing their tower from affiliation with the Guild, Dec. 31st 1923. Comment is needless. Now they would tell us that 'members were still affiliated in July, 1924.'

In conclusion, when a band of ringers goes to the trouble of circularising the branch of a Guild with a printed slip, to enlist sympathy amongst many who are not fully alive to their aims, one can hardly call it 'without a flourish of trumpets.'—Yours faithfully,

ARTHUR D. BARKER,

Hon. Secretary, E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch, Oxford Diocesan Guild.

DEATH OF MACCLESFIELD'S OLDEST BELL RINGER.

LIVED TO SEE HIS DREAM COME TRUE.

On Monday, October 27th, Macclesfield's oldest ringer, in the person of Mr. W. McKinnell (or, as he was commonly called 'Old Kenny'), passed away at the age of 76. Mr. McKinnell started to ring 62 years ago, and had been connected with the parish church tower during that period. He regularly attended to his duties, and it was seldom he was late or absent. He was, in his day, a good and sound ringer and striker. He had rung a few peals, but not a great number.

He was buried on All Saints' Day at the Macclesfield Cemetery. The bells of Christ Church were rung muffled on Friday night, and the bells of the Parish Church were rung on Saturday until 2.30, when the ringers left for the home of the deceased to act as bearers, and to join in the procession.

The funeral cortege was headed by the Old Town band, of which the deceased used to be a member, and moved off to the strains of the Dead March in 'Saul.' On the hearse was a large floral bell, which had been sent by his brother ringers at the parish church. As the procession went through the market place the band ceased playing, and the tenor bell tolled its farewell for him. Large crowds lined the route of the procession.

After the coffin had been lowered into the grave, four ringers rang a course of Grandsire Triples at the graveside. The bells of the parish church were rung half-muffled during the evening, and for the services on the following day.

The Vicar (the Rev. H. E. Stevens), before commencing his sermon on Sunday morning, made the following reference to the deceased: 'Last Monday, our veteran ringer, William McKinnell, passed to his rest, after 62 years' service amongst our bells. His first public act in the craft was to assist in ringing a muffled peal on the death of the Prince Consort. He was well known in the county and beyond its borders as an enthusiastic campanologist; he loved to play hymn tunes on the bells of various churches, the last occasion being at St. Peter's, Congleton, on the second Monday in August, and he was equally expert with the handbells. Many of us knew how keen he was that the parish church should have a peal of twelve bells. He never tired of saying that the money would certainly come, when once a scheme was set on foot. He lived to see his dream come true, for he was in the tower when the Bishop of Chester dedicated the peal more than a year ago. I remember introducing him to the Bishop after the ceremony, and saying 'Now he is ready to sing his *Nunc Dimittis*.' However, he lived thirteen months to enjoy the sound of the bells, and kept up his interest in them to the end. On his deathbed he expressed a wish that his funeral might be on a Saturday, that the ringers might carry him to his last resting-place. Moreover, he gave instructions that his cherished handbells should be sold, and the money used to provide a stone bell as a tombstone, to bear his name, with the inscription, 'An old ringer.' Surely a splendid bit of enthusiasm worthy of a true craftsman. The ringers of the neighbourhood did him all honour at his burial, and we to-day would gratefully remember the hand-loom weaver, whose hobby gave pleasure to others. We shall not forget the old man with his kindly smile and his ready word for his friends, or the reverent worshipper who was rarely away from his place on Sunday evenings. Perhaps in his last hours he may have remembered the well-known words of Faber's hymn:

Far, far away, like bells at evening pealing,
The voice of Jesus sounds o'er land and sea.
And laden souls, by thousands meekly stealing,
Kind Shepherd, turn their weary steps to Thee.

He has stepped over the threshold of the beyond into the presence of the Good Shepherd.

GUILDFORD.—On Friday, Oct. 31st, at Holy Trinity Church, for special service, on eve of All Saints' Day, a quarter-peal of London Surprise Major (1,280 changes), in 49 mins.: G. Petter 1, C. N. Burdock 2, H. Hutton 3, G. W. Steere 4, H. Burdock 5, W. R. Melville 6, Q.-M.-S. G. Gilbert R.E., 7, A. H. Pulling (conductor) 8. First quarter in the method by all except ringers of 3rd and 8th.

A QUARTER OF GRANDSIRE.

DESCRIBED BY A 'RACY' CORRESPONDENT.

After many days, as prophesied in 'Old Moore's,' the Wakefield company have at least done something to uphold their reputation as change ringers by ringing a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples.

This in itself is not a great performance for a company of their calibre, but it proves the ability of their conductor (Mr. J. Moorhouse), seeing that this was his first quarter-peal in that capacity.

I do not wish to belittle the performance when I say that the ringing was not all that could be desired, but under these adverse conditions Mr. Moorhouse never wavered or lost his head or place, so that great credit is due to him in being successful under such trying conditions.

One grateful member was so delighted that he intends presenting Mr. Moorhouse with a new book in which to jot down his touches, and hopes it will be an incentive to further effort.

The company were arranged as follows: Treble, Peaker; 2nd, Chapman; 3rd, Turner; 4th, Preston; 5th, Hinsley; 6th, Moorhouse (conductor); 7th, Cockill; 8th, Hammond.

A 'racy' individual describes it this way: There were nine entries for the handicap, but one named Heald, who prefers a shorter course, and likes soft going, became unruly at the post, whipped round and bolted, so did not come under the starter's orders. Hammond, who had been very fidgety and was eager to be off, got left at the start, and was tailed-off for a considerable part of the journey, and although the pace was slow in the early stages, he did not get in touch with the leaders until half the distance had been covered. Peaker, who had been leading, was soon overhauled by Chapman, a long striding youngster, who had not previously covered this distance, only to give way immediately to Turner, a stocky-built little fellow, who showed plenty of muscle. At the first turn they were all in a bunch, and a spill was narrowly avoided, but after a lot of bumping and crossing they settled down to a ding-dong finish, and with Hammond now moving close up behind, the pace increased, but he could not overhaul Peaker, who came in a length in front of Chapman, with Turner a similar distance away, third. Time, 53 minutes.

We would like to have seen that old stager 'Scott' in this company, but he may be held in reserve for a future event, or, perhaps, he prefers an easier course. In any case, he usually gets off with a good lead, and is rarely out of the first three at the finish.

TRIP TO GUILDFORD.

The North Stoneham ringers, accompanied by their Rector (the Rev. T. Salmon), held their annual outing on Saturday, Sept. 20th, when Guildford was the venue, and was reached by way of the Meon Valley. It was intended to start at 8 a.m., but this was delayed about half an hour, because, it was rumoured, the bus driver waited outside a licensed house instead of the Church Hut.

After about 20 miles the bus began to show signs of distress, and things got so bad that at Tisted the driver phoned back to headquarters for instructions. During the wait, inquiries were made of a 'local' as to the distance to the next refreshment house, which was said to be a very short distance up the road. Several of the party started to walk, and found to their disgust that the 'short distance' was 1½ miles.

The old bus managed to crawl into Chawton, where a wait was made for another vehicle, which was being sent up from Southampton, and this eventually arrived about 11.50 a.m. It had been intended to ring at Farnham, but the delay had been so great that this tower had to be cut out.

On arrival at Guildford the party were met by Messrs. Melville and Pulling, and at Holy Trinity Church, Cambridge, Double Norwich and Stedman were rung, and during the ringing of the Cambridge the party were treated to a fine acrobatic display by the ringer of the 7th.

After lunch a visit was paid to St. Nicolas, and Mrs. Hazelden and Messrs. Hazelden, Raddon, Chivers, and others of the local band, were awaiting the visitors. Grandsire Caters, Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise Major were rung, and some of the party found that the third bell could not be 'pushed up.'

A call was made at East Meon on the return journey. Here the tenor was found to 'go' indifferently. London was tried, but half-way through a course the tenorman gave up, he was without 'will.' Cambridge and Stedman were rung, but the heavy bellmen quickly decided that enough ringing had been done for the day. Home was reached about 10 p.m. The outing was much enjoyed, particularly the beautiful scenery from the Hog's Back and Hindhead. The party take this opportunity to express their best thanks to the clergy of the various churches for permission to ring, and to all the local ringers who met them, and the hearty welcome extended to them.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

On Saturday, Nov. 15th, 1873, a peal of 8,544 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at Liversedge, Yorks, in five hours.

