

THE RINGING WORLD

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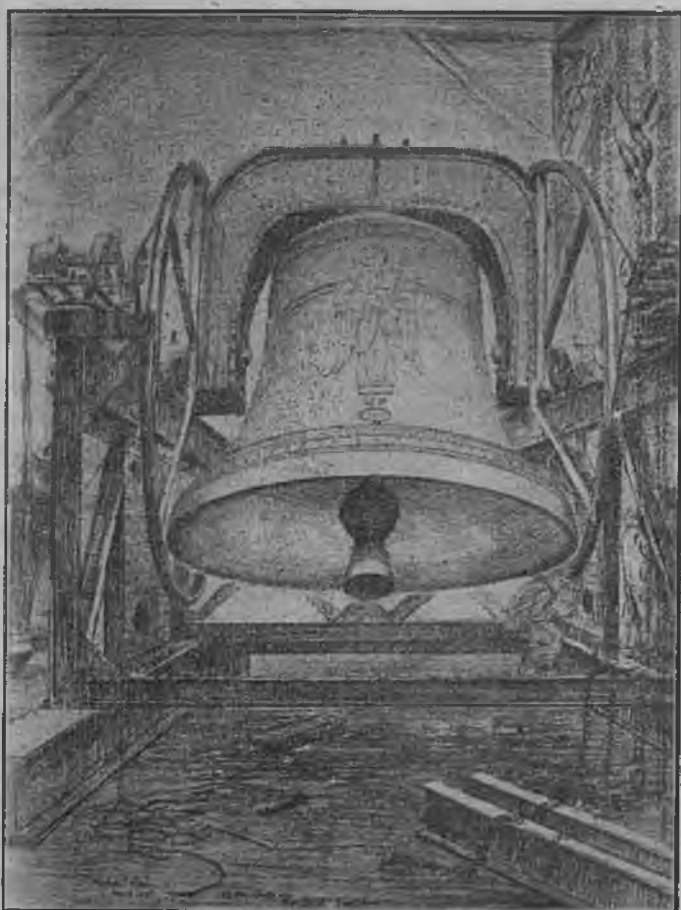
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OUR RINGS OF TWELVE.

We seem, at this moment, to have reached something in the nature of a climax in the attention which is being bestowed upon the rings of twelve bells in this country. Never has there been at one time so much work in hand among the twelve-bell rings as has recently been the case, and, within the space of three weeks, no fewer than four peals—two of them, Worcester and Birmingham, entirely recast, one, Saffron Walden, partly recast; and another, Lincoln, with its augmentation completed—are being opened. In addition the recasting and augmentation of Walsall bells is also in hand. This is truly a remarkable record, but it seems to be only characteristic of the restoration and improvement going on among the bells of our churches. Ringers ought to rejoice at this activity and they do so when they are given the opportunity.

Birmingham welcomed its new ring on Saturday in a spirit worthy of this great centre of ringing, whose traditions go back unbroken for more than a hundred and fifty years. The bells had come back to the grand old steeple of the Parish Church, after having been through the melting pot at the Whitechapel Foundry, where they were first cast, most of them, in 1758. The old bells were once upon a time counted one of the finest rings of twelve in the country, but with the marked advance of the art of the bell founder in the last quarter of a century, they had gradually receded from their foremost position until it was realised that if Birmingham was to retain its erstwhile rank in the bell world, the famous Bull Ring bells would have to go through the furnace. Happily in this instance there were no financial difficulties, such as so often handicap the authorities of a church in a matter of this kind, and the result has been that, in less than two years after the first suggestion that 'something ought to be done about it,' a great recasting scheme has been formulated and put through to a successful conclusion.

There have been few schemes carried out for the renewal of a peal of bells upon which the attention of the whole of the ringing Exercise has been as intensely focussed as upon the recasting of that of St. Martin's. The keenest interest has been displayed wherever the fame of this celebrated tower is known, and the best proof of this was to be found in the large and representative gathering that assembled on Saturday to take part in the reopening proceedings and to pass judgment on the new bells. They heard, undoubtedly, the finest peal that has ever been turned out from the Whitechapel foundry, and on every hand the listeners were loud in their praises of a grand ring of bells, which will do justice alike to the church and to the founders.

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TWELVE BELL PEALS.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5009 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb. in C.

HAROLD J. POOLE Treble	JOSEPH A. FENTON 8
ERNEST MORRIS 2	FREDERICK H. DEXTER 9
REDVERS F. ELKINGTON 3	WILLIAM WILLSON 10
SHIRLEY BURTON 4	JOHN OLDEHAM 11
JOSEPH B. FENTON 5	JOHN GRANT Tenor
COLIN HARRISON 6	

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by F. H. DEXTER.

100th peal together by H. J. Poole and F. H. Dexter.

IPSWICH.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

*JOHN F. TILLET Treble	*GEORGE A. FLEMING 7
†CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 2	*WILLIAM J. G. BROWN 8
*WILLIAM TILLET 3	CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE 9
*HARRY R. ROPER 4	WILLIAM P. GARRETT 10
ROBERT H. BRUNDLE 5	GEORGE E. SYMONDS 11
*ALBERT A. FLEMING 6	FREDERICK J. TILLET Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus. † Fiftieth 12-bell peal. This is the first peal of New Cambridge Surprise Maximus ever rung.

TEN BELL PEALS.

SHEFFIELD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY)

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Forty-Two Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERERS, 6076 CHANGES;

Tenor 40 cwt.

*HEZEKIAH THORPE Treble	†ARNOLD HILL 6
A. PERCIVAL KNIGHTS 2	†MAURICE E. WILSON 7
†ALBERT SMITHSON 3	SIDNEY F. PALMER 8
†J. EDWARD CAWSE 4	JOHN THORPE 9
†FREDERICK A. ADAMS 5	†ROBERT HARRISON, JUN. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by JOHN THORPE.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Grandsire Caterers.

EPSOM, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

*WILLIAM G. NEWBERRY Treble	GEORGE A. COOK 6
JOHN BEAMS 2	*ALAN R. PINK 7
GEORGE MARRINER 3	JOHN H. B. HESSE 8
*GEORGE TALBOT 4	WILLIAM MELVILLE 9
ALFRED H. WINCH 5	ALBERT HARMAN Tenor

Composed by F. ROBINSON. Conducted by ALBERT HARMAN.

* First peal on ten bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to Major Hesse, also on the anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. W. Melville.

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REIGATE, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qr. 3 lb.

KEITH HART... .. Treble	RONALD BULLEN 6
MISS FREDA ORR 2	FRANK BENNETT 7
CHARLES W. ROBERTS 3	*GEORGE F. HOAD 8
WILLIAM H. HEWETT... .. 4	GEORGE H. CROSS 9
CHARLES W. GRIMWOOD ... 5	JAMES E. DAVIS... .. Tenor

Composed by FRANK BENNETT. Conducted by WM. H. HEWETT.

* First peal in the method.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

ALBURGH, SUFFOLK

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb.

FREDERICK BORRETT Treble	WALTER MOBS... .. 5
BENJAMIN THOMPSON 2	GEORGE HOWLETT 6
GEORGE CURSON 3	*ALBERT HARRISON 7
JAMES ELDRIDGE 4	WALTER BARRETT Tenor

Composed by J. THORPE.

Conducted by F. BORRETT.

* 50th peal.

CLAINES, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT G. KNOWLES... .. Treble	WILLIAM RANFORD 5
FRANK LAWRENCE 2	CYRIL TANSELL 6
*THOMAS LEWIS 3	CHARLES CAMM 7
WILLIAM NIBLETT 4	*FREDERICK GILES Tenor

Conducted by CYRIL TANSELL.

* First peal at first attempt. First attempt for peal as conductor. Rung as the quarterly peal for the Western Branch.

MELKSHAM, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 3, 1928, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS' FIVE-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr. in E flat.

STANLEY R. COCKELL Treble	ARTHUR J. WEST 5
JESSE FRANCIS 2	HARRY MOCKRIDGE 6
GEORGE H. ARCHARD 3	WILLIAM C. WEST 7
ROBERT H. LEGG... .. 4	WALTER S. BORRIDGE Tenor

Conducted by WM. C. WEST.

Rung on the eve of the enthronement of Dr. Lang as Archbishop of Canterbury. Also on the occasion of the birth of a granddaughter to the ringer of the 3rd. W. S. Burbridge has now 'completed the circuit' in the tower.

HATFIELD, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE HATFIELD GUILD OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.)

On Tuesday, December 4, 1928, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ETHELDREDA,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 26 cwt.

*FREDERICK CULL Treble	LEONARD SHEPHERD 5
*GEORGE H. AUSTIN 2	JAMES G. DONHAM 6
WILLIAM NASH 3	JOHN T. KENTISH... .. 7
RICHARD E. RICHARDSON ... 4	ALBERT LAWRENCE Tenor

Composed by W. HARRISON.

Conducted by JOHN T. KENTISH.

* First peal in the method. This peal was rung to commemorate the enthronement of Dr. Cosmo Gordon Lang as Primate of All England.

BELPER, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 5, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN H. SWINFIELD Treble	ERNEST W. BEADSMORE ... 5
CHARLES DRAPER... .. 2	PERCY DUDLEY 6
MAURICE SWINFIELD 3	JAMES S. HUTCHBY 7
JOHN P. TARLTON 4	HENRY FLETCHER Tenor

Conducted by M. SWINFIELD.

Rung in honour of the enthronement of Dr. Lang as Primate. Also to celebrate the appointment of the Vicar, Rev. J. A. Cooper, as a Canon of Derby Cathedral.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, December 5, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN LLOYD Treble	HECTOR BIRD 5
*JAMES MARSHALL 2	THOMAS HEMMING 6
WILLIAM POTTER 3	CLIFFORD SKIDMORE 7
WALTER MASTERS 4	*ERNEST PARSONS Tenor

Conducted by C. SKIDMORE.

* First peal of Stedman. First peal of Stedman as conductor. All are members of the local band except the 5th ringer, who belongs to Old Hill.

FINEDON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

JAMES T. WARD Treble	THOMAS R. HENSHER... .. 5
JOHN KING 2	GEORGE BASFORD 6
HARRY CHAMBERS 3	JOHN R. MAIN 7
WALTER PERKINS 4	ANDERSON Y. TYLER Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by ANDERSON Y. TYLER

Rung as a birthday compliment to James T. Ward and T. R. Hensher.

HECKINGTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 21 cwt.

*MRS. PHILLIS HUMPHREY Treble	*FRANK DEWEY 5
FRED A. HOLDEN 2	ARTHUR DIXON 6
CUTHBERT T. H. BRADLEY 3	WALTER H. WOOD 7
*FREDERICK LEGGOTT... .. 4	GEORGE SMITH Tenor

Conducted by FRED A. HOLDEN.

