THE RINGING WORLD

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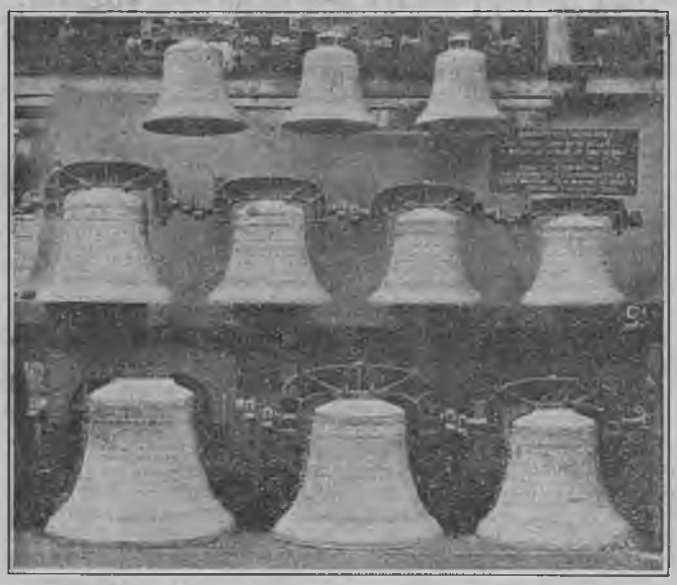

The Recast Ring of 10 (Tenor 28 cwt.) for MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL, Nov., 1925

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CAN EXPERTS FIND THE TRUTH?

Our article last week, suggesting that a committee of experts might consider the question of method extension and lay down the tests which shall be applied in future for deciding the validity of claims, has brought from the Rev. H. Law James the rejoinder that such a committee would be impossible, because what is wanted is truth, and a committee could only offer a compromise. Here, however, we must join issue with the Master of the Lincoln Guild. If there is truth to be found, why cannot a committee of experts find it? If the protagonists of any one view cannot trust a judicial body to investigate their claims, for fear it may be said that truth does not lie in that direction, we can understand there may be objection to submitting arguments to an impartial tribunal, but where men are certain of their ground there ought to be no hesitation in accepting the decision of a committee who could get down to the fundamental facts. There is no need for compromise in a thing like this, any more than there was when the committee set out to define 'legitimate' methods, and, if 'truth' exists, let us have it defined.

In certain directions, however, many practical ringers have serious doubts whether any of the disputants are strictly right, and there is much in the contention that in regard to some methods, at all events, true extensions are not possible. A great deal of light will be thrown upon the matter, we think, by the remarks which will be found in 'Notes by the Way' in this and subsequent issues, and when the ordinary reader has perused these notes he may be able to place his own value upon the discussions to which the Exercise is from time to time treated. Mr. Trollope is here dealing with method extension from a detached point of view, and reviews all the factors that have a bearing on this involved problem. It is an explanation which will elucidate for the uninitiated some of the knotty points which need to be unravelled if a complete understanding of the subject is to be gained.

But the more the experts oppose an investigation of the question, the more will the average ringer be inclined to the belief that the 'authorities' are by no means sure of their ground. After all, the Exercise, as we pointed out last week, although not particularly interested in the arguments, which many cannot follow, is at least entitled to know where we stand in these matters, and to be told, if that be the truth, that there is no correct solution to these problems. Surely there is enough knowledge in the Exercise to settle a matter of this kind, or to tell us that it is incapable of settlement; to say, for instance, whether the Baker view or the James view of the ex-

(Continued on page 770.)

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tension of Superlative is right, or whether both are wrong. It is of no use to say that the matter is of no importance to the Exercise. Before anyone thought of ringing Superlative Maximus it may have been unimportant, but now that a method which purports to be an extension of the Major is actually being practised, this question becomes one of definite importance. And as time goes on other bands will want to practise extensions of other methods; why not, therefore, endeavour to clear the ground and tell us, at least, what tests must be satisfied in method extension?

TEN BELL PEALS.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

FREDERICK G. LEAKER	*Treble*	WILLIAM A. CAVE	6
REGINALD G. GILBERT	2	DONALD BARNARD	7
MRS. R. J. WILKINS	3	THOMAS F. KING	8
HENRY PRING	4	ALFRED E. REEVES	9
RICHARD CLARK	5	URIAH BRAVEN	*Tenor*

Composed by the REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by W. A. CAVE

BLACKBURN.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

ALFRED BARNES (Auditor)	*Treble*
RENNIE HARTLEY (Committee, Blackburn)	2
ROBERT WALLWORK (Committee, Rossendale)	3
GEORGE R. NEWTON (Committee, Liverpool)	4
REV. CANON ELSEE (President)	5
SAMUEL GREENHALGH (Auditor)	6
WILLIAM ROBINSON (Committee, Furness)	7
WILLIAM H. SHUKER (General Secretary)	8
THOMAS B. WORSLEY (Committee, Bolton)	9
HARRY CHAPMAN (Committee, Manchester)	*Tenor*

Composed by S. WOOD. Conducted by G. R. NEWTON.

Arranged as a jubilee peal for the association by the committee.

NEWPORT, MON.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE PRO-CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. WOOLOS.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb. in D.

GEORGE POPNELL	*Treble*	FRANK CRABB	6
*SIDNEY RACKHAM	2	CHARLES GREEDY	7
FRED ATTWELL	3	JOHN HAMMOND	8
*WILFRED WILLIAMS	4	WILLIAM PHILLIPS	9
JOHN BULLEN	5	KENNETH KNOWLES	*Tenor*

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by CHARLES GREEDY.

* First peal of Caters. Rung as a welcome to the new Vicar, also as a birthday compliment to J. W. Jones.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5031 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt. 12 lb.

ARTHUR DEAN	*Treble*	JOHN HOYLE	5
ALFRED H. WINCH	2	FRANK BENNETT	7
EDWARD A. ETHERIDGE	3	CHARLES HAZELDEN	8
GEORGE MARRINER	4	ALBERT HARMAN	9
GEORGE F. HOAD	5	ARTHUR OTWAY	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BOTTESFORD, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART. Tenor 27 cwt.

*CECIL H. JALLANDS	*Treble*	WILLIAM G. THORPE	5
MARK BEND	2	ARTHUR W. WARD	6
HARRY THORPE	3	SIDNEY PROCTOR	7
F. CLARENCE BRIGGS	4	THOMAS H. HALL	*Tenor*

Conducted by SIDNEY PROCTOR.

* First peal, and made a life member of the Guild before starting. Specially rung as a compliment to Mr. Mark Bend on attaining his 70th birthday. He has been a ringer at the church 45 years, and generously entertained the band at the conclusion of the peal.

DUNMOW, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb. in E.

FRANK CLAYDON	*Treble*	WILLIAM KEEBLE	5
GEORGE WIFFEN	2	*DR. SPENCER PHILLIPS	6
THOMAS LINCOLN	3	JOHN WOOD	7
WILLIAM J. NEVARD	4	†WALTER SMITH	*Tenor*

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE

* First peal of Major. † First peal in the method. First peal on the bells since they were increased from six to eight. The band were kindly entertained by Mr. and Mrs. A. Smith at the conclusion of the peal, and desire to tender their best thanks. The band represented the following towers: Earls Colne, Braintree, Writtle, Great Bentley, Feering, Gt. Baddow, Chelmsford and Dunmow.

ST. AUSTELL, CORNWALL.
THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 18¾ cwt.

WALTER H. MARSH	*Treble*	WILLIAM J. RUNDLE	5
ERNEST W. MARSH	2	WARREN S. HORNBROOK	6
HARRY TIPPETT	3	WILLIAM G. HISCOTT	7
ALFRED T. WESTCOTT	4	WILLIAM RICHARDS	*Tenor*

Conducted by ERNEST W. MARSH.

The ringers of the 3rd and 4th were elected members previous to starting. The band wish to thank the Vicar for the cordial reception he gave them, and the local ringers for having everything ready.

PENSNETT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

WILLIAM FISHER	*Treble*	JOHN PERRY	5
ROBERT PICKERING	2	EDWARD F. MITCHELL	6
HERBERT KNIGHT	3	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER	7
JOHN C. ADAMS	4	*SOLOMON PARKES	*Tenor*

Conducted by HERBERT KNIGHT.

* First attempt for a peal, and obliged by ringing the tenor at a few minutes' notice, he being one of the local band. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. James George, of England, on his 73rd anniversary.

ERITH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

GEORGE CULLUM	*Treble*	FREDERICK A. COLEY	5
ISAAC EMERY	2	JIM HURRELL	6
GEORGE W. HARRIS	3	ROBERT BRETT SMITH	7
CYRIL BRETT SMITH	4	FREDERICK J. CULLUM	*Tenor*

Composed by GEORGE WILLIAMS. Conducted by R. BRETT SMITH.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. R. Brett Smith. Also to Mr. Thomas Phillips.

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, November 28, 1926, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

JAMES FLEUTY	*Treble*	WILLIAM J. NEVARD	5
LEWIS WISEMAN	2	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	6
*HORACE COOPER	3	ARTHUR SAUNDERS	7
WILLIAM KEEBLE	4	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD	*Tenor*

Composed by JOSEPH W. PARKER. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE

* First peal in the method. The band were kindly entertained by Mr. and Mrs. L. Wiseman at the conclusion of the peal, for which they desire to tender their thanks. The band represented eight towers, viz.: Earls Colne, Sible Hedingham, Gt. Yeldham, Feering, Gt. Bentley, Braintree, Greenstead Green and Colchester.

CALVERLEY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, November 28, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,
A PEAL OF PRINCE ALBERT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt.

SAMUEL WHEATLEY	*Treble*	EDWIN HUDSON	5
WALTER POPPLEWELL	2	PERCY WHEATLEY	6
WILLIAM STANHOPE	3	SIDNEY KEIGHLEY	7
*WILLIAM E. SCRIMSHAW	4	WILFRID LEE	*Tenor*

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL. Conducted by W. POPPLEWELL.

