

# THE RINGING WORLD

No. 327. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, JUNE 22nd, 1917.

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

Price 2d.

## 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 & 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.

### THE STARTING-POINT FOR PEALS.

In another column will be found an article by Mr. George Clayton on the subject of the starting-point for touches and peals of Stedman. We publish the communication, not because we agree with the writer's contentions, but because we are always willing to ventilate any views which may be of interest, although they may not be generally acceptable to the Exercise. The point of Mr. Clayton's argument is that touches and peals should not necessarily begin from and end with rounds, and, in order to establish this, he endeavours to show the desirability of varying the definitions of peals, etc., set up by the Central Council. There is no necessity here to follow Mr. Clayton through all his line of reasoning, but we join issue with him on the broad ground that, in our opinion, it would be a retrograde step if the Exercise were to recognise anything but rounds as the starting-point of peals and touches.

It happens that the general practice in ringing Stedman, from the very commencement of the Art, has been to start from a row which is not the beginning of a six, and it is this breaking of the hunting cycle which seems the bugbear to Mr. Clayton. But Stedman is the only method, at any rate of standing, in which the ringing does not start at the beginning of the constructional block, the rounds being the first row in some cases, and the first handstroke change the first in methods with two hunts. Therefore, if there is any advantage at all in Mr. Clayton's contentions, it is only Stedman that would benefit. But if one is allowed to start from any other change than rounds, where would be the necessity even for ending with the same row as that from which the bells started? The argument in favour of one is as strong as that of the other, and the adoption of either would reduce composition to a farce and peal ringing to an absurdity. The task in both directions should be made harder and not easier in days when peals, but for the war, would be almost as plentiful as blackberries in autumn.

The natural as well as the convenient starting order in ringing bells is the diatonic scale, and to start into a peal or touch from any other point would mean putting them into position by call changes. To do this merely to simplify the work of a composer would be ridiculous. In laying down the definition that peals and touches should begin from rounds, the Central Council have not made any rule that is not in accordance with the natural laws of ringing and common sense, and to besmear a change-ringing performance with a few preliminary call changes would be a much more serious blemish in practice than starting half-way through a Stedman six is in theory. And it should be remembered that the purist has the matter in

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## MODERN WORK

# CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**SMETHWICK,  
BIRMINGHAM**

## BELLS

**FOR CHURCHES,  
SINGLY,  
OR IN PEALS.**

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**MALLEABLE IRON BRACKETS.  
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**REPAIRS AND REHANGING  
IN ALL BRANCHES.**

**BELLHANGERS sent to inspect  
and report on Bells and Towers.**

**SEND FOR CATALOGUE.**

**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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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.

(Continued from page 193.)

his own hands. Stedman can be started with the first change of a six and end with the last row of another six, and those who are so anxious to ensure a complete "hunting cycle" to start and end the peal with, would be more advantageously occupied in producing compositions on this plan than in attempting to persuade the Exercise that it is better to start a peal from some other row than rounds.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.  
THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

On Wednesday, June 13, 1917, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qrs. 10 lbs.

*WALTER S. CRAWFORD ... <i>Treble</i>	RICHARD JONES ... .. 5
*THOMAS ABBOTT ... .. 2	WILLIAM SAUNDERS ... 6
JAMES L. YORK ... .. 3	WALTER LAGO ... .. 7
LEONARD HEWITT ... .. 4	JACK ASTON ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and  
Conducted by WILLIAM SAUNDERS.

\* First peal. Specially arranged for the silver wedding of the Rev. C. B. and Mrs. Crowe, also as a farewell peal to W. S. Crawford, who joined the army, June 15th. The ringers are all members of the local company. It is interesting to know that W. S. Crawford is the eleventh member to join the colours or leave the neighbourhood to do substitutional work. Two have been killed in France.

OLDSWINFORD, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, June 16, 1917, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt. in F.

CHARLES W. COOPER ... .. <i>Treble</i>	RALPH MOORE ... .. 5
JOHN G. ORFORD ... .. 2	ALFRED E. WHATMORE ... 6
JOHN BASS ... .. 3	WILLIAM SHORT ... .. 7
THOMAS HEATHCOTE ... .. 4	THOMAS WHITEHOUSE ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

Rung with the bells half-muffled for Pte. Hugh Chapman Nash, a former bellringer and chorister, who died in hospital at Baghdad from appendicitis on May 29th.

