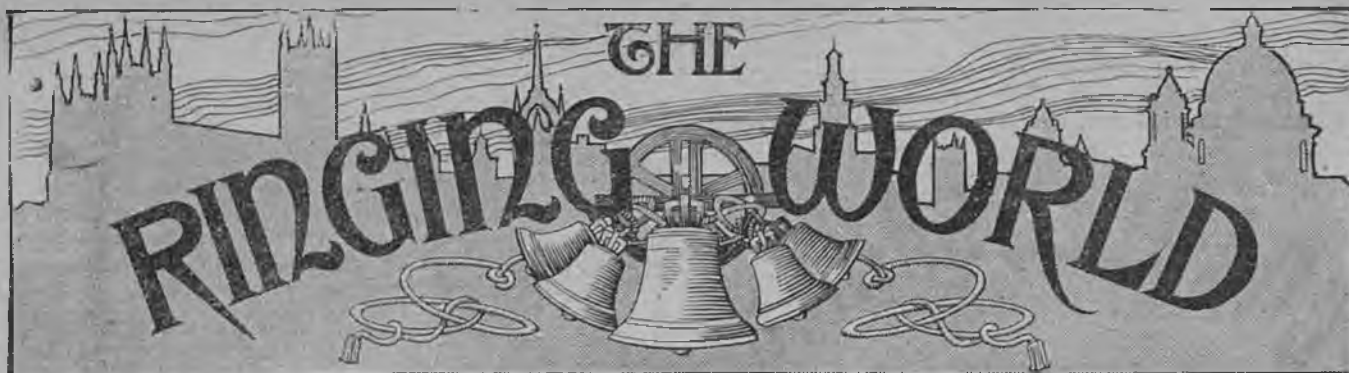




No. 822 Vol. XXI

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24th, 1926.

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

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A VALUABLE WORK.

Those critics of the Central Council who are in the habit of asking 'What has the Council done for ringing?' are often forgetful or ignorant. If the Council have done nothing else, they have rendered invaluable service to the Exercise by their publications and by placing within the reach of ringers books and pamphlets upon matters relating to our art for which no individual would have made himself responsible, and which, therefore, but for the action of the Council, would probably never have seen the light. One of the greatest steps ever taken in the advancement of six-bell ringing was the publication of the 'Collection' of six-bell methods. It revealed to the aspiring ringer a new field for his enterprise, new scope for his skill. It raised the quality of the methods practised to a higher level, and, by making possible 'spliced' ringing, opened up an entirely new departure in our art. The financial risk attaching to such a publication as this is was considerable, and such as few individual ringers would have cared to face. But it was possible to a body like the Central Council, and the Exercise has had the advantage not only of the knowledge of eminent men in the science, but also of a useful work at a reasonable price.

A new and equally valuable publication has now been completed by the Council, and is available to the Exercise. It is a collection of Plain Major and Cater Methods, 'selected and issued according to the instructions and under the authority of the Council, by the Rev. H. Law James, Mr. E. H. Lewis and Mr. J. A. Trollope.' It is a step towards providing for the Exercise as comprehensive a collection of methods on the higher numbers of bells, as has been done on six bells, but in its scope it is something more ambitious, and consequently should be of even greater help to ringers on eight and ten bells than was the former publication to the six and seven-bell method ringers. The methods given in the new book are merely a selection from the complete collection—more than eight hundred plain Major methods, all complying with the Council's definitions, were obtained by this industrious committee—but what is now put before the Exercise is a skilfully arranged choice of those methods which it is considered will be of best service to ringers and those anxious to study the theory of method construction, coupled with tables of lead and course ends, and peal compositions. The bulk of the book is, of course, devoted to the eight-bell methods, and Caters forms necessarily only a small section, but in the latter, as in the former, ringers will henceforth have available something which will enable them to extend their present limited practice.

(Continued on page 302.)

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There will doubtless be those who will say that ringers have enough scope in regard to methods already, and that the labours of the committee will be interesting to just a few only. There were those who said this in regard to the Minor Collection, but there has been a gradually growing desire on the part of ringers to practise the methods put forward by the Council in that earlier publication, and in course of time this new work will be as widely used and valued as the old one; indeed, we venture to think, more so. When 'Standard Methods' was published by Jasper Snowdon it was a welcome addition to the instruction books on ringing. The Method Collections of the Central Council are, in reality, only a continuation of the work which Mr. Snowdon began. No one would argue that what was sufficient when Jasper Snowdon first brought out that work is sufficient for these days. The Exercise has progressed—must progress if it is to live—and in publishing these Collections of Methods, the Central Council is not only providing for the advancement of the art in the present, but paving the way for higher standards and greater scope in the practice of ringing in the future.

TEN BELL PEALS.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 18, 1926, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt.

ARTHUR DEAN Treble	JAMES BENNETT 6
MISS ELSIE E. CHAPMAN... 2	CHARLES W. R. GRIMWOOD 7
*CHARLES H. KIPPEN... .. 3	JAMES E. DAVIS 8
WILLIAM MILLER 4	WILLIAM PYE 9
GEORGE R. PYE... .. 5	REUBEN SANDERS... .. Tenor

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE

* 50th peal this year.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 18, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 6007 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 20 lb.

GEORGE H. SHOKER Treble	HENRY STALHAM 6
FRANK BENNETT 2	HORACE WHITEHEAD 7
EDWARD C. MERRETT... .. 3	JOHN DEARLOVE 8
HERBERT RANN 4	ROBERT J. DAWE... .. 9
JOHN T. RICKMAN 5	JAMES A. HART Tenor

Composed by the late C. H. HATTERSLEY.

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 18, 1926, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 30½ cwt.

LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD Treble	J. FREDERICK MILNER... .. 6
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 2	EDWARD C. GOBEY 7
EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ... 3	ERNEST MORRIS 8
J. CHARLES DICKEN 4	FREDERICK S. PRICE 9
*HARRY MORGAN... .. 5	PERCIVAL PRICE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal of Caters and first attempt. This composition, which is now rung for the first time, was composed for the conductor's 19th birthday, and it was his first peal on ten tower bells as conductor.

REDBOURN.—At St. Mary's Church, on December 10th, 720 Grand-size Doubles, in 29 mins., by: W. Lee 1, J. Hobbs 2, A. Brinklow (conductor) 3, A. V. Good 4, G. Daniels 5, A. Archer 6. First 720 as conductor, and first by ringers of tenor.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

PONTYPRIDD, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, December 11, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes.

At the Church of St. Catherine,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

J. HALLETT Treble	* F. ROWSELL 5
IVOR MITCHELL 2	J. DARCH 5
A. E. GRAY 3	J. COLES 7
W. FISHER 4	S. REDGWAY Tenor

Conducted by J. HALLETT.

* First peal. Ringers of 4th and 7th hail from Merthyr.

PLYMPTON ST. MAURICE.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, December 11, 1926, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Thomas,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

Tenor 15 cwt.

CHARLES R. LILLEY Treble	WILLIAM G. HISCOFF 5
ERNEST W. MARSH 2	* HARRY SIPPETT 6
REGINALD BEER 3	* WM. A. WONNACOTT 7
WILLIAM RUNDLE 4	* WM. G. LAVERS Tenor

Conducted by W. A. WONNACOTT.

* First peal of Stedman. Also first peal of Triples as conductor. First peal of Stedman Triples for the ring of the 5th. First peal in the method on the bells.

SMETHWICK, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, December 11, 1926, in Three Hours,

At the Old Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

BENJAMIN GOUGH Treble	EDWARD F. MITCHELL 5
JOHN PERRY 2	WILLIAM T. POWELL 6
ROBERT PICKERING 3	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER 7
SAMUEL J. HUGHES 4	JAMES GEORGE Tenor

Conducted by CHRISTOPHER WALLATER.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 11, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

* ALBERT WIFFEN Treble	FRANK CLAYDON 5
HARRY HAMMOND 2	† FRED ELEY 6
ARTHUR SAUNDERS 3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 7
WILLIAM KEEBLE 4	WALTER HAMMOND Tenor

Composed by JAMES PAGETT. Conducted by LEWIS W. WIFFEN.

* First peal on tower bells. † First peal. First peal in the method by tenor and treble ringers. Rung to celebrate the 61st birthday of H. Hammond.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FURNESS & LAKE DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 11, 1926, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

* ARTHUR GRANVILLE Treble	EDWIN JENNINGS 5
† WILLIAM PICTHALL 2	* JAMES BORROWS 6
MISS ELIZABETH M. SOART 3	WILLIAM ROBINSON 7
* JAMES WILLIAMS 4	* ARTHUR MATTHEWS Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM ROBINSON.

* First peal. † First peal in the method. Ringers of the treble, 2nd, 4th and tenor from Barrow, 3rd and 6th from Dalton, 5th Kendal, 7th Ambleside.

BECCLES.—At the Parish Church, on Tuesday, November 9th, to celebrate Mayor's Day, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,277 changes): T. Holmes 1, C. Rush 2, F. C. Lambert 3, R. Spalding 4, C. Parnell 5, G. Baxter 6, R. J. Goate 7, C. F. Sayer 8, E. R. Goate (conductor) 9, R. Rush 10.

SEDGLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, December 13, 1926, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

HARRY A. FARLOW Treble	CYRIL WINWOOD 5
ALFRED ROWLEY 2	* THOMAS R. HENSHER 6
BENJAMIN GOUGH 3	ABRAHAM GREENFIELD 7
EDWARD F. MITCHELL 4	JAMES GEORGE Tenor

Composed by GEORGE HAYWARD. Conducted by A. GREENFIELD.

* Proposed a member previous to starting. Rung as a compliment to the Rev. Dr. T. G. Swindell, Vicar of Sedgley, in honour of his 81st birthday. After the peal, the whole of the band extended their congratulations to the reverend gentleman. Thanks were also given to Mr. and Mrs. Ben Fullwood for their kind hospitality on this occasion.

SHEFFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, December 14, 1926, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At the R.C. Church of St. Marie, Norfolk Row,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 25 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.

* JOHN TOKE Treble	ROBERT HARRISON 5
COLIN HARRISON 2	JOHN THORPE 6
GEORGE LEWIS 3	* ROBERT HARRISON, JUN. 7
JAMES EVINSON 4	HENRY HURST Tenor

Conducted by COLIN HARRISON.

* First peal.

