THE RINGING WORLD

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NOTES BY THE WAY.

Last Saturday was the jubilee of the Hertford County Association, the latest of the many societies which, beginning with the Devonshire Guild, were founded fifty or sixty years ago. It was at the close of a critical time in the history of the Exercise, probably the most critical it has ever passed through, for though the ringers of the time did not know it, the very existence of the Art trembled in the balance. In the middle of the last century the state of bells, belfries and ringing generally was deplorable, a scandal and a disgrace both to the Church and to the Exercise, and as the Church is much the greater, so was her responsibility that much the more. It was not the fault of individuals; it was the result of causes which had come down through centuries. The social and religious influences which had created and controlled change ringing in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries had worked themselves out and were bankrupt. Change ringing had never, from the beginning, been connected with the service of the Church. It was partly a secular sport, and partly done to celebrate national, civic, or private events. The Exercise in its organisation did not acknowledge the Church, and the Church shamefully neglected her duties to the ringers.

Then came changes in social and religious opinion which widened the breach, so that conditions, which were tolerable in the eighteenth century, were rapidly becoming intolerable in the nineteenth. The Exercise was faced with the alternatives of reform or destruction. The clergy and Church authorities, as a body, though they were quite aware of the scandal, shut their eyes and did nothing. Well for us they did not. For had a real attempt at reform come from that quarter, there can be no doubt that ringing would have shared the fate of the village choirs and orchestras of a generation or two earlier, and been swept into oblivion. As it was, ringing practically died out in some parts, the Norfolk villages for instance. Fortunately the Exercise was able to start the reform movement from within itself. The men who so strongly denounced the faults of ringers and the state of the belfries were the men who cared most for the real interests of the ringers and who loved bells and ringing. Those quotations from Ellacombe and others which were printed the other week in 'The Ringing World' are not slanderous attacks on the old ringers. They were frank recognition of evils which those men had made up their minds to end if it could be done; for they knew that if they were not ended, ringing itself would be ended.

The formation of the territorial associations was one of the great instruments of reform. They gave a real

(Continued on page 706.)

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corporate life to the Exercise which was entirely outside the range of the older societies. They set a new standard for ringers, and they gave the Church an opportunity of recognising that she has a duty towards her ringers which must be discharged before she can expect them to do their duty properly towards her. Changes take place slowly in ringing matters, but they do take place. In fifty years the Exercise has been entirely altered in character. Such a gathering as took place last Saturday at St. Albans would once have been quite impossible. The individual men who compose the Exercise are to-day pretty much the same sort of men as were the ringers in the old days. It is the Exercise as a whole that has changed, and we have a right to be proud of the fact that so great a problem was faced and slowly but effectually solved. The art of change ringing stands to-day far more securely than it has ever done.

J. A. TROLLOPE.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, November 3, 1934, in Three Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;
Tenor 32 cwt.

GEORGE A. FLEMING	...*Treble*	CHARLES CLARKE	7
*PHYLLIS E. TILLETT... ...	2	WILLIAM P. GARRETT... ...	8
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY ...	3	JOHN F. TILLETT	9
HOBART E. SMITH	4	HERBERT SHEMMING	10
ROBERT H. BRUNDLE ...	5	GEORGE E. SYMONDS	12
HARRY R. ROPER	6	CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus. Birthday compliment to Charles Clarke. Miss Tillett and Mr. Brundle are the youngest and oldest persons to ring a peal of Cambridge Maximus.

TEN BELL PEALS.

ROTHERHAM, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, October 30, 1934, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 34¾ cwt.

JOHN W. J. COTTAM ...	...*Treble*	REGINALD PAYNE	6
TOM BROTHWELL	2	ALBERT COAD	7
MRS. T. COLIN RYDER ...	3	ALBERT NASH	8
JOHN H. BROTHWELL	4	ARTHUR FIRTH	9
JOHN COAD	5	T. COLIN RYDER	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by A. NASH.

First peal of Surprise Royal on the bells and by all the band except the 4th ringer.

CUDHAM, KENT.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 3, 1934, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 9½ cwt. in A.

FREDERICK G. WOODISS	...*Treble*	*GEORGE W. STEERE	6
TONY PRICE	2	ROYDON DAVIES	7
DANIEL COOPER	3	*ALFRED J. CLAYTON	8
EDWARD G. TALBOT	4	*FRANK E. DARBY	9
THOMAS G. BANNISTER ...	5	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ...	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by CHAS. H. KIPPIN.

* First peal of Bristol Royal. First peal of Bristol Surprise Royal in the county.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

TURNERS HILL, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, October 17, 1934, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT SWIFT	*Treble*	KENNETH SNELLING	5
KEITH HART	2	CECIL NICE	6
GEORGE OLLIVER	3	NELSON ELLIOTT	7
REGINALD V. JOHNSON	4	OLIVER SIPPETTS	*Tenor*

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

PENKRIDGE, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Wednesday, October 24, 1934, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th the observation). Tenor 16 cwt.

R. T. MASON	*Treble*	FRED BIRKS	5
W. H. JONES	2	R. J. WARRILOW	6
A. E. GARBETT	3	JOHN PERRY	7
J. WARRILOW	4	C. J. BASTONE	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN PERRY.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. F. Birks on the occasion of their silver wedding. The conductor's 200th peal.

BARNWOOD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, October 27, 1934, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 10½ cwt.

HENRY NEWMAN	*Treble*	JOHN CLARK	5
WILLIAM H. HARRIS	2	JOHN W. DAVIS	6
JOHN AUSTIN	3	EX-SGT. J. WILLIAMS	7
JOHN W. JONES	4	ERNEST E. DAVIS	*Tenor*

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

Rung as a birthday compliment to ex-Sergt. J. Williams for his 82nd birthday.

MAYFIELD, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, October 27, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN.
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 21½ cwt.

GEORGE WIGGINS	*Treble*	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE	5
REG. E. LAMBERT	2	*ARTHUR R. MILES	6
ERNEST J. LADD	3	ROBERT T. LAMBERT	7
FREDERICK J. LAMBERT, JUN.	4	ALBERT E. EDWARDS	*Tenor*

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by A. E. EDWARDS.

* First peal of Bob Major. First peal of Bob Major on the bells. Birthday peal for ringer of the 5th.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON, WILTS.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, October 28, 1934, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

JESSE FRANCIS	*Treble*	SAMUEL J. HECTOR	5
WILLIAM LOUD	2	NORMAN V. ANDREWS	6
WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT	3	GILBERT H. HARDING	7
JAMES BENNETT	4	CHARLES F. ANDREWS	*Tenor*

Composed by J. HUNT. Conducted by CHARLES F. ANDREWS.

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THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, October 29, 1934, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CANDIDA AND THE HOLY CROSS,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 21 cwt.

REV. C. CAREW COX	*Treble*	*H. DENNIS W. BISHOP	5
*CUTHBERT W. H. POWELL	2	FRANK BENNETT	6
*HENRY G. KEELEY	3	*FRANK PRICE	7
CHARLES H. JENNINGS	4	WILLIAM C. SHUTE	*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by Rev. C. CAREW COX.

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

LONDON.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, October 29, 1934, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE,
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 20 cwt.

ERNEST BRETT	*Treble*	ALFRED J. HOUSE	5
ERNEST G. HIBBINS	2	JOSEPH MARKS	6
WILLIAM R. MADGWICK	3	JAMES E. DAVIS	7
FREDERICK DIGBY	4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS	*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by J. E. DAVIS.

GRAVESEND, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, October 30, 1934, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 18¼ cwt.

WILLIAM J. BEER	*Treble*	JOHN BURLES	5
RICHARD SMITH	2	E. GEORGE MORRAD	6
MISS KATHLEEN BEER	3	EDWARD J. BEER	7
AMOS CONSTANT	4	STUART SANDFORTH	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by EDWARD J. BEER.

NORWICH, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, October 30, 1934, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, MANCROFT,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;
Tenor 37¾ cwt. in C.

ARTHUR J. E. SMALLS	*Treble*	WILLIAM C. DUFFIELD	5
HARRY TOOKE	2	BERTIE J. HOWCHIN	6
WILLIAM E. BASON	3	GEORGE BAILEY	7
GEORGE MAYERS	4	NOLAN GOLDEN	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

Rung after meeting short for Royal. A farewell peal to W. E. Bason.

ERITH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, October 31, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 15¾ cwt.

JOHN WHEADON	*Treble*	HARRY HOVERD	5
FREDERICK J. CULLUM	2	JAMES BENNETT	6
JOHN H. CHEESMAN	3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	7
ALFRED G. HILL	4	ALFRED J. HOUSE	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by HERBERT E. AUDSLEY

NOTTINGHAM.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, November 1, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 21 cwt.

*WILLIAM THORNLEY, SEN.	*Treble*	*FRANK BROWN	5
SAMUEL PINDER	2	FREDERICK A. SALTER	6
FRANK BRADLEY	3	J. ALFRED BARRATT	7
JOHN E. HOBBS	4	†FRANK WEST	*Tenor*

Conducted by J. ALFRED BARRATT.

* First peal in the method. † First peal. First peal in the method as conductor. Rung to commemorate the 21st birthday of Frank West and Edmond A. Clemence, both members of the St. Peter's band. 100th peal on the bells.

NORTHFIELD, BIRMINGHAM.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, November 3, 1934, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lb.

WILLIAM C. DOWDING	*Treble*	H. JAMES TURNER	5
JOHN F. ATKINS	2	WALTER FARLEY	6
REGINALD CHANCE	3	WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT	7
VICTOR G. H. HEMUS	4	JOHN E. EATON	*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT.

Rung on the occasion of the wedding at this church of Miss Dora M. Vaughan (daughter of Mr. James Vaughan, of the local band) and Mr. Wm. H. Cox, and of the wedding of Mr. John Withers, jun., of the local ringers, and Miss Daisy Stokes, at Yardley Parish Church.