## ROLL OF HONOUR.

From Calverton, Bucks:—

Gnr. R. Underwood, R.F.A., High Wycombe.

From St. Mary's, Blatchley:—

Spr. H. Morris, R.O.D., R.E., Longmoor, Hants.

From Hadlow:—

Pte A. H. Reader, R.G.A.

## DAMAGED BELLS IN FRANCE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Since I have been in France, I have inspected every church possible with the object of picking up anything interesting to the Exercise. Until quite recently no success attended my efforts, but to-day I have seen an original method of mending a crack. The bell lies in a churchyard close to where I am at present staying, and the crack or break extends from the waist diagonally to the lip. A piece, an inch across, has been sawn out, and a new piece inserted, kept in its place by two flush dovetails and a patch on the lip inside about ten inches by eight. The effect on the tone I could not determine, because the bell was effectually deadened by the fallen masonry round it. The casting of this bell is poor, compared to the other bell belonging to the church, and at present used as a gas alarm. This one, by a Douai founder, is a really pretty bell, with lovely floral decorations at the crown, and a fine medallion on the lip. Another bell in a city close by, also used as a gas alarm, has a shot hole clean through the waist, and one or two other evidences of attention on the part of the Germans. I have met no ringers out here yet, my address being: Bandman A. Coppock, No. 49925, 10th D.L.I., B.E.F. Anyone wishing to communicate with me need only use the above. I get the "Ringing World" regularly, and have not by any means lost interest in it.—Yours sincerely,  
ALBERT COPPOCK.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.  
DEVIZES BRANCH MEETING AT ROWDE.**

A monthly meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at St. Matthew's Church, Rowde, on Saturday week, but owing to so many of the ringers being away from home, and others so busy on the land, and in the gardens, the number of those assembled was not so large as on pre-war occasions. However, friends from Southbroom, St. John's, Devizes; Seend and Rowde, with Mrs. H. Brownlee West, of "Avalon," Devizes (an honorary member of the Guild), made up a nice little party, and ringing commenced soon after three o'clock. The authorised Guild service was held in the church, kindly conducted by the Rector, the Rev. A. J. Clarke, with Miss Amy Butler at the organ.

Tea was afterwards served at the George and Dragon Inn, by Host Rutt, and was much enjoyed by all present, the afternoon being warm. The bells at Rowde are rung on the ground floor, with a very long draught, and no sally guides, making the ringing of them somewhat tricky, to those unaccustomed to such a length of rope, but all went well, and everyone was much pleased.

At the business meeting following the tea, the chair was taken by Mr. S. Hillier (branch chairman), supported by Mr. H. Brownlee West (honorary secretary), who brought forward three new members for election from Southbroom tower, all of whom were kindly received and duly elected. — Hearty votes of thanks were duly accorded the Rector for the use of the bells, and the service in church, and also to the organist and steeple keeper for their kind services on this occasion. The ringers then adjourned to the church for more ringing and the lowering of the bells, thus bringing a most pleasant meeting to a close.

**GREENWICH RINGERS' LOSS.  
DEATH OF MISS CHRISTABEL AIRY.**

St. Alphege, Greenwich, ringers mourn the loss of Miss Christabel Airy, who during the last 26 years has contributed in a large measure, by her benevolence and influence, to converting the belfry from the bare board style to its present covered and cushioned condition, and the ringers from the "stony" to London stage, while she has promoted their comfort by providing help whenever financial assistance was requisite for bell ropes, teas, and the like. She had always the same reply, "Let me know how much is required, I should so like to help you," and it was always forthcoming. Her place will indeed be hard to fill; in fact, it is doubtful if it can be filled.

