

THE RINGING WORLD

No. 258. Vol. X.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25th, 1916.

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

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. GILLETT 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. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

PUBLICATION OF "TOUCHES."

A letter from a correspondent, who signs himself "Midlander," deals with a question which we think it is well should be ventilated, viz., the growing tendency of ringers to send for publication reports of numerous short touches. The writer of the letter, whose name is well known in ringing circles in the Midlands, voices, we feel sure, the feelings of a large number of members of the Exercise, and he certainly represents our own views. The publication of reports of special performances are of considerable interest, and, in the case of young aspirants, it is also a source of encouragement, but to publicly record a number of small touches of no special significance, with, often, a repetition of the same names, does become somewhat nauseating to the general reader.

This admission may appear to some to condemn us for inserting these insignificant reports, but the editorial position is more difficult than may be generally imagined. For the sake of economising space we should be glad to eliminate many of these small touches and at one time we attempted to do so, only to be promptly accused of dealing unfairly. The question of fixing a minimum length for touches which should be published has also engaged attention, but it was, in the long run, hardly considered practicable, because among short lengths are often touches worthy of record, when they mark another stage in the progress of a band. And when the door is once opened for the admission of these special cases the difficulty of knowing where to draw the line immediately occurs. "Midlander" asks us what the Editor would do if the ringers at every tower sent in all their small doings. To be perfectly frank, we should then have to get a larger waste paper basket.

Hitherto, we have endeavoured, as space has permitted, to oblige all who have sent in their touches for publication. Those of merit we have welcomed; with the others we have shown forbearance. Now that the question has been raised from outside, we are glad to have the opportunity of expressing our view on the subject. We do not want to have to lay down any rule upon the matter. We would much rather leave it to the good sense of the ringers, and we do so now with confidence. Those performances which have about them something which marks a novelty, or progress, or which have a distinct interest about them from the occasion or other circumstances, will find a place in these columns as readily as ever, be they only a six-score of Doubles or a course of Treble Bob. But there ought to be a limit, and for the moment we leave the fixing of that limit to the ringers.

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.

SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM

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SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

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CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

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Best Workmanship and
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ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON
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BEST BELL ROPES.

REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
and report on Bells and Towers.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 15, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

At 49, WOOD STREET, WALTHAMSTOW,

A PEAL OF STEBMAN CATERS, 505 CHANGES;

GEORGE R. PYE... .. 1-2	JAMES HUNT 5-6
WILLIAM PYE 3-4	ALFRED W. GRIMES ... 7-8
*CHARLES T. COLES 9-10	

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF and
Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

* First peal of Caters on handbells.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 19, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,

At THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

WILLIAM T. POWELL ... 1-2	EDGAR WIGHTMAN... .. 5-6
JOHN D. MATTHEWS ... 3-4	FRANK SMITH 7-8
WILLIAM J. NUDDS 9-10	

Composed by EDGAR WIGHTMAN, and
Conducted by JOHN D. MATTHEWS.

Unspire: JAMES HUNT.

This peal was arranged by the Spitalfields Bell Foundry Guild to oblige Mr. J. D. Matthews, Master of the Royal Cumberlands.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BERKHAMSTED, HERTS.

THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

*HUBERT H. EALEY Treble	OWEN BAYES 5
*FREDERICK REEVES 2	PTE. HENRY F. COOPER 6
BEN. JARMAN 3	ALFRED KING 7
HENRY GOLDING 4	FRED. NORRIS Tenor

Conducted by PTE. H. F. COOPER (5th Essex Regt.).

* First peal. The ringer of the 3rd hails from Harpenden, 4th from Hemel Hempstead, 6th from Chelmsford, 7th from Luton. The ringers of 1, 2, 5 and 8 are members of the local band. Arranged for the conductor, who is stationed at Halton Camp, Tring, and rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. F. Reeves, captain of the Tring Band. Messrs. Golding and Cooper were elected members of the Association previous to starting the peal.

ORMESBY, YORKS.

THE CLEVELAND & NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1916, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

GEORGE H. ATKINSON ... Treble	WILLIAM A. BRECKON ... 3
JOHN G. HALL 2	THOMAS METCALFE ... 6
PTE. WILLIAM T. HOLMES 3	WILLIAM J. JACKSON ... 7
GEORGE WINDSOR 4	GEORGE JACKSON Tenor

Composed by the REV. C. D. P. DAVIS, and
Conducted by JOHN G. HALL.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. Hugh Mosman, a native of Edinburgh, but for the last twenty years estate agent to Mr. J. W. Pennymann, of The Hall, Ormesby. He took a great interest in the church and especially the bells and ringers. He joined His Majesty's forces some few months ago, and his death occurred suddenly, under somewhat tragic circumstances, from heart failure on Saturday, Feb. 12th, 1916.

ESTABLISHED 1760.

JOHN NICOLL,

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Manufacturer,

60, QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.

Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway).

Late 188, Keeton's Road, Bermondsey.

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

SIX BELL PEALS.

BARCOMBE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, February 18, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 42 six-scores with 10 different callings.
Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 9 lbs.

JAMES H. COX Treble	ALBERT E. EDWARDS ... 4
LUKE VERRALL 2	JAMES A. HART 5
HENRY JONES 3	HARRY FUNNELL Tenor

Conducted by JAMES A. HART.

Rung with bells deeply muffled, except tenor at backstroke, as a token of respect to, and in loving memory of, the late Pte. W. H. Banks, of the 8th Royal Sussex (Pioneer) Regt., who was killed in France on the 7th February in his 32nd year. He was hon. sec. and an active member of the Barcombe ringers since the opening of the bells in April, 1912, a member of the Parish Church choir from boyhood, and was greatly loved and respected by all who knew him. Messrs. Hart and Jones hail from Uckfield and Ringmer respectively.

ACCRINGTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 19, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being three 720's of Oxford and four of Kent, each called differently.

JOHN WATSON Treble	EDWIN OGDEN 4
TOM REDMAN 2	W. MARSHALL 5
JOE BRACEWELL 3	WILLIAM MALLINSON ... Tenor

Conducted by TOM REDMAN.

Rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. Abraham Scholes, who was for 40 years conductor of the Accrington band. The ringers of the treble hail from Blackburn, 2nd and 5th from Burnley, 4th from Mossley, tenor from Colne. J. Bracewell belongs to the local band.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers serving with the colours:—

- From St. Edmund's, Mansfield Woodhouse:—
Pte H. Rogers, A.O.C.
Pte A. Dennett, K.R.R.
- From Holy Trinity, Ossett:—
Pte Frank Sykes, 4th K.O.Y.L.I.
Signaller Geo. Bennett, 4th K.O.Y.L.I.
Sapper Clifford Ekert, Royal Engineers.
- From Irthlingborough, Northants:—
Pte S. Wade, 3/4th Territorials, now at Tring.
Pte C. Plumley, 3rd Norfolks, now at Felixstowe.
Pte J. Ward, Surrey Regiment, now at Colchester.
- From All Saints, West Bromwich:—
Lance-Corpl. Water Reynolds, 23rd Middlesex, now at Aldershot.
Pte Archie Caddick, 2/5th South Staffs, now at St. Albans.
Trooper Herbert Pagett, 16th Lancers, now at Curragh Camp, Ireland.
- From Goole Parish Church (making eight in all):—
Pte Percy Ingley, Royal Naval Air Service.
Sapper A. Rowson, 40th Signalling Comp., R.E., now at Farnborough, Hants.
Pte T. Smith, K.O.Y.L.I., clerk in Recruiting Depot at Goole.
- From St. Stephen's, Eastwood, Rotherham:
Wilfred Lloyd, King's Royal Rifles.
Albert Charles, 3rd York and Lanes Regiment.