PETERSFIELD, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, November 3, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

D. CECIL WILLIAMS	*Treble*	TOWER R. TAYLOR	5
RAYMOND PHILPOTT	2	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY	6
CHARLES E. BASSETT	3	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD	7
JAMES TUPP	4	FREDERICK W. ROGERS	*Tenor*

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by FRED. W. ROGERS

First peal on the bells since their restoration by Messrs. J. Taylor, of Loughborough.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EAST BERKS & SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)
On Saturday, November 3, 1934, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 12¼ cwt.

JAMES W. WILKINS	*Treble*	WILLIAM HENLEY	5
*PERCY NEWTON	2	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG	6
DOROTHY R. FLETCHER	3	FREDERICK G. BIGGS	7
ROLAND BIGGS	4	HARRY WINGROVE	*Tenor*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by HARRY WINGROVE.

* First peal in the method 'inside.'

BADSEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, November 3, 1934, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt.

J. WILLIAM HEATH	*Treble*	*WILLIAM RANFORD	5
JAMES HEMMING	2	THOMAS W. LEWIS	6
SIDNEY T. HOLT	3	GEOFFREY J. HEMMING	7
FRANK SADLER	4	CHARLES CAMM	*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. PARKER Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

* 400th peal. First Surprise peal on the bells. A compliment to Mr. William Mustoe, who celebrated his 93rd birthday on October 19th, and who was for eight years organist and seven years clerk respectively at the above church.

POOLSTOCK, WIGAN.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, November 3, 1934, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 25 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.

NORMAN BROWN	*Treble*	THOMAS SMITH	5
RICHARD FORSHAW	2	NORMAN HEAPS	6
*CHARLES BLACKBURN	3	SIDNEY FORSHAW	7
GEORGE T. JENKS	4	WILLIAM O. FARRIMOND	*Tenor*

Conducted by NORMAN HEAPS.

* First peal in method, and first attempt. Rung to commemorate the golden wedding of Councillor James Horne, J.P., and Mrs. Horne, Mayor and Mayoress of Wigan.

GREAT BARDFIELD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, November 3, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

ARTHUR SAUNDERS	*Treble*	FRANK CLAYDON	5
FREDERICK RIDGWELL	2	WALTER SMITH	6
*HAROLD TOWNSEND	3	ERNEST TOWNSEND	7
MISS HILDA SNOWDEN	4	JOSEPH JENNINGS	*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by JOSEPH JENNINGS.

* First peal in the method. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. C. H. Howard, the late Master of the association. The ringer of the fourth is the first lady to ring a peal in this tower.

EAST MARKHAM, NOTTS.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, November 3, 1934, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 10½ cwt.

MISS K. BURCHNALL	*Treble*	ARTHUR J. CHAMBERLAIN	5
MISS GRACE BURCHNALL	2	†EDWARD FOSTER	6
HAROLD DENMAN	3	GEORGE E. FOSTER	7
*FREDERICK C. HOOPER	4	LEONARD PIERREPONT	*Tenor*

Composed by A. J. CHAMBERLAIN. Conducted by G. E. FOSTER.

* First peal in a Major method. † First peal of Plain Bob and first as conductor. The composition is now rung for the first time.

BROXBOURNE, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, November 3, 1934, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 20 cwt.

FREDERICK C. PERRIN	*Treble*	NORMAN A. TOMLINSON	5
WALTER J. BOWDEN	2	JOSEPH C. MILLER	6
JOHN THOMAS	3	GEORGE RADLEY	7
EDWARD H. KING	4	JOHN G. MASH	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

Rung to celebrate the jubilee of the Hertfordshire Association and also in honour of the birth of a son and heir to Major and Mrs. Smith-Bosanquet, of Broxbourne Bury.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, November 3, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 6½ cwt.

JAMES S. HUTCHBY	*Treble*	LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD	5
EDWARD F. GOBEY	2	COLIN HARRISON	6
EDWARD C. GOBEY	3	WILLIAM RAWSON	7
HARRY L. SMITH	4	PERCIVAL PRICE	*Tenor*

Composed by JAMES GEORGE. Conducted by EDWARD F. GOBEY.

The band wish to thank the ringer of the 6th for standing in at the last moment.

WHITTLESEY, PETERBOROUGH.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, November 3, 1934, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 cwt.

DENIS D. WRIGHT	*Treble*	FRANK WARRINGTON	5
BERRY WAYMAN	2	ARTHUR J. GINN	6
FRANCIS G. GLEAVES	3	WILLIAM SMITH	7
ROBERT SMITH	4	MANSFIELD GINN	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

Rung to mark the engagement and forthcoming marriage of H.R.H. the Duke of Kent and Princess Marina.

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LINTON, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, November 3, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

HARRY BAKER ... ...*Treble*		WILLIAM WENBAN 5	
CHARLES H. SONE 2		LUTHER J. HONESS 6	
MRS. H. BAKER 3		WILLIAM BUTTON 7	
GEORGE KENWARD 4		THOMAS E. SONE ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE

Birthday peal for Mr. C. H. Sone, who has now 'completed the circle' in this tower three times. The composition, No. 145 (consisting of 63 short courses), is rung for the first time. The band wish to thank Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Sone for their kind hospitality after the peal.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, November 4, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13¾ cwt.

GEORGE OLLIVER ... ...*Treble*	WALTER CLAYDON 5
NELSON ELLIOTT... 2	KENNETH SNELLING 6
ROBERT SWIFT 3	REGINALD V. JOHNSON ... 7
OLIVER SIPPETTS... 4	ALFRED J. BULL ... ...*Tenor*

Composed by Rev. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

SIX BELL PEALS.

DODLESTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 20, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Oxford, Oxford Bob, and Plain Bob, and two 720's of Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob.

WILLIAM HOPWOOD ... ...*Treble*	CHARLES DRYLAND 4
ROBERT SPERRING 2	JAMES MORGAN 5
PERCY SWINDLEY... 3	THOMAS GUEST ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by THOMAS GUEST.

SOUTH NORMANTON, DERBYSHIRE.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 27, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE COURT MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's, each called differently. Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr.

THOMAS BETTISON ... ...*Treble*	WILLIAM SWAIN 4
HAROLD DOUGHTY 2	CYRIL M HEATHCOTE ... 5
TOM CLARKE... 3	JOHN W. ENGLAND ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN W. ENGLAND.

First peal in the method for the association.

RIPPLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, October 27, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with 10 different callings. Tenor 13 cwt.

*WALTER GAINBY ... ...*Treble*	CHARLES HAYLINGS 4
FRED HAWKES 2	WILLIAM WILLIAMS 5
CYRIL HALLING... 3	JOSEPH HILL ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES HAYLINGS.

* First peal.

ALLENSMORE, HEREFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, October 27, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 21 different 240's by Pitman, Morris and Lindoff. Tenor 11 cwt.

W. HARRY YOUNG ... ...*Treble*	ERIC R. WEBB 4
G. HARRY GRIFFITHS ... 2	JAMES P. HYETT 5
*TRACEY H. YOUNG 3	*ALBERT G. SMITH ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

* First peal.

MARDEN, HEREFORDSHIRE.

On Sunday, October 28, 1934, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 22 six-scores and five 240's by Pitman and five by Morris. Tenor 16¾ cwt.

WILLIAM WARREN ... ...*Treble*	*JOHN DAVIES 4
CHARLES DAVIS 2	JAMES P. HYETT 5
GEORGE A. COUSINS 3	THOMAS G. STOKES ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

* First peal. Rung for the harvest festival.

WINFARTHING, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, October 28, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four 720's of Oxford Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. 4 lb. in G.

*WALTER ELSEY ... ...*Treble*	GEORGE ARCHER 4
*FREDERICK C. ROPER ... 2	DAVID WHITING 5
ALBERT G. HARRISON ... 3	ERIC G. BENNETT ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by ERIC G. BENNETT.

* First peal in two methods.

REDGRAVE, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sunday, October 28, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising one 720 each of Plain Bob and Woodbine Treble Bob and two 720's of Kent Treble Bob and three 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, each called differently. Tenor 10 cwt.

EDWIN A. CRACKNELL ...*Treble*	DAVID CRACKNELL 4
*HERBERT C. FORDHAM ... 2	GEORGE FILBY 5
†LEWIS J. BATLEY 3	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ...*Tenor*

Conducted by GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL.

* First peal in four methods. † First peal on a working bell.

SANDY, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 1, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHUN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

ARTHUR W. DILLEY ... ...*Treble*	MANSFIELD GINN 4
FRANK WARRINGTON 2	HERBERT SHERMAN 5
CHARLIE BALL 3	*LEWIS H. BYWATERS ...*Tenor*

Conducted by L. H. BYWATERS.

* 25th peal.

COSGROVE, NORTHANTS.—On October 25th, for harvest festival, 720 Doubles in the following methods: Plain Bob, April Day, St. Simon's, New Grandsire, Union, Grandsire. After service, 720 Doubles as before with Original in place of St. Simon's.—On Sunday, October 28th, 1,260 Doubles, Original, Plain Bob, April Day, New Grandsire, Union, and Grandsire, for evening service: E. J. Lambert 1, J. Higgins 2, E. C. Lambert (conductor) 3, F. Lambert 4, E. Hillyer (conductor) 5.

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MORECAMBE, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(LANCASTER BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 3, 1934, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 each of Woodbine, Double Bob and Plain Bob and two 720's of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

PETER ROGERSON ...	...*Treble*	ERNEST SWAIN	4
GEORGE E. BRAITHWAITE ...	2	EDWIN JENNINGS	5
NICHOLAS NEWBY	3	HERBERT PALMER ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by E. JENNINGS.

First peal in five methods by all the band except the conductor. Rung as a compliment to the tenor ringer, who has been a ringer for 30 years, also in honour of his son's 21st birthday.

WOLLASTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 3, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of College Single and Oxford Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

*JOHN H. PAGGETT ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM SHORT	4
ROBERT MATTHEWS	2	PERCY RICHARDS	5
JOHN BASS	3	JOHN LLOYD	...*Tenor*

Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.

* First peal.

CLIFFORD, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, November 4, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 12½ cwt.

*FREDERICK J. WATKINS	...*Treble*	G. JAMES R. PRICE	4
WILLIAM BEAVER	2	ALBERT E. JONES	5
JAMES P. HYETT	3	V. JAMES CARLESS ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by A. E. JONES.