* First peal of Grandsire Triples. First peal on the bells since they were rehung recently by Mr. A. Howell, of Ipswich, the 'go' being all that is desired.

BIRSTALL, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 22 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb.

ALBERT WORMALD Treble	GEORGE WM. STEEL... .. 5
ARTHUR G. WOOD 2	*HARRY MARSDEN 6
HARRY WARD 3	THOMAS WM. STRANGEWAY 7
PERCY MASSAN 4	HERBERT PEEL Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS WM. STRANGEWAY.

* First peal of Stedman. Ringer of 6th from Bailley, of tenor from Birstall, the rest from Rothwell. Rung as a compliment to the ringer of the second, who was married on November 24th to Miss Eva P. Graham, of Halifax.

BRENCHLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 17 cwt.

R. B. LAMBERT (Frant) Treble	R. T. LAMBERT (Horsmonden) 5
W. H. LAMBERT (Benenden) 2	R. E. LAMBERT (Horsmonden) 6
F. J. LAMBERT, SEN. (Horsmonden) 3	F. J. LAMBERT, JUN. (Burwash) 7
G. LAMBERT (East Grinstead) 4	T. LAMBERT (Horsmonden) Tenor

Conducted by F. J. LAMBERT, JUN.

First peal as conductor on eight bells, also his 100th peal, rung in forty-one different towers. A birthday compliment to Mrs. G. F. Weller, sister of the ringer of the 4th, also for Mrs. F. J. Lambert, sen., and Mr. W. H. Lambert.

WEST EALING, MIDDLESEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

HORACE BELCHER Treble	PERCY E. CLARK 5
EVERED J. WALSON 2	JAMES BULLOCK 6
CHARLES J. CHOUBET 3	JOSEPH S. HAWKINS 7
ROBERT THOMPSON 4	EDWARD HARRIS Tenor

Conducted by J. S. HAWKINS.

Rung as a birthday compliment to ringer of the 2nd; also a farewell peal to Mr. C. Edwards, late steeplekeeper at the above tower.

CODDENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HAYWOOD'S VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt.

LESLIE G. BRETT Treble	WILLIAM C. ROMSEY 5
LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN 2	ERNEST F. POPPY 6
GEORGE PRYKE 3	THOMAS W. LAST 7
GEORGE BENNETT 4	JOHN GOOCH Tenor

Conducted by THOS. W. LAST.

Rung as a birthday compliment to John Gooch and in honour of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Nevard, of Great Bentley, Essex. Leslie Brett has now 'completed the circle' in the above tower.

LINTON, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 6088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

CHARLES H. SONE Treble	HARRY BAKER 5
MRS. H. BAKER 2	JOHN WHEADON 6
THOMAS E. SONE 3	ARTHUR H. SMITH 7
FREDERICK WHITE 4	ALBERT RELFE Tenor

Composed by FRANK HOPGOOD. Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.

First peal of Double Norwich on the bells and first as conductor in the method. Mrs. Baker received the congratulations of the band after obtaining this, her 100th peal. The band wish to thank Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Sone for their kind hospitality after the peal.

COLCHESTER, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

WILBY J. HAZELL Treble	FRANK CLAYDON 5
WILLIAM KEEBLE 2	WALTER ARNOLD 6
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 7
JAMES FLEUTY 4	ARTHUR SAUNDERS Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

Rung to celebrate the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Nevard, of Great Bentley. The band desire to tender their best thanks to Mr. Nevard for his kind hospitality at the finish of the peal.

WASHINGBOROUGH, LINES.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

STANFORD J. WOLFE Treble	GEORGE FLINTHAM 5
CHARLES MCGUINNESS 2	JOHN WALDEN 6
GEORGE CHESTER 3	HAROLD MARCON 7
FREDERICK W. STOKES 4	JOHN A. FREEMAN Tenor

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by J. A. FREEMAN.

First peal in the method by all. First peal in the method by the Guild, and supposed to be the first peal in the method in Lincolnshire. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the 3rd.

HEPTONSTALL, YORKSHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROCHDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-A-BECKET,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

JOHN FITTON Treble	WALTER STAFF 5
MRS. WILLIAM CRABTREE 2	GEORGE STAFF 6
WILLIAM CRABTREE 3	JOHN H. C. MASSEY 7
MISS R. A. BELL 4	HERBERT DAVENPORT Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by H. DAVENPORT.

The peal was rung as a 74th birthday compliment to Mr. John Fitton, of Milnrow, who has been a ringer at that church for 58 years.

KEIGHLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

* ROBERT W. JENNISON, SEN. Treble	WILLIAM BARTON 5
JOSEPH BROADLEY 2	* GEORGE AMBLER 6
THOMAS B. KENDALL 3	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS 7
ROLAND MYERS 4	JOHN AMBLER Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (156). Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

* First peal in the method. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the 4th.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

EDWARD LANCASTER Treble	* ROBERT RICHARDSON 5
CHARLES I. COLES 2	ALBERT W. COLES 6
GEORGE R. PYE 3	JAMES BENNETT 7
GEORGE M. KILBY 4	WILLIAM PYE Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

* First peal in the method with a bob bell.

GAINSBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SPICED LITTLE BOB AND BOB MAJOR, 5096 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr. 23 lb.

MISS ETHEL MARSHALL ... Treble	* ROGER W. DANIELS 5
CHARLES H. BAKER 2	TOM CLARK 6
HARRY MORGAN 3	EDWARD DALINGWATER 7
JOSEPH DIXON 4	C. ALAN HEWETT Tenor

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by HARRY MORGAN.

* First peal of Major. First spliced peal by all the band and on the bells. Rung as a compliment to the mother of the ringer of the 2nd on attaining her 80th birthday.

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST, MILES PLATTING,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6184 CHANGES;

*GEORGE W. RUSHTON ... Treble	SAMUEL HOLT ... 5
THOMAS JONES ... 2	CHARLES OLLIER ... 6
WILFRED J. MOSS ... 3	FRANK STONELEY ... 7
BENJAMIN THORPE ... 4	ROBERT DAVIES ... Tenor

Composed by S. Wood.

Conducted by R. DAVIES.

* First peal on eight bells.

NORWICH.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-AT-COSLANY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

JAMES F. DOFFIELD ... Treble	WILLIAM C. DOFFIELD ... 5
BENJAMIN S. THOMPSON ... 2	CHARLES LOVETT ... 6
WILLIAM B. DUNCAN ... 3	WILLIAM L. DOFFIELD ... 7
GEORGE BAILEY ... 4	GEORGE MAYERS ... Tenor

Composed by J. PLATT.

Conducted by J. F. DOFFIELD.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute to the late Mr. Fredk. Knights.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

COLCHESTER, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's, each called differently. Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

*WILLIAM SCHOFIELD ... Treble	WILLIAM KEEBLE ... 4
†STANLEY MOSS ... 2	GEORGE W. MOSS ... 5
WILLIAM J. NEVARD ... 3	WALTER ARNOLD ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

* First peal of Minor. † First Surprise peal. First peal on the bells. First peal of Minor in Colchester.

BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WIRRAL BRANCH)

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, each called differently. Tenor 9 cwt.

*MISS MARJORIE COOKE ... Treble	JAMES F. SMITH ... 4
*JOHN GORST ... 2	THOMAS ROGERS ... 5
G. RONALD EDWARDS ... 3	JOHN COOKE ... Tenor

Conducted by J. COOKE.

* First peal and first attempt; the ages of these two ringers are 13 and 15 respectively, and it is the first peal in which a lady member of the Wirral Branch has taken part. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 3rd on attaining his majority, also to Mr. J. H. Cooke.

LEINTWARDINE, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(LUDLOW AND CHURCH STRETTON DISTRICT.)

On Sunday, December 2, 1928, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten different callings. Tenor 13½ cwt.

ARTHUR M. BLAKEWAY ... Treble	WILLIAM H. DAVIES ... 4
WILLIAM J. BENIAMS ... 2	CHARLES H. CARTWRIGHT ... 5
WILLIAM TOPLEY ... 3	HARRY CORFIELD ... Tenor

Conducted by Wm. J. BENIAMS.

First peal by all except the conductor.

MISTLEY, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 5, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;Being three extents of Oxford and four of Kent called differently.
Tenor 12½ cwt.

GEORGE W. MOSS ... Treble	CHARLES HONEYWOOD ... 4
HARRY MEADOWS ... 2	WILLIAM STIFF ... 5
STANLEY G. MOSS ... 3	WALTER HONEYWOOD ... Tenor

Conducted by G. W. MOSS.

Rung in honour of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Nevard, of the Myrtles, Great Bentley. Mr. Nevard is the highly-esteemed Master of the North-Eastern Division of the Essex Association.

NORTH MUSKHAM, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, December 7, 1928, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four 120's each of Stedman and Plain Bob, and 34 of Grand-sire. Tenor 9 cwt. (approx.).

EDWARD FOSTER ... Treble	ARTHUR J. CHAMBERLAIN ... 3
GEORGE FOSTER ... 2	LEONARD PIERREPONT ... 4
J. FREDERICK MILNER ... Tenor	

Conducted by J. F. MILNER.

First peal on the bells, recently rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co., the 'go' being excellent.

KING'S NORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten different callings. Tenor 21 cwt.

THOMAS H. PAYNE ... Treble	RONALD RUSSELL ... 4
JOSEPH NORTON ... 2	ARTHUR N. GEARY ... 5
JOHN G. GEARY ... 3	ERNEST F. PAYNE ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN G. GEARY.

WELTON, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Plain Bob and two 720's each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 14 cwt.

*ARCHER T. LOWMAN ... Treble	†C. BERT CHESTER ... 4
*WALTER TOMLINSON ... 2	WILLIAM A. BATTLES ... 5
WALTER WILSON ... 3	HERBERT LOWMAN ... Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT LOWMAN.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor. First peal as conductor.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

The Rev. E. Banks James' composition. Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN MALYAN ... Treble	JOSEPH G. BLOW ... 4
ALBERT B. HALSEY ... 2	FRANCIS KIRK ... 5
THOMAS A. BLOW ... 3	HORACE B. C. GOODENOUGH ... Tenor

Conducted by HORACE E. C. GOODENOUGH.

First peal of Surprise Minor by all the band. First peal of Cambridge Surprise ever rung in this city. The band represent all the towers in St. Albans—treble (St. Stephen's), 2 (St. Michael's), 5 (St. Peter's), 3, 4 and tenor (the Cathedral).

G. & F. COPE & CO., NOTTINGHAM,**TOWER CLOCK MANUFACTURERS.****ESTIMATES SUBMITTED FOR NEW CLOCKS, CHIME ADDITIONS, REPAIRS,
OR REPAINTING OF DIALS.**

BROMHAM, BEDS.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OWEN.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 23 cwt.