5040 BOB ROYAL.

By EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

23456	W	M	H
42356	—	—	—
34256	—	—	—
26345	—	S	—
32645	—	—	—
63245	—	—	—
46235	—	—	—
23465	—	—	—

Three times repeated, calling single for bob half-way and end.
Rung for the first time on handbells at Spitalfields Bell Foundry on February 19th, 1916. Conducted by J. D. Matthews.

BARCOMBE RINGER KILLED IN FRANCE.

The sad news of the death of Pte William Henry Banks, of the 8th Royal Sussex Pioneer Regiment, who was killed in France on the 7th February, in his 32nd year, reached Barcombe on the 12th inst., and the news caused very great regret throughout the whole village, in which Mr. Banks was very popular. Pte Banks was greatly loved and respected by all who knew him. He was a member of the church choir from boyhood, and at all social gatherings in the village he was in great demand. He was hon. secretary of the Barcombe ringers from the opening of the bells in 1912 until he joined H.M. forces in September, 1914. He was one of the first to learn to ring when the bells of Barcombe were opened, in April, 1912, and he rang his first peal in November of the same year, when Mr. A. E. Edwards piloted five through their first 5040. The deceased was a careful ringer and good striker, and although he never got beyond Grandsire Doubles and a touch of Bob Minor, his heart was with his bells. He had rung nine peals of Grandsire Doubles, all on inside bells, and on all the four inside bells of Barcombe.

On Sunday, the 13th inst., the bells of St. Mary's Church were deeply muffled, except tenor at back stroke, in memory of Pte Banks, and the usual whole pull and stand was rung before Matins, followed by 360 Grandsire Doubles, by: P. J. Brooks 1, L. Verrall 2, J. H. Cox 3, P. Verrall (first 360) 4, A. E. Edwards (conductor) 5, A. Martin 6. A muffled peal will be found recorded in another column.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths once again met at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, with which church they have for so long been connected, for their annual meeting on Saturday week. With the exception of the 1915 "annual," which was held at Shoreditch, it is questionable whether the oldest members can remember the event being held anywhere else than at the historic tower, which, with Nelson's Column, stands sentinel over Trafalgar Square. Shortly before three the bells were set going to Grandsire and Stedman Caters, for the benefit of those ringers who have, as yet, hardly aspired to the heights of twelve-bell ringing, followed by touches of Stedman Cinques and Treble Twelve.

In the parish room some forty members sat down to tea, after which the Vicar (the Rev. H. R. L. Sheppard) visited the company and addressed a few words of hearty welcome, hoping that he would have the pleasure of entertaining the society to tea for their annual meeting for many years to come.

The accounts, which showed a decreased balance in hand—in common with many other societies, ringing and otherwise, at the present juncture—came in for some discussion, the result of which was that, failing some improvement during the coming year, the matter is to receive serious consideration at the next annual meeting.

The officers were elected as follows: Master, Mr. J. D. Matthews; secretary, Mr. H. J. Bradley; treasurer, Mr. H. Dains; senior steward, Mr. A. N. Hardy; junior steward, Mr. E. Wightman.

The Master made reference to the illness of Mr. Dains, whose absence through indisposition was felt by all, and hopes were expressed for his speedy recovery.

When the payment of accounts came on the board, members were found to be in a generous mood, which took some of the "sting" out of the previously discussed balance sheet. Mr. Robert Warner volunteered to pay the Central Council fees, Mr. W. G. Matthews took upon himself the responsibility of paying the peal booking fees for 1915, and, on a roll of honour being decided on for those members who have donned khaki at their country's call, Mr. J. Hunt undertook to frame the same.

The Rev. H. R. L. Sheppard was made a honorary life member of the society, and Mr. William Richies an ordinary member.

Mr. J. Hunt and the Master made suitable reference to the marriage of two of their members, which had already been described in these columns as a "hironautical" affair, the former expressing the hope that when one called a "bob" the other would not forget to make it.—Mrs. Hairs thanked the company for their good wishes. Unfortunately, the bridegroom was unable to be present.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for his kindness in providing the tea, to the waiters, and to the officers for past services, brought the meeting to a close.

During the evening the handbells were brought into use, Bob Royal (with three lady members taking part), Kent Treble Bob Royal, Stedman Caters and Stedman Cinques being rung.

The secretary will be pleased to receive the names and particulars of any country or overseas members for the roll of honour; address: H. J. Bradley, 25, Winchester Avenue, Brondesbury Park, London, N.W.

GOOLE GUILD.

The Goole Parish Church Guild held their annual meeting in the vestry on Saturday last, with the Vicar and churchwardens present, when the usual business was transacted, and officers for the ensuing year were elected, as follows: Conductor and secretary, Mr. Mark Tate; treasurer, Mr. C. W. King; steeple keeper, Mr. J. Drake.—The Vicar alluded to the members of the Guild doing so nobly in the tower under the present trying circumstances, no fewer than eight of the former ringers having joined H.M. forces since the commencement of the war.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

By "BOB MAJOR."

There has been quite an amicable ending to the protests which were raised in connection with my comments on the long peal at Elland in 1831, and, if the relations were considered strained, we have quite "made it up," which, being a man of peace, is much to my liking. Since my last notes, giving my authority for the statement I made, the following letter has come to hand: "Dear Bob Major,—Although I sincerely accept your apology for the few remarks made re the long peal at Elland in 1831, the report still remains a surprise to many old 'Yellanders.'" However, we will let the matter rest, for, as mentioned by you, we can hardly dispute such an authority as Jasper Snowdon, whose name all ringers still respect, and whose researches into matters connected with change ringing are only too well known. With the present Elland ringers kind regards, yours, G. H. Simon." Thus my reputation is saved, and we have shaken hands, although I'm sorry that the effect of the shock should remain. But there, we all of us get shocks at times.

HOLT TO TAKE A BACK SEAT.

I received one last Friday, when I read my "Ringing World." We ringers get all sorts of pretty notions into our heads, grafted there in a kind of hereditary way. For generations we cherish our ideals, behind which we fortify ourselves, and then suddenly someone comes along and explodes a mine which wrecks our entrenchments, as it were, or, at any rate, gives our earthworks a nasty shaking. Here have we and our fathers, for a hundred and fifty years, been metaphorically decorating old John Holt with laurels—his memory is almost hidden behind the profusion of foliage, which in this long time has been placed about him—and now a gentleman comes along and tells us that Holt has been appraised beyond his worth; that he has never produced anything that will last for all time, though the "Original" may survive a little longer as the blarney stone of the Exercise. This really made me gasp, and I have been wondering what is the matter with the Original. It has lasted for 170 years and it isn't worn threadbare yet, and I fancy it will outlast many a newer thing either in composition or method building. If, for example, Walthamstow Stedman is rung as much in the year 2086 as Holt's Original is to-day it will be surprising, though you and I, my readers, will not be here to see it. But this I'll warrant, that if Grandsire Triples is rung in the latter half of the next century, Holt's Original will still be a composition which conductors will call. Experts may quibble about the niceties of this or that single, but I don't believe anything they may say will break the common or garden ringer's faith in old Johnny Holt. Like Johnny Walker, he is still going strong.

OVERRATED.

Poor old John Holt, although no dolt,
Was a man much overrated.
Before we praised him to skies,
We are told, we should have waited.

We all confess'd John Holt possess'd
A master's skill we could admire,
But now the truth, we find, is that
He knew but little of Grandsire.

His work of old, out in the cold
Is soon like to be the fate on
Which we'll ponder in days to come,
When it's finished with by Clayton.

ANOTHER STAGGERER!

