

THE RINGING WORLD

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

No. 1,740. Vol. XXXIX

FRIDAY, JULY 28th, 1944.

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

Price 3d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON Ltd. CROYDON

Founders of the
HEAVIEST BELLS
Cast in England
and Carillons of the
BRITISH EMPIRE

in

CANADA
S. AFRICA
NEW ZEALAND



Telephone
Thornton Heath 3221-2-3 and 3120

NEW METHODS.

One of the most striking things in the history of the Exercise during the last half century is the great increase in the number of methods practised. Fifty years ago, for the generality of bands, there were but four methods, Grandsire, Plain Bob, Treble Bob and Stedman, and it was unusual for any one band to ring all four. One or two of the most skilful companies were ringing Double Norwich and the three standard Surprise Major methods, but they were quite out of the reach of average bands, and ten years earlier were almost unknown. To-day more men ring Cambridge Major than rang Stedman Triples in 1890, and before the war it was seldom a week went by without a peal in some new method being scored.

All this is to the good, for progress in method ringing is one of the surest signs of general progress in the art of change ringing. As we look back through the years we find that when men were striving after new methods there were life and general improvement; but when they were content to ring the same thing month in and month out, year in and year out, there was not much enthusiasm, often stagnation, and not seldom actual decline.

But though there has been this great increase in the number of methods in use it is remarkable how one-sided and partial it has been. The number of Major methods has multiplied fiftyfold; the number of Triples has actually declined. Minor methods have been increased enormously, but Cater methods are what they were. Not only so, but the great increase in Major methods has been confined almost entirely to those which are entitled to be called Surprise. Why should this be so?

The obvious answer will be that ringers practise what they find most interesting and neglect what they find to be not so good, but that answer will not do. Whole classes of methods are neglected, not because they have been proved inferior, but because they have never been tried. The real reason is that men are deceived by the glamour that attaches to names, and especially to the title 'Surprise.'

Now it is true that Major ringing does supply some of the best opportunities of getting those things which make ringing attractive both to practise and to listen

(Continued on page 310.)

to, and a very large number of the best eight-bell methods are included in the Surprise group. No one can say that it was a mistake to develop the Surprise Major class. The error was, and is, in thinking that it is the only good one and that the methods outside it are necessarily inferior. What we need are greater knowledge and wider vision. We must get rid of the idea that the word 'Surprise' means anything, and try to judge methods on their real merits.

When things have returned to normal and the Exercise has settled down once more to peace conditions, we may expect a renewed interest by the best bands in new methods. They will do well if they remember one or two things. One is that, though the Surprise Methods class has not been in any way exhausted, it has been exploited so much that a good deal of its novelty has gone. Another is that for ten and twelve bells Surprise methods are as a class unsuitable. And a third is that for a skillful and ambitious band Cater methods offer a splendid opportunity. It certainly is surprising that so little advance has been made in nine-bell ringing. It cannot be that ringers dislike the covering tenor, for Stedman is the method most practised in a ten-bell tower and shows no sign of losing its popularity, while the superior music of Grandsire Caters is acknowledged by all. It is simply that it never occurs to ringers that there may be Cater methods worth their attention far more than Cambridge Royal, which is well enough in its way, but falls far short of other methods on both nine and ten bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, July 17, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

ERNEST MORRIS... .. Treble	†GEORGE DEACON 5
JOSIAH MORRIS 2	ERNEST J. JELLY 6
J. LESLIE WILLARS 3	CHARLES MARSHALL... .. 7
*REV. P. J. BOULSOVER 4	FREDERICK FORD Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

* First peal on eight tower bells. † First peal.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(OXFORD SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, July 18, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EBBE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 4½ cwt.

*ALAN WHITE Treble	WILLIAM C. PORTER 5
WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS... .. 2	REV. JOHN P. PELLOE 6
MISS MARIE R. CROSS 3	JOHN E. SPICE 7
MISS BETTY SPICE 4	WALTER F. JUDGE Tenor

Conducted by JOHN E. SPICE.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.

SIX BELL PEALS.

TROWELL, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 15, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

In five methods—Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Bob and Plain Bob.

CECIL W. BAKER Treble	GIRLING RIGBY 4
*ALBERT HARTLAND 2	HERBERT TURNER 5
W. RICHARDSON DRAGE 3	PHILIP L. PARROTT Tenor

Conducted by P. L. PARROTT.

* First peal in five methods. First peal as conductor.

LYONSHALL, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 15, 1944,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 40 six-scores (10 callings) and one Pitman's 240. Tenor 12 cwt.

STANLEY JONES Treble	TREVOR JONES 4
MRS. CHANDLER 2	LESLIE EVANS 5
DAVID H. BENNETT 3	ROBERT FLETCHER Tenor

Conducted by TREVOR JONES.

Rung muffled for Petty Officer H. Chandler, R.N., killed on active service.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, July 20, 1944, in Two Hours and Seventeen Minutes.

AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

*DENNIS H. LANGDON ... 1-2	MRS. J. THOMAS 5-6
JOHN THOMAS 3-4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS 7-8

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS

* First peal of Major on 1-2.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, July 23, 1944, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes.

AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 1-2	MRS. J. THOMAS 5-6
JOHN THOMAS 3-4	WILLIAM L. B. LEESE 7-8
DENNIS H. LANGDON 9-10	

Composed and Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

BROUGHTON ASTLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

Broughton Astley bells have the reputation of being the heaviest five in Leicestershire, tenor 18 cwt. 12 lb. The old bell frame fills the great sturdy tower, but now its underbeams are attacked by the death-watch beetle, and it is necessary to restore the whole structure. A scheme has been launched to have a new frame for at least six bells, and with this additional bell some £600 will be needed to put the tower and everything in good order. All the bells were cast by Hugh Watts, of Leicester, in 1637 except the 4th, which was recast by J. Taylor and Co. in 1892. The first full peal here was rung on February 6th, 1915, conducted by the late A. R. Aldham, since when other 5,040's have been rung.

TOWER CLOCKS

Weight Driven or Electric, by the WORLD'S OLDEST MAKERS ESTABLISHED OVER 300 YEARS Illustrated ART CATALOGUE on request

J. B. JOYCE & CO. LTD.

WHITCHURCH, SALOP.

We have experts visiting all parts of the British Isles, and shall be pleased to carry out restorations or give reports regarding any make of Tower Clock

SERVICE TOUCHES.

BOB MINOR.

No. 1. 720	No. 2. 720
23456	23456
42356 5	56423 3
42563 1	34562 4
54263 5	53462 5
25463 5	45362 5
25634 1	45623 1
62534 5	64523 5
56234 5	42356 2
S 43256 3	S 43256 5
No. 3. 720	No. 4. 720
23456	23456
23564 1	35642 2
64523 3	54263 2
64235 1	46325 2
35264 3	62534 2
35642 1	56234 5
42635 3	56342 1
42356 1	42356 3
56342 3	42563 1
56423 1	63542 3
45623 5	63425 1
52364 2	25463 3
26435 2	25634 1
63542 2	34625 3
S 43256 2	S 43256 1

Each once repeated.

No. 1. Call a bob at the end of the plain course. Call a bob at the next lead end when the Sixth is dodging in 5-6 up (Wrong) and call two more bobs Wrong. At these three bobs the Fifth will make the bob, run down, and run up; and the last bob will bring the tenors together again. At the next lead end call a bob which the Sixth will make, and then call that bell down and then up. The first of these two the Fifth will make, and the tenors will be brought together. When they dodge together behind there is a plain lead, but the Before is called, and when they dodge together the next time there is a Single.