APPLEDORE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Wednesday, December 15, 1926, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHERBROOK'S NO. 1.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

MRS. H. BAKER Treble	KENNETH PATTENDEN 5
CHARLES W. PLAYER 2	HARRY BAKER 6
ROBERT EDWARDS 3	WILLIAM WENBAN 7
CHARLES TRIBE 4	GEORGE JOHNSON Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM WENBAN.

REDDISH, STOCKPORT.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

(BOWDEN AND STOCKPORT BRANCH.)

On Thursday, December 16, 1926, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Elizabeth,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILLIAM BLACKHURST ... Treble	ALFRED FROST 5
* HAROLD JONES 2	TOM WILDE 6
HAROLD G. FRAMPION ... 3	BENJAMIN THORP 7
† JOHN BRIERLEY 4	W. H. WOLSTENCROFT ... Tenor

Composed by W. HARRISON.

Conducted by B. THORP.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Treble Bob. Quarterly peal for the branch.

BADSEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 18, 1926, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

* JAMES BRADLEY Treble	* JOHN C. PERKINS 5
JOHN HALL 2	JOSEPH V. JOHNSON 6
* FREDERICK NORDEN 3	JAMES HEMMING 7
HARRY MIDDLETON 4	GEOFFREY J. HEMMING ... Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by J. HEMMING.

* First peal of Treble Bob Major. First peal of Treble Bob Major as conductor, and first peal of Treble Bob in the branch by resident branch members. Specially arranged and rung as a compliment to Harry Middleton on his 60th birthday.

BIDDENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, December 18, 1926, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 23 cwt.

MRS. HARRY BAKER Treble	KENNETH PATTENDEN 5
ROBERT EDWARDS 2	HARRY BAKER 6
WILLIAM E. PITMAN 3	WILLIAM WENBAN 7
CHARLES W. PLAYER 4	ALFRED BATTEN Tenor

Conducted by W. WENBAN.

First peal of Stedman upon the bells. The band wish to thank the Rector, Rev. W. H. Collis, for so readily granting permission to ring both upon this and previous occasions.

CONISBOROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(DONCASTER & DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, November 18, 1926, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

J. RANDE Treble	HBT. FOWLER 5
C. URCH 2	P. GLEDSTONE 6
W. A. GLEDSTONE 3	F. G. LEWIS 7
S. HARRISON 4	R. SAREBY Tenor

Composed by H. JOHNSON.

Conducted by C. URCH.

First peal as conductor and first in the method by the local band.

GORTON, MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 18, 1926, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT BROOKFIELD CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

HAROLD JONES Treble	CHARLES OLLIER 5
ALBERT GORRINGE 2	HARRY GASKELL 6
ALFRED FROST 3	TOM WILDE 7
WILLIAM BRAMMER 4	BENJAMIN THORP Tenor

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD.

Conducted by B. THORP.

* First peal of Treble Bob.

BARTHOMLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 18, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BERTOLINE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. in E.

JOHN PARKER Treble	JOHN BRADSHAW 5
JOHN BRASSINGTON 2	RICHARD SHERRATT 6
JOHN MATTHEWS 3	ARTHUR ALLMAN 7
GEORGE ADDISON 4	ALBERT ASBURY Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR ALLMAN.

First peal of Triples as conductor. First peal on the bells by a local band, and all are service ringers at the above church. J. Bradshaw was elected a member before starting the peal.

TWICKENHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 18, 1926, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5066 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

ERNEST V. BEADLE Treble	WILLIAM H. HOLLIER 5
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE 2	HORACE BELCHER 6
FRANK CORKE 3	FREDERICK W. GOODFELLOW 7
ROBERT THOMPSON 4	ARTHUR HARDING Tenor

Composed and Conducted by J. A. TROLLOPE.

Rung, after meeting short for Double Norwich Major, as a birthday compliment to Horace Belcher.

SIMPSON, BUCKS.—At the Church of St. Thomas, on Wednesday evening, November 3rd, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: G. Grove 1, F. Rowe 2, S. Smith 3, D. Hurst 4, A. B. Corden 5, J. W. Searcy (conductor) 6. All the above hail from St. Martin's, Penny Stratford. First 720 of Cambridge on the bells.

PENWORTHAM, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 18, 1926, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.

WILLIAM TAYLOR Treble	FRED HARWOOD 5
BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS 2	JOHN GORNALL 6
JOHN R. TAYLOR 3	JOHN T. MILLER 7
JAMES MILLER, JUN. 4	E. ROGER MARTIN Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

Conducted by W. TAYLOR.

First peal on the augmented bells. First peal of Major by the ringers of 6th and 7th. First peal of Major as conductor.

ALBURGH, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, December 18, 1926, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. in G.

FREDERICK BORRETT Treble	GEORGE GOWER 5
GEORGE HOWLETT 2	CHARLES CLARKE 6
ERNEST WHITING 3	WALTER BARRETT 7
JAMES ELDRIDGE 4	CHARLES CUTTING Tenor

Composed by W. GOODALL.

Conducted by F. BORRETT.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to Frederick Smith, a ringer for nearly 60 years, whose funeral took place that day.

LONDON.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 18, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE THE-MARTYR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN LEE Treble	ALFRED J. BULL 5
H. BERNARD WELLS 2	JAMES W. CHAPMAN 6
MISS FRED A. ORR 3	CHARLES W. ROBERTS 7
HERBERT J. SKELT 4	DANIEL COOPER Tenor

Composed by F. ROBINSON.

Conducted by DANIEL COOPER.

Rung in honour of the marriage of the daughter of Mr. R. H. Spink, steepkeeper of this church. First peal in the method as conductor.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

THRANDESTON, SUFFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Plain Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob, and two of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

WILLIAM MUSK Treble	*GEORGE ARCHER 4
ALBERT G. HARRISON 2	TOM FORD, JUN. 5
CLEMENT J. MORE 3	WILLIAM STEGGALL Tenor

Conducted by W. STEGGALL.

* First peal of Minor. Rung as a birthday compliment to ringers of the-treble and 4th.

YAXLEY, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, December 11, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Plain Bob and four of Oxford Treble Bob.

Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM MUSK Treble	DAVID WHITING 4
ALPHEBUS J. BERRY 2	DEREK LOCKWOOD 5
ALBERT G. HARRISON 3	WILLIAM STEGGALL Tenor

Conducted by W. STEGGALL.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—On Tuesday, December 7th, at St. Michael's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,263 changes) in 53 mins.: Joseph Mellor 1, *James Carter 2, *Mary Elizabeth Thorp 3, *William Dyson 4, *Sydney Marshall 5, *Fred Althorp 6, William Brummer 7, *Albert Gorrings 8, Benjamin Thorpe (conductor) 9, Samuel Wood 10. * Longest length of Stedman.

SIDDINGTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 11, 1926, in Two Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE & ST. DUNSTAN'S DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.

H. CHARLES BOND Treble	JOHN HOPE 4
WILLIAM COSS 2	LESLIE BARRY 5
GEORGE ORCHARD 3	P. S. GEORGE HASTINGS ... Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE BARRY.

HOBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 11, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 9½ cwt. (approx.).

JOHN A. PAYNE Treble	GEORGE T. H. WALKER ... 3
ARTHUR H. MANSFIELD ... 2	THOMAS H. PAYNE 4
ERNEST F. PAYNE Tenor	

Conducted by ERNEST F. PAYNE.

First peal as conductor. Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. George Rostock, of Cossington, on the 21st anniversary of their wedding.

THE CHART, LIMPFIELD, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTHERN DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, December 11, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, College Exercise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Single Bob, and Plain Bob.

Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

H. F. HYLTON TIDY ... Treble	ALFRED J. BULL 4
H. BERNARD WELLS 2	GEORGE ELLIS 5
CHARLES W. CLINCH 3	LEONARD A. TIDY Tenor

Conducted by LEONARD A. TIDY.

* First peal in seven methods. Rung for the quarterly peal of the above association.

REEPHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Sunday, December 12, 1926, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, HACKFORD,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, and three 720's of Bob Minor. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*MATT TIMBERS Treble	*WILLIAM J. WASEY 4
*FRANK N. GOLDEN 2	WALTER C. MRDLER 5
JOHN MOY 3	WILLIAM B. DUNCAN ... Tenor

Conducted by W. B. DUNCAN.

* First peal in three methods.

LITTLEDEAN, GLOS.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 12, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ETHELBERT,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE & ST. DUNSTAN'S DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 1½ cwt.

HERBERT EMBLIN Treble	FREDERICK EVANS 4
PHILIP CARTER 2	THOMAS HART 5
*WILLIAM SHOTT 3	*FRANK EVANS Tenor

Conducted by TOM HART.

* First peal. † First peal on hunting bell.

SWINDON, WILTS.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 18, 1926, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Oxford, two of Kent and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt.

G. LAWRENCE Treble	A. HEATH 4
C. J. GARDINER 2	W. LANCASTER 5
S. H. HOPPER 3	H. HATTON Tenor

Conducted by W. LANCASTER.

C. J. Gardiner and W. Lancaster hail from Christ Church, Swindon. The remainder belong to St. Mark's, and had not rung a 720 of Oxford before.

OVER, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(THE OVER SOCIETY.)

On Friday, December 17, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's.

Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr.

CHARLES ROBINSON Treble	FRED GINN 4
FRANCIS G. GLEAVES 2	ARTHUR J. GINN 5
ARTHUR WM. T. GINN 3	FRANK WARRINGTON ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

Rung fully muffled as a token of respect to Mrs. Weston (wife of the Rev. F. (i. Weston, Vicar), to Mrs. Galloway (widow of late Vicar), both interred on the above date, and also to Elizabeth, sister of 4th ringer.

RUSHTON, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(KETTERING BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 18, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising seven different 720's.

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb.

*ARTHUR WOOLMER Treble	*FREDERICK PAYNE 4
WALTER T. WILSON 2	FREDERICK J. TITE 5
CYRIL D. NICHOLS 3	ROBERT G. BLACK Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT G. BLACK.

* First peal. Rung to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the opening of the bells after rehanging. The treble ringer is the first Rushton ringer to ring a peal.

HANDBELL PEAL.

RAYNE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 12, 1926, in Two Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. H. REDGWELL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

BASIL REDGWELL 1-2	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 5-6
WILLIAM KEEBLE 3-4	GEORGE WIFFEN 7-8

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

BEGINNERS' TOUCHES.

