

THE RINGING WORLD

No. 248. Vol. IX.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17th, 1915.

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Price 1d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON CROYDON, Surrey. BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLET and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BEOK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

ANOTHER LOSS TO THE EXERCISE.

In the past few months we have, unhappily, had to chronicle the death of more than one leading member of the Exercise, notably those two pillars of our art, Mr. William Snowdon and Mr. C. H. Hattersley, who for long years applied their great talents to advancing the cause of ringing. Their passing, however much we regretted to lose them and despite the fact that they could ill be spared, was softened by the fact that they had reached the age when man, in the natural order of things, realises that he has approached the evening of his days, and that life lies behind and not before him. But to-day it is our mournful duty to record the death of another ringer, unsurpassed in his particular sphere, whose life has been ended in its prime. At the early age of 39 years Ernest Pye, one of the greatest ringers the world has ever seen, has gone to his long rest, and the sorrow which will be felt will be the more acute by the tragedy which accompanied his death.

Ernest Pye was certainly no ordinary ringer; he towered above the average man in ringing intellect as much as he excelled in ability in handling a big bell. One had only to ring with him to realise that he was among the very front rank of those gifted men in the practical side of bell-ringing, who, in modern days, have lifted the art to a far higher plane than it had ever before reached. The mere achievement of a thousand peals—in itself sufficient to mark him for all time as a wonderful man—does not represent Ernest Pye's contribution to the progress of ringing. The help which he gave to others, at the sacrifice, often, of time which a more selfish man would have begrudged, was the means of encouraging innumerable ringers to go on to greater things. If circumstances allowed him to achieve much that was beyond the reach of the ordinary men, it was not through that spirit of selfishness which some, unacquainted with the truth, may have assumed—for a more unselfish ringer than Ernest Pye could not be found—but because he was first of all an enthusiast, and because, secondly, his unique merit made his services of the utmost value.

Few members of our craft had so wide an experience in ringing as Ernest Pye, and none had greater accomplishments. One has only to turn to the record of what he did for proof of this. When considering a man's ringing achievements we must always bear in mind that without the help of others he could not have succeeded, but in the case of such a ringer we must also remember that, but for him, there are performances which many another would not now be able to lay claim to. Apart from the many great feats he accomplished in belfries in all parts of the

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CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs. C. CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract, — we may be able to assist you.

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BIRMINGHAM**

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(Continued from page 277.)

British Isles, we wonder whether all those Surprise peals on handbells would have been rung but for him. These performances were no flash in the pan, they were the result of years of patient perseverance and practice, and will ever remain historic. We had hoped that at some future date we might have seen a revival of these wonderful achievements, and even now, of course, this may be possible, but what a breach there is to fill if such records are to be made again! The concerns of ringing are, of course, as of naught in the loss of so valuable a life and of a loved one in a family circle, but the death of Ernest Pye is a serious blow to the Association to which he had so long and loyally given of his best. As a body the Middlesex Association have lost a tower of strength, and ringing generally one of its ablest exponents.

TEN BELL PEAL.

APPLETON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 7, 1915, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5075 CHANCES;

WILLIAM HOLIFIELD Treble	FREDERICK WEBB 6
EDMUND HOLIFIELD 2	F. STEDMAN WHITE 7
HARRY HOLIFIELD 3	GEORGE HOLIFIELD, Senr. 8
GEORGE HOLIFIELD, Junr. ... 4	RICHARD WHITE 9
MISS K. HOLIFIELD 5	ALBERT E. LOCK Tenor

Conducted by G. HOLIFIELD, Senr.

Rung with the bells muffled as a last token of respect to the late H. Woodwards, who was interred at Appleton on Nov. 29th, aged 80. Deceased was a ringer at the above church and a member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 11, 1915, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANCES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

ERNEST MORRIS Treble	CHARLES H. BRIGGS 5
HARRY BRIGGS 2	HARRY ARGYLE 6
FRED H. DEXTER 3	JOSIAH MORRIS 7
HARRY BROUGHTON 4	THOMAS W. CHAPMAN ... Tenor

Composed by the late CHAS. H. FOWLER, and

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

This peal, the composition of which is now rung for the first time, was especially rung with the bells half muffled to commemorate the first anniversary of the death of its composer, the late Mr. Charles H. Fowler, of Leicester, who died on Saturday evening, December 12th, 1914.

SIX BELL PEALS.

TODDINGTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(SOUTHERN BRANCH).

On Saturday, December 11, 1915, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, College Single, Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob.

Tenor 9 cwt.

*JOSEPH D. JOHNSON Treble	FREDERICK JORDAN 4
HERBERT JORDAN 2	*FREDERICK J. JOHNSON ... 5
JAMES HEMMING 3	HARRY MIDDLETON Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

* First seven method peal. First seven method peal on the bells. Rung with the bells half muffled as a token of respect to fallen soldiers in the war.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.**THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

*On Saturday, December 11, 1915, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,*

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 13½ cwt.

RICHARD CLOUGH Treble	HERBERT ALLRED 4
FRED ABBOT 2	ROBERT ALLRED 5
RICHARD P. HEALD 3	THOMAS B. WORSLEY ... Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS B. WORSLEY.

* First peal.

HANDBELL PEALS.**LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.****THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

*On Tuesday, December 7, 1915, in One Hour and Fifty-five Minutes,
AT THE TOWER OF SS. PETER AND PAUL'S CHURCH,*

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's called differently.

CHARLES FOULSON 1—2	ARTHUR SYMONDS 3—4
STEDMAN H. SYMONDS 5—6	

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

Rung to celebrate the birthday of the mother of the conductor and wife of the ringer of 3—4.

RETFORD, NOTTS.**THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.**

*On Wednesday, December 8, 1915, in One Hour and Fifty-nine Minutes,
AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. SEGAR,*

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different callings.

JOHN HURST 1—2	JOHN SEGAR, JR. 3—4
GEORGE TURNER 5—6	

Conducted by G. TURNER.

Umpire: DAVID BLAGG.

G. Turner's first peal as conductor and the quickest peal in the association.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following further ringers have joined H.M. Forces:—

A. Bradley, of St. Leonard's, Streatham, Butchers' Section, Army Service Corps.

Pte H. Jarman, and

Pte G. Newson, of Harpenden Parish Church, the Black Watch, now stationed at Richmond, Yorks.

Lee-Corpl. Coot, of Harpenden, Suffolk Regiment, now a Pirbright Camp, Surrey.

Spr. G. Day, St. Michael's, Sittingbourne, Royal Engineers, now at Chatham.

Pte A. Earl, of Sittingbourne, Army Ordnance Corps, stationed at Woolwich.