No. 2. Call the tenors Before and then the Sixth three times Wrong. The Fifth will make the bob, run down, and run up. After the third Wrong the tenors will be together again. Call the Sixth to make the bob and then to run down. The latter bob the Fifth will make. Call a bob when 5-6 dodge together behind and at the next course end a Single.

No. 3. Call the Fifth to make the bob twice. Then the Second. Then the Sixth. Then the Third. Every second bob brings the bells back into the plain course. Call the Fourth to make the bob, but not the second time, for that would bring the bells round. Instead let 34256 come up at a plain lead. Run a full course from the last bob and call the Sixth to make the bob. After that there is a call at every alternate lead. The last (when 5-6 are at home) is a Single.

No. 4 is the reverse of No. 3.

In each half of all these 720's, one 5-6 comes up plain, one bobbed, and one singled.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT RIPLEY.

A meeting of the Derby District of the Midland Counties Association, held at Ripley on July 22nd, was attended by about 40 members from Ashby, Chesterfield, Sheffield, Derby (Cathedral, St. Luke's, St. Andrew's, St. Peter's), Spondon, Alvaston, Belper, Daybrook and Nottingham (St. Peter's). Among the visitors was Mr. Jack Hobbs, president of the East Derbyshire Association.

The methods rung included Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich Court Bob, Duffield and Cambridge Surprise Major.

Thirty-six sat down to tea, provided by Mr. Alex Hutchison, one of the local band. Mr. H. Fletcher took the chair at the business meeting, at which it was decided to hold the next meeting at Ockbrook on August 26th. A discussion on the proposed alteration in the constitution of the association showed that elderly members were decidedly against it, but Mr. Thomas Groombridge, the secretary of the Nottingham District, said that in his district the members appeared to favour it as it would give them a better opportunity of organising the North Notts area.

A vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Hutchison, to the Vicar and to the local band.

MAJOR J. H. FREEBORN'S ARTICLES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I be allowed a word or two of thanks to Major J. Howard Freeborn for his monograph on English church architecture, and to you, sir, for publishing it? It was most interesting and illuminating. I should like to suggest—now it is 'in type,' that it be reproduced in booklet form. It should make about 16 pp., demy 8vo., and would be most useful to ringers, and indeed the public generally.

CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

ALPHABET BELLS.

A correspondent asked last week what alphabet bells are. This is what Thomas North, the antiquarian, has to say.

'Upon several of the ancient and many of the more modern bells in this country are portions of the Alphabet. It has been suggested that the founders, being desirous not to offend by placing ancient precatory or devotional, and therefore often unwelcome, inscriptions upon their bells, and yet too illiterate to suggest new ones, adopted this plan to escape the difficulty. By it they ornamented their bells with a goodly show of Gothic capitals which could give offence to no one. This may have been the case with the later bells, but the use of the alphabet surely had another origin on the more ancient ones. We find the alphabet, or portions of it, on encaustic tiles on the floors of churches. It appeared on the top of a Norman font discovered at Severn Stoke in Warwickshire. In the Pontificale Romanum the Bishop is directed in the dedication of a church to write, in the form of a cross, two alphabets, one in Greek and the other in Latin, first from east to west and then from north to south. There was clearly some symbolic meaning in the alphabet. Some writers on the subject say the letters represented the beginning and rudiments of sound learning, and the simple and pure truths of the Gospel.'

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

SHIELD CONTEST.

The annual shield contest of the Barnsley and District Society was held at Hoylandswaine on July 8th. It was the fifteenth in the series and the first since 1939.

Owing to travelling difficulties the test was reduced to 360 changes, three leads being allowed as a preliminary practice. Mr. J. R. Brearley, of Bolsterstone, was the judge and Mr. R. Ford the marker.

The draw was as follows: 1 Liversedge, 2 Friezland, 3 Meltham, 4 Holmfirth, 5 Shelley, 6 Cawthorne, 7 Sandal, 8 Silkstone. Darfield withdrew as the time would not have allowed some of the band to catch the last bus home.

The result of the ringing was: Liversedge, faults 100, penalties 0, total 100; Friezland, 144, 0, 144; Meltham, 118, 5, 123; Holmfirth, 50, 5, 55; Shelley, 75, 0, 75; Cawthorne, 41, 0, 41; Sandal, 94, 0, 94; Silkstone, 45, 10, 55.

Cawthorne were declared the winners and will hold the shield for twelve months.

The Vicar, the Rev. H. L. Pratt, presented the shield and welcomed the ringers. He said he was glad to have the contest at Hoylandswaine, and praised the work done by the hon. secretary, Mr. D. Smith, in making the arrangements.

Mr. Brierley, the judge, said that on the whole the striking was very good and he had been impressed by the standard of the ringing.

Thanks were given to the Vicar and the ladies who provided the tea.

The next meeting will be at Felkirk on August 12th.

Nearly eighty ringers and friends sat down to tea.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT HESSLE.

The summer meeting of the Eastern District of the Yorkshire Association was held at Hessele on July 15th, and was attended by about 30 ringers from Beverley (The Minster and St. Mary's), Eastlington, Howden, Hull (Holy Trinity and St. Mary's), Kirk Ella, Market Weighton, Patrington, Penwortham, Selby Abbey, Ulceby and the local belfry. Service, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. H. W. Beck, was followed by tea, provided by the local ringers, in the British Restaurant.

The Vicar presided at the business meeting, and the secretary read a letter from Mr. F. Cryer, the vice-president, resigning the position, which he has held for over 20 years. This was accepted with regret and a resolution was passed expressing the hope that he would soon be restored to health and be able to attend many more meetings. Mr. Cryer is 85 years of age and has been a ringer over 70 years. Mr. A. H. Fox was elected to the vacant office. St. Mary's, Beverley, was selected as the place of meeting in September.

Four new members were elected: Messrs. F. C. Lister and P. Speck, of Hessele, F. Braithwaite, of St. Mary's, Beverley, and T. Robinson, of Patrington.

A collection for the Association's Bell Repair Fund realised £1 6s.

DEATH OF MR. CLIFFORD ROBINSON.

The death is announced of Mr. Clifford Robinson, of Cawthorne, which took place on July 14th at the Beckett Hospital, Barnsley. He was 61 years of age.

The funeral was on July 17th at Cawthorne. It was conducted by the Vicar of St. Peter's, Barnsley, and was choral. Ringers were present from Cawthorne, Felkirk, Hoylandswaine, Rotherham, Sandal, Silkstone and Shelley. The tower bells were rung fully muffled before and after the service, and handbells were rung at the graveside by Messrs. E. Brookes, S. Briggs and D. Smith. Among the floral tributes was one from the Barnsley and District Society.

Mr. Robinson was a member of the Yorkshire Association and the Barnsley and District Society. He had rung 22 peals, mostly on six bells in a great variety of Minor methods. His ringing activities were shared by the towers of Cawthorne and Silkstone. He did much to teach the band at the latter steeples.

SEVEN BELL METHODS.

(Continued from page 291.)

III. DOUBLE COURT BOB TRIPLES.

1234567	Continued.
2143657	3572416
2416375	5374261
4261357	3547621
4623175	3456712
6432715	4365172
4637251	3461527
6473521	4316257
6745312	4132675
7654132	1423657
6751423	1246375
7615243	2165735
7162534	2617453
1726543	6271435
1275634	6724153
	7642513
2157364	6745231
2513746	7654321
5231764	etc.
5327146	

Next to Grandsire, Oxford Bob and Court Bob are the simplest Triples methods, and to any keen band which takes some interest in its ringing they should not present any difficulty whatever. The general work is very similar to that of Grandsire, although, of course, it has its special features; the bob making is the same in all three methods; in all three the place making and dodging are at handstroke; and below the treble there is nothing but plain hunting. We now come to some methods where the work, although by no means difficult, is rather more complex, for some of it is below the treble and some of it is above the treble; some is done at handstroke and some is done at backstroke. The first of these methods is Double Court Bob.