On November 16th, 1837, 7,360 Oxford Treble Bob was rung at St. Andrew's, Norwich.

At the same church, on Nov. 17th, 1835, the first peal of London Surprise Major was rung.

The first peal of Imperial Treble Bob Major was rung at St. Giles', Norwich, on Nov. 17th, 1760, and immediately the peal had been completed, one of the ringers, John Webster, dropped dead.

Next Tuesday, the 18th inst., is the centenary of a peal of 8,448 Oxford Treble Bob Major rung at St. Michael at Coslany, Norwich.

The first peal of Grandsire Caters at St. Martin's, Birmingham, was rung on November 19th, 1758.

Last week we published the report of a peal stated to have been rung at Thrapston, Northants. The peal was rung at Titchmarsh.

RINGERS' MEETINGS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Agreeing with you in your leader last week, I have for some time avoided both services and sermons at ringers' meetings. But experience has made me conclude that if you do not have a service, the meeting will lose both in importance and in value; and, while I agree that a 'full-dress' sermon is neither wanted nor useful on such a practical occasion, an address of a very few minutes (not more than five), may be very pointed and useful.

When I was in the Salisbury Diocese we made what seemed to be a very good arrangement, and one which always worked well, and I believe is still in use after a quarter of a century. With the help of the then Bishop, and the present Bishop of Truro, we drew up an office for the Diocesan Guild, making a service that could be read right through in five minutes for a district meeting; and once a year, when a choir could be obtained (or enough of the ringers relied on to sing), could be sung right through in ten minutes. With a very short pointed address this got the ringers together, and only used up time which otherwise would have been wasted, walking aimlessly about waiting for one another.

Treated in this way, the service will help considerably to the success of the meeting; but nothing is more likely to put a damper on a meeting than a lengthy 'shortened' evensong; or an impromptu kind of service that will last no one knows how long, and tend to disintegrate, instead of pulling together, a meeting.

HERBERT DRAKE.

QUICK PEALS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Re the answers in your last issue, to my criticism of the quick peal at Sheffield, I beg to state, in reply, that no ill-feeling was meant or intended. If the two gentlemen had made a careful analysis of my letter, they would have seen that there was no reference to the merit and skill of the ringers taking part in the peal, and my letter, though harsh, was written in no unfriendly spirit, but were my critical views as to the music produced. I was more than surprised at the attitude taken by Mr. Lewis, as he appeared to suggest that my remarks had a tendency to cause ill-feeling between the ringers of Sheffield and Birmingham. I would like to say here that nothing was farther from my mind. The reason why I wrote that letter was to condemn all very quick peals as being detrimental to the music brought forth. I hope I have made this clear, and that the ringers of Sheffield will accept this explanation. Referring to Mr. Palmer's frank letter, he points out the following reasons why the peal was completed in such short time.

- (1) Because the bells are hung on the modern ball bearing principle, and that there is only a short draught to contend with.
- (2) That the 'hefty lads' at the back end started off at a brisk pace, and kept it up to the end.

Whilst agreeing that there were greater facilities for quicker ringing in the first reason, it does not follow that because of this the bells need be struck quicker. As regards the second reason could not a little restraint have been exercised in the case of the back end by a word of warning from more experienced men, who certainly should have been able to tell the extra rate the bells were travelling? The striking (I have no doubt now that I have the facts) was correct, but was the music so well produced by this rapid going? Myself, I think not, and I shall never be convinced otherwise. Mr. Palmer agrees with me that bells should not be struck too closely; therefore, is it not obvious that the bells must have been struck closely to create a time record such as that? He also accuses me of having a bad impression of the peal (my letter certainly suggested that), yet they themselves took (using his own words) a precisely similar view on the quick peals that have been rung at Southwark. So he will readily see why my condemnation was so severe, if on his own admission they at Sheffield took a similar view.

In conclusion, while thoroughly appreciating the spirit of Mr. Palmer's letter, I am still of the opinion that the music of peals rung at such speed cannot approach that of peals rung in

'NORMAL TIME.'

The Ancient Society of College Youths.

REVIVAL OF AN OLD CUSTOM. BIG GATHERING FOR ANNUAL FESTIVAL.

An interesting revival of an ancient custom marked the annual gathering of the Ancient Society of College Youths on Saturday. Ringing had taken place at various churches during the afternoon, including Southwark Cathedral, Cripplegate, St. Magnus, and St. Andrew's, Holborn; and the members and visitors then assembled at the Church of St. Michael Paternoster Royal, College Hill, where a special service was held. In attending this church the Society went back to its old home, for it was from the College which was connected with this church, that the founders took the name of the Society. After the members had taken their seats, the Master (Mr. R. T. Hibbert) was conducted to his pew, preceded by the ancient mace of the Guild, which is in the form of a silver bell dated 1702, and which was carried by the senior warden (Mr. P. E. Clark). The service was taken from the 'Ringers' Manual,' and was conducted by the Rector (Canon Bullock Webster). The hymns were 'Ring forth, holy bells,' 'The sacred bells of England,' and 'Unchanging God, who livest,' the last named being sung to a tune which introduces rounds and Queen's. The lesson, from Romans xii., was read by the Master, and while the offertory was taken a course of Stedman Triples was perfectly rung on handbells by Messrs. H. R. Newton, C. F. Winney, W. Pasmore and W. T. Cockerill.

Canon G. F. Coleridge (president of the Central Council) preached from the words, 'I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord.' These words, he thought, reflected the feeling in every heart when they decided to hold that service on the occasion of their annual festival as aforetime. It was the practice of the College Youths years ago to meet on the 5th of November and then, preceded by their silver bell, which he was glad to see that evening in its right and proper place, march to Bow Church, Cheapside, for a service, before holding their annual dinner or supper. He thought it might be well if they that evening went, after service, in procession, headed by the bell, to their annual banquet. People would then ask what it meant, and they could be told that these were men, engaged in the service of Almighty God, who were keeping their festival, and they had kept it in a right and appropriate way by first rendering thanks and praise to the Giver of all good gifts. Their forefathers went to Bow Church: they had come that day to St. Michael Paternoster Royal on College Hill, and he could not conceive of any more appropriate place than that, because the College Youths took their name from the old College which once stood there on College Hill, a College dedicated to the Holy Spirit and Saint Mary, which he believed, more than a hundred years ago, was removed to the North of London. It would interest them all to know that they had with them at that service the present warden of the College, who was technically called the 'Tutor,' who had charge of some four-and-twenty aged women in the College, which was now commemorated in that church by the Lady Chapel, and would be for all time. Whether the founders of the College Youths rang there or at St. Martin's he did not know with certainty. It was said that they used to chime at the College, but they did know that they used to ring at St. Martin's, also that the College was joined to that Church of St. Michael Paternoster Royal. The preacher then went on to quote from a brief history of the church, in which it was stated that the Church of St. Michael Paternoster Royal stood on a spot consecrated from time immemorial to the worship of God. In the year 1400 the church which then existed was so ancient and time-worn that it was determined to make room for a warthier House of God, and a new building was erected at the expense of Sir Richard Whittington, four times Lord Mayor of London. This new church survived for more than 250 years until it was destroyed by the Great Fire of London in 1666. Once more on the same spot a new church was built. It was erected under the supervision of Sir Christopher Wren, the great architect, and completed in 1694, except the tower, which was added in 1718. On the resurrection of the services formerly held by the College Youths they could not, said the speaker, do better than to meet in that church on their anniversary. What did they come there for? They came first of all to praise and thank and magnify God; they came also in a spirit of commemoration of their founders. They went back to the year 1637 and remembered with gratitude the names of their founders, who included Lord Brereton, Sir Cliff Clifton, and others, bearing names of renown. Coming down from the beginning they had had among them other great men, ringers, composers and conductors, too numerous to mention. Thus they came down to the present day, and they would agree that it was not fitting on that occasion to mention any particular names, but they were all engaged in a great work for the glory of God. So they went back into the past and thought of those old words, which he was so fond of: 'Let