Then here's another staggerer to our preconceived ideas. Thurstans' four-part should no longer stand pre-eminent in the realm of Stedman compositions. It would have been enough to make the dear "old reverend's" hair curl had he still been with us. Seven hundred and odd times did the late Master of the Oxford Guild call that peal because he believed it was the best—and perhaps the easiest—and now we are told it's neither the one nor the other. Another Birmingham man, Lates, is to have the palm, and Thurstan must come down from his pedestal. In life there was always a rivalry between these two "Brum" composers, and now we have statements that may well lead to another argument concerning them. Thurstans and Lates were the first men to obtain peals of Stedman Triples on the twin-bob principle, and there was great excitement in those days in Birmingham to know whose should be rung first. Thurstans' won by a short head. Lates' peal quite slipped into the background, and Thurstans' has held the field ever since. It is difficult to say what makes a peal or a method popular. Take Surprise ringing, for instance. The old methods of London, Cambridge and Superlative held undisputed sway for years. Various others were produced, but few peals were rung in any of them till Bristol came upon the scene. Like the rest, it had a precarious start, but it suddenly took root, and now is one of the methods that most Surprise ringers aspire to. Its musical qualities are, of course, considerable, but so also have been those of some of the others which now lie buried in the files of the ringing journals; Bristol, also, requires "some" ringing, but not more than others that could be named. No, it's curious how the practice of one will flourish and the rest be relegated to the limbo of forgotten things. In view of its popularity, I was surprised to read that Bristol was not among the "surprises" included in the new edition of "Standard Methods." From a ringing point of view, it has claimed more attention than Albion Treble Bob, which, apparently, finds a place in the book.

ANOTHER MUFFLING STORY.

Those stories of the queer ideas as to muffling bells which prevail among some non-ringers, has brought me an amusing one from Yorkshire, where at a certain little village, which I think ought to be nameless, the sexton, who apparently knew more about digging graves than muffling bells, betrayed his ignorance in a very convincing style. A well-known Sheffield ringer was, at the time, instructing some local men, in preparation for the coming of a new peal of bells which were shortly to be installed. One odd bell—round about 2 cwt. or so—was in the tower, and as it was equipped with a wheel and stay, the "Man fra' Sheffield" thought it would be a good plan to utilise it to teach the budding ringers how to handle a rope. The bell was overhauled, and permission to use it was given by the parson, who added: "Of course, you'll have it muffled." The sexton heard of this, and wishing to do all he could to help things along, took the muffling into his own hands. When the instructor arrived to put the rope on, he found the whole bell draped with sacks secured by twine. It was the sexton's idea of how the thing should be done, but by the light of a candle the bell looked like a cow with the measles, and that sexton hasn't yet forgiven the instructor for the way he laughed.

MEMORY'S TRICK.

It is astonishing how one's memory will play them tricks. Many a man has thought he has called a bob in a peal when in reality he has missed it—a good many more than have ever owned up to it. And now my memory has tricked me. Our old friend formerly of Rugby, now of Birmingham, sends along a note calling me to order. I was not correct when I suggested he had done no peal conducting, for he provides chapter and verse for 17 of them, one of Bob Major being a "composed and conducted" affair. Well, I know J. G. will forgive my lapse of memory, for his is the most unruddable of tempers. But no doubt we shall hear more of him now he's in charge of Bishop Ryders.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD OF RINGERS.

GUILDFORD DISTRICT MEETING.

A meeting of the Guildford District of the Winchester Diocesan Guild of Change Ringers was held at Godalming on Saturday. Tea was served at the Co-operative Assembly Rooms, and was attended by about 40 members.—Ald E. Bridger, who presided, apologised for the absence of the Mayor, and was supported by the Vicar (the Rev. G. C. Fanshawe), and Mr. W. Enticknap, churchwarden.—At the business meeting, the Secretary (Mr. J. J. Jones) reported a balance in hand of £15 4s. 6d., which was slightly larger than in the preceding year, owing to a smaller attendance at the meetings, and consequently less expenses.—Mr. F. E. Dawe, of Bramley, proposing a comprehensive vote of thanks to the chairman, the Vicar, and the churchwardens, expressed his pleasure at seeing the determination of the district to keep the meetings going during the war. He thought it was the right thing to do, although the attendances at the meetings were necessarily much smaller owing to the large number of ringers serving with the colours.—In response, the Vicar said he thought there were no more loyal body of men in the kingdom than ringers, and mentioned that four of the Godalming band were serving with the colours, the others being over military age. He hoped the time would soon come when peace would be declared, and they would be able to join in hearty thanksgiving.—Seven new members were elected, and the members then adjourned to the Parish Church for service, a very practical address being given by the Vicar, who expressed his pleasure at meeting the Guild there for the third time, and assured them that a hearty welcome always awaited them at Godalming.

DOUBLE NORWICH COMPOSITION.

Mr. Ernest Morris, of Leicester, writes to say that the peal of Double Norwich, composed by Mr. E. Wightman and published last week, is not, as claimed, the first with the 2nd its full extent alternately in 2-3. Mr. Morris composed and published a 5056 on these lines in October, 1912.

We might, perhaps, point out that, while Mr. Wightman's peal has the 2nd in 2-3 throughout, Mr. Morris's composition, with a considerable number of short courses, has the 2nd four courses in 4th's place at the start.

EASTON NESTON.—On the occasion of the funeral of the Rev. R. C. Collins, for 54 years Vicar of Easton Neston, a vice-president of the Towcester and District Association, the bells at Easton Neston were rung muffled, and on the following Sunday touches of 420 Stedman Triples, conducted by F. Wilford; 336 Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Sharp; and 504 Stedman Triples, conducted by W. Allen, were brought round, the ringers taking part being: J. Slarke (Easton Neston), T. Harris (Towcester), W. Allen, J. Hensman and J. Dean (All Saints', Northampton), F. Hopper and W. Parker (St. Peter's), W. Rogers (St. Giles'), W. Sharp (St. Edmund's), T. Law (Weston Favel), and F. Wilford (general secretary of the Central Northants Association).

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

By GEORGE BAKER.

In his article last week, Mr. Clayton suggests that it is quite time we started compositions in the above method from the fundamental row. This suggestion has my hearty approval, but I am prepared to go a step further still, and would like to suggest that we ring the method from the round block that is perfect in construction, and which has no additional false course-end—with the 6th fixed—beyond the two natural false course-ends.

The false course-ends of the method with the 6th fixed of the round block which we ring at present are:—

- 231456
- 312456
- 145236

In the following round block we have the first two only, and it would be possible to call bobs at every 12th change without altering the bells in 1—2 or 6—7, i.e., fifth's place instead of 3rd's; at a single the bells in 3—4—5 would lie still and there would be no three blows in one place, which is an abomination. Whether peals would be possible on these lines I am not in a position to say, but failing this we have still all the calling positions of the present round block to fall back upon.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

The 4th is the pivot bell. One false row the division end 3614725 when proved by reciprocal proof.

- 1234567
- 1325476
- 3124567
- 1342657
- 1436275
- 4132657
- 4316275
- 3412657
- 3146275
- 1364725
- 3167452
- 3614725
- 6317452

In principles where every bell does the same work, we may just as well use the round block with the least number of false course-ends, and there is a possibility that this may lead to fresh discoveries.

STEDMAN ON SIX BELLS.

Sir,—In the course of his article on Stedman last week, Mr. Clayton said that "Stedman only runs to Minor in the form of Double Stedman." This statement is, I believe, incorrect. The essence of Stedman on odd numbers is that there are alternate forward and backward hunting courses on the front three bells (i.e., the smallest possible number), while the bells in the positions above dodge during each hunting course. By analogy, in Stedman on even numbers, there should be alternate forward and backward hunting courses on the front four bells (also the smallest possible number), while the bells in the positions above should dodge during each hunting course. To put this rule into practice, write down beneath one another a forward and a backward hunting course on the front four bells of six.