Pte John Luff, of Twhurst, Royal Naval Air Service, now at Sheerness.

A large number of ringers throughout the country have been attested under Lord Derby's recruiting scheme.

CONDUCTING BLINDFOLDED.

At Halesowen, Worcestershire, on December 7th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung in 48 minutes, the conductor of which, Mr. A. E. Parsons, was blindfolded. The band comprised: H. Lea 1, A. Hackett 2, E. Brettie 3, A. E. Parsons 4, W. Bird 5, V. White 6, G. Cockin 7, M. Hackett 8.

As some of our readers may remember a peal of Stedman Triples has been conducted blindfolded on tower bells by Mr. W. H. Barber, and, we believed we are right in saying, a peal of Bob Major on handbells by Mr. Harry Williams.

THE YOUNGEST RINGERS.

At Broughton Astley, Leics., on Monday evening, at the Parish Church, two plain courses of Grandsire Doubles were rung on handbells by the following: Ed. Webb (7 years of age only) 1—2, Hy. Webb 3—4, H. Webb, junr. (age 9 years) 5—6. Also a plain hunt lead of Minor by the same hand. The two boys are Mr. Henry Webb's sons, and are believed to be the youngest ever known to ring double-handed. The performance was witnessed by W. H. Inglesant and Mr. J. Brunt (church clerk).

A DEVON RESTORATION.

It is over a quarter of a century ago since Messrs. Aggett and Sous, of the Church Bell Works, Chagford, Devon, were called in to restore the bells at Marystowe, Devon, and their work on that occasion has stood the test of years. Recently, however, it was felt that the time had arrived when the ring should again be overhauled, and the same firm were entrusted with the work. They have rehung the bells in modern fittings, including the adjustable bearings which Messrs. Aggett invented about 12 years ago, and nearly 3,000 of which are now in use throughout the West of England, and giving the highest satisfaction. After the work at Marystowe had been completed, it was tested by ringers from neighbouring parishes, and everyone concerned was highly pleased with the way the contract had been executed. During the progress of the work a discovery was made in the tower steps of an ancient Pessina in a good state of preservation, and it is to be placed in the porch where, it is considered, it formerly was.

RINGERS INVALIDED.

Second-Corpl. A. R. Macdonald, of Bournemouth, who went out with the R.E. to the Dardanelles, where he contracted enteric fever, is now back in England, and is at present in No. 9 Ward, Booth Hall Military Hospital, Blackley, Manchester. He is now practically well.

Pte Fred Kilborn, of Desborough, Northants, who was gassed in the fighting on September 25th, is now in a convalescent hospital in France, where he is able to perform clerical duties.

Pte Thos. Wall, of Stanton-in-Arrow, Herefordshire, who joined the 10th Gloucesters in October, 1914, has been reported missing since Oct. 6th. He was a chorister as well as a ringer of St. Peter's Church before he entered the army.

A RINGER'S HYMN.

By J. W. WILKINS, HIGH WYCOMBE.

(Suitable tune No. 50 (A. and M.).

Blest bells of England, thee we chime,
For prayer at morn and evening time,
O, let the strains of Love ascend,
Lord guide thy people to the end.

Blest bells of England, thee we ring,
Uplifted to our heavenly King.
Thy sacred tones for all convey,
Fond thoughts of lov'd ones far away.

Blest bells, on every Christmas morn,
Proclaim the tidings Christ is born.
O let each ringer's tribute be,
True changes rung in harmony.

O, Christ, Who rules on land and sea,
Accept our prayers we make to Thee.
For souls whose battle's strife is o'er,
Lord keep them safe for evermore

From every hill, and every vale,
Thrice hallow'd voices still they swell
To Father, Son and Spirit be,
Glad sounds of praise eternally.

Amen.

November 25th, 1915.

EXETER BELLS.

To the Editor.

Sir.—The good news that your last number has to record of Exeter Cathedral, suggests a few words of comment.

The formation of a change ringing band is admirable, but the list of "paid ringing occasions" looks very meagre as it stands. Is one to infer that only on these six days in the whole year the Cathedral bells will be rung, except for practice? One would have expected to see all Sundays included. And why is Ascension Day denied a place among these "occasions"? This is a most serious omission. More light on this question of the use of the bells under the new regime is much to be desired.

Then with regard to the chiming apparatus. In how many towers has this barbarous parody of the real thing ever been fixed without causing some sort of trouble? One would devoutly wish to believe that the destruction of a magnificent bell by contact with a chiming hammer would serve as a warning to all church authorities against admitting these infernal machines into their bellries. To the worthy Dean of Exeter at any rate the use of the miserable invention should henceforth be anathema. It is incomparably more satisfactory to produce a solemn and dignified effect by raising and lowering the two tenors fifteen minutes before services, as is done at Magdalen, Oxford, than to tinkle on eight bells with a row of futile little hammers.

Kington Magna, Dorset.

F. L. EDWARDS.

11th December, 1915.

DEATH OF MR. ERNEST PYE.

TRAGIC END OF A GREAT RINGER.

The Exercise will mourn to-day the death of one of the greatest exponents of our Art. Mr. Ernest Pye, of Chadwell Heath, and a member of the famous family of ringing brothers, died on Wednesday in last week under tragic circumstances. For about a month past he had been unwell, and for three weeks had been unable to work. He suffered from insomnia, which brought on a mental breakdown, but it was hoped that rest would effect cure. He was by no means an invalid, however, and on Sunday week rang, as he usually did, for service at Romford Church, taking part in courses of Bristol and London Surprise. He rose very early on the Wednesday morning, and left the house, where he lived with his mother and brother. Mr. G. R. Pye, hearing his departure, hastily dressed, and went out after him, but in the darkness of the early morning had no way of telling in which direction his brother had gone. A long search failed to find him, but later in the day Mr. G. R. Pye had the mournful task of identifying his brother's body at Ilford mortuary. The deceased, it appears, had gone straight to the railway line, about a mile and a half away, and had been killed by the 5 a.m. express from Liverpool Street to Colchester. The



THE LATE MR. ERNEST PYE.

especially sad circumstances of Mr. Pye's death will add to the depth of sorrow which will be felt by ringers at his demise, and the sympathy of the Exercise at large will go out to his aged mother and the other members of the family who are left to mourn their loss. Mr. Pye was one of those unassuming men whom ringers delight to honour. Not only for his merit as a ringer was he widely respected, but his cheery, optimistic nature and his ever-ready help and encouragement in assisting others made him a general favourite among all with whom he came in contact. His friends covered a very wide circle, but it is safe to say that he has not left a single enemy.

THE FUNERAL.