* First peal away from the tenor. First peal as conductor. Rung for the festival of All Saints.

HANDBELL PEALS.

HALEWOOD, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, November 2, 1934, in One Hour and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT 5, CHURCH ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten different callings.

GEORGE HESKETH	1-2	HERBERT LUDKIN...	3-4

JOHN W. GARDNER 5-6

Conducted by HERBERT LUDKIN.
Witness—Mr. J. GARDNER.

First handbell peal in Halewood and first by all the band.

BARTON-ON-HUMBER.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, November 4, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT 42, WESTFIELD ROAD,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 18 six-scores of Plain Bob and 24 of Grandsire.

JAMES W. GODDARD	1-2	WALTER M. GODDARD ...	3-4

*CHARLES W. TAYLOR... ... 5-6

Conducted by W. M. GODDARD.
Witness—Mrs. W. M. Goddard.

* First peal in hand.

WOODBRIDGE, SUFFOLK.—At the Parish Church, on October 23rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): J. Trotman 1, F. Fisher (conductor) 2, F. Nicholas 3, S. Woodard 4, T. Edwards 5, J. Woodruffe 6, G. Blake 7, J. Sawyer 8.

CIRENCESTER, GLOS.—On October 23rd, at Holy Trinity Church, Watermoor, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): F. J. Lewis, sen. (conductor) 1, H. L. Cooke 2, H. S. Parsons 3, W. Andrews (Winchester) 4, H. G. Bond 5, F. J. Lewis, jun., 6., W. H. Hayward 7, W. G. Cook 8. Rung with clappers half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mrs. J. E. Waters, wife of J. E. Waters, who has been a ringer and chorister at Watermoor Church for over 40 years.

MEMORIAL TO THE LATE CANON BAKER.

BELFRY STAIRCASE AT DUNSTABLE PRIORY CHURCH

To the memory of Canon W. W. C. Baker, a former president of the Bedfordshire Association, a belfry staircase and memorial tablet were dedicated in the Priory Church of St. Peter, Dunstable, by the Bishop of St. Albans on October 15th.

The service was attended by many friends of the late Canon, and the Bishop gave an inspiring address. Among those present were the Rector of Dunstable, Rev. H. A. Griffith, the curate and churchwardens, the widow, Mrs. Baker, and three daughters, Rev. A. Rust (president of the Bedfordshire Association) and other clergy of the surrounding district, Miss E. Steel, Mr. A. King, and Mr. J. Nicholls (vice-presidents), Mr. A. Sharman (general secretary), and ringers of the local tower, Luton, etc.

THE PRIORY CHURCH, DUNSTABLE.

The staircase, made of wood, and erected by Mr. Watson, builder, Dunstable, and the tablet, cast in bell metal by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, with the inscription in relief, were much admired by the congregation and ringers. The tablet was inscribed as follows:—

'In memory of Canon W. W. C. Baker, M.A., president of the Bedfordshire Association of Bellringers, the belfry staircase of this church was erected by his brother-ringers, July 1934.'

The bells were rung before and after the service.

The balance sheet of the memorial fund states that the receipts totalled £25 4s. 10d., the following subscriptions being received: F. Bailey 2s. 6d., Rev. R. Copeman 5s., G. W. Cartmel 5s., Central Council £3 3s., W. P. Duffield 5s., W. H. Fussell 2s. 6d., Dr. H. Goldsmith 2s. 6d., Rev. C. Jenkyn 10s., H. Knight 2s. 6d., R. Lathbury £1, D. Mears 1s., W. J. Nevard 5s., Rev. A. Rust £1 1s., R. Richardson 5s., Canon Robins 5s., W. H. Shuker 2s. 6d., Southgate ringers 6s., Miss E. Steel £1 5s., Miss Steel's lecture £3 7s., E. D. Taylor 10s. 6d., G. D. Thurston 2s. 6d., Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake 5s., 'Kitty' 1s. 3d., G. Heley 11s., the churchwardens, Dunstable, £4 0s. 6d., and the following towers: Aspley Guise 10s., St. Paul's, Bedford, 2s. 6d., St. Peter's, Bedford, 15s., Cardington 2s., Husborne Crawley 4s. 6d., Clapham 4s., Dunstable £1 5s., Leighton Buzzard 12s. 6d., Luton £1, Stagsden 2s. 6d., Barton 5s., Turvey 5s., Woburn £1, Totternhoe 6s, Risely 3s., bank interest 1s. 7d. The expenses came to £25 4s. 10d.

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. ARTHUR HEAD.

COLLAPSED AFTER RINGING AT CHELMSFORD.

A very sad fatality occurred in the belfry at Chelmsford Cathedral on October 30th at the conclusion of the usual practice. Mr. Arthur Head, who had been ringing all the evening on the front eight to assist less experienced members, later rang the tenor for three leads of Kent Maximus. He then sat down, saying that he did not feel well. The bells were rung again, and practice concluded at the usual time. Mr. Head then put on his coat and, reaching for his cap, collapsed. He was placed on a handbell box, but had passed away. A doctor was fetched at once. The police and ambulance arrived, but owing to the circular stairway he had to be lowered to the Cathedral floor through the trapdoor with new ropes.

Mr. A. Head, who was 55 years of age, was the fourth of five brothers. All the brothers were taught to ring at Writtle under W. Lincoln, and all rang peals. He had rung just about 200 peals and was always at the heavy end. The majority of his peals were rung with the writer. An excellent ringer and striker, very seldom making a trip, as a heavy bell ringer his place cannot easily be replaced.

The funeral was on November 3rd. The service at the Cathedral was attended by a very representative company of ringers, and was conducted by the Provost, the Very Rev. Canon Morrow. The interment followed at the Writtle Road Cemetery, where many people, including members of the Chelmsford Corporation to which deceased belonged, were waiting to pay their last respects. The Provost took the committal service, and a course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave by: G. Green (Great Baddow) 1-2, W. J. Nevard (Great Bentley) 3-4, W. Keeble (Feering) 5-6, W. Lincoln (Chelmsford) 7-8.

At the morning service, on Sunday, the Provost preceded his sermon by paying a tribute to his memory, his devotion to his beloved art, and his duty to the church, and expressed sympathy to his widow. During the evening the Cathedral bells were rung half-muffled by the local and other ringers who had come to pay their last respect.

STREATHAM, LONDON.—At St. Leonard's Church, on October 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. Wright 1, Miss E. E. Hardcastle 2, J. C. Mitchell 3, W. E. G. Hewson 4, John Lee 5, J. W. Chapman (conductor) 6, J. W. Euston 7, S. Gardner 8.

CHATHAM, KENT.—On October 28th, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes) in 50 mins.: F. Belsey 1, H. Hogarth 2, H. Springate 3, A. S. Richards 4, S. J. T. Shellock 5, W. J. Walker 6, C. E. J. Norris 7, A. P. Cannon (conductor) 8. Rung on the 26th anniversary of the rededication of the church.

A VALUABLE BOOKLET.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have just been reading the Central Council's excellent little booklet, 'Hints to Instructors and beginners,' a copy of which should be in every tower. As I go about from place to place I cannot help thinking what a long-felt want this little work has filled.

It is disgraceful the way some ringers handle their ropes. Is it to be wondered there are so many bad strikers when they stand as they do and have one hand about a foot above the other on the sally or catch it so low they cannot possibly have good control?

Bad habits in ringing are, as in everything else, easy to acquire but very difficult to get rid of.

Now a suggestion for another 'Hints for the would-be conductor.' I would suggest this because I know it is wanted. I remember some few years ago standing in a touch of Stedman at Tring, and not one of the band could call a couple of courses, so Mr. Walter Ayre called it from his chair. I felt this so much that I was determined not to be caught napping again. I mentioned the matter to G.G. (H. VIII.), and he very lucidly explained some standard callings to me, for which I was very grateful. Then my old friend, George Martin, gave me some valuable hints on ringing and calling which I shall always remember. But it is not everyone who can call on the assistance of such experts and know they will be helped, as I have been, in such language as can be readily understood by 'the would-be conductor.'

Cookham. T. J. FOWLER.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A well-attended meeting of the Eastern District of this association was held at Gateshead on November 3rd. The district-vice-president, Mr. R. L. Patterson, of Sunderland, presided at a short meeting after an excellent tea at the old Anchorage. A vote of thanks to the Rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and to the ladies for providing the tea, was proposed by the new president, Councillor Arthur Payne, J.P. Councillor Payne congratulated the Rector (Canon Stephenson) on the completion of 20 years as Rector, and also commented on the very great improvement in the surroundings of the church since the opening of the new Tyne Bridge.

The venue of the next meeting on January 5th was left in the hands of the vice-president and secretary. Two new members of St. John's, Newcastle, were elected, and on the proposition of Mr. Stuart, seconded by Mr. C. L. Routledge, the president was heartily congratulated on his re-election to the Gateshead Town Council.

The methods rung during the afternoon and evening included Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Kent Treble Bob and Bob Major.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Congratulations to Mr. William Ranford, who rang his 400th peal at Badsey, Worcestershire, on Saturday.

Congratulations to Mr. Wilfrid Wilson, the assistant secretary of the Middlesex Association, on the birth of a son and heir.

Mr. C. D. Heginbothom, chairman of the Devizes Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, who is still in the Bristol Royal Infirmary, is making slow but satisfactory progress towards recovery.

We regret that the peal at Epsom on October 27th was stated to have been rung under the auspices of the Surrey Association. It should have been credited to the Guildford Diocesan Guild.

The peal rung at Dudley, Worcestershire, on October 20th, should read 5,057 changes. It was Mr. W. C. Rhodes' first peal of Grandsire Caters. Mr. W. C. Cooper has rung each bell in the tower to a peal.

Mr. H. O. Over, of Hugglescote, Leicester, writes suggesting that those contemplating ringing peals in honour of the forthcoming Royal wedding of the Duke of Kent and Princess Marina, might as an appropriate method for the occasion select 'Kent.'