- 123456
- 214365
- 241356
- 423165
- 432156
- 341265
- 314256
- 132465
- 123456
- 132465
- 314256
- 341265
- 432156
- 423165
- 241356
- 214365

It will immediately be seen that it is impossible for these to follow one another without some connecting link, and a moment's investigation will show that the only possible link, if the bells in 5—6 are to change and no bell is to lie three consecutive blows in the same place, is 3rd's place across the parting of the divisions. Obviously, there must be the same link between backward and forward hunting courses. This gives the following Principle:—

- | | |
|--------|--------|
| 123456 | 251643 |
| 213546 | 521463 |
| 231564 | 512436 |
| 325146 | 154263 |
| 352164 | 145236 |
| 531246 | 412563 |
| 513264 | 421536 |
| 152346 | 245163 |
| 125364 | 254136 |
| 215634 | 524316 |
| 126543 | 253461 |

- | | |
|--------|--------|
| 162534 | 235416 |
| 615243 | 324561 |
| 651234 | 342516 |
| 562143 | 435261 |
| 526134 | 453216 |
| 251643 | 542361 |

etc.

Is this Stedman? The way to find out is to subject it to an exhaustive series of tests, and, as far as I now, it will answer to any and ever test you like to apply. The following list is fairly conclusive.

STEDMAN DOUBLES.

1. Alternate quick and slow sixes, i.e., alternate forward and backward hunting courses on smallest possible number of bells in front.
2. Double dodging (6 rows) during each hunting course in front.
3. Twice as many sixes to a course as bells.
4. Quick work:—Bell hunts straight down from 4—5, leads whole pull, hunts straight back to 4—5.
5. Slow work takes 2 (3)—1 sixes.

THE ABOVE PRINCIPLE.

- Alternate quick and slow eights, i.e., alternate forward and backward hunting courses on smallest possible number of bells in front.
- Triple dodging (8 rows) during each hunting course in front.
- Twice as many eights to a course as bells.
- Quick Work:—Bell hunts straight down from 5—6, leads whole pull, hunts straight back to 5—6.
- Slow work takes 2 (4)—1 eights, and is precisely the same, between the two additions necessitated by the extra bell in front.

The differences can all be shown to be due to the different nature of the number.

1. The question of whole pulls right or wrong is a mere question of arrangement, and this principle can be arranged so that the quick bell leads right.

- | | |
|--------|--------------------------|
| 123456 | The division end is here |
| 214365 | between handstroke and |
| 241356 | backstroke rows. |
| 423165 | |
| 432156 | |
| 341265 | |
| 314256 | |
| 132465 | |
| 312645 | |
| etc. | |

2. The bells in 1—2 in the slow eight-end are the same as in the preceding quick eight-end, whereas in Stedman Doubles the bells in 1—2 in the quick six-end are the same as in the preceding slow six-end, because on even numbers the hunting course is symmetrical about a vertical line between the two middle bells, and, therefore, the same bell must lead in the first and last changes in a quick eight instead of a slow eight.

By this means the given Principle is proved to be Stedman Minor.*

—Yours truly,
H. W. FRIGHT.
* I do not know whether it is or is not Shipway's Principle. The fact of its having a correct extension does not, of course, affect the question of the legitimacy of Stedman.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

The following is recorded in the old peal book of St. Martin's Guild: February 28th, 1816, a compleat peal of 5040 Oxford Triple Bob Royal was rung at St. Philip's, Birmingham, by the Society of St. Martin's Youths, in three hours and 37 minutes: James Jarvis treble, James Penn 2, Alexr. Sanders 3, Henry Cooper 4, Thomas Worrall 5, Wm. Penn 6, Thos. Chapman 7, Wm. Newman 8, Wm. Hassall 9, Thos. Thurstans tenor. Composed and called by Thomas Thurstans.

It seems a pity that the bells of St. Philip's (which is now, of course, the pro-cathedral) have been allowed to get into such a state of disrepair that a centenary peal is quite out of the question. Indeed we understand the bells are all but unringable. Would it not be a splendid idea if the Cathedral authorities were to have them rehung so that they could be rung to celebrate peace, when it comes? Surely in such an exceedingly prosperous place as Birmingham is to-day, there would be no difficulty in raising the few hundred pounds required!

It is interesting to note that the above peal was rung on the birthday of Henry Johnson, who, at that time, was seven years of age.

OTHER ANNIVERSARIES.

February 28th is also the anniversary of a 9238 Stedman Cinques, rung at Birmingham in 1881, and was the longest peal in the method at that time. It was rung to celebrate the 72nd birthday of Henry Johnson, and was composed by him. The band comprised Amos Cresser 1, Job Jovnes 2, H. Johnson, junr., 3, C. H. Hattersley 4, Samuel Reeves 5, H. Johnson, senr., 6, John Dunn 7, John Buffery 8, John James 9, Francis H. James 10, W. Hallsworth (conductor) 11, T. Reynolds 12.

On March 1st, 1734, the Fainswick Youths rang a peal of 8064 of Grandsire Caters, and on the same day in the following year a 10,080 in the same method.

We should esteem it a favour if ringers having access to old records could supply us with particulars of same.

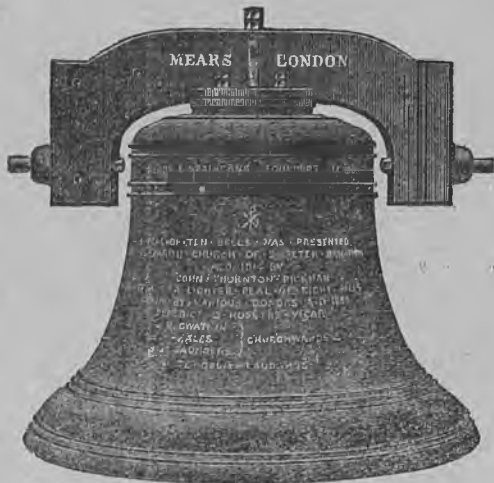
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THE NURSERY OF THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

By J. R. JERRAM.

St. Michael, Paternoster Royal, may be looked upon as the nursery of the College Youths. Here, upon College Hill, Sir Richard Whittington founded a college and almshouses towards the end of the fourteenth century, near the church of St. Martin-in-the-Vintry. Stow, in his "Survey of London" (1603) has the following remarks thereon: "Then is the fair parish church of St. Michael called Paternoster church in the Royall. This church was new built, and made a college of St. Spirit and St. Mary, founded by Richard Whittington, mercer, four times mayor, for a master, four fellows—masters of arts, clerks, conducts, chorists, etc., and an almshouse called God's house, or hospital, for thirteen poor men, one of them to



ST. MICHAEL'S, PATERNOSTER ROYAL.

be tutor, and to have sixteen pence the week; the other twelve, each of them to have fourteen pence the week for ever, with other necessary provisions, a hutch with three locks, a common seal, &c."

I may here call attention to the fact, mentioned above by Stow, that Sir Richard Whittington held the office of Lord Mayor of London four times (viz.: in 1396, 1397, 1406, and 1419), not thrice only, as is commonly reported.

The old church of St. Michael possessed a peal of six bells, of which I have not been able to procure any particulars, and the young gentlemen of the neighbourhood used to amuse themselves by chiming them in rounds. I quote the following from the rule book of the Ancient Society of College Youths:—"On the 5th of November, 1637, Lord Brereton, Sir Cliff Clifton, Marquis of Salis-

bury, Lord Dacre, some of the City Aldermen, and many of the gentlemen in the vicinity of the college, founded the Society of College Youths, for the purpose of practising and promoting the art of ringing. For some time after the formation of the Company rounds and call-changes were rung, but at length the society achieved 120 changes of Bob Doubles on five bells; and it is supposed to be about 1642 when changes were first rung. Little progress was made till about 1677, when Mr. Fabian Stedman, a printer, and a native of Cambridge, and who may be called the father of change-ringing, published his 'Campanologia,' dedicating it to the Society of College Youths, of which he was one of the most honoured members. About this time Stedman's method was first rung at St. Benet's, Cambridge, by the College Youths, who paid a visit to that town."