CHARLES MORTIMER	... Treble	WILLIAM STOCK	4
HENRY W. GAYTON	2	EDMOND J. HOBBS	5
CHARLES W. CLARKE	3	HENRY STAPLETON	Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

CADOXTON, NEATH, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 8, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. GATWG.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten different callings.

Tenor 7½ cwt.

* JACK BLOXHAM	... Treble	GWYN T. LEWIS	4
† GWYN EVANS	2	HARRY BOYCE	5
TERRANCE DAVIES	3	ARTHUR PYNES	Tenor

Conducted by H. BOYCE.

* First peal. † First peal on a bob bell. Ringers of 2nd, 3rd and 5th hail from Neath, the rest are local.

THE BATES APPEAL FUND.

We are glad to acknowledge the following further contributions to the fund for Mrs. E. Bates, of Dartford, and her young family. The assistance which is being given by members of the Exercise, and which was quite unexpected by Mrs. Bates, has considerably lessened her load of sorrow and care by easing some of her financial worries during these critical months.

Contributions should be sent to Mr. T. Groombridge, jun., 127, Crayford Way, Crayford, Kent, and will be acknowledged in these columns.

If 'Rufus' will kindly send his address to Mr. Groombridge, he will be pleased to answer his letter.

Mr. W. E. Pitman, of Canterbury, writes: 'Could you kindly allow me, as Christmas is drawing nigh, to presume to add a word for the Mrs. Bates Appeal Fund? If all our 'brother strings' would co-operate, what a handsome sum could be got. There are a very few of us who could not afford "a bob."'

	£	s.	d.
Previously acknowledged	21	13	0
St. Peter's band, Nottingham (per Mr. H. R. Cobbin)	1	1	0
Collection Swansea and Brecon Guild meeting at Swansea (per Mr. E. Stich)	15	0	
Duffield Society (per Mr. R. H. Boulton)	5	0	
'Anonymous,' Woking	10	0	
W. J. D.	2	6	
W. J. N.	2	6	
Mr. M. M. Webb	2	6	
W. A. W.	5	0	
Mr. A. J. Driver	5	0	
H. W. B., Norwich	5	0	
Tring Parish Church ringers (per Mr. F. J. Reeve)	5	6	
St. Peter's, Thanet, band (per Mr. W. J. Fairhead)	10	0	
Anonymous (Hull)	1	0	0
W. H. L. L. M.	5	0	
Mr. J. A., Devon	5	0	
Bromley (Kent) Parish Church (per Mr. P. J. Spice)	11	0	
Holy Trinity band, Dartford (per Mr. R. A. Jenkins)	17	6	
St. Martin's (Birmingham) Bell Restoration Social (per Mr. Albert E. Norman)	2	15	0
	£31	15	6

HANDBELLS PRESENTED TO WINCHESTER COLLEGE.

At King Alfred's College, Winchester, on Sunday, December 9th, 12 extents (1,440 changes) of Grandsire Doubles (five callings) in 39 mins. on the handbells (22 in all) presented to the College by Canon Brithwaite, tenor size 16 in B flat: Reg. M. Mallett (Geldeston, Norfolk) 1. Robert C. Day (Compton Abbas, Dorset) 2. N. Golden (Northrepps, Norfolk, conductor) 3.4. Jesse Peyman (Fairford, Glos) 5. James W. Collins (Hastings, Sussex) 6. The company has practised only for a fortnight, and it was the longest length by all excepting the conductor. Courses of Bob Minor have also been accomplished.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
SUGGESTED COMBINED MEETING WITH OXFORD GUILD.

A very successful meeting of the Andover District was held at Wootton Hill on Saturday week, when good practice was obtained in a variety of methods on the light ring of six.

During the afternoon the bells at East Woodhay were also available, and a party went over there and rang several six-scores of Grandsire, Stedman and Bob Doubles. It is interesting to note that this old ring of five were cast at the Aldbourne (Wilts) foundry in 1728 by John Cox.

At the service, at which the Guild form was used, the Vicar (Rev. B. Utterton) gave a very interesting address from the text, 'Labourers working together for God.'

Tea was served in the Church Hall, and the business meeting followed, the Vicar being voted to the chair. He was supported by Rev. F. C. Sear (district secretary), Mr. G. Williams (Master), Mr. Curtis (Oxford Guild), and ringers from Highclere, King's Somborne, Newbury, North Stoneham, St. Mary Bourne, Winchester, Wootton Hill and Wootton St. Lawrence.

A suggestion was made that combined meetings should be held with the Newbury Branch of the Oxford Guild at some of the border towers, and Mr. Curtis (Newbury District secretary) said that he was very much in favour of the suggestion being adopted, as he felt that it would be for the good of both Guilds. He would bring the matter before his members.

A vote of sympathy was passed to Mr. Rex on the recent death of his mother, the members standing in silence.

The District Secretary announced that the next meeting, which would be the annual meeting, would be at Whitechurch on February 2nd, 1929.

During the evening the new ring of eight at Highclere were also available for ringing, and a good number availed themselves of this privilege.

ALTON DISTRICT.

An enjoyable meeting of the Alton District was held at Ropley on Saturday, November 24th, over 30 members attending from Blackmoor, Binsted, Selborne, Ropley, North Stoneham, King's Somborne and Winchester. The church tower contains a very musical ring of six bells (with a 15½ cwt. tenor), in good going order, recently installed by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston. The ringing chamber is small, and because of this was rather crowded during most of the time. A variety of methods were rung in the afternoon and evening, but most of the time was given over to ringing Bob Doubles for the beginners.

Tea was enjoyed in the Coffee Room, and the business meeting followed, presided over by Rev. F. G. Eyres, who was supported by Rev. B. C. Taylor (district secretary), Mr. G. Williams, Mr. W. Andrews, Mr. A. E. Smith, etc.

The Ropley band joined the Guild, and arrangements were made for them to have a course of instruction.

Mr. W. Read (Blackmoor) reported on the instruction that is being given at Selborne, and satisfaction was expressed at the progress made.

The District Secretary announced that the next meeting would be at Alton on February 9th, and it was hoped that the bells at both St. Laurence's and Chayton Churches would be available.

The meeting closed with the usual votes of thanks.

ISLE OF WIGHT DISTRICT.

A quarterly meeting of this district was held at All Saints' Church, Ryde, on Saturday, Nov. 24th, when ringers from Brading, Carisbrooke, Freshwater, Godshill, Newport, Portsea and Ryde met together and made good use of the bells. The Vicar (the Rev. Canon G. A. Johnstone) conducted the Guild service, and the president, the Rev. H. C. Stokes, delivered a short but interesting address to the members. Tea was afterwards served at the Welby Institute, and at the business meeting, at which the president presided, it was resolved to hold the annual meeting at Carisbrooke on Saturday, February 2nd. It was also agreed to hold combined practice meetings at Whitwell on December 8th, and at Godshill, January 12th (subject to the bells being available), solely for the practice of Double Court, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob Minor.

The district secretary, Mr. B. J. Snow, on behalf of the Island ringers, extended a welcome to the Mainland ringers, and thanked them for attending the meeting on such a stormy day.—Mr. J. Harding responded on behalf of the visitors from Portsea.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar for conducting the service, also to the president for his address and for presiding at the meeting, concluded the business.

Touches were then rung on the handbells, and further ringing on the church bells was indulged in.

GOSCOTE SOCIETY'S PRESIDENT MARRIED.

At the Parish Church, Syston, Leicester, on Tuesday, November 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles in 45 mins., by: S. H. Payne 1, T. H. Payne 2, G. T. H. Walker 3, T. H. Lewin 4, E. F. Payne (conductor) 5, W. Wright 6. This was rung to celebrate the wedding of the Rev. M. B. Bird, of Walton-le-Wolds, president of the Goscote Society of Ringers.

POLICEMEN RINGERS.**REPRESENTATIVE GATHERING IN THE MIDLANDS.**

On Saturday, December 2nd, a meeting of police ringers from the various forces of England was held at Loughborough and Leicester, when some thirty police officers attended. The party included eight Metropolitan police, seven Manchester City, three Birmingham City, three Northampton, three Surrey Constabulary, three Leicester City, and Sergt. W. Lawrence, Hatfield. Inspector Ridgwell, Saffron Walden, Sergt. Smith, High Wycombe, and P.C. Peter Crook, Bolton, were unable to be present owing to duty. Inspector Bottrill was responsible for the London arrangements, Sergt. Dowding for Birmingham, P.C. F. Page for Manchester, whilst Sergt. H. Jenney and P.C. Harold Poole looked after matters on the spot.

The company met at the Foundry of Messrs. Taylor and Co., Loughborough, at 11 a.m., where Mr. Horace Stubbs conducted them over the premises. Great interest was taken in the carillon, nearing completion, for abroad, and in the peals for Walsall and St. Helens, which were in the foundry. Touches were rung on the foundry ten, some amusement being caused by the antics of the treble men on this light but musical ring. The party then visited All Saints', Loughborough, where Mr. Colin Harrison had the bells ready, and good touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters were brought round, Mr. William Willson and Mr. Percy Harrison assisting. The quality of this peal is too well known to need comment, and was much appreciated. By this time the whole of the expected party was present, and a move was made to Leicester, where St. Margaret's twelve were soon set going, whilst a selected band visited St. Peter's, Belgrave, to try Cambridge Surprise. A good course was brought round, followed by a touch of Stedman Triples. All again met at St. Margaret's, where a course of Stedman Cinques and touches of Caters were rung. A meat tea was provided at a local cafe, after which St. Martin's ten were set going to Stedman and Grandsire, and a course of Superlative Major by a band of all police officers was brought round.

At the kind invitation of the Leicester City Police Recreation Society the company then proceeded to the Police Recreation Rooms, where excellent arrangements had been made for their entertainment, and refreshment was provided.

Supt. Choyce, Leicester City Police, presided, supported by Insp. Ashburner. Supt. Choyce welcomed the visitors in a few well-chosen words, speaking of his interest in church work as a chorister and churchwarden, and of his interest in music and bells, which he regarded from a musical standpoint.

Insp. Bottrill responded, thanking the Leicester City Police Recreation Society for placing their rooms at the disposal of the party, and for their cordial welcome, Supt. Choyce for so kindly presiding and for his words of welcome, Mr. Josiah Morris, St. Margaret's, and Mr. Fred Dexter, St. Martin's, for the arrangements at those towers, and Messrs. Taylor and Co., Mr. Horace Stubbs, and Mr. Colin Harrison, Loughborough. He pointed out the difficulties of organising a meeting such as this, due to the area involved, and the obstacles sometimes met with in obtaining absence from duty, which could not always be avoided. The meeting not only provided a means of meeting as ringers, but was a step towards fostering good fellowship between the various forces.—Sergt. Jenney replied on behalf of the Leicester City Police Recreation Society, and expressed a hope that this meeting would be the first of a series and would become an annual event.