us now praise famous men and the fathers that begat us; their seed shall remain for ever, and their glory shall not be blotted out; their name liveth for evermore.' Although their society went back for so many years they ought to remember that there were societies of ringers which went back in history even further than theirs. The Ancient Society of St. Stephen's ringers at Bristol in 1574 obtained the promise of a charter, and that was granted in 1620, seventeen years before the College Youths came into being. Some of them might also have read the articles of the Scholars of Cheapside, dated 1603, and they all, he supposed, knew Saffron Walden, which had had an endowment for ringers since 1623. Part of that endowment went for the preaching of a sermon on the anniversary every year of the death of the donor. In many of these old societies money was left for the ringing of the bells on the anniversary of the death of the testator, and this pointed to a religious origin more than anything else. He did not suppose many societies had a rule so drastic as one of those of St. Stephen's: 'If any of the said company shall be so bold as to run into the belfry before he do kneel down and pray, as every Christian ought, he shall pay for the first offence sixpence, and for the second he shall be cast out of the company.' A stringent rule. He for one did not like stringent and rigid rules. He preferred to rule his own life according to the commandments of God and His precepts, and he took it that most people liked to live in the fulness of God's favour, and therein find perfect freedom, which did not mean doing just what they liked and pleasing themselves, but doing everything for the honour of God, and for the help of their fellow-men. Let them remember that it was in a spirit of freedom that they were there that night. There was no compulsion about it. They were there because they felt it was a good and joyful thing to join together in unity, worshipping God, and thanking Him for their founders, praying also that they might be found worthy to follow in their footsteps. So they looked back with thankfulness over the past, and with fresh resolutions they would go forward in the future, never forgetting that they were church workers, God's ministers. They were God's ministers because they were privileged to ring the bells of the churches, the same high privileges as was shared by the organist and choir, and by all who took part in the service to Almighty God.

As a voluntary after the service, a course of Stedman Caters was rung on handbells.

The members then made their way to the London Tavern, Fenchurch Street, where dinner was served, a company of nearly 190 sitting down, under the chairmanship of the Master.

The Master was supported by the Rev. Canon Bullock-Webster (St. Michael's, College Hill), Alderman J. S. Pritchett (St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham), Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge (President of the Central Council), Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn (Master), and Mr. A. J. Wright (hon. treasurer, Oxford Diocesan Guild), Rev. Canon Haldane (Rector of Southwark), Mr. Frank Churchwarden, Southwark Cathedral, Rev. J. H. Ellison (St. Michael's, Cornhill), Rev. F. Ll. Edwards (hon. secretary, Salisbury Guild), Mr. J. D. Matthews (Master), Mr. J. Cornford (hon. secretary), and Mr. C. Matthews (Royal Cumberland Youths), Rev. Preb. Isaacs (St. Giles', Cripplegate), Mr. W. Jeffries (Kent County Association), Mr. W. Skinner (Dean's verger, St. Paul's Cathedral), Rev. B. F. Simpson (St. Dunstan's, Stepney), Mr. R. Carter (churchwarden) and the Rev. S. A. Spackman (St. Mary Abbots), Mr. Castell, Mr. E. A. Young (hon. secretary, Central Council), Rev. W. Pennington Bickford (Rector of St. Clement Danes), Mr. Sergison, Mr. F. Walker, Rev. E. C. Bedford (St. Andrew's, Holborn) and the Rev. H. J. Fynes-Clinton (Rector of St. Magnus-the-Martyr). The vice-chair was occupied by Mr. W. E. Garrard, and the company included Messrs. W. T. Cockerill (hon. secretary of the society), A. A. Hughes (hon. treasurer), P. E. Clark (senior steward), W. Hibbert (junior steward), C. F. Winney and W. Prime (trustees), E. Horrex and J. Carter, Major J. H. B. Hesse (Haslemere), Messrs. C. F. Johnston (Croydon), G. N. Price, J. Evans (Beaconsfield), J. Truss (Marlow), W. Nevard (Great Bentley), J. W. Jones (Newnork), W. Northover (Bridport), M. Northover (Reigate), G. Bowen (Hilfrcombe), G. Hoad (Reigate), J. Wyatt (Ashted), C. Dean (hon. secretary, Surrey Association), W. Dyson and D. Elliott (Pease), W. Lawrence (Herts), E. Lincoln (Norfolk), W. Hart (Brighton), T. Groombridge, senr. (Chislehurst), T. Groombridge, junr. (Crayford), A. Walker (Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham), A. Paddon Smith (hon. secretary), J. E. Groves (Birmingham), S. Palmer (Sheffield), Mr. E. C. Goldsmith (Clapham), Mrs. R. J. Wilkins and Mrs. Cann (Bristol), Messrs. W. A. Cave and C. Gordon (Bristol), F. W. Rodgers, Tate and Taylor (Purvismouth).

F. Smith (Royal Cumberland Youths), J. Monk (Witney), A. Cullum (Caversham), J. T. Dyke (Midsomer Norton), T. Beaumont, C. Norris and W. Haigh (Rochester), F. Mitchell (Milton), T. Beadle (Isleworth), etc. The Barking band were present in force, and ringers also attended from all parts of London.

After an excellent repast, the Master submitted the loyal toast, which having been enthusiastically drunk, was followed by a lustily sung verse of the National Anthem.

Rising again, the Master proposed 'The Church.' In the minds of most of those present, he said, the Church would probably recall the glorious old buildings they had seen and the peals of bells they had rung on, but he wanted them to forget that side of it for a moment, and think of the Church as a brotherhood (applause). Some of those present had heard their glorious old Church of England service on the deck of a battleship, some round the drums behind the field of battle, and some perhaps had heard it in a ramshackle, corrugated shed in the colonies, but wherever that service had been held some individual had gone away a better man than before. That was the Church he asked them to drink to that night (applause).

Canon Haldane, who responded, thanked the Society, in the name of the clergy, for having asked them to be present that evening. The clergy very much needed the laity from various points of view, to encourage them and to keep them in order and it was a great pleasure to find themselves in a gathering so typical of the best laity of the Church. In a spirit of light banter the Canon touched upon the practice of some ringers who, having rung the bells, did not stop to the service, and he appealed to the Society to exert their influence wherever they could in helping the clergy to effect an alteration in this respect.

Canon Coleridge gave the toast of 'The Ancient Society of College Youths.' In addressing the chair, he said he had known the Master from boyhood, and felt inclined to address him as 'Dear old Tom' (applause), but that would not befit the dignity of the occasion, and, therefore, for the first time in his life he must call him 'Master' (applause). Canon Coleridge expressed the delight it had been to him to have had the privilege of speaking to them in the Church of St. Michael Paternoster Royal that evening. He counted it one of the greatest privileges of his life to have been asked to preach that sermon. He was really glad when he heard last year that they intended to begin their festival with a service, as all meetings of Church workers ought to begin, and he hoped that it was the beginning of a new page in the history of the College Youths. Going back over the early days of the Society, Canon Coleridge referred to the fact that Sir Matthew Hill and Sir Cliff Clifton, who were among the founders, were not the only baronets and knights they had had in their ranks. In his own day they had had Sir Bartle Frere as a member and their dear old friend, who did as much for change ringing as any other man, Sir Arthur Heywood. In looking round, they found that in other branches of art and science the great men were honoured. For example, in the world of music they need speak only of Sir John Stainer and Sir Frederick Bridge; in the world of art they had had Sir Frederick Leighton, Sir John Millais, and others. When they came to the ringing fraternity, what a grand thing it would be for the Exercise if they could have Sir Thomas Hibbert (laughter and applause), and it would be a still greater honour to have Sir William Cockerill (applause). Then the world would begin to look up to them. At present it didn't; it only expected them to ring for weddings and other festive occasions. Canon Coleridge eulogised the services of the Master; he also congratulated his son, who, he understood, had been nominated as senior steward for next year, and said he hoped he might live to congratulate him two years hence when, if he were spared, he would be in the position now occupied by his father (applause). Continuing, Canon Coleridge said it was not only the Master of that great society who had to be honoured, but that other gentleman, their devoted and most excellent secretary, at present Mr. William Cockerill (applause). When he looked back over the last forty years and compared the way in which the business of the society was conducted then with the way it is now carried on, there was a tremendous difference, and it was very largely owing to the excellence of their secretary (applause). Long might he remain in that position, and now that he had years before him free from the worry of teaching little boys, he would have more leisure and be able to give even more time to the welfare of that great society. It was his name that he had to couple with the toast of the Ancient Society of College Youths (applause).

