THE RINGING WORLD

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## A TASK WHICH MUST BE FACED.

When is the Exercise to be furnished with a reference file of compositions? This question, often asked before, is prompted yet again by the publication in our columns of two peals of Cambridge Surprise Royal, obtained quite as the result of independent effort by Mr. Frank Bennett, but which, immediately upon their appearance, were claimed by Mr. Frederick Dench. Had there been a register of compositions Mr. Bennett could have satisfied himself before publishing the figures whether they had or had not been previously obtained, but no means were open to him to do this unless, perhaps, it consisted of laboriously wading through all the volumes of all the ringing press. Such a procedure is, of course, an almost impossible undertaking.

But the case in point is only another illustration of the real need there is for the register of compositions which we have so long advocated. In a field where research is always going on, where generation after generation is adding to the store of productions, the Exercise is only getting deeper and deeper into the mire while it permits things to drift on as they are doing at present. Even now the task of collecting and filing all known compositions would be a formidable one, but it will yearly grow in difficulty the longer it is left untouched. There are numerous uses which such a register would serve. It would be open to all conductors who wanted compositions of any special qualities; it would be a safeguard against claims of future generations of composers to the original work of men of the past; indeed, it would offer a source of considerable education to the studious man who desired to know what has and what has not been done by others in peal production. It would be an indisputable authority as to the ownership of compositions, and would answer a question which is often put to us by readers who submit figures of peals and ask for the name of the author!

How the work of compiling the register should be carried out is a matter for the Central Council, but it will need to be supervised by someone with a gift for organisation. Before, however, we talk of how it is to be done, the Council have to be induced to face the business as a whole. If it were merely a question of tabulating published figures, the task would present no serious difficulties. The trouble is that many excellent, as well as a still greater number of indifferent compositions, have never seen light in cold print, but are tucked away in private collections. But there are no really insuperable obstacles, if only the Council would make up their minds to start upon the work. This is a task in which they might enlist the assistance of some of the enthusiasts outside the circle of the Council, and without, necessarily,

(Continued on page 562.)

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co-opting them on to the body. There are among the younger generation of ringers some very capable men, whose interest in the art is sufficiently keen to induce them to share the work if asked to do so, and it is to these that the Council might confidently appeal for help in a task of this description.

## TEN BELL PEALS.

STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF PAINSWICK YOUTHS.
*On Monday, August 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,
**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| TRAVERS PRITCHARD ... | ...*Treble* | LESLIE BARRY ... ... ... | 6 |
| HUBERT SCRIVENS ... ... | 2 | THOMAS NEWMAN ... ... | 7 |
| JOHN AUSTIN ... ... ... | 3 | GEORGE ORCHARD ... ... | 8 |
| ALBERT WRIGHT ... ... ... | 4 | STAFFORD H. GREEN ... | 9 |
| THOMAS BALDWYN ... ... | 5 | *JOHN BEASENT ... ... | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

* First peal. The ringer of the 9th was made a life member of the association and a member of the Painswick Youths before starting. His first peal of Grandsire Caters.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
*On Saturday, September 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;**
Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ALFRED J. TURNER ... | ...*Treble* | FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... | 6 |
| JOHN S. GOLDSMITH ... ... | 2 | *JAMES BENNETT... ... ... | 7 |
| GEORGE R. PYE ... ... ... | 3 | ROBERT J. DAWE ... ... | 8 |
| CHARLES T. COLES ... ... | 4 | JAMES E. DAVIS ... ... ... | 9 |
| FRANK BENNETT ... ... ... | 5 | WILLIAM PYE ... ... | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal. Arranged and rung in honour of the 80th birthday of Mrs. E. Goldsmith, mother of the ringer of the 2nd.

EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)
*On Saturday, September 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes*
AT THE BELL TOWER,
**A PEAL OF ERIN CATERS, 5059 CHANGES;**
Tenor 31¼ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JOSEPH D. JOHNSON ... | ...*Treble* | JOHN HALL ... ... ... ... | 6 |
| JAMES HEMMING ... ... ... | 2 | FREDERICK JORDAN ... ... | 7 |
| HERBERT JORDAN... ... ... | 3 | FREDERICK J. JOHNSON ... | 8 |
| FREDERICK NORDEN ... ... | 4 | GEOFFERY J. HEMMING ... | 9 |
| HARRY MIDDLETON ... ... | 5 | OLIVER ATTWOOD... ... | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by JOSEPH W. PARKER. Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

First peal in the method by all the band and of Erin Caters by the association. Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. Harold Streets, a member of the local band, and Miss Alice Barrett, who were married at Winchcombe on the same afternoon.

NORTH SHIELDS.
THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
*On Saturday, September 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes.*
AT TYNEMOUTH PARISH CHURCH,
**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;**
Tenor 19 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ERNEST E. FERRY ... | ...*Treble* | WILLIAM SHOCKFORD ... | 6 |
| *JOSEPH A. ROBERTSON ... | 2 | EDWARD A. HERN ... ... | 7 |
| JAMES E. SCOTT... ... ... | 3 | STEPHEN STRATFORD ... | 8 |
| THOMAS T. GOFTON ... ... | 4 | ADAM DEAS... ... ... ... | 9 |
| WILLIAM L. GOFTON ... | 5 | †ALBERT SKEOCH ... ... | ...*Tenor* |

Composed by H. JOHNSON. Conducted by E. E. FERRY.

* First peal on an inside bell and first of Stedman. † First peal. Rung in honour of the wedding of Miss Mary Dorothea Holmes, only child of the Rev. R. E. and Mrs. Holmes, of Tynemouth Vicarage, and Mr. Arthur Stafford Oakley, eldest son of the Rev. Canon and Mrs. Oakley, of Jesmond Vicarage, Newcastle.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
*On Saturday, September 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;**
Tenor 25½ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| KEITH HART | *Treble* | STAFFORD H. GREEN | 6 |
| ALBERT D. STONE | 2 | FREDERICK E. COLLINS | 7 |
| DANIEL COOPER | 3 | HERBERT MARKWELL | 8 |
| JOHN F. GALYER | 4 | JOHN DEARLOVE | 9 |
| ALBERT J. HUGHES | 5 | CHARLES H. KIPPIN | *Tenor* |

Composed by HENRY HALEY. Conducted by C. H. KIPPIN.

The ringers of 3, 4, 5, 7 and tenor were elected members previous to starting.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

SHEPSHED, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
*On Saturday, August 21, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,
**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;**
Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 10 lb.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *MARK BARKER | *Treble* | JACK BAILEY | 5 |
| HENRY W. WILDE | 2 | EDWARD C. GOBEY | 6 |
| JOHN C. DICKEN | 3 | HENRY FLETCHER | 7 |
| ALFRED MOULD | 4 | PERCY PRICE | *Tenor* |

Composed and Conducted by E. C. GOBEY.

* First peal of Double Norwich. First peal in the method as conductor. It is 36 years since the 2nd and 3rd ringers rang a peal together. This peal was arranged specially for H. W. Wilde, and was his first peal in the county.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(BOWDEN & STOCKPORT BRANCH.)
*On Monday, August 30, 1926, in Three Hours,*
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
**A PEAL OF CLARENDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**
Tenor 14½ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JAMES FERNLEY, JUN. | *Treble* | TOM WILDE | 5 |
| HAROLD JACKSON | 2 | WILLIAM FERNLEY | 6 |
| WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT | 3 | JAMES FERNLEY, SEN. | 7 |
| HARRY LANGLEY | 4 | JOHN W. HARTLEY | *Tenor* |

Composed by JAMES S. WILDE. Conducted by JAMES FERNLEY, SEN.

This is the first peal in the method and also the first Surprise peal on the bells. First Surprise peal by all the band except the 3rd and 5th ringers. Rung as a compliment to the author of the method, Mr. J. S. Wilde, of Dunedin, N.Z., a former instructor to the tower, also as a farewell to Mr. J. Bancroft, who returned to Vancouver, B.C., during the week.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGANSHIRE.
LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
*On Wednesday, September 1, 1926, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ILLTYD,
**A PEAL OF SPLICED BOB MAJOR AND GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5096 CHANGES;**
Tenor 16 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ALLEN C. JONES | *Treble* | *CHARLES H. PERRY | 5 |
| ALFRED TALBOT | 2 | DAVID REES JAMES | 6 |
| RICHARD EVANS | 3 | ALBERT J. PITMAN | 7 |
| JOHN W. JONES | 4 | ERNEST STITCH | *Tenor* |

Composed by ALBERT J. PITMAN.
Conducted by C. H. PERRY and A. J. PITMAN.

* 50th peal. The peal consists of 2,572 Bob Major and 2,524 Grandsire Triples. This is the first spliced peal of Major and Triples ever rung, and first spliced peal so conducted. Rung half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the Ven. D. H. Griffiths, M.A., Archdeacon of Monmouth and late hon. secretary of the Llandaff Diocesan Association.

LEICESTER.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
*On Thursday, September 2, 1926, in Three Hours,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY SAVIOUR,
**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 25¾ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *JOHN WILSON UDALE | *Treble* | NORMAN S. BAGWORTH | 5 |
| ALEC BRIGGS | 2 | ERNEST MORRIS | 6 |
| WALTER P. WHITEHEAD | 3 | JOSIAH MORRIS | 7 |
| †ERNEST H. BAGWORTH | 4 | JOHN GRANT | *Tenor* |

Transposed and Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

* First peal. † First of Triples. Rung fully muffled to the respected memory of the Rev. Canon J. E. Stocks, D.D., Canon Residentiary of Peterborough, formerly 18 years Vicar of this parish, who was interred the previous day in the precincts of Peterborough Cathedral. The band thank Mr. J. S. Needham for having arranged this peal.

ILFRACOMBE, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
*On Thursday, September 2, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
DAY'S SIX-PART.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| LOUIS ATTWATER | *Treble* | JAMES R. MACKMAN | 5 |
| ERNEST COTSFORTH | 2 | PETER CROOK | 6 |
| AMBROSE H. HAYWARD | 3 | *FREDK. J. BLACKMORE | 7 |
| *JAMES SPRAGUE | 4 | WILLIAM SLOCOMBE | *Tenor* |

Conducted by PETER CROOK.

* First peal. The ringers of the treble and fifth hail from London, second and sixth from Bolton, Lancs, and were elected members of the Guild previous to starting for the peal.

STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
*On Saturday, September 4, 1926, in Three Hours,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.
**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5168 CHANGES;**
Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| C. FERGUSON HOWITT | *Treble* | ‡WALTER P. WHITEHEAD | 5 |
| REV. R. P. FARROWS | 2 | PERCIVAL A. ALDHAM | 6 |
| *LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD | 3 | ARTHUR H. BEAMISH | 7 |
| †MISS MONICA MOSSE | 4 | ALBAN DISNEY | *Tenor* |

Composed and Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal of Major inside. † First peal of Major. ‡ 50th peal of Major. A. Disney's 50th peal. Rung after meeting short for Treble Bob, the ringer of the treble obliging at very short notice. He was made a member before starting, and this was his first peal and first attempt.

WILLENHALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.
SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
*On Saturday, September 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,
**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ISAAC EVANS | *Treble* | SAMUEL H. COLEY | 5 |
| WILLIAM PEART | 2 | SAMUEL BAKER | 6 |
| JOHN T. DAVIES | 3 | CHRISTOPHER WALLATER | 7 |
| WILLIAM FISHER | 4 | ARTHUR E. REED | *Tenor* |

Conducted by CHRISTOPHER WALLATER.

Rung for the patronal festival, also the re-opening of the church, which had been closed for renovation.

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS, HUNTS.—For morning service, on Sunday, September 5th, a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: Ken Seward 1, J. Smart 2, G. Perkins 3, H. Saunders 4, F. Warrington (conductor) 5, J. Perkins 6.

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STONE, STAFFS.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION
*On Saturday, September 4, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *H. BUCKLEY | *Treble* | W. BUCKLEY | 5 |
| A. ROWLEY | 2 | *C. TEMPLETON | 6 |
| T. HODSON | 3 | J. MOULSON | 7 |
| J. HEAD | 4 | E. BAKER | *Tenor* |

Conducted by A. ROWLEY.
* First peal. Rung entirely by the local band.

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
*On Saturday, September 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FREDK. R. BORRETT | *Treble* | FREDK. F. MORTLOCK | 5 |
| ARTHUR SYMONDS | 2 | WILLIAM DENT | 6 |
| STEDMAN H. SYMONDS | 3 | WILLIAM R. J. POULSON | 7 |
| FRANK A. TURNER | 4 | WILLIAM RUMSEY | *Tenor* |

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by F. R. BORRETT.
W. Rumsey hails from Debenham, W. Dent from Colchester, F. R. Borrett from Pulham Market, the rest from Laxfield. This is the first peal in the method on these bells.

QUEENSBURY, BRADFORD.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
*On Saturday, September 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
**A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**
Tenor 14 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CECIL DRAKE | *Treble* | WILLIAM BARTON | 5 |
| HAROLD PEARCE | 2 | EDGAR WHITELEY | 6 |
| ARTHUR BAIRSTOW | 3 | JOE GREENWOOD | 7 |
| VERNEY BAIRSTOW | 4 | WILLIAM AMBLER | *Tenor* |

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON
First peal in the method on the bells, and by all except the tenor ringer.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
*On Saturday, September 4, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
**A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**
Tenor 14½ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| WILLIAM BEDDARD | *Treble* | ROBERT MATTHEWS | 5 |
| WILLIAM GIBBS | 2 | CLIFFORD SKIDMORE | 6 |
| HAROLD V. COOPER | 3 | CHARLES E. PERKINS | 7 |
| WILLIAM POTTER | 4 | JOHN LLOYD | *Tenor* |

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.
First peal of New Cambridge by all except the ringers of the 5th and 7th.

LAWTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Saturday, September 4, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS'.
Tenor 8¼ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FREDERICK H. CRAWLEY | *Treble* | ROBERT G. LEWIS | 5 |
| WALTER LONGMAN | 2 | THOMAS HURD | 6 |
| GEORGE W. BIDDULPH | 3 | ALBERT CRAWLEY | 7 |
| THOMAS W. ARROWSMITH | 4 | JOHN PARKER | *Tenor* |

Conducted by A. CRAWLEY.
First peal in the method by all except the ringers of 5th and 7th.

## MR. C. H. PERRY'S 50 PEALS.

The peal of spliced Bob Major and Grandsire Triples at Bridgend last week brought Mr. C. H. Perry's total up to 50, as follows:—Bob Royal 3, Stedman Caters 4, Erin Caters 2, Grandsire Caters 9, Kent Treble Bob Major 3, Bob Major 3 (conducted 1), Stedman Triples 4, Grandsire Triples 16 (7), Bob Triples 1 (1), Oxford Bob Triples 1 (1), Union Triples 1 (1), spliced Oxford Bob and Grandsire Triples 1, spliced Bob Major and Grandsire Triples 1 (part conducted), spliced Union and Grandsire Triples 1; total 50.

CHESTER.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Saturday, September 4, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-WITHIN-THE-WALLS,
**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
A VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| THOMAS R. BUTLER, SEN. | *Treble* | JOHN HAYES | 5 |
| EDWARD V. RODENHURST | 2 | JOHN W. DAVIES | 6 |
| ROBERT SPERRING | 3 | JAMES H. RIDING | 7 |
| THOMAS R. BUTLER | 4 | JAMES SWINDLEY | *Tenor* |

Composed and Conducted by J. W. DAVIES.
The ringer of the 2nd hails from Hodnet, Salop, and has now rung a peal on each bell in this tower. The composition is rung for the first time.

BUXTED, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
*On Sunday, September 5, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
**A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**
Tenor 15 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ALFRED J. TURNER | *Treble* | FRANK BENNETT | 5 |
| GEORGE R. PYE | 2 | JAMES E. DAVIS | 6 |
| FREDERICK W. ROGERS | 3 | *JAMES BENNETT | 7 |
| CHARLES T. COLES | 4 | WILLIAM PYE | *Tenor* |

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

# SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

OVER, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(THE OVER SOCIETY.)
*On Saturday, September 4, 1926, in Three Hours and One Minute.*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
**A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**
Being 720 of Oxford and six 720's of Kent. Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *HARRY ROBINSON | *Treble* | FRED GINN | 4 |
| FRANCIS G. GLEAVES | 2 | ARTHUR J. GINN | 5 |
| *ARTHUR WILLIAM T. GINN | 3 | FRANK WARRINGTON | *Tenor* |

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.
* First peal and first attempt. The Vicar, the Rev. F. G. Weston, congratulated the band on the excellent striking throughout the peal. H. Robinson and A. W. T. Ginn were proposed members of the Ely Association in the tower.

SUCKLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Saturday, September 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST.
**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**
Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College Single, Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, and Plain Bob. Tenor 14 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *JAMES P. HYETT | *Treble* | SIDNEY T. HOLT | 4 |
| DAVID HORNE | 2 | WILLIAM RANFORD | 5 |
| JOHN J. JEFFERIES | 3 | CHARLES CAMM | *Tenor* |

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.
* First peal in seven methods.

HARBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
*On Saturday, September 4, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
**A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
Being 1,200 Stedman (ten callings), 1,440 Plain Bob (four callings), 2,400 Grandsire (ten 240's of A. J. Pitman's Arrangement).
Tenor 9 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| GUYDO DICKINSON | *Treble* | ERNEST BARTRAM | 3 |
| ARTHUR H. BARTRAM | 2 | NORMAN S. BAGWORTH | 4 |
| ERNEST MORRIS | *Tenor* | | |

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

## JUST ONE RINGER'S OUTING.

### THE STORY AND THE MORAL OF EYAM.

By 'IRENÆUS.'

There ain't no trustin' nobody in this 'Wringin' Whirld' to do nothink but wringin'! One is not jealous when we read the dry, stereotyped reports of outings. One is, however, disgusted when we realise that they (who write these reports) have eyes to see and see not! That's writ with all the sarkazum. Mr. Editor, one can conjure up, and that's from one who lost one-half of the field of vision twenty years ago, and now the remaining half is so affected that the outline of objects alone is discernible—detail is all lost, except to touch.

Ah! 'touch'—that's the slogan of the majority of ringers' outing reports. Who wants to know that I rang a touch of this, that, or the other method? Nobody! Well, then, why waste space? Surely, they who write these reports 'seed summat.' 'Spliced' is very popular with ringers nowadays. Then why on earth don't they try to splice with the pen that wot they seed with wot they swallowed an' done? Surely they are not devoid of imagination when they see a 'mark' left by that downtrodden biped, man! Aye! Man alive! one wasn't feeling full of 'nothink' on yestereen but languor an' debility, so I popt round to Dr. Pinch Pulse. 'Very well'—he said that after he'd pulled me eyelid down to me collar-stud—'sir, you must have a complete change of air. Take advantage of the medicinal properties of "Chinley Tunnel"! Get out of this "Hellsmouth" into a "Paradise," where they don't spread the butter on your bread with a paint brush, or apologise for having none by asking you to wipe your bread on a kipper wots hung on the wall.' And then the doctor got nasty, or, should I say, 'dramatick,' and he said, 'Get thee hence, varlit, and let's see wot effect a change of air will have on the mentality of a microcephalous idiot like thee.'

'Struth, reader, let's see what effect a change of air had on one, a ringer, who can't see very well. Let's see, Man! Man is the only creature in God's creation who leaves behind a conscious monumental record of his having lived, and, mark you this, 'ye that have eyes and see not.' Everywhere the foot of man has trod, signs tangible are to be found; this superior animal, man, is the only animal to invent means of locomotion over and above that with which Dame Nature in her wisdom endowed him, and here one is without a car(e) bumping out with one's forehead an existence on the anvil of adversity. But what care I? Ungrudgingly 'other men hath laboured' (those are the words of my tex', Mr. Editor). Ha! ha! I laugh, I chuckle, as I take advantage of the labours of other men, and as I [illegible] myself hurled and whirled through the black gloom and vile bowels of the Chinley Tunnel. 'Whirled,' my friend, 'whirled' without end! till out of the mouth of hell one finds oneself standing in the very land of one's own fathers, my native shire, a paradise of precipitous rock and of steep ravine, all bathed in glorious sunlight. One boards a waiting charabanc, off she goes, and one drinks in the much needed 'fresh air' till the bus pulls up in that once plague-striken village of Eyam. As I alight, my thoughts flash back to the time when grass grew in the streets of London, to the rumbling wheels of the dead-cart, to the lurid glow of the torches and that heart-searching command, 'Bring out your dead!' Yes, reader, if you are destined to write a report of a ringer's duty, remember that command, 'Bring out your dead!' Other men have laboured, other men have flung open the casements of imagination, when their eyes have fallen on 'man's mark'; and with these phantasms of the past man communes, he reclothes fleshless bones, he sees again the mason, be he rude Saxon, conquering Norman, or feudal serf.