* First peal. Rung as a birthday peal for Mr. S. Keighley, and to celebrate his completion of 21 years as a member of the association. This peal was rung on Sunday, after two unsuccessful attempts on Saturday.

ABERAVON, GLAMORGANSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, November 29, 1926, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

FREDERICK E. STONE	*Treble*	CHARLES H. PERRY	5
GWYN I. LEWIS	2	ERNEST STITCH	6
*G. WILLIAM HOLLIS	3	ALBERT J. PITMAN	7
WALTER NURTON	4	JOHN WEATHERSBY	*Tenor*

Composed by E. BANKES JAMES. Conducted by C. H. PERRY.

* First peal of Triples with a bob bell. Ringer of 2nd hails from Cadoxton, Neath, of the 5th from Bridgend, the rest are local.

RAINHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, December 1, 1926, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 22 cwt. in E

SAM TAYLOR	*Treble*	JOHN H. CHAMPION	5
ALBERT MANKTELOW	2	WILLIAM J. WALKER	6
WILLIAM SPICE	3	GEORGE GILBERT	7
WM. E. PITMAN, MUS. BAC.	4	CHARLES BELSEY	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT.

Rung as a welcome to the Archbishop of Canterbury, and also as a birthday compliment to Canon Fred J. O. Helmore, the much respected hon. secretary of the Kent County Association.

FULNEY, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(ELLOE DEANERIES BRANCH.)
On Wednesday, December 1, 1926, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

*CHARLES S. H. STILES	*Treble*	*JOHN G. AMES	5
*MRS. R. RICHARDSON	2	JOHN CURRY	6
GEORGE LADD	3	ARTHUR J. FARR	7
HORACE M. DAY	4	RUPERT RICHARDSON	*Tenor*

Composed by J. THORPE. Conducted by RUPERT RICHARDSON.

* First peal in the method. Rung as a birthday compliment to J. Curry.

WEST HARTLEPOOL, DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, December 1, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, STRANTON,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

*GEORGE E. WRIGHT...	...*Treble*	*STANLEY R. SMITH	5
FREDERICK ROBSON	2	*THOMAS H. CHAMPION ...	6
*SIDNEY BREEZE...	3	JOHN LOWERY	7
THOMAS W. DOBSON... ...	4	ERNEST BURNETT ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by E. BURNETT.
* First peal in the method. Rung to celebrate the birthday of the ringer of the 2nd, and by an entirely local band.

NORTHAMPTON.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, December 2, 1926, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
BROOKS' VARIATION. Tenor 25 cwt.

THOMAS LAW	...*Treble*	CHARLES W. BIRD	5
ERNEST SIBLEY	2	JACK DOVE	6
FRANK ROLLINGS...	3	WILLIAM ROGERS	7
DAVID VINCENT	4	FRED HOPPER	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM ROGERS.
Rung after meeting one short for Caters. This is the 100th peal by Charles W. Bird, who hails from Kettering.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.
(THE NUNEATON SOCIETY.)
On Thursday, December 2, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

HARRY ARGYLE	...*Treble*	ARTHUR BEAMISH	5
*MISS EVA LEWIS	2	THOMAS W. CHAPMAN ...	6
MISS GLADYS DODDS ...	3	DOUGLAS H. ARGYLE ...	7
ABRAHAM WILKERSON ...	4	†ALFRED KING	...*Tenor*

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by D. H. ARGYLE.
* First peal in the method. † First peal. The tenor man deserves great credit for the way he handled his bell throughout.

OLD WINDSOR, BERKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EAST BERKS & SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)
On Saturday, December 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH.
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.

WILLIAM L. GUTTERIDGE	*Treble*	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL ...	5
*MISS PHYLLIS M. MOSS ...	2	ARTHUR MARTIN	6
WILLIAM WELLING	3	GEORGE MARTIN	7
WILLIAM HENLEY	4	CECIL C. MAYNE	...*Tenor*

Composed by JAMES W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN
* First peal of London away from the treble.

KINGS NORTON (-CUM-GAULBY), LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION AND SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS.
On Saturday, December 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 21 cwt. (approx.).

FRED BLOOD...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM H. CLARKE	5
ALBERT COPPOCK...	2	FREDERICK A. SALTER ...	6
ERNEST MORRIS	3	FREDERICK W. BAILEY ...	7
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ...	4	PERCIVAL PRICE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALBERT COPPOCK.
Specially arranged and rung to commemorate the 150th anniversary year of the first peal on these bells by the Sherwood Youths, on May 28th, 1776. Only one other peal has been rung on these eight bells, viz., June 4th, 1816, by the Leicester Scholars.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(STOCKPORT AND BOWDEN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, December 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS.
A PEAL OF CLARENDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb.

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

Composed by J. S. WILDE. Conducted by E. JENKINS.
Arranged for the conductor, and his first 'touch' in the method.

FINEDON, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, December 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

JOHN J. MAWBY... ...	...*Treble*	JAMES T. WARD	5
HARRY CHAMBERS	2	CHARLES W. BIRD	6
*JOHN R. MAIN	3	GEORGE BASFORD	7
†JOHN KING	4	ANDERSON Y. TYLER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by ANDERSON Y. TYLER.
* First in the method away from the treble. † First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

NORTH WINGFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt.

ARTHUR KNIGHTS ...	...*Treble*	PERCY JERVIS	5
*ERNEST T. MALLENDER ...	2	WILLIAM T. PALMER	6
FREDERICK A. ADAMS ...	3	BENJAMIN GREATOREX ...	7
JOHN P. TARLTON	4	A. PERCIVAL KNIGHTS...	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by A. PERCIVAL KNIGHTS.
* First peal of Bob Major.

HATFIELD, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ETHELDREDA.
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 26 cwt.

JOHN T. KENTISH ...	...*Treble*	*CHARLES JEFFS	5
*JAMES G. DUNHAM	2	BEN JARMAN	6
JOHN MAYLAN	3	ALBERT R. LAWRENCE ...	7
*RICHARD E. RICHARDSON...	4	P. S. ALBERT LAWRENCE	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by JOHN T. KENTISH.
* First peal of Treble Bob and first attempt.

BIRLING, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

WILLIAM MANKTELOW	...*Treble*	CHARLES H. SONE	5
MRS. H. BAKER	2	GEORGE POUND	6
HARRY BAKER	3	LEWIS NEWMAN	7
WILLIAM E. PITMAN	4	THOMAS E. SONE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.
Holt's Original has now been called from each bell in the octave, by the conductor.

DEVIZES.—At St. Mary's Church, on November 9th (Mayor's Day), 720 Bob Minor in 27 mins.: J. Ottaway 1, G. Swift 2, S. Sutton 3, G. England 4, W. A. Swift 5, F. Green (conductor) 6.

TACKLEY, OXON.—On Wednesday evening, November 24th, 720 Grandsire Minor: J. Honour 1, J. Cleaver 2, E. F. Honour 3, G. Bullock 4, W. H. Cleaver 5, W. Judge (conductor) 6. First 720 in the method by all except the conductor.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, December 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

OWEN H. GILES... ... ...*Treble*		WILLIAM T. TUCKER 5	
*REGINALD BROWN 2		WILLIAM E. CHEATER ... 6	
GEORGE PULLINGER 3		FRANK BLONDELL 7	
D. CECIL WILLIAMS 4		GEORGE WILLIAMS ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by C. J. SEDGELEY. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* 50th peal. Rung on the 17th anniversary of the opening of these bells after augmentation to the octave.

MERE, WILTS.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, December 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 23 cwt.

*WILLIAM C. SHUTE ... ...*Treble*	REGINALD F. BECK 5
FRANCIS S. WILSON 2	JOSEPH T. DYKE... 6
*FRED A. COWARD 3	RONALD G. BECK 7
*EDW. G. L. COWARD... ... 4	†WILLIAM KEATS .. ..*Tenor*

Conducted by RONALD G. BECK.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal. 3, 4 and tenor rung by local ringers. The above was rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. Wm. Clements and Miss Violet Woodcock, who were married in Wincanton on this date.

MANCHESTER.
THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.
On Saturday, December 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, DEANSGATE,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

SAMUEL WOOD ... .*Treble*	SYDNEY MARSHALL 5
JAMES CARTER 2	FRED ALTHORP 6
WILLIAM BRAMMER 3	CHARLES HOLLIER 7
ALBERT GORRINGE 4	BENJAMIN THORP... ... ...*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN THORP. Conducted by BENJAMIN THORP.

Rung for the birthday of the Rev. Herbert Edmunds, Rector of St. John's, Deansgate, Manchester, who attained the age of 72.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

BRAMFIELD, SUFFOLK.
THE NORFOLK GUILD.
On Monday, November 22, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of six six-scores each of Plain Bob, Old Doubles, Morning Star, Canterbury and April Day, and 12 six-scores of Grandsire.
Tenor 12 cwt.

LIONEL HAMMOND ... ...*Treble*	THOMAS CRANE 3
FREDERICK C. LAMBERT ... 2	ARTHUR H. TOOK... 4

JOHN PUNCHARD (aged 78)...*Tenor*

Conducted by F. C. LAMBERT.

Rung as a 78th birthday compliment to the tenor ringer, who has been connected with this tower over 60 years. The ringer of the treble is 71, and of the 3rd 75 years. These bells are a very old peal, the three largest being cast by Henry Jordan, of London (who died in 1468), and the two trebles by William Brend, of Norwich, in 1621.

TEYNHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, November 26, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 of Canterbury Pleasure and two 720's each of Plain Bob, Oxford Bob, and College Single, called differently. Tenor 11 cwt.

VERNON PAGE ... ...*Treble*	CHARLES TUMBER 4
ALFRED BAKER 2	EDWARD HODGES... 5
EDWARD W. TUMBER 3	WILLIAM NYE ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM NYE.

V. Page was elected a member before starting.

WILBURTON, ISLE OF ELY.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one 720 of Cambridge Surprise and six 720's of Kent, each called differently.