The funeral took place at Aldborough Hatch, on Sunday afternoon, and, although the sad event was not widely known, a number of ringers gathered to pay a last tribute of respect. The little church of Aldborough stands in rural Essex, but those rapidly developing areas of population like Ilford and Romford are fast pushing out their fringes and engulfing the countryside. But for the present the neat little churchyard stands amid the fields, and it was here that on a bleak December Sabbath all that was mortal of Ernest Pye was laid to rest, in the grave where his father, the late Mr. Daniel Pye, was buried about three years ago. Aldborough Hatch boasts no peal of bells, so

no muffled ringing was possible, and only the solemn tolling of the knell marked the coming of the cortege. The service, conducted by the Vicar, was a perfectly simple one, in keeping with the simple life whose close it marked, but those who watched the last sad rites felt keenly the sorrow of a tragedy which has cut short, in the prime of manhood, the career of one whose memory will always be cherished by all who knew him. The family mourners were: Messrs. J. Pye, W. Pye, G. R. Pye and Albert Pye (brothers), Mrs. J. Pye, Mrs. Alfred Pye and Mrs. Albert Pye (sisters-in-law), Mr. Leonard Pye (nephew), Miss Amy Pye (niece), and Mr. and Mrs. Jay. Owing to his having been transferred, actually on the day of his brother's death, to Whitechurch, Salop, Sergt.-Major Alfred Pye was unable to attend. Among those present were Mr. C. T. Coles (hon. secretary) and Mr. J. Armstrong (Master of the North and East district) representing the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild, Mr. H. Flanders, Mr. A. Porter, Mr. I. G. Shade, Mr. J. Hunt, Mr. E. J. Butler, Mr. Wesley Watson, Mr. W. H. L. Buckingham, Mr. H. F. Scarlett, Mr. W. Theobald, Mr. W. Miller, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, and others, including representatives of the deceased's fellow workmen from the Permanent Way Department of the G.E.R. At the conclusion of the committal service, a course of Grandsire Caters was rung on handbells over the open grave as a parting tribute by: J. S. Goldsmith 1-2, J. Armstrong 3-4, J. Hunt 5-6, W. Watson 7-8, C. T. Coles 9-10.

A number of floral tributes were sent, among them being wreaths, etc., from Mr. W. Pye, Mr. G. R. Pye, Sergt.-Major and Mrs. Alfred Pye and family, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Pye, Mr. and Mrs. Jay and family, Mr. and Mrs. A. Porter, the St. Edward's Guild of Ringers, Romford; and the St. Mary's Society, Walthamstow, while, modelled in the shape of a bell, was an emblem in white chrysanthemums from "his friends of the Middlesex Association."

A GENIUS AMONG RINGERS.

The death of Ernest Pye removes one of the finest ringers that ever pulled a rope. He was marvellously gifted in the practical side of ringing, and there are few who could pretend to his ability, whether in the actual handling of a bell or in that finer art of conducting by which a man is able to keep the bells in order when there is a tendency for them to get out. One had only to be associated with him in a peal to realise at once that he was a genius. No matter what the bell, he rang it with graceful action and apparent ease; no matter what the method, he rang it with the accuracy and assurance of a past master in the art. His inches and sinews—he was both tall and strong—gave him an advantage which many ringers do not possess, yet go the peal never so badly he seemed to ring without effort. He had acquired that perfect judgment of when and how to pull that enabled him to finish almost as fresh after a big job as if it were quite an ordinary task. His skill in assisting others when ringing complex methods was a positive gift, and the writer has taken part in intricate Surprise peals with him when he has seemed to know what all the bells were doing all the time. And yet this wonderful man did very little actual peal calling. He was always content to let others do that, but his knowledge was supreme. The few peals that he did call were usually called in the expediency of the moment. But this self-effacement in conducting was only typical of his retiring nature. No ringer was ever more unassuming and yet no ringer ever did more of which he might boast. His record, consider it how you will, was a wonderful one, and comparable only to that of his wonderful brother William.

The fifth of six brothers, all of whom have been change ringers, Ernest Pye was born at Chadwell Heath, Essex, on Sept. 20th, 1876, and learnt to ring when twelve years of age on a peal of five at Little Heath. It was not until some three years later that he commenced to ring on eight bells, his first touch of Grandsire Triples on an inside bell being rung on his fifteenth birthday at Romford. His first peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Barking on February 27th, 1892, but as his employment prevented him from getting frequent opportunities of peal ringing until 1898, it has been since this latter date that he has accomplished his wonderful record. In 1898, too, he joined the Romford company, at a time when they were struggling with Grandsire Doubles, and he remained a member till the time of his death, rarely missing the ringing for Sunday services, although it involved a journey of some two or three miles, and witnessing the rise of the band until peals in all the popular Surprise methods had been rung. At one time there were no fewer than eleven members of the company who had rung peals of Bristol Surprise.

MANY RECORDS.

Ernest Pye was well known in ringing circles in four countries, for he had toured Ireland, Scotland and Wales, as well as the majority of the counties of England in pursuit of his hobby. Indeed, he could claim to have rung peals in more counties than any other man, while the number of towers in which he has been successful is also almost a record. He had rung peals in no fewer than 46 counties and 302 towers, and from the list of his peals, which we give below, it will be seen that the total is not only prodigious, but that the quality of the performances is extraordinary. Out of the 1,007 he has rung, no less than 102 were twelve bell peals, he being the second ringer to reach a century on this number. In the powers of concentration necessary for method ringing his was a master mind, a fact particularly revealed in his handbell ringing. His 155 peals "in hand" include those wonderful performances round about the years 1902 to 1905, when Surprise

peals—Superlative, New Cambridge and London—were rung, and later three peals of Bristol. These peals of New Cambridge, London and Bristol are the only ones ever rung double-handed, and they will always stand pre-eminent in the annals of ringing. His peals of Stedman on handbells numbered 114, of which 34 were Cinques, and of these the only short course peal ever rung "in hand" must be mentioned, for it was one of the greatest, if not the greatest, performances in Stedman ringing ever accomplished. He took part in the only Surprise peal ever rung by four brothers (Messrs. George R., William, Ernest and Alfred Pye), and the only peal rung on the sea, a peal of Stedman Caters on s.s. "Cambria," while crossing from Dublin to Holyhead.