My advice is, don't let the ringing occupy all your time; have a few 'touches,' don't be a glutton, but go and swallow some of the beauties in or about that sacred edifice, which, remember again, 'other men hath laboured to build,' select some object of interest, be it font, screen, arcade, or what you will, weave round it a story—'bring out your dead.' Our 'C.C.' admit that they are not qualified to judge certain things, therefore it seems imposition to turn to the rank and file and ask how many of them have seen a 'squint.' Hundreds will have, but how many of them know what it was intended for, and what function it performed? And there we are 'swanking about,' having rung this method, and that principle—hundreds and thousands of 'em, and yet they are ignorant of a thousand and one things in connection with their very own church. On the whole, ringers as a body know little, or nothing, of the very bells which they ring in their own steeple; the man in the street takes far greater interest in the bells themselves, from the legendary or historical standpoint.

But, to resume, just imagine we are standing in that once plague-stricken village of Eyam, gazing on that venerable edifice of stone—St. Laurence's Church—surrounded by stately sycamore and shady elm, and consisting of chancel clerestoried nave of four bays, aisles, south porch, a Norman font and a Saxon font, embattled western tower with crocketed pinnacles at the angles, the louvre windows fashioned in 'decorated' style, though which 'Venite' and 'Te Deum Laudamus' have poured for three full centuries from the throats of those four historic bells of Eyam, cast by the first George Oldfield of Notts, and dated respectively 1619 (treble), second and third 1618, and the tenor 1628. With caution these bells rang through Civil War and Protectorate, mournfully they throbbed, on, on to when plague swept with merciless blast into the vortex of eternity 318 souls out of a population of 350. One poor orphan boy, the sole survivor of a whole family, migrated to Sheffield—Thomas Bolsover was his name. He it was who brought fame to the 'Steelopolis'; 'twas the inventive genius of this humble village boy, who gave not only Sheffield a name, but he gave to the wide world 'silver plate'! Other men have laboured, but do we enter into their labours? I ask myself this question as I pen these lines, seated—with pride—in a chair of massive oak of the Tudor period, and, on reflection, my mind flashes back twenty-four hours when, with reverence and awe, I sat in a similar chair, but of later date (Stewart times)—a chair which stands 'neath the northern side of the chancel arch of Eyam Parish Church. Carved on the rail of the base of the pediment of this chair is this: 'Mom 1665 Eyam' (the abbreviature Mom stands for Mompesson). There, reader, is the 'empty chair' which has come down through centuries for us to gaze upon, and, as we fix our thoughts on that piece of furniture, fashioned in the reign of Charles II., we realise that its former occupant was no 'armchair parson.' William Mompesson, the heroic Rector of Eyam, steadfastly continued to succour the plague-stricken and afflicted in the parish of Eyam; 'twas he who drew a line of safety around the village, and with the assistance of neighbouring inhabitants caused the food supply to be maintained. Certain stones were set up and food was placed thereon. Those who brought it returned later for the value, which the self-sacrificing parson deposited in a trough of running spring water for purification.

Church and churchyard were closed alike, graves were hastily dug in garden or field, by wife, husband, and child, for husband, wife, child and parent. Still, with fortitude this servant of Christ held divine service in a dell a short distance from the village, and from a lofty perforated rock he preached to his stricken and afflicted flock, scattered here and there on the grass. 'All he believed' from this pulpit of stone (known now as Cucklet Church) Wm. Mompesson preached. Not only did he preach, but he practised, and he ministered amongst them the truths and consolations of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

'Lord have mercy upon us!' Who will dispute that this fervent prayer fell from the lips of William Mompesson as he stood by the open grave of his own dear wife on the south side of the church? That grave is marked by a massive stone tomb, which is revered to-day after a lapse of centuries by sincere parishioners, who consider it a sacred duty and a trust handed on to them, ever to keep green the name of 'Mompesson' as they bestrew the whole of the covering stone of that tomb with the very choicest of flowers, such is their gratitude after a lapse of centuries. A few feet from this tomb, westerly, stands an ancient stone cross of the eighth or ninth century, another charming example of the work of other men's hands, ornamented on the arms with symbolic devices of angels blowing trumpets. The centre representation is of the Virgin and Child. (N.B.—The writer borrowed another man's eyes to look up at this eight-foot cross.) This symbol of our faith casts its shade over the sleeping dust of the heroic Rector's wife. 'Other men have laboured' is driven forcibly home as one stands in meditation beside the tomb of Eyam's historian. Again, one mused over the ashes of the village poet. Truly these men have laboured, each in his sphere. And now my thoughts turn from heroic priest, village poet, historian or genius, to what? To bells and the village squire and ringing parson—the Rev. W. P. Wright, of Eyam Hall.

The bells, four in number orginally, now six, have a story to tell, but I shall not bore my readers with that, other than to say 'other men had laboured' and placed them there in the tower at Eyam. The Rev. W. P. Wright saw this, and he realised it, and truly may it be said that he has joined his labours with the labours of other men. Reader, this is not a sermon, but one hopes it may go home to those who forget the 5th commandment. The Rev. W. P. Wright has honoured his father and mother by placing a bell in the tower of Eyam to keep green their memory. The villagers have given another to perpetuate the memory of Miss Emily Georgina Wright.

Saturday, August 28th, was 'the festal day' set apart in this village for dedication of the augmented bells, as already recorded in your columns. A shortened form of evensong was intoned by the Rector of Eyam, Rev. H. Saunders Williams, and the lesson was read by the Rural Dean, Rev. E. C. Vincent, of Hope. The Bishop of Derby gave an address, after which his lordship set apart from all unhallowed purposes these new bells. The service ends, the bells are raised in peal for the first time, reminding one of the words which had echoed through gate porch and columned aisle:

'Craftsman's art and music's measure.'

Indeed, 'twas so when the following flung out over the housetops of this once plague-stricken village the very first 720 ever rung in Eyam, which was conducted by the most 'happy man' in that village, the squire himself: C. Harrison 1, A. Craven 2, F. Watkinson 3, J. Brothwell 4, W. Biggin 5, Rev. W. P. Wright (conductor) 6. The method was Plain Bob.

During the remainder of the day the bells were kept going by visitors in various methods. The 'go' is excellent, the splice perfection itself, the trebles, blending with the old bells in correct musical relationship, tuned on the principle initiated by the late Canon Simpson, 'amplified and perfected' by the founders, John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough.

One cannot, in conclusion, let the opportunity slip a second time of tendering the best thanks of those who filled the 'bottomless pit' and partook of the hospitality of the happy ringing parson of Eyam Hall.

## NOTES BY THE WAY.

### PRIZE RINGING: ITS ABUSES—AND ITS USES.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

A week or two ago I said in these notes that prize ringing was a thing of the past. I am told that the statement is not quite true. Here and there in parts of the country, in obscure towers, it still survives. But it is a sickly survival, and the end is certain to be not far distant. The meetings, too, are shorn of those features which were so prominent in days gone by, which caused at one time a mild scandal, and which raised the uncompromising opposition of those leaders of the Exercise to whom we owe our present territorial associations and all the other benefits associated with what was once called belfry reform.

Time was once when success at a prize meeting was the highest aim among a very large proportion of ringers, and particularly those of the North and the West. I am trying in a loose and disjointed way to describe in these notes something of the various steps by which change ringing and the Exercise have arrived at what we now know them; and we shall not understand what ringing and ringers were in old times unless we know something of prize ringing.

In my account of the Flixton match I related the history of a prize ringing meeting which is fairly typical of all of them. The record of it has come down to us because of the eminence of the bands engaged, and because of the striking circumstances which attended it. But in essentials it was no different from hundreds of other meetings, and there are many living men who remember prize ringing meetings in Devon, where the accompanying scenes were very similar.

Here is an extract from a paper read by the Rev. A. Du Boulay Hill at a meeting held during the Church Congress at Reading in 1883. He was speaking of the need for belfry reform, and went on: 'The old style is that a dozen or more sets of ringers are locked in the church to prevent any of the collusion or veniality inseparable from such like sporting events, and proceed by lot to raise, ring round for ten minutes or so and lower the bells. Meanwhile, at the church gate, the local publican, armed with a special licence, erects his booth and his barrel of beer and drives a brisk trade, because, next to ringing rounds, listening to them is most thirsty work. In dignified silence sit two judges to mark down on paper a dot for every stroke missed, every bell that hesitates. It requires much experience and an accurate sense of time. Perhaps there are not more than half-a-dozen men in the county who are considered sufficiently good judges of ringing to attain to the dignity of this post. Finally, there is the distribution of some £12 or £15 in prizes to those who have received fewest marks upon the judges' paper.'

The good and the bad features of these meetings lie on the surface, and are easy to see. The drunkenness, the betting, the occasional foul play, the heated arguments between partisans, which sometimes degenerated into brawling, would be undesirable anywhere; within the precincts of the church they became a scandal. Not that all or perhaps a great many had all these bad features, but prize ringing had to be judged by its worst examples, and those, there is not doubt, were very bad indeed. To many men it seemed intolerable that any sort of competition for money should take place in a church. The principle of the thing was wrong, and if there had been no betting and no quarrelling, and all the ringers and listeners had been strict teetotallers, the objection would have been just the same. Prize ringing, beside, was a fatal obstacle to two of the things which the Exercise most values. It prevented the advancement of the art of change ringing, and it precluded that friendly meeting of ringers from different towers in one belfry and ringing together as one band, which is one of the most agreeable and helpful features of our present-day ringing meetings. For where the prize depended solely on good round ringing, ringers naturally would concentrate on that. Changes, even call changes, are much more difficult to strike perfectly, and the band that practised them would be merely handicapping themselves against their more conservative opponents. And, of course, where the whole meeting was one of rivalry between different bands, there could be no opportunities for any joint ringing.

The Devonshire Guild to this day have a custom which is probably the direct result of this. At their meetings it is usual to hand over the tower to each of the visiting bands in turn. A man rings with the members of his own band, and ringing together by men from different towers is rare. The reason for this is partly to give every one a proper chance of a pull, and, as the attendance at their annual meetings is very large, no doubt some regulations have to be made so that everyone has his turn.