The toast was drunk with musical honours.

Mr. Cockerill was cordially received on rising to respond. He said letters regretting absence had been received from Mr. J. C. Mitchell, secretary of the London General Omnibus Co.; Mr. C. H. Howard, Master of the Essex Association; the Rev. Gordon Ponsonby, Rector of Row, Chesham, who was kept away by indisposition. He also read a letter conveying greetings to the gathering from Mr. Alan Macdonald, who is at present in Canada, and a telegram worded as follows: 'Bristol United Guilds send fraternal greetings, and wish College Youths delightful evening.—Guise.' During the past year the Society had lost, by death, five members—William Newell, Samuel Joyce, James W. Washbrook, George Cleal and Sam Thomas. They had made 42 new members, and, including a peal rung that day at Stepney, there had been 32 peals rung, viz., one each of Bob Major

and Maximus, Treble Bob Major, Royal and Maximus ten of Stedman Triples, seven of Stedman Cateters, four of Cinques, two of Bristol Surprise, two of Cambridge Major, one Cambridge Maximus and one of London. In these 32 peals there had been 17 conductors. There had been 76 practices and 25 business meetings, and 'Sir' Thomas had honoured them by coming from Reading for 23 meetings out of the 25 (applause).

The Vice-Chairman proposed 'The London and Provincial Ringing Societies,' and welcomed the representatives to that gathering. Referring to the Cumberland Youths, he said the two societies did not meet now as often as they used to thirty-five years ago when the old St. James' Society was in existence. They then used to meet every fortnight, and he for one regretted that this practice had ceased, but things changed in ringing, as in all else. They were glad to have with them Alderman Pritchett, of St. Martin's Guild, for that was the jubilee of his membership of the society (applause). They hoped he would be spared for many more years to reside over St. Martin's Guild and to come among the College Youths on the occasion of their annual dinner (applause).

Mr. J. D. Matthews first responded. He was very pleased, he said, that Canon Haldane had congratulated the College Youths on wearing out the floor of the church, as well as the stairs of the belfry, but he could assure him the ringers would be more interested in the east end of the church if the clergy helped to wear out the steps of the belfry a bit more (laughter and applause). The ringers would like to see the clergy in the belfry more than they did. He would like to take Canon Haldane round some of the London belfries so that he might see their condition. There were some that were not fit for pigs, let alone ringers (hear, hear). If the clergy who were there that night would use their influence among their brethren to get the towers improved they would be doing a great deal for ringing in general, for there were many belfries that needed putting in order, and in which the clergy at present took little interest (applause).

Alderman Pritchett said he was very glad to be there that night, and to have the honour of responding to that toast. As Mr. Garrard had said, if he lived until Monday he would have been 50 years a member of that Ancient Society (applause). It was one of the few things in life that he had to boast of, and he did boast of it. He had experienced more pleasure from bell ringing than from anything else in any other recreation he had been concerned with. When he was elected, on Nov. 10th, 1874, he learned from his certificate, which proudly hung on the walls of his house, framed and properly glazed, that the Master was Henry W. Haley, and the hon. secretary was George A. Musket, and the stewards were William Greenleaf and John M. Hayes, names honoured in the annals of change ringing, and very proud he was to have their signatures (hear, hear). When he died he intended to present that beautiful certificate, which was by Bartolozzi to the Birmingham Public Library where, he hoped, it would be preserved. His membership number was 2,660, and he would like to know the number of the last member (Mr. Cockerill: 4,900). He was going to say he thought the number had been doubled. Of the provincial societies all but two or three had grown up in his time. St. Martin's Guild, of course, had existed almost from time immemorial, certainly for nearly 200 years. It had been a great society, and was now a great society (hear, hear). The cause of its prosperity was two-fold; first of all the love of ringing on the part of its members and able leadership on the part of those who were concerned in leading it, before he (the speaker) became a ringer; and, secondly, a slight inducement of another character. He had heard from the great Henry Johnson, with whom he rang his first peal 49 years ago, that about a hundred years ago or more some benevolent individual left the sum of 40 shillings per annum for the ringers of Birmingham (laughter). He could not find that the forty shillings was ever paid (laughter), but when they looked for new members they told them the arrears of that annuity had been accumulated, and some day they would be collected and a very handsome amount would be distributed among the ringers (laughter). So all the credit of their very prosperous society was not solely due to their indefatigable secretary, Mr. Smith, who had that powerful argument to back him up (laughter). It was all for the good of ringing that there were provincial societies. Ringers were becoming a great power in the land; they were attracting public attention, and, what was better still, they were being understood by the public more and more as the years went on. The societies having organised themselves had enlisted the sympathies of the clergy, and the clergy recognised the valuable assistance they had from the ringers, and the ringers were now recognised as church workers, deserving the respect of the clergy and their encouragement. There had also been another great feature in the progress of ringing, during the 50 years with which he had been associated with it, and that was the formation of the Central Council of Change Ringers, whose honoured president was with them that night. No institution could succeed unless it was founded on discipline and respect for authority. He claimed respect for the Central Council. It gave cohesion to the ringers and ringing societies. Occasionally one hear murmurs against it, and that it did not perform any useful functions, but he could assure them that was not the case. It was the head of the great institution of change ringers in this country. He also appealed to all ringers to support their socie-

ties and the respective officers of their societies, to cultivate an esprit de corps, to work in unison, to avoid petty disputes and petty jealousies, and try to be worthy of the magnificent art which they practised (applause).

Mr. A. Paddon Smith, in a racy speech, proposed the toast of 'The Visitors.' It had been the great good fortune of the society, he said, to have with them at their annual gatherings considerable numbers of representative clergymen and laymen, and that night was no exception to the rule; in fact, he thought it was the biggest gathering of its kind which he had ever been privileged to attend. They bade the gentlemen of the cloth a most cordial welcome to the feast. He hoped they had enjoyed the dinner and the musical programme, and that their sermons on the morrow would be none the less interesting or elevating because they were there that night (laughter). He sometimes thought ringers had greater opportunities than even the clergy. The voice of the clergy could only reach the people actually assembled within the four walls of the church, but the voice of the bells, which the ringers operated, were flung far and wide over the busy street and market place, leading men, he hoped, sometimes to think of higher things, and of something over and above money making (applause).

Canon Bullock Webster replied to the toast, and said it had been a real delight to him, as Rector of St. Michael's Paternoster Royal, to welcome them at the church that evening, and he was glad of the opportunity of responding to that toast because it gave him the opportunity of saying that he wanted them to come again (hear, hear). And not only did he want them to come again, but he wanted them to come every year. They would be in very good company in so doing. There was a great revival among the city companies in this respect, and he was able to welcome to St. Michael's not only the Worshipful Company of Inn Holders, who had attended for many years, but also the Viners' Company, and, within the last two years two other city companies who had decided to inaugurate the annual election of Master in asking God's blessing on their labours, the Wire Drawers and the Glaziers. He ventured to say, therefore, that the College Youths would be in very good company. The only reason he hesitated to ask them to come every year was that he had only got one bell, whereas the neighbouring church of St. Magnus-the-Martyr had a magnificent peal of ten bells. The old church which stood on College Hill for many years grew into such a dilapidated condition that it was necessary to restore it. Sir Richard Whittington said he would build a new church, and not only did he build a new church, but he provided a college of clergy, consisting of a master and four fellows, with choristers. Such an impression did it make that some seemed to ignore the Church of St. Michael, and called in the Whittington College, and the church was regarded as the College Church, and when in 1637 the ringers decided to form themselves into a society they got leave to ring in that magnificent pile the peal of bells provided at Whittington's College. They also thought well to take the name of the College for the Ancient Society of College Youths. So he said they were coming back to their old home, and, if they felt sometimes they would like to go to a church where there was a peal of bells to do better honour of their society, then he would suggest they might take it alternate years at St. Magnus-the-Martyr and St. Michael's College Hill (applause).

The Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn submitted the toast of 'The Press.' He first congratulated the Master on his successful year of office, and drew attention to the manual which had been used at the service that day. It was drawn up, he said, for the benefit of his own Guild, and also for the benefit of the ringers of all associations. He had already received several expressions of appreciation of the manual. He had had to undertake the responsibility of reprinting the book, and he asked those present, if they approved of the manual, to push it with their respective associations. It could be obtained direct from the S.P.C.K. or from any agent of the society, and the price was fourpence. Continuing, Mr. Jenkyn referred to the influence of the Press on public opinion. There were papers connected with all the many departments of their varied life, and they as ringers were thankful that they had a Press connected with ringing. He did not know whether ringers ever stopped to think what ringing societies would be like without it? Had they ever stopped to think what that gathering would have been like if it had not been for the Press? It would have entailed an enormous amount of extra work, and even with that extra work he doubted if they could have got together such a gathering as that. As Librarian to the Council, he paid a tribute of gratitude to 'The Ringing World' and its Editor. It was a very difficult thing to run a ringing paper, and he hoped that the officers of every Guild and Association would impress on their members to support 'The Ringing World,' by taking a copy. It was their one great link throughout the whole country, and if they had not that link they would lose an enormous amount of that fellowship, without which their ringing, in his opinion, would be worth very little (applause).

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith briefly replied to the toast, thanking the proposer for his kindly references to 'The Ringing World' and himself. A feature of the musical programme was again the handbell playing of Mrs. Hughes, who, to piano accompaniment, rendered 'Solweig's Song' (Greig), and 'Land of Hope and Glory' (Elgar). An encore was loudly demanded, and kindly complied with, a course of Stedman Cinques was rung on handbells by members of the society, and the songs included 'The Bandolero,' sung by Mr. J. Bullock, and

'Drake goes West,' by Mr. T. Warren, who was encored. Messrs. Bullock, Hawkins and Russell rang a selection of tunes on handbells, and Mr. H. Podger, who acted as accompanist, contributed a piano-forte solo. The enjoyable gathering concluded with 'Auld Lang Syne.'

Many visitors stayed over Sunday, when there was ringing at various churches, and in the evening a social gathering took place at 'The Coffee Pot.'

RESTORATION OF LONG MELFORD BELLS.

HEARD AGAIN AFTER 25 YEARS.

The bells of Long Melford Parish Church, Suffolk, have been restored, and on Saturday, November 1st, were rededicated at a special service by the Rev. H. Drake, of Ufford, hon. secretary of the Suffolk Guild. It is twenty-five years since Long Melford bells were rung in peal, but now they have been rebung, three of them recast, and all of them retuned, while the tower has also been placed in a satisfactory condition. The dedication was attended by a large congregation, and many ringers from neighbouring towers.—The Rector, in a statement, said many people of Melford would that day be hearing the bells for the first time. Those who remembered the peal as it used to be would be able to form some judgment as to whether there was any improvement in their tone and tunefulness. With regard to the work which had been done, the original eighteenth century oaken bell frame had been strengthened, and had been passed by the architect as being absolutely efficient, with an estimated future of not less than 150 years. The belfry floor had been so altered as to ensure the bells being heard evenly and correctly in the ringers' chamber, whilst certain of the bells, the second, sixth and seventh, had been recast. All had been retuned, and had been passed as correct in their striking and fundamental tones. In conclusion, he said the history of Melford Parish Church was one of a series of efforts at restoration, and there was still more work to be undertaken.

After the singing of the 96th Psalm, the clergy proceeded to the tower, where the act of dedication was performed by the Rev. H. Drake. Then for the first time the fine tones of the bells broke the silence.

The Rev. H. Drake based his address on the words: 'Woe is me if I preach not the gospel,' which appear round the waist of the great bell at St. Paul's Cathedral. He said for the first part of his life he lived within a short distance of the bell foundry at Loughborough, and he well remembered his father coming home and telling him that the greatest bell cast in England had that day been cast in the foundry. A few days later he went with his father to see that wonderful bell, which had been raised out of the casting pit and stood upside down in the foundry workshop. He remembered seeing Mr. Taylor, the grandfather of the present head of the firm, swing a large ball of metal backwards and forwards until it reached the bell, and they heard its wonderful sound for the first time. The words of his text were around the bell in large letters, and the bell was now known as 'Great Paul,' and hung in St. Paul's Cathedral. It was hoped at the time to put twenty tons of metal into the bell, but the cast would only take 17. It was to this same foundry that the bells they had just heard had been sent. Their beautiful tone was due to the modern system of tuning. They knew that these bells were not like the ancient bells in the church before the time of the great village. There were said to be at that period five great bells and one sanctus bell, which was afterwards sold, but bought back again and placed in a mission room in Melford. There were five great bells at the time of the Reformation. These had all gone, no doubt being recast at different periods. So it had gone on through the ages, and again they had their bells. The five bells before the Reformation were all baptised and anointed before being placed in the tower. That was not the custom now, and they might regret it or think it foolish. The idea was, however, that the bells were to be a type of Christians, that, just as churches were filled with pictures, stained glass windows or ornaments with their lessons, so also were the bells. It was for the bells to tell out the message, that they were to preach the gospel by their sound. There was no doubt that that was the reason why the authorities of St. Paul's decided upon the text on their bell.

The service concluded with the hymn, 'For all the Saints,' and a collection was taken on behalf of the Churchyard Improvement Fund.

Subsequently all the ringers present were entertained to tea by the Rector in the Parish Room, where Archdeacon Farmilow spoke a few words of welcome and encouragement. He said he felt proud to take a part in such a function. They were keen on the ringing of the church bells, and were glad that one more tower was added to those in the diocese. One of the best things about ringers was that they were always ready to help their neighbours. He was sure they wished the ringers at Long Melford a successful future with their tower, and they would look forward to great help and support from the ringers.

The Rector (the Rev. R. S. Bree) thanked all for coming, and hoped that that day would mark a new period of history in Long Melford Church. They looked forward to getting a Melford company of ringers for Melford bells, but they would always be proud to welcome surrounding members to the tower (applause).

During the afternoon touches of Grandsire Triples, Bob Major and Kent Treble Bob were rung.

KENT'S NEW PEAL OF TEN.**DEDICATION OF TWO TREBLES AT ST. LAWRENCE, THANET.**

The two new trebles at St. Lawrence, Thanet, to increase the peal to ten, were dedicated on Sunday, Nov. 9th, at the morning service. Immediately after the second lesson, a procession was formed in the vestry, in the following order: Clergy; St. Lawrence company of ringers; two R.A.F. non-commissioned officers; two representatives of the young men of the parish; parishioners who served in the fighting forces; two representatives of the congregation; officers of the R.A.F.; the warden; the preacher (the Rev. Herbert Bull, M.A.); the Vicar (the Rev. A. G. Wilcox, M.A., hon. C.F.); the Mayor; Dame Janet Slancombe-Wills, O.B.E.; Mrs. Wilcox (representing the bereaved families and visiting clergy).

The procession passed down the south-west aisle and up the centre immediately under the tower, the ringers falling out on each side for the remainder of the procession to come up into their places. The Vicar then dedicated the bell of 'Thanksgiving,' and after it had been rung by the Mayor the congregation joined in singing the Doxology. The Vicar then dedicated the bell of 'Remembrance,' which Mrs. Wilcox rang on behalf of the bereaved families. The congregation then joined in singing the hymn, 'How bright these glorious spirits shine.'

The procession returned, and the anthem, 'Blessed are the dead,' was sung, and special prayers were said for the ringers and those who should listen to the call of the bells. After the sermon, the ringers' hymn was followed by the National Anthem, and as the congregation were leaving the church the full peal of bells was rung.

At the evening service, the bells were half-muffled for the Armistice service, when some good touches of Grandsire Caters and Stedman Caters were brought round. During the day ringers representing most of the towers in East Kent were present.