The rule book also notices several more early performances of the society.

Before much progress had been made the church of St. Michael, with its tower and bells, perished in the Great Fire of 1666. It was rebuilt from Wren's designs, and was finished in 1694; but the lantern and turret, which surmount the tower, were not added until 1713.

One would have thought that a peal of eight at least would have been placed in the new tower, considering the associations of the old tower and bells with the early history of ringing. But instead of this only a single bell was hung therein. This was cast by John Hodson, and was inscribed: PETER WANDEPOT THOMAS WATER IAMES SEDGLEY IOHN ROBINSON CHVRCHWARDENS. I. H. MADE ME 1674.

This bell was only 23 inches in diameter. Being cracked about 25 years ago, it was replaced by the present one, 21½ inches diameter, inscribed: Mears & Stainbank, Whitechapel Foundry, London. Cast 1674—Recast 1892.

With regard to the church, the steeple surmounts the south-west corner, the remainder of the space at the west end being occupied by the vestibule and gallery stairs. The extreme internal dimensions, including the space occupied by the base of the tower and vestibule, are about 80 feet by 46 feet; the north wall being slightly shorter than the south one. The ceiling is carved, and is one of the largest in London unsupported by any column. The reredos is a fine carving attributed to Grinling Gibbons. The font is modern, and was given in memory of Alderman and Sheriff Conder, who died in 1865. On the north wall is a picture by Hilton representing our Lord and Mary Magdalene in the house of Simon the Pharisee, given by the directors of the British Institute in 1820. There are four painted windows in memory of (1) George Darling, physician; (2) Dean Lyall of Canterbury; (3) Mary Cooper and Jane Richards, schoolmistresses; (4) Sir Richard Whittington. The latter was buried in the old church; and at the time of dissolution of the college one Thomas Mountain, who held the rectory at that time, moved by avarice and hope of gain, opened the monument, injuring it considerably, and finding the body enclosed in lead, he stripped this off and sold it. The famous Lord Mayor had again to be buried, not all his good deeds and charitable bequests serving to preserve his body from insult in that sacrilegious age.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.—On Jan. 16th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: A. Speller 1, W. Rice (Great Baddow) 2, E. Runter 3, H. Dawson (Great Baddow) 4, R. W. Everard 5, A. Tarbun, junr., 6, G. Green (Great Baddow), conductor, 7, A. Tarbun, senr., 8.

THE OXFORD GUILD.

EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the East Berks and South Bucks branch of the Oxford Guild was held at Slough on Saturday week, and proved a very successful gathering, there being a large attendance from all parts of the district, as well as ringers from other places outside. Among those present were: Miss Chillingworth, of Bradfield (who has been deputed to visit France to study agricultural pursuits for women), Miss Goodship and Miss Neighbour, of Reading, and the Misses Dancer, of Fulmer, Rev. F. G. Phillips (Taplow), Mr. W. Newell, the father of the Reading ringers; Mr. Penifer, of Chalvey, who is in his 93rd year, and who rang Eton College bell on all important occasions from the Accession of Queen Victoria to the death of King Edward VII.; Lieut. H. Lawford Dale, R.N.A.S., of Chiswick; Sergt. Mallard, R.E. (Eastbourne), and Sapper Apps (Cuckfield), who are stationed at Marlow; Messrs. A. Hughes (of the Whitechapel Foundry), E. F. Cole (Brook Green), F. W. Richardson and E. F. Pike (Brockley), C. H. Hughes (Southwark), W. Hewitt (Camberwell), W. H. Lawrence (Ealing), R. Holloway (Acton), A. E. Reeves (general secretary of the Guild), G. Martin (branch secretary), G. Alder, W. Carter and F. Cox (Burnham), G. T. Leader, R. Flaxman, W. Bedford, P. Jones, T. S. Smith, G. Beeby, E. T. Hooper and W. Wilder (Slough), H. Collins, L. E. Collins, J. C. Truss, W. Reeves, C. Horne, R. Atkins and E. Green (Marlow), J. Gutteridge, W. Welling, G. Cutts and H. Burden (Old Windsor), W. Bateman (Stoke Poges), J. J. Parker, W. Henley, E. Elderfield, J. Eastwell, W. Ward and W. H. Fussell (Farnham Royal), R. Buckland, J. Blackmore, W. C. Mayne, C. Mayne, J. Batting and H. Wingrove (Beaconsfield), John Evans, F. Borch, Jos. Evans, P. Evans and K. H. Evans (Hughenden), H. Bungay (Binfield), J. Barnes (Missenden), G. Gutteridge, E. Harding and J. Daley (Fulmer), E. Elburn and F. Starr (Amersham), A. Martin, C. Smith, W. Garraway and H. Chisman (Maidenhead), J. Rance (Easthampstead), W. Fuller (Wargrave), J. Brant, E. Brant (Winkfield), W. Simmonds, B. Simmonds, G. Simmonds, F. Howse and G. Mitchell (Braywood), W. Webb and C. Giles (Reading), etc.

The ringing during the afternoon included touches of Grandsire Triples, Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob and Bob Major, and the first course of London Surprise on the bells. The special service was conducted by Canon Eliot, R.D. (Rector of Slough), the lesson being read by the Rev. E. A. Steer. The address was given by the Rev. F. G. Phillips, of Taplow, whose discourse was based upon the words: "And He said unto him, 'Follow Me.'"

After the service, tea was served in St. Mary's Institute, and was followed by the business meeting, at which Canon Eliot presided, in the absence, through a cold, of Canon Drummond, who has been president of the branch since its formation.

The Hon. Secretary reported that the balance in hand had fallen from £7 14s. 5d. last year to £5 19s. 10½d. this year, but they had 239 members, against 228. There were 11 hon. members as against 14 twelve months ago.

The report and balance sheet were adopted.

AN ENCOURAGING ASSEMBLY.

Canon Eliot expressed the regret they all felt at the absence of Canon Drummond, who had been for many long years an enthusiast with regard to the Guild. Continuing, he said, it was an immense pleasure to the Slough ringers and himself to welcome the Guild. "We have been," he said, "rather privileged of late years, and instead of the old tower and the cracked old symbols which we used to possess, and of which some of you have knowledge, we now have a peal which, I believe, most people feel it a privilege to have a touch upon (hear, hear, and applause). I think that gatherings of this description do an infinite amount of good, especially when people have a common aim and a common object like those who are here, who are determined to make their bell ringing the very best it is possible to produce. As you are all animated with that very laudable idea, it is very useful to come together from time to time, to meet as friends, and discuss the proceedings which have been going on during the past year. I suppose that this, like the majority of organisations, has suffered considerably during the past year. Many who have taken a share in bell ringing in the towers of this neighbourhood are doing their duty to King and country, and I felt that we could not do otherwise than remember them in church this afternoon (hear, hear). Remembering so many are away, one feels that this assembly is one to encourage us. I think our secretary can be congratulated on the number he has gathered in here, and how very pleased I am to see that ladies are with us. He would be a very poor man who would venture to say that the ladies have not stepped into the breach during the last twelve months in all sorts of ways and vocations. I think they have done remarkably well, and I believe they are not going to fall short in bell ringing. They have a nicety of touch which we men do not always possess, and I am sure that will show itself in the art of bell ringing. Nevertheless, it is a pleasure to us to see them and a pleasure to be associated with them in the noble art of bell ringing."