The programme included selections on handbells by the Leicester handbell ringers, who are very clever, and were much appreciated: songs by Supt. Choyce, Mr. Ernest Morris, and two by an unexpected visitor, which greatly added to the enjoyment of the company. A course of Caters was rung on handbells.

The standard of ringing throughout the day was good, and it is hoped that it will be the means of exciting interest among other police officers as ringers, and will result in the ringing of police peals in the higher methods in the near future.

DEVON GUILD.

The annual meeting of the North-East Branch was held at St. Peter's, Tiverton, on December 8th. About sixty ringers were present, nine out of the ten towers being represented, and visitors coming from Talaton, Exmouth, Exeter, Chipstable, Yeovil, Sowton and Christow. The Rev. E. S. Powell (president of the Guild), and Mr. T. Laver (general secretary) were among those present. The Branch now numbers 99 members and three certificates were awarded during the year.

After tea, business was transacted. The officers were re-elected and the next meeting fixed for Saturday, April 20th, at Bampton (subject to the Vicar's approval).

Mr. Selley (Silverton) proposed that mixed practices for learning methods other than Grandsire should be held.—This suggestion met with good support, and it is hoped next year to have fortnightly practices for ringers anxious to learn Bob Minor, etc.

Heartly thanks were accorded to the Rev. A. E. Chapman (Rector of St. Peter's), to Mr. Dyer (organist), and to Mrs. Knowles, and all her helpers at the tea tables.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

■■■■■

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The new peal of twelve at Lincoln Cathedral, which have been completed by the addition of four trebles given by the Lincoln Diocesan Guild as a memorial to the members of the Guild who fell in the war, are to be opened to-morrow (Saturday). This is a Taylor twelve.

The four recast trebles at Saffron Walden are also to be dedicated to-morrow. These have come from the Whitechapel Foundry.

Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Nevard, who celebrated their golden wedding on December 5th, desire to thank all their many friends for their congratulations. These have been so numerous that they find it impossible to reply individually, and hope that all will accept their grateful thanks through 'The Ringing World.'

The new Bishop of Southwell (Dr. Mosley) has promised to be present at the William Doubleday Crofts Commemoration Dinner, to be held at Nottingham on Saturday, January 26th.

The St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, have added another performance to their record of Maximus peals by ringing the first peal of New Cambridge Surprise Maximus on Saturday last. An attempt failed on November 24th after ringing two and a half hours. This brings their total of different Maximus methods to nine, made up as follows: Treble, plain hunt 2, Treble Bob 2, Principles 2, Surprise 3.

A peal of Triples has been rung by the Lambert family at Brenchley, Kent. It is a notable performance, especially when it is borne in mind that the ringers are scattered over a wide area, and their opportunities for practice and peal attempts have been very few. Some time ago they rang a 'family' six-bell peal, ~~but the method was not put on eight bells.~~

This performance recalls the peal by the celebrated Leiston family of Baileys, who have scored a peal of Major by eight brothers.

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

Forty years ago next Monday the first peal of Canterbury Pleasure Major was rung at Warnham, where not long afterwards a peal of 13,440 in the same method was accomplished.

The first peal of Stedman Caters at Southwark Cathedral was rung by the Junior College Youths on December 20th, 1836.

Mr. E. R. Whitehead would like to thank all the ringers and friends for the sympathy and good wishes expressed to him after his recent accident. He writes that as he knows less about it than anyone, he thinks that it has been more trouble to all concerned than it need have been. He knows nothing at all about the mishap, and the police are still in ignorance as to who was the cause of it.

AN ANCIENT PEAL RECALLED.

A DREAM THAT CAME TRUE.

'Berrow Worcester Journal' of September 18th, 1828, recorded among the deaths of that week, the following: 'On Friday, in his 85th year, John Bristow, of this city. He was much respected, and well known as a Bell Ringer. We understand that he was the last surviving ringer who was engaged in a memorable peal, rung at All Saints' Church, in this city, November 28th, 1774, which is thus recorded in the "Worcester Journal": "Last Monday was rung at All Saints' Church, in this city, by the Society of All Saints' Youths, a complete peal of 7,326 Grandsire Caters, in 4 hrs. 36 mins., supposed to be one of the most musical peals ever rung of so great a length. A person concerned in this peal, dreamed the preceding night that the Tenor Clapper fell out, as the Bells came round, which really happened, to the great surprise of the company, the person having declared it before they went into the Tower." Bristow was the only person who ever rang the tenor bell of All Saints' singlehanded to a peal.'

LADY RINGER'S DEATH.

It is with sincere regret that we report the death of Miss B. E. Stilwell, which took place at her home, Mooreside, Yateley, Hants, on November 29th. Deceased was a life member of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, and president of the local band for the last seven years.

She commenced her ringing career in 1907, and for over 20 years has been a most regular member of the band.

She was laid to rest on December 1st, within sight of the tower she loved so well, and in the presence of the local band of ringers. After the service the 'whole pull and stand' was rung with the bells muffled, followed by a 504 Grandsire Triples as a tribute from the ringers and also the parish, to which she had so unselfishly given of her best.

A PEAL WITHDRAWN.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I beg to withdraw the 5,003 of Double Norwich Caters, rung at Wednesbury on June 9th last, as I find that, through a careless oversight on my part, the composition is internally false. I tender my apologies to the band, and hope to meet them in the near future to replace it.—Yours truly,

Smethwick.

J. PIGOTT.

BIRMINGHAM BELLS.

LARGE GATHERING OF RINGERS WELCOME THE NEW RING.

Birmingham upheld its ringing traditions and great reputation on Saturday, when the dedication of the recast ring of twelve bells at St. Martin's Parish Church was performed by the Rector (Canon T. Guy Rogers). It is over a hundred and fifty years since the famous church in the Bull Ring first had a peal of twelve, and much history has been made beneath that towering spire. Generations of ringers have come and gone, but the service rendered by the bells has been unbroken. There is probably no church in the country with a longer continuous history in ringing than St. Martin's, and throughout the century and a half during which, in some form or another, St. Martin's Guild has existed, the church has had a regular band of ringers, which has always been looked up to by the Exercise for the standard set in that first quality of ringing—good striking. St. Martin's has also been throughout that time a stronghold of change ringing, and while in many other places the art has flourished only to fade away, in the Bull Ring it has been maintained throughout the years at a high level, and never were the traditions in safer or



BIRMINGHAM'S FAMOUS PARISH CHURCH.

better hands than those of the present band, who are responsible for the service ringing to-day. The bells themselves had a great reputation in the past, but the proud place which they occupied among the principal rings in this country was rapidly undermined with the coming of harmonically tuned bells, and therefore, true to tradition that nothing but the best would suffice, it was resolved that St. Martin's must have a new ring of bells.

As is now well known, the work was entrusted to Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, who, at their Whitechapel Foundry, recast the bells on the very spot where the original ten were cast in the year 1758. Thus this ancient firm have retained their long connection with St. Martin's, and have discharged their responsibilities to the eminent satisfaction of the church authorities and the ringers. The old frame has been again utilised, but the bells have been hung in the

most modern type of fittings, which has made the 'go' a delight to all who handle them.

The bells themselves are tuned on the harmonic principle, but the 'Simpsonising' having been carried out with excellent discretion there is no overwhelming hum, which has been found in some cases to destroy, from the ringers' point of view, the pleasure of ringing, and gives the public a confusion of harmonics from which the note of none of the bells emerges with definiteness. The result is that in the ringing chamber every bell can be clearly and distinctly heard, while outside, when the necessary adjustment of the louvring has been effected, the results will be equally pleasing. As a matter of fact, the tower presents certain difficulties in regard to the even regulation of the sound all round the church. The back eight bells are hung well below the eills of the louvres, while the front four are hung in a raised tier on a level with the louvres. The new trebles are wonderfully powerful, and are quite distinctive even when striking among the big bells. They give a character to the peal, which is at once striking and pleasing, and the complete ring is one of which all concerned may well be proud.

THE DEDICATION SERVICE.

A large congregation attended the dedication service, which began with the National Anthem. Special sentences were recited, and the hymn for the City of Birmingham, 'The fathers built this city in ages long ago,' was sung. Prayers and the lesson from Numbers x. 1-11, followed, and during the singing of the hymn, 'Praise the Lord, ye heavens adore Him,' the Rector, accompanied by the curate and the two churchwardens, proceeded to the baptistry, which is at the foot of the tower. Here the Rector, having chimed one of the bells, dedicated them to the glory of God, and offered further prayers, at the conclusion of which the new bells rang out from the lofty steeple in some well-timed rounds. The ringers who had the privilege of thus taking part in the first ringing were Messrs. A. E. Norman, J. F. Smallwood, E. T. Aliaway, T. H. Reeves, J. E. Groves, M. J. Morris, F. Price, J. George, E. Mansell, J. Neal, A. Paddon Smith, and A. Walker, all of whom are associated with St. Martin's Sunday band.

The Rector gave an appropriate address, in the course of which he showed how in the history of church bells, as revealed in the inscriptions upon them, they could trace to some extent the life of the church itself from mediæval times. He also paid a glowing tribute to the services rendered to St. Martin's Church by St. Martin's Guild.

The service ended with the hymn, 'When morning gilds the sky,' during which an offertory was taken on behalf of the Thanksgiving Day Fund.

The band, who opened the bells, then rang a touch of five courses of Stedman Cinques, while the visitors heard the bells from outside the tower. They gathered in knots at various vantage points, and there were many expressions of delight at the excellent work done by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. The public, too, gathered in large numbers in the busy market place to listen to the sound of the new bells. Afterwards, the bells were open to the visitors, scores of whom availed themselves of the opportunity of testing the new peal. Among those who were present were Mr. A. A. Hughes (representing the founders), Mr. J. S. Pritchett (Presiding Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild), Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn (Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild), Messrs. R. T. Hibbert (Reading), H. W. Wilde (Chewer), P. O. Ladin (King's Norton), H. Knight (Wolverhampton), W. T. Elton (Walsall), J. W. Jones (Newport), A. Ward (Derby), W. Northover (Bridport), T. H. Beams (Bradpole), F. E. Dawe (Woking), F. Perrins, F. Perrin and J. H. White (Coventry), T. W. Chapman (Master of the Warwickshire Guild), W. Jeffries (Worcester), W. Short (Glent), W. Lawrence (Little Munden, Heris), J. Austin (Gloucester), C. S. Burden (London), G. Holfield, sen., G. Holfield, jun. (Appleton), W. Whitehead (Leicester), etc. These are a few of the visitors who were attracted by the occasion, but there were many others. Also among the listeners were some of the Birmingham veterans, including Mr. C. Stanbridge, who rang the 9th to the record peal of Grandsire Cinques more than forty years ago, and those other links with the days of Henry Johnson, Mr. Tom Miller and Mr. Tom Russam.