On tower bells Mr. Ernest Pye's record included many memorable achievements. Ill-health kept him out of the world's record performance at Loughborough; otherwise, it goes without saying, he would have shared the honour of that 18,027. But he took part in three other records, viz., the 11,111 Stedman Cinques at Birmingham, the 14,112 London Surprise at King's Norton and the 15,264 Bristol Surprise—the longest length ever rung in a Surprise method—at Hornchurch. His other long lengths included 15,072 Double Norwich, and 10,464 Kent Treble Bob. Among other noteworthy peals were the first of Cambridge, New Cambridge, Superlative, Bristol and London rung out of England, the first peal of Treble Ten in Ireland and the first peals of Stedman Caters and Double Norwich in Scotland. Ernest Pye was at home on any bell, whether light or heavy, but at the heavy end he had few equals—certainly no superiors. It is not too much to say that a finer ringer of the 9th in Stedman Caters, and the 11th in Stedman Cinques never lived. He took a special delight in these performances, and in the band with which he was associated, and in the Association of his adoption he will be greatly missed. When there was big work to be done, it was only necessary to have William and Ernest Pye at the heavy end, and the job was sure to be done well. Ernest once rang the 9th to a peal of Stedman Caters at both Edinburgh and Newcastle Cathedral in one day, and it was he who rang the 9th at Exeter Cathedral when his brother William rang the tenor single-handed, on the only occasion that Grandisire has been rung to a peal by one man. On this occasion Ernest had been so ill that he had had to go to bed on the previous day, and had taken hardly any food, and it was only his wonderful judgment that carried him through his great task. The most recent of his tower bell feats was when he took part in the four Surprise peals rung in one day by the same band.

HIS SERVICES TO THE MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

He has rendered great services to the Middlesex Association, which he joined on December 10th, 1898, and out of the large number of peals which he has rung, over 550 have been for this society, while for the Essex Association only one other ringer has rung more than he, Mr. Pye's total being 141. These included some of the handbell Surprise peals.

Of his sterling worth as a ringer much more might be said, but it is unnecessary. The Exercise has suffered a great and lamentable loss by the death of Ernest Pye, a man who, in the ordinary course of events might have been expected to have many years of vigorous life before him in which to add to laurels he had already gained.

Appended is the full list of his peals:—

	Tower Rung.	Bells Cond.	Handbells. Rung	Cond.
On Six Bells	1			
Grandisire Triples	8		5	1
Grandisire Caters	3			
Grandisire Cinques	1			
Stedman Triples	124	5	36*	3
Stedman Caters	117		44	1
Stedman Cinques	56a		34	1
Bob Major	5			
Double Norwich Major	62b		5	
Double Oxford Major	1			
Duffield Major	1			
Kent Treble Bob Major	13c	1	7	
Oxford Treble Bob Major	2			
Kent Treble Bob Royal	28		5	
Oxford Treble Bob Royal	2			
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	8		1	
Superlative Surprise Major	150	5	7*	1
New Cumberland Surprise Major	1			
Cambridge Surprise Major	32	1		
New Cambridge Surprise Major	21		3	
London Surprise Major	114d	2	5	
Bristol Surprise Major	83e	1	3	
New Cambridge Surprise Royal	3			
Cambridge Surprise Royal	14			
Cambridge Surprise Maximus	2			
Totals	852	15	155	7

a Including 11,111 (record)

b Including 15,072

c Including 10,464

d Including 14,112 (record)

e Including 15,264 (record)

* Including one non-conducted.

One who knew him well writes of him as follows:—"Ernest Pye was one of those men who was not spoiled by his success as a ringer. He

was just the same quiet, unobtrusive man—a perfect model—physically, intellectually, and otherwise, of what a ringer should be. No one who ever saw him tackle a heavy bell and ring it through a peal could ever forget the experience, and was bound instinctively to carry away a pleasant picture of the natural ease with which he went to work. There was no labouring with even the most awkward of heavy bells, and his magnificent striking seemed to be inseparable from his expert and graceful handling. We shall all miss him—for he was a tower of strength to the Association of his choice, and was the admiration of a great number of ringers in all parts of the United Kingdom."

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.

A NEW BAND ELECTED.

A quarterly meeting of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held at Keynsham on Saturday last, when about 40 members were present, representing 17 towers. The fine peal of eight bells, with tenor 27 cwt., was raised in peal just before 3 p.m., and touches of Grandisire Stedman and Bob Major were rung before the service, which was held at 3.30 p.m.—The Vicar of Keynsham (the Rev. D. P. Hatchard), assisted by the Rev. C. C. Parker (Master of the Association) officiated, and gave a very instructive address from the words: "To every man his work." The organist and choir were also present to assist in the service. After the service tea was partaken of in the old School Room, which is close to the church, and after justice had been done to the good things provided, the business meeting was held, the Master presiding.

Several new members were elected, among them being the Keynsham band.—The Master said that seeing an entirely new band had been elected, who probably did not know much about the Association, he would explain its chief objects, which were: "To recognise the true position of ringers as church workers; to encourage ringing for divine service; to promote order and good fellowship among ringers, and to cultivate the art of change ringing."

The next meeting was fixed to take place at Bridgwater, about the second Saturday after Easter.

The Master then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. D. P. Hatchard for arranging the service, and for the use of the bells; to the organist and choir for their services; and to the ringers of Keynsham for having the bells in readiness.—In the absence of the Vicar, the Assistant Priest responded.—The Churchwarden also said how pleased the church authorities were to welcome the Association to Keynsham.

This concluded the business, and another move was made to the tower where Double Norwich, Stedman and Grandisire were again rung.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The annual district meeting of the North Western Division of the Essex Association was held at Saffron Walden on Saturday week. The bells were only available from 2 till 6, owing to the aircraft regulations, but during that time touches of Grandisire Caters, Double Norwich Major, Stedman and Grandisire Triples were rung. The ringers attended the evening service at 6 o'clock, part of the Association's service being used.

Tea, followed by the business meeting, was held at the Abbey Temperance Hotel, but only 17 members were present, the towers represented being Saffron Walden, Stansted and Wenden.—The Vicar (the Rev. J. J. Antrobus) presided, supported by the Master (Mr. F. Pilstow) and the secretary (Mr. W. Watts).—The retiring Master and secretary were unanimously re-elected.—Master Leonard Pilstow was elected a full ringing member of the Association.—It was decided that the next meeting be held at Stansted, in January.—The Master proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and for presiding over the meeting, and the Vicar, in replying, stated that it was the wish of the town council that the bells should not be rung after dark. He would, however, be pleased to let them have the use of the bells on any afternoon.

Q.-M.-S. CAVE IN ENGLAND.