Double Court was extended to seven bells by William Shipway more than one hundred and twenty years ago and has never been lost sight of, but it shared the neglect which most seven-bell methods have suffered from, and it was left to Mr. Ernest C. S. Turner to call the first peal of it no longer ago than 1935.

Before studying the method, write out a full course and draw a line along the path of the treble, another along the path of the second, and another along the path of the third. In pricking, four deviations must be made from the transposing of first the bells in 1-2, 3-4 and 5-6, and then (in the next change) the bells in 2-3, 4-5 and 6-7. In the third change of every lead the bells in 1-2, 3-4 and 6-7 must be transposed. In the sixth change of every lead the bells in 1-2, 4-5 and 6-7 must be transposed. In the tenth change the bells in 1-2, 4-5 and 6-7 must be transposed.

In the thirteenth change the bells in 1-2, 3-4 and 6-7 must be transposed.

Double Court Minor is familiar to many ringers, and the knowledge will be very useful in ringing Double Court Triples, for the rules of the two are the same with one important adaptation. In Double Court Minor you always dodge in 1-2 and 5-6 before and after leading and lying, except the treble intervenes. When you are turned from the front or from behind by the treble you

make places, and afterwards turn the treble. Except when place making, you always pass from front to back, or back to front, by plain hunting, and there is no dodging in 3-4.

In Double Court Triples you always dodge in 1-2 and 6-7 before and after leading and lying except when the treble, or the bell-in-the-hunt, intervenes. When you are turned from the front or from behind by the treble you make places and afterwards turn the bell-in-the-hunt. Except when place making, you always pass from front to back, or back to front, by plain hunting, and there is no dodging in 3-4 or (except at a bob) in 4-5.

The dodging in 1-2 and the place making below the treble are at backstroke. The dodging in 6-7 and the place making above the treble are at handstroke.

Now turn to the full course you have written out and follow the path of the third. This is the bell that has been turned from the lead by the treble. It hunts up, makes Fifths place at handstroke over the treble and begins to hunt down. It passes the treble and the bell-in-the-hunt, and immediately makes Thirds place at backstroke. It then hunts up to the back, passing the treble in 5-6, turns the bell-in-the-hunt from behind, and lies a whole pull without previously dodging.

The bell then dodges in 6-7 down at handstroke, hunts straight down and does Treble Bob work on the front—a dodge in 1-2 down, a whole pull on the lead, and a dodge in 1-2 up, all at backstroke.

It hunts up, passing the treble in 2-3. It dodges in 6-7 up (handstroke), lies a whole pull behind and is turned by the treble.

It then hunts down, without a dodge, in 6-7 down, and makes Thirds place at backstroke. It passes the treble and the bell-in-the-hunt, makes Fifths place at handstroke, and goes to the lead, passing the treble in 2-3 and turning the bell-in-the-hunt.

A dodge in 1-2 up is followed by a run-through to the back, full Treble Bob work (at handstroke) in 6-7, and a run-through to the front. The bell dodges in 1-2 down, leads full, is turned by the treble, and is ready to begin the work of the plain course over again.

The bob in Double Court Triples is made as in Single Court Triples. It is the Grandsire Bob but without double dodging.

7615243
7162534
1765243
1672534
6127354

The lead-ends of the method are the same as those of Oxford Bob Triples, and as the bobs are made in the same way all touches and peals of the one are suitable for the other. We need say no more about calling Double Court than we said about Oxford Bob on July 7th. The ringer, however, must know how the bobs affect him.

If you are the bell Before (that is, if you are about to make Fifths and Thirds), if you are about to dodge in 6-7 down after having passed the treble in 5-6 up; or if you are about to do full Treble Bob work behind, the bob will not interfere with you. But if you have just finished full Treble Bob work on the front you will make Thirds place and go into the hunt. If you are making places from the back (Thirds and Fifths) you make a single dodge in 4-5 up instead of Fifths place, dodge in 6-7 up, lie a whole pull, the treble turns you, and you

begin the place making over again. If you are in the hunt, you make a single dodge in 4-5 down, turn the new bell-in-the-hunt from the lead, dodge in 1-2 up, and go to full Treble Bob work behind.

The lead ends of Double Court Bob Triples are the same as those of Oxford Bob Triples and the bobs are made by the same bells; consequently all compositions of the one will be true for the other, and the touches we gave in our issue of July 7th will serve for Double Court.

Oxford Bob and Double Court Bob are, with Grand-sire, the best of the Triples methods with a bell-in-the-hunt, and each is fully worth ringing for its own sake. There is another reason why Double Court should be practised, and that is, because it is a convenient stepping stone to the best of all nine bell methods—Double Norwich Court Bob Caters. Double Court Triples bears to Double Norwich Caters the same relation that Double Court Minor does to Double Norwich Major. In Double Court Triples you have in simplified form the characteristic features of Double Norwich Caters—the handstroke work above the treble and the backstroke work below; and the need for dealing with the treble and the bell-in-the-hunt in the same way as the single treble is dealt with in the even bell methods.

If desired the Double Norwich Cater bob may be used in Triples and the conditions would be exactly reproduced.

1234567	Bob	2463175
		4236715
2143657		2437651
2416375		4273561
4261357		

RINGING TWO TOWER BELLS.

A correspondent asks us whether one man has been known to ring two church bells at the same time, one in each hand. His friends, he says, do not believe it.

It has been done many times to touches and several men have rung two church bells to a peal. James W. Washbrook was the first to accomplish the feat, which he repeated several times: James E. Groves rang 3-4 to Grandsire Triples in 1904 at St. Luke's, Wolverhampton; Mr. W. H. Lawrence rang 1-2 to 5,280 Minor in 1907, and the same pair to a peal in seven methods in 1910; Mr. Edwin Hims rang 2-3 to 5,040 Bob Minor in 1926; Mr. John Thomas has rung two church bells to a peal of Double Norwich Major.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT ROTHWELL.

The summer meeting of the Western Division of the Yorkshire Association was held at Rothwell on July 8th and was attended by about 30 members from a fairly representative area. Ringing was practised in a variety of methods.

Amongst the visitors were Mr. H. S. Morley, secretary of the Eastern Division, Mr. G. R. Newton, of Liverpool, Mr. C. W. Woolley, of Bushey, and members of the Durham Association.

Tea was served in the Parochial Hall, and the business meeting was presided over by the vice-president, Mr. P. J. Johnson. Apologies for absence were received from Canon Marshall, H. Armitage, F. Hodgson and W. Barton.

The collection to Belfry Repairs Fund realised 12s. 1d. The next meeting will be held at Heptonstall in September.

DEATH OF MR. SAMUEL MOTTERSHEAD.

The death is announced of Mr. Samuel Mottershead, an old member of the band at Bowdon, Cheshire. He was in his 65th year.

The funeral was at Bowdon Parish Church, and after the interment handbells were rung at the graveside by Messrs. D. Vincent, B. Thorpe, J. Worth and A. Barnes. Before the service the tower bells were rung muffled and afterwards a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung by A. Barnes (Reddish) treble, B. Thorpe (Ashton-under-Lyne) 2, J. Worth (Macclesfield) 3, W. H. Shaker (Fallowfield) 4, W. W. Wolstencroft (Ashton-under-Lyne, St. Peter's) 5, A. J. Brown (Bowdon) 6, D. Vincent (conductor) (Hale) 7, S. Hough (Knutsford) tenor. At the completion the bells were ceased and Mr. Mottershead's age struck on the tenor.