A HAPPY EVENING.

In the evening a social gathering took place at the Guild's headquarters, St. Martin's Hotel, when over 150 were present and spent an exceedingly enjoyable time under the genial chairmanship of the Guild's secretary, Mr. A. Paddon Smith. The impromptu programme was organised by the Ringing Master (Mr. A. Walker), and there was no lack of fun and good fellowship. The musical items included handbell selections by Messrs. H. Williams, P. Ladin and H. Withers, songs by Messrs. W. C. Dowling and H. Withers (who sang a celebrated Midland ringers' song, 'Sweet Job Major'), a course of Stedman Cinques on handbells by Messrs. P. Ladin, G. F. Swann, A. Walker, J. F. Smallwood, A. E. Norman and M. J. Morris, and another in which Messrs. F. W. Perrins, J. E. Groves and J. Thomas took part.

During the evening the chairman took the opportunity of informing the company of the presence among them of the three veterans already referred to, and said they also had with them Messrs. F. E. Dawe and T. Miller, who were probably the only two men living who could claim to have rung with the three old celebrities, Haley, Johnson and Cox; also with them was Mr. James George, who had

recently rung his one thousandth peal, and was now well on his way for his two thousandth (laughter and applause).

Mr. Richard Wassell, the organist of the Parish Church, and conductor of the famous Birmingham Police Band, spoke from the musician's point of view in regard to the new bells. He said there was a remarkable difference between the old and the new bells in the accuracy of their pitch. He congratulated the founders upon having solved a most difficult mathematical problem, so that the pitch of the bells was exact. The relative pitch of these bells, he added, was quite remarkable (applause).

ACOUSTIC DIFFICULTIES.

Mr. Albert Walker spoke of the excellent work done by the founder, Mr. A. A. Hughes, and Mr. Macdonald and the men who had been employed on the job. It was, he said, about two years ago that he (the speaker) brought up the question of giving some attention to St. Martin's bells. The matter was taken up by the authorities—the Rector and churchwardens—with vigour. The three chief founders were asked for reports, and it was only fair to them to say that in one respect they were identical. Not only did the bells seriously want seeing to from the ringing point of view, but also from the tonal point of view. The choice of the authorities fell upon Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, who, he was glad to say, had fulfilled all their expectations (hear, hear). From the tonal point of view, and in their balance, which was most important, the bells were absolutely perfect for their weight, and he asked those ringers who were inclined to make comparisons always to take weight into consideration. He felt certain that for their weight, 35 cwt., they had as fine a peal of twelve bells as it was possible to get (applause). The founders had not yet finished. There were adjustments to make in regard to the sound. Inside the ringing room the effect was perfect, and the difficulties of the balance of sound outside would, he was quite sure, quickly be solved. Mr. Walker specially thanked Mr. Radcliffe, who had been chiefly responsible for the hanging, for the enthusiasm which he had put into the job and the speed with which the work in the tower had been done. He thanked the founders for giving them a beautiful peal of bells, and he was satisfied that they had one of the finest peals of twelve at 35 cwt. that it was possible to get (applause).

Mr. Hughes, in reply, said they realised the difficulties of getting an even effect outside the tower, because there were eight bells tucked below the louvres, while the four smaller ones swung right into the louvres. He could assure them, however, that when the necessary adjustments had been made the whole twelve would be heard in perfect balance outside. Mr. Hughes went on to thank Mr. Walker for his remarks about the way in which the work had been carried out. He could say with all sincerity that the work had been a very great pleasure to him. The Rector, the wardens and St. Martin's Guild had made it one of the most pleasurable restoration schemes carried out by his firm within his memory (applause).

During the evening a collection was made for the Bates' Fund, and realised £22 15s. The enjoyable proceedings concluded with the National Anthem.

Many of the visitors stayed overnight in Birmingham, and there was a considerable amount of ringing on Sunday, which was Thanksgiving Day in connection with the Parish Church. In the course of the morning service, when the Archdeacon of Bradford was the preacher, the Bishop of Birmingham dedicated a new Holy Table, given by the parishioners in memory of the late Dean Willink, who was their former Rector.

The bells were rung for an hour before morning service and for an hour and a half before evening service. The latter spell was due to the trials which the R.B.C. required, before a broadcast which was to take place later. Hitherto the microphone for the bells has been placed on a turret at the east end of the church, but the difference in the resonance of the bells was such that eventually the microphone had to be placed ten steps down the staircase of the turret. From that position, as all who heard the broadcast at eight o'clock are aware, the bells 'came over' perfectly.

This broadcast service was in some respects unique, for it was devoted specially to the celebration of the recasting of the bells. Among the hymns was 'Ring, wild bells, to the wild sky,' based upon Tennyson's famous poem, and the bell carol, 'In every town and village the bells do ring.' There was a reading from Bunyan's 'Pilgrim's Progress,' and an address upon bells by the Rector. Mr. Richard Wassell was Master of the Choristers.

The broadcast ringing, which included a full course of Stedman Cinques, was done by: T. H. Reeves 1, P. Ladin 2, A. E. Norman 3, J. George 4, F. W. Perrins 5, J. Neal 6, J. S. Goldsmith 7, J. F. Smallwood 8, E. Mansell 9, G. Yendall 10, A. Paddon Smith 11, A. Walker 12.

The tenor is a bell of 35 cwt. 0 qr. 8 lb. in C, and the total weight of the peal is 156 cwt. Part of the old inscription was transferred to the eleventh, which had no inscription. The old inscription reproduced on the tenor is:—

The Rev. Richd. Davey, Rector. Carter Barton and Chrstr. Stidman, Ch. Wardens. Lester and Pack. of London. Feclt 1758. The new inscription added is:—

To the Greater Glory of God,

these twelve bells were recast and reborn at a cost of £1,025 by Mears and Stainbank, London, A.D. 1928, the cost being provided

by the Bell Rope Croft Fund of the Parish Church, Birmingham. Canon T. Guy Rogers, B.D., M.C., Rector. J. J. Kendall and F. W. Blake, Churchwardens. E. G. Albert Walker, Ringing Master.

Possess'd of deep, sonorous tone, this belfry king sits on his throne,
And when the merry bells go round, adds to and mellows ev'ry sound.

So in a just and well-poised state, where all degrees possess due weight.

One greater power, one greater tone is ceded to improve their own.

Messages have come in to the Whitechapel Foundry from many parts of the country congratulating Messrs. Mears and Stainbank upon the bells. Here is one received from Swindon, which is characteristic of them: 'Have just heard new ring of 12 at St. Martin's, Birmingham, broadcast, and must heartily congratulate you upon what I consider a masterpiece in bell founding—musical and perfectly in tune. I think you have created the finest ring of twelve in the country for their weight. Birmingham have something to be proud of, and so have you.'

THE WIRELESS EFFECT.

Dear Sir,—May we, through your columns, express our appreciation of the bells of St. Martin's, Birmingham, which we heard on the wireless last Sunday evening.

They came through beautifully, and the striking was, on the whole, excellent. The bells are of very fine tone, and, unlike York Minster, the 'nasal twang' was absent.

Messrs. Mears and Stainbank are to be congratulated upon their excellent work.—Yours faithfully,

CHAS. H. KIPPEN.
FRANK. E. DARRY.

Beddington, Surrey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

PRESTON BRANCH SOCIAL.

The eighth annual social in connection with the Preston Branch of the Lancashire Association was held at All Saints', Higher Walton, on Saturday, December 8th, when between sixty and seventy ringers and friends were present. The bells were kept going during the afternoon and for about an hour after tea, in various methods.

A short whist drive was then held in the schoolroom, and was followed by dancing, with intervals for singing and reciting. Messrs. J. and A. Knowles delighted those present with various solos and also a duet, while Mr. J. Harkin kept the audience roaring with laughter by his humorous recitations.

Mr. E. R. Martin, on behalf of the visitors, moved that the heartiest thanks be accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells, to the local ringers for having all in readiness, and to all who had assisted in entertaining them and looking after them at tea. He was rather sorry that the number present was rather below the usual average, but he would like to congratulate them on the splendid tea and entertainment. He thought they had been as good as, if not better than, most of the previous ones.—Mr. J. Taberner replied on behalf of local ringers, and said they were satisfied as long as those present had enjoyed themselves. Mr. Taberner presented the winners of the whist drive with prizes, and the proceedings terminated with the singing of 'Auld Lang Syne.'

DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MEMORIAL TO A SHILDON RINGER.

On Saturday, December 1st, members of the Southern District of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association held their meeting at Shildon, there being about twenty present, the following towers being represented: Darlington, St. Cuthbert's, St. John's and Holy Trinity, Hurworth, Staindrop and the local tower. Touches of Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples were rung during the afternoon. After tea the unveiling took place of a photograph and peal board to the memory of the late Mr. Edwin J. Titt, of Shildon, who was the first conductor in the tower since its erection. The deceased had been a member of the above association since 1887, and also a member of the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association.

The Vicar, the Rev. H. B. Watts, paid a splendid tribute to the late Mr. Titt, for his work in the tower and other church work.

Two of the oldest ringing friends of the deceased performed the unveiling ceremony, namely, Mr. T. Wick and Mr. E. Hind, and each spoke of their close association during the last forty years with Mr. Titt.

There was also present Mr. J. W. Shipp, of Staindrop, who well remembers many happy occasions in the belfry with the deceased, extending over a similar period.

The Vicar then performed the service of dedication, closing with the Lord's Prayer, in which all present joined, and brought a very touching ceremony to a close.

This memorial has been erected by the Vicar and members of the local tower, which shows the good feeling which has always existed there.

The ringers afterwards rang other touches on handbells and on the tower bells, with thanks to the Vicar for use of the bells.

AN OXFORDSHIRE OCTAVE.

AMBROSDEN'S AUGMENTED BELLS DEDICATED.

On Friday last the Right Rev. E. D. Shaw, D.D., Archdeacon of Oxford, dedicated the ring of bells which have just been augmented to eight by the addition of two trebles by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who have also recast the tenor and hung the whole ring in a modern heavy cast-iron side frame, with modern fittings, including ball bearings.

A large congregation assembled, among whom were many ringers, some having come from a considerable distance. Prior to the service the five old bells were rung up singly. The Bishop, clergy, ringers and choir robed in the Vicarage, and entered the church by the south door, and proceeded to the chancel singing the hymn, 'The Sacred Bells of England.'

The special service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. C. C. David Oske, M.A., and the lesson was read by the Rev. H. Last, Rector of Launton, and Rural Dean. Seven other clergy were present.