At Martham, Norfolk, on Thursday, December 16th, the local company rang a quarter-peal of Bob Doubles (1,260 changes) with tenor covering in 45 mins.: Wm. Sales 1, Arthur Hodds 2, H. Mason (conductor) 3, Walter Watson 4, Albert Jetten 5, Sid Durrant 6. This was the first quarter-peal by all except the ringer of the 3rd, and first on the bells for over 30 years, during which time 'Stoney' has been the dominating 'method.' This quarter-peal was only made possible by the ringers themselves doing a bit of amateur repairing, as the bells are sadly in need of a bell-hanger.

A PROMISING YOUNG RINGER.

On Tuesday evening, December 14th, for practice, Frederic Richard Wellard, who is a pupil of Mr. Fred Brett at St. Alpheage, Canterbury, rang a plain course of Grandsire Cinques, a plain course of Stedman Cinques, a touch of Stedman Cinques, and a touch of Stedman Caters, on the 2nd, at the Cathedral. This was his first attempt at Stedman on any number of bells.

At St. Matthew's Church, Oversea, Derbyshire, on Tuesday, November 30th, a 720 Bob Minor was rung for the first time by the local band: P. Grice 1, L. Freeman 2, W. Brooker 3, C. Jewsbury 4, J. W. Cotton (first 720 as conductor) 5, W. E. Clayfield 6.

MILNROW, LANCs.—On December 7th, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at St. James' Church: J. Fitton 1, H. Hamer 2, W. Staff 3, J. B. Shaw 4, S. W. Dunn 5, G. Staff (conductor) 6, A. Buckley 7, Jno. H. C. Bassey 8. This was a birthday compliment to Mr. J. Fitton, who has been a regular service ringer at the above church for 52 years, also the longest length in the method by a local band.

GLANTHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.—At St. Wulfram's Church, on Saturday evening, December 4th, 1,278 Grandsire Caters: J. Royce 1, A. Muckack 2, S. Proctor (conductor) 3, H. Haynes 4, H. Squires 5, P. Turner 6, A. Ward 7, T. Hall 8, F. Turner 9, R. Peck 10.—For evening on Sunday, December 5th, 1,299 Stedman Caters: S. Hall 1, W. Thorpe 2, E. Nidd 3, E. Roys 4, H. Thorpe 5, P. Turner 6, A. Ward 7, T. Proctor 8, S. Proctor (conductor) 9, R. Peck 10. First quarter-peal by J. Royce and E. Roys.

NOTES BY THE WAY. **MORE ABOUT THE EXTENSION OF METHODS.** **BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.**

A method on a given number of bells is a series of cyclical movements. The extension of that method will be a progression of the series of cyclical movements arranged on a progression of numbers of bells.

To understand any progression it is necessary to state one term and also the factor of the progression. In methods the term must be the cyclical movements and nothing else, for these alone are the essential things of ringing. The factor will vary in different circumstances, but will be subject to one general law.

Since a progression of cyclical movements is a progression of the one essential thing in a method, we shall find that it implies and involves a progression of all other features of any importance. It implies a progression of the rows, of the places, and of all the work.

123	1234	12345
213	2143	21435
231	2413	24153
321	4231	42513
312	4321	45231
132	3412	54321
123	3142	53412
	1324	35142
	1234	31524
		13254
		12345

Let 12, 123, 1234, 12345, etc., be a progression of rows to infinity. On each construct a forward hunting course.

Then since :—

- The starting rows are in progression,
- There is one cyclical movement on each row.
- The movements are in all cases in the same direction (i.e., forward).

Therefore, the result is a true extension.

This simple and obvious extension is the pattern and model of all extensions. Just as all method construction is implied in the hunting course and is a development of it, so all extension is implied in the above example.

Notice how everything of importance is equally in progression :—

Coursing order :—

21—231—2431—24531—246531, etc.

Number of rows :—

4—6—8—10—12—14—16, etc.

Or the rows themselves :—

21—213—2143—21435—214365, etc.

Or again :—

No. of bells =	2	3	4	5
Position of row =	2	3	4	5
Row =	21	231	4321	45231

Similarly, each individual row of any block on any number is one of a progression, which runs right through the whole extension from the lowest number of bells to infinity.

And this is a general rule of all extensions. Each individual row on any number will be one of a progression which runs right through all numbers; though in many cases the progression will not be obvious or easy to see.

The one factor in the above extension is the difference in the number of bells, and extension takes place equally in all features. Thus the relationship between a hunting course of Minor and one of Major is that of 6 to 8. The number of rows, the size of the cyclical movements, the

coursing order, the rows themselves are all strictly in that proportion.

But directly you introduce any dodging or secondary movement the factor can no longer be the simple one of the difference in the number of bells.

Take a block produced by Treble Bob hunting :—

1234	123456	12345678
2143	214365	21436587
1234	123456	12345678
2143	214365	21436587
2413	241635	24163857

The main forward cyclical movement extends in a progression to infinity, the factor being the difference in the number of bells. The number of inserted dodging movements also expands as the difference in the number of bells. But the extent of backward and forward movement in each dodging movement does not extend in the same proportion. On all numbers it is definitely one step backward, followed by one step forward. The result is that, while a series of Treble Bob courses in 4-5-6-7 ad. inf. are in strict progression, the divisions into which they are divided expand horizontally; but vertically are constant.

Thus the progression is not a simple one, as in the case of the hunting course, but a compound one; and this fact has a profound influence on the extension of methods.

In the book several other examples of compound progressions are given, and it then goes on :—

' This establishes the fact that equal expansion can take place only within a single hunting course, and that when dodging movements are introduced expansion is unequal, some features expanding in a different proportion or remaining constant.

' Similarly, expansion in a block which is constructed by a primary cyclical movement, and one or more secondary cycles is necessarily unequal. Each cycle will expand as the difference in the number of bells involved; but as the proportion between the numbers of bells in the primary and secondary cycles is not constant, but in a progression, the factor of the whole series will be a compound one.

' Take the simple case of Plain Bob :—

No. of bells	...	4	5	6	7	8	etc.
No. of hunts	...	1	1	1	1	1	
No. of extreme bells	...	3	4	5	6	7	
No. of rows in lead	...	8	10	12	14	16	
No. of rows in secondary cycle	...	6	8	10	12	14	
No. of rows in course	...	24	40	60	84	112	

' This is a true progression, but it is obvious that the factor is not a simple one, and that therefore expansion is unequal.

' The introduction of other secondary cycles will each bring in a factor of its own, and thus make the progression still more complex.

' The fact that expansion is unequal and subject to the laws of a true mathematical progression has been totally overlooked, and this is largely the cause of so much misunderstanding of what extension really is.

' One general law arises from the fact that an extension is a true progression, which is that an extension is not confined to a limited number of bells. It goes on to infinity. Thus, if you have a true extension of London Major to ten bells, you have automatically a true extension to twelve bells, and every number that is in the progression 8, 10, 12, 14, etc.

* Conversely, if you have what you call a true extension from 8 to 10 and it will not further extend to 12, 14, 16, etc., then that fact is sufficient proof that the extension is not really a true one, whatever reasons and arguments you may have to think it so.

* Further, no one in considering a mathematical progression, and especially a complex, would think of confining himself to the first two or three terms; and, similarly, though for practical purposes we are restricted to twelve bells and the labour of writing out methods on large numbers is very great, still we must take these higher numbers into consideration. In many cases it is only by so doing that we can appreciate what the extension really is.

The book then goes on to deal in detail with the problem of the extension of the more complex methods. This I spare my readers, but at the end I believe that a general and sound law of extension is shown to exist. And in this connection let me repeat what I said at the beginning. The really vital test of an extension is experience in the tower. In other words, if an extension is really a true one, then you must be able to give a set of rules by which you can ring both the original and the extension. I do not mean that every rule by which you ring the original must apply to the extension, but that there must be a set of rules which will apply comprehensively to both.

I ought to mention that the Rev. E. S. Powell, who did me the service of reading and criticising my book before the sheets were bound, objected that I use the word 'factor' not in exactly the same sense that a mathematician does. I had to let it stand for want of a better, and I hope that what I mean by it is sufficiently clear.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. A HALF CENTURY REVIEWED.

The annual report of the Lancashire Association shows that the strength of the association at the close of the year was 78 hon. life members, 15 hon. members, 13 non-resident life members, 211 non-resident members, and 1,125 ringing members. The financial position is also reported as satisfactory, the year's working showing a gain of £10. One hundred and nine peals were rung, a slight falling off from the last few years, due, says the report, in some measure, no doubt, to the unsettled state of trade and unsatisfactory travelling facilities. The quality of the methods rung, however, is quite up to the average.

After reviewing the principal events of the year and thanking the branch secretaries for their constant and unselfish labours, the report goes on:

'This is the fiftieth annual report issued by the committee. Looking back over the last half century we see a wonderful advance in some of the things, to promote which the association was formed. The belfries are, as a rule, in far better order, and the bells in many cases are better hung for ringing. The number of rings, especially of octaves, in the county has been greatly increased. There has been a general uplift in the status of ringers, and in the standard of behaviour in the belfry. Much has been done to promote friendly fellowship between ringers from different towers, and knowledge of change ringing, especially in a variety of methods, has been much more general.

'Speaking of the standard of ringing, we notice that, while the advance has been general, it has not been constant in any one place; now one band and now another has had pre-eminence. On the other hand, there are still bands who seem to have no ambition to progress beyond a very small knowledge of one method, and still ringers who, apart from Sunday ringing, seem to let every other interest than ringing have the first claim upon their time. There are enthusiasts in all our branches, but there are many more whom they might stir to more enthusiasm for their art. In the earliest reports, great stress was laid upon the ringer's position as a Church worker, and upon the duty of himself joining in worship. We would put it that the Sunday ringing in quality and attendance ought to be the very best that ringers can give, because it is there definitely offered for the service of God, and all who ring on Sunday with this motive will feel that the offering of their art in the belfry is not complete without the offering of their prayer and praise in their service which follows the ringing.'

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

♦ ♦ ♦ ♦ ♦

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

We heartily reciprocate the kindly wishes for Christmas and the New Year which have been sent us by many friends, and to all our readers we extend our cordial greetings.

In the early days of change ringing, what we now know as Oxford Treble Bob was called Union Bob, and the first peal was rung by the Union Scholars at St. Dunstan's, in the City of London, on December 27th, 1718.

The first peal of College Exercise Major was rung at Hackney on December 26th, 1760.

A peal of 5,040 'London Union Trebbles' was rung on Dec. 26th, 1782, 'being the first peal of that method composed and called by J. Plegis, at St. Giles-in-the-Fields.' Was this the method which Shipway afterwards published as London Treble Bob?