Ald. J. S. Pritchett, the Recorder of Lincoln, was elected a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths on November 10th, 1874. His 60th anniversary will doubtless be remembered by those assembling at the festival dinner on Saturday.

The weight of the tenor at Middleton Cheney, Northants, where a peal of Surprise Minor was rung on October 6th, was 22 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb., and not 26 cwt. approximately as stated. Mr. G. Dawson asks whether a peal in seven different Surprise methods has been rung on heavier bells.

The old and the young were in happy company at Ipswich on Saturday, when a peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus was rung. The ringers included Miss Tillett, aged 15, and Mr. R. H. Brundle, aged 83, the youngest and oldest persons to ring a peal of Cambridge Maximus.

Other Parochial Church Councils must follow the example of St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, where all iron parts of the frame, wheels, stocks, stays, sliders, etc., have been painted with two coats of paint and the beams and other woodwork inspected for death-watch beetle. This was done without any pressure from the ringers!

The peal of Stedman Triples rung at Ilkeston, on October 31st, for the dedication of the entrance doors and screen to the memory of the late Mrs. Muirhead Evans, was the 200th different composition called by the conductor, Mr. Maurice Swinfield. The band who rang the peal desire to express their thanks to Mr. E. C. Gobey for having everything in readiness for them.

The many friends of Mr. F. W. Goodfellow will learn with regret that he has been compelled to enter the Middlesex Hospital for an operation which will put him out of active ringing for many weeks. He expects to be at the hospital for three weeks, and then at home until Christmas. Everyone will echo our sincere hope that he may have a speedy recovery.

Norwich ringers regret the departure of Mr. W. E. Bason to take up duties as stationmaster at Thetford. A farewell peal of Double Norwich Court Bob was rung on October 30th at St. Peter Mancroft, where Mr. Bason was a member of the Guild, a former Ringing Master, and chairman of the North Norfolk Branch. The peal was the 100th occasion on which Messrs. W. E. Bason and G. Mayer have taken part in peals together. The Exercise will wish Mr. Bason every happiness in his new appointment.

Last October 23rd was the 50th anniversary of a performance which is a landmark in the history of the art. It was the first time that Holt's Original was rung entirely non-conducted, and was rung on the anniversary of what was supposed to be the first time it was called by a man who took part in the ringing. The idea originated with the Rev C. W. P. Davies, who induced James Pettit, then the leading conductor of the College Youths, to make up the band. Mr. Challis Winney, who is still going strong, is the only survivor. We hope he may live to call the Original many times more.

Mr. Henry James Tucker, of 2, Gordon Villas, The Broadway, Chichester, writes that he attended the first meeting of the Hertford County Association and is still a member of the association, although not able to be present at the jubilee. He corrects the statement that Bennington and Hertford were the only towers in the county where the art was regularly practised, as change ringing took place at Bishop's Stortford and Sawbridgeworth. Peals were rung at the former place as far back as 1827 by a local band, and one at Sawbridgeworth about 1881, conducted by the late Mr. G. Rochester.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

PEASEMORE, BERKS.—On October 20th, 720 of Bob Minor: Miss J. Mullins (first 720) 1, Miss M. Field (first 720 on 'inside' bell) 2, M. Rosier 3, R. Rex. 4, G. Townsend 5, J. Berry (conductor) 6. The ringers of the treble and second become the first ladies to ring a 720 on the bells.

FARNDON, CHESHIRE.—On October 29th, an extent of Coventry Delight Minor (720 changes). W. Thomas 1, A. E. Richards 2, J. W. Clarke 3, P. Swindley 4, J. Swindley 5, J. Morgan 6. Also a quarter-peal of Bob Major: Geo. Simon 1, T. Simon 2, W. Thomas 3, A. E. Richards 4, J. Swindley 5, J. W. Clarke 6, P. Swindley 7, J. Morgan 8. Both touches were conducted by J. Morgan.

JUBILEE OF THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A PEAL OF TWELVE FOR ST. ALBANS ABBEY.

BISHOP'S GIFT TO COMMEMORATION FUND.

On October 29th, 1884, the Hertford County Association was founded at a meeting held in Archdeacon Lawrence's study at St. Albans Abbey, and last Saturday the jubilee was celebrated by a service at the Cathedral and a dinner at the County Hall.

At the Abbey the Dean preached an eloquent sermon, expressing thankfulness for what the association had been able to do. The president (Mr. E. P. Debenham) read the first lesson, and the Bishop gave an impressive Blessing. At the close of the service a perfect course of tittum Grandsire Caters was rung by H. Hodgetts 1-2, C. W. Woolley 3-4, W. Ayre 5-6, H. G. Cashmore 7-8, F. W. Brinklow 9-10. In the evening the same men (except Mr. Ayre) rang a course of London Surprise without the least faltering from start to finish, proving that they are at present the premier handbell band of England.

At the dinner the president (Mr. E. P. Debenham) took the chair. He was supported by the Bishop, the Dean and the Mayor of St. Albans, Mr. G. W. Cartmel (the hon. sec.), Mr. E. H. Lewis (president of the Central Council) and Mrs. Lewis, Mr. Alexander Young (Master of the College Youths), Mr. C. T. Coles (hon. secretary of the Middlesex Association) and Mrs. Coles, Mr. G. W. Fletcher (secretary of the Central Council), Mrs. Fletcher (Ladies' Guild) and Mr. Challis Winney. Among the well-known ringers at the large gathering were the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake, Messrs. W. H. Buckingham, Maurice Hibbert, A. A. Hughes, Jas. Parker, L. Goodenough, F. W. Elliott, G. W. Debenham, G. Kilby, A. W. Coles and others. Mr. J. A. Trollope represented 'The Ringing World.'

A most generous programme, musical and oratorical, had been provided, and what with encores and the clerical speakers taking their usual generous allowance, not much more than half the items had been reached before the guests had to leave to catch trains. There was, however, no cause for complaint, for the standard both of the speeches and the music was high. Mrs. A. A. Hughes' tunes on the handbells and the course of London Surprise already mentioned were perhaps the most appreciated.

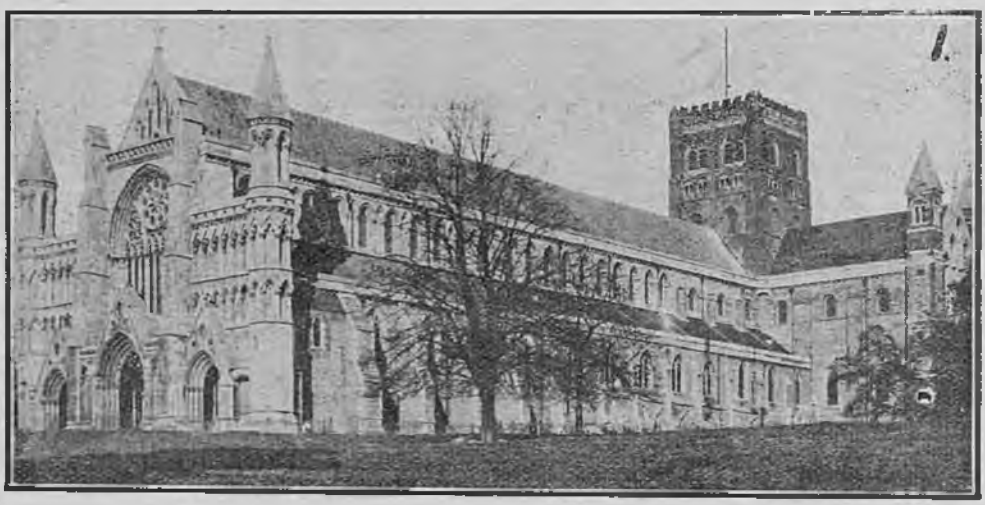
After the toast of 'The King,' the President proposed 'The Church and State.' He pointed out that the bells are the property of the Church, and the ringers are the officers of the Church, and it was meet and right that they should ring on Sundays to mark that it was not an ordinary day. On the 29th the bells would be ringing for the wedding of the Duke of Kent, and on May 6th for the silver jubilee of King George.

THE FREEDOM OF THE CHURCH.

The Bishop of St. Albans, responding, said he was very grateful for the honour done him in allowing him to be present on so great an occasion. When he was a boy he began to learn to ring a bell, but he did not persevere, otherwise he might know the difference between an original and a royal triplet, or between a Cambridge Surprise and a Cambridge sausage. The nearest he had got was to find out that a Cambridge sausage was sometimes a Cambridge Surprise. He congratulated the association on including the old toast of 'Church and State.' The Church came first; and it must be free. At the Synod of Hertford held under Archbishop Theodore, which they had lately commemorated, there was only one Church, but there was not yet one nation. The main clauses in Magna Charta said that the Church should be free, and they must look to it that there should never be in England what they were seeing on the Continent, where men were trying to make religion and God himself the servants of some theory of State rule.

The Dean, in proposing the toast of 'The Hertford County Association,' said how glad Dean Lawrence would have been to see the result of the work begun in his study fifty years ago, and how the ideas he had set his heart on had flourished. Their beloved and revered president had assisted throughout its history, and Mr. Cartmel had held office nearly as long.

He had been informed by Mr. Goodenough, the captain of the Abbey band, that restoration would have to be done there, and he had come to the conclusion that it would be an excellent thing to mark the jubilee of the association by increasing the peal to twelve. The Parochial Church Council and the Advisory Committee of the diocese had approved, Mr. Lewis had given a favourable report, and Mr. Alexander Young had inspected the tower and said it was strong enough to carry the extra weight. All that was wanted was to find the money. The restoration of the present eight was, of course, a charge which would be undertaken by the Cathedral authorities. For the extra four bells a sum of £383 was wanted. There were some of St. Albans' merchant princes present. He hoped that they would give liberally, and he hoped for small amounts from every part of the diocese. His ambition was to have the 12 bells rung for the first time on the silver jubilee of the King next May. It would take a bit of doing, but he was going to try.



St. Albans Abbey, the peal of which is to be augmented to 12 bells.

ASSISTANCE OF COLLEGE YOUTHS IN EARLY DAYS.