FRANK WARRINGTON ... ...*Treble*	FRED GINN 4
ARTHUR WM. T. GINN ... 2	FRED THORBON 5
BERRY WAYMAN 3	ARTHUR J. GINN ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

The band thank the Vicar (the Rev. Atkinson) for the use of bells, and Mr. and Mrs. H. Sharpe for kindly entertaining them at the conclusion of peal.

DARLINGTON.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Two Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
REV. E. BANKES JAMES' ARRANGEMENT. Tenor 7½ cwt.

*JAMES T. TITT ... ...*Treble*	FRANK W. LUPSON 4
WILLIAM H. PORTER ... 2	ROLAND PARK 5
NORMAN PARK... 3	GEORGE W. PARK ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by ROLAND PARK.

* First peal of Minor. First peal as conductor. This is the first peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor by all the band, on the bells, and by this association.

SHARNBROOK, BEDS.
THE BEDS ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of York, London and Cambridge Surprise, College Exercise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

HENRY STAPLETON ... ...*Treble*	HENRY W. GAYTON 4
WILLIAM STAPLETON 2	WILLIAM STOCK 5
MISS EVELYN STEEL 3	CHARLES W. CLARKE ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

NUNNEY, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt.

*JIM RALPH... ... ...*Treble*	FRED A. COWARD 4
EDWARD G. L. COWARD ... 2	REGINALD F. BECK 5
WILLIAM SHUTE 3	RONALD G. BECK... ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by RONALD G. BECK.

* First peal. First peal of Minor on the bells.

EYE, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, 16 callings. Tenor 10 cwt.

*HEADLEY B. VALE ... ...*Treble*	*RICHARD G. COOKE 4
*GEORGE E. PROBERT 2	JAMES P. HYETT 5
*THOMAS G. COOKE 3	*THOMAS COOKE ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

* First peal. First peal on the bells.

STAPLEFORD, CAMBS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, December 1, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Canterbury, Beverley, Durham, York, Cambridge, Wells and London.

CHARLES JENNINGS ... ...*Treble*	WILLIAM A. TACK 4
FRANK E. HAYNES 2	EDWARD H. FINCH 5
ALBERT E. AUSTIN 3	ROBERT HOWARD ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by ROBERT HOWARD.

Rung in honour of St. Andrew's Day. Owing to a service, it was not possible to make the attempt until December 1st.

BODENHAM, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, November 28, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 15 cwt.

*ALBERT RUSHTON ...	...*Treble*	JAMES P. HYETT	4
WILLIAM G. T. BARRETT...	2	JOSEPH W. RUSHTON ...	5
†ALFRED R. BILLINGS ...	3	HAROLD H. W. KINSEY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. W. RUSHTON.
* First peal. † First peal inside. First peal as conductor.

DALLINGTON, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, December 4, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
With ten different callings.

THOMAS WISE	...*Treble*	JAMES MARR	4
ARTHUR MARLOW...	2	THOMAS LAW	5
ARTHUR ROBINSON	3	*ERNEST LAWSON ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by THOMAS WISE.
* First peal, first attempt. Rung after meeting short for Minor, also as a birthday compliment to the son of the ringer of 2nd.

BREADSALL, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 4, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different extents. Tenor 14 cwt.

*HENRY CAVIGAN ...	...*Treble*	JOHN BAILEY	4
†PERCY H. TATE	2	JOHN FLOWER	5
GEORGE FREEBREY	3	ALFRED MOULD	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE FREEBREY.
* First peal. † First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor as conductor.

THAMES DITTON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 4, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores with ten different callings. Tenor 7¾ cwt.

GEORGE F. ADLEY ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE HIGGS	4
*HARRY BARBER	2	*WILLIAM HALT	5
WILKINS MASSEY	3	RUEBEN COLES	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE F. ADLEY.
* First peal and first attempt. Rung for the patronal festival. The ringers of the 2nd and 5th belong to Esher and East Molesey respectively; the rest are local.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, November 23, 1926, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT 396, MEANWOOD ROAD,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

FRED HODGSON	1-2	PERCY J. JOHNSON	5-6
WILLIAM BARTON...	3-4	JOHN AMBLER	7-8

H. STANLEY ROBINSON ... 9-10
Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by PERCY J. JOHNSON
This composition is No. 56 in the Central Council's Collection. First handbell peal of Caters by all except the conductor.

CAMBRIDGE.
THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.
On Wednesday, November 24, 1926, in Two Hours and Four Minutes,
AT 4, CRANMER ROAD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;
Tenor size 16 in B.

Rev. A. H. F. BOUGHEY (Trin.)	1-2	F. E. HAYNES (St. Caths.)	5-6
E. G. BENSON (St. Caths.)...	3-4	S. H. WOOD (Magd.)	7-8

Composed and Conducted S. H. WOOD.

CAMBRIDGE.
THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.
On Saturday, November 27, 1926, in Two Hours and Eight-and-a-Half Minutes,
IN TRINITY COLLEGE,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor size 16 in B.

E. G. BENSON (St. Caths.)	1-2	*F. E. HAYNES (St. Caths.)	5-6
E. M. ATKINS (St. Caths.)...	3-4	*S. H. WOOD (Magd.)... ...	7-8

Composed by W. HARRISON. Conducted by E. M. ATKINS.
* First peal of Kent.

LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, November 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,
AT 396, MEANWOOD ROAD,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

FRED HODGSON	1-2	PERCY J. JOHNSON	5-6
WILLIAM BARTON...	3-4	JOHN AMBLER	7-8

H. STANLEY ROBINSON ... 9-10
Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by PERCY J. JOHNSON
This peal is No. 34 of the Central Council Collection.

MANCHESTER.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, December 2, 1926, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,
AT 26, KIRKMANSHULME LANE,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5065 CHANGES;
Tenor size 12 in F.

FREDERICK PAGE	1-2	ALLEN F. BAILEY	5-6
*HAROLD JACKSON	3-4	ALFRED BARNES	7-8

HARRY CHAPMAN... 9-10
Composed by F. W. PERRENS. Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.
Witness: H. T. JONES.
* First peal of Stedman 'in hand.' First peal of Caters as conductor.

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In reference to Mr. W. H. Barber's contention that the late Mr. J. W. Washbrook's variation of Thurstans' and the one under my name are the same, having called both, I really must beg to differ. Mr. Washbrook's peal, which was first called at Southgate on September 24th, 1896, has three successive blocks with singles at 2. The other has three successive blocks with the singles at 14, so that the whole cycle of both is different. Again, why did not Mr. Washbrook claim it when he saw it? But if Mr. Barber, or anyone for that matter, prefers to call them the same under Mr. Washbrook's name, I have no real or personal interest, for there are no royalties, and life is too short for argument. But my feelings on the matter are similar to the astronomer who was compelled to recant his view of the world revolving round the sun. When I have called the one we will call 'Dexter,' it has always been published as a variation of Thurstans'.—It is much easier to call or conduct than either Mr. Washbrook's or the original. This was my only excuse in stringing the blocks together in this form with singles, for both variations are mongrels. I am much obliged to Mr. Barber for wishing to call my attention to the same.—Yours truly,

F. H. DEXTER.

50, Stuart Street, Leicester.

To the Editor.

Sir,—May I say that I pointed out the matter of the above to the secretary of the M.C.C. early in the present year? The composition was rung at Barwell on November 9th, 1912, conducted by F. H. Dexter, as Washbrook's variation; at Leicester, on August 16th, 1919, same conductor, as Dexter's variation; and again at Nottingham on June 1st, 1926, conducted by A. F. Bailey, as Washbrook's, and the figures are again given. There is no such variation as Dexter's.

W. A. CAVE.

MR. R. BROWN'S 50 PEALS.

A peal of London Surprise at North Stoneham, Hants, on Saturday, completed Mr. R. Brown's 50 peals as follows: Grandsire Triples 6, Stedman Triples 6, Bob Major 4, Kent Treble Bob Major 4, Double Norwich Major 9, Superlative Surprise Major 6, Cambridge Surprise Major 10, London Surprise Major 5; total 50.

MR. J. FLEUTY'S 100 PEALS.

Minor 14, Bob Major 7, Oxford Treble Bob Major 4, Kent Treble Bob Major 8, Double Norwich 8, Grandsire Triples 4, Cambridge Surprise Major 11, Superlative Surprise 22, London Surprise 22; total 100.

GUILDFORD'S IMPROVED RING OF TEN.

A great improvement has been effected in the ring of ten bells at S. Nicolas' Church, Guildford. The bells have been in the hands of Messrs. Taylor and Co., who have recast the front four and the tenor and tuned the other five, and the church now has a much more dignified and sweet-toned peal. The tenor—22½ cwt.—is a little heavier than its predecessor, and vastly superior in quality. The old fittings as well as the old frame has been utilised, and the bell hangers have made such a complete success of this part of the job that the 'go' is perfect.

The rededication of the bells took place on Sunday at the morning service, when, from the chancel, the Rector (the Rev. G. M. Wheeler) recited the dedicatory prayers, and the 'St. Clement's Bell Hymn,' written by Mrs. Bickford and set to music by her husband, the Rev. W. Pennington Bickford, Rector of St. Clement Danes, was sung by the congregation, kneeling. Then the bells were heard, rung by the local band in rounds for a few minutes before the service was resumed.

After the service and during the afternoon, the bells were open, and a number of visitors joined in the ringing, among them Mr. Frank Bennett, of Brighton, who was present at the dedication of the two trebles when the bells were first made into a ring of ten, about forty years ago. Mr. Pryce Taylor represented the founders.

A SILENT HANTS PEAL.

A SUGGESTION TO THE WINCHESTER GUILD.

On Thursday week, the Wickham (Hants) ringers paid a visit to St. Andrew's Church, Owslebury, and rang three 720's of Minor, being 720 Plain Bob, 720 Oxford Single and 720 College Single: W. Heming 1, H. J. Smith 2, H. W. Merrett 3, Rev. E. H. Duke 4, G. E. Chappell 5, H. Beckett (conductor) 6.