Miss Airy was the third daughter of the late Sir George Airy, K.C.B., who was Astronomer Royal from 1835 to 1881. In the public life of Greenwich she played a particularly active part, being prominently associated with many charitable institutions, of which she was a generous supporter, and labouring unceasingly in Church affairs in St. Alphege parish under five Vicars. In 1891, when her father was in his 90th year, she took an interest in campanology, and was for 25 years a member of the Kent County Association. She was a frequent and welcome visitor to the belfry of St. Alphege Church, and became an adept ringer. A few years ago she was presented by her colleagues with an illuminated address in appreciation of her services. She passed away somewhat suddenly on June 8th, at the age of 75 years. On the day of the funeral the bells of St. Alphege Church were rung muffled to touches of Grandsire Triples, by: C. T. Clarke (Cubitt Town) 1, A. S. Beer 2, E. E. Richards 3, F. W. Thornton 4, I. G. Shade (conductor) 5, J. J. Lamb 6, H. Hoskins 7, D. Hodgson (Cubitt Town) 8.

**IN THE CRAY VALLEY.**

On Saturday last, a party of cycling ringers paid a visit to the towers of Foots Cray and St. Mary Cray, Kent. At Foots Cray, where there is a light peal of five, several 120's were rung, including Stedman, Grandsire, and Bob Doubles, by Messrs. Hewett, Pike, Williamson, Smith, Durling, Emery, and a local ringer (Mr. J. Browning). These bells are a nice little ring, and worth a visit, if only for the novelty of the arrangements, as the ringing takes place on the ground floor in the centre of the church, and the ringer of the tenor may actually stand in the pews, or sit on the end of one and ring, if he desires.

After lowering the bells in peal, a move was made to St. Mary Cray, where after tea the main object of the trip, which was to ring the first 720 of Surprise on the splendid ring of six bells, was attempted. All went well, and 720 of Cambridge was brought round in good style in 25 mins., by: G. Durling 1, W. Hewett 2, W. Smith 3, E. F. Pike 4, T. Groombridge, senr., 5, I. Emery (conductor) 6. Then a 720 of Kent Treble Bob for A. Mason, of Erith, which was his first, was rung by: W. Hewett (conductor) 1, E. F. Pike 2, G. Durling 3, W. Smith 4, J. B. Williamson 5, A. G. Mason 6. A six-score of Stedman Doubles for a local man who rang tenor; and two courses of Cambridge by: A. G. Mason 1, W. Smith 2, W. Hewett 3, J. B. Williamson 4, E. F. Pike 5, I. Emery (conductor) 6, and a course of Grandsire Caters on the local handbells concluded the ringing for the day; and, after the bells had been lowered in peal, the party gradually dispersed to their respective homes, all agreeing that a successful and very pleasant time had been spent in the Valley of the Cray. I. E.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.  
JOINT DISTRICT MEETING.**

A joint meeting of the Bedford and Biggleswade Districts was held at Sandy, on Saturday week. Mr. C. W. Clark presided over the business proceedings, and members were present from St. Paul's and St. Peter's, Bedford, Elstow, Biggleswade, Northill, Potton, and the local tower. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Northill, on Saturday, June 23rd, and also annually to hold joint meetings of the two districts, at Willington, in May, and at Sandy in June. — One new member was elected. The bells were kept going during the afternoon and evening, and various touches were rung.

**RINGERS' FESTIVAL.**

At Bucknall, Staffs, the ringers have a festival Sunday every year and this event occurred on June 10th, when the following touches were rung: For Holy Eucharist, 720 of Duke of York Minor: W. Wheeldon, junr., 1, C. Preston 2, T. Shaw 3, J. E. Wheeldon 4, D. Preston 5, W. Wheeldon, senr. (conductor), 6. For Matins, 720 Violet Treble Bob: W. Wheeldon, junr., 1, W. Wheeldon, senr., 2, T. Shaw 3, C. Preston 4, J. E. Wheeldon (conductor) 5, D. Preston 6. For evensong, 720 Woodbine: C. Preston 1, W. Wheeldon, junr., 2, T. Shaw 3, J. E. Wheeldon 4, W. Wheeldon, senr., 5, D. Preston (conductor) 6. After evensong, 240 Bob Minor. The above were rung on the occasion of the ringers' annual festival Sunday.

**ST. PAUL'S GREAT BELL AS RAID ALARM.**

After consulting with the military authorities, the Lord Mayor of London has made the following official communication:— "The Lord Mayor has decided to give the citizens of London immediate notice when he receives news of impending air raids, and he is in communication with the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's as to the practicability of ringing the great bell of the Cathedral with that object."