The Christmas holidays have been a favourite occasion for long peals, among the most noteworthy being the following, rung on Boxing Day: 15,168 Kent Treble Bob Major at Epsand, Yorks, in 1851; 8,064 Double Norwich at Leiston, Suffolk, in 1885; 9,312 Superlative Surprise at Crawley, Sussex, 1894; 10,080 Bob Major at Helmington, 1895; 11,111 Stedman Cinques at St. Martin's, Birmingham, and 10,176 Kent Treble Bob Major at Beeston, Notts, 1901; 9,728 Superlative Surprise, Clent, Worcestershire, 1910; 10,440 Cambridge Surprise Royal at Walthamstow, 1923.

The Winchester Guild, which may now soon be divided, on account of the division of the diocese, scored its first peal on December 27th, 1881. It was a peal of Union Triples at Guildford.

On December 27th, 1904, 17,104 Double Norwich Court Bob Major was rung at South Wigston, Leicestershire. On the same day in 1909, 10,176 Double Oxford Bob Major was rung at Brierley Hill.

The Friendly Society of Ringers' rang a peal of 6,160 Bob Major at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on December 27th, 1738.

The peal of eight at Bunbury have just been rung in ball bearings by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

LONG MELFORD BELLS.

INFORMATION WANTED ABOUT A FAMOUS SUFFOLK RING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am gathering all the information I can concerning the bells of Long Melford.

I should be grateful if any reader would let me know anything about these, especially the peals that have been rung on them. In 1884, the Melford company were members of the Cumberland Youths. Has that society any record of peals rung by their members on these bells? I presume there are many ringers alive who rang peals before 1898, and perhaps they would give me particulars concerning those peals.

There have been bells here many centuries, as I find that in 1401 there was left in a will '3s. 4d. for the repair of the bell broken in ringing.' In 1468, there was left 2s. for the ringing of the bells. In 1555, the ringers received 10s. for ringing when the Bishop came. Could it be possible that they rang changes by methods as is done now? Perhaps someone would answer me that question.

The first mention of peals is 1768, and there is a record of a peal of Bob Major (10,080 changes) by the Melford company, also a 5,120 of Treble Bob. In 1782, we have the following peal recorded:

Attend, ye gods; oh, hark ye Saints Divine;

Give merit due to a ringer's rhyme.

No trifling peal, I mean no paltry change—

London Court Bob, that peal of mighty range.

And here, as in the following time, are named

These were the men for ringing highly famed:

Samuel Scott, as first with the treble he did lead,

The second was rung by Joshua Steed;

Joseph Cutts, the third, stood well in his place;

John Pearson the fourth bell swayed in the chase;

James Green, the fifth, of whom stood much in need;

And the sixth was rung by William Smith indeed;

John Corder the seventh, and the peal did call;

George Cadge, the tenor, which completed them all.

The changes were five thousand and twice one score.

And it is supposed 'twas never done before

Within three hours and ten minutes space.

And the changes took no ringer from his pace.

Was this the first peal of London Court? John Corder called all the three peals mentioned.

There are many things I should like to ask, but I feel I am encroaching upon your space already.—Yours faithfully,

GRANVILLE C. BIXBY.

Hall Street, Long Melford, Suffolk.

VETERAN SUFFOLK RINGER DEAD.

We regret to record the death of an old Alburgh ringer in the person of Mr. Frederick Smith, who had attained the age of 75 years. He is the first of the band of septuagenarians, who rang a peal four years ago, to join the great majority. No ringer was ever better liked by those who knew him. He had been a ringer at Alburgh and Redenhall since 1867, and rang his first peal at Redenhall in 1872 and his last this year at Alburgh. Altogether he had rung 122 association peals.

THE SHADE FUND.

RESULT OF THE HANDBELL COMPETITION.

An extremely gratifying result attended the effort to raise a fund for the benefit of Miss Shade, the sister of the late Mr. I. G. Shade, who devoted so many years of her life to keeping house for her brother.

Readers of 'The Ringing World' were invited to subscribe to the fund, and in return for each shilling so contributed were entitled to participate in a competition for the set of sixteen handbells which were Mr. Shade's property, and which had been offered to the Editor by Mr. Shade's sister. In view of Miss Shade's circumstances, however, the Editor desired to put the handbells to practical use, and consequently organised the competition for the benefit of the veteran ringer's sister.

Many willing helpers throughout the country gave their assistance by collecting subscriptions and distributing the tickets, and to all these the Editor extends his grateful thanks.

No fewer than 1,078 tickets were disposed of, representing subscriptions amounting to £53 18s., and a further sum of £1 was kindly contributed as a donation by Mr. E. A. Young, hon. secretary of the Central Council, making the total amount received £54 18s. The printing, postages and carriage on the bells to the winner amounted to £2 8s., and the very satisfactory sum of £52 10s. has therefore been forwarded to Miss Shade.

The competition was decided by a draw, which took place on Saturday evening. Purely by coincidence it happened that the date advertised for this was the same as that subsequently settled upon for a conference, at the office of 'The Ringing World,' of members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, in connection with the proposed setting up of a separate Guild for the new diocese of Guildford. At the conclusion of the business, the draw for the handbells was made by Mrs. J. S. Goldsmith in the presence of the members of the committee, and the winning ticket was No. 800. This ticket was held by

MR. FRANK JACKSON,
15, New Row,
Bramley,

Near Leeds,

to whom the bells are being sent. The subscription was collected by Mr. H. Lofthouse, secretary of the Leeds and District Society.

LIVERPOOL BELLS FOR ST. HELENS.

The old peal of ten bells which used to hang in the tower of St. Peter's Church, Liverpool, but which were removed and stored for some time, will shortly be installed at St. Helens, Lancs.

The bells have been to the Whitechapel Foundry, where they have been tuned and sand-blasted. They are to be hung in a new frame. The tenor is a bell of exceptionally deep note for its weight. Although only about 24 cwt., it is, we believe, nearly down to C.

Messrs. Mears and Stainbank are also shortly to commence the re-hanging of the ring of twelve at St. Michael and All Angels' Church, Ashton-under-Lyne, where many celebrated peals have been rung, including the records of 12,240 Kent Treble Bob Maximus and 14,000 Treble Ten. The bells are to be tuned and rehung in new framework, with entirely new fittings.

VETERAN RINGER'S DEATH.

On Monday, November 29th, the death took place of Mr. Richard Blundell, of Halsall, near Ormskirk, Lancashire, in his 87th year. Mr. Blundell had a record of 52 years as a chorister, and 37 years as a ringer at St. Cuthbert's, Halsall, where his remains were laid to rest on December 2nd, the local ringers acting as bearers.

Many years ago it was customary at Halsall to ring on May 24th, and as the majority of the ringers were engaged in agriculture they started at 5 a.m. and rang till six, and often Mr. Blundell's horse and cart laden with produce could be seen near the church waiting for its owner to drive it to Liverpool, a distance of 14 miles, after ringing was over, generally reaching home about 8 p.m. There was no eight-hour day at that period.

As a last tribute to his memory, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung on Monday, December 6th, in 26 minutes, by: Arthur Mawdesley 1, Thomas Prescott 2, Harry Fyles 3, John Gardner 4, Harry Sergeant 5, William Huyton (conductor) 6.

WEDDING BELLS.

On Saturday, November 20th, at St. Andrew's Church, Farnham, on the occasion of the wedding of Miss V. E. Bainton, of Farnham, and Mr. W. Johnson, of Aldershot, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 47 mins.: H. Prior 1, J. Read 2, C. Wells 3, S. Meadows 4, G. Upshall 5, T. Upshall 6, R. Hasted (conductor) 7, A. E. King 8.—Also 518 in the same method with F. Kemp ringing the treble, the rest as above.

At Edenbridge, Kent, on Sunday, November 21st, at SS. Peter and Paul's Church, for the wedding of Mr. H. Malyau, son of one of the local ringers, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (containing the 24-4's): E. Leigh, jun., 1, E. Collison 2, W. Leigh, sen., 3, R. Jenner 4, H. Leigh 5, J. Hearman (conductor) 6, E. Leigh 7, W. Leigh, jun., 8.—Also a short touch with E. Leigh, sen., H. Mainbridge and R. Nye standing in. Of the above ringers, three are uncles, three are cousins and one the grandfather of the bridegroom.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION BRISTOL BRANCH MEETING AT BRISLINGTON.

The Bristol branch brought its successful run of meetings to a close for the year at Brislington on Saturday last. Members attended from Bristol (St. George's, St. Philip's, St. Stephen's, St. Werburgh's), Henbury, Stoke Bishop, and a full muster of the local band. Messrs. A. Evans (Burnham-on-Sea), C. Ford (Keynsham), and C. D. Heginbotham (Devizes) were welcome visitors.

Brislington possesses a fine old church, and one of the fifteenth-century towers which are among the glories of Somerset. In the churchyard is a tomb, the inscription on which records the death of Thomas Newman, who died at the age of 153 years. The writer, the first time he visited the tomb, heard a well-known ringer remark: 'I'll bet he was a bell ringer!'

The bells were available from 3 p.m., and touches in Cambridge Minor, Kent, Plain Bob, Stedman and Grandsire Double were rung. The ringers then adjourned to the Church Hall, where they found a sumptuous tea awaiting them, which had been kindly provided by the Vicar. A willing band of ladies waited at the tables, where 40 sat down, including the Vicar (the Rev. S. R. Worters) and Mrs. Worters. The Christmas spirit was evident, for after tea the crackers were banged off all along the line, and all was merry and bright.

Followed a short business meeting, presided over by the chairman (Mr. J. Gould), at which Mr. F. W. Cannings (Bath) was elected a life member.

Mr. Heginbotham proposed, and the Chairman seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for providing such a bountiful tea, for the service he was about to conduct, and for the use of the bells, to the organist for his services, to Messrs. Stowell and the local band for having everything in readiness, and, last but not least, to the ladies who had done so much to look after their comfort, yes! and ever-handed round the cigarettes. The Vicar was greeted with applause on rising to respond. He said they had looked forward to this meeting with great pleasure, and nothing better would please him and his willing band of helpers if they would make this an annual affair. A remark which the hon. secretary made note of. He (the Vicar) reminded Mr. Heginbotham of what he had missed by not coming to Brislington before.