After the ringing, the visitors were entertained to light refreshments at the Rectory, by the Rev. A. E. and Mrs. Briggs, who expressed their appreciation of hearing the bells once more.—The ringers thanked the Rector for the use of the bells and for so kindly providing refreshments, and hoped their visit would be of some interest, and would rouse some of the locals to start ringing, as it would appear the bells are never rung, not even for Sunday services.

This is a good case, writes our correspondent, for the district representatives of the Guild to take up, as the bells are a nice ring of six and in good going order. The Guild is always anxious that bells should be erected and restored when in bad condition, and it should be part of their duty to see what can be done to keep them on the move, especially for Sunday services. Will officials and members of the Guild please take note?

'BIG PETER' AT LOUGHBOROUGH.

'Big Peter,' the famous big bell of York Minster, weighing 10¾ tons and inferior in size only to 'Great Paul' and 'Big Ben,' was removed last week from York Minster and taken by road to Loughborough, where it will be recast at a cost of nearly £1,500. So large was the bell that the stone pillar between the large double doors at the west end of the Minster had to be removed before the bell could be got outside the building. The bell is 1ft. thick, with a clapper weighing 3 cwt. This bell has never been 'rung' in the accepted sense of the word, because it was too unwieldy. It was stated in the 'Times' that the bell defied the efforts of 40 men pulling on ropes over a pulley to swing it into action, and in order that it could be rung at noon-day and midnight, on New Year's Eve, a special hammer with which it could be struck had to be erected. When the bell is rehung, the weight will have a different distribution, and the installation of ball bearings is expected to enable 'Big Peter' to be swung into action for the first time since it was hung over 70 years ago.

One of the objects in recasting the bell is to get it into tune with the new ring of twelve.

DEATH OF THE VICAR OF CHATTERIS.

We regret to record the death of the Rev. H. F. Bagshaw, Vicar of Chatteris for 25 years. Beloved by all, his death called forth a remarkable demonstration, both of the affectionate regard which his parishioners had for him, and of the high esteem in which he was held by the townspeople generally.

Amongst his church workers, no branch loved him more than the ringers. Although not a ringer himself, he knew what good ringing was, and was always ready with a word of praise when due.

After the funeral on Saturday, November 5th, the bells were rung half-muffled, and on the following Sunday.

From all quarters have come expressions of appreciation, and one of the finest is that of the Free Church Council, who say: 'We loved him, not only for his work's sake, but also for the graciousness and sweetness of his Christian character, and we have very happy memories of his unfailing courtesy and brotherly spirit shown to us all.'

On Saturday, a 720 Plain Bob half-muffled was rung: E. Mattock (first 720) 1, W. Seekings (first 720 as conductor) 2, A. Barker 3, A. Mattock 4, J. Granger 5, A. Abrams 6.—On Sunday, November 7th, a 720 Plain Bob half-muffled in 27 mins. for morning service: E. Mattock 1, W. Seekings (conductor) 2, A. Barker 3, A. Mattock 4, J. Granger 5, A. Abrams 6.—For evening service, 720 Plain Bob half-muffled in 27 mins.: E. Mattock 1, A. Mattock 2, A. Barker 3, W. Seekings (conductor) 4, J. Granger 5, A. Abrams 6.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

An outstanding performance for a youth in those early days of ringing was achieved by Robert Porter, who at 17 years of age called '5,040 Holt's Grandsire Trebles' at Kingston-on-Thames on December 10th, 1787.

A peal of 'Real Double Caters' was rung at St. Magnus' Church, London Bridge, on December 10th, 1770. It was a 5,165, composed and conducted by George Gross, and the figures are recorded in 'The Clavis.'

A peal of Grandsire Triples, 'which was done in three hours and eleven minutes to the satisfaction of all the lovers of that science,' was rung at St. Mary's Tower, Ipswich, on December 12th, 1735. The tenor was rung by James Kirridge, aged 61 years.

On December 12th, 1735, 7,392 Stedman Cinques was rung at St. Martin's, Birmingham.

A hundred and ninety-one years ago next Wednesday a peal of 8,008 Grandsire Cinques was rung by the College Youths at St. Saviour's, Southwark.

The same day is the anniversary of a peal of 5,886 Stedman Cinques, rung at Christ Church, Spitalfields, where there are now but eight bells, the old peal of twelve having been destroyed by fire.

The first peal in South Africa was rung at Woodstock on December 15th, 1904.

A peal at St. Peter's, Smithills, Bolton, has been sent without the name of the conductor. Will our correspondent, who did not enclose his address, please supply the necessary information?

The peal of Grandsire Triples at Llandudno on November 27th was rung for the North Wales Association, and that at Balcombe, Sussex, on the same date, for the Sussex County Association. The latter was the first peal by the ringers of treble and 3rd.

Those who have counterfoils of tickets for the competition for the late Mr. I. G. Shade's set of handbells are reminded that they must be returned to 'The Ringing World' Office, 63, Commercial Road, Woking, by Wednesday next. Tickets undisposed of and cash should be returned by the same date.

There are still a few tickets available for any who would like to help and who can comply with above conditions. The competition will be decided on Saturday, the 18th inst., and the result announced in the following issue of 'The Ringing World.'

The number of changes in the peal of Bristol Surprise Major at Radcliffe, on Saturday, November 20th, should have been published as 5,056, not 5,088 as sent.

STRIKING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I quite concur in your valuable article upon 'Good Striking,' a thing which I have always impressed upon beginners. Mr. Wiffen's observations are also to the point, but, of course, his 'ral-en-tando' at back stroke must not be too obvious. In reference to his remark as to not having read anything upon training the ear in these pages, may I refer him to my previous article upon 'Bell Tones and How to Observe Them'?—Yours faithfully,

E. ALEXR. YOUNG.

BROADCASTING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—When I wrote you in regard to the broadcasting of Bow bells, I did so with the object of inducing others to add their protest, and not with the idea of starting a controversy among ourselves, but the letter in your issue of last week from Mr. E. Corner can hardly pass unchallenged, for I doubt if even the B.B.C. would care to father such an epistle. The question of public dislike is one which 'outsiders' are quite capable of voicing without our assistance (as they did in the recent controversy over jazz v. classical music, etc.), and my experience of the uninitiated is that they do appreciate a short touch (I am not aware of any request for a quarter-hour touch) when well struck, and that the only section of the ringing fraternity which needs to apologise for ringing is that to which your recent leader on striking was addressed. This has been proved to me by remarks from non-ringers (many of whom pity my insanity in 'pulling my inside out and getting blisters for nothing') on the 'fine ringing' transmitted from Bow last Sunday week, and it is up to those who ring for broadcasting to give the public something worth listening to, as has been done at Bow, and appreciation will quickly take the place of the criticisms which arise from some quarters.

As to tune ringing, I have heard no enthusiasm over the solo from St. Martin's, and as far as handbells are concerned, we can find tune-ringing companies at two a penny, and plenty amongst them to ring a course of Stedman Caters, but I do not think they would educate the public to appreciate the 'music of the bells' if they had an uninterrupted quarter of an hour every Sunday as well as a band of strikers would at Bow, with a bob course of Stedman Triples or three leads of Bristol once a month.

I might also mention, for Mr. E. Corner's benefit, that Rochester are Simpson-tuned bells.—Yours faithfully,

T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY

PROPOSAL TO FORM DISTRICTS.

In conjunction with the Southern Division of the Yorkshire Association, a joint meeting was held at Rawmarsh where the late Mr. Sam Thomas devoted so much patience and time in teaching a new band of ringers. Upwards of 40 members assembled from Doncaster, Dore, Eastwood, Ecclesfield, Handsworth, Killamarsh, Norton, Ranmoor, Rotherham, Sheffield Cathedral, All Saints', St. Marie's, Worksop and Wortley, supported by local members. The peal of eight, in excellent going order, were sent into changes at 3 p.m., many methods being rung and several learners taking advantage of the opportunity to have a pull with their more experienced brethren.

A short service was held in the church, where the Rector gave a very interesting address, which was followed by a well prepared tea in the Parish Room, after which a smart course of Grandsire Caters opened the business meeting.

The Rector, the Rev. F. C. Scovell, kindly presided, and was congratulated by Mr. Craven upon his recent appointment as Honorary Canon of Sheffield Cathedral. Nine new ringing members were elected and also one honorary member in the Rector, who paid the welcome subscription of 10s.

The Secretary reported that owing to the large area which the society covers some towers were visited only once in three years, a position which was far from satisfactory from the point of view of collecting subscriptions and giving the necessary assistance to struggling bands. It was therefore proposed, subject to ratification at the annual meeting at Ranmoor next March, to form two branches or sections of the society to hold meetings on the same day in different areas, so that practically all the towers affiliated could be visited during the course of the year, and joint meetings held as occasions warranted. The funds of the society are still to remain under the control of the general committee.

It is hoped that members will study this proposed reorganisation, so that discussion at the annual meeting will be brief but helpful.

The usual, but none the less necessary, vote of thanks was accorded the Rector and local company for their hospitality, and a move was then made to the tower, where the bells were taken full advantage of until 8.30 p.m.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHERN DIVISION'S JOINT MEETING.

The policy of holding a quarterly meeting of the Southern Division of the Yorkshire Association jointly with the Sheffield and District Society at Rawmarsh on Saturday, December 4th, was watched with some anxiety, but all doubts were set at rest by an attendance of about 40. Members were present from Sheffield (the Cathedral, St. Marie's, All Saints', Ranmoor and Handsworth), Ecclesfield, Conisborough, Doncaster, Arksey, Wortley, Dore, Rotherham Parish Church and Eastwood, Killamarsh and the local company. The bells were kept very busy up to 4.30, when a short service was held, conducted by Canon Scovell, whose remarks were followed with great interest. A splendid tea was provided by the local company in the Parish Room, which was very much enjoyed.

At the business meeting Canon Scovell was voted to the chair, and opportunity was taken to congratulate the Rector on his appointment as Hon. Canon of Sheffield Cathedral.