Among the floral tributes was one from the Bowdon ringers.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

.....

THE

LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

ESTABLISHED 1570

MEARS & STAINBANK

AT

34, WHITECHAPEL ROAD
LONDON

E.1

Telephone BISHopsgate 2599

Founders of the new ring
of twelve for
Liverpool Cathedral
Tenor 82 cwt.

HANDBELLS, BELL ROPES,
MUFFLES,
Etc.

'THE RINGING WORLD.'

The official Journal of the Central Council of
Church Bell Ringers.

President of the Council: EDWIN H. LEWIS, M.A.

Hon. Secretary of the Council: GEORGE W. FLETCHER.

Treasurer of 'The Ringing World': A. A. HUGHES, J.P.,
34, Whitechapel Road, E.1.

All communications for this journal should be addressed
to:—

The Editor,

'The Ringing World,'

c/o The Woodbridge Press, Ltd.,
Guildford, Surrey.

'The Ringing World' is sent direct by post from the
office for 4s. 3d. per quarter payable in advance, but
for the time being, owing to paper shortage, new orders
cannot be accepted. We shall be obliged if subscribers
will send their payments to Mr. G. W. Fletcher, 3a,
King's Road, Bramhope, near Leeds, Yorks.

Cheques and remittances should be made payable to
'The Ringing World.'

For the present the available supplies of Central Council publica-
tions are exhausted and it will not be possible to renew them for a
few weeks. Notice will be given as soon as the Hon. Librarian has a
fresh stock, and until then no orders should be sent to him.

The peal at South Wigston on July 17th was rung to mark the birth
of a daughter to the Rev. and Mrs. P. J. Boulsover. It was also a
tribute to L.-Bdr. Sibley Bingley, R.A., of the local band, who was
mentioned in despatches for gallant and distinguished service in Sicily.

THE LATE MR. TOM BOOKER.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I was very sorry to read of the death of Mr. Tom Booker,
of Eynsford. It recalls a rather amusing episode there in July, 1939,
after an unsuccessful attempt for the first peal of Gonville Bob Major.
We had retired to The Five Bells to discuss the failure, and found Mr.
Booker there. Though then 81, he was in high spirits and sang one
song which involved something in the nature of a dance and the
brandishing of a stick at frequent intervals. After this I said to
him, 'Did you hear anything of the ringing?' He was, however, a
trifle deaf and must have thought my question more in keeping with
the surroundings, for he replied, 'No thanks. I've got a pint on the
windowsill.' After the initial shock we hardly knew how to stop
laughing, but fortunately Mr. Booker did not inquire further into the
matter.

He was a well-known character in the district, and the following
tribute was paid to him by the Editor of 'The Kentish Times':—

'We cannot but see in the passing of Mr. Tom Booker, of Eynsford,
a symbol of the decease of an epoch. In these times when invidious
distinctions are apt to be drawn between "employers" and "em-
ployed," his record of 76 years of service with the Hart Dyke family
may evoke little response on the part of many, yet there may be some
in whom that happy partnership may create a nostalgia, bespeaking
a phenomenon which is rapidly passing from the earth. Those who
knew Tom Booker were unanimous in declaring that a happier man
would be hard to find; and such a spirit of contentment is surely the
prize most to be desired in this life. . . . Tom Booker represented
the eternal dignity of the common man, and despite what artificial
barriers may have been created, in those things which are really
important he was called upon to bow the knee to no man, but only
to the One to whom at all times he paid reverence.'

E. A. BARNETT.

THE LATE MR. J. P. HYETT.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I feel I must write a short tribute to the late J. P. Hyett,
the passing of a great man so far as his abilities allowed and a great
pioneer of Doubles. His opportunities to learn change ringing came
late in life, but he persevered and rang a number of peals. I first
came in contact with him in 1919 and continued his friendship until
1939. He rang his first peals of Minor, Triples and Major with me.

During the 15 years of my Mastership of the Hereford Guild I fre-
quently relied upon him for help and information. As secretary of the
Clifford District he must have cycled thousands of miles for ringing in
a remote part of the county.

CHARLES EDWARDS.

44, Beeston Avenue, Woodlands Park, Altrincham, Cheshire.

THE J. D. & C. M. 'CAMPANALOGIA.'

(Continued from page 292.)

Referring to raising and ceasing in peal, the authors say it was not esteemed to be one of the easiest parts of the art, 'and we could wish with all our hearts that it was more practised by the ancient and experienced ringers, being very melodious and worthy any man's pains to learn.' That is copied from Stedman with the directions how to raise, for by 1702 the London ringers had ceased to practise it.

Plain changes, too, had long since been abandoned by the more expert bands, certainly in London, and probably elsewhere, though it is likely that the degenerate form we now know as stoney was already common. In Stedman's time, say J. D. and C.M., 'they were then most of all practised, but now this, as well as all other arts, is by age and time improved, and instead of plain changes there are double, triple and quadruple changes rung, which are far more ingenious and pleasant. However, in many parts of England plain changes are still in use, and therefore we have briefly said something in relation thereto that we may please (if we can) every person. But 'tis our request and desire to all that are practised in plain changes to suspend the practice thereof and betake themselves to the practice of double and triple changes, for the attaining whereof we recommend them to the perusal and study of this book, which consists of several peals which for their excellency have remained in use and practice ever since they were made; as also of of several new peals composed as well by ourselves as Mr. John Patrick, who with great care and pains has exercised his ingenuity to the great improvement of this art.'

'These Plain or Single Changes are so old that they are scarce practised anywhere, because by ingenious and skilful practitioners this art is made more melodious and easy by double and triple changes, and therefore we shall forbear to make a long discourse upon what is not needful or requisite, but shall only set down two or three peals of Plain Changes for the satisfaction of some particular persons.'

A six-score of Plain Changes follows, and then: 'It may perhaps be wondered at by some why we have not set down more large and methodical rules and instructions for ringing Plain Changes, but, if duly considered we think (with submission) 'tis not the least necessary, not only because (as we have said before) they are almost out of practice everywhere, but also because Cross Peals are more easy and melodious; therefore we hope we shall be excused by the ingenious and knowing reader for the omission that we have made, being as we conceive requisite and assured that were he or any other (whose genius leads them to the practice of music) to buy a collection of songs or tunes, that he would sooner chuse and have those that were lately composed than those that had been composed many years.'

In 1702 the greater part of ringing was still upon five and six bells; necessarily, because full octaves were rare. But all over the country, in villages as well as in towns, peals of eight began to be put up, either as complete new rings or by the addition of trebles to rings of six. In London, seven-bell ringing was almost entirely Grandsire Triples, and those bands, like the London Scholars and the College Youths, which were able to practise at St. Sepulchre's were ringing Grandsire Caters. But Royal was unknown and there was little Major. 'Changes

upon eight bells,' say J. D. and C. M., 'are seldom or never rung unless it be a five, six or seven-bell peal is rung thereon. A five-bell peal that is rung upon eight is by laying three of the eight bells behind. And the most musical to lie behind is 218, 148, 418, 248, 468, 348, 648, 548, 864, 241, 321, and 135 to be laid behind and first and third to dodge throughout the peal, and also 184 to be laid behind and to go the Sixes at half-pulls. The most musical to be laid behind in a six-bell peal are 48, 68, 18 or 41, and the peal to be rung on the six foremost bells and the seventh and eighth to dodge.'