The association form of service was afterwards held in the church (conducted by the Vicar), in which all heartily joined, and proved that the ringers could sing as well as ring. The new tune to the hymn, 'Hark, on high the joyful music,' was much appreciated. The Vicar also gave a fine address.

The tower was again visited, and one of the Surprise methods was made a feature of a good practice.

A FOUNDER OF NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

DEATH OF MR. GEORGE WILLIAMS, SEN., AT GRESFORD.

Through the death of Mr. George Williams, sen., the North Wales Association have lost one of their oldest members and one of the founders of the association, while the Gresford Church has sustained a loss which is irreplaceable. Deceased was 77 years of age on October 11th, and was at his place in the belfry and at the services on Sunday, December 12th. He worked in his business during part of the Monday, 13th, when after partaking of dinner, he was suddenly discovered to be very ill, and in spite of expert attention and every care unfortunately passed quietly away late in the evening. He leaves to mourn his death two sons and three daughters and many ringers.

Mr. Williams was a native of Gresford, and had spent the whole of his life in the environs of his beloved church and village. He was a member of the choir from the early age of six years, and ringer, steepkeeper and sexton for very many years. He possessed a unique knowledge of the history of his church, and delighted to escort any party of ringing friends around and point out the numerous items of special interest. He was a strict disciplinarian, especially in the tower, and had taught the rudiments of ringing to a great many young men. Not a great ringer of methods, he had rung a few peals of Grandsire Triples and one of Bob Major, and he was always delighted to welcome visiting ringers.

The funeral took place at Gresford Church on Thursday. The service was fully choral, and conducted by the Vicar (Rev. J. E. Williams, M.A.), assisted by his curate, the Rev. W. H. Bolton, the Rev. Bransly A. H. Jones, M.A., curate of Hay, and the Rev. R. J. Barker Owen, M.A., Rector of Is-y-Coed. The bearers were his brother ringers, who had also lined the grave with evergreens. The church was full to the door with sorrowing mourners and others who came to pay a last tribute of respect. The North Wales Association was represented by the Master (Mr. A. J. Hughes), Mr. L. J. Evans, Rhyl; Mr. E. Rowland and Mr. W. Jones, Wrexham; Mr. H. W. Wilde and Mr. Jas. Morgan (Pulford), and Mr. Jas. Swindley (Handbridge, Cheshire). A well-struck course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells at the graveside by: J. Swindley 1, L. J. Evans 2, H. W. Wilde 3-4, A. J. Hughes 5-6, J. Morgan 7-8.

The tower bells were fully muffled with the tenor open on one side. The whole pull and stand was rung by the local band assisted by E. Rowlands and A. J. Hughes, and afterwards three courses of Stedman Triples: H. W. Wilde 1, W. Jones 2, E. Rowlands 3, L. J. Evans 4, J. Swindley 5, J. Morgan 6, A. J. Hughes (conductor) 7, Mr. Randles 8. This was followed by touches of Grandsire by the local band assisted by the visitors.

SUPERLATIVE ROYAL AND MAXIMUS

REV. H. LAW JAMES' ANALYSIS OF CONSTRUCTION.

If we want to know what Superlative is on ten and twelve bells, it is absolutely necessary to find out what it is on eight bells.

The first point to notice is that the method is double, and so we need only study the first eight rows of the plain course.

12345678

21436587

12463578

21645387

26143578

62415387

26145837

62418573

A.—1. The whole eight bells change to produce the second row, fourth row, sixth row, and eighth row, and all the places are made at hand and back stroke.

2. When the treble dodges in 1-2, third's and sixth's places are made. What are these places?

Third's is 3rd from the front and 6th from the back. 6th's is 6th from the front and 3rd from the back.

3. When the treble passes from 2nd's place into 3rd's, 4th's place is made. This is 4th from the front and 5th from the back.

4. When the treble dodges in 3-4, 5th's place is made; this is 5th from the front and 4th from the back.

5. The eighth row is 62418573, therefore the ninth must be 26481537, for if you do anything else the bells will not strike 86745231 when the treble gets to the back; third's is 3rd from the front and 6th from the back, and 6th's is 6th from the front and third from the back.

We now know all that is to be known about the places, and it will be noticed that I have noted the relationship of these places both to the front and the back, because the method is double.

B.—The next thing to notice is the coursing order, and we can drop 7th's place and 2nd's because we know the result of these from Double Bob Major; then the bells come to lead and behind in the order 26373, and the 4th and 5th never get to lead or behind.

C.—The sixteenth row is 86745231. Eight and treble have changed places, 6 and 2, and 3 and 7, but 4 and 5 are still in the same place.

These are all the facts that we can gather from the Major; we want the Royal, and this problem is to produce twenty rows, the first of which is 1234567890, and the last

0896745231, and we notice 8-9 must change with 2-3 and 6-7 with 4-5 when 0 and treble have changed.

I.

1234567890

2143658709

1246357890

2164538709

II.

1234567890

2143658709

1246357890

214367509

III.

1234567890

2143658709

1246357890

2164837509

This is the same as Major with places related to the front but not to the back.

Places related to the back but not to the front.

3rd's place from the front and 3rd's from the back.

These three groups of four rows are the only three that we can produce on ten bells. Each one of them has places made between the 2nd and 3rd rows which can be justified from the Major, and as far as the place making is concerned there is no more to be said for any one of them in preference to either of the others; but the place making does not constitute the method. The next thing to consider is coursing order. In I. and III., 6 is prepared to go in to the 2nd; in II., 4 instead of 6. Therefore we prefer I. and III. to II.

Comparing I. and III., in I. 3 is in course order behind 7, but in III. the course order is 9, 5, 3, therefore we prefer I. to III.

We therefore elect to proceed from I., remembering that we still have II. and III. to fall back upon in case of need.

IV.

2164538709

2614357890

In this we have 4th's place as in Major, but it is not 5th's from the back.

In this we have 6th's, which is 5th's from the back, as 4th's is in Major.

We can say as much for the one as the other.

We will take IV.:

IVa.

2614357890

6241538709

2614583079

6241850397

This has 5th's place from the front, as in Major, but it is not 4th's from the back.

This has 4th's place from the back, as in Major, but it is not 5th's from the front.

As far as the place making is concerned, there is no choice, but IVa. shows 8 going in to 6 in front, and IVb. shows 5 going in. Moreover, this puts 4 and 5 below the treble, which cannot be in a double method when the tenor and treble are to change in the middle.

We are therefore compelled to drop IVb.

Return to IVa.:

6241850397

2648105379

6284013597

6824103957

The Major tells us that we must make 3rd's and another place, the 0 must come to the treble in 5-6, therefore the other place must be 8th's. The Major tells us to make 4th's place when the treble dodges in 5-6, and as the method is double we must also make 7th's.

Now, comparing these last two rows, it is evident that the twentieth row will be 0896723451. We can

not make 9th's place, but we can continue the lead, and, by making 2nd's place when the treble leads, bring up 1352749608.

This is a true extension to ten bells, but it is not Superlative for it is not double.

We are driven back to V.:

Va.

2615437890

6251348709

2615384079

6251830497

Vb.

2615437890

6251348709

2615438079

6251340897

5th's place, but it is not 4th's from behind.

4th's place from behind, but it is not 5th's from the front.

Now, Vb. is impossible, because 2 and 3 will both come below the treble, and this leaves us Va.

Va.

6251830497

2658103479

6285014397

6825104937

The Major tells us to make two places; we are compelled by the treble to make 3rd's as in Major, and the other place must be 8th's, because the method is double, and also because 0 and 1 must come together in 5-6. The Major tells us to make 4th's when the treble dodges in 5-6, and, as the method is double, we find that as 6285014397 is to 1234567890, so is 6825104937 to 0896745231, which will therefore come up when the treble gets to the back. We can complete the round block of 40 rows, the last one being 1352746980, and the bells come to lead in the order 2680973, and 4 and 5 never get to the lead or behind.

We now add 9th's place with the treble behind and 2nd's with the treble at lead, and we have produced a double method on ten bells, which satisfies all the conditions resulting from our analysis of the Major.

But we have still II. and III. to consider. I have worked them both out in the same way, and they both produce impossible conditions.

Now, what is the method which we have produced? It is the very same method which Shipway produced over a century ago, a peal of which was rung at Wakefield in 1826.

Now, what about Maximus?

To find Royal, we started from the Major assuming nothing, but carefully noting all the facts. When we approach Maximus we are in a much better position; we have both Major and Royal to guide us. We have only to analyse the Royal in the same way that we have analysed the Major and then extend to Maximus, considering every point in relation to both Major and Royal.

I have done the work years ago, and I do not intend to set it down here, because I think that I have made the matter so plain that anyone can do it for himself, but I will call your attention to one point. In Major, the course order to lead and behind is 26873, in Royal it is 2680973, and so in Maximus it must be 2680te973.

When we rang the peal of Royal, I published the facts connected with the extension of Superlative. I have now demonstrated the way in which the method grows. Write it out on any number of bells you like, and ask, What is this method?

The answer is the same in every case. It is a method in which a bell does

- (A) Work with the treble;
- (B) Place making with odd place last;
- (C) Long dodging;
- (D) Place making with odd place first.

D is the same as B in reverse order.

(Continued on next page.)

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Now look at the matter from the practical point of view. A man who can ring Superlative Major has to learn the extended long dodging and the extended places making to ring Royal, and I know from experience that this is easily done. A man who can ring Major and Royal has simply to learn the extended long dodging and extended place making of Maximus, and this is quite an easy matter.

1234567890ct
2143658709te
1246357890ct
2164538709te

018c69472531
10c896745213
018c69754231
10c896572413

2614357890ct
6241538709te
2614538709te
624185037e9

018c69752143
10c896571234
10c896572143
et9058761234

264810537te9
628401357e9
68241035e79
86420113e597

10c895716243
et9075182634
e91705812364
9c7150183246

684021e13579
860412e15397
806421e15937
081624e19573

e9751038264
9c5711302846
95e711320486
597e11234068

80642e491537
0816e2945173
018c69241537
10c896425173

9571e2130486
59172e314068
957123e4t608
591732e4t6180

018c69245713
10c896425173
018c69472513
10c896745231

519723e4t608
157932e4t6180
517392e4t608
153729e4t6180

157392e4t608

Finally, compare the music of this with the music of the method published a few weeks ago.