An outsider has no right to criticise the arrangements that any association may make for its meetings, but it is certain that most associations have found that the free mixing up of men from different towers is one of the best ways of advancing the ringing of the higher methods. Here, for instance, in West Middlesex, there is no tower which by itself and unaided can ring a course of Surprise, or even Double Norwich; but at our meetings we seldom miss ringing Cambridge, and not often London, Bristol and Superlative; which means that there is hope that in a few years' time individual bands will be able to practise those methods.

Of course, as we saw, in the North prize ringing was not confined to rounds. There they did ring changes, but the tendency must have been to keep to the simpler methods like Grandsire Triples, where it is so much easier to get good striking.

(To be continued.)

## DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD

A quarterly meeting of this Guild was held at St. Mary's, Oldswinford, on Saturday, August 28th, when over thirty members and friends were present, it being a most beautiful summer day. Service was conducted by the Rev. H. J. Freienseuer, assistant priest, who also gave a very interesting and helpful address. At the close of the service an adjournment was made to the Parish Hall, where the business meeting was held, the Rev. H. J. Freienseuer being voted to the chair in the unavoidable absence of the Rector.

It was proposed to hold the next quarterly meeting at Rowley Regis, subject to the usual permission being obtained. It was also decided to leave the arrangements for the quarterly peal in the hands of the Ringing Master.

Several new members were added to the roll, including Mr. Walter Hayward, of Bridgnorth, as a life member.

At the close of the meeting, on the proposition of Mr. Hayward, and seconded by Mr. H. Mason, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector of Oldswinford (the Rev. H. H. Williams) for his kindness in granting permission to hold the meeting at his church, also for the use of the tower, bells and Parish Hall in which to hold the meeting. The resolution also included thanks to the Rev. H. J. Freienseuer for conducting the service and for his address, to the organist for the musical part of the service, and to the local ringers for making the necessary arrangements.

Mr. Mason moved that a vote of sympathy be passed to an old and respected member of this Guild, Mr. W. A. Pugh, who was very ill, and the assistant priest very kindly consented to convey the message to him.

Ringing took place on the eight bells before service was then resumed, and maintained during the remainder of the evening.

## FOR THE BEGINNERS.

### CONDUCTING.—BY GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Only two singles are required to produce 120 of Stedman Doubles (although more can be introduced). The first of the two singles may be called in any 'six,' but the second one must come exactly sixty changes later—so that the same pair of bells is affected. The method should be well learnt. You cannot make yourself too perfect in your knowledge of the working of each bell in the sixes and at the singles, to enable an error to be detected immediately, otherwise the ringing will soon come to grief by what we so often read—'a trip in the slow,' or by the wrong bell wanting to come down first after a single. Therefore, as in the plain methods, coursing order must not be neglected.

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The opportunity provided by the presence of a number of visiting ringers at Southover Church, Lewes, on Sunday, enabled R. G. Dawe, the son of Mr. R. J. Dawe, conductor of the local band, to ring his first touch of Stedman Caters, viz., 394: R. G. Dawe 1, W. Pye 2, C. T. Coles (conductor) 3, G. R. Pye 4, J. E. Davis 5, J. Bennett 6, F. W. Rogers 7, A. J. Turner 8, J. S. Goldsmith 9, W. Ward 10. This young ringer also rang his first touch of Bob Royal.

On Sunday morning, at Twickenham, Middlesex, Miss K. Bradford, aged 15, was successful in ringing the treble in her first 120 Grandsire Doubles, which was conducted by W. F. Ellingham. Miss Bradford was only elected a local member of the Middlesex County Association on July 31st. Touches of Grandsire Triples were also rung for this service, E. Morris, another local member, ringing the third in his longest touch.

The first 720 rung at Cranford, Northants, by an entirely local band since the war was accomplished on September 2nd, when 720 Bob Minor was rung: *F. Hackney 1, Miss S. Thursfield 2, *Miss V. Askew 3, E. Berridge 4, *F. Penn 5, F. Lewin (first 720 as conductor) 6. * First 720.

At Aberavon, for practice, on September 3rd, 1,320 Grandsire Doubles, with 7, 8 covering: *C. Mathers 1, F. E. Stone 3, W. Burton 4, E. Stitch (conductor) 5, *C. Hughes 6, A. J. Pitman 7, J. Weathersby 8. * First quarter of Doubles and first attempt.

At St. Stephen's Church, Hampstead, on Sunday, September 5th, for evening service, 120 Grandsire Doubles: Reginald P. Hunt 1, Herbert Watson 2, S. C. Reeve-Flaxman 3, Robert W. J. Hudson 4, Edward Aylett (conductor) 5, John Carter 6. First attempt by Mr. Aylett as conductor.

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## CLARENDON SURPRISE MAJOR.

By JAMES S. WILDE.

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| 42356 | — | — | |

Twice repeated.

Reduced to 5024 by omitting 3 bobs at 6 bracketed, in any one part.

First rung at Norbury, Cheshire, August 30th, 1926.

Conducted by James Fernley, sen.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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## BELFRY GOSSIP.

Messrs. Mears and Stainbank have just put up a 12 cwt. bell at Harrow School. It was given in memory of Walter, first Viscount Long of Wraxall, by his Harrow friends. The bell is tuned on the Simpson five-tone system, and is hung in steel framework for ringing.

The Whitechapel Foundry are also refitting and rehanging the ring of eight bells (tenor 22 cwt.) at Ash-by-Sandwich, Kent.

This week we publish another new departure in 'spliced' peals, an amalgamation of Major and Triples, composed by Mr. Albert J. Pitman, of Port Talbot. It was rung at Bridgend on Wednesday, September 1st, the Bob Major portion being conducted by C. H. Perry and the Grandsire Triples portion by the composer. What will be the next?

The invasion of Devonshire starts to-morrow, September 11th, at Exeter, when upwards of 20 towers will be visited by some 18 ringers from eight counties during a week's tour.

'Dear Irenæus,' writes a correspondent, 'the famous Angelus painting depicts the "roseate hues of dawn" rather than the "shades of night were falling fast," and the Angelus or Sanctus bell is generally sent out from the founders untuned, as it does not form one of a ring of bells in the majority of instances in England, and still less often on the Continent.'

The same correspondent asks: Can any of your readers say who invented the 'pulley wheel,' that is the secret of half-pull in bell-ringing?

Miss Emily Packham was married on August 21st, at Laughton Church, Sussex, to Mr. G. Cecil Bowley. The bride and her sister had been valued members of the Seaford ringers' company. A merry peal was rung by her colleagues for a good send-off.

I would rather be a belle that's ringed than a bell that's rung;
The one transported is; the other hung.

The Crowfield Society rang a peal of 'Gathrine' Triples (assumed to be Garthon's peal of Grandsire Triples) at Coddenham, Suffolk, on September 10th, 1741.

A 5,040 Imperial Place Major, the 'first ever performed in the method,' was rung on September 13th, 1802, at St. Mary's, Islington. It was composed and conducted by Shipway.

The first peal at St. George's Church, Camberwell, was Grandsire Triples, and it was rung by the Junior Society of College Youths on September 13th, 1823.

Forty years ago next Tuesday Charles Middleton died. His peal of Cambridge Surprise Major is the only possible one with the tenors together.

The first peal by the Society of St. Martin's Youths, the forerunners of the present St. Martin's Guild, was rung on September 16th, 1755. It was a peal of Bob Major at St. Philip's, Birmingham.

No fewer than ten bands have entered for the first contest arranged by the Barnsley and District Association, which is to take place at St. Mary's Church, Barnsley, to-morrow. A handsome shield has been provided, to be held by the winning team, and members of the first and second bands will receive individual mementoes. The draw will take place at 2 p.m., and the first band has to be in the tower at 2.20.

## TENOR BELL BROKEN AT ICKLETON.

### RINGERS' OPPORTUNITY TO HELP A POOR PARISH.

On Sunday evening, August 29th, while ringing for evening service was in progress at Ickleton, Cambs, the tenor bell suddenly started to go badly. A deep thud was then heard, and the rope hung dead. After the service some of the ringers went up to find out what was wrong, and were surprised to see the tenor broken clean off near the crown, the lower part of the bell lying on the beams below the frame. One gudgeon was broken off, and there is no doubt that as the bell was swinging when the gudgeon gave way it struck the frame and was broken.

The tenor was cast by Thomas Lester, of London, in 1751, and is recorded as 13 cwt. in E. The bells were rehung in 1907.

As the village is very small, and about £60 is still to be raised for a new organ, it looks like a case of 'work and wait' in order to restore the tenor.

There is a Sunday service change-ringing band at this church, who will be much handicapped by the indefinite suspension of their work.

This is a case in which ringers and associations throughout the country might well lend a hand to assist the parish.

## CANNON BALL IN CHURCH TOWER.

While clearing the tower, in connection with the rehanging of the bells at All Saints' Church, Faringdon, Berkshire, workmen found embedded in the wall a cannon ball weighing about twenty pounds. It was in two pieces, and is believed to have been fired by Cromwell's Ironsides. The church is the only one in the neighbourhood without a spire. According to local tradition the spire was destroyed by Cromwell's artillery when Faringdon was besieged in 1646. Henry James Pye, Poet Laureate in 1790, wrote of Faringdon:

Where once the tapering spire conspicuous grew,
Till civil strife the sacred pile o'erthrew.

## NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

### 'OPEN' VERSUS 'CLOSED' LEADS.

The fifth meeting of the year was held at Barlborough, a rather remote tower, in beautiful weather, on Saturday. The bells are a fine ring of six, augmented and rehung in 1914, the good 'splice' made by Messrs. Taylor and Co. leaving nothing to be desired. Placed at the disposal of the ringers from 2 p.m., a good company of ringers assembled at that time to try their skill in various methods, arriving by motor-car, motor-cycle, buses, push bikes, and 'Shanks' pony.' A wedding at 2 o'clock and a funeral at 3.30 p.m. delayed the commencement somewhat, but at 3.50 p.m. upwards of thirty were present from Anston, Harthill, Shireoaks, Ordsall, Sutton-on-Trent, Southwell Cathedral, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Mansfield, Staveley Town, Killamarsh, Bolsover, and Worksop, with a good muster of the local company. Some of the methods were rung with open handstroke leads, others with closed leads, keen competition taking place between the competitors to obtain the best results, and making the ringing most interesting and enjoyable. Some time ago a letter appeared in 'The Ringing World' asking for the proper way to ring on six bells, whether with closed or open leads. The various opinions of ringers generally, and especially of six-bell ringers, would no doubt be heartily welcomed by all. The methods rung were: Plain Bob, Kent, Oxford, Violet, New London Pleasure, Duke of York and Killamarsh Treble Bob, also Cambridge and London Surprise, with a variety of fairly good and indifferent striking.