The prayers ended, the Bishop, clergy, churchwardens and ringers proceeded to the belfry, which is situated on the ground floor at the west end of the church, and the churchwardens, Messrs. W. P. Hadland and A. E. Hepworth presented the rope of the recast tenor bell to the Archdeacon, requesting him to rededicate that bell and the restored bells to the praise and glory of God. After the dedicatory prayers had been offered, the rich, mellow voice of the recast tenor was heard as it was rung up by Messrs. Arthur Turner and George Taylor, who were representing the Ambrosden ringers. The churchwardens then presented the rope of the new treble bell to the Archdeacon, and requested him to dedicate it to the praise and glory of God, and in memory of all those His servants from the parish who fell in the Great War, and, after the dedicatory prayer, this bell was rung up by Mr. Frederick Sharpe, of Launton.

The rope of the new second bell was next presented to the Archdeacon with the request that it should be dedicated to the praise and glory of God, and in memory of William White Kennett, Bishop, formerly Vicar of Ambrosden. This having been done, the bell was rung up by Mr. J. P. Fidler, of Loughborough, representing Messrs. Taylor and Co. After the dedicatory prayer, Bishop Shaw presented the ropes of the bells to the Vicar, and gave the following charge: 'Receive these bells that have been solemnly set apart from all profane and unhallowed uses as a sacred trust committed unto thee as the appointed minister of Christ in this church, and take care that they be ever and only used in God's service and for His glory.'

A beautifully struck course of Stedman Triples was then rung as the Bishop and clergy returned to the chancel by the following: Frederick Sharpe, Launton, Oxfordshire, 1, John P. Fidler, Loughborough, 2, Victor Bennett, Oxford (Master of the Oxford Society), 3, Maurice Smith, Banbury, Oxfordshire, 4, John Oldham, Loughborough, Leicestershire, 5, Edwin Hims, Bicester, Oxfordshire, 6, Rev. Cyril W. O. Jenkyn (Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild), 7, Harry Miles, Shipton-under-Wychwood, 8. The ringers returned to the chancel while the hymn, 'Set them nobly in the steeple,' was being sung.

In his excellent sermon Bishop Shaw explained to the congregation the many uses and customs of bells, past and present, and showed how very largely bells entered into the lives of Christian men and women. He expressed the devout hope that the bells he had just dedicated would further the work of God in the parish. A no mean judge of bells himself, he was very lavish in his praise of the beautiful tone of the recast tenor, and also said that the treble bell was the first bell he had dedicated as a war memorial. He thought that it was most appropriate, and would often serve to remind the parishioners of the great sacrifice which had been made by those whom they loved during the dark days of the Great War. He also mentioned the great work of William White Kennett, who afterwards became Bishop of Peterborough, during whose incumbency the former ring of five bells was recast into six by Richard Keene, of Woodstock. In concluding, the Bishop remarked that although the large sum of £400 had been raised since February last, there still remained a balance of £250, and he hoped that the collection to be taken during the hymn following would considerably lessen the debt.

'The hanging God Who livest' was then sung, and, after the Blessing, the ringers proceeded to the belfry during the singing of the hymn, 'Now thank we all our God,' and immediately the Bishop, clergy and choir had left the church by the south door, a touch of Stedman Triples was rung by the same band, conducted by the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, followed by round ringing by the Ambrosden men, after which the bells were open to all visiting ringers, and ringing was indulged in until 9 p.m.

The 'go' of the bells was proved to be excellent, and it was evident that they were in no wise difficult to handle by the fact that during the first two courses of Stedman Triples the ringers wore cassocks and surplices, and two were wearing robes. Everyone agreed that Messrs. John Taylor and Co. had made a most creditable job of the casting and hanging, and deserved the highest possible praise.

The inscriptions and weights of the bells are as follow:—

Treble, E flat, 4 cwt. 3 qr. 16lb.—+ In undying memory of all those of this parish who fell in the Great War, 1914-1918. + (Crest of Taylor and Co.). 1928. George Aldridge, Charles Austin, Percy Bushy, James Cherry, Percy Deeley, Harry Eaves, Edwin Edmunds,

Thomas Gaskins, Sidney Hopcraft, Rowland Knapton, Joseph Markham, Charles Robert Sharp, Henry Shaw, William Tuffrey Turner. + Their name liveth for evermore.

Second, D, 5 cwt. 1 qr. 25 lb.—+ Popvls Ambrosdvi me dedicavit. Ad maiorem gloriam Dei. Et ad honorem Sanctae Mariae. Et in memoriam Gulielmi White Kennett. Olim vicarius hirs parochiae. Postea episcopus Petroburgensis. Qui abiit. MDCCXXVIII. + (Crest of Taylor and Co.). 1928. C. C. David Oske, M.A., Vicar. W. H. P. Hadland and A. E. S. Hepworth, Churchwardens. W. P. P. Hadland, Deputy Warden.

Third, C, 6 cwt. 0 qr. 23 lb.—1697.

Fourth, B flat, 7 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.—Thomas Harris, Samuel Smith, Richard Carter, Churchwardens, 1716. Bee it knowne to all that doe mee see. H. Bagley made mee.

Fifth, A flat, 8 cwt. 2 qr. 27 lb.—Thomas Jones, Thomas Smith, William Sylstone, Henry Honor, Churchwardens. Edwin Hemins, fecit, May the 28th, 1745. Vox mea sonat. John Cherry, Clerk.

Sixth, G, 8 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.—W. H. Hadland and A. E. Hepworth, Churchwardens. Charles Bayfield, Vicar, 1895. F. White and Sons, Bellhangers, Appleton, Berks. (Crest of Taylor and Co.)

As I for use am raised above the earth,

So may my voice to Heavenly thoughts give birth,

If men who hear me come and praise their King,

I am content, for not in vain I ring.

Seventh, F, 12 cwt. 0 qr. 23 lb.—W. Tub, J. Hazel, T. Hickman, J. Dicks, Church Wardens. Rev. L. C. Dryden, Vicar. Ann. Dmi: MDCCCXLV.

Tenor, E flat, 20 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb.—Tho Harris, Hen Cooper, Oliver Pangborn, C.W., 1703. + I was recast A.D. 1928. + (Crest of Taylor and Co.).

Sanctus.—+ PETRVS: DE: VESTON: ME: FECIT.

The Sanctus bell was cast by Peter de Weston of London, 1336-1347. Traditionally the four largest bells hung in the old central tower at Bicester Church some time prior to 1420, and were taken to Ambrosden because they were too heavy for the tower.

They were augmented to five between 1552 and 1697, in which year the whole ring of five bells was recast into a ring of six by Richard Keene, of Woodstock, whose wife came from the parish. In 1703 he recast the tenor, this being the last bell he cast. In 1716 Henry Bagley, of Chacombe, Northants, recast the present fourth, and in 1745 the present fifth was recast by Edward Homins, who had a foundry in Bell Lane, Bicester. In 1845 J. W. Taylor, of Oxford, recast the present seventh, and a few years later the bells were rehung by Alfred White, of Besselsleigh, Appleton, Berks, but the old frame was only repaired. It is interesting to note that Richard Keene in 1697 only repaired the frame, and altered it to take six bells. In 1895 the sixth was recast by J. Taylor and Co., and new, in 1928, the whole ring has been retuned and rehung, the tenor recast, and two trebles added. The canons have been retained on the third, fourth and fifth bells.

F. S.

RESTORATION OF RUSHMERE BELLS, IPSWICH.

Mr. Alfred Bowell, of Ipswich, has just put into excellent order the ring of six bells at St. Andrew's, Rushmere, Ipswich, by a general overhaul of the fittings, with new gudgeons and bearings.

The bells are a light ring of six. The tenor, which is 8 cwt., was added to the other five in 1885, when the whole peal was hung in a new oak frame. Through constant neglect, however, the bells became unringable, and in 1914, the then Vicar (himself a ringer) made efforts to get them put into order. There was a woeful lack of interest among the parishioners, and the Vicar, therefore, determined to bear the cost himself. Then came the war, the Vicar left the parish, and the scheme fell through. Since that time the village has been brought within the borough of Ipswich and has doubled in population. The new parishioners have shown greater interest than the old, and a restoration of the bells was decided upon. The Parochial Church Council sought the advice of experts, who frightened them by the costly suggestions that were made. Later, however, Mr. Bowell was called in, and he has put the bells into good ringing order, at moderate cost, for many years to come.

There being no regular ringers and only short notice, Mr. Bowell and his men were called upon to ring the opening touch on November 30th, this being the 43rd anniversary of the opening of the six bells in 1885. The foundry staff rang a 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, and, later, ringers from Ipswich and Little Boalings turned up, and Cambridge Surprise and Plain Bob were rung. The visitors expressed their entire satisfaction with the 'go.' Now that the bells are in order it is hoped that assistance may be obtained to instruct a change-ringing band, and that the Suffolk Guild will interest itself in the tower.

MUFFLED BELLS

At the Parish Church, Ickleton, Cambs, on Saturday, December 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 45 mins.: 1, Flitton 1, P. Webb (conductor) 2, R. Clements 3, E. Flitton 4, W. Huxley 5, G. Lilley 6, W. Flitton 7, A. Lilley 8. Rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect for Mr. W. F. Beddoes, J.P., who was interred in Ickleton Churchyard. He was a supporter of the ringers for many years. The bells were also rung muffled for morning service on the following Sunday, when 630 Grandsire Triples was brought round.

PEALS OF DOUBLES AND MINOR.

'TRUE, BUT NOT COMPLETE.'

The question of the admissibility of the Rev. E. Bankes James' arrangement of Cambridge Surprise Minor as a peal raises an interesting point. The 720's which comprise the peal are true, but are they complete? The same question is raised in regard to Mr. A. J. PHIMAN's arrangement of Doubles.

The following are the views of Mr. J. A. Trollope, expressed in a letter to the Editor:—

The 720's in the Rev. E. B. James' arrangement of Cambridge are all true, but they are not (save one) complete. Now, it is true that if you count the first 'Rounds' you will have 720 rows all different, followed by another 720 all different, and again by another all different, the third ending with rounds. You may say that since there are 720 rows, no more and no less, and you have them all, why is it not complete? This is my answer: I had been thinking of your recent leader, and I asked the Rev. H. Law James what he considered a complete 720. He replied, after some thought, 'One which is true and which has all its Q sets intact,' or words to that effect. I replied that I was very glad to hear him say that, because it was just what I had been thinking. Now the Q sets of the Rev. E. Bankes James' 720 are not intact. But you may say, 'What of that? There is the fact that the 720 rows are there, and what more do you want? This is nothing else but another of those fads which people called "experts" want us "plain" or "practical" ringers to swallow.'