Two new members (A. Hall and J. McClusky), both of Arksey, were elected members of the association.

An invitation to hold the annual meeting of the division was given by Handsworth, and this was accepted, the date being March 19th, 1927.—Hearty votes of thanks were accorded to the Rector for his presence and the use of the bells, the organist, and to the local company, and these were duly acknowledged.

WESTERN DIVISION.

The quarterly meeting of the Western Division was held at Rothwell on Saturday last. About forty members were present from Armley, Bramley, Headingley (St. Michael's), Far Headingley (St. Chad's), Horbury, Keighley, Leeds Parish Church, Queensbury and the local company. Tea was served in the schools, and was followed by the business meeting, the Rev. C. C. Marshall being in the chair.

One new member was elected. No invitations having been received for the annual meeting in March, it was decided to leave it in the hands of the committee.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, also to the local company and the ladies for the arrangements made.—The Vicar and Mr. Strangeways responded, and the meeting terminated.—Ringing was further indulged in until 9 p.m.

TWO BELLS AT THE TIME.

At Little Munden, Herts, for divine service on Sunday week, 720 Bob Minor was rung with Mr. W. H. Lawrence ringing two bells: W. H. Lawrence 1-2, S. Carter (conductor) 3, W. Williams 4, A. Phillips 5, G. H. Carter 6.—For evening service, 720 Duke of York Treble Bob: W. Williams 1, S. Carter 2, A. Woolston 3, A. Phillips 4, G. H. Carter 5, W. H. Lawrence 6.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MAJOR R. C. HUDSON.

LECTERN DEDICATED AT BISHOPWEARMOUTH.

Simply, but with deep reverence, the lectern presented to Bishopwearmouth Parish Church (St. Michael and All Angels'), Sunderland, in memory of the late Major Robert Challis Hudson, who was killed in the belfry while muffling the bells for Queen Alexandra's funeral, was unveiled and dedicated on Sunday morning, November 28th, before a fully representative congregation. Miss Susan Hudson represented the family, Mr. Thos. Hudson and Miss Hudson being absent through illness. Representatives of every parish organisation, with their leaders, were present, and also the president, secretary and about 40 members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Ringers. During the war Major Hudson served with the R.A.S.C., and officers and men from the Newcastle headquarters were present. Before the lessons were read, the 'Last Post' was sounded by buglers and drummers from the 7th Durham Light Infantry.

On behalf of Major Hudson's family and friends, Lt.-Col. A. Dent, R.A.S.C., then unveiled the lectern, and offered it to the Rector and wardens in possession for ever.

The Rev. Prebendary Wynne Wilson dedicated the memorial, and the buglers sounded the 'Reveille.' The Rector afterwards gave a deeply touching and appropriate address, and the congregation dispersed after inspecting the memorial to the sounds of a touch on the bells by a mixed band of members of the association.

The Rector, after briefly sketching the history of the foundation of the church 1,200 years ago, went on to refer to the new lectern. It was fitting, he said, that St. Michael bearing the flaming sword should support the Book which contained the Word of God. Round the base of the lectern were bells. They were introduced here primarily because of the life-long interest which Robert Hudson took in bell ringing and of the services which he rendered to that craft. Bells were the heralds of joy, the call to worship in Christian churches, and the Gospel was good tidings of great joy. They rejoiced when the friends of Robert Hudson desired to perpetuate his memory that they should have chosen to follow up the dedication of the beautiful holy table, in which he was so interested, by the provision of an equally beautiful resting-place for the Holy Bible. They were met there, friends and relatives, and comrades of his, because they wished to show that the loss of his earthly presence was remembered. Robert Hudson had, through his constant study of the word of God, become inspired with the ideal of Christ, whom he served. Major Hudson set a great example by placing the service that he could render to Christ and to His Church above all sectional differences. He saw something greater in religion than the insistence on his own point of view. Truly it could be said of him that he was 'our servant for Jesus' sake.' The secret of his influence was in his simple faith. The figure of St. Michael was not unfitting to commemorate his life. Like St. Michael, he fought a good fight against all that is evil. Of him, whose tragic death they remembered that day, they believed that he had entered upon the fullness of life, rejoicing in wider service for the Master, and enlisted still under the banner of St. Michael in the work which overcomes the power of evil in the great cosmic struggle to destroy the works of the devil and to make us the sons of God.

DEVON GUILD.

STRENGTH OF EXETER BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Exeter Branch of the Devon Guild was held at Heavitree, Exeter, following a hearty service in the Parish Church, and tea at the Church Institute. There were about 110 present, amongst whom was Sir Robert Newman, M.P., Member for the City, who replied in a witty speech on behalf of the hon. members present.

The chairman, Mr. E. Shepherd, was re-elected, appreciation of his services being shown by prolonged applause. Mr. T. J. Stokes was elected hon. secretary and treasurer, and Miss G. Davey assistant. A good balance in hand was reported, and it was also stated that the membership was well maintained. The meeting stood in silence in memory of Rev. W. S. Gurney and Mr. James Moss, who have died during the year. The Cathedral (12), St. Sidwell's (10), the eight-bell rings at Heavitree, St. David's, and St. Thomas' and six at St. Petrock's were rung by the members.

PRINCE ALBERT TREBLE BOB.

Many ringers will ask, when they peruse the report this week of a peal of Prince Albert Treble Bob, rung at Calverley, Yorks, what method is this!

It is a variation of Kent, the slow work in front being cut up when the treble is behind.

28674513
82765431
87256413
78524631
75842361
57183216
54738261
45372816
43527186
34251768
34527186

The first lead-end is 16482735, and hobs are made as in Kent.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

The last quarterly meeting of the year was held at the Cathedral, Birmingham, on Saturday, November 27th, but the attendance was rather sparse, due, no doubt, in part to the inclement weather, and in part to the reputation of the bells.

The Guild's presiding Ringing Master, Mr. Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., took the chair at the business meeting, and, formal matters having been disposed of, the Secretary reported that he had booked the Connaught Room, at the Imperial Hotel, for the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner for February 19th next, this being the nearest available date to Henry Johnson's birthday, viz., February 28th.

The annual meeting will be held at St. Martin's Hotel, City, as usual, on a date to be arranged in January.

Mr. Alderman Pritchett reminded the meeting that that day, November 27th, was the 73rd birthday of Mr. James George, and the secretary was instructed to write him congratulating him on the event.

The bells were kept going in various methods during the afternoon and early evening, the chief results being numerous tender places on the hands of certain members present.

DEATH OF A LINCOLN RINGER.

THE LATE MR. C. W. P. CLIFTON'S ALL-ROUND ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

The many friends of the late Mr. Charles W. P. Clifton, of 120, Scorer Street, Lincoln, in various parts of the country will regret to hear that he succumbed after an unsuccessful operation on Sunday, November 28th, at the age of sixty-two. Three years ago he had a serious illness, chiefly rheumatism and gout, and although he made a wonderful improvement it is now apparent that he never completely recovered from that attack.

Migrating 40 years ago from Tinwell, near Stamford, where he spent his early days, he attached himself to St. Peter-at-Arches' tower, where at that time change ringing was at a very low ebb. During some part of the 19 years' membership there, he, with the help of other enthusiasts, saw the standard of ringing raised from 'Churchyard Bob' to London Surprise. During his connection with this tower the bells were overhauled at considerable cost, and under his careful supervision as steeplekeeper were for many years kept in excellent condition. He was away from Lincoln for about two years, and upon his return joined the Cathedral company, where the highest methods were being practised. Whilst a member of the Cathedral he saw the installation of the fine peal of eight, which now hang in the tower, and the ringing for the 10.30 service introduced instead of chiming.

He was very enthusiastic in the proposal to augment these bells to twelve, which is likely to be an accomplished fact in the near future, and with his usual tact was successful in collecting a considerable sum towards the cost. With the exception of a short break, he was for about 18 years a member of the Cathedral company. In peals, he was usually found at the heavy end, and in all he had rung 58 with various Guilds and Associations, from Minor to Maximus.

Apart from his change ringing activities, his loss will be felt by the Diocesan Guild. Always a regular attendant at the various meetings, he was of great help in the various discussions. It was at these meetings when his practical knowledge of bells and bell hanging was found of great use, and on many occasions his skill as a debater was noticeable when any knotty point was being discussed.

Outside his trade as a printer, the late Mr. Clifton was no mean citizen. A member of the Typographical Society, the members at their meeting showed their respect by observing five minutes' silence on Tuesday evening. As a Buffalo, he was a strong supporter of the Order, and had held all the offices of his lodge and possessed several medals. An ardent Liberal in politics, he was a director of the Liberal Club and chairman in 1905-6. In the latter part of his life he became attached to St. Peter-at-Gowts' Church, and although he refused the office of churchwarden, he was a member of the Parochial Church Council.

Amongst his many pursuits, he was for many years a keen angler, and two of his intimate ringing friends, one now in Yorkshire and the other in Ireland, will no doubt recall the various expeditions among the Lincolnshire rivers. Possessing a good voice, his services as a vocalist were often demanded, and very rarely refused. In his younger days he was no mean swimmer, and at times his ability as a short-distance sprinter was shown.

The funeral service on Dec. 2nd at St. Peter-at-Gowts' Church was largely attended, the church being practically full. Many of the mourners followed to the graveside, and there were numerous beautiful floral tributes. In the evening the six bells of St. Peter-at-Gowts and the eight at Washingborough were rung half-muffled. At both towers some of the members of the Cathedral took part in the ringing, through the kindness of the members attached to those towers.

At Gainsborough (Lincs), on Thursday, December 2nd, at the Church of All Saints, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 50 mins.: Miss P. G. Baker 1, C. A. Hewitt 2, J. T. Bartram 3, F. P. W. Butler (conductor) 4, J. Dixon 5, C. H. Baker 6, R. Dawson 7, E. Halingwater 8.