H. LAW JAMES.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION. EASTERN DISTRICT.

A meeting was held on Saturday, December 11th, at Hertford, and was fairly well attended, members being present from Benington, Barnet, Baldock, Cheshunt, Hatfield, Kimpton, Great and Little Munden, Ware, besides ringers of Hertford. The noble ring of ten at All Saints' were made good use of, and all seemed satisfied to stay, so that St. Andrew's eight were not required. Various methods were rung, and plenty of practice was got through for various grades and ringers in various stages of efficiency.

A service was held, at which the Vicar (the Rev. Llandulph Smith) welcomed those assembled and gave the address.

The tea was prepared at Farrow's, Fore Street, and the business meeting followed, presided over by the Rev. W. E. Mills, Rector of Benington, a place which has made history in bell ringing in former years.

A fact worth recording is that one of that once famous band was present in the person of Mr. Samuel Page, who is now 78, and who at the age of 21 rang a peal upon the old bells which were destroyed by the fire which occurred 35 years ago, and destroyed the fine old church. The late John Cox was the conductor.

DURHAM CATHEDRAL RINGERS.

On Sunday, November 21st, for the afternoon service, 360 Bob Minor, with 7-8 covering, tenor 50 cwt.: A. Hodgson 1, C. Vasey 2, W. H. Johnson 3, *R. A. Johnson 4, *E. L. Allison 5, E. Ferry (conductor) 6, T. Brownless 7, G. Metcalf, J. Henderson and Rowlandson 8. *Longest length. Rung after ringing three plain courses of Minor at the previous practice.—On Sunday, November 28th, 600 Bob Minor, band standing as before. The last two courses of the 720 had to be cut out owing to shortness of time.—On Sunday, December 5th, 720 Bob Minor, band standing as before.—On Sunday, December 12th, 720 Bob Minor, band standing as before. All the ringers are local except the conductor, and the touches were rung after six months' conversion from call changes. The 5th was the observation throughout.

DEPTFORD.—At St. John's Church, for mission services, on Sunday, November 14th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: S. Rivett 1, T. A. Easterby 2, A. Bradley 3, F. Bacon 4, H. Norgate 5, S. B. Crowder 6, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 7, A. F. Bennington 8.—On Monday, November 15th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: F. Frazer 1, T. A. Easterby 2, E. E. Richards 3, J. Dafters 4, R. Woods 5, W. Martin 6, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 7, H. Norgate 8.—On November 19th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: F. Frazer 1, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 2, H. James 3, J. Dafters 4, T. A. Easterby 5, J. Hurrell 6, W. Martin 7, A. Bennington 8.—On Monday, November 22nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. Rivett 1, F. Frazer 2, W. Martin 3, H. James 4, W. J. Jeffries 5, J. Hurrell 6, T. A. Easterby (conductor) 7, J. Dafters 8.

BELLS FOR A WELSH CATHEDRAL.

Messrs. Mears and Stainbank have been entrusted with the order for a new peal of eight bells at St. David's Cathedral, Wales.

'DEXTER'S VARIATION.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It is far from being a pleasure to reply to the letter over the signature of 'A. Flat.' When writing to the public Press, and when conducting in the tower, he should use decent language, because everyone is not like the lady ringer, who, after a particularly bad flow of foul language, said: 'Oh, I have got used to that.' Everyone of your readers is not used to it. I particularly object to being called a 'liar' in whatever guise that term is dressed. I deny that I am one; what I have written is the truth. I also deny that 'any fool who can ring Stedman can call this variation in one lesson.' Mr. Walter P. Whitehead is the one who, I believe, has called this variation most often for the M.C.A., and he, perhaps, had a lesson at Stuart Street, but this need not cause him any uneasiness. No fool can call a peal of Stedman Triples; if he did, he would not be a fool.

Going back to Mr. Dexter's letter in your issue of December 10th, he asks, quite reasonably, 'Why did not Mr. Washbrook claim it when he saw it?' I suggest he never saw the figures. He probably, like myself, wondered what 'Dexter's' variation was, and expected to come across it some day. When I did, at last, see the figures, our friend Washbrook was dead. I claimed the peal next day for him through the secretary of the M.C.A.

I wish to draw Mr. Dexter's attention to an inaccuracy in the same letter. He says: 'When I have called the one we will call "Dexter," it has always been published as a variation of Thurstans.' If he will refer to peals Nos. 2557 and 3227 M.C.A. he will find this is not so.

While writing, Mr. Editor, I should be glad if you would point out to the secretary of the M.C.A. that the odd-bob peal of Stedman Triples, No. 3264, was composed by John Carter. It was also produced independently by the Rev. E. Bankes James, and sent to me, but after it was rung and published in the Gloucester and Bristol report (from which it has evidently been taken), it was claimed by Mr. Carter, and the claim acknowledged by Mr. James. A note to this effect was inserted in the following year's report.

W. A. CAVE.

P.S.—For those conductors who do not like 12-13's, let them substitute Brooks' calling for Thurstans', and for others substitute Haley's, ringing either the two or four-course blocks three times to start with. I do not believe either has been rung or even published. They, like the other two, are Washbrook's, I have only done what any novice could do after having seen the original variation.—W. A. C.

WASHBROOK'S PEAL.

Dear Sir,—I did not think it was necessary to write again on this subject, but Mr. Dexter's letter deals unfairly with the qualities of the above variation. Mr. Washbrook, by introducing the six singled-in blocks (three with S at 2, and the corresponding three with S at 14), cuts out the extras and omits of the original. This, to my mind, puts it above the mongrel class. By exchanging the singled-in blocks, you get what is often rung as Dexter's Variation. Further comment is unnecessary.—Yours faithfully,

W. H. BARBER.

Newcastle.

SIMPLIFICATION, BUT RETROGRADE.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Hunt's reasoning would be perfect, but, unfortunately for the theory, I arrived at my result before seeing Mr. Washbrook's, even before calling my first peal of Stedman, by the same road that anyone who knew anything about Thurstans' peal and Hudson's 60 courses also knew that Thurstans' quarter-peal could be linked up with singles. Surely, Mr. Hunt did not imagine that Thurstans would be unaware of so obvious a fact. But the ideals of the great had been to eliminate singles to a minimum. The result in Thurstans' case was a perfect composition with only two singles. To add four singles to rid it of omits and extras was a retrograde step over ground that had been covered 60 or 70 years ago. Its only excuse in my case was simplification of calling. The fact of Mr. Washbrook producing a similar variation earlier than mine does not give anyone a claim to a monopoly on his behalf. If there were such, it belonged to those who first produced a 5,040 with two singles only, for they undoubtedly turned down such compositions when their ideal was in sight. But again, let me say that anyone wishing to call either variation under Mr. Washbrook's name robs me of no royalties.—Yours truly,

F. H. DEXTER.

MR. DEXTER'S RIGHT.

Sir,—I am sorry to differ from my old friend, Mr. J. Hunt, re Dexter's Variation. Mr. Dexter does not claim it as his own composition, but as a 'Variation,' which he has a perfect right to do, in my opinion.—Yours truly,

A. H. PULLING.

Guildford.

RYDE, ISLE OF WIGHT.—At All Saints' Church, on the occasion of the patronal festival, 1,152 Kent Troble Bob Major: A. Brading (longest in the method) 1, W. Johnson 2, W. Scott, sen., 3, H. Barton (conductor) 4, A. Calloway 5, W. Scott, jun., 6, W. Upton 7, A. R. Ward 8.

THE BELLS OF SOUTH MARSTON, WILTS. SIX INSTEAD OF THREE.

Sunday, December 12th, was a red-letter day in the annals of this old-world yule village, situate four miles east of Swindon, and immediately north of the G.W.R. main line. It has an ancient church, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalene, and a peal of three bells of exceptional interest. The treble, a pre-Reformation bell by Robert Hendley, of Gloucester, has an inscription, 'Sancta Barbara Ora Pro Nobis,' the original second of the same founder was recast in 1885, and now again, the inscription 'Sancta Maria Magdalena' being reproduced. The tenor, which weighs about 12 cwt., was cast in 1616 by John Wallis, of Salisbury.

The frame in which these bells were hung was of rough and massive construction, and for many years were practically unringable. When the late Vicar resigned and retired some 11 years ago, he expressed his intention to restore and augment the bells and thus complete the work of restoration to the whole fabric, which, under his loving care, had been carried out in various stages. Last summer he enlisted the services of a well-known local ringer, who inspected the bells and reported, with the result that estimates were obtained from two well-known firms of bell founders, and Messrs. Mears and Stainbank were selected to carry out the work.

The fine old Black Letter bell has been hung rigid with a spring clapper, and will be used for chiming only. The tenor has been retained, the second recast, and four other bells added, making a very musical peal of six in F, hung in a new iron frame carried on steel girders with entirely new fittings, and as the bells are rung on the ground floor suitable guides have been provided. The frame is constructed to carry two more bells, which it is hoped may at some future date be added. A new floor has also been placed below the bells.

There is an inscription on the new fifth 'To the Glory of God. These bells were augmented from three to six by subscriptions from the parishioners and friends, assisted by the Rev. A. Macdonald, the former Vicar of this parish, Francis George Vernon Iles, Vicar, Minnie Iles, John James Sansum, churchwardens.' The work has been most successfully carried out by the contractors, who are to be highly congratulated on the result.

The dedication service took place at evensong on Sunday, December 12th, before a crowded congregation, the Archdeacon of Swindon, Canon Talbot, officiating and afterwards preaching a most appropriate sermon. The Vicar took the service, and the Rev. Angus Macdonald, the venerable former Vicar, read the lesson, and handed the ropes to the Archdeacon for the dedication.

Six members of the Swindon Parish Church Guild motored over after ringing for evening service at their own church and rang the opening touch immediately after the dedication. A goodly number of ringers from neighbouring towers assembled, and ringers of note were there too, in Messrs. C. F. Winney and A. A. Hughes of the College Youths, London, and J. H. Shepherd, of Swindon, who, it is interesting to learn, has attended services of this kind before. It is encouraging to hear that a number of young parishioners have expressed a desire to become ringers, and Miss Iles, the Vicar's daughter, has anticipated matters, and under the able tuition of Mr. G. W. Lancaster of Stratton St. Margaret, has made such progress that she rang the treble to 360 of Bob Minor after the service.

The Swindon branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association propose holding their annual meeting at South Marston on Saturday, January 15th, when the new ring will be available.

SPICED MINOR.

At Norbury (Hazel Grove), Cheshire, on Monday, December 13th, at the Parish Church of St. Thomas, a spiced Minor extent in the following methods: Poynton, Marple, Old Oxford Modernised, Bocking, and Wilsden: Harold Jackson 1. W. Fernley 2. H. Langley 3. W. W. Wolstencroft 4. J. Fernley (conductor) 5. J. W. Hartley 6.