The work has been carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and great credit is due to them. The 'go' and the tone is everything that can be desired.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**MONTHLY PRACTICES INTRODUCED.**

On Saturday, November 8th, a most enjoyable afternoon and evening was spent at Whitwick, members numbering about 18, being present from various parts, including Hugglescote, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Quarndon, Loughborough, and the local tower.

During the afternoon and evening some beautifully struck touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman and Bob Major were brought round, one new ringer ringing his first 500 of Grandsire Triples on an inside bell.

Canon T. W. Walters presided over the meeting.

The secretary brought forward questions of the proposed monthly practice meetings, which, after a considerable amount of discussion was carried unanimously. The idea is to promote better striking, also to raise the standard of, and introduce new, methods, also to give a chance to ringers who, between the monthly meetings do not get an opportunity of ringing much above Doubles, although, perhaps, possessing eight bells.

The first practice meeting is to be held at Whitwick on Saturday, November 22nd, these particular meetings to be separately arranged at monthly meetings, the next taking place at Shepshed on Dec. 6th.

A vote of sympathy was passed with Canon Broughton (Archdeacon of Loughborough), who had been taken ill rather suddenly, and who was to have given the address.

Some of the ringers were kindly entertained to tea by Canon T. W. Walters, and a vote of thanks was passed to him for his eloquent address, and his kind permission for the use of the bells.

DEVON GUILD PEAL AT LAUNCESTON.

The peal at St. Stephen's-by-Launceston, Cornwall, on Saturday week, was the outcome of the Exeter ringers' visit during the past summer. The bells, which have been augmented from six to eight, and rehung in a steel frame by Messrs. Taylor and Co., Loughborough, are a most musical ring, and the 'go' is perfection, so that it only required the Vicar's permission to make the attempt. This the Vicar (Canon E. Dewe) readily gave, and saw to the comfort of the ringers before starting. It is only fair to the ringers and bellhanger to say an excellent and well-struck peal was accomplished. The Vicar heartily congratulated the band at the finish, as also did the Rev. Maitland Kelly, who had heard over an hour of the ringing. The former kindly invited the ringers to the Vicarage for refreshments, and the hospitality was much appreciated.

It is hoped that a help has been given to the Truro Guild, and that the local ringers will join up and assist their county guild in its good work.

CARDIFF.—On Thursday, Oct. 30th, after meeting one short for a peal of Stedman Caters, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), in 50 mins.: W. Biss (conductor) 1, J. Bailey 2, J. Davies 3, G. Large 4, A. Parnell 5, S. Dawe 6, J. W. Jones 7, S. R. Barker 8.

MR. E. V. RODENHURST'S 100 PEALS.

Mr. E. V. Rodenhurst, of Keystone, Salop, has just completed his first 100 peals. The record is a meritorious one, inasmuch as there is practically no change ringing in his own district, and he has had to travel anything from fifty to seventy miles for nine out of ten of them. The list is as follows: Stedman Cinques 1, Kent Treble Bob Royal 3, Bob Royal 1, Stedman Caters 2, Grandsire Caters 1, Double Norwich Major 19, Kent Treble Bob Major 23 (including 7,488, 9,344, 10,400 (longest peal in Wales) and 17,280 (Treble Bob Record), Oxford Treble Bob Major 4, Bob Major 7, Stedman Triples 7, Grandsire Triples 20 (conducted 2), on handbells 1, Minor (1 to 4 methods) 5, Doubles (1 to 4 methods) 5, on handbells 1; total, 100. Rung in 51 towers, in seven counties, for seven associations.

THE FIRST MUFFLED PEAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In reply to Mr. Laffin's letter in 'The Ringing World' of Oct. 31st, re 'The first Muffled Peal,' I am pleased to inform him that the original placard of the peal has been glazed and framed, and is placed among other peal boards in the belfry of SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Bromley, where the peal was rung. The record was 'rescued' from 'Ye Olde Rising Sun,' together with our peal book, over 50 years ago, and has been in its present position ever since. Mr. Laffin speaks of a 'crude drawing' at the head of the placard. He, and others, will be interested to learn whose work this was. The drawing and the writing were by (we presume) a relation of one of the ringers, viz., C. T. Giles, whose age was 12 years.—Yours, etc.,

P. SPICE,

Secretary, Bromley Youths.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

BROMLEY, KENT.—On Sunday, Nov. 2nd, for morning service, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples by the following members of the Bromley Youths: G. Huxley 1, G. F. James 2, G. Durling, *T. Knight, 1, Emery 5, A. James 6, P. Spice (first quarter-peal as conductor) 7, H. Skinner 8. * First quarter-peal in the method.

CHELSEA.—At the Church of St. Luke, on Sunday, Nov. 2nd, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters: H. W. Mance 1, C. F. Mitchell 2, G. Watkins 3, W. Dean 4, A. Newman 5, J. Carman 6, E. Reeve 7, H. H. Mance 8, H. Mance (conductor) 9, W. Essery 10. First quarter-peal of Stedman Caters by ringers of 1st and 6th.

GREEN'S NORTON.—For evensong, at the Parish Church, on Sunday, November 2nd, a quarter-peal (1,260 changes) of Minor, being 720 Oxford Bob and 540 Plain Bob (all singles), in 42 mins.: W. Wise 1, G. F. Lucas 2, G. Mansfield 3, A. Mansfield 4, J. Wilfred Sharp 5, J. M. Gray (conductor) 6.

NEWCHURCH (IN ROSSENDALE), LANCs.—At St. Nicholas' Church, on Sunday, Nov. 2nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 40 mins.: J. Taylor 1, T. Harrison 2, J. H. Haydock 3, A. Lord (first quarter-peal and first attempt) 4, O. Earlwood 5, W. Taylor (conductor) 6, J. T. Wright 7, John W. Ormerod 8. J. H. Haydock hails from Ramsbottom, the rest are local ringers.

SOUTHAMPTON.—At St. Mary's Church, for evening service, on Nov. 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): A. E. Newman 1, F. Mursell 2, G. Pullinger 3, R. Curtis 4, F. White 5, J. W. Faithfull (conductor) 6, J. W. Trappett 7, A. Reid 8. First quarter for ringers of 1st, 4th, 5th and 8th. Arranged for J. W. Trappett.

MERTHAM, SURREY.—On Sunday morning, Nov. 2nd, on the occasion of the dedication of the balustrade at the entrance to St. Katherine's Church, erected in memory of the late Rector (the Rev. R. I. Woodhouse), 720 Bob Minor: R. Ball 1, E. Atkins 2, J. Batters 3, C. Killick 4, H. Wood 5, F. Rice (conductor) 6.

HAMMERSMITH.—At St. Paul's Church, on Sunday, Nov. 2nd, for morning service, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Stratton 1, W. C. Stacey 2, H. Dyas 3, P. Clark 4, H. Cook 5, F. Skevington 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, R. Mackrill 8.

FARNHAM, SURREY.—On Sunday, Nov. 2nd, at the Parish Church, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 48 mins.: C. Wells 1, H. Prior 2, S. Meadows 3, H. Kemp 4, E. Clapshaw 5, T. Upshall 6, R. Hasted (conductor) 7, A. E. King 8.

PUDSEY, YORKS.—On Sunday, Nov. 2nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of London Surprise Major (1,344 changes): P. Cordingley 1, S. Ward 2, J. C. Booth 3, J. E. Procter 4, Wm. Barton (conductor) 5, T. M. Kitchen 6, J. Ambler 7, J. W. Cordingley 8.

HAGBOURNE, BERKS.—For morning service, on Sunday, Oct. 26th, at St. Andrew's Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,280 changes), in 50 mins.: J. Butler (conductor) 1, W. V. Webb 2, W. E. Napper 3, T. East, senr., 4, A. H. Webb 5, F. E. Abbott 6, R. G. Rice 7, J. S. Napper 8. First quarter-peal of Major by all but the ringers of 1, 3 and 7. First as conductor, and first by a local band.

PAIGNTON, DEVON.—On Sunday, Oct. 26th, for harvest festival, evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, from Holt's One-part: F. Allwood 1, S. Ward 2, A. W. Bowers 3, F. J. Davey (Exeter) 4, E. Stitch (Aberavon) 5, F. T. Gover (conductor) 6, H. J. Hale 7, F. Parnel 8.