**BRAUGHING FESTIVAL ABANDONED.**

After being held continuously for 138 years, the bell ringing festival at Braughing, Herts, has been abandoned owing to most of the ringers having joined the colours.

**A FALSE COMPOSITION.**

Mr. G. Clayton points out that his peal of Leytonstone Stedman Caters, published in the "Ringing World" on July 23rd, 1915, is false.

**TWO QUARTER PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAJOR.**

By A. J. PERKINS, BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

1280

23456	M.	In.	Fifths.	W.	H.
56234	2	1	1	2	2
52364				1	2
23456	2	Fourths & In.		2	2

Rung to Oxford and Kent at the Churches of Immanuel and St. Leonard's, Streatham, respectively.

1280

52364	M.	B.	In.	Fifths.	W.	H.
43265	1		1	1		2
52436				Fourths & In.		1
23456						2

Rung at St. Leonard's, Streatham, on February 6th, 1916. Conducted by A. J. Perkins.

**MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.**

**BRIDGNORTH, SHROPSHIRE.** — On Sunday, April 22nd, at St. Leonard's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): J. W. Howard 1, A. T. Baker 2, J. Overton 3, J. T. Tyler 4, Q.-M.-S. B. Head 5, W. Overton (conductor) 6, H. W. Overton 7, H. Jones 8. — On Whit-Sunday, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1264 changes): J. W. Howard 1, J. Overton 2, J. T. Tyler 3, J. Elcock 4, Q.-M.-S. B. Head 5; E. Foxall 6, W. Overton (conductor) 7, H. W. Overton 8. Arranged for Messrs. Head, Elcock and Foxall.

**ERITH.** — On April 29th, after evening service, at St. John's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung as a welcome to the new Vicar: D. Harvey (first quarter-peal) 1, H. Holden 2, J. Lowry 3, F. Cullum, junr., 4, Ar. Mason 5, G. Cullum 6, F. Cullum, senr., 7, E. Martin 8. A farewell touch to the Rev. Adams was rung after evening service on April 15th by the same band.

**ACTON.** — On Sunday morning, May 21st, at the Parish Church, 840 Grandsire Triples: J. W. Fraun 1, R. H. Boddington 2, W. Vickery 3, W. Lawrence 4, C. Edwards 5, Robt. Holloway 6, Pte J. Armiter Trollope (conductor) 7, A. E. Smith 8. — For evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 40 mins.: Staff-Sergt. Verralls 1, H. Chaffey, R.N.A.S., 2, C. Edwards 3, Miss E. Jones 4, W. Vickery 5, Robt. Holloway 6, W. Lawrence (conductor) 7, A. W. Davies 8.



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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring  
of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

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Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

*At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.*

### ESSEX RINGER SHOT BY SNIPER.

We regret to announce the death of Pte Alfred Gozzett, of Maldon, Essex, who was attached to the Middlesex Regiment, and was killed in France by a sniper on May 7th whilst leaving the trenches.

He was a member of the St. Mary's Company, and had been their conductor since the band was formed about 12 years ago. He will be greatly missed, for he was seldom away from the Sunday service ringing, or on practice nights.

He had rung 16 peals in all, one of Grandsire Triples, one of Treble Bob Major, and 14 of Minor, several of the latter having been in seven methods. A printer by trade, he had been employed by a local firm from the time he left school.

He was 32 years of age, and leaves a widow and two sons to mourn their loss, and the sympathy of the Exercise will go out to the bereaved family.

### OSSETT RINGER KILLED IN ACTION.

We regret to record that Gunner Herbert Gordon Gee, R.G.A., was killed on April 24th by shell fire. He was a promising young ringer, and rendered yeoman service to the Ossett Holy Trinity Parish Church band for about six years before the war broke out. He had only rung one peal owing to so many of the ringers dropping out just after he had started, so that practically a fresh band had to be taught. Always of a cheerful disposition, Gunner Gee was a man of whom it could be said by those who enjoyed his friendship, that he was the staunchest comrade they had. He had not been married very long, and had been in the army since August, 1916. He went out early this year, and soon got into the thick of it. His colleagues, writing home, said that they would feel his loss deeply because he was one who was always bright and cheerful, and a very trusty comrade.