The following ringing took place during the brief leave at home of Q.-M.-S. W. A. Cave, R.E.: At Publoe, on Saturday, December 4th, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor by the following members of St. Stephen's Guild, Bristol: R. J. Wilkins 1, W. Knight 2, C. H. Tomkins 3, S. Condie 4, J. Burford 5, W. A. Cave (conductor) 6. A touch of Stedman Triples, on handbells: R. J. Wilkin 1—2, J. Burford 3—4, C. Condie 5—6, W. A. Cave (conductor) 7—8. Touches of Bob Minor, Treble Bob Minor, Stedman and Grandisire Doubles were also rung, in which C. H. Gordon and F. Day, of Keynsham, took part. Recently a touch of 672 Stedman Caters was rung on handbells: H. Brownjohn 1—2, J. Burford 3—4, R. J. Wilkin 5—6, S. Condie 7—8, H. Tucker (conductor) 9—10. Also a touch of Stedman Cinques: H. Brownjohn 1—2, H. Tucker 3—4, R. J. Wilkin 5—6, S. Condie 7—8, J. Burford 9—10, W. A. Cave (conductor) 11—12. On December 5th, Q.-M.-S. Cave's last Sunday at home, two courses of Cambridge Royal were rung at St. Stephen's for evening service: W. Thomas 1, H. Tucker 2, C. H. Tomkins 3, R. J. Wilkin 4, S. Condie 5, C. H. Gordon 6, W. Knight 7, H. Pring 8, J. Burford 9, W. A. Cave (conductor) 10. The whole company wishing Mr. Cave every success and a safe return.

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BELLS OF ENGLISH CHURCHES.

MERTON COLLEGE, OXFORD.

By J. R. JERRAM.

Merton College was founded by Walter de Merton, then Bishop of Rochester, towards the end of the thirteenth century, and was named after his native village of Merton in Surrey. The choir of the chapel was built some years later, but it was not until 1422 that the transepts and tower were finished. Originally five bells were hung in the tower; the tenor bearing the name of Henry Abendon, then warden of the college.

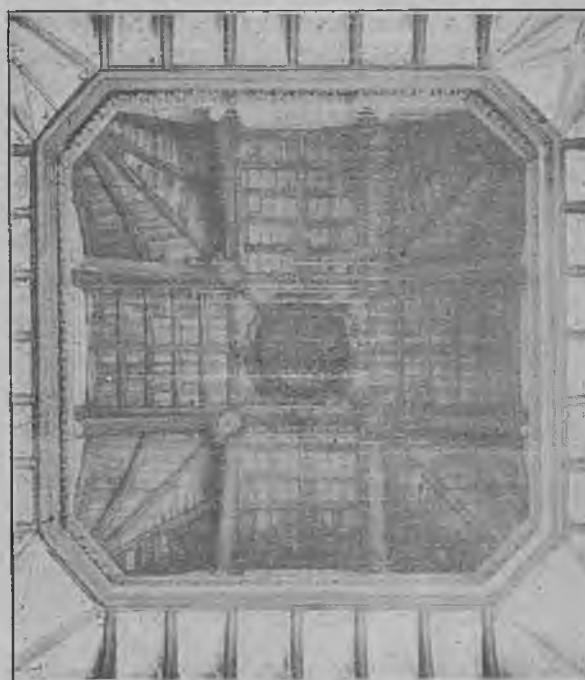


MERTON COLLEGE, OXFORD.

The next stage in the history of the bells we find set forth in detail by Anthony à Wood (author of "Athenæ Oxonienses") in his diary, as follows:—"1656. Jan. 10. A. W., his mother, and his two brothers, Rob. and Christopher Wood, gave 5 li to Merton Coll: towards the casting of their five bells into eight. These five were antient bells, and had been put up into the tower at the first building thereof, in the time of Dr. Hen. Abendon, warden of Merton coll: who began to be warden in 1421. The tenor or great bell (on which the name of the said Abendon was put) was supposed to be the best bell in England, being, as 'twas said, of fine mettall silver sound. The generality of people were much against altering of that bell, and were for a treble to be put to the five, and so make them six: and old sarjeant Charles Holloway,

who was a very covetous man, would have given money to save it, and to make the five, six bells, that is to put a treble to them. But by the knavery of Thom. Jones, the subwarden (the warden being then absent) and Derby [i.e., Michael Darbie] the bell-founder, they were made eight. Dr. Joh: Wilson, Dr. of musick, had a fee from the college to take order about their turning."

I may here remark that Michael Darbie, who cast the original back eight at New College, appears to have been an itinerant bell-founder, who went about the country establishing temporary foundries in various places, and casting odd bells all over the southern counties. The late Canon Raven remarks, "his wretched bells are to be found in many districts, for one specimen of his casting appears to have been enough for a neighbourhood." But to return to Anthony à Wood's diary; next we find: "1657, May 14—All the eight bells of Merton coll: did begin to ring; and he [A. W.] heard them ring very well



LOOKING UP AT THE RINGING GALLERY.

at his approach to Oxon. in the evening, after he had taken his rambles all that day about the country to collect monuments. The bells did not at all please the curious and critical hearer. However, he plucked at them often with some of his fellow colleagues for recreation sake.

They were afterwards recast, and the belfry, wherein the ringers stood (which was a little below the arches of the tower, for while the five hanged the ringers stood on the ground) being built of bad timber, was plucked downe also, and after the bells were put up againe, this belfry, that now is, above the arches was new made, and a window broke thro' the tower next to Corp: Ch: coll: was made to give light."

This shows that there was a ringing floor at a convenient height when the tower first possessed a peal of eight bells. It is a pity this was ever pulled down; as the present arrangement of ringing from the stone gallery on the sides of the tower, with the large open space in the middle, is both awkward and dangerous.

The next entry relating to the bells in Wood's diary is

as follows:—"1681, Feb. 2.—Mert: coll: 8 bells, newly cast by Christopher Hudson [i.e., Hodson] of London, rang to the content of the society; for his work and his metal he is to have above 300 l.—they were before cast from 5 to 8 by one Michael Derby [i.e. Darbie] anno 1656, who spoiled them."

The inscriptions on the present peal are as follows:—

Treble.

CHRISTOPHER HODSON MADE ME.
MDCLXXX.

Second.

D. HEN: ABYNDON, S.T.D. COLL. HVIVS
CVST. R.R. H.R. C.H. CHRISTOPHER HODSON
INSTAVRATVM A.D. MDCLXXI.

Third.

EX DONO THOMA MILBOVRN A.M. ET COLL.
HVIVS NVPER SOCI. CHRISTOPHER HODSON
MADE ME MDCLXXX Col) ∪ (Mert.

Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh.

CHRISTOPHER HODSON MADE ME.
MDCLXXX. Col) ∪ (Mert.

Tenor.

D. HEN: ABYNDON, S.T.D. COLL. HVIVS
CVST. R.R. H.R. C.H. CHRISTOPHER HODSON
INSTAVRATVM A.D. MDCLXXX. Col) ∪ (Mert.

The arms on the back six bells are those of Merton College:—Or. 3 chevrons, 1st and 3rd dexter azure, sinister gules, and the same reversed, with Col-Mert in very small capitals on either side.

