



No. 383. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 3rd, 1917.

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Price 2d.

# GILLETT & JOHNSTON

## CROYDON, Surrey.

### BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,  
Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 owt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WOLFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,  
Messrs. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1916.  
Gentlemen,

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

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

Yours faithfully, F. T. BEOK,  
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

## MODERN WORK.

### "CLOCKING" AND CHIMING.

The subject of "clocking," raised in our article last week, has brought an interesting letter, which puts, what one may term, the other side of the question. Our correspondent's experience has been a fortunate one, and so has that of many other people in regard to this method of chiming; but, unhappily, the day has come to not a few when, despite long immunity, a cracked bell has resulted from the process which is so emphatically condemned by those who speak with authority. A good deal may, in all likelihood, depend upon the manner in which the "clocking" is done, and there is very probably less danger in it when, as our correspondent points out, it is operated by an "expert chimer, with fair knowledge and experience and a tender consideration for the bell." But the unfortunate part of it is that, when "clocking" is resorted to, it is generally in order to simplify the chiming for some inexperienced person, who knows nothing whatever about bells, and possibly cares less.

We are unable to speak from first-hand knowledge of the methods adopted in Belgium, but we believe that, though the bells are sometimes struck by pulling the clapper against them, as in "clocking," there is a spring to each, one object of which is to ensure the clapper immediately dropping away from the bell—and this makes all the difference. Moreover, there are (or were) many cases, as at Bruges, where the bells are struck by separate hammers operating on the outside. Chiming hammers, as everyone knows, are fitted in many English towers, and, if chiming is to be done, this is unquestionably the best method to adopt. The installation of these hammers is not really costly, and removes the danger that arises from "clocking," although it gives rise to another risk, which needs to be specially guarded against, viz., damage to bells through the apparatus being left in gear.

With all that may be said to the contrary, it seems to us that the opinion of experts is heavily against "clocking," and that the practice should not only be discouraged but prohibited. At the same time, we are only too pleased to put the experience of our valued correspondent before our readers. It has to be recognised, of course, that there are many occasions when the bells are required, particularly on week days, when the services of ringers are not available, and provision must be made for the chiming to take place. The swinging of the lighter bells for this purpose is not an arduous task, and requires no more "knack" than "clocking" with care would do. But the swinging of the bells for this purpose eliminates the risk of damage—even if it be only remote—and church authorities, we hope, will see to it that "clocking" is banned.

# CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**SMETHWICK,  
BIRMINGHAM**

## BELLS

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

**CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.**

PEALS AUGMENTED,  
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

## FRAMES

**IN BEST SEASONED OAK,  
STEEL OR IRON.**

**Chiming Machines.**

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OF ALL KINDS.

**ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON  
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MALLEABLE IRON BRACKET  
BEST BELL ROPES.  
REPAIRS AND REHANGING  
IN ALL SEARCHES.

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.

ESTABLISHED 1780.

# JOHN NICOLL,

**Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope  
Manufacturer.**

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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.

## SIX BELL PEAL.

BROMFIELD, SALOP.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 21, 1917 (the Eve of the Dedication Festival),

At THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

A. NASEN ... .. Treble	C. MINTON ... .. 4
E. BEDDOES ... .. 2	G. ROBINSON ... .. 5
W. R. NASH ... .. 3	*W. HABERLY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by C. MINTON.

\* First peal. The ringers of the 2nd, 4th and 5th hail from Bishops Castle, Treble, 3rd and Tenor from Ludlow. Thanks were given to the Vicar for the use of the bells.

## ROLL OF HONOUR.

From St. Peter's Northampton:—

William R. Parker, Royal Navy, Portsmouth.

From Milton-next-Gravesend:

Fred M. Mitchell, Air Craftsman, R.N.A.S., at Battersea.

Aubrey Livermore, Air Craftsman, R.N.A.S., at Pullham, Norfolk.