On Sunday, May 13th, two of his fellow ringers and a few from a neighbouring tower rang a few muffled touches of Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, and Stedman Triples, to his memory.

### Q.-M.-S. CAVE'S THANKS.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I must apologise for sending you the figures of the date touch of Stedman Caters with such an obvious mistake in them. The single in the 13th course should have been shown at 5, not at 15. I composed it in March, 1916, and proved it at the time, and the mistake must have crept in when copying it from the sheet of paper I used into my pocket book. I must thank, through you, the St. Martin's Guild for the compliment paid me. I hardly expected it to be rung so soon.

I notice you still refer to me as living in a "dug-out." The mistake is, of course, natural, as that was the last address I gave you but to tell the truth I have had several different classes of residence since then: Schoolhouse, barn, canvas hut, elephant hut, and ruined houses. I am in one of the latter at present. It is all right as long as the weather keeps fine, because "the roof lets in the sunshine and the rain." (The said roof consists merely of the rafters; the tiles are all off, and broken in small pieces, and made to form a wet weather path from the house to the road), but a couple of large tarpaulins help to keep the rain out.—Yours faithfully,

W. A. CAVE.

Since we received the above, a postcard has informed us that Q.-M.-S. Cave has reached England on well-deserved leave.

### THE ABANDONED SUSSEX MEETING.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I should like to add my denunciation of the action of the officers and committee of the Sussex Association, which prompted you to place your editorial remarks of June 8th, under the heading of "An abandoned meeting." I have read with interest those remarks; also the account of the meeting held on Whit-Monday at Brighton on the subject.

Let it be clearly understood that the decision arrived at was not the unanimous vote of the committee appointed to look after the Association's best interests.

As one of the committee, I neither approved of the abandonment of the annual meeting, nor the way which led up to it. I am of opinion that the committee ought to have been summoned to Brighton as hitherto, where it would have been much better to have discussed all points of importance, instead of a vote taken by our own fireside, which was the case. I voted for the meeting to be held, as did three others, I believe. Previous "war time" meetings justified this action, as the meetings last year and in 1915 were well attended.

Money matters ought not to have been taken as an excuse. I sincerely hope the officers and committee will see that a mistake has been made, and hold the meeting and put things right, as suggested, in the spirit of the meeting held at Brighton on Whit-Monday.

Just one word more, Mr. Editor, if you will allow me. As two wrongs cannot make a right, I do not approve of the unanimous vote at the Brighton meeting to hold all moneys till the general meeting is held. Let us get on with the meeting, and "no reprisals."—Yours very truly,

Battle,

WALTER FRANK

**STEDMAN CINQUES.**

THE START AND FINISH.

By GEORGE T. CLAYTON.

The only definition of the words "touch" and "peal" that is not liable to involve the ruling authority in hopeless difficulties is "A round block of so many changes in an approved method." In "Rules and Decisions" it is enacted that on all numbers of bells a true peal shall in all cases start from and end with rounds. The prepositions should be carefully noted. Prepositions are often used wrongly, and before proceeding further, example of the correct use of these important words had better be given. In the undernoted rows the start is from rounds with 21354, and it will surprise some ringers to find on inspection that this goes off is not Stedman, but Grandsire.

12345

21354

In "Legitimate Methods," issued under the authority of the Central Council, Stedman is shown as starting with rounds at the fourth row of a quick six, and, of course, ending with the row immediately preceding rounds. It is clear that these pronouncements cannot be reconciled with one another unless the former be read as not applying to Stedman. But the first pronouncement requires to be redrawn, for it invalidates every peal of Duffield, and the peals in other even-bell methods are only valid because they do not comply with another pronouncement of the Council. The last-mentioned pronouncement, which, unlike the one under notice, rests upon an unshakeable foundation, enjoins that the divisions between the leads in methods with one hunt shall be between the first and second blows of the hunt. This means that in nearly all Plain, and in quite all Treble Bob methods, rounds, instead of being the final row, is the initial row. In Stedman's *Tintinnologia*, dated 1668, Plain Bob is set out in accordance with this pronouncement, which has everything to recommend it, excepting that it causes the musical cadences to come up at the beginning of the divisions instead of at the end.