The President said that a peal of twelve at the Abbey had always been a dream of his, and now it was going to be realised. The Bishop had just promised £25 towards the fund. He went on to express his deep sense of gratitude for all those who had helped him during the past 50 years. First of all was Mr. Cartmel, who for 43 years had held office and given invaluable service. It was nearly 60 years since he first began to ring, and he was not finished yet. He called to mind the old College Youths who used to come down and assist them, and with whom they used to ring handbells—Bob Haworth, Matt Wood, James Pettitt and, above all, his dear friend Challis Winney, who was present that day. He remembered once that the College Youths started for Holt's Original at the Abbey. They rang past the first single and then lost the peal!

Mr. W. Ayre proposed 'The Central Council of Church Bellringers.'

Mr. Lewis, in reply, said that his position enabled him to give to them the congratulations of all the other societies in the land. He called to mind that the previous representatives of the Hertford Association had been that fine old ringer, Squire Proctor, their present president, Herbert Baker, and Bertram Prewett. They were now entitled to four members, and he asked them to send men who could give constructive help in debate. There was a lot of work to be done. The Council must watch the anti-noise campaign very closely. They ought to form themselves into an anti-noise commission. For while well-struck bells were very fine music, badly-struck bells were definitely a noise, to which people could legitimately object.

(Continued on page 716.)

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS OF PAST CENTURIES.

SOME INTERESTING PERSONALITIES.

CAVALIERS, LAWYERS ACTORS AND MUSICIANS.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

Who and what were the men who first invented and developed our art? For the most part they belonged, as ringers generally have belonged, to the lower orders. They were artisans and farm labourers and small tradesmen, with a sprinkling of farmers and members of the lesser professions. But there was always in the Exercise a tradition of a time when ringing was a fashionable sport, when you might find gentlemen at the rope's end in the belfry; yes, and even knights and real lords.

There was some foundation for this tradition in the early seventeenth century. We come across indications that there were two sorts of ringers—'gentlemen' and 'others'—who moved on separate planes, and if they mixed as ringers, which was seldom, never mixed socially. The gentlemen enjoyed privileges at the hands of the churchwardens for 'peals of pleasure,' which were denied to the commoner sort, but the others did the paid ringing, which at least in the towns was not inconsiderable. No doubt the gentlemen supplied most of the brains, and to them we owe early method ringing—Plain Bob and Treble Bob, and certainly Grandsire. I imagine, too, that those early societies of which we get occasional glimpses were composed entirely of the better-class ringers—such societies as the Scholars of Cheapside, the Loyal Youths of Litchfield, the Esquire Youths, and the rest—and that ordinary ringers had about as much chance of being included in them as a modern race-going man has of being elected to the Jockey Club, or you and I have of being elected to the Atheneæum.

Then, in course of years, as the century waned, this was all gradually altered. Soon after 1700 ringing had practically ceased to be one of the recognised sports at the Universities. Most of the old societies lapsed, the others changed their character, and in the eighteenth century, though here and there a few gentlemen were ringers, they were exceptions and were looked upon as rather eccentric persons. Of the old state of affairs the Society of College Youths is the only relic that remains, and its history socially is the story of the changes that took place in the Exercise. It started at a very high level, so high that it could not be maintained, and gradually it got lower and lower until, in two hundred years, it had gone from the top to the bottom. From the King's Court at Whitehall to a low pot-house in the purlieus of Southwark—that is the measure of the social decline of the society during two centuries. I do not doubt that the later College Youths were just as worthy men as their predecessors, as they certainly were better ringers; but that is another thing.

Founded by a nobleman, the son-in-law of one of the most influential courtiers of Charles I., and composed of young country gentlemen who were up in town to play their part or seek their fortune in the royal circle or the Law Courts, for the first five years of its existence the society lived almost in the shadow of the King's palace. But times were changing—1637 is a year notable for more things than the founding of the Society of College Youths. It was the year when events first came to a head which were to change the whole character of England, and therefore of the modern world. It was the first year of the revolutionary epoch. Five years later the Civil War began. The Royal Court left Whitehall for many years, and henceforth the College Youths found their centre in the Inns of Court among the lawyers.

PROSPERITY IN THE COMMONWEALTH

During the war and the Commonwealth that followed, the society prospered exceedingly. I do not imagine that its members were ever strong supporters of Cromwell, and when the Restoration came they were glad enough, as many as could, to push their claims for advancement in Charles II.'s service; but while the republicans were in power the College Youths, like sensible men, accepted things as they were, and made the best of both worlds.

One thing is certain; they were not Puritans. They could hardly have been that in any case, since their founder was the son-in-law of George Goring, who was the typical, hard-drinking, hard-swearing, roistering Cavalier, and though there is no evidence that Lord Brereton himself was that sort of man, he certainly was under the influence of his father-in-law. When the Restoration of Charles II. came in 1660, the College Youths, like all the other lawyers, welcomed the change and quickly took advantage of the altered political and especially of the altered social conditions. By this time the doors of the society had been widened, and they were no longer quite so exclusive as they had been. They by no means admitted just anybody. Common ringers were as far outside as they ever had been. The new recruit belonged to what we should now call West End Bohemian society, writers, members of the Civil Service, and actors, with lawyers still the majority. If we may judge the bulk from the samples we know of, they were a jovial, dissolute, drunken lot, though that is only part of the tale. There were many clever hard-headed men among them, men who could sit up half the night over the bottle, and turn up next day at Westminster Hall or at their offices and play their part worthily. Some of them were magistrates, and there were still country gentlemen among them. I may, perhaps, one day be able to give a more detailed sketch of some of these men, show how very wide of the mark is almost everything which is usually written about the early days of this society.

One interesting fact is the presence among them of a distinct theatrical element which lasted for many years, because, knowing what sort of men the actors were in those days, it helps us to judge the characters of the others. The earliest actor, who was a College Youth, was Cave Underhill. He was the leading low comedian of the time and a prominent member of the company at Drury Lane and Covent Garden. By birth and education he was very different from the original College Youths, and no doubt owed his election to his jolly, companionable, sociable nature. He 'divided his gay hours between Bacchus and Venus with no little ardour,' and paid the penalty, for he was so afflicted with gout that 'he prayed one moment and cursed the next.' He lived at Salisbury Court under the shadow of St. Bride's Church in Fleet Street, where there was (and still is) a tavern called the Barley Mow. It was a noted place for holding clubs; in later years we know definitely that it was the headquarters of the College Youths, and it is reasonable to suppose that as early as the last quarter of the seventeenth century this was the place where the society usually held its meetings.

A LINK WITH SHAKESPEARE?

Two other actor College Youths were sufficiently prominent in their profession to be included in the 'Dictionary of National Biography,' and later on in the next century John Rich, who is well known as the man who first produced Gay's 'Beggar's Opera,' was a member of the society and held office. But the most interesting link between the theatre and the society is supplied by John Hardham and John Cundell, neither of whom was actually an actor, though both were intimately connected with the stage. Both of these men, and especially Cundell, were keen, capable ringers. Hardham was a remarkable man and deserves an article all to himself; Cundell's ringing career is part of the story of the great Benjamin Annable, of whom he was a life-long rival. I have only space here and now to mention a theory I have formed which, if true, shows a link (though a slight one) between William Shakespeare and the Society of College Youths.

One of Shakespeare's friends and fellow-actors was a man named Henry Condell. He, Burbage, Shakespeare and Heming were among the Lord Chamberlain's men at the end of Queen Elizabeth's reign, and the great poet in his will left legacies 'to my fellowes John Hemynges, Richard Burbage, and Henry Cundell to buy them rynges.' In 1623 Condell and Heming put the whole of humanity in their debt by collecting Shakespeare's plays and publishing the first folio. Condell, who was a prosperous actor and lived in his own house, retired from the stage in 1623 and died in 1627. He was a married man and had begotten sons and daughters, some of whom survived him.

The man who founded Drury Lane Theatre was a bookseller called Rhodes, and H. Rhodes (probably not the same, but a son) published 'The School of Recreation,' which has a chapter on ringing. A copy of one of the editions of this now in the British Museum belonged to a William Cundell, of whom I know nothing. A generation or two later we have John Cundell, the College Youth, who, in his later years, had charge of the box office at Covent Garden. Further on still there was a Henry Condell. He was not an actor, but a musician, a violinist and composer, whose whole life was spent in the service of Covent Garden, Drury Lane, and the King's Theatre. He could very well have been John Cundell's son or grandson. John Cundell and Shakespeare's Condell both spell their name both ways—a not unusual thing in early days. Now, seeing that the name Cundell, though not exactly rare, is not a very common one, and remembering how the tradition of a trade or a profession lasted in families in old time, I think it a reasonable supposition that all these Cundells were in the same lineal descent, and that in John Cundell the College Youths have a link with William Shakespeare. The connection of the society with another supreme poet was much closer, for both John Milton's brother and son-in-law were College Youths.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

DARLINGTON, YORKSHIRE.—At the Church of the Holy Trinity, on October 28th for evensong, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: R. Jeff 1, G. W. Park 2, R. Busby 3, Victor Jarrett, R.E. (Chatham) 4, W. N. Park 5, Roland Park (conductor) 6.

ASHFORD, KENT.—On October 21st, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: T. Tabrett 1, T. Cullingworth (first quarter) 2, G. Swaffer 3, F. Conley (first quarter) 4, S. Nicholls 5, H. C. Castle 6, C. W. Everett (conductor) 7, D. Godden 8.

MERSTHAM, SURREY.—At St. Katherine's Church, for the annual sportsmen's service, 720 Plain Bob Minor: A. Wood 1, G. Welch 2, K. D. C. Birt 3, A. Cheasedey 4, H. B. Wells (conductor) 5, C. Killick 6.

UNIQUE MEMORIAL TO NOTED BELLFOUNDER.

TWO EARLY 18th CENTURY BRACKETS.

BIG GATHERING OF RINGERS AT LOUGHBOROUGH.