## HOME FROM THE FRONT.

The members of St. Stephen's Company, Bristol, have been very pleased to have amongst them Q.-M.-S. W. A. Cave, who was on leave from the front. He paid a surprise visit to his old company on Sunday morning, June 17th, when a touch of Stedman Caters was brought round. During his visit, also, the following touches were rung at St. Mary, Redcliffe: On the occasion of the Prince of Wales' birthday, 516 Stedman Cinques: R. J. Wilkins 1, H. Porch 2, A. Pearce 3, C. H. Tomkins 4, R. Clark 5, C. H. Gordon 6, W. Knight 7, F. Leaker 8, H. Pring 9, H. Tucker 10, W. A. Cave (conductor) 11, G. Tomkins 12. Also two courses, in which A. E. Wilkins (1st touch of Cinques) and F. Porch took part. On Sunday evening, June 24th, two courses of Cambridge Surprise Royal: S. Thomas 1, G. Tomkins 2, C. H. Tomkins 3, R. J. Wilkins 4, R. Clark 5, C. H. Gordon 6, W. Knight 7, J. Condict 8, J. Burford 9, W. A. Cave (conductor) 10. On the following Sunday, another two courses of Cambridge Royal, conducted by W. A. Cave, were rung. On handbells, 800 Stedman Caters: R. J. Wilkins 1-2, J. Burford 3-4, G. Condict 5-6, E. Guise 7-8, W. A. Cave (conductor) 9-10. It seemed like old times to see Q.-M.-S. Cave on the tenor once again, and with the old Royal band at the rope ends, some good ringing was accomplished. Mr. Cave left again for the front on Friday, July 6th, and does not expect to be home again before the war is over, which everyone hopes will not be long.

## RINGERS WELCOME NEW VICAR.

The Ancient Society of Painswick Youths, and ringers from Gloucester, Stroud and Dursley, rang several touches of Grandsire Triples for the induction and institution of the Rev. Cecil Verey to the living of Painswick, on June 23rd. The Bishop of the Diocese preached, and after the service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes) was rung, and also a 503, conducted by Albert Wright. The new Vicar visited the belfry, and thanked the ringers for their kindness in giving him such a hearty welcome. The twelve bells were rung in rounds, in the presence of the Vicar, to whom all present extended the heartiest wishes. The veteran, Mr. William Hale (who has been a ringer now for 37 years), being Vicar's churchwarden, had the honour of taking part in the induction service.

### CEREMONY AT ELLAND.

On Saturday, July 7th, the Rev. Morris Arthur Maddocks, M.A., was inducted to the living of Elland, Yorks. The institution ceremony was performed at the Parish Church (St. Mary's) by the Bishop of Wakefield (Dr. Eden), and that of the induction by the Ven. H. Walsham How, Archbishop of Halifax, before a crowded congregation. It was exactly six months, to the day, since the tragic death of the late Canon Ernest Winter, whilst preaching for evening service, and a high tribute was paid by the Bishop to the life and work of the late Vicar.

Previous to the induction ceremony the local ringers rang several touches of Kent Treble Bob Major: J. W. Hallas 1, Joe Brearley 2, G. H. Simon 3, C. Hallas 4, T. Robinson 5, J. R. Eastwood 6, J. Hallas 7, Saville Brearley 8.

BIRMINGHAM.—Recently, at Edgbaston, 720 Bob Minor: J. Johnson 1, W. Bryant 2, H. Withers (conductor) 3, J. Eaton 4, C. Webb 5, G. Pigott 6.—At Bishop Ryder's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: C. Webb 1, W. Bryant 2, G. Pigott 3, H. Withers (conductor) 4, J. Eaton 5, J. George 6, J. Groves 7, J. Johnson 8. Rung as a compliment to Mr. Joseph Johnson (son of the late Mr. Henry Johnson), on attaining his 60th birthday.

**OXFORD GUILD VISIT TO AMERSHAM.**

The ringing rendezvous at this old English town on a June Saturday afternoon enticed a muster of 22 ringers from a dozen surrounding parishes, the evensong timed for 6.30 having been graciously cancelled so that the bells were kept going in touches of Minor and Doubles from 4.30 to 8.30 p.m. Everyone took a rope with pleasure, notwithstanding the tropical condition of the weather, and groups of twos and threes came and went as suited their war-time convenience during the four hours that the tower was open, thanks to the willing permission of the Vicar, the Rev. O. E. Briggs, M.A.