KING'S NORTON BELLS.**A GREAT IMPROVEMENT ON THE OLD PEAL.**

About three years ago the ringers of King's Norton Parish Church approached the churchwardens, recommending that the bells be rehanging on new fittings. The matter was taken up, and expert opinions sought, the result being that a committee was formed to deal with the work.

Mr. F. B. Yates, a gentleman highly respected in the parish, and an enthusiastic lover of ringing, was appointed chairman. Mr. W. E. Moore, people's warden, schoolmaster and lay reader, of King's Norton, undertook the work of hon. secretary. Other members of the committee were Messrs. Boffey, Vicar's warden, Izon and Nicholls, members of the Church Council; Laffin, Williams and Webb, members of the local ringing band; and the Vicar of the parish. The committee got to work, and decided to recast the peal, except the 4th bell, which had been recast in 1905, and to rehanging the bells on new ball bearings, fitting them with new wheels and iron head stocks. It was really a bold move to recast the peal, since it was acknowledged to be already a good one, as far as Birmingham peals go. Also, there was known to be some local prejudice against the proposal. The bells, however, were a mixed lot, and not musically true in the major diatonic scale. The committee decided to improve them, and not having at any time any official objection from anybody in the parish to overcome, applied, through the Church Council, for a faculty to restore the peal. They were determined to secure the best peal possible with the money at their disposal for, and in keeping with, their ancient church.

On Saturday, November 1st (All Saints' Day) the recast bells were dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Birmingham in the presence of a large congregation. After the prayer of dedication the following local ringers ascended the tower, and had the honour of ringing the bells for the first time: P. O. Laffin 1, F. B. Yates 2, W. E. Moore 3, H. Williams 4, W. Ball 5, C. Webb 6, J. Bettleton 7, J. Withers 8.

After the service, a meat tea was provided for local and visiting ringers.—The Vicar presided, and expressed his pleasure in seeing so many ringers present.

Responding on behalf of the visitors, Mr. A. E. Parsons, of Old Hill, Staffs, stated that prior to that afternoon he had misgivings as to the wisdom of interfering with the old peal. Now after having heard and rung the new bells he was delighted to state that they were a distinct improvement on the old ones in every way. The committee had, he thought, every reason to be proud of them, and of the results of their very successful undertaking.

During the evening, several touches were rung, the ringers all expressing their delight with the sound and the 'go' of the bells. The people of King's Norton are delighted with the new peal and congratulations are pouring in from all quarters. Naturally, the chairman of the committee and the secretary are very proud of the achievements.

The work of restoration was carried out by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who are to be congratulated on the excellence of their work.

The arrangements for tea were admirably carried out by Mesdames Moore, Yates, Izon, Williams Laffin, Webb and Ball.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A most successful meeting of the South and West District of the Middlesex Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at Hillingdon on Saturday, when close upon 50 members and friends attended from Acton, Chelsea, Clapham, Camberwell, Chiswick, Ealing, Fulham, Isleworth, Staines, Tooting, Windsor, Willesden, and the local company.

Ringings commenced shortly after 3 p.m. (under the leadership of the Master (Mr. Robert Holloway), and at 5 p.m. a short service, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. H. J. Kilcat) took place, and was much appreciated by all.

After service, an adjournment was made to the Church School, where an excellent tea had been arranged by the hon. secretary and lady friends.

At the business meeting following, four new members were elected, namely, Miss E. Chapman, Miss E. Harcastle, Miss F. E. Orr, and Miss Robinson, daughter of the late Rev. F. E. Robinson, so well known to the ringing world.

The customary vote of thanks to the Vicar, choir and friends, who kindly put their shoulder to the wheel to make the last monthly meeting of the year such a success was heartily given.

'What's Wrong?' the leader in 'The Ringing World' of November 7th, came under a little comment, but at the end of a most successful year everyone agreed 'All's well.'

GREEN'S NORTON.—At the Parish Church, for harvest thanksgiving, on Thursday, Oct. 9th, 720 Double Oxford: G. F. Lucas 1, A. Mansfield 2, G. Mansfield 3, A. Booth 4, J. M. Gray 5, J. Wilfred Sharp (conductor) 6.—On Sunday, Oct. 12th, for evening service (being the continuation of the harvest thanksgiving), a quarter-peal (260 changes) of Doubles, in 42 mins., consisting of 480 St. Simon's, 480 Bob Doubles and 300 Grandsire: A. Booth 1, J. M. Gray 2, G. Mansfield 3, A. Mansfield 4, J. Wilfred Sharp (conductor) 5.

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.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Wortley on Saturday, Nov. 15th. All ringers invited. — C. D. Potter, Sec., 16, Gawber Road, Barnsley.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—The annual meeting will be held at Basingstoke on Saturday, Nov. 15th. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at 4.30. Sixpence per head will be allowed towards the cost of tea.—Charles D. P. Davies, Hon. Dist. Sec., Deane Rectory, Basingstoke.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at Hersham on Saturday, Nov. 15th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow.—J. B. Hessey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Queen Street, Chertsey.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—A meeting of this branch will be held at Stoke Golding (6 bells) on Saturday, Nov. 15th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. till 4.15 and 6 to 8 p.m. Short service in church at 4.15.—F. Cotton, Local Hon. Sec.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—The annual meeting will be held at Portsmouth on Saturday, Nov. 15th. St. Mary's bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea will be provided in the Parish Institute. Business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—F. W. Rogers, Hon. Sec., 52, Samuel Road, Portsmouth.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Deanery Branch.—A meeting will be held at Bishop's Hull on Saturday, Nov. 15th. Bells at 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and business after. — P. Merson, Branch Sec., Bishop's Hull.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Banwell, near Weston-super-Mare, on Nov. 15th. Service in the evening, tea and meeting after. Bells (6) afternoon and evening. — G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Next quarterly meeting will be held at King's Langley on Saturday, Nov. 15th. Bells available from 2.30. Short service at usual time. All welcome.—W. Ayre, Dis. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus on the 27th: *St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, on the 18th (election night); all at 7.30 p.m. St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 20th, at 8 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Pentrich on Saturday, Nov. 15th. Bells ready at 2.30. — H. G. Fretwell, Sec., 14, High Street, Swanwick.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting of the Bristol branch of the above association will be held at St. Michael's City on Saturday, Nov. 15th (Emmanuel, Clifton, not being available). Bells open from 3 o'clock. Service 5. Tea and meeting to follow.—P. C. Williams, Branch Hon. Sec., 22, Bruce Avenue, Easton, Bristol.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Edmonton (by invitation) on Nov. 15th, when the bells will be open for ringing. Tea will be provided. I shall be pleased to know the number beforehand for tea. All members and friends will be heartily welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, Hon. Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A meeting will be held on Nov. 15th at St. Mary's, Putney. Tower open 4 till 8 p.m. Tea at 5.30. Everyone invited.—C. F. Mitchell, Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Phene Street, Chelsea, S.W.3.