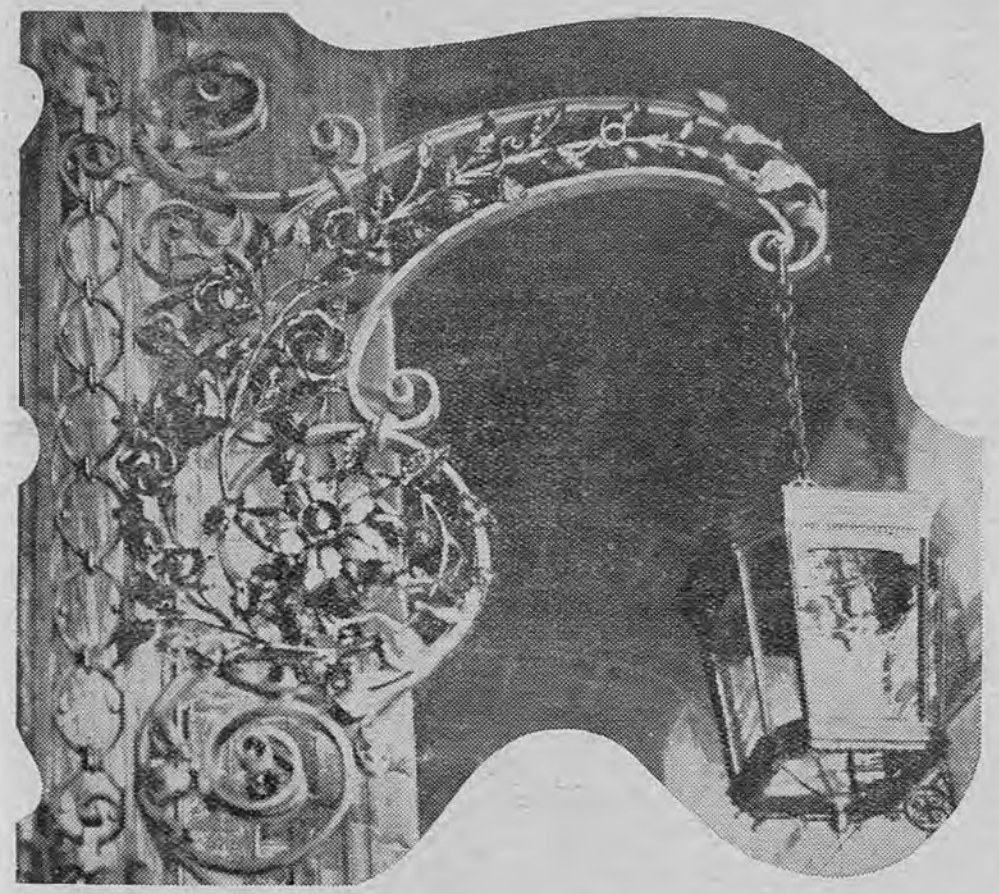
A unique memorial consisting of two wrought-iron brackets of early 18th century work, from which are hung copper bronzed lamps, were dedicated in Loughborough Parish Church on October 13th to the memory of the late John William Taylor, sen. They were the gift of his son, Mr. E. Denison Taylor. Over 100 ringers from a wide area attended the service, and among those present were Mr. E. Denison Taylor, the Rev. W. Scott (curate), Mr. Eric Jordan (borough carillonneur), and ringers from Loughborough, Melton, Burton, Derby, Nottingham, Leicester and other towers.

During the service an address was given by Canon Briggs, who explained that the customary service in June had been postponed owing to the decision to wait for the brackets to be installed. The tower was one of the most beautiful parts of the church, and was a beautiful tribute to the memory of Mr. J. W. Taylor and his forefathers. Canon Briggs then dedicated the lamps and brackets, and the service concluded with the singing of the hymn, 'Sing all the people gathered,' and the Benediction.

Further ringing took place on the Parish Church bells until tea, which was served in the Fearon Hall. The thanks of the assembly were voiced by Canon Briggs to Mr. Denison Taylor for his hospitality.

WORK OF MASTER CRAFTSMAN.

Explaining the genesis of the gift, Mr. Taylor said that when the Canon first came across these two extremely graceful pieces of ironwork, with his critical and appreciative eye for anything truly artistic and worth while, he saw at once that they had been forged by a master craftsman. When Canon Briggs suggested putting them in the 'Ringers' Corner' as a memorial to Mr. J. W. Taylor, he was struck at once with the idea, as, above all things, his father delighted in a bit of clever smithwork, and at one time ran a smithy in addition to the Bell Foundry. The beauty of the brackets had been enhanced and embellished under the expert guidance of Mr. Albert Herbert, of Leicester, the well-known architect, whom he was so pleased to see with them that afternoon.



[By permission of the 'Loughborough Monitor.'

In conclusion, Mr. Taylor expressed regret at the impending departure of Canon Briggs, and wished him health and strength to carry out his work in the shadow of that ancient cathedral.—Canon Briggs assured the assembly that he would do his best to be present at the service next year.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the ladies who had prepared tea, and Mr. W. Manning (Vicar's warden) also expressed the indebtedness of the company to Mr. Denison Taylor for his hospitality. 'I am proud of the Loughborough ringers in their service to the Church,' he added, 'and I hope they will always ring on.' A tribute to Mr. Denison Taylor's work was also paid by Mr. W. W. Lax (people's warden).

A plain course of Grandsire Caters was rung on handbells by Messrs. Ernest Morris, Colin Harrison, J. Paget, Jim Fenton and Redvers Elkington.

The ringers afterwards adjourned to the belfries of the Parish Church and the Bell Foundry. Admiration was expressed at these two fine peals, the very 'tricky' ring at the Bell Foundry having special appeal, as these are the lightest ring of ten bells in the world. Many well-known ringers were present including Ernest Morris and Frederick Dexter. All methods, from Cambridge Surprise and Kent Treble Bob Royal, Grandsire and Stedman Caters, to Plain Bob Minor were rung, continuing at the Foundry until 9 p.m. An interesting feature of the evening was an inspection of the Bell Foundry, conducted by Mr. C. Harrison. Great interest was evidenced in the peals of bells that had been cast and retuned.

NEW ALTAR AT BENHILTON, SURREY.

A beautiful new altar has been fitted at All Saints' Church, Benhilton, to replace the original one, which has been presented to West Wickham. The new altar was dedicated by the Bishop of Woolwich on All Saints' Eve. To commemorate the dedication a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung for the service by the following members of the local band: Sid Rayner 1, E. Enticknap 2, F. Randall 3, G. Rayner 4, G. Reed 5, H. Smerdon 6, W. C. Smith 7, R. Foremen 8. This is the first quarter-peal by the treble ringer, who is thirteen years of age, and son of the ringer of the 4th. The same band (except that H. E. Good stood in place of H. Smerdon) rang a quarter-peal for service the following evening.

LOSS TO KINGSTON SEYMOUR, BRISTOL.

The death of the Rev. Major Revel R. Green, of Kingston Seymour, near Bristol, is deeply regretted by his parishioners and many friends. He had ministered in the parish for 30 years, and to commemorate his 25 years as curate-in-charge the ringers and friends added the treble bell to the peal. On October 29th the local ringers met to attempt a peal with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect, but owing to a late start it was decided to ring a touch exceeding a quarter-peal; 1,800 Grandsire Double (10 callings) were brought round in 75 minutes by: E. S. C. Baker 1, *Mrs. E. R. Norton 2, E. R. Norton 3, H. A. Price (conductor) 4, *A. E. Harris 5, H. W. Price 6. * Longest touch yet rung.

REMINISCENCES OF BYGONE RINGERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In common with many other readers of 'The Ringing World' I am very interested in the correspondence now appearing on the question of temperance or otherwise amongst ringers in days long gone by, and, speaking generally from an an experience extending well over 56 years, I am of opinion that their misdeeds in those far-off times may be somewhat exaggerated.

Over half a century ago I used to visit the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe in his delightful residence at Clyst St. George, Devon, and he distinctly told me that in his first book, 'Book on Ringing,' he strongly denounced ringers as disorderly persons, but that when he became a ringer himself and mixed more freely with them he flatly contradicted his former statements! He also made this remark to many of my old College Youth friends, with whom he became acquainted!

In my early ringing career, over 50 years ago, I paid several visits to Tewkesbury and became very friendly with the then leader, Mr. Josiah Wathen, who kindly arranged for me to call one of the first peals by the newly-formed 'Gloucester and Bristol Association,' and which was successful at the first attempt in December, 1884.

I can state with the greatest confidence that Mr. Jos. Wathen was a perfect model of what a man should be, in the position he held there for so many years. He was indefatigable in his earnest work of teaching young ringers, for he was a skilled conductor and also a composer, and a great deal of 'spade work' fell to his share. He was a quiet, inoffensive man, always ready to do a 'good turn' for anyone, and on some occasions I have stayed at the waterworks, where he was the resident engineer in charge. He it was who taught the late Rev. C. D. P. Davies to ring, and actually called his first peal, also at the Abbey. Mr. Davies' father was formerly Rector there, and I wish Mr. Davies had lived long enough to have spoken more openly on this matter.

During these visits I became acquainted with all the ringers in the neighbourhood, and can assure your readers that they were one of the most respectable and trustworthy set of fellows anyone could wish to meet, not only as regards temperance, but most respectful and obliging to all visitors, and also mindful of the real reasons why bells are rung at all.

It is true that after ringing we used to adjourn to the Hop Pole Hotel, one of the most delightful, comfortable and well-conducted of the old country inn class, for there was nowhere else to go, but anything bordering on excess in any way was quite foreign to their nature. Therefore I can quite understand the letter from Mr. Wm. E. Wathen, whom I now remember as a very small boy. He was little Willie then, and used to tap tunes on his father's handbells.

Now, having visited over 1,000 belfries in the United Kingdom and met the best and worst, I am of opinion they were not all so bad as painted. True, I have been warned on a few occasions that such and such a band 'was a wet lot,' and once the leader of a call change party was very careful to point out to me 'the house they used'!

I have no doubt there have been excesses in olden times, such as Mr. Trollope mentions, but I honestly believe them to have been in the minority. F. E. DAWE.

Kingfield, Woking.