A meat tea was served in the Church Institute at 5.30 p.m., splendidly catered for by Mr. W. Sherman, one of the local ringers, and family, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was accorded.

In the unavoidable absence of the Rector, Rev. J. D. Griffiths (who had recently undergone an operation and is now slowly recovering), the Rev. T. Earnshaw, naval chaplain, of Plymouth, who is officiating in the Rector's absence from duty, kindly took the chair, the ringers giving him a hearty welcome.

The following new members were enrolled: Mr. Harold Pickett, of North Collingham, performing member, and Mr. Alfred Markwell, of Staveley Town, non-resident life member. It was decided to hold the November meeting at Tuxford in November with a view to testing the new bells.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. T. Earnshaw for presiding over the tea and meeting, and to the Rev. J. D. Griffiths for use of bells and Institute, the ringers requesting the hon. secretary to write a message of sympathy to the Rector, with hearty good wishes for his speedy recovery.

The Rev. T. Earnshaw briefly returned thanks, and said that a pleasure it was to hear the church bells ringing after serving a life on the sea. He looked upon ringers as the best of church workers.

The business finished, the ringers adjourned to the tower and kept the bells in motion until 9 p.m. H. H.

## LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

### WILL NEWTON NOTTAGE HAVE EIGHT BELLS?

A quarterly meeting of the above association was held at Newton Nottage, Porthcawl, on Saturday last. There was a remarkably good attendance, members coming from the extreme ends of Glamorgan and Monmouth. The bells, a light ring of six, were available early in the afternoon, and were kept going in the standard methods until 4.30, when service was held, the Rector, Rev. T. Holmes Morgan, officiating. The address, a very fine one, was immensely appreciated. The Rector remarked they had their shortcomings in Newton Nottage, inasmuch as there were only six bells at their church, but he hoped the next time the association visited Newton there would be a complete octave.

Following the service an excellent tea, which had been very kindly provided in the schoolroom, was partaken of.

The business meeting was next proceeded with, the Rector presiding, and at the outset moved a vote of condolence with the family of the late Archdeacon of Monmouth, Vicar of St. Woolos', Newport, who had died, following an operation, in St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London. He had been hon. secretary of the association for four years, and it was owing to his efforts that the ten bells for St. Woolos' were secured. He was a great friend to the ringers, and never once refused the bells when asked. The vote was carried in the usual way by all standing in silence.

Restorations and augmentations were commented on, but there was nothing tangible to report, although there undoubtedly will be at the next meeting.

Application was made for an instructor to go to Llantwit, Pandoylan and Pontypridd, and in each case it was agreed to.

Congratulations were accorded the Master, Mr. A. J. Pitman, on his composition of a spliced peal of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples, which had been successfully rung at Bridgend on the previous Wednesday.

A number of new members were elected, and the usual vote of thanks to Rector for his kindness was passed. In reply he said no thanks were due to him, but to Mr. Cooke and Mr. Talbot, the two local ringers who had done everything. Success was bound to follow wherever there were such keen and good fellows as those two.

The meeting was a huge success, and much enjoyed, and it is sincerely hoped still greater efforts will follow.

## BELLS AND WIRELESS.

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—Your leader in the current issue is, indeed, timely, and something should certainly be done, and at an early date, as you say, to co-operate with B.B.C. in securing 'only the best performances of our art for wireless listeners.' I have looked in 'The Ringing World' each week for some reply from, perhaps, Mr. Cockerill or some other College Youth, to 'Uncle Peter's Big Nephew's' letter of August 13th, re broadcasting of Bow Bells on July 31st. I happened to be, quite by accident, giving a demonstration to a prospective client that afternoon, and when I found that 'the College Youths' were to broadcast from Bow, I enlarged pretty considerably as to what we might expect, and as to what the Ancient Society of College Youths were, and had been, etc. But, oh, dear! to say that I was disgusted was to put it very mildly indeed, and I ask the same question again as was asked in the letter referred to above: Was it really the 'A.S.C.Y.' that were giving the performance? I cannot believe it. It was certainly 'one of the performances which left the lay public far from impressed with the rhythmic beauty of change-ringing,' vide your leader, and, sir, was supposed to be performed by our leading change-ringing society. May I ask, Where else on earth you would expect to get a good performance from, unless from Bow and by the College Youths? Even given the committee suggested in 'Out of Course's' letter in this week's 'Ringing World,' any list of towers drawn up by such a committee would certainly have to include Bow and 'the College Youths,' and we, even then, stand the risk of a very questionable performance, if the broadcasting on July 31st is to be credited to the A.S.C.Y. It is true, as your correspondent says, that anything but good ringing is liable either to lower the public opinion of the art of ringing, and, or, decrease the number of opportunities to broadcast. It is necessary that such bad performances should be stopped, both from a change-ringing standpoint and also from the trade or purely wireless standpoint. Every artiste who broadcasts from the various studios has to be 'top hole,' and it is up to the ringing fraternity to see that whatever is broadcast from our belfries is 'top hole,' too. We have the men who can do it, but I am inclined to think they did not get the chance on July 31st.—Yours faithfully.

ROBERT WHITTINGTON,
Electrician.

Cranleigh.

The bells of the Cathedral, Birmingham, will be broadcast by members of St. Martin's Guild on Sunday, from 8 to 8.15 p.m.

## SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY AT BOLSTERSTONE.

### THE IMPORTANCE OF GOOD STRIKING.

On Saturday last, with glorious weather prevailing, some thirty members of the Sheffield District Society climbed the hills leading to Bolsterstone, ringers hailing from Barnsley, Handsworth, Killamarsh, Norton, Rotherham Parish Church and St. Stephen's, Eastwood, Rainnoor, Sheffield Cathedral, St. Marie's, All Saints' and Ashton-under-Lyne.

Many methods were rung during the afternoon and evening, though it must be admitted that the quality of the striking was not up to the usual standard—a fault which does not altogether lie with the bells, and which tends to prove that some members would do better to study the striking of their bell rather than the number of methods they are able to 'get through.' Ringers should realise that a well-struck touch in one of the standard methods is far more pleasing to the outside public (who must be considered) than a badly performed exhibition in a Surprise method due to bad striking, and that if this incentive is gained by a learner in his early stages many of the difficulties encountered in Surprise ringing will be automatically overcome or minimised. The writer hopes that these remarks, which are tendered in the best interests of the Art, will be accepted by those concerned in a similar spirit.

The Vicar (Rev. J. H. Mason) very kindly provided a free tea and extended a most cordial welcome to the society, speaking in high praise of his own band of ringers, who, at the meeting which followed, were admitted as members along with Mr. R. Fletcher, of Eastwood, and Mr. R. W. Collier, of St. Marie's. Mr. F. Wolstencroft, of Ashton-under-Lyne, was also accepted as a non-resident life member.

The secretary reported that subscriptions for the current year had been paid in an exemplary manner, and that the peal book was entered up to December last with the exception of one peal, to which the committee were giving their attention.

The thanks of members were voted in a hearty manner to the Vicar for his hospitality, and local members for their support, for what with the Vicarage grounds being placed at their disposal, eleven new members added to the roll, and Bolsterstone becoming affiliated to the society, the meeting can certainly be said to have been happy and successful.

The next meeting will be held at Rawmarsh in December.

EAST RETFORD.—On Sunday, September 5th, for early morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 48 mins.: F. Thompson 1, F. Hind 2, G. Swanhack 3, W. H. Johnson, V.C., 4, H. Haigh (conductor) 5, P. Woodward 6, W. Norton 7, H. Blagg 8. First quarter-peal by W. Norton.

## A BIRTHDAY PEAL.

### RINGER'S MOTHER HONOURED.

Two Surprise peals rewarded certain visitors to Sussex during the past week-end. The first was Cambridge Surprise Royal, rung at Southover Parish Church, Lewes, on Saturday, and was the raison d'etre of the excursion into the county of downland and sea—not that the ringers, however, saw much of either of these. The visit to Lewes was directly concerned with a birthday celebration—the 80th birthday of Mrs. E. Goldsmith, whose connection with the church and parish has extended over more than fifty years, during part of which time she actually held the office of parish clerk. Daughter, wife, and mother of ringers, it was her encouragement which induced the Editor of this journal to take up the art of ringing, and she has always evinced the deepest interest in the happenings at Southover Church tower, sharing in the pleasures and disappointments of the ringers when success or failure attended their efforts.

Previous birthday peals had been rung in her honour, but the completion of fourscore years was felt to be an occasion specially worthy of celebration, and a band, including some well-known names, was readily found to undertake the ringing. About the peal there is nothing that calls for comment. It just began and went merrily on to a splendid finish, then, before the bells were finally set, eight volleys were fired on them, one for each decade of the long life.

Later, when the party had assembled at 'another place,' Mrs. Goldsmith's health was heartily drunk and good wishes expressed to her, and, in return, Mrs. Goldsmith thanked the ringers for the honour they had done her.

On Sunday, two good touches of Stedman Caters and one of Bob Royal were rung for morning service, with some of the local men taking part, and then the cars—both of them rather sadly overloaded—were called upon to convey the party of ten to one of the most delightful spots to be found in all the county. This was Buxted, where the spacious and ancient church of St. Margaret stands enshrined in the beautiful park belonging to the Portman family. Except for the mansion, which adjoins the church, there is hardly a house within earshot of the bells, and here, by kind permission of the Rector, a peal of Bristol Surprise Major was rung in the afternoon. The two members of the party who stood out of the peal wandered round the glorious domain, listening to the rhythmic beat of the bells, and eventually reluctantly leaving them to be enjoyed—outside the tower, at any rate—only by the deer, the cattle, and the rabbits. At least, that is what one might have imagined on driving away from this beauty spot, but it was not quite true in fact. The Rector had heard the peal and enjoyed it, and when the ringing ceased he went to the church and congratulated the ringers, and, what is more, invited them to come again whenever they liked.

In all respects the excursion was an enjoyable and successful one, and while the ringers desire to thank the respective incumbents for the use of the bells, the writer of these lines would especially like to thank the other members of the band who enabled a very cherished desire to be accomplished—a peal on his mother's 80th birthday!