**THE CHOICE OF THE STARTING ROW.**

Ordinarily, Stedman should start from and end with rounds for the sufficient reason that nothing is to be gained by doing otherwise, though, as I have previously pointed out, there is no objection to starting from and ending with 23145, or any other row; but in Cinques great advantages are to be gained by starting from other rows. Now, I most respectfully submit for the consideration of the Council that ringers should be free, not only to choose the row from which the start is made, but to produce the row in any way that they may find convenient. Also that in selecting 5,000 rows out of the forty millions or so that eleven bells afford, no attempt should be made to compel them to include any particular row in the selection 2134657890t, is a much better fundamental row than rounds.

I should now like, if I may be permitted to do so, to call the attention of the Council to what appears to be a serious fault in the second pronouncement. I see nothing wrong in starting with rounds, though so doing is inadvisable, but it is surely wrong to ring part of a six at the beginning of a composition, and the remainder at the end. The Stedman six, like a lead of Plain Bob, is a hunting cycle, and if one cycle may be broken without doing violence to the method, fifty may be broken. In regard to homing courses, not consisting of whole sixes, when only part of a six is required it can hardly be said that the cycle is broken; but peals ending, say, at the first row of a six are obviously not round blocks in the sense that the peals appended to this article are round blocks. A gas engine can stop at any part of the cycle, but it can only start after the compression stroke, and two strokes of the same nature cannot be together. It, therefore, appears that such homing courses should not be encouraged.

**STEDMAN CINQUES.**

5016				5016					
5	6	19	123456	5	6	7	18	19	123456
			6354						263514
			4653						643125
			421356						453261
			6153						513642
			3651						124653
			324156						235614
			6451						341625
			623154						453126
			4351						415326
			1453						165243
			521364						635412
			4163						531462
			425361						326451
			1563						621534
			3165						124365
			324561						426315
			1465						235146
			123564						512346
8			3465						214356

Repeat.

Repeat.

The ringing to begin and end with a row to be selected by the conductor.

**BELLS AND BELFRY REFORM.**

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I had intended taking up no more of your valuable space, but your clerical correspondent's very nice letter rather suggests otherwise; therefore, I will, with your kind permission, thank my incognito friend for his letter, which, I am sure, all ringers read with pleasure. As to the attitude of the clergy towards ringers, we are all aware that many of the former do their utmost for bells and ringers—all thanks to them—but there is the other very painful side. Many do not care, otherwise denunciatory remarks such as those in the "Church Times" would not appear. The old saw runs, "Give a dog a bad name and it will stick to him." Now we all know that ringers and belfries used to have a bad record. That was at the same time that the incident took place when two dogs were fighting in church, and the clergyman leaned over the pulpit and offered to bet a "bob" on the long-tailed one. I am afraid the bad name, once attached to ringers, is even now encouraged by such remarks as were published in the "Church Times."

I have very recently been told by a leading man in the town in which are situate the tower and bells referred to in my last letter, that the bells and ringers were "thought precious little of," and about ten days ago I was informed by a business man from a county town that the ringers were not recognised, and were usually coming out of church as the congregation were going in. He also disagreed with me when I told him there was "something in change ringing." His idea was that one man shouted out the numbers, etc., from a book when the bells were ringing. I believe I convinced him (after showing him a book on standard methods, and explaining that ringers did not have their "music" in front of them when performing), that there was a little to learn, even in ringing.

I do not know if Ashford itself is the town to which our cleric's friend refers, where the Vicar stands up so manfully for the Exercise, but we all know the present Vicar there is deeply interested in bells and ringers. This fine peal, situated in a lofty tower in the centre of the town, is very noisy, and I believe much is due to the position of the bells in the chamber, the louvres of which require filling up to a certain height with ragstone, not bricks, as I have seen recommended in many cases. The position had better be left as it is rather than place bricks in a fine old stone tower. Here is a case for the locals to recommend to their Vicar, and at the same time hang the other two bells, at present hung dead.

There is much improvement yet needed in towers, and even in bells, to make them more agreeable to the outside public. Hanging bells in iron frames has, in my opinion, aggravated the noise, and I fear, when these new frames corrode in course of time, that many of our church towers will be cracked thereby. The spire of St. Bride's, Fleet Street, has recently had to be rebuilt, owing to the incorporation of iron into the stonework. We all know that bell hangers dislike using anything but iron or steel, so easy to mould and rivet up together. And could not the sound of bells be modified by fitting springs to the clappers, as used on handbells?