A full explanation of spiced method ringing will be found in 'Method Splicing,' to be obtained 1s. 3d. post free, from 'The Ringing World' Office, Woking.

DEVON BELLS.

Two Devonshire churches have taken in hand extensive work in connection with their bells. Uffculme Church Council intends not only to remodel its present peal of six, which has done 80 years' good service, but to complete the octave by the addition of two more bells. A large amount of the money required is already in hand.

St. Andrew's, Plymouth, has also had its fine peal of bells quarter-turned and rehung. Ten in number, some of them date back to 1719, and the fine tenor, cast in 1840, weighs 35 cwt.

Sir Thomas and Lady Baker have made themselves responsible for all the expense entailed, and have also met the cost of renovating and restoring the clock. The renovation has necessitated scrapping the remaining parts of the original clock made in 1706 by Thomas Mudge, with the exception of the setting dial, which is still preserved.

BAGLAN, GLAMORGAN.—At the Parish Church of St. Catherine, for divine service on St. Catherine's Eve, November 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles: B. John 1. Miss Lucy Thomas 2. Mrs. Bellringer 3. A. Thomas 4. E. G. Bellringer (conductor) 5. A. E. Pitman 6. All are local ringers.

YULE 'TIDE.'

To the Editor.

Sir,—Serooge lived in three ghostly periods. Serooge still lives in 1926—he does, beyond doubt! Yet one is sure he's not amongst those who—Say it by telephone, and buy 'The Ringing World'! Rest assured of that, Mr. Editor, and be certain of this, Sir, we are growing older, some of us softer, some of us a little harder, some of us wiser, and some of us a lot more cynical. Therefore, one is inclined to think (sometimes) if we all in this 'ringing world' would only allow those three spirits—which brought about a change in Serooge—to visit us at Yule Tide, it would do us all good.

S-h-h-h-h-h! (The spirit of Christmas Past enters.) The home, the family circle of old days, the old school (the 'Pedagogue'), the lessons, the months—weeks, days and hours—which only made it seem longer to Christmas Day, the holidays and those friends, young manhood, our work, our ambitions (peals), our hopes, successes and failures, the meeting of 'Someone,' the greeting of Someone, and the 'kicking' of that 'Someone,' under the table, who not only made us think of—but thank God for—that greatest thing of all—Home Happiness! Through sunshine, through shadow we have passed along life's checkered path, till we arrive at 1926. (Exit first ghost.)

(Enter the spirit and form of Christmas Present.) Upon its form depends what we have allowed the past to make us—yes, Sir, to make us—as near as we can—get down to the child spirit of the season of Yule.

'Tisn't difficult, if we don't lack enthusiasm, in playing our part in blindman's buff, or wearing a paper hat, or dancing round the Christmas tree, or pulling crackers to see if we can find a real 'C.C.' with a laugh! Ha! ha-a-a-a! Let's see if we can find a real 'C.C.' to ward off the witches, whose especial amusement it is

To untie the winds and make them fight,
like children, for a symbol of contemptible superstition, which Whittier says:

'Still o'er many a neighbor's door

She saw the horseshoe's "curved charm."'

Ha! ha-a-a-a! What care we where we find this 'C.C.'? Whether we find it in a cracker, or embedded in the Christmas pudding, or whether we find it in a 'hash' at Whitsun, or whether we find it on the 'chest' of the Editor of this journal—what care we? A 'C.C.' is a 'C.C.'; it is universal. One might find it anywhere. It may be of pagan origin, stuck on some Runic monument, or it may be traced, as the Hottentot traced it on his cabin door, or again, it may be found on the doors and the thresholds of houses as much in Europe as in Asia and America.

Admitted, the 'C.C.' is universal, but massive, barbarous, extravagance—reciprocating extravagance, barbarous, massive. 22 ct. 'curved charms' are not to be found anywhere, so one has commissioned oneself to make and to manufacture one (on behalf of the Exercise without their permission), such as no company of goldsmiths could ever dream of fabricating, therefore—still without the mandate of the Exercise—whereas, on behalf of the Exercise, one does not beg our worthy brothers' acceptances of this 'C.C.' but we command the acceptance thereof—of this 'C.C.' which we have despatched under separate wrapper as a token of esteem and best wishes and as a sign and symbol of 'Christmas Present'! (Exit the ghost of same.)

(Enter the spirit of Christmas Future.) With this one wish (and command) to the fraternity of campanologists:

'Then peal the bells more loud and deep.

God is not dead, nor doth He sleep.

The Wrong shall fall,

The Right prevail,

With peace on earth, goodwill to men!'

IRENÆUS.

[The Editor has duly received the massive charm that is said to bring good luck. A gigantic golden horseshoe will adorn the baronial hall this Christmas tide. Almost immediately this charm arrived a cup of hot tea was pulled over the recipient (of the charm and tea); he went out and lost a ten-shilling note and came home to find that the black cat had died. But he lives in hopes, and his grateful thanks are hereby returned to 'Irenæus' for his thoughtful 'Christmas present'.]

DATE TOUCHES.

At St. Mary's Church, Broughton Astley, Leicestershire, on Tuesday evening, December 14th, in 1 hour 15 minutes, a date touch (1,926 changes), comprising 68 Stedman Doubles, 240 Plain Bob Doubles, 360 Canterbury Doubles, and 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Bodycote 1. J. Brunt 2. C. Carr 3. P. Bodycote 4. H. Bird (conductor) 5. This is the longest length for all except ringers of the 2nd and 3rd, and the longest length rung on the bells by all local men.

At St. Peter's Church, Bexhill, on Saturday evening, December 11th, in 1 hour and 16 minutes, 1,926 Grandsire Triples: H. Parkin 1. Mrs. A. Levett 2. J. Downing 3. S. Driver 4. T. Baker 5. G. Piper 6. A. Levett 7. A. Reid 8. Composed and conducted by A. Levett. All are ringers from Hastings with the exception of the tenor man.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

ACTON.—At St. Mary's Church, for morning service on December 12th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: H. Wincote 1, Miss Hawkesworth 2, Robert Farden (conductor) 3, H. Belcher 4, R. Holloway 5, J. W. Kelley 6, E. W. Coulson 7, W. Boucher 8. For the benefit of visitors coming to London, it may be mentioned that this tower is a twopenny tram fare to church door from Shepherd's Bush Tube Station. Quarter-peals most gladly arranged and welcomed for either those struggling with Grandsire or Stedman and 'highbrow.'

LINCOLN.—At St. Peter-at-Gaw's Church, on Sunday, December 12th for matins, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: H. Chester 1, R. Lowman 2, H. Hurst 3, W. Walker 4, W. Bettles 5, J. E. Sykes (conductor) 6.

LONDON.—At St. Margaret's, Westminster, on Sunday, December 5th, for evensong, a quarter-peal (1,263 changes) of Stedman Caters: Mrs. F. I. Hairs 1, Miss E. Chapman 2, W. H. Hewett (conductor) 3, Henry Ellis 4, J. E. Davis 5, W. A. Alps 6, C. W. Grimwood 7, F. I. Hairs 8, R. F. Deal 9, R. Sanders 10.

ZEALS, WILTS.—On December 5th, at St. Martin's Church for evening service, 720 Stedman Doubles: F. Ball 1, J. J. Parsons 2, A. Baverstock 3, E. J. Rowe 4, L. Perrett (conductor) 5, W. Gray 6.

MALDON, ESSEX.—At All Saints' Parish Church, on Sunday, December 5th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): F. White 1, E. G. Ellenger 2, W. Chalk 3, J. Ames 4, J. H. Waldoock 5, F. Chalk 6, H. J. Mansfield (conductor) 7, S. Linnet 8. First quarter-peal by ringers of treble and tenor.

GOLDHANGER, ESSEX.—On Sunday, December 5th, for evening service, 720 College Exercise: S. J. White 1, B. C. Mann 2, J. D. Buckingham 3, G. H. Neville 4, C. J. Mann 5, H. B. Gardner (conductor) 6. First 720 in the method by B. C. Mann (aged 14 years).

OXHEF.—On Sunday, November 28th, for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: H. Hodgetts 1, E. Bowley (first 720 in the method) 2, C. Leman 3, A. W. Dix 4, W. Hodgetts 5, F. W. Brinklow (conductor) 6.

LLANDUDNO.—On Sunday, November 28th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) from Holt's Original: T. Barrow 1, R. Fairlie 2, A. W. Brighton, London (conductor) 3, E. Lodge 4, S. Brown 5, A. Fairlie 6, S. Cullington 7, T. Low 8.—On Sunday, December 5th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples from Holt's Original (1,260 changes) in 46 mins., the band in the same order as above, conducted by A. W. Brighton.

LONDON.—On Sunday evening, November 28th, at St. Mark's Church, Dalston, 1,312 Double Norwich Court Bob Major in 54 mins.: J. Bennett 1, W. Nudds 2, W. Hewett 3, R. Deal 4, E. F. Pike 5, T. G. Bannister 6, F. E. Collins 7, J. E. Davis (conductor) 8. This is believed to be the longest touch on the bells, which were installed in 1877, and have quite recently been put in 'going order' after being silent for approximately 30 years.

LONDON.—On Sunday, November 28th, for morning service at St. Andrew's, Church, Holborn, a quarter-peal of Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes) in 48 mins.: L. Gray 1, C. Choct 2, J. S. Hawkins 3, R. Green 4, F. H. Crook 5, A. E. Darnell 6, J. Bullock 7, E. Brett (conductor) 8.—On October 24th, for evening service at St. Andrew's, Wells Street, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 46 mins.: L. Gray 1, Harry Dyas 2, C. Choct 3, H. Franks 4, C. F. Winney (conductor) 5, A. Darnell 6, F. H. Crook 7, J. Bullock 8, taken from Holt's Original.

WRENTHAM.—On Sunday, November 28th, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Rev. F. R. Bousey 1, W. C. Bunn 2, E. Bailey 3, A. J. L. Naunton 4, G. Lee 5, F. W. Naunton 6. Conducted by W. C. Bunn, age 16. It was the conductor's first 720 in the method on an inside bell and as conductor.