This is the first quarter-peal in the method by Miss Baker, and was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to Mr. C. W. P. Clifton.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

NORTH WESTERN DISTRICT AND CENTRAL COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

The annual meeting of the North-Western District of the Essex Association was held at Bishop's Stortford, on Saturday. Touches in various methods having been rung on the bells of St. Michael's Parish Church, the members attended a special evening service. This was conducted by the Rev. Canon H. T. Lane, Vicar, with Mr. A. R. Brazier at the organ. After the service, tea was served in St. Michael's Parish Room, followed by the business meeting.

Mr. H. Dew, District Master, presided, and twenty-one members were present from Bishop's Stortford, Saffron Walden, Harlow, Potter Street, Barley, Stansted and Leytonstone, the rather small attendance being due to the foggy state of the weather, which prevented members travelling from some parts of the district.

Mr. H. Dew, on being re-elected District Master, said he was glad the proposal was 'for another year' only, as he did not believe in one man retaining the chair too long. All members should aspire to take the chair in their turn, and he thought everybody should fulfil the office. He thanked them for his re-election, and would do whatever he could for the district.

The hon. secretary, Mr. C. Beeston, was also re-elected, and in thanking the members he said he endorsed the chairman's remarks. If anyone would take over the secretaryship he would be pleased to give up the position, and he would give a new secretary every assistance in his power.—The Chairman remarked that the office of secretary was not a very thankful one, and all the officials should have the support of the members.

Mr. Pitstow said he had been asked by Mr. C. H. Howard, the Master of the Association, to express his regret at not being able to be present. It was owing to the funeral taking place that day of the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre, late Vicar of Great Totham, who was for many years general secretary of the association, when all the work was done by the general secretary before the association was divided into five districts. Mr. Howard was representing the association at the funeral, and was also sending a wreath in its name.—The chairman said they regretted the cause of Mr. Howard's absence, and Mr. Dench suggested that a vote of sympathy be sent to Mr. Eyre's family.—Mr. Pitstow said he had already done so, and the meeting thereupon endorsed his action.

The Chairman brought forward the question of the general meeting of the association being held continuously on Whit Monday, a day on which he and possibly others could not get to it. He suggested that it might be held alternately on Whit Monday and the Saturday prior to Whit Monday.—Mr. Pitstow said that had been tried and had failed.

The Chairman said, that being so, he would withdraw his suggestion. He then remarked that he thought the representatives on the Central Council should be elected at a general meeting every three years, each of the five districts to elect a representative in rotation, four to be elected as now. He thought if such a resolution were sent from that branch to the association it would carry more weight than if it came from an individual member.

Mr. Dench said the delegates paid their own expenses, and the association was fortunate in getting representatives voluntarily. He thought they had better leave well alone.

Mr. Pitstow said it was, of course, open to the meeting to nominate a representative, but the Chairman said they might leave the question open to the next meeting, and in the meantime turn it over in their minds.

Newport and Saffron Walden were suggested for the next meeting, and eventually, on the proposition of Mr. J. Prior, seconded by Mr. Wacey, Newport was selected.

A new member from Harlow having been elected, Mr. Pitstow proposed a vote of thanks to Canon Lane for lending the bells and for his address, the organist, and the steeplekeeper, Mr. Springham, which was carried.

The Chairman thanked the representative of the 'Herts Mercury' for attending the meeting, as he had done for many years, and the meeting closed.

A JUBILEE PEAL.

The jubilee peal of the Lancs Association, at Blackburn, was arranged some weeks ago, and by a strange coincidence the name of the new Bishop (Dr. P. M. Herbert, Suffragan Bishop of Kingston-on-Thames) was gazetted the same morning. The four dioceses covered by the Association—Carlisle, Blackburn, Liverpool and Manchester—were represented in the peal. It was Mr. Barnes' birthday, and the usual compliments were given to him. The band's best thanks are extended to Canon Sinker for the use of the bells, Mr. W. E. Wilson for having all ready, Mr. A. Tomlinson, 'the scribe,' for getting the band together, and Canon Elsee for refreshments after the peal.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, HERTS.—On Wednesday, December 1st, 720 each of College Single, Plain Bob, and Oxford Bob, in 1 hr. 18 mins.: A. Brinklow 1, A. V. Good 2, W. Hughes 3, W. Shepherd 4, H. Gates 5, H. Golding (conductor) 6. Longest touch in three methods by ringers of treble, 3rd, 4th and tenor. Rung after an attempt for a peal in the same three methods in honour of the birthday of the conductor.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

EXTENSION OF METHODS.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

In writing these notes I have made it a general rule not to introduce any references to the higher problems of composition. To a select few these problems are of extreme interest, but they are of necessity beyond the majority of ringers, and it is for the average ringer, and especially for the younger generation, that I have been trying to write. The leading article of last Friday, however, has tempted me to break my rule, and to say something about the Extension of Methods. I propose to give a short extract from a book I wrote a few years ago. The book is called 'The Science of Change Ringing,' and is an attempt to explain the fundamental nature of change ringing and the scientific laws on which it is based. It is, I believe, by far the best thing I have ever done or am likely to do in connection with ringing. Owing to its length, the number of diagrams necessary, and the fact that its appeal is to a very limited number of readers, it will never be printed. It remains in manuscript for circulation among the select few who are likely to appreciate it.

Here is the extract which I may say, lest anyone should be afraid to read any further, is one of the least technical and most easily understood in the whole book: 'Of all the outstanding problems of the science of change ringing none has aroused greater interest than that of extension. The Exercise has made up its mind definitely as to what are the correct extensions of many of the methods in general use, but the correct ten and twelve bell variations of such methods as London and Bristol Surprise Major, and, indeed, whether such variations are possible, are still an open question. Double Norwich and Superlative Major have traditional extensions, but they are not accepted as correct by all. Many men, most of them of ability and knowledge, have set themselves to supply these extensions, but it is remarkable and significant that though each man backs his version with copious argument, the results are almost always different. And as they all work on pretty much the same lines, we shall not be far wrong if we come to the conclusion that the problem of extension as a whole has not properly been understood. Ringers found no difficulty in getting the correct extension of the early simple methods. Given Plain Bob Minor, Plain Bob Major, Royal and Maximus are quite obvious. So, too, are Plain Bob Triples, Caters and Cinques. Grandsire, Oxford, Kent and Stedman extend equally easily. No detailed arguments are necessary to show that these extensions are correct; they pass the only really vital test—the experience of the ringer in the tower.'

In addition to the above, there are a few other methods, the correct extensions of which are not in dispute. These are Original, Duffield, Forward, Double Oxford and Cambridge Surprise, and the whole serve as models of what a correct extension should be. Men do recognise this, but unfortunately directly you come to methods outside this group, you have no longer any obvious and unmistakable extensions, even in cases where the construction of the method is quite simple and obvious. Double Court Minor is almost as simple in construction as Plain Bob Minor, and quite as simple as Kent Treble Bob Minor. In early days it was one of the most popular of six-bell methods. Naturally, ringers tried to extend it to eight bells, but almost every band which rang Court Bob Major rang a different version. Peals were rung in at least three quite distinct methods, and each was rung simply as Court Bob Major. Two of these methods became popular, and the Exercise avoided confusion by treating them not as extensions, but as fresh and distinct methods, and calling them after the places where they were first practised — Norwich Court Bob and London Court Bob.

Interest in extension seems then to have died out. The Exercise had quite as many methods as it had any practical use for, and the general opinion grew up that outside the group of methods I have mentioned there can be no such thing as real extension. This was probably the opinion of the Exercise for a hundred and fifty years, down to the end of nineteenth century. (See Sir Arthur Heywood's 'Duffield.')

Two notable exceptions there were. The one really original contribution that Shipway made to the science of ringing was to show the relationship between different variations of a method. He gave the single, double and reverse variations of most of the methods then in use. He showed how any even bell method on the Plain Principle can be turned into an odd bell method by adding a Bell-in-the-Hunt, and in the cases of Double Oxford and Superlative he attempted a true extension of the methods to 8, 10 and 12 bells. Unlike other men, his work was not experimental. He worked on a general principle, and his conclusions are thoroughly sound.

In the North a band discovered that an apparently complex method like Cambridge will extend as readily as Plain Bob or Kent. Whether as the result of experiment, or of logical deduction, there is no means of knowing. Neither of these cases had any effect on the general opinion of the Exercise. The figures of the Cambridge Royal were not published in any ringing book, and were virtually lost, and the Exercise did not grasp or understand Shipway's investigations.

This was the state of opinion in the closing years of the nineteenth century, when the advance of practical ringing revived a keen interest in method construction. New methods were produced on all hands, and the question of extension became again a live one. Even then it was felt that composers showed more zeal than knowledge, and the real idea at the bottom of the appointment by the Central Council of the Method Committee was an attempt to devise some means of curbing their exuberance.

INTERCHANGE OF VISITS.

On Saturday evening, November 27th, for the first time within memory of the inhabitants and probably the first time in the history of the church, a band of change ringers visited the Church of the Holy Cross, Slapton, Bucks, and rang the bells. This visit was the result of a visit paid by the Slapton ringers to the belfry of All Saints' Church, Leighton Buzzard, on Tuesday, November 23rd, when an invitation was given to visit Slapton. The visitors to Slapton included ringers from All Saints' Church and St. Barnabas' Church, Linslade, and 90 minutes were spent in change ringing. Among the methods practised were Grandsire Doubles, Stedman Doubles, Bob Doubles and Bob Singles.

The Church of the Holy Cross has a peal of five bells, and their record is as follows: Treble, cast by C. and G. Mears, of London, 1852; 2nd and 3rd, by G. Chandler, Drayton Parslow, 1681; 4th, by G. Chandler, Drayton Parslow, 1715; tenor, by G. Chandler, Drayton Parslow, 1703. In 1889 all the bells were rehung and the third and tenor bells recast.

'SPLICED' METHODS.