Sapper A. Elburn, R.E., and Pte. R. Forlman, of the Oxford Hussars, were home on leave, hence the fixture, and fellow members of the branch were able to "pass the time of day" with them once more. The former is a son of the late well-known "Amersham Jack," foreman of the tower 50 years ago, and a respected tenor man amongst Guild ringers in 1881, when he would think lightly of carrying a half hundred-weight bag of tools some 20 miles to a ringers' meeting in case "any little tinkering" was needed among the bells.

Adjournment for tea, partaken of at various establishments, was made by sections, and it was possible to have Stedman Doubles with bread, butter and watercress, my own repast being regaled with some good Treble Bob Minor. In this part of the county charges are still reasonable, and I find ringers object to "water-beer," at double the usual price, however thirsty the fine spell of summer may make them.

To quote the words of one of the party with a megaphone voice, "Old John Evans was there with his shaggy little pony that took the hills splendidly." A neighbouring six-bell parish, Chenies, was well represented by the foreman, Mr. Wm. Howells, his son (Herbert Howells, R.N.A.S., on leave), and Mr. W. Kilby. Discussing the Guild's roll of honour, it was found that six of the Chenies men had joined the services, and those left at home thought it advisable to take in a few lady members and join up with the East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Guild. The other parishes represented were: Missenden (Mr. Barnes), Chalfont St. Giles (Mr. Johnson), Chalfont St. Peter (Rev. Amies and Mr. Thompson), Beaconsfield (Mr. Blackmore), High Wycombe (Mr. Horne), Farnham Royal (Mr. Henley), Slough (Messrs. Leader and Smith), London (Mr. Williamson), Tring (Mr. Reeves), Hughenden (Messrs. J. and P. Evans), Fulmer (Messrs. Gutteridge and Gudgin), Amersham (Mr. Vicary and Mr. E. Redrup, now acting foreman).

The meeting was voted a success because old ground had been freshly gone over, and old hands were kept in touch. A trip to Chesham was proposed for the autumn, and perhaps the important eight-bell tower of the county town (Aylesbury) may be stormed. Before breaking up, arrangements were made for two practices on the following Saturday, and those, I hear, were well attended, with good results for the ladies, and with Slough's help at Fulmer. To Hughenden for the Wycombe district, half a dozen towers sent their members.

**HONOURING OCTOGENARIAN VICAR.**

At St. Stephen's, Clewer, Berks, on Sunday evening, June 10th, after service, by permission of the Vicar, the Rev. A. T. C. Cowie, the bells were rung in touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Oxford and Treble Bob Minor. The foreman, Mr. E. T. Brown, and his son, were present, and had prepared the bells for the visitors from Slough. Inquiry as to the reason of this ringing in war-time elicited the information that 44 years ago the Rev. G. D. Nicholas, M.A., took up Sunday duty as the first Vicar of St. Stephen's—a new church built to meet the needs of a growing part of the parish adjoining the overflowing borough of Windsor. The ringers present, members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, were: Messrs. Leader, Smith, Hooper, Henley, Russell, Redford, Thompson, Williamson, and Miss Bateman.

The life-long services of the octogenarian gentleman was further acknowledged by the presentation in the vestry, after morning service of an illuminated address, a nurse of £100 and an annuity of similar value subscribed for by parishioners and friends. W. H. F.

**NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.**

The first quarterly meeting of this Association for 1917 was held on Saturday week at Shireoaks, where there is a nice light ring of six bells. But with the claims of the war upon the men, the hay harvest still uncompleted, and a very hot day, there was only a small company of veteran ringers at the gathering, the attendance being less than twenty. The ringers however, thoroughly enjoyed themselves, and were successful in bringing round two 720's of Kent and Woodbine Treble Bob. The methods of London and York Surprise, and even Oxford Treble Bob would not "do." The following took part in the 720's: Woodbine: H. Mills 1, R. Hill 2, G. W. Lancaster (Swindon), Wills 3, H. Stenton (conductor) 4, T. Bartholomew 5, C. F. Fowler 6. Kent: E. Clark 1, J. Flint (Bolsover) 2, H. Hall 3, A. Johnson 4, J. S. Wilson 5, F. Hargreaves (conductor) 6.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at East Markham, in September.—The usual vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar of Shireoaks for the use of the bells.