As regards control of church bells, to my mind, it is much the same as where pew rents are charged—the incumbent has assumed more control of the bells than he is entitled to. Pew rents are illegal in parish churches, but exist, nevertheless, in many cases.

I must congratulate our friend on his long ringing experience against my short term of office as churchwarden. I can honestly say the latter might have been longer, but the office of parish churchwarden has lately gone begging in my district, for I know of two vacancies near here which were not filled at the Easter vestry, owing to the reasons stated in my last letter.

As to Eucharist services and the east and west ends, I may say, in many cases, where the east is overdone the west is undone. In my own village church the tower end was converted into a coke, paraffin, and rubbish hole generally, while the chancel grew into the sanctuary. The west end has been rectified since, to a certain extent by our parish churchwarden and our east end is not overdone, for, being a poor parish of about 250 souls, mostly all working people, we can scarcely get together enough money to pay for necessities.

I trust your reverend contributor will not be offended by my remarks, for he is helping our art of ringing in a way that I wish and would suggest other clergy should do, where possible. They should bring in other leading men, so that our calling may be thought more of, and recognised as an honourable one.—Yours truly,

"Cameron," Stone, Ashford.

C. W. PLAYER

**THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE DISASTER.**

We are happy to be able to state that all ringing friends at Ashton-under-Lyne escaped harm in the recent disastrous munitions explosion, which took place in the populous parish of St. Peter's. The young daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Wolstencroft had a miraculous escape, her playmate being killed.

CREWE.—Chester Diocesan Guild.—On Sunday, May 13th, at Christ Church, for evening service, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major, on the middle eight: F. Moore 1, W. Holding 2, G. Crawley 3, R. Langford 4, A. Crawley 5, H. Overton (longest length) 6, R. D. Langford 7, J. Dentith 8, R. T. Holding (conductor) 9, G. Harding 10.

## 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).—A Meeting will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on June 28th, at 8 p.m., for handbell practice.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, June 23rd, 1917, at St. Nicholas, Rodmersham, near Sittingbourne.—Edward A. G. Allen, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Shipley on Saturday, June 23rd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Business meeting in the Schools at 6 p.m.—All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Dist. Sec.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Hershaw on Saturday, June 23rd. Ringing 3.15 to 8.30 p.m. Short service (full choir), 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—F. J. Shepherd, Assistant Sec., 1, West Carr's Lane, Hershaw, Surrey.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Whitchurch, near Cardiff, on Saturday, June 23rd, at 4 o'clock. Bells (6) available. Tea will be provided. St. John's bells (10), Cardiff, will be available from 7 to 8 p.m., if required.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., John W. Jones, 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon., Hon. Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Newchurch, near Warrington, on Saturday, June 23rd, 1917. Bells ready at 2.30. Meeting at 7.—Thomas B. Worsley, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton, Branch Sec.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—The church bells will be at the disposal of visiting ringers on Saturday, June 23rd, 1917, from 12.30 p.m. till 9 p.m.—A. Symonds.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rosendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Raneshorough, on Saturday, June 23rd. Bells ready at 3. Meeting, 6.30 p.m. A good attendance is earnestly requested. Subscriptions due. Reports to hand.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's Street, Raneshorough.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY.—Established 1623.—The 29th anniversary of the above society will be held on Wednesday, June 27th. Ringing commences at 9 a.m. All visitors are welcome.—R. A. Strong, Hon. Secretary.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Beeston on Saturday, June 30th. Bells available from 3 until 8 o'clock (excepting during tea and meeting). Committee meeting at 4.30. Tea at 5, followed by general meeting, all in the church schoolroom. Tea (1/- each) will only be provided for those who notify Mr. Wm. Clifford, 29, Enfield Street, Bellevue Park, Beeston, by the previous Wednesday, of their intention to be present.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North Eastern Division.—A district meeting will be held at Castle Hedingham on June 30th. Bells, 2 p.m. until 9 p.m. Short service, with address by the Rev. E. N. Powell, Bishop, at 4.30. Tea, followed by meeting, at the Bell Inn (Castle Hedingham), 1/3 per head. The bells of Sible Hedingham will also be open for ringing. All those who intend to be present must notify me not later than Tuesday, June 26th, first post. I shall be pleased to receive subscriptions for the current year.—B. Redgwell, The Street, Rayne.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Selly Oak on Saturday, June 30th. Service in the church at 5 p.m. Tea will be provided on the vicarage lawn if fine—in the schools if wet—at 5.45. Business meeting to follow. On account of the food restrictions, it is most important that all those intending to be present should let me know by Tuesday, June 26th. Bells available from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.—E. J. Dowler, 11, St. Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham, Branch Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The annual meeting will be held at Wolverhampton on Saturday, June 30th. Bells (12) available at 3. Short service in St. Peter's Church at 4.45, with an address by the Rev. Preb. Penny, M.A. (Rector). Meat tea at the Seven Stars Hotel, John Street, at 5.30 (1/- to fully-paid members; to others, 1/6), followed by the general meeting. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than Monday, 25th inst.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD (North and East District).—A meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, on Saturday, June 30th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Short service and address by the Vicar (Rev. O. R. Dawson) at 6 p.m., to be followed by the business meeting. Any ringers and friends welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. (*pro tem.*), 25, Crown St., Harrow.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James', Birch, on Saturday, June 30th. Bells available at 4 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bridgewater Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting of this branch will be held at North Petherton on Saturday, June 30th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—A. E. Moulton, Hon. Sec.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting of the Kettering district will be held at Kettering on Saturday, June 30th. Bells open from 3.30 until 7.30. Meeting in belfry, 5.30. Election of Officers.—Robt. F. Turner, Hon. Dist. Sec., 160, S. Peter's Avenue, Kettering.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at North Wingfield (8 bells), on Saturday, July 7th. By kind permission of Canon Boden the Vicarage grounds will be open to ringers for games, etc., during the afternoon. Clay Cross station, Midland railway.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

**ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.—**

The 50th anniversary of the present peal of bells of St. Mary-le-Tower Church, Ipswich, which were augmented to 12 in 1867, will be celebrated on Saturday, July 7th. The bells will be available from 3.30 until 5.30 p.m.—William Motts, Secretary, 25, Orchard Street, Ipswich.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—**

South and West District.—The next meeting will be held by kind permission of the Rector (Rev. H. Wilson) at Haslington, on Saturday, July 7th. Ringing from 3.30. Tea at a nominal charge at 6. All ringing friends welcome. Members intending to be present kindly notify me seven days prior to meeting.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Heston, Hounslow.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—**The Summer Festival will be held at Woburn, on Saturday, July 7th. The bells will be available from 2.30. Service in the Church at 4. Preacher, the Rev. Canon Parr. Tea at 5 at King's Tea Rooms.—A. Rust, Hon. Sec.

**HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—**Eastern District.—The meeting at Barkway is cancelled.—W. H. Lawrence, Dist. Sec.

**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.

**HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.**

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

**MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.**

At the annual meeting of the Dudley and District Guild, held on Saturday, March 10th, 1917, it was unanimously decided to erect in the Parish Church, Dudley (the Vicar and wardens having consented to the same), a tablet recording the half-muffled peal of Grandsire Caters rung on Saturday, February 3rd, at St. Thomas's Church, Dudley, to the memory of the late Mr. Samuel Spittle, who had been its ringing master ever since the Guild was formed, and had held other important offices at the Parish Church for upwards of 70 years. It was further decided to appeal to the members of the Guild for subscriptions, and it was thought that many of the late Mr. Spittle's ringing friends and acquaintances would like the opportunity of contributing something towards perpetuating the memory of so devoted and honoured a ringer and church worker. The work has already been put in hand, and subscriptions should be forwarded without delay to the Ringing Master, Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, Staffs, or to the Hon. Secretary, Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley, who will in due course acknowledge the same in "The Ringing World."

Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland, LL.D., Vicar and President.

Harry Mason, Ringing Master.

Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec.

Subscriptions promised and duly received:—Rev. Dr. Gray Maitland, LL.D., £1 1s. od.; The Dudley Company, £1; Mr. J. W. Jones, Newport (Mon.), 2s.

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