Southover Church, by the way, has been a happy hunting ground for peal-ringers. The earliest peal of which there is any record in the tower was one rung in 1869, in which the father and grandfather of the Editor of 'The Ringing World' took part, but, in addition, exactly one hundred peals by the Sussex County Association, down to the year 1910, are recorded in the belfry. And a great many have been rung there since. The tower contains the only peal of ten bells in Sussex, outside Brighton.

## WELSH RINGERS' LOSS.

The Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association have lost a great friend by the death of the Vicar of St. Woolos', Rev. D. H. Griffiths, Archdeacon of Monmouth, who was buried on Monday week. The bells of both churches (St. Woolos' and All Saints') were rung half-muffled for all services on Sunday and again on Monday, and also in a great many churches throughout the county. A peal was rung at Bridgend, recorded in the usual place. The deceased Archdeacon left Newport apparently in the best of health, motored to London, and on arrival complained of pains. He was taken at once to Hospital and operated on, but never recovered.

Archdeacon Griffiths was secretary of the association for four years, and it was mainly due to his efforts that the bells at St. Woolos' were augmented to ten.

## MASONIC BELLS.

### RESTORATION OF PENWORTHAM'S RING.

The masonic opening of the restored bells at Penwortham, Lancs, on Saturday, will be an event unique in ringing annals. The bells have been renovated and rehung at the expense of Freemasons, and the dedication service is to be attended by the West Lancashire Provincial Grand Master and his officers.

The cracked 3rd in the old six has been recast, and two trebles have been added to make a ring of eight. The old bells have been cleaned by sandblast and tuned.

The eight bells have been hung with cast-iron headstocks and ball bearings. The bell frame has been re-arranged and additions made to accommodate the eight bells on one level.

Messrs. Mears and Stainbank have carried out the work.

## OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

### NEWBURY BRANCH.

A quarterly meeting of the Newbury Branch was held at Chieveley on Saturday, September 4th, when 38 ringers attended from Beedon, Brightwalton, Bucklebury, East Ilsley, Peasemore, Shaw, Newbury, Thatcham, Abingdon, with the local band, Mr. R. T. Hibbert (general secretary) also being present. The service was conducted by the Rev. G. O. Cheese, who also gave an excellent address, the Rector being away on holiday. Tea was served in the Vicarage barn.

At the business meeting, Mr. R. T. Hibbert presided in the absence of the Rev. L. R. Majendie (chairman of the branch).

The annual meeting was fixed for November 13th, at Newbury. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. G. O. Cheese, to the organist, and to Mr. E. E. Prisnall for providing the tea.

Some good touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Cambridge Minor were rung during the afternoon and evening. Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Lock and Mr. Cauldwell were present from Abingdon.

## PONTEFRACT'S OLDEST RINGER.

### DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM PEARSON.

It is with great regret we have to record the death of Pontefract's oldest ringer, Mr. William Pearson, who passed away on Wednesday evening, August 25th, at the age of 68 years. Though he had been in failing health for some time, the end came quickly. His last visit to the belfry was on Sunday evening, August 1st, when he took part in a touch of Stedman Caters. The following week he consulted a specialist, who gave no hope of a cure. He gradually became weaker, and died most peacefully at his residence, Campsall House, Pontefract.

Mr. Pearson, who was a plumber, had a long and honourable record as a tradesman. He was head of the firm of W. Pearson and Sons, and had built up an extensive business.

The funeral took place in Pontefract Cemetery on Saturday, August 28th, and was attended by a large number of fellow tradesmen, the ringers from the Parish Church and All Saints' Church, also representatives of the Yorkshire Association from Bradford, Doncaster, Barnsley, Selby, Leeds, Pudsey and Dewsbury. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave by H. Walters and J. H. Lanton (Pontefract), J. Cotterell (Bradford), and G. Halksworth (Doncaster).

Mr. Pearson's ringing career commenced at Campsall. He then went for a short time to Wetherby, eventually settling down in Pontefract, where he soon made his presence felt. He had rung several peals before joining the Yorkshire Association in 1880.

For many years he was a member of the General Committee and was a well-known personality at the association meetings. He was a man of retiring disposition, but when consulted always spoke with great authority and to the point.

For the association he had rung 72 peals, many of which he had conducted, but his record cannot be judged by his number of peals. He had devoted a great portion of his life in teaching the art to others, and many are the peals he had arranged, but to which, with his unselfish nature, he listened instead of taking part. He had a most wonderful ear and could jot down the changes as they came up. It was always very interesting after a jumble to find William Pearson at the church door with paper and figures to greet you. There could be no disputing him, and he could tell where the trouble commenced. Had he set out for an individual record, he had all the necessary gifts to place himself on a high pedestal, but as long as he was helping others to progress he was satisfied.

It was mainly through Mr. Pearson's perseverance and tact that the Pontefract Parish Church bells were re-cast and augmented to ten, as a war memorial in 1919.

Great was his interest in all church bell restoration. When his strength was failing fast he talked of York Minster bells. No matter how ill he was, even if he had to be pushed up the steps he wanted to be there when they were dedicated, such was his spirit to the last.

He was a very keen churchman, and for many years was a sidesman and a member of the Parochial Council.

He has left a wife, four sons and three daughters, but only one son has taken up his father's hobby, and is instructor at All Saints' Church, where his father has turned out so many good ringers.

## SHIPWAY'S FALLACIES

By GEORGE BAKER.

Shipway during the time he lived was far in advance of the writers who had gone before, and also of his contemporaries, but he certainly was not the infallible man that some present-day writers would have us believe; and he has handed down to us in his Campanalogia a whole host of fallacies, the greatest of which is the false notion that a construction with two hunts is, or can be, an extension of a construction with one hunt.

What brain-wave started the idea in Shipway's head is past comprehension. Shipway knew perfectly well that Grandsire and Plain Bob are two distinct methods, and he gives them as such from Singles to Maximus with one exception—i.e., he gives the bob lead of Grandsire Singles instead of the plain lead.

With the knowledge he possessed, why it never occurred to Shipway that two-hunt constructions can be obtained on all numbers to infinity, as well as one-hunt constructions, is a mystery. Anyway, Shipway believed in this particular fallacy and stated it as a fact, and nearly every writer since has accepted this false doctrine.

That it is false can easily be proved by extending Double Court Bob Minor as a Single construction to Triples, Major and Caters, and then showing a similar two-hunt construction for comparison.

One-hunt Construction.

| Minor. | Triples. | Major. | Caters. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 123456 | 1234567 | 12345678 | 123456789 |
| 214365 | 2143657 | 21436587 | 214365879 |
| 241356 | 2413567 | 24135678 | 241356789 |
| 423165 | 4231657 | 42316587 | 423165879 |
| 243615 | 2436175 | 24361857 | 243618597 |
| 426351 | 4263715 | 42638175 | 426381957 |
| | 4627351 | 46283715 | 462839175 |
| 462531 | | 64827351 | 648293715 |
| Lead-head | 6472531 | | 684927351 |
| 156342 | Lead-head | 68472531 | |
| | 1573624 | Lead-head | 869472531 |
| | | 15738264 | Lead-head |
| | | | 157392846 |

It is quite true that the above Triples and Caters are only touches, but no one can deny that they are the same construction, and when proved by reciprocal proof, the Minor, Triples, Major and Caters each have only one false row to the lead—i.e., the lead-end.

Two-hunt Construction.

| Minor. | Triples. | Major. | Caters. |
|---|---|---|---|
| 123456 | 1234567 | 12345678 | 123456789 |
| 214365 | 2143657 | 21436587 | 214365879 |
| 241635 | 2416375 | 24163857 | 241638597 |
| 426135 | 4261357 | 42613587 | 426135879 |
| 462315 | 4623175 | 46231857 | 462318597 |
| 643251 | 6432715 | 64328175 | 643281957 |
| | 4637251 | 46382715 | 463829175 |
| 463521 | | 64837251 | 648392715 |
| Lead-head | 6473521 | | 684937251 |
| 126543 | Lead-head | 68473521 | |
| | 1275634 | Lead-head | 869473521 |
| | | 12758364 | Lead-head |
| | | | 127593846 |

In the one-hunt construction the Minor is the only double method. In the two-hunt construction the Triples is the only double method, and is known as Double Court Bob Triples. Shipway and the science men of to-day tell us that Double Court Bob Triples is Double Court Bob Minor with a bell in the hunt. If they, the science men, still think so after reading this article, perhaps they will kindly tell the Exercise what the one-hunt Triples is on the one hand, and what the two-hunt Minor is on the other hand.

To help them come to a decision, the following is the result of proving the two-hunt constructions by reciprocal proof:

In the Minor there are seven false rows to every lead; in the Triples, Major and Caters there are nine false rows to every lead.

In a recent article I should have qualified what I wrote about the impossibility of comparing round block progressions of Single and Double methods by stating that I was referring to Treble Bob hunt methods. It will be seen by the foregoing there is no such difficulty when methods have one or two plain hunts.

(To be continued.)

## DEATH OF LITTLE HORKESLEY'S ONLY CHANGE-RINGER

We regret to record the death of Mr. Arthur Worth, of Little Horkesley, who died on August 26th, in Saffron Walden Hospital. He had been under treatment for over six months for tuberculosis of the spine.

Deceased was a member of the Essex Association, and had started a young band at Little Horkesley Church before going into the hospital. He was the only change-ringer in the parish.

He was laid to rest on Tuesday, August 31st, at the Parish Church, and the bells were rung half-muffled after the interment.

## YORK MINSTER BELLS.

IMPRESSIVE DEDICATION SERVICE.

A congregation which overfilled the noble Minster, and is said to have numbered thousands, attended the rededication of bells at York on Sunday week. The service was a continuation of evensong, and those present included many public men from various parts of the three Ridings. Representative citizens, including the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress (Councillor and Mrs. W. Wright), were, of course, present in large numbers, and as the service of dedication was broadcast it can be assumed that the bells were heard in many parts of the country. The service was most inspiring, the music being beautifully sung.

The clergy present were the Dean of York (Dr. Lionel Ford), the Rev. Chancellor Austen, Canon Nolloth (late Vicar of Beverley Minster, who has been largely responsible for the work that has been carried out), the Rev. H. T. S. Gedge (sub-chanter), and the Rev. Harold Spence (vicar-choral and chamberlain).