The Chairman added that he wished the Guild every success in the coming year. If they could not increase their numbers, if they could not increase their quantity, he was sure they were all desirous of increasing in quality. If they only knew to the full the immense amount of pleasure they gave to so many of their neighbours in their respective parishes they would not feel that the time they spent in practising or actual ringing was wasted. At the present time the people missed the bells tremendously. He hoped the day was not very far

distant when they would hear the bells ringing for the one great purpose of proclaiming peace (applause).

Canon Drummond was re-elected president. The re-election of Mr. G. Martin as branch secretary was proposed, but he said he could not undertake the duties again. He only stepped into the breach when Mr. Levy was appointed chaplain to the forces.—Mr. W. H. Fussell was elected to fill the vacancy, and Mr. Martin thanked for his services.—Messrs. G. Alder, R. Buckland, J. Evans, G. T. Leader, J. C. Truss, W. Welling and G. White were re-elected to the Guild Committee, and Mr. G. Martin added in place of Mr. R. H. Biggs (retired).

VOTES OF THANKS.

Mr. Reeves moved a vote of thanks to the Rector of Slough for the service in the church, the Rector of Taplow for his splendid address, and the organist (Mr. Alfred Blanchet) for playing. — Mr. Parker seconded, and the motion was carried unanimously.

The Rector of Slough, in acknowledging the compliment, said he felt that he was rather sailing under false colours because any work which had been called forth in connection with that meeting had fallen upon the shoulders of their excellent friend, Mr. Leader, and to him should be the praise.

The Rector of Taplow, in responding, said he used to do a certain amount of bell ringing, and it interested him very much. He was once in a parish with eight bells, and there came a time when the relations between the Rector and the bell ringers became rather strained, and it ended in the Rector, churchwardens, and sidesmen ringing the bells. They did it for a very long time, and were very proud of themselves. He thanked those present for allowing him to come amongst them. To have the pleasure of speaking to them in church was a very great privilege, and it was additionally nice because they were met together in that very beautiful church which was such a landmark in the district and a credit to the Rector of Slough and the band of workers round about him.

Mr. Reeves said the worthy Master (the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn) was right up at the front, and he desired him to wish them all a Happy New Year (applause). He (Mr. Reeves) was well on with the annual report of the Guild. Last year they had a roll of honour on the front page, but the number had increased so much that the committee proposed to get out a roll of honour in book form when peace is declared, and present it to every member of the Guild. He hoped that the foremen of the various towers would send in the names of all men who had gone from their belfries. He was very pleased to see that the East Berks and South Bucks branch was keeping up very well, and he hoped that towers which had got members in arrears would try and induce them to wipe them off (applause).

The ringers then returned to the tower, and touches of Stedman, Cambridge and Treble Bob were rung. Afterwards those waiting for their homeward trains were entertained at "The Grapes" Inn, where a peal of twelve handbells were fully appreciated by a numerous company.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Ashford District was held at Ashford on Saturday last, and judged both from a ringing and business point of view, was an unqualified success. About 40 members attended, representing the following towers: Brabourne, Brookland, Folkestone, Headcorn, Hythe, Mersham, Rolvenden, New Romney, Stone-in-Oxney, Tenterden, Willesborough, and Woodchurch. The visitors from other districts included Messrs. W. Haigh, Chatham; F. W. Richardson, Deptford; G. Billenness, Hawkhurst; D. Hodgkin, Marden; W. H. Lambert, Benenden; W. H. Pitman, Mus.Bac., Lyminge; Messrs. Andrews and Brett, of Canterbury, and others. During the afternoon touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Bob Major and Kent and Oxford Treble Bob were brought round.

The members attended evensong in the church, and the hymn for absent friends was feelingly sung.

Tea was partaken of at Passmore's Temperance Hotel, the Vicar (the Rev. E. K. Sopwith) presiding.—The business meeting followed, at which eight new members for the Ashford tower were duly elected, these with four other members making a total of twelve members of the Ashford tower now affiliated. Two new members for Headcorn were also elected.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. C. Tribe) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for permission to hold the meeting, for the service, and for presiding at the tea and meeting.—This was seconded by Mr. C. W. Player, and carried with acclamation.—The Vicar, in reply, gave the visitors a hearty welcome to Ashford, and said he was pleased to have such a strong band of his own ringers affiliated with the Association. He hoped that such meetings would be of more frequent occurrence at Ashford in future than they had been in the past.—The organist was duly thanked for playing at the service, and Mr. C. W. Everett, the local captain, for making the necessary arrangements.—The meeting was brought to a close by the singing of the National Anthem.

"STANDARD METHODS"

Our notice of the issue of a revised "Standard Methods" was a little premature, the reason being that we were unaware that we had been favoured with what was really an advance copy. The complete supply has not yet come from the printers, and Mrs. Snowdon, who has been inundated with orders—so eager were ringers to secure the new publication—asks us to say that while she hopes the delay in forwarding the copies will only be short, it may still be a month before present demands can be met.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I think all ringers will agree with me when I say that the miscellaneous performances recorded each week are, with some exceptions, interesting, and also serve a very good purpose. All will readily see the advantages of recording these performances without me wasting space in stating them, and I am sure that many, like myself, do not like to see this privilege abused.

With apologies to those concerned, may I take the recorded performances at Shrewsbury for an example. In this week's issue we get no less than 16 touches recorded, the longest length being a 504, while in issues of December 10th, Sept. 3rd, and others, similar and even longer lists will be found.

I ask the reader, "Do you wish to know of all these short touches rung at Shrewsbury?" I should also like to ask the Editor what he would do if the ringers at every tower sent in similar records of their doings.

It is a great pleasure to read touches rung for worthy occasions or touches which show the advancement of a band in the art of change ringing, but surely the records such as those mentioned serve no good purpose, and I, one of many no doubt, would like to see the space put to better use. Why not let "Bob Major" use it?—Yours truly,
February 19th. MIDLANDER.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.
CONTEST AT NORTHWRAM.

The quarterly meeting and eight-bell contest of the Halifax and District Association was held at St. Matthew's Church, Northwram, on Saturday last, when the bells and the schools were kindly placed at the disposal of the members by the Vicar (the Rev. G. Watkinson). Six companies entered for the contest, each set having to ring 800 changes of Kent Treble Bob, preceded by three leads for practice. The judges were Mr. Symonds, of Elland, and Mr. Lawson, of Lightcliffe.

During the afternoon a splendid tea was served to about 120 ringers and friends, who did ample justice to the good things provided.

The general meeting was held in the Schoolroom, at the conclusion of the ringing, the President (Mr. Cotterell) being in the chair, supported by the Vicar and the society's officers.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the local company, and the ladies for the way they had catered for the visitors.

The judges' decision was announced as follows: Shipley, 207 faults; Lindley, rung out; Bradford Parish, 392 faults; Earlsheaton, 114 faults; Birstal, 106 faults; Halifax, 192 faults. Birstal were, therefore, declared the winners of the cup.

A cordial vote of thanks was given to the Vicar for his presence and the use of his bells, and the Rev. G. Watkinson, in reply, said it gave him great pleasure to have the ringers at his church and hear the bells rung as they had been that day. He hoped it would not be long before they were ringing them for a great and honourable peace. In conclusion he presented the cup to the conductor of the Birstal team.

Mr. Stainthorpe replied for the winners, and proposed a vote of thanks to the judges, which was carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the President brought a very successful meeting to a close.

CENTRAL NORTANTS ASSOCIATION.