HERTFORD ASSOCIATION JUBILEE—continued from page 713.

BELLS AND ANTI-NOISE.

He hoped when the new bells were put in the Abbey tower the old ones would be tuned, because, although they are at present a very good peal, the new bells would show up their defects. He also hoped that the addition of four bells would not lower the standard of ringing. It did often happen that a really good eight bell band was changed into a poor or indifferent twelve-bell band. They should ring such methods as Duffield, Forward, or Little Bob on twelve bells, not Cambridge Maximus, the music of which the public did not appreciate.

Mr. Cartmel proposed 'The Kindred Societies,' and contrasted the state of bells and belfries 50 years ago and their present state. Then they were filthy places, hardly fit to go into. It was due to the work and influence of the kindred societies.

Mr. Alexander Young, the Master of the College Youths, assured the Hertford Association that his society wished them every success. In three years' time the College Youths would celebrate their tercentenary, and he hoped that Hertford men would come and take a part in it.

Mr. C. T. Coles pointed out how much the Middlesex Association owed to Hertford men. It was actually founded at Barnet, which is in Hertfordshire. Mr. A. T. King, their first secretary and afterwards their president, lived in Hertfordshire. So did Mr. Milne, also their president, and now the Ringing Master had followed their example. The Middlesex and Hertford Associations always worked together in the greatest harmony.

Other speeches followed.

MARLBOROUGH BRANCH AT EVERLEIGH.

Much useful practice in the more simple Doubles methods was obtained by the members of the Marlborough Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild at the monthly meeting of the Branch held at Everleigh on November 3rd. Members were present from Aldbourne, Ogbourne St. George, Pewsey, Collingbourne Kingston, Marlborough and Everleigh, while a welcome visitor was Mr. W. B. Kynaston, secretary of the Swindon Branch of the Bristol and Gloucester Association.

The Rector, the Rev. J. S. Macnutt, conducted the Guild service and afterwards entertained the ringers to tea at the Rectory. He was thanked on the proposition of the secretary (Mr. A. Taylor). Handbells were rung at the Rectory, and a return was then made to the tower. After leaving Everleigh several of the company visited Collingbourne Ducis, where members of the local band were persuaded to keep their eyes from the boards they were accustomed to ring by, and with the help of the visitors were steered through their first touch of Grandsire Doubles.

SHORTAGE OF RINGERS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—On going through my 'Express' paper last Sunday I came across the following paragraph:—

'A shortage of bellringers has resulted in the 900-year-old bells of Southwark Cathedral, London, being fixed with chiming apparatus. It was not possible to ring the bells at a number of weddings recently.'

I understand that at the Parish Church, Cheshunt, Hertfordshire, where there is a ring of eight, and at one time a good band to ring them, the Vicar and the majority of the local band prefer the chiming apparatus for weddings in preference to ringing. I noticed in 'Belfry Gossip' a few weeks back that the Vicar had closed the tower owing to a disagreement between himself and the ringers. This caused some of the band to resign, as they would not agree to use the chiming apparatus.

I gather the tower is now open again, and the so-called ringers have gone back to Doubles and call changes. I also understand they are members of the Hertfordshire Association of Change Ringers. I think, sir, all towers where the band prefers the chiming apparatus to change ringing they should be barred from joining any association of change ringers.

OBSERVER.

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HONOUR WHERE HONOUR IS DUE.

To the Editor.

Sir,—May I—the son of a change ringer and the grandson of a bell-ringer of the old school—be allowed to support the indignant protest of Mr. Wathen, also to add I agree with Mr. Paddon-Smith and Mr. G. Williams that no good can possibly come of reiterating these isolated condemnations of old-time ringers. It is the easiest thing in the world to decry a man's faults and bad habits, and to so dwell on them that his good qualities and abilities are lost sight of. Throw enough mud and some is bound to stick!

It is disgusting to hear so often clergy (from Bishops down to curates) telling us what good lads we are to-day as compared with the ringers of years ago. They delight to pick out from old church-warden's accounts the references to so much 'ale' or 'beere' given to ringers on some festive or other occasions, and most conveniently leave out the fact that everyone received a like payment 'in kind.' I would ask Mr. Trollope and others interested to turn to page 572 in my 'History and Art of Change Ringing,' wher I give just a few of these extracts, also to a recent issue of 'Apollo,' where, in an article on ringers' jugs, pitchers, etc., I try to show that ringers, as a whole, were not so black as sometimes painted.

When the recent Oxford Movement centenary was celebrated, I sat under several clergy who very forcibly told us what a bad lot their forerunners were, neglecting services, church and parishioners alike, and generally behaving themselves in anything but a Christian-like manner as befitted their calling. But we to-day (oh, yes), we are so different! It is a fact that a certain parson in a Dorset village kept a barrel of cider in the vestry, and that during Queen Victoria's reign a bottle of sherry used to be provided in the vestry of the Chapel Royal for distinguished preachers' refreshment. Many such cases could be quoted. And these clergy to-day complacently tell us the ringers were a bad lot! They do not mention the famous church ales, and the fact that many of the public-houses which the ringers supported by their custom were owned by the Church. (Belgrave St. Peter's owned the Talbot till quite recently.)

The old-time ringers must be revered for keeping the art going under difficult circumstances, and those who rang long peals on bells in conditions vastly inferior from those prevailing to-day must be praised for their sheer dogged perseverance, and, to use a very old English phrase (often used by our dexterous Leicester sergeant-major), 'they did have guts,' which I am afraid a great many ringers of to-day have not!

In those early days such beverages as tea, coffee, cocoa, etc., were unknown, and within living memory things which only rich folk could afford. Home-brewed ale, cider, and the like, were the common beverages, and children were brought up on them! Mr. E. Denison Taylor tells us that as a boy of nine or ten years of age he went to a boarding school, and every day the boys had a mug of ale to their meals!

The improvements in bells and belfries of recent times are not due to either the ringers or clergy individually, but to a general amalgamation of each and better understanding prevailing all round.

Mr. Trollope very conveniently adds after his reiterations the paragraph, 'There are worse things than drunkenness,' and that, I presume, will be the line on which he will wriggle free from his adverse critics.

ERNEST MORRIS.

Leicester.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

EAST BUDLEIGH, DEVON.—At All Saints' Church, on November 4th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes, ten callings): F. Stuart 1, G. Bolt 2, C. Savage 3, D. Pidgeon 4, B. Pidgeon (conductor) 5, C. Ebdon 6. First quarter-peal by all the ringers.

LEEDS, YORKS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, October 28th, a quarter-peal of Bob Royal (1,260 changes): C. E. Lawson 1, J. A. Teale 2, G. Robinson 3, G. Barraclough 4, F. Renton 5, J. Jessop 6, W. Woodhead 7, F. Barker 8, W. E. H. Ash 9, L. W. G. Morris (composer and conductor) 10 (42½ cwt.). Arranged and rung as a 75th birthday compliment to Mr. J. Broadley, Bradford, who was an old associate of the late Jasper W. Snowdon. First quarter-peal of Royal on the bells.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.—On November 3rd, 420 of Bob Triples: N. Bristow (age 16) 1, R. G. Taylor (age 12) 2, J. E. Taylor (age 13) 3, W. Cyster (age 14) 4, J. D. Taylor (age 14), 5, B. T. Harrison 6, G. R. Limmer (conductor) 7, G. H. Limmer 8. For evensong 336 Bob Major: R. G. Taylor 1, J. E. Taylor 2, J. D. Taylor 3, W. Syster 4, G. R. Limmer 5, B. T. Harrison 6, G. H. Limmer 7, G. Gilbert 8. First touch of Major to be rung at Burnham by a local service band.

BASINGSTOKE, HANTS.—At All Saints', on October 28th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: T. P. Maslen 1, F. Buller (first quarter) 2, J. Ballard 3, G. Cooper 4, H. Wooding 5, H. Balaam 6, E. Austin (first as conductor) 7, J. Woodley 8.

TEWKESBURY, GLOS.—At the Abbey, on October 28th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Cinques (1,287 changes): R. G. Knowles 1, S. T. Holt (conductor) 2, Miss A. R. Johnson 3, J. Austin 4, J. D. Johnson 5, F. Lawrence 6, G. Hinton 7, T. W. Lewis 8, G. Lewis 9, F. Hawks 10, C. Camm 11, W. Ranford 12. First quarter-peal on the twelve bells.

NOTICES.

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

Notices must be received not later than Tuesday.

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4/- per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE of 'THE RINGING WORLD,' WOKING, SURREY.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on Nov. 15th and 29th, *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 13th (election night), Southwark Cathedral on the 22nd, *St. Mary-le-Bow on the 27th, at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — The 297th anniversary dinner will be held at the London Tavern, Fenchurch Street, E.C., on Saturday, Nov. 10th, at 6.30 p.m. Tickets, 7s. each, may be obtained up to Tuesday, Nov. 6th, from Messrs. C. S. Burden, P. E. Clark, E. P. Duffield, E. G. Fenn, T. Groombridge, J. S. Hawkins, R. T. Hibbert, C. H. Horton, A. A. Hughes, H. Langdon, F. M. Mitchell, H. R. Newton, A. B. Peck, C. W. Roberts, W. Roughton, A. Walker, C. F. Winney, E. A. Young or W. T. Cockerill, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4. Towers open for ringing from 2.30 to 4.30; St. Lawrence Jewry, St. Magnus', Lower Thames Street and St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside. Service at St. Michael's, College Hill, at 5.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. — The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Nov. 10th, at St. Wilfred's, Standish. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Tea will be supplied at a charge of 6d. per head. Will all towers please make a note of the date.—William O. Farrimond, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch. —A meeting will be held at Woolton on Saturday, Nov. 10th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea (6d. each) and meeting to follow. For tea notify Mr. E. Humphriss, 38, Sandfield Road, Gateacre. You can make it a good meeting if you come. — Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Rochdale Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Middleton on Saturday afternoon, Nov. 10th. Tower open for ringing 2.30 till 8.30 p.m. Meeting in the tower 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend. — H. Hamer, Hon. Sec., 3, Nall Street, Milnrow.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Measham on Saturday, Nov. 10th. Bells (8) ready at 3 p.m. Tea, 9d. each, at 5 p.m., only to those who send their names to Rev. J. R. King, The Vicarage, Measham, Burton-on-Trent.—W. H. Curson, Dis. Sec., Netherseale.