'There are a great number of several peals to be pricked upon eight bells, but our design being not to stuff this book with what is altogether unpractised, we shall therefore forbear to set down any further examples of what is not in the least at this time nor ever was in practice and which will only waste both paper and time.'

Much of this was suggested by Stedman's 'Campanalogia,' and it is clear that there had been little or no development in eight-bell ringing between 1677 and 1702. The cause is probably to be found in the peculiarities of the construction of Plain Changes and the tenacity with which the Exercise clung to the old customs and ideas. When changes were first invented upon three and four bells, men quickly found out the convenience of using the treble as the whole hunt. When five and six-bell ringing was practised, the same bell was obviously the most suitable for the same purpose, and quite naturally, when half-hunts and quarter-hunts were needed, the next smallest were chosen. Thus in Roane's first 720 of Bob Minor the treble is the whole hunt, the second is the half-hunt, and the fourth is the quarter-hunt. Duckworth pointed out that this was merely a matter of choice, and that any other bell could be either the whole, half or quarter-hunt, yet it is probable that in early days the 720 was generally rung with those bells as hunts, in the same way that nowadays it is generally rung with 1,6,5 as hunts.

When ringing on the higher numbers was introduced, the same ideas were retained, with the result that in Triples Major and Caters the big bells were very much mixed up, and anything like good or regular music was a matter of chance. On seven and nine bells the covering tenor largely redeemed the situation, but on eight the defect was glaring. It was not until ringers discovered the merit of keeping 7-8 together that Major ringing became popular, and that was not until the eighteenth century was some years old. Benjamin Annable had the credit for making this discovery, and he certainly did more than anyone else to popularise Bob Major, but before he was a ringer, or at any rate before he had joined the College Youths, Robert Baldwin had composed a peal of Treble Bob Major and the Union Scholars had rung it.

It is clear, however, that the great majority of the ringing in eight-bell towers in the early years of the eighteenth century was Grandsire Triples, certainly so in London and probably so in the country. This fact has a good deal of bearing on the question as to when the first five-thousands were rung.

(To be continued.)

SWINDON.—On July 16th, at Christ Church, 1,263 Stedman Caters: H. Bishop 1, R. G. Townsend 2, G. W. Townsend 3, W. W. T. Daniell 4, W. B. Kynaston 5, W. Carter (first quarter in the method) 6, C. J. Gardiner (conductor) 7, S. Palmer 8, T. Townsend 9, W. A. Bullock 10.

CENTRAL TOWERS.

By ERNEST MORRIS.

(Continued from page 298.)

St. Luke's Church, Thurnby, was entirely rebuilt in 1873 by H. L. Powys-Keck on the site of an ancient church. It is in the Norman and Early English style, with embattled central tower. To reach the ringing room one ascends a spiral stairway in the transept, from whence a short walk over the leads takes one to the tower. Of the five bells, treble and tenor are by J. Taylor and Co., 1872 and 1885 respectively; 2nd by Joseph Eayre, 1765; 3rd by Edward Arnold, 1794; 5th by Hugh Watts, 1631. In 1926 the frame was overhauled and bells rehung on ball bearings. The tenor is 12 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. Only one peal of 5,040 has been rung here (February 26th, 1921), called by the writer.

St. Margaret's Church, Ditchling, Sussex, has a central tower, 13½ ft. by 15½ ft., which is contemporary with the chancel, viz., c. 1260-70. It rises to the height of the nave roof and is finished with a pyramidal roof. The tower arches are obtuse-pointed to east and west, equilateral to north and south; of two orders and supported with capitals and bases to each order. The tower shows more of the original flint facing than any other part of the church. In the spire are modern louvres to east and west. There is a ring of eight bells. Originally five by Lester and Pack, 1766, they were increased to six about 1880. In 1914 two trebles were added by Gillett and Johnston, and these are in an iron frame above the old six, in their original oak frame. The tenor is about 8 cwt.

St. Nicholas', Charlwood, Surrey, has a central tower 16ft. 8in. north to south, by 15ft. east to west. The plan is of much interest, preserving the aisleless nave and the tower of a church of 1100 A.D., the tower having been set between the chancel and nave with the same internal width as the former, but being externally wider owing to the greater thickness of the walls. In the 14th century a south aisle was added to the nave, and the chancel lengthened. Later, the present chancel was added, and the old chancel is now used as a vestry. The tower stair is a modern one of wood enclosed in the north-west corner, accessible only by an external doorway. There is a ring of six, tenor approximately 16 cwt. The treble and 2nd were by Thos. Janaway, 1764; 3rd, 4th and tenor by William Eldridge, dated respectively 1697, 1668, 1662; 5th by Thos. Mears, 1835. In 1925, Messrs. Mears and Stainbank recast the treble, 2nd and 4th, retuned others, and rehung in the old frame, which was strengthened.

St. Michael and All Angels', Lambourn, Berks, central tower is 16½ ft. square. The tower and nave belong to a cruciform building of c. 1180, the transepts and chancel of which were rebuilt and extended in the 13th century. Above the roof, the tower is of two principal storeys, the lower 12th century stage, which is plain and massive, is of mingled flint and stone rubble with dressed quoins, contrasting with the wrought stone walls and more elaborate detail of the later bell chamber. The lower stage is divided into three by string courses, but is without buttresses or windows except for a small round-headed opening on the east side. The bell chamber windows are of three transomed cinquefoiled lights with four-centred heads and vertical tracery. The but-

tresses are taken above the parapet as octagonal turrets with embattled parapets and finials.

There is a ring of eight bells, tenor 23 cwt. in E flat. The treble and 5th were cast by James Wells, of Aldbourne, in 1804, the latter being recast by J. Warner and Sons in 1892. The 2nd is by Henry Bagley, 1742. The 4th, 7th and tenor form part of the unidentified Bolter-Purdue group dated 1637. A full account of the bells and their history is given in Mr. Sharpe's new series on the bells of this county, in which he gives the following episode connected with the ringers of this tower:—

'No one cared more for manly sports than he did—(Rev. Robert Milman, Vicar, 1851)—but he was deeply convinced of the abuses of the turf, and having racing stables in his parish knew only too well to what evils it led. On one occasion, soon after he had come to the parish, when he had refused permission for the church bells to be rung in honour of the victory of a Lambourn horse, the ringers obtained access to the tower and, locking themselves in, rang a peal. Mr. Milman could not restrain his indignation; he summoned the ringers before the magistrates, and on the following Sunday preached so vehemently upon the abuse of the turf that no one ventured to trifle with him again.'

Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, St. Mary's Church is cruciform. The church was begun in 1140, and finished 40 years later, except the porches, which were added in the 14th and 15th centuries. The central tower, 16ft. square, is of three stages, with a parapet and tall leaded spire, possibly of the 13th century. On each side of the ground stage are stilted semi-circular arches, the west one being enriched with zigzag ornament on the side facing the nave. There is a ring of eight bells, tenor 19 cwt. The two trebles and tenor, by Lester and Pack, 1758 and 1767 respectively; 3rd by Chandler, 1688; 4th by Robert Oldfield, 1633; 5th, John Dyer, c. 1590; 6th by Robert Mot, 1604; 7th, Robert Oldfield, 1617. In 1552 there were here 'v Belles in the Steple: ij handbelles.'