After the anthem (Holst's 'Lord, Who hast made us for Thine own'), the clergy, who in the meantime had assumed processional vestments, together with the choir, walked in procession singing down the centre aisle, headed by the processional cross, to the open space immediately under the south-west bell tower. It was here that two bell-ropes hung down from the bell-chamber.

Originally it was arranged that the Dean, accompanied by the other clergy, should ascend to the bell-chamber and there greet the bell-ringers, who had already taken their places, together with the representatives of the bell-founders, but the bell tower was not ascended by them, and the exhortation that 'their going out and their coming in' would be preserved, and that they would be strengthened to perform the service to which they had been called, was made from below.

Chancellor Austen requested the Dean to rededicate the bells, which Dr. Ford did 'in the faith of Jesus Christ and to the glory of God.' The Dean then beseeched God to accept the offering at their hands, and prayed that the bells might be blessed, sanctified, and hallowed, 'that they may call together Thy faithful people to praise and worship Thy Holy Name.' A prayer followed 'that they who shall ring these bells may be filled with reverence and Godly fear and may be counted worthy to stand with those who praise Thee in the heavenly Jerusalem.'

Canon Nolloth, on behalf of those responsible for the renovation of the bells, delivered them into the keeping of the Dean by placing the two suspended bell-ropes in the hands of the Dean.

Dr. Ford, accepting them, said: 'I receive these bells, that have been solemnly set apart from all profane and unhallowed uses, as a sacred trust committed to the Dean and Chapter of this cathedral church, and do promise and profess that we will give our utmost care that they be ever and only used in God's service and for His glory.'

While the clergy and choir stood for a few moments at the west end the bells rang a short peal, and their great beauty of tone impressed and pleased everyone.

The clergy and choir returned to their places in the nave again in processional order, and prayer was offered that whosoever be called by the sound of the bells to the house of prayer might enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise.

During the singing of the last hymn, 'O worship the King,' a collection was taken, to be devoted towards the cost of recasting and rehanging 'Great Peter,' the Minster 10-ton bell. The cost of that work is estimated at £1,525, and towards that amount £770 has been given or promised.

The service concluded with the Blessing, pronounced by the Dean, and the clergy and the choir proceeded to the south choir aisle by way of the choir.

The new bells were rung for a lengthy period after service, crowds of people gathering to hear them.

## WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A quarterly meeting of the Winchester district was held at Hursley on Saturday, August 28th, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. L. R. Husband). The bells were kept going during the afternoon and evening to Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Triples, Double Norwich and London Surprise Major. Tea and meeting were held in the Club Room, the Master, Mr. G. Williams, presiding, in the absence of the Vicar. He was supported by the general secretary, Mr. G. Pullinger, and Mr. F. W. Rogers, district secretary, Portsmouth.

The election of Mr. R. Clark, Bristol, as a compounding member, was confirmed.

The Master announced that he had received a postcard from the Rev. C. E. Matthews, vice-president of the Guild, stating that he had left the Lyndhurst Cottage Hospital and was now at his home at Milford-on-Sea, steadily improving.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells and to the ladies for their kind attention at tea.

Those present were from Twyford, North Stoneham, Southampton, Stockbridge, Portsmouth, Winchester and Hursley.

The annual meeting of the district will be held at Southampton on Saturday, November 6th, notice of which will be given in 'The Ringing World.'

## RINGERS' OUTINGS.

### A VISIT TO 'THE DALE.'

Members of St. Peter's, Wolverhampton, and friends from Tettenhall, Brewood, Bradley, Coseley and Bloxwich spent the afternoon of Saturday, September 4th, in a trip by motor charabanc to Coalbrookdale. The journey was made via Bridgnorth and Much Wenlock. At the latter town a stop was made to view the ancient ruins of the abbey associated with this old and probably smallest borough in the country. Again boarding the charabanc, tracks were made for 'the Dale' and Holy Trinity Church, where the genial tower-keeper, Mr. William Saunders was waiting with a hearty welcome. Soon the bells were up and going merrily to touches of Grandsire Caters and Stedman Triples. After tea, advantage was again taken of some more ringing, and touches of Stedman Caters, Bob Royal and Minor were successfully brought round. The Bob Minor was first rung on the front six and then on the back six in order to hear what a lovely little ring of six either would make. Great pleasure was expressed at the 'go' and tone of the bells recently rehung and augmented by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and the ringers desire to record their sincere thanks to the incumbent (Rev. Preb. C. B. Crowe, M.A., R.D.) for allowing the use of the bells and for the personal welcome he gave them, and also wish to thank Mr. Saunders for all he did towards making the outing such a pleasurable afternoon's enjoyment.

### HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On August 14th, the members of the Hertford College Youths held a most enjoyable outing in Hertfordshire. Leaving Hertford at 9 a.m. by charabanc, they journeyed to Bishop's Stortford, where they were privileged to ring on the fine peal of 10 bells of the Parish Church for upwards of an hour. Some excellent ringing was accomplished. Leaving Bishop's Stortford at 11.15, the party proceeded to Royston, where the handy peal of eight had been placed at their disposal. These bells go perfectly, and some excellent touches of Stedman and Treble Bob were got home. Lunch was partaken of at The Cross at Royston and thoroughly enjoyed, after which a beautiful cross-country journey of practically 30 miles, via Baldock, Hitchin and Luton, terminated at Harpenden at 3.45. Here the party were met by Mr. B. Jarman, the president of the Herts County Association, and a visit was paid to the Parish Church, where some very enjoyable ringing was indulged in on the peal of eight. At five o'clock the party sat down to an excellent tea at the Trust House at Harpenden, and were joined by Alderman A. P. Ginn, Mayor of Hertford, who is president and Master of the society, and who was accompanied by Mrs. Ginn. After tea Mr. H. J. Gray, the hon. secretary of the society, who was responsible for all the arrangements, expressed, on behalf of the ringers, their pleasure in the presence of the Master of the society and also Mrs. Ginn, and the president of the Herts Society. He also expressed his thanks to the clergy of the various churches where they had been privileged to ring, and to the Dean of St. Albans for the permission which had been granted to the party to visit the belfry at St. Albans Cathedral.

At 6.15 the ringers left for St. Albans, where they were met by several of the members of the Cathedral band. The visit was unique to a number of the Hertford ringers, and they were delighted with the opportunity afforded of looking over the Cathedral and ringing on the grand peal of eight. Here, in spite of the decidedly difficult conditions for which the Cathedral belfry is notorious, some excellent touches of Stedman and Treble Bob were accomplished, and the party eventually took leave of their St. Albans friends to return to Hertford at 8.15, arriving home at 9 o'clock, unanimous that the day was the most enjoyable they had spent.

## ABSON BELLS.

### TO-MORROW'S DEDICATION.

The official opening of Abson bells will be held on Saturday, September 11th, at 3 p.m. by the Ven. Archdeacon of Bristol.

The bells, which have not been rung since June 5th, 1911, have just been sandblasted and rehung in a steel and iron frame, the work having been carried out by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon, to the entire satisfaction of all concerned. All ringers will be most welcome at the dedication, and arrangements will be made for all ringers to have a pull.

Bristol tramway buses leave Carey Lane, Bristol, at 1 p.m., and every hour until 9 p.m., to Pucklechurch, which is 15 minutes' walk from Abson.

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## NOTICES.

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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.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on September 16th, 30th; St. Mary's, Beddington, on the 11th, at 3 p.m.; Southwark Cathedral on the 14th; *St. Mary-le-Bow on the 21st; all at 7.30 p.m., except Beddington. *Business meeting afterwards. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

DEVON GUILD.—North-East Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Washfield on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 (1s. each). — M. Hanson, 2, The Avenue, Tiverton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Thurlaston on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Bells available from 4 p.m. All ringers welcome.—W. Cope, Wigston Parva, Hinckley.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Guildford District.—A district meeting will be held at Old Woking on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Short service at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. All ringers welcome.—E. Raddon, Hon. Dis. Sec., Hillcrest, Baillie Road, Guildford.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755). — Next meeting Solihull, Saturday, Sept. 11th. Bells (10) available from 3.30.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 'Donnor,' Wellington Road, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Hunts District will be held at Huntingdon on Sept. 11th. Bells: St. Mary's, Huntingdon (8), and Godmanchester (8). Service at St. Mary's Church at 4.30. Tea at Plumb's Refreshment Rooms at 5, followed by business meeting. All ringers welcome.—Rev. H. B. Woolley, Long Stanton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The restored and augmented peal of 8 bells at Penwortham Church will be dedicated at a Masonic Service on Saturday, Sept. 11th, at 3 p.m. The West Lancashire Prov. Grand Master and his officers will be present. The bells will be open to ringers after service, about 5 p.m.—J. R. Taylor, Cop Lane, Penwortham.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Biggleswade on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Bells (8) ready at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. A good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, Dis. Sec., 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — Members please note the time for draw is 2 p.m. First band to enter the contest at 2.20, Saturday, Sept. 11th. As there are ten bands entered, the greatest economy of time is required. All other particulars as stated before.—C. D. Potter, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Loughborough District.—The next meeting of the district will be held at Loughborough on Saturday, September 11th. The bells of the Parish Church and the Bell Foundry will be available from 3 o'clock, also Stamford-on-Soar (8 bells). The Bell Foundry Works will also be open from 2 till 4 p.m. to enable visiting ringers to look round. Tea is being arranged at 5 o'clock at a moderate charge. Business meeting afterwards.—J. Saddington, Hon. Dis. Sec., Rose Dene Bungalow, Swing Bridge Road, Loughborough.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Staines, on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Bells available at 3.15 and St. Mary's after tea. A hearty welcome to all.—W. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec, 29, Duke Road, W. 4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Heywood on Saturday, September 11th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—William Horan, Branch Secretary, 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting of the association will be held at Selby on Saturday, Sept. 11th. Bells (10) available from 2 p.m. Tea will be provided at a charge of 1s. 9d. per head. Members are reminded that all subscriptions should be paid without delay, as the financial year end is Sept. 30th.—P. J. Johnson, Hon. Gen. Sec., 396, Meanwood Road, Leeds.