The ringers present came from Anston, Worksop, Norton Cuckney, and from neighbouring Associations there attended Mr. John Flint, of Bolsover, and Mr. G. W. Lancaster, of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, and formerly of Essex, who is now a private at the Welbeck Camp, Worksop. One face that was missed was that of Billy B., of Redford.

**'BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN' ASSOCIATION.**

**ANNUAL MEETING AT YEOVIL.**

The 27th annual meeting was held at Yeovil on July 14th, when 19 towers were represented by 65 members. Visitors were also present from Bridport, Wyke Regis, Dorchester, and Newport. The splendid peal of ten bells (with tenor 45 cwt.) were raised in peal soon after 2 p.m., and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters rung until 3.30 p.m., when a short service was held in the church, at which Preb. G. G. Monck, of Stoke-under-Ham, officiated, and gave an address.

The business meeting was held in St. John's Schools, the Master (the Rev. C. C. Parker) presiding.

The Master read his report, in which it was stated that the Association was making progress, in spite of the difficult times in which we are living. During the year eight honorary and no less than 134 performing members have joined the Association. Of these latter 43 were ladies. There were three new towers added to the list, viz.: Huish Episcopi (6 bells), Tintinhull (5), North Barrow (5). The list of those serving with the forces numbered 310 members. Several had been killed, some wounded, and some discharged sick. He regretted to say that the Association had lost a very staunch supporter by the death of Archdeacon Brymer, of Charlton Mackrell, who was always willing to give a helping hand whenever the opportunity presented itself, and took a keen interest in bells and ringers. Only one peal had been rung, and that by members of the Association at Bath, who had all attested under the Derby scheme, and were expecting to be called up.

The Secretary (Mr. E. E. Burgess) then read the balance sheet, which showed receipts for the year £48 3s. 5d., and an expenditure of £38 2s. 10d. The report and balance sheet were adopted, and Mr. D. G. Taylor, of Ilminster, was thanked for auditing the accounts, the elected auditor (the Rev. A. J. Hook) having gone as chaplain to the forces.

An honorarium of £10 10s. was granted to the secretary, who was congratulated on the very favourable balance sheet.

The Rev. C. C. Parker was unanimously re-elected Master, and a vote of thanks was added for the very able way he had conducted the business of the Association during the past year, and Mr. Parker thanked the members for the honour they had done him in re-electing him.—Mr. Burgess was re-elected secretary and treasurer.—The Rev. A. J. Hook was re-elected auditor, and Mr. Taylor promised to audit the accounts if he should not have returned in time to discharge the duties.

Three new members were elected, and the places for quarterly meetings were selected as follows: Carston, in September; Curry Rivel, in December; and Wrington, after Easter.

The representatives on the Central Council were also re-elected, and are as follows: Rev. C. C. Parker, Messrs. A. E. Coles, J. Maddock, and E. E. Burgess.

The Master then proposed a vote of thanks to Preb. Monck for officiating at the service, to the Vicar of Yeovil for granting the use of the bells, church and schoolroom, and to the organist for assisting at the service.—Preb. Monck replied, and apologised for the absence of the Vicar of Yeovil.

A move was afterwards made to Maynard's Restaurant, where tea, which was on war ration's scale, was partaken of, and the tower was then again visited, and touches in various methods rung, several ladies taking part.

**CHEW DEANERY MEETING.**

On Saturday last the Chew Deanery Branch held their quarterly meeting at Easton-in-Gordano, where there is a splendid ring of six in good going order. This deanery has for some time broken away from its usual routine of holding all the quarterly meetings at eight-bell towers, and is making a round of the six-bell towers, with marked success, Saturday last proving what a delightful time can be spent in a six-bell tower. By 3.50, the time fixed for the bells to be available, members began to arrive from Abbots Leigh, Clapton, Easton, Long Ashton, Portishead, Wraxall and Bristol. The bells were raised in peal, and were kept going to Grandsire Double and Bob Minor until service time. The special form of service was used, and an excellent address was given by the Rector (the Rev. Palmer Bath), who heartily welcomed the members of the Association to his parish, and extended an invitation to them to partake of tea. This was splendidly served in the school, and the Rector's kindness was much appreciated by the members.