Great Berkhemstead Church, Herts, St. Peter's, is a large cruciform church dating from pre-Conquest times. Early in the 13th century the church apparently consisted of chancel, central tower, transepts and an aisleless nave. Of this building, the chancel and lower stage of the tower remain. The plan of the church is interesting on account of the unusual length of the nave, which is nearly five times its breadth. The central tower is 17ft. by 16ft., and of three stages, with embattled parapet and small leaded spire. The walls are five feet thick. The names of the builders, John and Alyce Phyllypp, were recorded on a stone below the south window of the third stage, but it is now too much decayed to be legible. There is a ring of eight, all by Thomas Mears, of London and Gloucester, 1838, tenor approximately 19 cwt. Chauncy, writing of the bells in 1700, says, 'a ring of five bells not very tuneable.' As early as 1510, one Edward-de-la-Hay, by his will dated May 20th that year, gave among many other gifts 'to the reparation of the bells' 13s. 4d. In 1552, the Church of 'Barkh'mstede Peter' possessed 'iiij Belles in the Steple, a Saunce Bell, another Saunce Bell, ij handbelles, too Sacringe Belles.'

The Church of St. George, Heaviley, Stockport, Lancs, was begun in 1893, the foundation stone being laid on June 17th of that year by Lord Egerton, of Tatton. It is one of the finest churches in the North of

England, and possesses a cathedral-like appearance. It was designed by Messrs. Paley, Austin and Paley, of Lancaster, in the Transition form of Decorated and Perpendicular style of architecture, and will seat 1,040 persons. It is 180ft. long, 75ft. across the aisles, and the nave is 51ft. high to the wall plate, and aisles 31ft. Its magnificent central tower, with pinnacles and flying buttresses, is topped by a fine spire reaching to a height of 230ft., a height only exceeded by a very few in the North of England. It contains a ring of 10 bells, tenor 29 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb., all by Mears and Stainbank, 1896. Access to the belfry is similar to that at St. Mary's, Nottingham, spiral stair up end of transept, but the passage to the tower in this case is covered.

At St. Lawrence's Church, Rowington, Warwickshire, is a ring of five in a minor key, where the ropes come down in the pews from its central tower. They are also 'anti-clockwise.' The treble hangs over the others slantwise in position, and is a recast by Carr, of Smethwick, 1887, of the former bell of 1633, by Hugh Watts, of Leicester, who cast the 2nd, 4th and tenor. The 3rd is by Newcombe, 1609, and tenor weighs 6 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb. Granted to the Abbey of Reading in the reign of Henry I., this church remained the property of that house until the Dissolution. It is, perhaps, unique in its arrangement, possibly from its original design as a cruciform building being interrupted. The tower rises out of the nave at its eastern end, and beyond which the nave seems to reappear at a lesser width, and a shallow transept is on the south side of the tower. The character of many portions of the church has so little definition as to render their assignment to any particular style or age a matter of difficulty.

The small village of Glaston, Rutland, has a 12th century church, which was altered and extended in the two succeeding centuries. It has a central tower (without transepts), surmounted by a short broach spire. There is a ring of six bells, tenor approximately 8 cwt., and these from being three were made five in 1931, and later increased to six by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. The tenor, dated 1598, bears an inscription in very fine lettering, with the shield used by Francis Watts and the decorative cross used by the Newcombes. Both these founders had their foundries at Leicester, and this bell may have been cast by them working in partnership as they occasionally did. At one time a saucer-shaped clock bell hung outside the south light of the spire, and as the clock dial is dated 1739, that is probably the date of this bell. Eayre, of Kettering, made bells of this shape. This is now in the rectory garden, inverted and used as a flower pot. Glaston bells are rung from the ground floor between nave and chancel, and the writer had the pleasure of conducting the first peal of Minor (in five methods) on them on October 10th, 1937. During the peal the church door was left open. Several visitors came in but did not disturb the ringers.

The Church of St. Faith, Overbury, Worcestershire, has a central tower, 12ft. by 13½ft., between the nave and chancel, without transepts. The nave is of 12th century date, and a tower appears to have been built on the site of the present one and at the same time. A groined stone value spans the lower storey, while the room above is lighted by single square-headed lights in the north and south walls. The third or bell chamber has a square window in each wall, filled with small and

elaborate tracery in stone. At the angles are diagonal buttresses. Grotesque winged gargoyles project at the four corners of the moulded parapet. Lower down the south-west buttress is a curious carved reptile. The tower is of rubble, ashlar faced outside. It contains a ring of six bells, tenor approximately 12 cwt. The treble was added in 1903 by J. Taylor and Co., and its inscription includes a chronogram composed by the late Mr. H. B. Walters, the well-known bell historian. The 2nd and tenor are by Purdue, of Bristol, dated 1641; the 3rd is by Newcombe, of Leicester (undated); 4th by Hendley, of Gloucester, also undated; 5th by A. Rudhall, 1719.

The Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, Ripple, Worcestershire, has a central tower, 15½ft. by 16ft. The whole structure, which is built of limestone with stone slabbed roofs, is of the original date, c. 1195-1200, and is a good example of a complete transition church. In 1713 the top of the tower, whose spire had been struck by lightning on December 18th, 1583, was taken down and rebuilt to a greater height, minus the spire. In 1797 it was again repaired and raised, the uppermost stage being now of the latter date. This central tower rests on massive piers. Its upper stages, accessible by a ladder from the north transept, have been altered in level, probably when the vaulting was removed, and the heavy floor corbels, and the stepped splays of the original windows of the first stage—now blocked—are visible internally. There is a ring of six bells, all cast at Gloucester by John Rudhall in 1808. In the Commissioners' return of 1552, Ripple had 'iiij bells in the steple j lyche bell ij sacryng bells.'

(To be continued.)

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES

EAST ILSLEY, BERKSHIRE.—On Sunday, June 25th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: *Miss June East 1, William Hibbert 2, Mrs. C. J. Hibbert 3, Mrs. A. Williams 4, C. J. Hibbert (conductor) 5, Mark Rosier 6, E. T. Sneller 7, *F. Carter 8. *First quarter-peal.—On Sunday, July 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss June East 1, W. Hibbert 2, Mrs. C. J. Hibbert 3, Mrs. A. Williams 4, R. W. Warwick 5, F. Sgt. Harry Smith 6, O. J. Hibbert (conductor) 7, F. Carter 8.

PETERBOROUGH.—On June 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: W. Rose (conductor) 1, W. Cross 2, *C. Woods 3, *W. Alderman 4, W. Waldron 5, H. Goakes 6, H. Beechy 7, *E. Warner 8. *First quarter-peal.

GROBY, NEAR LEICESTER.—On Monday, July 3rd, 720 Grandsire Doubles: W. Geary 1, Derek Dodson 2, S. Gardner 3, V. Geary 4, R. F. Elkington (conductor) 5, Dennis Dodson 6. Rung half-muffled for Mrs. Dodson, mother of the ringers of the 2nd and tenor, who was buried on this day in the churchyard.

DARLINGTON.—On Sunday, July 9th, at the Church of the Holy Trinity, 720 York Surprise Minor. On Sunday, July 16th, 576 Cambridge Surprise Minor and 720 Beverley Surprise Minor: R. Busby, R. Jeff, W. Oliver, G. W. Park, W. N. Park, R. Park, J. T. Titt.

HUGGLESCOTE.—On July 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: G. Hadfield 1, G. Walker 2, H. O. Over 3, J. Cadle 4, J. H. Dean (conductor) 5, E. J. Tovell 6, H. Powdrill 7, T. Aldread 8.

FARNHAM, SURREY.—On Tuesday, July 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: *William Taylor 1, George Carter 2, *Dennis Evans 3, William Viggers 4, Richard Hasted 5, Thomas Upshall 6, Harold Hobden (conductor) 7, Frank C. W. Knight 8. *First quarter-peal.

KERESLEY, COVENTRY.—On Saturday, July 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: S. J. Oughton 1, C. H. Webb (conductor) 2, J. W. Taylor 3, A. Bristow (conductor) 4, H. Folwell 5. Rung for the wedding of the daughter of Mr. T. Hastings, a local ringer, and the silver wedding of the ringer of the fourth.