Well, let me say first of all, and as strongly as I can, that no fact of the theoretic side of ringing is of any real value at all, except so far as it concerns the practical side. The thing that matters is the actual ringing in the tower. But ringing is an art which is founded on and controlled by an exact science, and we can only understand it if we study that science. Now the law of 'Q sets' is one which is proved to be at the very foundation of ringing. Shipway saw it partly; Thompson established it, so far as composition goes: I may claim to have shown it to be the one foundation law on which all changes are based. Now it has been abundantly proved that you cannot have extents unless you keep your Q sets intact. The law works in many apparently different ways, but it is always there.

In the Rev. E. B. James' 720 the Q sets are not intact, and therefore they are not extents. 'Not extents!' you will say, 'where there are 720 true rows and 720 is the full number. That is impossible!' I will ask you to follow me into a little argument.

FIGURES NOT THE METHOD.

First, we must get rid of the idea that a set of figures is a method, or a number of figures is an extent of Minor. Figures are only symbols which represent to our minds something behind them; just as the letters I am writing represent ideas. Figures are a convenient method of expressing what we call a method, or a 720, but they are a limited method of doing so. The temptation is to take them as being the thing itself. But just think how limited is their use in actual ringing. Many ringers (I should say the great majority of ringers) never use figures at all. Some of the more active ringers may do, but their use of them is very limited. If they were asked to stand in a peal of a new method, and were given a lead of it, the first thing they would do would be to make a skeleton course either on paper or mentally. They would then drop the figures altogether and would come into the tower, not with the figures in their head, but with something which they had got from the figures. That something is what we call the 'work,' and which is actually the method. Do the same thing with these 720's. You have the figures, and from them you get the calling. Now go into the tower and ring them, and then answer the question in dispute. If we were ringing Cambridge Minor, and at the hand-stroke of the 30th lead-end 143265 stand was called, and the bells set up, would you say we had rung a complete 720, although every one of the possible rows had been rung? Of course, you would not. You would know that there was something missing. And the reason is that though you have rung 720 rows, you have not rung 720 changes, as the word change was understood in the beginning and always has been understood, and now is understood.

People who call themselves 'plain' ringers or 'practical' ringers, and so forth, tell me that there is no difference between a row and a change. They don't think. If they did they would realise that what concerns us in the tower is not the actual order in which the bells strike, but the work, the hunting, dodging, place making. It is these that make up the method and actually are change ringing. Turn to Fabian Stedman and see how change ringing did begin, and see how he uses figures to express imperfectly the movement of the bells, which is 'ringing.' Consider, too, that you must work out your skeleton course before you can ring, and what is this skeleton course but movement? Ringing is movement! Just notice that nearly every term we use in practical ringing implies movement.

A 720 of Minor, then, is so much movement which produces the maximum number of the order of the bells. The movement is cyclical: that is, it is from a point to a point, and unless you return to the point from which you started it is incomplete. You can see this clearly if you put your 720 down in terms of a skeleton course instead of in terms of figures. The skeleton of the Rev. E. B. James' 720's are not finished, and, therefore, they are incomplete.

MORRIS' ARRANGEMENT OF DOUBLES.

Dear Sir,—As author of the arrangement of Grandsire Doubles you extensively ventilated in your editorial on the 23rd ult., may I trespass upon your space to make a few observations? With all due respect to the Central Council for their efforts to obliterate falsification in composition and arrangement, I take strong objection to your editorial assertion that my arrangement is false. I quite concur that there is a repetition of the changes within each 120, but may I emphatically impress upon your readers that each of the possible 120 changes is only produced twice in each complete 240 or double six-score, rendering the whole arrangement perfectly true. As my friend and namesake, 'Ernest,' points out, it is high time our less fortunate brethren, whose activities are confined to the necessarily limited scope of five-bell performances, were given some consideration; and while you strenuously endeavour to suppress a humble contribution, having this object in view, it is a strikingly conspicuous fact that you astutely refrain from attacking similar arrangements in Minor methods, for six-bell ringers, whose scope for variety is already so extensive that an introduction of this nature is not by any means so greatly called for. It is idle to attempt to explain away the fact that the Central Council continue to recognise this mode of arrangement in Minor methods, solely for the purpose of keeping with the times. If this argument is to be accepted, the Council immediately lay themselves open to the grave charge of being a partial body, and, further, as the ruling of the Council definitely establishes that on all numbers of bells a true peal shall in all cases start from and end with rounds, it is futile to argue that any one of the arrangements in this category (true in itself) can lawfully be suppressed, while others can lawfully be recognised.

I hope that, from the foregoing remarks, it will thus be understood by Grandsire Double ringers that they are perfectly within their rights to ring my arrangement in peals or otherwise, confident of its truth, until the Central Council stringently enforce the rule previously referred to discarding all compositions or arrangements on this plan.

LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.

Leeds, Yorkshire.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A RINGING MASTER.

A successful meeting of the Ely Archdeaconry was held at Long Stanton on Saturday last, about thirty sitting down to tea, among whom were Rev. R. Copeman, general secretary, Rev. H. B. and Mrs. Woolley, Mr. C. W. Cook, churchwarden, and Miss G. Woolley. The service in the church was conducted by the Vicar, Rev. H. B. Woolley, who gave an excellent address, appreciated by all. The business meeting followed tea, the Vicar being in the chair.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at St. Andrew's, Chester-ton, Cambridge, some time in February.

Arising out of the minutes of the last meeting, a discussion arose re advertising certain methods, and to overcome the difficulty Mr. A. G. Rivers moved that at the next annual meeting a rule should be added to enable the association to elect a Ringing Master.—This was seconded by Mr. T. Chinery and carried.

On the proposition of Mr. A. J. Abrams, the secretary (Mr. F. Warrington) was asked to act as Master until the annual meeting.

Mr. E. G. Hibbins stated he was in favour of advertising a special method for each meeting. This would enable those who attended the meeting to know what to expect and to be prepared. He added that this was not to say that no other method would be rung.—The meeting, however, was in favour of free methods, with a District Ringing Master.

Mr. B. Buttress proposed that a vote of thanks be accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, for taking the service, and for presiding.—The Vicar replied, saying it gave him much pleasure to welcome the association to Long Stanton.—Votes of thanks were also accorded the ladies, Mrs. Woolley for use of the Vicarage kitchen utensils, Miss G. Woolley for presiding at the organ, and Mrs. Pratt and Mrs. F. Warrington for tea arrangements.

Business over, a return was made to the tower, where Double Norwich, Stedman, Cambridge, Kenn and Grandsire were rung, finishing with the lowering of the back six in peal.

FIRST 720's.

At Tring Parish Church, on Tuesday, November 27th, 720 Bob Minor: F. C. Reeve 1, H. Bishop 2, J. Puppelt 3, H. Bull 4, C. Badrick 5, F. J. Reeve (conductor) 6, N. Brackley 8 (covering). First 720 by the ringers of 2nd, 4th and 5th. First as conductor and first by an entirely local band.

On Saturday, November 24th, some of the West Grinstead and Lower Beeding bands met at Cowfold Parish Church, Sussex, and rang 720's in the following methods: 720 Marple Treble Bob: V. Turrell 1, G. Warnett 2, W. Watts (first 720 in the method) 3, H. Turrell 4, R. Langridge (first 720 in the method) 5, W. Denman (conductor) 6.—Also 720 Norwich Surprise: V. Turrell 1, G. Warnett 2, W. Watts (first 720 in the method) 3, H. Turrell 4, R. Langridge (first 720 in the method) 5, R. Stredwick (conductor) 6. These were the first 720's in the methods on the bells. Touches of London Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles were also rung, in which V. Gorchor and T. Adams took part.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

LEYTON, ESSEX.—At the Parish Church, for evening service, on December 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins.: R. Mollon 1, A. Prior (conductor) 2, W. Theobald 3, C. Hughes 4, *P. Avey 5, G. Dawson 6, E. Smith 7, *J. Bullen 8. *First quarter-peal.

PENDLETON.—At St. Thomas', on Sunday, December 2nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes) in 50 mins.: R. Johnson 1, P. Laffin 2, S. Greenhalgh 3, H. Greenhalgh 4, W. Edwards 5, W. H. Shuker 6, H. Hollingworth 7, A. F. Bailey (conductor) 8.

WASHINGTONBOROUGH, LINES.—At the Church of St. John, for evening service on Advent Sunday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 45 mins.: R. Croft 1, H. Knott 2, W. Walker 3, T. Kent 4, T. D. Clark 5, H. Walker (conductor) 6, J. Hufton 7, W. Clark 8.

LONDON.—On Sunday, December 2nd, for evening service at St. Stephen's Church, Hampstead, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 50 mins.: B. F. Farmery 1, E. F. Pryor 2, W. H. Pryor 3, C. H. Martin (composer and conductor) 4, R. Hudson 5, E. Aylett 6, C. J. Pryor 7, A. J. Carter 8.

LONDON.—On Sunday, November 25th, for evening service, at St. Giles', Camberwell, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Royal: W. Rogers 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, A. J. Neale 3, T. W. Taffender 4, H. J. Skell 5, E. J. King 6, E. R. Goate 7, G. A. Card 8, R. Bullen 9, G. Cross 10. Mr. E. R. Goate is from Beccles, Suffolk, and it was his first quarter-peal of Surprise Royal.—On Sunday, October 28th, for evening service, 1,263 Stedman Caters: F. G. Newman 1, T. H. Taffender 2, A. N. Hardy 3, S. C. Moya 4, J. J. Lamb 5, E. J. King 6, T. W. Taffender (conductor) 7, J. R. Gammon 8, W. Rogers 9, H. H. Peters 10.

LONDON.—At the Church of St. Matthew, Bethnal Green, for evensong, on Sunday, November 25th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) in 43 mins.: W. W. Stevens 1, J. Martin 2, J. H. Parrott 3, S. Penfold 4, J. F. Parrott 5, H. Hills 6, F. Smith (conductor) 7, H. C. Taylor 8.

HERSHAM, SURREY.—On Sunday, November 25th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples for evensong: F. Dodson 1, A. Woodrow 2, Miss N. E. Shorter 3, J. Loveridge 4, A. R. Pink 5, J. Gill 6, W. T. Beeson (conductor) 7, W. Mills 8.

TOTTENHAM.—At All Hallows', on Sunday, November 25th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: W. P. Roe 1, H. A. Barnett 2, W. J. Ellis (conductor) 3, H. W. H. Strickland 4, S. W. Crabb 5, H. Ellis 6, C. A. Rutton 7, E. A. Hull 8.

OSWESTRY, SHROPSHIRE.—On Sunday, November 18th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 46 mins.: H. Wright 1, W. B. Kynaston 2, H. T. Hughes 3, E. H. Kynaston 4, R. Kynaston 5, G. Williams 6, R. T. Evans (conductor) 7, Thos. Marshall 8. Rung as a farewell to W. B. Kynaston, who is leaving the district for Swindon, Wilts.