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—A ringing meeting will be held at Edenbridge on Saturday, Nov. 10th. Tower open 3 p.m. All ringers welcome.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, Moat Road, East Grinstead.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Clifton on Saturday, Nov. 10th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. A good company is requested. Please come.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—An open ringing day will be held at Preston Parish Church on Saturday, Nov. 10th. The new bells (10) will be available from 2.30 to 5.30 and after tea till 8 p.m. Tea provided (by kind invitation of the Vicar and Wardens). A hearty invitation is extended to all.—J. Charnock, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Lancaster Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Burton-in-Kendal on Saturday, Nov. 10th. Bells at 2 p.m. Tea in the school at 4.30, price 1s. Please notify Mr. J. McLean, 1, Barker Terrace, Burton, Carnforth, for tea.—E. Swain, 29, Beecham Street, Morecambe.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—A meeting will be held at Willingham, Cambs, on Saturday, Nov. 10th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—F. Warrington, Dis. Sec., Mill Road, Over, Cambs.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Meeting at Hemel Hempstead Sat., Nov. 10th. Bells available afternoon and evening. Usual arrangements as to tea and service. A cordial welcome to all, but post cards are cheap and the P.O.'s have a good stock of penny stamps.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Newbury on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells (10) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. All ringers welcome. Intending visitors please notify me by Wednesday, Nov. 14th, for tea. — H. W. Curtis, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Shaw, Newbury, Berks.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Northern Division.—The annual district meeting will be held at Braintree on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells (8) from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Will those who intend being present please notify Mr. L. W. Wiffen, 3, Cressing Way, Braintree, not later than Wednesday, the 14th, or me?—F. Ridgwell, Dis. Sec., Queen's Road, Earls Colne.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—The district annual meeting will be held at Wanstead on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells (6) from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. The members are being entertained to tea by the Wanstead Band, and it is essential that all those intending to be present advise me by Wednesday, Nov. 14th, without fail.—E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 313, Mawneys Road, Romford.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Wisborough Green on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea at the Three Crowns Inn at 5 p.m. Service 6.30 p.m. All those who intend being present should advise me before Nov. 14th. — A. W. Groves, Amherst, Dominion Road, Worthing.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Shifnal on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. All requiring tea please notify me not later than Nov. 14th.—R. R. Pole, Hon. Sec., 88, North Street, Castle Fields, Shrewsbury.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Sawbridgeworth on Nov. 17th, when the bells will be open during the afternoon and evening. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea and business after. I hope for a good attendance. Just a card as a help for tea arrangements will oblige.—W. H. Lawrence, Hon. Dis. Sec., Little Munden, Ware, Herts.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Meeting at Wonersh on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting at the Grantley Arms 5.15. Nominations for next year's district officers must be made at this meeting. Bramley bells also available afternoon and evening. Please send numbers for tea to me by Nov. 12th.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon, nr. Guildford.

DEAN PRIOR, DEVON.—The Bishop of Exeter will dedicate the bells on Saturday, Nov. 17th, at 3.30 p.m. The ring of 5 has been restored and augmented to 6 by John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS. — A practice meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Attenborough, on Nov. 17th. Bells available 5.30 p.m.—I. B. Thompson, 52, Lace Street, Nottingham.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Willoughby (6) on Nov. 17th. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD. — Northern District.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Nov. 17th, at St. John's, Old Hackney (Mare Street). Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea and short business meeting. Visitors welcome.—James G. A. Prior, Hon. Dis. Sec., 8, Chapman House, Lower Chapman Street, St. George-in-the-East, London, E.1.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Elizabeth's, Reddish, on Saturday afternoon, Nov. 17th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Meeting in the tower at 6. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend. Tea can be obtained nearby.—D. Brown, Hon. Sec.

LEICESTER. — Lantern lecture by Ernest Morris, F.R.Hist.S., on 'Famous Bells.' Museum Lecture Hall, Saturday, Nov. 17th, 7.30 p.m. Admission free. All welcome. No tickets.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Hothfield on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells ready 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—P. Page, Hon. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wotton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Stone on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells (6) open at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5, by invitation of the Vicar. Notify me for tea by the 14th, please. All welcome.—H. W. Fussell, Fortfields, Dursley, Glos.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Swindon Branch.—A monthly meeting will be held at Rodbourne Cheney on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Six bells. Usual arrangements. Corporation buses from Swindon Town Hall or Junction Station every ten minutes.—W. B. Kynaston, 3, Dumbarton Terrace, Victoria Road, Swindon, Wilts.

PEBMARSH, ESSEX.—A dedication service for new treble bell, at St. John the Baptist Church, 11 a.m., on Sunday, Nov. 18th. Preacher: The Lord Bishop of Chelmsford. The five old bells will be rung before service, afterwards the peal of six will be open all day. All ringers welcome. Tea will be prepared for those sending their names to Mr. R. Potter, King's Farm, Pebmarsh. — F. Ridgwell, Dis. Sec., Essex Association, Queen's Road, Earl's Colne.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Leicester District.—The next meeting will be held at Countesthorpe (6 bells) on Saturday, Nov. 24th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Notification for same to me by Thursday previous. A good meeting is requested. — Ernest H. Bagworth, Dis. Sec., 36, Turner Road, Leicester.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District. — The annual district meeting will be held at Widford on Saturday, Nov. 24th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Chelmsford Cathedral bells available from 7 to 9 p.m. Will all those who intend to be present please notify me by Wednesday, Nov. 21st, without fail?—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., Brooklea, Danbury.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Next meeting at St. Augustine's, Kilburn, on Saturday, Nov. 24th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5, usual terms. Please advise me, without fail, by Nov. 21st. All members and friends welcomed. I shall be glad to receive outstanding subscriptions at this meeting.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District. —The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Lambeth, on Saturday, Dec. 1st. Full particulars later. — D. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Harrison's Rise, Croydon.

PUBLICATIONS.

'GRANDSIRE DOUBLES AND TRIPLES, Simply Explained'; also 'Bob Minor and Major, Simply Explained,' for beginners. 6½d. each, post free; 5s. 9d. a dozen post free; from I. Roe and M. Broome, Byways, Hurst, Berks.

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MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION AT ACTON.

REFERENCE TO ANCIENT PEAL BOARDS.

The November meeting of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association was held at Acton on November 3rd. As usual, a happy gathering resulted, about 30 ringers and friends being present. During the afternoon various methods were practised; the beginners had plenty of rounds, while several courses of various Surprise Major methods were rung. Tea, provided by the churchwardens, was served in St. Mary's Hall.

At the business meeting Mr. F. G. Cole (unattached) and Mr. G. Nicholls (St. John's, Hillingdon) were elected ringing members. St. Stephen's, Ealing, was selected for the place of the next meeting, provisionally arranged for December 8th. The hon. secretary gave notice of the third annual supper, which was to be held on January 12th at Heston. The annual district meeting would take place at Hillingdon on February 2nd. Members were requested to support all of these events.

A final report on the condition of Hayes (Middlesex) bells was presented. The six bells are not in a fit condition for ringing. A restoration would have to inc'ude the recasting of two bells, a new frame and foundations, besides extensive repairs to the tower. From conversations with the Rector, little hope exists of launching a restoration scheme for the present. Mr. W. H. Coles was heartily thanked for his activities in this connection.

Mr. Coles also referred to an article which appeared recently in 'The Ringing World,' dealing with the conditions and restoration of ancient peal boards. He stressed the importance of maintaining these relics of the past in good condition. He thought that where action appeared desirable the Church Council should be approached in the first instance. Messrs. Hillier and Chandler also contributed to the discussion, and the debate was adjourned until the next meeting. Thanks were accorded to all who had contributed towards the success of the meeting.

DEVIZES BRANCH WELCOMED AT HOLT.

With a practical ringer in the Vicar (the Rev. C. F. H. Brewis) to welcome them, the Devizes Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild spent a most enjoyable time at Holt on November 3rd. After the Guild service, conducted by the Vicar, tea was served in the schoolroom arranged by local ringers, with the assistance of their ladies. Mr. E. F. White (vice-chairman) presided at the business meeting, and a letter was read from the branch chairman, Mr. C. D. Heginbotham, thanking all for their kind inquiries and condolences. The secretary was asked to convey the meeting's best wishes and their sincere sympathy to him on such a painful and prolonged illness. To the appropriate votes of thanks the Vicar replied. The members then returned to the tower, where methods up to London were rung on this excellent ring of six.

SUPPORT FOR FIVE-BELL TOWER.

A well-attended meeting of the Towcester Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild was held at Cosgrove, Northants (five bells), on November 3rd. The visitors included the Rev. E. S. and Mrs. Powell, of Staverton, Mr. F. Wilford, Guild Master, and ringing friends from North Bucks, one of them playing the organ at the service, at which the Rev. E. S. Powell preached. Tea was provided at the Barley Mow Inn, following which the Master voiced the thanks of the company to the Rector and all who helped to make the meeting such a success. In the evening parties visited Stony Stratford for eight-bell ringing.

LATE NOTICES.

RIPPINGALE BELLS COMPETITION.

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The Rev. E. V. Cox, of Brampton Speke, Exeter, is top with only two errors. Will any who desire a scrutiny please apply within seven days to the bell secretary, Rippingale, Lincs.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Exhall, near Coventry, on Saturday, November 17th. Bells (6) available during afternoon and evening. Tea provided.—Mrs. D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., Green Ways, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

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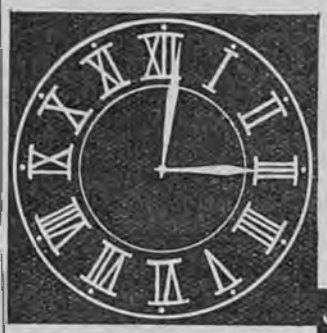

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