At East Crompton, Lancs, on Tuesday, November 30th, 720 spliced Oxford, Sandal, Kingston, and London Scholars' Pleasure: C. Thorpe 1, S. Wareham 2, W. Oates 3, H. Oates 4, C. Howarth 5, J. Butterworth (conductor) 6. First 720 in four methods by all the band.

SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAXIMUS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In your leading article last Friday you ask for a committee to consider method extension, but you are asking for an impossibility; a committee would only produce a compromise, and what we want is the truth.

The question is a scientific one, and has to be settled in a scientific manner—that is, not by abstract thought or any theory, but actual demonstration of facts.

Why does Mr. George Baker differ from me? Because he has fixed his attention on one very important fact and never seen the other. He is like a man in a wood whose attention has been called to one very fine tree and has got so close to it that he can see that one tree alone.

If you wish to extend a method you must first of all take nothing for granted, but examine it thoroughly and find out all the facts, and you must then take all the facts into account when you try to extend.

We will now look at Mr. Baker's tree and a few others alongside of it.

12345678	12345678	12345678	12345678	I.
..4..5..	2..3....	....6..7	.1....8.	II.
..4..5..	.2..3...	...6..7.	1.....8	III.
...45...	2....3..	..6....7	.1....8.	IV.
...4.5...	2...3...	.6....7.	..1....8	V.
..4.5...	.2...3..	6.....7	...1..8.	VI.
...45...	2.....3.	.6.....7	..1..8..	VII.
..4..5..	.2.....3	6.....7.	...18...	VIII.
..4..5..	2.....3.	.6.....7	...81...	IX.
...45...	.2.....3	6.....7.	..8..1..	X.
...4.5...	..2...3.	6.....7	.8..1...	XI.
..4.5...	...2...3	.6....7.	8....1..	XII.
...45...	..2....3	6....7..	.8....1.	XIII.
..4..5..	...2..3.	.6..7...	8.....1	XIV.
..4..5..	....2..3	6..7....	.8....1.	XV.
...45...	.....23.	.67.....	8.....1	XVI.
Mr. Baker's 4-5 reciprocal.	2-3 reciprocal.	6-7 reciprocal.	1-8 not reciprocal.	

Compare row I. with XVI., II. with XV., etc. Now compare 2 in the 2nd diagram with 7 in the 3rd.

This disposes once for all of Mr. Baker's theory, which is built upon the first diagram without regarding the other three, and I think that I have demonstrated the facts in such a simple manner that anyone can follow them.

I have dealt at some length with this matter because it is of practical importance. There is no doubt in anyone's mind about the extension of Plain Bob, Grandsire, Treble Bob, Stedman, Double Norwich, and Cambridge Surprise. In addition to these, London Surprise, Superlative Surprise and Bristol Surprise are in pretty general practice, and we may fairly claim to-day that we have nine standard methods instead of only four. London and Bristol will not extend beyond Major, but Superlative will; the Royal has been rung, but the Maximus has not, and it would be a thousand pities for our Ipswich friends to waste their time in ringing a peal which would not be Superlative when it was rung. Moreover, the method Mr. Baker calls Superlative Maximus is not fit to ring; fancy ringing 5,280 changes on twelve bells when 11-12 only come home 60 times in the peal. If it was Superlative, it would be worth ringing one peal for the sake of doing so, but as Superlative Maximus exists and brings up 11-12 fourteen times in the course instead of only six, and is really good Maximus music, to ring a bad method instead of the good one would be a ridiculous fiasco.

Finally, many ringers object to the extension of Double Norwich to Royal and Maximus because the knowledge of the Major does not lead on to the higher numbers; but the well-known rule of Superlative Major, work with the treble, odd place last, etc., applies equally to Royal and Maximus.—Yours truly,

H. LAW JAMES.

A 'BACK BENCHER' SEEKS EXPLANATION.

Dear Sir,—As a 'back bencher' I am rather loath to touch upon this argumentative matter, but after the Rev. Law James' letter in 'The Ringing World' of December 3rd, I am somewhat unconvinced.

In the plain hunting course on six bells, the Rev. H. L. James, in considering a horizontal cross-section between the sixth and seventh rows, agrees that 1 and 6 are reciprocal. Then, by considering a section between the eighth and ninth rows, why are not 2 and 5 reciprocal? Similarly, it seems apparent that 3 and 4 are reciprocal.

It is surely a question of the direction in which the sectional line is drawn—horizontally or vertically. Even then the matter is not settled. If the hunting course named above be folded horizontally between the sixth and seventh rows, then agreed 2 falls on 3, and 4 on 5; but (and this is not justified) 1 does not fall on 6. Now, if the changes be folded vertically between the third and fourth figures in each row, 1 will fall on 6, 2 on 5, and 3 will coincide with 4.

From the second way of viewing the question, the reciprocation is quite regular. I have no doubt that Mr. Baker is undisturbed, as I take it that this is 'his basis of argument.'

Please note that I do not wish to be taken as being judicial, but rather as seeking explanation on a very simple, but fundamental, point.—Yours truly,

J. F. DUFFIELD.

Norwich.

RECIPROCAL RELATIONSHIP.

Dear Sir,—In my article of Nov. 5th last, when I pointed out that in twelve out of sixteen rows of the first half-lead of Superlative Major Reciprocal Relationship is unbroken, I thought and hoped that I had given a sufficient clue as to what Reciprocal Relationship is; evidently it was not so, hence the Rev. H. L. James' letter in to-day's issue.

Let me illustrate once more by giving 'Leek' Major and what I call a Reciprocal Extension to Royal of that Principle, but not the same method.

I hope before anyone writes again on this subject they will try and find out from the following examples what Reciprocal Relationship consists of, and when I point out that Reciprocal Relationship is unbroken in the Plain Courses of Major and Royal, everyone will surely begin to understand my meaning.

'LEEK' MAJOR.

12345678

21436587
12463578
21645387
26154837
62518473
26581437
62854173
68245713
86427531
68472513

It will be seen that 4-5 are the only place-making bells in the first division, and the other pairs, 1-8, 2-7, and 3-6, are doing work exactly opposite to each other, just as much as 4-5, the only place-making bells.

RECIPROCAL EXTENSION OF 'LEEK' MAJOR TO ROYAL.

1234567890

2143658709
1246385790
2164837509
2618473059
6281740395
2618743059
6281470395
6824107935
8642019753
6840291735

In the above Royal it will be seen that 4-7 are the only place-making bells, and the other pairs, 1-0, 2-9, 3-8, and 5-6, are doing work exactly opposite to each other.

This is what I mean by Reciprocal Relationship, and it is a characteristic of the Primary and Treble Bob Principles from Singles to Infinity.—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE BAKER.

Brighton, December 3rd.

ARCHBISHOP'S THANKS TO RINGERS.

RAINHAM VISITED BY THE PRIMATE.

In common with other churches throughout the land at St. Andrew's tide, special intercessions for missionary work were offered at Rainham (Kent) Church throughout Tuesday, more especially by members of the Silent Fellowship of the Church, a movement started by the Vicar (the Rev. W. A. R. Ball) some two or three years ago, and taken up all over the country. The Archbishop of Canterbury has evinced great interest in the Fellowship from its commencement, and on Wednesday afternoon he visited Rainham Parish Church to address the members. A short service was held in the church, special prayers being offered, and the Archbishop, who was accompanied by his chaplain, the Rev. F. D. V. Narborough, and Mrs. Davidson, expressed himself as being very gratified at what Rainham was doing for missionary work.

In honour of the visit of his Grace, and also as a birthday compliment to the genial secretary of the Kent County Association (Canon F. J. O. Helmore), a peal was rung (reported elsewhere). As the peal was still in progress when the Archbishop departed from Rainham (and the ringers were locked in), a special message of thanks was conveyed to the belfry by the Vicar immediately ringing ceased. His Grace thanked the ringers for their thoughtfulness, and congratulated them on the ringing that he had heard, and also congratulated Rainham on having such a fine ring of bells.

The band wish to thank Messrs. Spice (Tunstall), Taylor (Lynsted) and Pitman (Canterbury) for making up the band at short notice owing to three local members not being available.

THE BELLS OF KING'S NORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE SHERWOOD YOUTHS MAKE HISTORY.

As reported elsewhere, a peal of Stedman Triples was successfully rung on the bells at the tiny village of Norton-cum-Gaulby, Leicestershire (called King's Norton from the fact that King William I. held these estates during his reign). It is situated 'miles from nowhere,' right off the beaten track, and can only be approached by a long walk across country or by special bus. The Nottingham quintette chose the latter method from Leicester, where they were joined by a trio of 'Leicester Scholars.' The village boasts of a population of some 50 souls altogether, but, nevertheless, is fortunate enough to possess a fine church and peal of eight bells with an interesting history.

Squire Fortrey, of Gaulby, rebuilt the church there, and placed in it, in 1741, a peal of six bells. He did the same at King's Norton, hanging a peal of ten, since reduced to eight owing to the strain on the tower. In 1738 he gave two trebles to St. Margaret's, Leicester, making them ten, and in 1771 gave a treble to Houghton-on-the-Hill, making them five. His name is also mentioned in connection with bells in other churches of the district, and in 1753, when John Holt published his 'broadsheet' of peals, this Wm. Fortrey is there shown as a subscriber for four copies.

The first peal on the King's Norton bells was by the Society of Sherwood Youths as follows: 'On May 28th, 1776, J. Holt's peal of Grandsire Triples at Norton-by-Gaulby, the seat of William Fortrey, Esq., in 3 hours 31 minutes: James Wilkinson treble, Richard Peat 2, Robert Metheringham 3, William Bradley 4, Richard Sharrah 5, Francis Draper 6, William D. Crofts 7, John Mason tenor. Conducted by W. D. Crofts.'