GREAT BADDOW.—The recast ring of eight bells of the Parish Church of St. Mary the Virgin will be reopened on Saturday, Nov. 15th. Dedication by the Bishop of Barking at 3.30 p.m. Tea will be provided at 5 p.m. for visiting ringers.—Chas. H. Howard, Master, Essex Association.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch. — The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Langport on Saturday, Nov. 22nd. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5, for those only who give notice on or before Tuesday, the 18th.—F. Farrant, Hon. Local Sec., North Street, Martock.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Hindley (St. Peter's) on Saturday, Nov. 22nd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. — Jas. Grounds, Branch Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch. — A ringing practice has been arranged on Saturday, Nov. 22nd, at Burnham, at 6 p.m. All welcome.—A. D. Barker, Hon. Branch Sec., Cambridge, Wexham Wood, Slough.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A district meeting will be held at Heene on Saturday, Nov. 22nd. Bells available from 2.30. Free tea at the Church Rooms at 5 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—A. W. Groves, 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—The next meeting will be held at Royston on Saturday, the 22nd Nov. Bells available afternoon and evening. Service in church at 4.45 p.m., followed by tea and meeting at Beale's Tea Room at 1s. each. All ringers welcome.—F. R. Bacon, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Lancaster Avenue, Hitchin.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Presteign-Leominster District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Eardisland on Saturday, Nov. 22nd. Bells (6) available 4 p.m. Service 5. Tea and business meeting afterwards.—J. Preece, Dis. Sec., Stream Cottage, Staunton-on-Arrow, Pembridge, Hereford.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Old Basford on Saturday, Nov. 22nd. Ringing from 4 to 7.30 p.m. Meeting will be held in the tower after ringing. All ringers welcome.—F. Blood, Hon. Dis. Sec.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—The annual meeting will be held at Newport on Thursday, Nov. 27th. St. Thomas' Parish Church bells will be available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. All outstanding subscriptions should be paid forthwith.—W. Upton, Dis. Sec., 10, Elm Grove, Newport.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Oxford City and District Branch.—Annual meeting at St. Aldate's Church on Saturday, Nov. 29th. Tea in Rectory Room at 4 p.m. Meeting after tea. Service after meeting. Bells available afternoon and evening.—A. F. Barrett, Branch Sec., 64, Norreys Avenue, Oxford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at East Crompton on Saturday, Nov. 29th (not the 22nd as previously stated). Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30. A good attendance is requested.—Wm. Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Walkden, on Saturday, Nov. 29th. Bells available 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 201, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Central District.—An extra meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Wimbledon, on Saturday, Nov. 29th. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. Free tea, by invitation of the Vicar, at 'The Welcome,' High Street. Will those requiring tea please notify me by Tuesday, the 25th, at latest, so that proper arrangements can be made? — A. J. Trappitt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Mellows Road, Wallington.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District. — The next quarterly meeting will be held at Goole on Saturday, Nov. 29th. Tea, 1s. 6d. each, in National Schools, to those who notify Mr. J. Drake, 29, Second Avenue, Goole, before Nov. 25th. Meeting afterwards. — A. B. Cook, Hon. Dis. Sec., 58, Wyndham Street, Hull.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone Branch.—A meeting of the above will be held at St. Michael's, Maidstone, on Saturday, Nov. 29th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Service at 5 p.m. Tea and business meeting after service. All Saints' tower will be open for ringing after tea. Members intending to be present please notify me before Nov. 25th.—C. H. Sone, Hon. Dis. Sec., Toke Cottage, Linton, Maidstone.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Stowmarket on Saturday, Dec. 6th, at the Church Hall. Bells available at 2 p.m. Tea at 4 p.m. (1s. each to all sending word to Mr. W. Souter, 23, Church Walk, Stowmarket, by Dec. 1st). Meeting follows. A meeting will be held at Long Melford on Saturday, Jan. 10th.—Herbert Drake, Sec., Ufford.

ACTON.—Practice at Acton is changed to Wednesdays.—Robert Holloway.

PUBLICATIONS.

'AMONG THE BELLS.'—THE RINGING CAREER OF LATE REV. F. E. ROBINSON, M.A., Vicar of Drayton, Berks, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Part I. to XX may be had singly at 6d. net. Unbound numbers I to XX complete, 8s. 6d. Or the whole work bound in cloth for 10s. 6d. net. From Mrs. ROBINSON, Fair Home, Wokingham.

'HANDBELL MUSIC.'—Catalogues from W. Gordon, 37, Norwood Road, Great Moor, Stockport.

'BOB MINOR AND BOB MAJOR, SIMPLY EXPLAINED.' Price 6d. Post free. 5s. 9d. a dozen. Post free. Also 'GRANDSIRE, DOUBLES AND TRIPLES, SIMPLY EXPLAINED.' Price 6d. post free. 5s. 9d. a dozen post free. The above are intended for beginners, and for those who find the ordinary books of instruction too difficult.—From I. Roe and M. Broome, 9, Lansdown Crescent, Bath.

FOR SALE.

PEAL OF 54 HANDBELLS for sale, size G 25; Chromatic scale; good ringing order; £25 the lot, including a quantity of handbell music by the late William Gordon, with lock-up box. — Godfrey, Bridge Street, Fakenham.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

LEEDS.—On Sunday, Nov. 2nd, at 25, Prison Quarters, Leeds, as a birthday compliment to the conductor, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples on handbells: Miss Olive L. Lumley 1—2, Gerald Moorhouse (conductor) 3—4, Malcolm Moorhouse 5—6, John W. Moorhouse 7—8.

HEIGHINGTON, DURHAM.—On Oct. 31st, at the Church of St. Michael, 456 London Surprise Minor, for harvest festival. Also after service, 720 London Surprise Minor: W. Oliver 1, G. W. Park 2, R. Park 3, C. Todd 4, F. W. Lupson 5, W. N. Park (conductor) 6. All the above ringers belong to Holy Trinity, Darlington.

SHEFFIELD.—On Tuesday, Oct. 28th, to celebrate the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Barnascone, generous supporters of St. Marie's (R.C.) Church, Norfolk Row, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 48 mins.: J. Tuke 1, C. Harrison 2, T. G. Sarel 3, F. Willey 4, J. Evinson 5, A. Craven 6, R. Harrison (conductor) 7, H. Hirst 8.

CAPENHURST, CHESHIRE. — On Oct. 28th, 720 Oxford Single Bob: Rd. Maddock 1, Robt. Maddock 2, A. Williams 3, P. Goodier 4, E. W. Elwell (conductor) 5, J. Bagley 6. This is the first 720 in the method by the local band, and by all except the ringer of the 5th.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD. — At All Saints' Church, on All Saints' Day, a quarter-peal of Bob Major was rung for the dedication service: *Mrs. Brownsworth 1, *C. Whybrow 2, W. J. Jeffs 3, *J. Arnold 4, W. Botsford 5, *A. Butcher 6, J. Nicholls 7, F. Vickers (conductor) 8. * First quarter-peal of Major.

ACTON.—At St. Mary's Church, for harvest festival a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: W. Lankester 1, R. H. Boddington 2, Robert Fardon (conductor) 3, S. D. Breeze 4, Miss Hawksworth 5, R. Holloway 6, E. W. Coulson 7, W. Elliott 8.—Also a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. Easton 1, E. W. Coulson 2, S. D. Breeze 3, C. Brown 4, R. Holloway (conductor) 5, R. Fardon 6, Miss Hawksworth 7, W. Elliott 8.

GUILDFORD.—On Wednesday morning, Oct. 22nd, at Holy Trinity Church, for Girls' Friendly Society special congress service, 504 Stedman Triples: C. N. Burdock 1, Mrs. W. R. Melville 2, G. W. Steere 3, G. Petter 4, H. Burdock 5, C. J. M. S. G. Gilbert, R.E., 6, A. H. Pulling (conductor) 7, W. R. Melville 8.

ACTON.—At St. Mary's Church, on Oct. 16th, a quarter-peal of Bob Major: M. England (first quarter) 1, Miss Moss 2, Miss Hawksworth (first quarter) 3, R. H. Boddington 4, S. D. Breeze 5, J. W. Fruin 6, R. Holloway 7, R. Fardon (conductor) 8.

PULFORD, CHESHIRE.—On Saturday, Sept. 13th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans'), 1,260 changes: T. Butler, senr., 1, A. Allen 2, J. F. Sharp 3, F. Evans 4, G. H. Edwards 5, W. S. Higginson 6, T. R. Butler (conductor) 7, R. T. Evans 8.

ELLESMERE, SHROPSHIRE.—On Monday, Sept. 22nd, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans'), 1,260 changes, in 50 mins.: R. Biggs 1, A. Haynes 2, A. Allen 3, G. H. Edwards 4, T. Butler, senr. (conductor), 5, W. S. Higginson 6, T. R. Butler 7, W. Higginson, senr., 8. This is the first quarter-peal of Stedman Triples on the bells, and by an entirely local band.—On Monday, Oct. 6th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans'), 1,260 changes, in 50 mins.: R. Biggs 1, A. Haynes 2, A. Allen 3, G. H. Edwards 4, T. Butler, senr., 5, W. S. Higginson 6, T. R. Butler (conductor) 7, W. Higginson, senr., 8.—Also on Monday, Oct. 20th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans'), 1,260 changes, in 48 mins., by the same band, conducted by T. Butler, senr.

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