The tenor is 54 inches diameter, weight about 28 cwt. The bells are hung in a frame along each of the four sides of the tower, with a large open space in the middle. The ropes descend into the stone gallery below, as before stated; two on each of the four sides.

It need scarcely be added that change-ringing under such conditions is not an easy matter, the ropes being difficult to sight across the open space in the centre, looking down into the chapel below.

There is, however, a tablet, recording the following performance:—

"Merton College, Oxford. On Saturday, January 16th, 1886, was rung on the bells Thurstan's Peal of 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES, in 3 hours and 30 minutes:

WM. SMITH	Treble	FREDK. A. CASTLE	5
HERBERT J. CASTLE	2	THOS. PAYNE	6
SAML. HOUNSLOW	3	JAMES W. WASHBROOK	7
CHAS. HOUNSLOW	4	JAMES FRANKLIN	Tenor
		ALFRED BARNEY	

Conducted by J. W. WASHBROOK.

One or two other peals have also been rung there, including, I believe, a peal of London Surprise Major, in which the late Rev. F. E. Robinson took part, and Mr. J. W. Washbrook turned the tenor in single-handed.

We are indebted to Mr. F. E. Dawe for the photographs illustrating this article. That taken from inside needs to be held up flat above the head and looked up at to get the right perspective, for it was taken from the floor of the chapel and shows the underside of the gallery, above referred to, on which the ringers stand to ring.

READING, BERKS.—Oxford Guild.—On November 28th, for event-song, at St. Giles' Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: Miss M. Neighbour (first quarter-peal in the method) 1. H. Neighbour 2. L. Osborne 3. Miss E. Goodship 4. A. Bailey 5. H. Osborne 6. A. W. Osborne (conductor) 7. L. Leach 8.

INTERESTING PERFORMANCES OF THE PAST.

One hundred and eighty years ago last Sunday, viz., on December 12th, 1735, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich. It was recorded in the "Ipswich Journal" as follows:—"Yesterday, in the Evening, was rung by our Town Ringers at St. Mary's Tower, in this town, 5040 changes, being the whole peal of Grandsire Triples on eight Bells, the leader being James Kirridge, aged 61. Which was done in three hours and eleven minutes, to the Satisfaction of all Lovers of the Science."

One of the long peals which regained for Birmingham the record length of Stedman Cinques was rung on December 12th, 1848. This was 7,392, and beat the previous longest peal of 7,126 rung at Norwich nearly five years before. It remained the longest length till 1851, when the College Youths went one better at Cripplegate. The Birmingham peal occupied 4 hours 55 minutes, and was composed and conducted by Henry Johnson. The ringers were: John Hopkins treble, Thos. Powell 2, Josh Spencer 3, William Haywood 4, John James 5, Joseph Mitchell 6, Hy. Johnson 7, William Kitson 8, Robert Yates 9, John Billingsley 10, Thos. Hobday 11, Edward Haywood tenor.

Quite one of the most memorable anniversaries of the week is that of the 8,008 Grandsire Cinques rung by the College Youths at St. Saviour's, Southwark, as long ago as 1735. It was rung on December 15th, and was the longest length on twelve bells up to that time, and still is, we believe, the record length of Grandsire Cinques. Moreover, it was believed to be the first peal on that grand ring of twelve. "Mr. Benjamin Annable call'd bobs," and the band was: William Pickard 1, Samuel Lee 2, John Dearmore 3, James Watson 4, Robert Mobbs 5, Samuel Jeacocke 6, John Ward 7, John Trenell 8, George Elton Hill 9, Benjamin Annable 10, John Cundell 11, Richard Spicer, Matthew Ease and R. Wendleborough 12. The peal occupied 6 hrs. 25 mins., and it will be noticed that three men were required to ring the tenor. John Cundell, however, managed the eleventh by himself.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last the members of the Manchester Branch of the Lancashire Association held their meeting at Ashton-under-Lyne. Owing to very bad weather prevailing there was only a small attendance of ringers, the following towers being represented: Worsley, Pendleton, Didsbury, Deane (Bolton), Reddish, Manchester, Miles Platting and Hyde.

Mr. Joseph Ridyard (vice-president) welcomed to Ashton those ringers who had braved the elements.—It was decided to hold the next meeting at Manchester on January 15th. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector and wardens for the use of the bells, and to the local ringers for having things in readiness. During the day touches of Grandsire, Stedman and Kent Treble Bob were rung.

YORKS ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT'S NEW VICE-PRESIDENT.

The quarterly meeting of the Southern District of the Yorkshire Association was held on Saturday last at Horbury. Although the weather was very unfavourable, about 30 members attended from Doncaster, Wakefield, Rotherham, Ossett, Bolton (Bradford), Earlsheaton, etc. The bells were kept going with touches of Bob Major, Stedman, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich, etc., up to 9 p.m.

A short business meeting was held in the Church School, Mr. G. Hawksworth (of Doncaster) presiding.—A letter apologising for not being able to be present was read from Mr. F. Willey, of Sheffield, in which he expressed his best wishes for a successful gathering.

On the proposition of the chairman, seconded by G. Barston, a heartfelt vote of condolence was extended to the relatives of the late vice-president (Mr. C. H. Hattersley).