Then, after a lapse of forty years, we read in the 'Leicester Chronicle' of June 8th, 1816: 'Ringing: Tuesday last, being his Majesty's birthday, the Leicester Scholars met at Norton in this county, by particular desire of the Norton and Gaulby Scholars, to strike off the musical peal of eight bells of that place. They rang a true and compleat peal of 5,040 Grandsire Triples, which was brought round in a masterly style in 3 hours 20 minutes by the following persons, viz.: Jonathan Haywood treble; John Clarke 2; Thomas Clarke 3; James Gill 4; George Harris 5; Lawrence Stains 6; William Reeves 7; William Wood, tenor. The peal was called by Wm. Reeves. After it had been rang, the Leicester, Norton and Gaulby Scholars partook of an excellent dinner, and the day was completed by ringing several courses of Grandsire Caters on the handbells.'

The bells are still in their original two-storey frame (the three trebles being about ten feet above the others), but of recent years Mr F. G. Rimington, of Manchester, has spent a lot of time and money on them, having had stays and sliders added, new beams placed under the floor, and wheel guides, and other improvements carried out by which alone it was possible to ring a peal on them.

On February 5th, 1921, and again on March 19th, 1921, attempts were made by several Leicester and Manchester ringers to get a peal, but after 1 hour and 2 hours respectively they had to be abandoned owing to the heavy 'go' of 7th and tenor. Since then various improvements have been made, and the local enthusiasts have been busy ringing them. They now go much better, and so, this year being the 150th anniversary year of the first peal on the bells by their ancestors, the Sherwood Youths determined to attempt a peal with the result shown.

Some of the 'facetious' remarks about, and by, the band on this memorable occasion are worth recording. The treble's presence was made felt by the Youths' 'hon. secretary' in his own inimitable style, while the 'Master' rang the 2nd and 'called ye bobs' in strong 'basso' voice. The 'gen. hon. secretary, M.C.A.,' rang the 3rd in a determined mood, meaning to get the peal at his 3rd attempt on these bells, and thus add another Leicestershire tower to his already long list. 'Tich' had evidently heard beforehand that the 4th was best of the lot, as, before anyone had a chance, he was doctoring its bearings with a special concoction of his own. The 5th ringer, in spite of his 'bald patch,' was made a 'Youth' before starting, took off his boots and stood on some brown paper—some said it was because his feet swelled, others otherwise. The 6th man didn't say much, but set his stall out as though he meant business, especially with his 'ottle.' The 7th (the worst goer of the lot) was sent along splendidly by Fred W., of the famous Bailey Brothers, of Leiston, Suffolk. Last, but not least, the tenor man, who had been training on pork pies, devouring two in the bus—one for each arm—put his bell exactly in its correct place throughout, then went and had more pork pies.

Immediately the peal finished, the belfry was besieged by the local men from Norton, Gaulby, Billesdon and other places, showering their congratulations on a splendid performance. Tea was kindly provided by the local residents, after which followed handbell ringing and the usual votes of thanks to all concerned for making this peal a possibility, and, needless to say, all went home very pleased with themselves.

RINGER'S SILVER WEDDING.

At Coln St. Aldwys, Glos, at the Church of St. John-the-Baptist, on Friday, December 3rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from J. J. Parker's twelve part, in 45 mins.: G. Law 1, W. C. Cuss 2, G. J. Winter 3, H. Gasson 4, H. Acock 5, J. Hope (conductor) 6, A. King 7, E. Telling 8. Rung on the occasion of the conductor's silver wedding.

NOTICES.

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

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

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ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members who have not attended twenty times in the past year to vote on financial matters, should be paid before February 28th. Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on the 23rd, *St. Mary-le-Bow on the 14th, St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 16th (at 8 p.m.), and *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 28th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Pontefract on Saturday, Dec. 11th. Bells (Parish Church, 10) available from 3 p.m. to 3.45 p.m., and (All Saints', 8) from 2 p.m. onward. Service in All Saints' at 4 p.m. Tea in Mr. B. Moody's Café, Horsefair, at 5 p.m. See circular for further particulars.—A. B. Cook, Hon. Dis. Sec., 58, Wyndham Street, Hull.

GUILD OF DEVON RINGERS.—North-East Branch.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Dec. 11th, at St. Peter's, Tiverton. Bells available 2.30. Service 4.45. Tea (1s. each) 5.15.—M. Hanson, Hon. Sec., 2, The Avenue, Tiverton, Devon.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—N. Dorset Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Mere on Saturday, Dec. 11th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Preacher, the Rev. F. E. Trotman (Vicar). Tea 5 (members 6d. each). Business meeting to follow, to elect chairman and secretary. Towers available: Mere (8), Gillingham (8), Bourton (6), Zeals (6) and Stourton (6).—Rev. R. E. P. Gorringe, Manston Rectory, Sturminster Newton, Dorset.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Christ Church, St. Leonards, on Saturday, Dec. 11th. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. (by kind invitation of the Christ Church Guild). Business meeting to follow.—Geo. W. Stokes, 22, Melbourne Road, Eastbourne.

LADIES' GUILD. — Western District. — The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Clifton, Bristol, on Saturday, Dec. 11th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea at the Clifton Restaurant, Regent Street, at 5.15.—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Hertford on Dec. 11th, when the bells of All Saints' (10) and St. Andrew's (8) will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Service in church at 5 o'clock, addressed by the Vicar. Tea at Farrow's Restaurant, Fore Street, at 5.30 (1s.). Business meeting after. All members and ringing friends are invited.—W. H. Lawrence, Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Phillip's, Chester Street, off Oxford Road, on Saturday, Dec. 11th. Bells ready 3.15. A tea will be provided at a small charge at 5.30 prompt. Meeting after tea. A good attendance is requested.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Garston on Saturday, Dec. 11th. Bells ready at 3.30. Service 5.30. Tea and meeting at 6. Members intending being present please send word to secretary. — Walter Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.

NORFOLK GUILD.—Aylsham District.—A meeting will be held at Salle on Saturday, Dec. 11th, at 3 p.m.; also Reepham at 6 p.m., and the six bell ringers in the district are earnestly requested to attend. If meeting is a success monthly meetings will follow.—W. B. Duncan, Dis. Sec., Reepham.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next meeting of the above district will be held at Radcliffe-on-Trent on Saturday, Dec. 11th. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. at Co-operative Café. All ringers welcome.—F. Blood, Hon. Local Sec., 91, Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The proposed meeting at Sandal has had to be abandoned, owing to serious illness near the tower. The meeting is to be held at Horbury, on Saturday, Dec. 11th. Other particulars as stated previously. Members may have arrangements made for tea by applying to Mr. George Hunt, Northgate, Horbury, Wakefield.—C. D. Potter, Hon. Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Wimborne Branch.—The annual meeting is to be held at St. James', Poole, on Saturday, Dec. 11th. Ringing from 2.30. Service 4.30. Address by Rector (Rev. C. Egerton Williams). Tea at the Church House 5.15, followed by business meeting.—C. A. Phillips, Hon. Branch Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at All Saints', West Ham, on Saturday, Dec. 18th. Bells (10) available from 3.15 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock, followed by tea in the Parish Hall. Business meeting afterwards. Will those requiring tea please let me know by Dec. 15th?—J. A. Hales, Hon. Sec., 20, Aspland Grove, Hackney, E.8.

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

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Brislington on Saturday, Dec. 18th. Bells from 3 p.m. Tea (kindly provided by the Vicar) at 4.30, followed by meeting. Service at 6. Will those intending to be present kindly notify by the 15th inst.?—C. H. Jennings, Hon. Sec., 10, Lilymead Avenue, Knowle, Bristol.

KING'S NORTON PARISH CHURCH.—The two new treble bells given by the Ringing Master, F.B. Yates, Esq., will be dedicated during the morning service at 11 a.m. on Sunday, December 19th, by the very Rev. Dr. Moore-Ede, Dean of Worcester. Ringing on the peal of ten is arranged for Saturday, January 1st, from 3 to 5 and 6 to 7 p.m. The Ringing Master is kindly providing a meat tea at 5 p.m. All ringers invited. Those intending to be present at the tea *must* please notify me not later than December 27th.—W. E. Moore, 175, Northfield Road, King's Norton, Birmingham.

SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS, NOTTINGHAM, Established 1672.—The Fifth Crofts Memorial Dinner will be held at the Welbeck Hotel, Nottingham, on Saturday, January 29th, 1927, at 6 p.m. Tickets, 4/- each, can now be obtained from the Committee or F. Blood, Hon. Sec., 91, Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. Francis S. Wilson, recently of Haddon Lodge, Diss, Norfolk, has now removed to Lloyds Bank House, Wincanton, Somerset.

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SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

STAPLEFORD, CAMBS.—On Sunday afternoon, December 5th, on the occasion of the visit of the Bishop of Ely to dedicate the new vestry, 720 London Surprise: C. Jennings 1, Miss K. Willers (conductor) 2, A. E. Austin 3, F. E. Haynes 4, W. A. Tack 5, E. H. Finch 6.

ACTON.—At St. Mary's Church, on December 5th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: E. Lankester 1, Miss P. Moss (conductor) 2, Robt. Fardon 3, M. Stacey 4, H. Wincote 5, A. Fulwell 6, J. W. Kelley 7, E. W. Coulson 8. This was Miss Moss's first in this method as conductor, and she was congratulated by the band.

DOVER, KENT.—On Sunday, December 5th, for the evening service at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) in 43 mins.: R. H. Stevens 1, S. Baker (Cheriton) 2, J. Eagles 3, C. Turner 4, R. Birch (Hythe) 5, C. R. Millway (conductor) 6, H. J. Saunders 7, C. Hardeman 8.

EXETER.—At St. David's, on Sunday, December 5th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 48 mins., for evening service and a birthday compliment to ringer of treble: Miss G. Arbury (first quarter-peal of Triples) 1, Frank J. Davey 2, J. Arbury (conductor) 3, C. Carter 4, W. S. Lethbridge 5, A. T. Truman 6, W. Richardson 7, A. Webber 8.

NOTICE.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Bolton, on Saturday, December 18th. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m. Reports now ready. Ringers' service at the same Church on Sunday, December 19th, 3 p.m. Xmas Carols and Haydn's 'Surprise' on handbells by the Holy Trinity Ringers.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

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