The February meeting of the Wellingborough District was held at Finedon on Saturday week, and proved very successful, the weather conditions being ideal. The ringers made an early appearance, about 50 members representing Irthlingborough, Wellingborough, Northampton, Higham Ferrers, Isham, Earl's Barton, Burton Latimer, Ringstead, Thrapston, and Rothwell, being present. Ringing commenced at three o'clock, and continued until 4.30, when a short service, with intercessory prayers, was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. J. Greaves).

Tea was served at the Star Hall, and was greatly enjoyed, after which the business meeting was held. In the absence of the Vicar, the chair was taken by Mr. F. Wilford (general secretary). Amongst those present were Miss Steele, of Bedford; Mr. J. Slarke, of Towcester, and Mr. W. Perkins, district secretary.—Three new members were elected from Earl's Barton, and it was resolved to hold the next meeting at Doddington.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells.

The methods rung during the day were Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and Double Norwich Major. Unfortunately no ringing could be done after tea, owing to military restrictions, but the ringers adjourned to the Mulso Arms, where handbell ringing and songs passed the remainder of a pleasant evening.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.

The Guild assembled at High Halden, where there is a peal of six bells, for the February meeting. Ringers attended from Ashford, Hawkhurst, Tenterden, Biddenden, Stone-in-Oxney, Fairfield, Benenden and Woodchurch.—The Rector (the Rev. B. W. Gilpin) cordially welcomed the party. Some capital ringing took place, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor being rung.

At the business meeting two new members were elected, and Rolvenen was chosen for the March meeting, which will be convened for the second Saturday in the month.—A hearty vote of thanks to the Rector of High Halden for the use of the bells concluded the proceedings.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BELBROUGHTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Jan. 12th, 720 Bob Minor: G. Hubble 1, H. Martin, junr., 2, W. Short 3, J. Norton 4, G. Poppell 5, H. Martin (conductor) 6.

MIDSOMER NORTON.—At St. John-the-Baptist's Church, for evensong, on January 9th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins., by the local band: P. Speed 1, E. Chivers 2, I. B. Holmyard 3, F. Speed (conductor) 4, F. Chivers 5, A. Speed 6, J. Hambleton 7, W. Keevil 8. For evensong, on January 16th, in 48 mins., a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: W. Keevil 1, S. Freke 2, I. B. Holmyard 3, E. Chivers (first as conductor) 4, A. Speed 5, J. Hambleton 6, F. Speed 7, W. Crocker 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor, and as a farewell touch to S. Freke, who was leaving the town.

OLDHAM.—Lancs Association and Oldham Society.—At the Parish Church, on Jan. 9th, for men's service, at which Dean Weldon, of Manchester, was the preacher, a date touch of 1916 Grandsire Triples (composed by C. Jackson, of Hull), in 1 hr. 14 mins.: F. Wilde 1, E. B. Shaw 2, J. Ogden 3, S. Stott (conductor) 4, S. M. Butterworth 5, C. H. Marsland 6, H. Barlow 7, J. Garlick 8.

TENBY, SOUTH WALES.—On Jan. 13th, 504 Grandsire Triples: T. Johns 1, T. Griffiths 2, J. Evans 3, W. Jenkins 4, L. Jenkins 5, Lieut. E. V. Rodenhurst 6, R. Jenkins 7, A. W. Brighton (conductor) 8.—On Sunday, Jan. 16th, for morning service, 700 Grandsire Triples: T. Johns 1, T. Griffiths 2, A. W. Brighton (conductor) 3, W. Jenkins 4, L. Jenkins 5, Lieut. E. V. Rodenhurst 6, R. Jenkins 7, A. Richards 8. For evening service the same band rang 1302 Grandsire Triples, in 52 mins. Lieut. E. V. Rodenhurst hails from St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, and A. W. Brighton (conductor) from London.

SHIPLEY, YORKS.—On Jan. 13th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: J. Joyce 1, E. Simpson 2, A. Gill 3, W. Joyce 4, E. Murgatroyd 5, B. Howe 6, T. B. Kendall (conductor) 7, J. Broadley 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. G. A. Nettleton, who could not ring in the touch owing to business.

WITNEY. — Oxford Diocesan Guild.—On Sunday, Jan. 16th, for morning service, 350 Grandsire Triples: Pte F. Caple (A.S.C.) 1, A. Brooks 2, Sapper C. R. Walker R.E. (T.) 3, T. Bull 4, G. Brooks 5, Sergt. Rice (A.S.C.) 6, J. Monk (conductor) 7, H. Baston 8. For evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples: Pte F. Caple (A.S.C.) 1, A. Brooks 2, T. Bull 3, J. Monk 4, Sapper C. R. Walker, R.E. (T.) 5, J. Brooks 6, Sergt. Rice 7, G. Brooks 8.—On Monday, Jan. 17th, 504 Grandsire Triples: H. Baston 1, A. Brooks 2, T. Bull 3, Sergt. Rice (A.S.C.) 4, J. Monk 5, Sapper C. R. Walker, R.E. (T.), conductor, 6, J. Brooks 7, G. Brooks 8. Also two plain courses of Stedman Triples.

STOKE-ON-TRENT.—At St. Bartholomew's Church, on January 16th, for evensong, 720 Cambridge Surprise: W. Wibberley 1, G. E. Laurence 2, J. E. Wheeldon 3, W. C. Laurence (conductor) 4, J. F. Ryles 5, W. P. Deane 6.—On January 23rd, for morning service, 720, comprising 240 each of Violet, Woodbine and Oxford Treble Bob: W. Wibberley 1, J. E. Wheeldon 2, S. B. Bailey 3, W. C. Laurence 4, G. E. Laurence 5, J. F. Ryles (conductor) 6.

HEMEL HEMPSTEAD.—At St. Mary's Church, on January 16th, for morning service, 546 Grandsire Triples: R. Walker 1, W. H. Newell 2, F. Walker 3, H. Golding (conductor) 4, J. Floyd 5, W. Shepherd 6, W. Floyd 7, W. Charge 8.

BRADFIELD, BERKS.—On Jan. 16th, 720 Bob Minor: C. Wooldrige 1, J. Abery 2, T. Hillier 3, M. Bowley 4, S. Chapman (conductor) 5, G. Abery 6.

CREWE.—At Christ Church, on Jan. 22nd, on the occasion of the annual branch meeting, 828 Grandsire Caters: W. Sutton 1, H. Overton 2, R. Langford 3, H. Yarwood 4, A. H. Booth 5, Jas. Ashmole 6, A. Crawley 7, C. J. B. Cooke 8, R. T. Holding (conductor) 9, W. Edge 10.

PRESTON ST. MARY'S, SUFFOLK.—On Jan. 22nd, 720 Bob Minor: C. Poulson (first 720 on tower bells) 1, H. Crick 2, A. Hollocks 3, A. Symonds (conductor) 4, W. Head (Little Walsingham) 5, T. Hollocks 6. Rung to celebrate the birthday of H. Poulson, who is with the 1st Suffolks at Salonica, the band wishing him many happy returns of the day, and a safe and speedy return to the homeland.

WITNEY.—Oxford Diocesan Guild.—On January 23rd, for morning service, 350 Grandsire Triples: H. Baston 1, A. Brooks 2, T. Bull 3, J. Monk 4, G. Brooks 5, Sergt. G. C. Rice (conductor) 6, J. Brooks 7, H. Bull 8. For evening service, 350 in the same method, conducted by J. Monk.—On Jan 2nd, 238 Grandsire Triples: Pte F. T. C. Caple 1, A. Brooks (conductor) 2, E. Brown 3, A. Kinchin 4, J. Monk 5, Sergt. G. C. Rice 6, J. Brooks 7, G. Brooks 8. Also 420, conducted by Sergt. G. C. Rice.