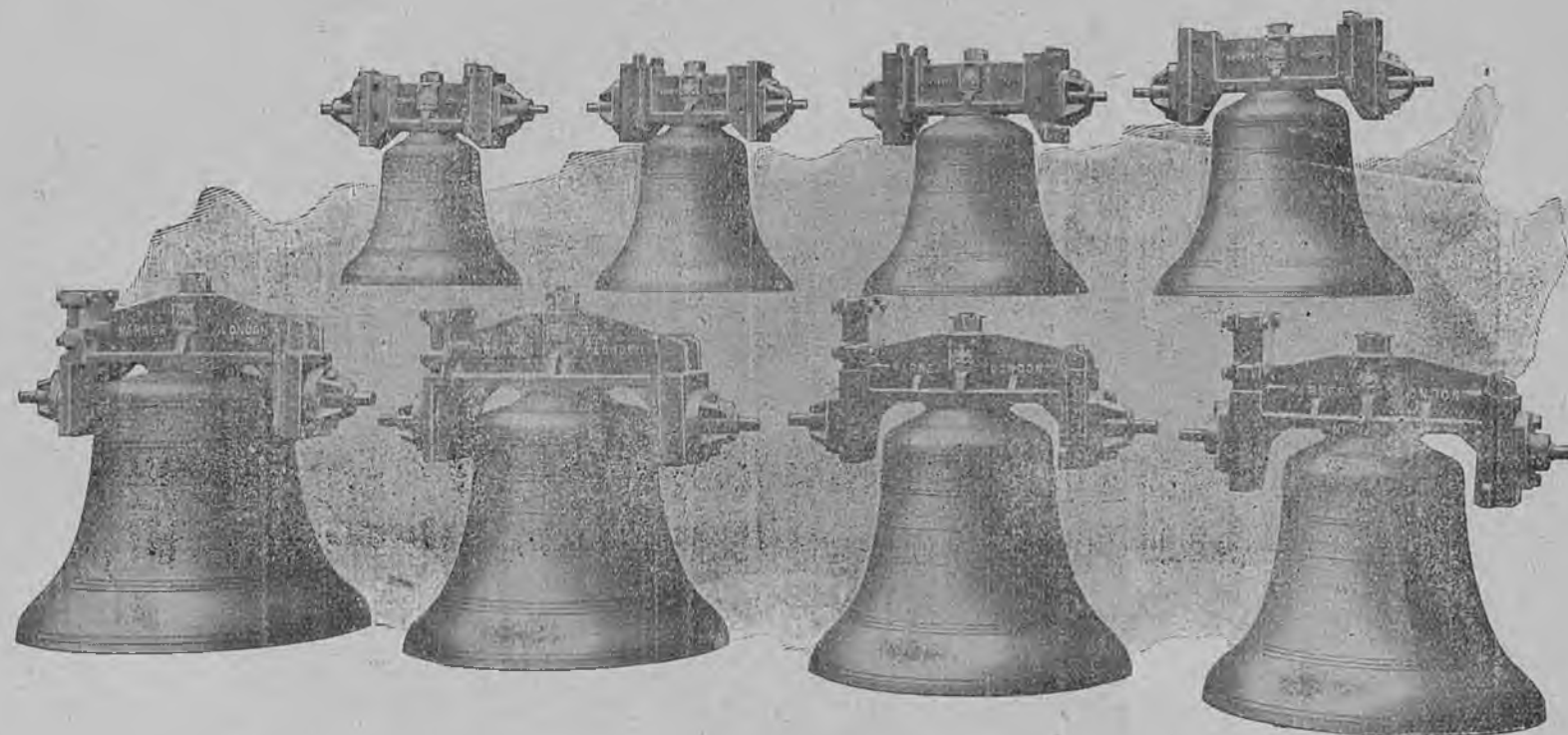
A motion was then proposed by Mr. R. Thickett that a new vice-president be elected at that meeting.—Mr. J. Holmes moved an amendment, that it be left over to the annual district meeting, but this was defeated.—Mr. R. Thickett therefore proposed Mr. T. R. Hensher (of Wakefield), a member of the committee, to succeed the late Mr. C. H. Hattersley as vice-president.—Mr. H. Rowley seconded, and this was carried unanimously.

Mr. Hensher, in replying, said he felt very incapable of following a man like Mr. Hattersley, who had proved such a valuable asset to the Association, both in composing and in the belfry. Nevertheless, he thanked the members for the honour they had bestowed upon him by electing him, and he assured them he would do all he possibly could for the southern district while he held the office.

Two new members were elected, and a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and also to the Horbury company for having everything in readiness.

Mr. L. Brightman proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. G. Hawksworth for kindly presiding over the meeting.—This was seconded by Mr. G. Hunt, and carried very cordially.—The Chairman suitably responded, saying that he only regretted there were not more present to appreciate the very able manner in which the local company had carried out the arrangements for the meeting.

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NOTICES.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of "THE RINGING WORLD," to which all communications should be sent, is 9, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on Thursday, December 30th, for handbell practice, and on Tuesday, 21st, for business; all at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members to vote on financial matters, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Honorary Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Rochdale Parish Church on Saturday, December 18th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Business meeting at 6.30. Annual reports will be ready for this meeting.—T. K. Driver, Secretary, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Garston on Saturday, December 18th. Bells ready at 3.30. Service at 5. Tea at 5.30. Members intending being present please send word to Walter Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The branch meeting, which was to have been held at Padiham on Saturday, December 18th, 1915, will not take place.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity on Saturday, December 18th. Bells available from 6 p.m. Meeting 7.30. Reports now ready.—G. Pincott, Branch Secretary.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Newport, Mon., on Monday, December 27th. Service in St. Woolos Church at 3.30. Meeting and tea to follow. St. Woolos bells (10) and All Saints bells (8) available.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., John W. Jones, 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon., Hon. Secs.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Hertford on December 27th, when the bells of All Saints' (10) and St. Andrew's (8) will be open from 2 till 5. Tea at the Coffee Tavern, Old Cross, after, members 6d., others 9d. All members and friends will be made welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, Honorary District Secretary, Little Munden.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The annual meeting of the Devizes Branch will be held at St. James's Church, Trowbridge, on Saturday, January 8th, 1916, at 3 o'clock. Service in Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock, 9d. each to those who advise me before January 3rd next. Important business meeting to follow; good attendance hoped for.—Henry Brownlee West, Hon. Secretary, Avalon, Devizes.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

TO PARENTS.

Rev. F. Li. Edwards, Kington Magna, Gillingham, Dorset (Salisbury Guild), can for a limited time take gentlemen's sons, age 12 to 15, as pupils on exceptionally favourable terms. *Spanish* may be taught. Also farming.

GREETINGS.

The President of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild-desires to send greeting to his many ringing friends for a happy Christmas and a brighter outlook for the year that is coming. His friends may be glad to hear that he has happily recovered from his late illness; but he is hardly equal yet to the mass of correspondence involved in the individual greetings which he should like to have sent, as in past years.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House.

TWO PEALS OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

A VARIATION OF W. MATTHEW'S SIX-PART COMPOSITION.

By A. J. PITMAN.

234567		725436		572436
S 762453	2	S 467325	—	645372
— 347562	—	— 534267	—	236745
— 253647	—	— 465372	3	S 752436
S 672453	—	— 234765	S	637245 2
— 346572	S	562473	2	— 526437
S 273654	2	— 345762	S	475326
S 642573	—	— 273645	S	364275
— 356742	S	652473	S	253764
— 273456	—	— 346752	S	742653
S 462573	—	— 523674	2	— 367542
S 534782	—	— 465723	—	423756 2
— 275634	—	— 234576	2	— 674523
S 642375	—	— 652734	*	— 236457 2
— 536742	—	— 236547	3	— 742536
S 725436	S	572436	—	367254 2
			PL.	342567 2

Five times repeated, with S for — at * in the 3rd and 6th parts. Contains 270 calls.

A TWELVE-PART BY A. J. PITMAN, PORT TALBOT.