LITTLEHAM PARISH CHURCH, EXMOUTH. — The dedication of two additional trebles and the reopening of the six other bells will take place on Saturday, Sept. 11th, at 3 o'clock. Preacher: The Rev. G. F. Coleridge, Hon. Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, and President of the Central Council of Church Bellringers. Collection for the Bell Fund.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Hilperton on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. Service 4.40. Tea 5. Short business meeting follows tea.—F. Green, Branch Hon. Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Smarden on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea will be arranged. — C. W. Franklin, Hon. Sec., 18, Kingsnorth Road, Ashford.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—The third quarterly meeting will be held at Kibworth on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Bells (8) available from 3.30 p.m. A good attendance is hoped for.—Alban Disney, Local Hon. Sec., Belgrave Vicarage, Leicester.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Bigby on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Service 4.30. Tea, at moderate charge, 5 p.m., for those who notify Rev. H. T. Parry, Bigby Rectory, Barnetby, not later than Wednesday, Sept. 15th. Collection for Cathedral Bell Fund. Bells (6) available. — F. S. W. Butler, Hon. Sec., 6, Spital Terrace, Gainsborough.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Swindon Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Swindon on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Christ Church (10), St. Mark's (6) will be available from 3 p.m. Tea provided for those who notify me by Thursday, Sept. 16th.—S. Hopper, Hon. Sec., 79, Edinburgh Street, Gorse Hill, Swindon.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Peterborough Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Whittlesea on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Usual arrangements.—W. H. Waldron, Hon. Sec., 137, Scotney Street, Peterborough.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Northern District. — A meeting will be held at Great Yeldham on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Service at 4.15, tea after. The bells will be open during the afternoon and evening for ringing. All ringers cordially invited. Will those intending to be present please notify me not later than Sept. 16th, in order that proper provision may be made?—W. H. Dyson, Dis. Sec., High Street, Braintree.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at East Coker on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Visitors requiring tea should give early notice to the secretary.—F. Farrant, Martock, Somerset.

LADIES' GUILD. — Western District. — The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Clevedon, on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Will those desiring tea kindly let me know by Sept. 15th?—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Carlton-in-Cleveland on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Bells (8, tenor 15 cwt.) are available for ringing all day. Tea will be provided at the Fox and Hounds Inn at 5 p.m. Members 1s., non-members 1s. 3d. Those intending to be at tea please notify the secretary not later than Wednesday, Sept. 15th.—T. Metcalfe, Hon. Sec., 26, High Street, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Piddington on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Bells (5) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 o'clock. Will all those who require tea please notify me not later than Tuesday, Sept. 14th?—T. Tebbutt, 53, Louise Road, Northampton.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Southern District will be held at Shildon on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Members requiring tea, at 1s. 6d. each, please notify me not later than Sept. 15th.—J. Titt, 71, Surtees Street, Darlington.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Flixton on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Bells ready 3.30. Meeting 7 o'clock. A good attendance is requested.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A ringing meeting will be held at St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney, on Thursday, Sept. 16th. Bells available from 7 to 9 p.m. All ringers welcome. — C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD. — Quarterly meeting will be held at Pensnett (half-way between Dudley and Kingswinford) on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Bells (8) available from 3. Service in church, with an address by the Rev. N. Edwards (Vicar). Tea (1s.) at 5.30, for those who send word by Tuesday, the 14th inst. Reports ready for distribution.—H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Withycombe Raleigh, Exmouth, on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Service at 4.30. Tea, price 1s., at 5.—T. J. Stokes, Hon. Sec., 35, Okehampton Road, Exeter.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The annual Commemoration Dinner will this year take place at the King's Head Hotel, Change Alley, Sheffield, on Saturday, September 18th, at 6 p.m., when the chair will be taken by the Ven. John Russell Darbyshire, M.A., Archdeacon and Vicar of Sheffield, supported by officers of the Association. Ringing at the Cathedral (12) and St. Marie's R.C. (8) from 2.30 to 5.30. Applications for dinner tickets (price 5/6 each) must be made to the undersigned not later than Tuesday, September 14th.—Sidney F. Palmer, 87, Bradley Street, Crookes, Sheffield.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—A meeting of the branch will be held at Wolverley on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30. Tea will be provided for all those who notify me not later than Sept. 12th.—A. J. Skelding, Branch Sec., 7, Cecil Street, Stourbridge.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A business meeting will be held on Saturday, Sept. 18th, at St. Mary's, Lewisham. Tower open from 4 to 8 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m. Will those coming to tea please let me know before the 15th? Ringers and friends welcomed.—C. F. Mitchell, Hon. Sec., 4, Phene Street, Chelsea.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Rayleigh (8 bells) on Saturday, Sept. 18th. Bells from 3 p.m. Short service at 4.30. Tea to follow. Will all those intending to be present and requiring tea kindly advise me as soon as possible, as exact number has to be given? — E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath.

ALL SAINTS', HIGH WYCOMBE.—Bells (12) available on Saturday, September 18th, from 2.30—6. All ringers welcome. Practices, Mondays, 7.15—9 (1st Monday in month "Open").

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Western District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Apsley End, on Saturday, September 18th, 1926. Bells available afternoon and evening. Short service at 4.45 p.m. Tea can be arranged for those who notify me early.—W. Ayre, School House, Leverstock Green.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Oxford and District Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Aldate's Church on Thursday, Sept. 23rd. Ringing from 6.30. Service at 8, followed by business meeting.—W. Collett, Hon. Sec., 13, Latimer Road, Headington, Oxford.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—A quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Greasley on Saturday, Sept. 25th. Tower open 2.30. Tea 5 p.m. A good attendance is desired. Will those requiring tea please advise Mr. J. E. Hobbs, Watnall, Notts, by Thursday, Sept. 23rd? All ringers welcome. — F. Blood, Hon. Local Sec., 91, Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Central District. — The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Epsom, on Saturday, Sept. 25th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service 5. Tea and meeting to follow. Those requiring tea please inform Mr. J. Crawford, 2, Woodcote Side, Epsom, not later than Wednesday, Sept. 22nd.—A. J. Trappitt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Mellows Road, Wallington.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Church Stretton on Saturday, Sept. 25th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Members requiring tea must notify Rev. F. Tennison, St. Alkmund's Vicarage, Shrewsbury, not later than Tuesday, 21st inst. —E. V. Rodenhurst, Assistant Hon. Sec., Hodnet, Salop.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Holy Trinity, Bolton, on Saturday, Sept. 25th. Further particulars by circular.—W. H. Shuker and A. Tomlinson, Hon. Secs.

LADIES' GUILD.—Southern District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Cranleigh on Saturday, Sept. 25th. Bells (8) available at 3. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. All welcome. Those requiring tea please notify me by Wednesday, the 22nd inst.—Hilda F. Mills, 125, St. Michael's Road, Aldershot.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Langham on Saturday, Sept. 25th. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5.15 p.m. Please notify secretary not later than Tuesday, Sept. 21st, all intending to come to tea.—R. W. Stannard, Hon. Sec., 12, Ireton Road, Colchester.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Silchester on Saturday, Sept. 25th. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at 4.30. 6d. per head will be allowed towards the cost of tea to all members informing me not later than the 18th inst.—Charles D. P. Davies, Hon. Dis. Sec., Deane Rectory, Basingstoke.

NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. —A meeting of the association will be held at Uttoxeter on Saturday, Sept. 25th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Committee meeting 6 p.m. Notices of attendance should be sent not later than Sept. 20th to Mr. R. G. Lewis, 36, Heath Cross, Uttoxeter.—A. Vaughan, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Guiseley on Saturday, Sept. 25th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Tea will be provided, at a charge of 1s. 3d. per head, to those who send in their names to Mr. F. W. Dixon, 1, Greenshaw Terrace, Guiseley, not later than Tuesday, Sept. 21st.—F. Hutchinson, Dis. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The next general quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, Oct. 9th, at Beeston, Notts. This is Goose Fair Saturday, and cheap trips will be running to Nottingham, from whence buses run every few minutes. Bells (8) open from 2 to 8 p.m. Committee meeting 4 o'clock. Tea at 4.45, followed by general meeting, all in School Room. Owing to difficulty in catering it is quite essential that those intending to be present at tea (1s. 10d. per head) advise Mr. W. Clifford, jun., 25, Enfield Street, Beeston, not later than Oct. 7th.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

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## SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

**We regret that, owing to the demands upon the space available for Sunday Service Touches, we are unable to undertake to insert anything less than a quarter-peal on eight bells and upwards, and 720 of Doubles or Minor. Many correspondents send us quite short touches for publication and they must not be disappointed if we are unable to find room for them.**

PORTSMOUTH.—On Sunday, September 5th, at St. Mary's Church, 1,260 Stedman Triples in 48 mins.: J. Harris 1, C. H. Exon (Dorchester) 2, H. Jenning (Ryde) 3, J. Paterson (first quarter in the method) 4, J. Topp 5, H. Kilby (Willesden) 6, R. J. Stone (first as conductor) 7, A. Greenwood 8.

FARNHAM, SURREY.—On Sunday, September 5th, at St. Andrew's Church, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 48 mins.: H. Kemp 1, J. Read 2, G. Upshall 3, S. Meadows 4, E. Clapshaw 5, T. Upshall 6, R. Hasted (conductor) 7, A. E. King 8.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—On Sunday, September 5th, for morning service, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: F. Ballard 1, A. Richardson 2, W. Latter 3, W. Collison 4, V. Jarrett 5, D. Findley 6, H. Markwell 7, S. H. Green 8.—For evening service, 7 courses of Stedman Triples: S. H. Green 1, H. Markwell 2, B. Collison 3, F. Ballard 4, W. Collison 5, V. Jarrett 6, W. Latter 7, E. Mays 8.—Also three courses Bob Major.

LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.—On August 8th, for morning service, 720 Cambridge Surprise; for evening service, 720 New London Pleasure. —On August 16th, for morning service, 720 Woodbine; for evening service, 720 Oxford Bob. Conductors: G. H. Carter, S. Carter, A. Woolston, and W. H. Lawrence, others taking part being S. Head, W. Williams, A. Phillips, W. S. Lawrence, and B. Patmore.—On August 22nd, for morning service, 720 New London Pleasure; for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, August 1st, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes) in 47 mins.: S. Cartwright (first quarter-peal in the method) 1, A. Greenfield 2, R. Round 3, A. Round 4, H. Fletcher 5, W. Prestidge 6, H. Hubball 7, A. Prestidge (conductor) 8. Specially arranged and rung as a compliment to Mr. Albert Prestidge, who completed twenty-six years as a Sunday service ringer on the above date. The ringer of the fifth hails from Derby.


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