UPTON-ON-SEVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE. — On Jan. 23rd, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Major (1280 changes): H. Chance 1, R. G. Knowles 2, E. Barber 3, E. Gibbs 4, F. Bryan 5, C. Camm 6, W. Ranford 7, W. Page (composer and conductor) 8. Also two short touches of Grandsire Triples, C. Young, of Castlemorton, ringing the 6th, and a short touch of Stedman Triples, conducted by R. Knowles.

NOTICES.

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

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. — Established 1755. — The Annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at Ye Old Royal Hotel, Temple Row, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 4th, at 6 o'clock. Chair will be taken by Canon J. W. Willink, Rector of Birmingham. Tickets free to all fully qualified members, to other members and friends 2s. 6d. each. The bells of St. Martin's (12) and Bishop Ryder's (8) will be available from 3.30 p.m. — A. Paddon Smith, Honorary Secretary, 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — Established 1637. — The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members to vote on financial matters, should be paid during the present month. Meeting at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on the 29th February at 8 p.m. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Quarterly Meeting will be held at Kingsthorpe, February 26th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock. — Fred Wilford, General Secretary, 149, Ashburnham Road, Northampton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Rochdale Branch. — The next monthly meeting will be held at Balderstone on Saturday, February 26th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock, meeting at 6.50. — T. K. Driver, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District. — The next meeting of the Eastern District of the above association will be held at York on Saturday, February 26th, 1916. Bells: Minster (12) 1.30 to 4.30 p.m., St. Philip and St. James (6) 1.30 to 6 p.m., St. Mary's (6) 1.30 to 7 p.m.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Rossendale Branch. — The next branch meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Bacup, on Saturday, February 19th. Bells ready at 5 o'clock, meeting at 7 p.m. Reports are now ready. Subscriptions are due. — J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, February 26th. Bells available 4 p.m. to 7.30 p.m., and after 8 p.m. Meeting at 7.30. — C. D. Potter, 119, Doncaster Road, Barnsley.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD. — The annual meeting of the above Guild will be held at Dudley on Saturday, February 26th. The bells will be available for ringing at 3 o'clock up till time for service only. Service in church at 4.30, to be conducted by the President, the Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland (Vicar). Business meeting after tea. All outstanding contributions should be paid at this meeting. — Herbert Sheppard, Honorary Secretary, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION. — The pre-Lent meeting for 1916 will be held at Wylam-on-Tyne on Wednesday, March 1st. The bells of S. Oswin's (6, tenor 22 cwt.) available 1.30 to 5.30. Committee meeting at Bird Inn 5.30. Tea same place 6 p.m. Tickets 9d. to members, 1/6 to non-members. — George T. Potter, 13, Park Parade, Whitley Bay, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Stockport Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Marple on Saturday, March 4th. — A. T. Beeston, Honorary Branch Secretary, New Mills.

WINCHESTER GUILD. — Yorktown District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Hershaw on Saturday, March 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea and business meeting in the Church House at 5.30. — G. Miles, Hon. Secretary, Owlsmoor, Camberley.

BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH, BIRMINGHAM. — The bells at this church are rung on Sundays for service at the following times: 10.15 a.m. to 11 a.m., from 5.45 to 6.30 p.m. All ringers will be welcomed. — James George, Ringing Master, 125, Victoria Road, Aston.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Canterbury District). — A meeting will be held at Lyminge on Saturday, March 4th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Service at 5. Tea at Rectory (by kind invitation of Rev. A. F. Ruddy) for those who let me know by March 2nd. Business after tea. Subscriptions are now due and should be paid to me either before or at the meeting. — Fred J. O. Helmore, Hon. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Western Division. — A quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Shipley on March 4th. Bells available from 2 p.m., tea at 5.30. Will those intending to be present please notify me not later than Wednesday, March 1st. Subscriptions for 1916 are now due. — A. W. Groves, Honorary Secretary, 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY. — The general meeting of the above society will be held at Pudsey on Saturday, March 4th, 1916. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Business meeting at 7.30 p.m., in the White Cross Hotel, at which the election of officers will take place. — Wm. Barton, Secretary, 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Southern District. — The annual meeting of the Southern District will be held at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (12) available 3 to 7 p.m. Business meeting 7.15 p.m. in Wolstenholme Hall. — Leonard Brightman, District Secretary pro. tem., 45, St. Stephen's Road, Rotherham.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting of the Western District will be held at Liversedge on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., 1s. per head to all giving notice to Mr. W. Knott, Listing Lane, Liversedge, not later than March 7th. Subscriptions received and reports issued at this meeting. All ringers welcome. — P. L. Cooper, District Secretary.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS. — Please note that all correspondence should be addressed to Mr. Mark Tate, 22, Manuel Street, Goole, in connection with the Goole Branch, in place of Mr. G. W. King, resigned.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO THE LATE WILLIAM SNOWDON.—The Members of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers propose to erect a Memorial to the late William Snowdon in the form of a Brass Tablet in Ilkley Parish Church, near to the Ringers' Window already erected to the memory of his brother, Jasper Whitfield Snowdon. Will any person wishing to be associated with this movement kindly communicate with the Treasurer to the Fund, Mr. H. Williams, New Worthy Cemetery, Leeds, Yorks.

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.

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2573648	—	—	4ths	—	—
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35642	2	—	—	—	2
23456	—	—	—	2	2

This peal contains the twelve 6-4-8 course ends, and is the first peal composed and rung in the method on this plan.

Rung at Staveley, Derbyshire, on December 27th, 1915. Conducted by B. A. Knights.

STREATHAM.—On Jan. 23rd, at St. Leonard's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: G. W. Smith 1, G. Barrington 2, J. C. Mitchell 3, J. W. Chapman (conductor) 4, C. Lewry 5, J. Walton 6, L. Attwater 7, J. Lee 8.

HANLEY.—Stoke-on-Trent Association.—At the Parish Church, on Jan. 23rd, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: W. Wedgwood 1, *P. Dale 2, H. Alcock 3, S. Sargeant (first as conductor) 4, W. Degg 5, G. Jones 6, *J. Prophet 7, A. Lyons (first quarter-peal) 8. * First quarter-peal with an inside bell. Rung on the eve of the retirement of Mr. H. Hughes, for 21 years organist. First quarter-peal for many years by a local band at this church.

BARNES.—On January 23rd, at St. Mary's Church, for service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: M. Jacobs 1, H. Barratt 2, C. Hunt 3, R. Mackrill 4, H. Cook 5, P. H. Smith 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, P. C. Brooks 8.

TENBY.—On January 23rd, for evening service, 350 Grandsire Triples: T. John 1, T. Griffiths 2, J. Evans 3, W. Jenkins 4, L. Jenkins 5, Second-Lieut. E. V. Rodenhurst (conductor) 6, R. Jenkins 7, A. Rickards 8.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.—On Jan. 23rd, for evensong, at Holy Trinity Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins.: Wm. Boden 1, J. Hanley 2, L. Hewitt (first quarter-peal in the method) 3, Sgt. A. H. Garbett, R.A.M.C., 4, J. York 5, W. Lago 6, Wm. Saunders (conductor) 7, J. Aston 8. Specially arranged for Joe Hanley, who was joining H.M. forces on Wednesday, Jan. 26th, under the Derby scheme. Sergt. A. H. Garbett was at home on leave from Aylesford Military Hospital.

NUTFIELD, SURREY.—On January 25th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Minor in six Treble Bob methods, viz., London Scholars, Violet, College Exercise, Woodbine, Oxford, Kent, in 42 mins.: Luke Killick 1, J. Tassell 2, W. Cheesman 3, A. Webb 4, E. Snelling 5, F. Hawkins (conductor) 6.

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