A			
234567		572436	1
S 762453	2	365247	2
347562	1	475262	2
253647	1	654273	1
S 672453	1	736425	2
346572	1	457236	1
725654	2	624357	1
467523	1	376524	1
234756	2	453276	1
672534	1	264753	1
236745	3	* 372564	1

B			
S 732564	A to be called 6 times. Single at 3rd and 6th part end.		
457632	4 B to be called 6 times between 2 singles at * in any one of the parts A.		
574632			
325467			
743625			
257364			
432657			
574263			
† 325674	Single at † in 3rd and 6th parts.		
743562	5-6 at home at each of the 12 part ends.		

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The members of the North Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild held their winter quarterly meeting at Calverton, Bucks, on Saturday week. Owing to the inclement weather the gathering was a small one, but those who attended spent a pleasant time. Service was held in the Parish Church at 3 o'clock, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. R. F. Rumsey), at which the Rev. W. K. Clay (Rector of Maids Morton) preached a most appropriate sermon. Special hymns were sung, and the organist and choir rendered valuable assistance in the singing. An excellent tea was provided in the Schoolroom, and thoroughly enjoyed by all present.

A short business meeting followed, at which, owing to the absence of the Rev. J. R. Vincent (President of the Branch), the Rev. R. F. Rumsey presided.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rev. R. F. Rumsey for the use of the bells, and also for the service. A similar compliment was paid the Rev. W. K. Clay for his address, and both suitably responded.

The church bells were rung during the afternoon and evening in various methods by ringers from Bletchley, Calverton, Emberton, Penny Stratford, Newport Pagnell, Olney and Stony Stratford.

CHURCH BELLS AND AIR RAIDS. AN ENQUIRY IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

The question of church bells being rung during war time has been raised in the House of Commons, and Sir John Simon, answering a question by Commander Bellairs, said: "I understand that in some towns it has been arranged to stop the ringing of church bells and the striking of church clocks, but I am advised by those responsible for the defence of London from air raids that in London they contribute so small a part of the general noise that it is not as a rule necessary to take this step. I have not heard of their causing trouble to wounded soldiers, but that would be a matter for the War Office."

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BENFIELD SIDE.—Durham and Newcastle Association.—At St. Cuthbert's Church, for service, on Oct. 17th: 720 Plain Bob Minor. Oct. 24th: 720 Kent Treble Bob. Oct. 31st: 720 London Surprise. Nov. 7th: 720 Wells Surprise. Nov. 28th: 720 York Surprise. Dec. 12th: 720 Durham Surprise: J. K. Fisher 1, J. W. Forster 2, J. Marshall 3, T. H. Surtees 4, A. Charlton 5, F. Barron (conductor) 6. First 720 in each method by J. K. Fisher.

EWHURST, SURREY.—On November 12th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: Mrs. R. Whittington 1, F. Francis 2, W. Denyer 3, W. Tidy 4, J. Luff 5, R. Whittington (conductor) 6. Arranged and rung as a welcome to Pte W. Denyer, who was home from the trenches in France for a few days.

SHALFORD, SURREY.—On Sunday, Nov. 21st, 720 Bob Minor, at the Parish Church: Pte E. Worsfold 1, E. Lucas 2, T. Streeter 3, G. Elston 4, R. Crowhurst 5, W. Trewin (conductor) 6. Pte E. Worsfold, late of the above band, has been eight years in Canada, and is attached to the Canadian Grenadiers, now stationed at Bramshott Camp.

HAMMERSMITH.—St. Paul's Guild.—On Nov. 28th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 43 mins.: W. Stevens 1, M. Jacobs 2, H. Barrett 3, R. Mackrill 4, H. Cook 5, F. Skevington 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, W. Phillips 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 44 mins.: M. Jacobs 1, H. Stevens 2, H. Barrett 3, H. Cook 4, R. Mackrill 5, C. Hunt 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, J. Willmott 8.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.—On Sunday, November 28th, for evensong, at Holy Trinity Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 49 mins.: B. Chorley 1, W. Jelley 2, B. Clarke 3, A. H. Pulling 4, H. Harris 5, J. T. Lee 6, C. Hazelden (conductor) 7, M. Smither 8. B. Clarke hails from Fleet, and is an old member of the Holy Trinity Society.

NEWPORT PAGNELL, BUCKS.—On November 28th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) from Holt's Original, in 49 mins.: W. H. Inwood 1, F. C. Tompkins 2, W. C. Brown 3, W. F. Smith 4, E. Lathall 5, G. R. Fardon (conductor) 6, W. Webb 7, W. Golding 8.

PORTISHEAD, SOMERSET.—Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—On Wednesday, December 1st, at St. Peter's Church, with the bells half-muffled, after the funeral service of the late Mr. J. E. Braithwaite, who was for several years churchwarden, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): Misses M. Hudleston 1, M. Jukes (first quarter-peal with a bob bell) 2, A. Stokes 3, N. Gillingham 4, Mrs. M. E. N. Briggs 5, Walter Watts 6, William Gillingham 7, Albert L. Gale 8.

ACTON.—At St. Mary's Church, on December 1st, for Queen Alexandra's birthday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: A. E. Smith 1, H. W. Liddbetter 2, J. W. Fruin 3, W. Lawrence 4, V. Holloway 5, Robt. Holloway (conductor) 6, F. Skevington 7, A. Elliott 8.

WALTHAMSTOW.—Middlesex Association.—On Sunday, December 5th, for evensong, at St. Mary's Church, 1260 Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: H. T. Scarlett 1, Fred Rumens 2, C. T. Coles (conductor) 3, J. C. Adams 4, R. Maynard, senr., 5, H. J. Maynard 6, J. H. Wilkins 7, A. Chapman 8. Rung to commemorate the 50th year of Mr. Robt. Maynard's connection with the St. Mary's, Walthamstow, Society, and a ringer at that church.

BROMLEY, KENT.—On Sunday afternoon, December 5th, at St. Luke's Church, for confirmation service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 42 mins.: Thos. Groombridge, senr., 1, Geo. Durling 2, P. Spice 3, A. E. Newick 4, Pte J. Lyddiard 5, Geo. Huxley 6, E. G. Filtness (conductor) 7, I. Emery 8. Also rung as a birthday compliment to Pte J. Lyddiard, A.S.C. In the evening, at the Parish Church, also for confirmation service, 304 Stedman Triples: E. G. Filtness 1, P. Spice 2, A. E. Newick 3, Geo. Huxley 4, I. Emery (conductor) 5, A. Bygrave 6, Geo. Durling 7, C. Austin 8. After service, 504 Stedman Triples: I. Emery 1, P. Spice 2, A. James, senr., 3, A. E. Newick 4, Geo. Huxley 5, E. G. Filtness 6, Geo. Durling (conductor) 7, C. Austin 8.

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