DORE, SHEFFIELD.—On Advent Sunday, November 28th, for evensong, at Christ Church, in 92 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): Rev. W. P. Wright 1, Miss Molly Daveport 2, R. E. Johnson 3, W. Bingham 4, N. Short 5, N. Fisher 6, J. E. Lewis Cockey (conductor) 7, M. Fisher 8. First quarter in the method as conductor. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. W. B. Chalmers, of Leamington, the preacher at evensong.

BECKENHAM, KENT.—On Sunday, November 28th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): W. J. Rawlings 1, H. Hawkes 2, W. Hollamby 3, F. Scutcher 4, F. Terry 5, F. King 6, W. Smith (conductor) 7, W. Meek 8. First in the method by ringers of 2 and 4.

COMPTON, BERKS.—On Sunday, November 28th, at the Parish Church for evensong, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor (1,260 changes) in 43 mins.: W. Parfitt 1, A. Gregory 2, E. Pontin 3, A. Jeffery 4, A. Hall 5, C. Parfitt (conductor) 6.

KNIGHTON, RADG.—On Sunday, November 28th, at St. Edward's Church, after evening service, 720 of Bob Minor: W. Watkins 1, J. Price 2, A. Jones 3, J. F. Evans 4, G. Abley 5, F. Evans (conductor) 6, R. Wellings 7. Rung as a farewell touch to Mr. R. Wellings, who is leaving.

MITCHAM, SURREY.—On Sunday, November 28th, at the Church of SS. Peter and Paul, for evensong, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. Toulie 1, W. H. Joiner 2, J. D. Drewett, J.P., 3, J. W. Parslow 4, W. S. Smith 5, A. Calver 6, J. L. Watkins (conductor) 7, S. King 8.

BROMLEY, KENT.—At SS. Peter and Paul's Church, on Sunday, November 21st, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes) in 46 mins.: H. Skinner 1, T. Groombridge, sen., 2, W. Spice (Funstall) 3, G. F. James 4, G. Durling 5, G. Huxley 6, I. Emery (conductor) 7, P. J. Spice 8.

OVER, CAMBS.—At the Parish Church on November 21st, for evening service, a 720 Kent Treble Bob: H. Robinson 1, C. Robinson 2, B. Wayman 3, E. G. Gleaves 4, A. J. Ginn 5, F. Warrington (conductor) 6.

NORTH SHIELDS.—At Christ Church on Sunday, November 21st, for evening service, 1,040 Kent Treble Bob Royal: A. Tugwood 1, J. Gray 2, E. Gosden 3, J. E. Scott 4, E. Hern (conductor) 5, C. Waugh 6, J. Robertson 7, G. Dix 8, A. Tully 9, J. George 10. First touch in the method by ringers of 1 and 2. Longest length by 7 and 10.

HORNSEY.—On Sunday, November 21st, at St. Mary's Church, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor (1,260 changes) in 49 mins.: G. W. Blee 1, C. H. Ross (conductor) 2, A. F. Putland 3, E. G. Hibble 4, R. Lister 5, J. G. Nash 6.

BURFORD, OXON.—On Sunday, November 21st, a touch of Grandsire, Plain Bob, and three touches of Stedman Triples were rung by the local ringers.

CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.—On Sunday, November 21st, for morning service at the Cathedral, a quarter-peal (1,259 changes) of Grandsire Caters: F. Tolworthy 1, C. Gentry 2, A. Saltmarsh 3, W. Lincoln 4, R. Clark 5, J. Clark 6, A. Head 7, J. Wood 8, P. Timson (conductor) 9, G. Cooper 10.

DERBY.—On Sunday, November 21st, at St. Alkmund's Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes) in 47 mins. for evening service: E. E. Clarke 1, C. Draper 2, H. K. Waterfield 3, G. Freebrey (conductor) 4, J. E. Clarke (South Wigston) 5, W. Slater 6, H. Cavigan 7, P. H. Tate 8.

HANLEY.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, November 21st, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: H. Alcock 1, E. Corner 2, P. A. Dais 3, F. E. Eardley 4, S. Sargeant 5, H. Sargeant 6, G. Jones (first quarter-peal as conductor) 7, W. H. Degg 8. First quarter-peal in the method by all Hanley members.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—On Sunday, November 14th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: P. G. Lane 1, A. Arnold 2, F. Jennings 3, L. Bance 4, J. F. Gayler 5, A. J. Trappitt 6, F. E. Darby (conductor) 7, J. Avery 8.

NOTICES.

KING'S NORTON PARISH CHURCH.—Ringing on the new peal of 10 is arranged for Saturday, Jan. 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.

THE SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS. Established 1672.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at St. Mary's Nottingham, on Saturday, Jan. 1st. Tower open 5 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m. Business: Balance Sheet, Election of Officers, etc. All ringers welcome.—F. Blood, Hon. Sec., 91, Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

BRISTOL UNITED RINGING GUILD.—The 6th Annual Dinner will be held on Saturday, January 8th, at 6 p.m., at the Royal Hotel, College Green, Bristol. Chairman, Mr. Henry Way; Vice-Chairman, Mr. John Jeffries. Tickets 5/6. University Buildings and Bell (9½ tons) open from 2.30 p.m. (Tea and Buns.) An informal conference will be held. Service, St. Stephen's Church, 5 p.m. Tickets may be obtained from Guild Secretaries, Stewards, Officials, or direct from Hon. Sec., Edgar Guise, 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's Hill, Bristol.

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NOTICES.

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

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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. Meeting for practice will be held at St. Paul's Cathedral on the 28th; at 7.30 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The next quarterly meeting for ringing only will be held at Millom on Monday, the 27th instant. Bells (6) ready at 2 p.m. Visitors will be welcome.—W. T. Clark, Branch Sec., Broughton-in-Furness.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Llandaff on Boxing Day, Monday, Dec. 27th. Service at 3.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Bells (10) available before and after the meeting. The bells of St. John's, Cardiff (10), also available from 12 o'clock until 2.15, and after the meeting.—John W. Jones, Hon. Sec., Cartref, Barrack Road, Newport, Mon.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Devizes on Saturday, Jan. 1st. The following bells will be available at 2 p.m.: St. John's (8), St. Mary's (6), St. James' (6). Guild service, St. John's Church at 4.30. Tea at 5. Business meeting follows tea. All ringers welcome.—F. Green, Branch Hon. Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meetings for January: St. Clement Danes', Sunday, the 2nd, at 10 a.m., Monday, the 3rd, at 6.30, followed by quarterly business meeting at 8.15, and Mondays, the 17th and the 31st, at 7.30; St. Mary's, Lambeth, Tuesday, the 25th, at 8. The annual meeting will be on Saturday, Feb. 12th, at St. Clement Danes'. Please reserve date now, as large attendance is desired.—A. H. Keighley, Gen. Sec., 19, Pepys Road, S.E.14.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Annual meeting will be held at St. Martin's Hotel, City, on Tuesday, Jan. 4th, at 7.30 p.m. Ringing at St. Martin's from 6.30. All subscriptions are due at this meeting. — A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 'Donnor,' Wellington Road, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—The annual general meeting will be held on Saturday, Jan. 8th, at Wokingham. Service at St. Paul's Church at 4 p.m. Address by Rev. W. T. Stubbs, Rector of Easthampstead, followed by meat tea and meeting at St. Paul's Parish Room. Those desirous of being present at tea please notify me not later than Jan. 3rd.—F. Dentry, Hon. Sec., Church Street, Twyford, Berks.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The first meeting of the year 1927 will be held at Chiswick on Saturday, Jan. 8th. Bells available from 3.15, with the usual service, tea and meeting. All ringers and friends welcome.—W. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

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.

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GREETINGS.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—Will all members and ringing friends from far and near please accept our best wishes for a Bright and Happy Christmas?—Robert Holloway, Ringing Master; W. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec.

PUBLICATIONS.

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

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LLANDUDNO.—On Thursday, December 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 49 mins.: O. W. Peglar (first quarter-peal, age 15) 1, R. Fairlie 2, A. W. Brighton 3, E. Lodge 4, S. Brown 5, A. Fairlie 6, W. T. Peglar (conductor) 6, S. Cullington (composer) 7, T. Low 8.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BRATHAY, LANCASHIRE.—On December 9th, 720 Violet Treble Bob Minor: W. Robinson, jun., 1, A. W. Brighton 2, F. Woodend (conductor) 3, T. B. Newton 4, F. Hewetson 5, W. Robinson 6.—Also 720 of Spliced Oxford and Kent: W. Robinson, jun., 1, A. W. Brighton 2, F. Woodend 3, H. Hewetson 4, W. Robinson 5, T. B. Newton (conductor) 6.—On December 13th, 720 Bob Minor: W. Robinson, sen. (conductor) 1, W. Nevinsou 2, F. Woodend 3, W. Middleton 4, G. Chadwick 5, A. W. Brighton 6.

BRAINTREE.—On Saturday, November 6th, with the bells half-muffled on the occasion of unveiling and dedication of the war memorial for Braintree and Bocking, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: A. Wiffen 1, H. E. Hammond 2, A. Saunders 3, E. Wiffen 4, F. Claydon 5, F. Ely 6, L. W. Wiffen (conductor) 7, W. H. Hammond 8. Rung after an attempt for peal which was lost after an hour's good ringing owing to the sixth rope slipping the wheel.

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On Tuesday, October 26th, at St. Leonard's Church, 720 Chichester Surprise: R. S. Cherryman 1, G. A. Steele 2, R. Stredwick 3, A. G. Cherryman 4, W. White 5, A. H. White (conductor) 6.—On Sunday, November 6th, for evening service, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob: A. W. Cherryman 1, M. Broomfield 2, F. Trustler 3, A. G. Cherryman 4, R. Stredwick 5, J. W. White (conductor) 6.—On Thursday, November 11th, Armistice Day, 720 Wells Surprise: R. S. Cherryman 1, R. Stredwick 2, G. A. Steel 3, A. G. Cherryman 4, J. W. White 5, A. W. White (conductor) 6.

CHESTER.—On Wednesday, October 20th, at St. Mary's-within-the-Wall, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 45 mins.: C. Halows 1, R. Jones 2, G. F. Sperring 3, G. Lea 4, R. Sperring (conductor) 5, John W. Davies 6, Geo. R. Jones 7, A. Harrison 8. Rung on the Prince of Wales' visit to Chester. The ringer of the 2nd is 12 years of age, and this is his longest length.

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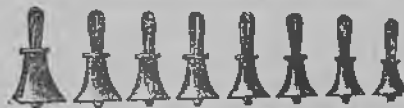
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