BARWELL, LEICESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, July 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. Chesterton 1, W. Newton 2, A. Pegg 3, M. Swinfield (conductor) 4, R. C. Belton 5, F. Deacon 6, K. Deacon 7, J. Needham 8.

NORTON-IN-THE-MOORS.—On July 16th, 720 Wells Surprise Minor: O. Williams 1, S. B. Bailey 2, J. E. Wheeldon 3, W. C. Lawrence 4, W. P. Deane (conductor) 5, J. Walley 6.

DARLEY DALE, DERBYSHIRE.—On Sunday, July 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. Paulson 1, G. H. Paulson (conductor) 2, Sgt.-Major W. Tyler 3, H. Gregory 4, B. Allsop 5, Rev. P. J. Boulsover 6, Tpr. V. Bottomley 7, R. Allsop 8.

THE BELLS OF EDMONTON.

An inventory of the goods and ornaments possessed by the church of All Saints, Edmonton, in the reign of King Edward the Sixth, survives, but it is defective and contains no mention of any bells; and the first account of the bells in the steeple that I have is in 1788, when on May 8th the present ring was opened by a band of the Cumberland Youths with a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major. It was composed and conducted by John Reeves, who had recently left the 'ancient' Society of College Youths owing to the quarrels which had led to the break up of that company, and who was now for a time the conductor of the rival society.

Four days after Reeves' peal the junior Society of Cumberland Youths rang a peal of Grandsire Triples, and two months later the College Youths rang 5,440 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major.

During the next twenty years the Cumberlands rang several peals in the tower, one or two of more than ordinary interest. In 1795 they scored 10,080 Bob Major, and in 1800, 10,112 Oxford Treble Bob Major. The latter was at the time the longest composed or rung in the method, and the peal book describes it as 'unrivalled in the annals of Campanistanean fame.' It was composed and conducted by George Gross. The figures are lost; but, though we have not much evidence of how far Gross was a safe and competent composer, we may assume that it was true, for Shipway mentions it and says Gross composed another 10,994 changes. There was a curious legend published by a contemporary newspaper that in a previous attempt for this peal, towards the end Gross got his foot entangled in the rope and, being carried up to the ceiling, fell and broke his collar bone. It can hardly be correct, for he was peal ringing a week or two after the accident was supposed to have happened.

In 1795 the society rang 5120 changes of Cumberland Treble Bob Major which there is every reason to believe was one of the earliest peals of Kent Treble Bob.

On September 17th, 1798, George Gross called 5,011 changes of Grandsire Triples, 'being the first rung without a single.' The figures are lost, but we can have a good idea of what was rung. If in the first half of Holt's ten-part peal a certain bob is omitted, the bells are put into the second half, which can be rung in its entirety; but at the conclusion the starting point in the first half cannot be regained. That means you can produce the 5,040 rows of Grandsire Triples by common bobs only, but not in round block form. Some of the early composers tried to get over the difficulty by using a special call or an irregular start. Stephen Hall, of Kidderminster, produced a 5,012 in this way, and it is given in Shipway's book. John Noonan brought it to London. It contains a special single in which the bells in seconds, thirds, fourths, and sevenths, lie still, and which does not alter the nature (odd or even) of the rows. Gross left that out and evidently adopted an irregular going off or coming round lead. It is perhaps

significant that though Shipway included Hill's 5,012 in his book, he left out Gross' 5,011.

One more performance at Edmonton deserves mention, not for any intrinsic merits it possessed, but because it was rung by the St. James' Youths. They were not the same company as the St. James' Society, which was not established until thirty years later, but in a sense they were its ancestors. John Hints was already connected with the belfry of St. James, Clerkenwell, and there he got around him a number of young ringers, some of them his pupils. The tower was a regular meeting place of the old Society of Cumberland Youths, and in addition there was this young band who held independent practices and were sometimes joined by members of the leading societies whose love of ringing was great enough to make them break the traditional rule which forbade the members of one company to ring or associate with the members of another.

Edmonton has played a leading part in the story of ringing during the last half century. Mr. James Parker migrated there from Crawley and more than one of the band went with him. A fine company was formed which rang many peals, and the high standard has since been maintained by Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Fletcher and Mr. John Thomas. At the present time there is a young band which looks like equalling the achievements of their predecessors.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

SANDY.—On Sunday, July 16th, 720 Bob Minor: P. Enderby 1, Cpl. J. Stubbs 2, C. H. Harding 3, C. Ball 4, R. J. Houghton 5, L.A.C. F. W. Budgen (conductor) 6.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Monday, July 17th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: B. Cornell 1, S. H. Symonds (conductor) 2, M. T. Symonds 3, W. Fayers 4, F. Boreham 5, W. R. J. Poulson 6, F. F. Mortlock 7, L. Offord 8. Rung fully muffled for Mr. C. Jarvis, for several years a ringer at Lavenham.

GREAT STAUGHTON, HUNTS.—On July 19th, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: N. D. Smith 1, Cpl. Stubbs 2, L.A.C. Budgen 3, F. W. Lack 4, C. H. Harding (conductor) 5, B. F. Sims 6.

SLOUGH.—On Sunday, July 23rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. Harding, sen. (first quarter-peal) 1, G. H. Gutteridge 2, Capt. H. W. Rogers 3, F. V. Sinkins 4, F. W. Goodfellow 5, E. L. Hudson 6, N. V. Harding (conductor) 7, E. H. Preston 8.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.—On St. Peter's Day, 1,260 Bob Doubles: *Mary Pemberton 1, *Joyce Hearn 2, *Freda Murkitt 3, *Jean Broomfield 4, G. Gilbert 5, T. J. Fowler 6. *First quarter-peal.

HOBART, TASMANIA.

Among the bequests made by the late Mrs. Lucy Macfarlane, of New Town, Hobart, was one of £25 to the bellringers of Holy Trinity Church, and in her will she asked that a 'joyful peal' should be rung on Trinity bells as soon as possible after her death, which occurred on March 29th. The Rector of Holy Trinity (the Rev. F. J. McCabe) has stated that arrangements have been made to fulfil Mrs. Macfarlane's wish.

DEATH OF PETTY OFFICER H. CHANDLER.

The peal of Doubles at Lyonsball, Herefordshire, on July 15th, was rung muffled to the memory of P.O. H. Chandler, who lost his life on active service. He was born at Lyonsball and served for 18 years in the Navy. He was a member of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, the Devon Guild and the Hereford Diocesan Guild. He served for a time on the committee of the last-named association, and in 1933 he presented a shield to the Kington and Clifford districts, which was competed for annually until 1939.

Send for
Booklet

SMITH OF DERBY

Estimates and
Advice Free

for CHURCH and TURRET CLOCKS

Electric or Weight Driven

Makers of many famous Clocks, including St. Paul's Cathedral, London, and throughout the world.

JOHN SMITH & SONS, Midland Clock Works, Derby, Ltd.

Head Office and Works—
QUEEN STREET, DERBY

Tel. No. DERBY 45589
*Grams—Clocks, Derby

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR ONE INSERTION of a notice of a meeting is 2s. Other insertions are at the rate of 1s. each. Altered notices count as new notices.

All lines exceeding six in any one insertion are charged at the rate of 4d. per line.

The charge for notices other than of meetings is 2s. 6d. for each insertion.