ROCK FERRY, CHESHIRE.—On Sunday, November 18th, for evening service, 720 of Bob Minor: Miss D. I. Leatham (first 720) 1, Miss M. Cooke 2, J. Gorst 3, T. Birch 4, J. Hughes 5, J. Cooke (conductor) 6.

MARKET DEEPING, LINCOLNSHIRE.—At the Parish Church, for evensong, November 18th, 720 of Double Court: E. A. Sneath 1, F. Otter (first in the method inside) 2, H. M. Day 3, H. Holmes 4, J. O. Landan 5, G. H. Wells 6.

BRAMLEY, LEEDS.—On Sunday, November 11th, at St. Peter's Church, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes) in 49 mins.: W. Waterhouse 1, S. Helliwell 2, Frank Blackith 3, Fred Blackith (conductor) 4, J. Guy 5, F. Jackson 6, Hy. Blackith 7, E. Redshaw 8.

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, November 11th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, for Armistice service: A. Holden 1, S. Greenfield 2, S. Picton 3, C. Smart, son, 4, H. C. Greenfield 5, P. H. Doick 6, A. C. Greenfield (conductor) 7, A. V. Corden 8.

PORTSMOUTH.—At St. Thomas' Cathedral, on November 11th, for Armistice service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,280 changes): C. Shepherd 1, J. Cassidy 2, Mrs. F. A. Burnett 3, E. Martin 4, F. A. Burnett 5, E. Warner 6, P. Cook 7, F. W. Burnett (conductor) 8.

WHITTLE-LE-WOODS, LANCS.—At the Church of St. John, for harvest festival, on Sunday, October 28th, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,248 changes) in 47 mins.: J. Charnock 1, H. Nelson 2, E. Cawson (first quarter-peal as conductor) 3, Adam Blogg 4, F. G. Bradley 5, A. Hartley 6, E. B. Coxhead 7, Alfred Blogg 8.

RICKMANSWORTH.—On Sunday, October 21st, for evensong, 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins.: W. Crossley 1, G. Foster 2, J. E. Jones 3, E. Hookham 4, F. W. Elliott 5, J. H. R. Freeborn (conductor) 6.

LATE NOTICE.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Balderstone on Saturday, December 22nd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30.—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 8d. 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 enables members who have not attended twenty times in the past year to vote on matters of finance, is now due. Meetings will be held at St. Magnus' on Dec. 20th; *St. Paul's Cathedral (special business) on the 18th; Southwark Cathedral on the 27th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Snodland on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea after service, at 1s. per head, at the Parish Room.—C. H. Sone, The Bungalow, Linton, Maidstone.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting at Perry Barr on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells available 3.30. Tea will be arranged for those who advise their intention to be present.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., Donnor, Wellington Road, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—The next district meeting will be held at Aldershot Parish Church on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—B. H. Clark, Hon. Sec., 17, St. James' Avenue, Farnham.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hintlesham on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells available afternoon and evening. Tea, 1s. each, at the George, at 4.30. Meeting follows. Every ringer welcomed. — G. E. Symonds, Dis. Sec., 28, Chevallier Street, Ipswich.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Town Hall, Manchester, on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells ready 4 o'clock. Meeting 7 p.m. A good attendance is requested.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting, Manchester.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Thorne on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea in Mission Room at 5, at a charge of 1s. 6d. per head. Business meeting to follow.—A. B. Cook, Hon. Dis. Sec., 58, Wyndham Street, Hull.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Tempsford on Sat., December 15th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—C. J. Ball, 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—A joint meeting of the Southern Division and the Sheffield District Society will be held at Rawmarsh on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells ready from 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock, at 1s. per head.—F. Clark and R. Harrison, Hon. Secs.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Central Bucks Branch.—Dec. 15th, Saturday. A meeting at Marsh Gibbon 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting afterwards.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Edgecote Rectory, Aylesbury.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sunning Deanery Branch.—Combined practice at St. Paul's, Wokingham, Saturday, Dec. 15th, from 6 till 9 p.m. All welcome.—W. J. Paice, Branch Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The annual general meeting will be held at Loughborough on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Business meeting in the Bell Foundry Tower at 6 p.m. Stanford-on-Soar bells available from 3 to 5 p.m. Foundry bells from 6 to 9 p.m. Buses run from Loughborough to Stanford at frequent intervals.—D. S. Collins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Daventry (8) on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, Hon. Sec., Fircroft, Braunston Road, Daventry.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at St. Sepulchre's, Holborn, on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells (10) available during the afternoon and evening. Tea and meeting at 4.30 p.m. Visitors heartily welcome.—J. A. Waugh, Hon. Dis. Sec., 8, Fullers Road, E.18.

SAFFRON WALDEN.—The dedication of the four trebles by the Bishop of Colchester will take place on Saturday, Dec. 15th, at 3 p.m. All visitors welcome.—Leonard E. Pittsow, Hon. Sec., 21, Debden Road, Saffron Walden.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Poulton-le-Fylde (6 bells) on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting at 5.30.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 10, Warbreck Road, Blackpool.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The last meeting of 1928 will take place at Redbourn on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Buses from St. Albans, Luton and Dunstable. Usual arrangements. Let me know if you are coming.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—A ringing meeting will be held at Old Brampton, Chesterfield (6 bells) on Dec. 15th. Bells at 3 o'clock. Buses leave Markham Road at 2, 3.15 and 4.15.—A. Knights, Dis. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Lincoln District.—The postponed meeting will be held at Branston (6), Saturday, Dec. 15th. Tower open 2 p.m. Excellent bus service to and from St. Mary's Street and St. Mark's. All ringers heartily welcome. Notification for tea to Harold Marcon, Dis. Sec., 269, Wragby Road, Lincoln.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wimborne Branch.—The annual meeting is to be held at St. James', Poole, on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Ringing from 2.30. Service 4.30. Address by Rector (Rev. C. Egerton Williams). Tea 5.15, Church House, followed by usual business.—C. A. Phillips, Hon. Branch Sec.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The December meeting will be held at Bulkington on the 15th inst. The 6 bells will be available for ringing from 3 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome.—J. A. Fenton, Gen. Hon. Sec., 6, Frederick Street, Rugby.

CEFN COED.—Rededication of the ring of 6 bells, retuned and rehung by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, will take place on Dec. 15th at 3 p.m. All ringers welcome.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Tyldesley on Saturday, Dec. 22nd. Bells available 4 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—A meeting will be held at Luton on Saturday, Dec. 22nd. The bells (8) will be available from 2.45 p.m.—A. E. Sharrman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street N., Dunstable.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Cardiff on Dec. 26th (Boxing Day). Service in St. John's Church at 4 o'clock. Business meeting to follow. Bells (10) available.—John W. Jones, Hon. Sec., Barrack Road, Newport, Mon.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of Forest Branch will take place at Lydney on Boxing Day (Dec. 26th). Bells (8) will be available all day. Arrangements have been made at Newnham (8), Tidenham (6), St. Briavels (8). Service at 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., 1s. per head, and meeting after in Church Room. Will those who require tea let me know by Thursday, Dec. 20th? All ringers and friends welcomed.—Oliver Thomas, Branch Hon. Sec., 44, Newerne Street, Lydney, Glos.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting will be held at Nelson on Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Subscriptions now due. Reports and new diagrams to hand.—F. Hindle, Hon. Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

CROFTS MEMORIAL DINNER.—The seventh annual dinner to the above will be held at the Welbeck Hotel, Nottingham, on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Tickets, 5s. each, can now be obtained from the hon. secretary, F. Blood, 91, Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

DEATH.

DIGBY.—On Thursday, Dec. 6th, from cancer, Margaret, wife of P.C. Digby, Metropolitan Police Guild of Ringers, aged 48 years.

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THE ARCHBISHOP'S GOLDEN WEDDING.

BREWOD, STAFFS.—On Tuesday, November 13th, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples, but it unfortunately came to grief at the end of the sixth part of Thurstons' peal: H. Hood 1, J. Yerrold 2, A. G. Hunt 3, G. Warner 4, A. E. Winterton 5, J. W. Perry 6, J. Perry (conductor) 7, T. Perry 8. This was the longest length rung by the ringers of treble and second.

DEPTFORD.—At St. John's Church, on November 12th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 43 mins.: W. A. Martin 1, H. James 2, J. J. Lamb 3, R. Steers (first in method) 4, F. W. Richardson 5, W. Anderson (first in method) 6, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 7, C. Elliott (first quarter peal) 8.

WARFIELD.—On November 12th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) in 48 mins.: G. Simmons 1, F. Buxton 2, F. Webb 3, C. Collyer 4, W. Dyer 5, J. Brant, jun., 6, G. Higgs (conductor) 7, J. Collyer 8. 4, 6, 8 covering.

USK, MON.—On Monday, November 12th, at the Parish Church of St. Mary, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) (taken from Groves' Transposition of Parker's twelve part) in 45 mins.: G. Knight 1, G. Went 2, E. W. Luff 3, A. Hawkins 4, L. Jones 5, A. L. Lucas 6, D. G. Clift (conductor) 7, G. Hawkins 8.

BURTON-ON-KENDAL, WESTMORLAND.—At St. James' Church, on Saturday, November 10th, a date touch of Treble Bob Minor (1,928 changes), being 368 of Violet, 120 Duke of York and 720 each of Kent and Oxford, in 1 hr. 4 mins.: J. R. Robinson 1, E. Jennings (conductor) 2, J. Holme 3, W. Bolton 4, J. Hayton 5, T. F. Taylor 6.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BURSTOW, SURREY.—On Friday, November 30th, at St. Bartholomew's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) in 42 mins.: J. Bradley (first quarter-peal) 1, V. Cousins (first quarter-peal) 2, H. Kew 3, L. Penfold 4, A. Bull (conductor) 5, H. Parsons 6.

HEREFORD.—On Friday, November 2nd, at St. Nicholas' Church, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: W. H. Symonds 1, Rev. H. S. T. Richardson (conductor) 2, W. E. Williams 3, G. W. Tayson 4, A. W. Davis 5, C. Edwards 6. First 720 of Surprise Minor rung in the city. First extent in the method by ringers of 1, 3, 4, and 5.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.—On Wednesday, October 31st, at the Cathedral Church for evensong, the Eve of All Saints', a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (from Holt's Original) in 50 mins.: G. E. Clode 1, C. N. Burdock 2, H. Hutton 3, W. R. Melville 4, C. E. Smith 5, R. S. Philpott 6, W. J. Robinson (conductor) 7, H. Harris 8. First quarter-peal by ringer of treble, who is 16 years of age.

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