NOTICES must be received **NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.**

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—Quarterly meeting at Stapleford, Saturday, July 29th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow.—T. Groombridge, jun., Hon. Dis. Sec., 74, Dornoch Avenue, Sherwood, Nottingham.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Meeting at Rochester, Saturday, July 29th. Cathedral bells 3 to 4 and 7 to 9. Tea at City Cafe 4.45. Frindsbury bells will also be available.—G. H. Spice, Hon. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—Meeting at Ecton, Saturday, July 29th. Service 4.30. Bring food; cups of tea provided. Names to A. Bigley, Hon. Branch Sec., 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Pentre, Rhondda Valley, Saturday, July 29th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 3.45. Business meeting 4.30.—J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., 94, Alteryg View, Newport, Mon.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Meeting at Bishop's Stortford, Saturday, July 29th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business 5 p.m.—G. Radley, Dis. Sec., 18, Macers Lane, Wormley, near Hoddesdon.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—Meeting at Mortimer, Saturday, July 29th, 2.30 p.m., at St. Mary's (8) and St. John's (6). Service at St. Mary's 4 p.m., followed by tea at the Vicarage.—E. G. Foster, Hon. Sec., 401, London Road, Reading.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—Meeting at Dartford, Saturday, July 29th, 3 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Practice meeting, Ringmer, Saturday, July 29th, 2.30. Tea provided.—Mrs. E. L. Hairs, The Oaks, Theobald's Road, Burgess Hill.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting at Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, Saturday, July 29th, 3 p.m.—A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Meeting at Marden, Saturday, August 5th. Service 4.15 p.m., followed by business. Train leaves Tonbridge 2.15 p.m. Half travelling expenses up to 2s. paid.—T. Saunders, Hon. Dis. Sec., East Peckham, Tonbridge.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—Meeting at Whalley, Saturday, Aug. 5th, 2.30 p.m. Business at 6 p.m. Bring food.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Bolsover, Saturday, Aug. 5th. Names for tea to A. B. Cooper, Wickstead, Rectory Road, Duckmanton, near Chesterfield.—G. G. Graham, 5, Pipworth Lane, Eckington.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—Meeting at Sutterton, Saturday, Aug. 5th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday, Aug. 1st.—W. E. Clarke, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Annual meeting at Rochdale Parish Church on Saturday, Aug. 5th. Own tea arrangements.—I. Kay, Sec.

EAST RETFORD, NOTTS.—Meeting on Aug. 7th (Bank Holiday). Bells (10) 2 o'clock. Cafe close to church.—O. Street, 61, Cobwell Road, Retford.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Meeting at Horsham, Monday, Aug. 7th, 3 p.m. Tea can be obtained in town (no arrangements). Business meeting in belfry.—O. Sippetts, 10, Three Bridges Road, Crawley.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN and WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILDS.—Combined meeting, East Tytherley, on Aug. 7th. Bells from 11 a.m. Service 4.30. Cups of tea at 5 p.m. Bring food and sugar. Lockerley (6), Broughton (6) available afternoon and evening.—F. W. Romaine, G. Pullinger.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northwich Branch.—Meeting at Great Budworth, Saturday, Aug. 12th. Names for tea to Mr. J. Holden, Belmont Smithy, Warrington Road, Great Budworth, by Aug. 10th.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Shrewsbury, Saturday, Aug. 12th. Ringing at St. Mary's (10) 3-4, followed by service. Tea at Ward's Cafe 5 p.m. Ringing at St. Chad's (12) 6 p.m.—E. D. Poole, Hon. Sec.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The address of the hon. secretary of the Ladies' Guild, Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, is now 3a, King's Road, Bramhope, near Leeds, Yorks.

BIRTHS.

MAYER.—On Wednesday, July 12th, at the Brae-side Nursing Home, Lincoln, to Dorothy (née Vessey), wife of Kenneth W. Mayer, the gift of a daughter.

WIGG.—To Florence, wife of the Rev. Elliot Wigg, on July 16th, at the Royal Bucks Hospital, a son (Nicholas).

MARRIAGE.

LATHBURY—SHORTER.—At St. Mary's, Walton-on-Thames, on Thursday, June 29th, Violet Emily, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Shorter, 15, Russell Road, Walton-on-Thames, to Reginald Leslie Gough, eldest son of Dr. C. J. and Mrs. Lathbury, Dunstable, Beds.

WANTED.

BACK NUMBERS of 'The Ringing World' and 'The Bell News' in complete years if possible; state price.—J. E. Spice, New College, Oxford.

The CENTRAL COUNCIL PUBLICATIONS

TO BE OBTAINED POST FREE

from

CAPT. W. H. J. HOOTON,
NEWTON BANK,
NEWTON-LE-WILLOWS,
BEDALE, YORKS.

*For the present no Central Council Publications
can be supplied, and no orders should be sent
until further notice is given*

The Jasper Snowdon Series

REVISED PRICES.

- 'ROPE-SIGHT,' 1s. 10d.; ninth edition; 150 pages; treats Plain Bob commencing on three bells.
- 'GRANDSIRE,' 2s. 10d.; second edition; 204 pages; commencing on five bells, complete with the Thompson Charts, etc.
- 'STANDARD METHODS,' tenth edition; a new book; Letterpress, 2s.; Diagrams, 2s.
- 'STEDMAN,' 2s. 10d. An entirely new book by J. Armiger Trollope. Contains full instructions for ringing and conducting the method on 5 to 11 bells, with touches and peals, and proof and composition.
- 'TREBLE BOB,' 1s. 10d.; second edition; with appendix; 100 pages.
- 'SURPRISE METHODS,' 2s. 10d. A book by the late Rev. C. D. P. Davies, M.A., F.R.A.S. Contains a tabulated list of peals, 10 diagrams, 126 pages.

All post free, on receipt of postal order, from

Miss MARGARET E. SNOWDON
Woodlands, Newby Bridge, Ulverston, Lancs

THE RINGERS' HANDBOOK

by E. S. and M. POWELL.

Containing full and complete instruction from the first handling of a bell to the ringing and conducting of peals of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob.

Large selection of Compositions included.

Price:— Complete edition, to 8 bells, cloth, 120pp., 2/9
6 bell edition sewn, paper covers, 64pp., 1/2

Obtainable only post free from Rev. E. S. POWELL,
Staughton Vicarage, near Daventry.

'THE WORLD'S BEST BELLROPES'

Noted for Easy Handling and Non-Stretching

Est. 1820

Tel. 2400

JOHN PRITCHARD (ROPES) Ltd. LOUGHBOROUGH

CLOCK AND CHIMING ROPES, SPLICING
AND REPAIRS. BELL MUFFLERS

Price List on Application

ESTABLISHED 1780

JOHN NICOLL,

*Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope
Manufacturer,*

64, LEWISHAM PARK, LONDON, S.E.13

Late of BERMONDSEY and PECKHAM.

Maker to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Albans, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester, Durban and Worcester Cathedrals, etc., etc.

Mufflers, Ringing Mats, Matting, Flag Lines, etc., etc.

It has now become very difficult to meet the demand for 'The Ringing World.' Do not destroy your copy. If you do not keep it yourself give it to a friend who may not be able to procure one himself.

PUBLICATIONS.

'BOB MINOR AND MAJOR, Simply Explained,' 3rd thousand, 7d. each, or 7s. dozen post free. By I. Roe and M. Broome, Orchards, Womersley, Surrey.

ESTABLISHED 1833

WM. POTTS & SONS, LTD.

Bankfield Terrace,
LEEDS, 4

Cathedral, Church and Tower Clocks | Clock Repairs and Dial Restorations

Recently Repaired — The Clock at St. Margaret's, Westminster

And 9, Adelphi Chambers, Shakespeare Street, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE, and 96, Carver Street, SHEFFIELD, 1