A short business meeting followed the tea. Two new members were elected, and it was proposed to hold the next quarterly meeting at another six-bell tower, Backwell being the place chosen. It was also proposed to hold an intermediate meeting for practice only at Chew, Stoke.

Heartly votes of thanks were accorded the Rector for his kindly welcome and use of the bells, and to the organist and choir for their services.

The tower was again visited, and the bells were soon going to the tune of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles. A splendidly struck 360 of Bob Minor afterwards brought to an end a delightful afternoon spent in a country parish.

**ACTON.**—For the evening service, at St. Mary's Church, on May 20th, 1064 Grandsire Triples: Sergt. E. T. Verrels 1, Miss Edith Jones 2, C. Edwards 3, H. Chaffey 4, E. Vicary 5, R. Holloway 6, W. Lawrence (conductor) 7, A. W. Davis 8.

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry  
Established  
A.D. 1570.

Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road,  
LONDON, E.



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

## ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

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.

## THE "CLOCKING" OF BELLS. A CLERICAL RINGER'S EXPERIENCE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have read with great interest the article on "clocking" in this week's "Ringing World." With its main contention I am in hearty agreement, viz., that it is not in the interests of bells and ringing that the practice of clocking should increase. There can be no doubt that many bells have been cracked by this process in England. On the other hand, when we turn to a country renowned for its bells, Belgium, we find that "clocking" is almost the universal method of sounding them! In Rice's "Carillons of Belgium and Holland," a book which I procured lately on the recommendation of Mr. J. W. Taylor, and which I heartily recommend to all lovers of bell-facing page 136 is an illustration of the bells of Mechlin (evidently taken from a photograph). All are "clocked," and, moreover, the clappers have very large "balls," and appear to be much heavier than they would be in bells of corresponding size in England.

I remember when an undergraduate at Cambridge some 34 years ago, listening to the bells of Great St. Mary's, Cambridge. The back ten were chimed for Sunday services in those days by the late Mr. George Taylor, the then steeplekeeper. No one hearing their subdued musical "hum" could ever dream of them being cracked in the process, although they were clocked also. You may remember, about five years ago publishing a letter in the "Ringing World" from the Rev. T. L. Papillon, about the recasting of our tenor, in which "clocking" was mentioned. About that time I happened to meet George Taylor among his bells at Great St. Mary's, and our conversation naturally turned upon clocking. "It depends on how it's done, George," I said; and never shall I forget the tone of conviction with which he replied, "That's just it, sir!"

And now with regard to our own tenor. She has to be tolled for funerals as a minute bell. To begin with, she was tolled with the rope and wheel, but this necessitated the constant keeping her on a gentle swing with a sudden check at intervals to make her speak. The obvious wearing of gudgeons and bearings which an hour of this kind of thing suggested, drove me to think of a fresh expedient. The plan eventually adopted was as follows: The clapper is hitched to a cross-bar of the frame by a piece of cord, so as to bring the ball of the clapper within two or three inches of the sound bow. To the middle of this cord is tied a thin rope (in this case a superannuated piece from the flagstaff). This rope is then taken through the mouseholes of the tenor rope to the belfry floor beneath. It requires a sharp jerk to make the bell sound at all, and such is the elasticity obtained by the thinness of the ropes and the indirect pull, that it is next to impossible to pull the clapper too hard, and (a very great point) it cannot be held against the side of the ball—making a soft melodious note.

I must confess to being rather puzzled by the very positive statements of Mr. Papillon, the late Sir A. P. Heywood, and others, upon this question. It seems to me that they require modification in the light of the above considerations. With an expert chimer, i.e., one of fair knowledge and experience, and who has a tender consideration for the bell as a musical instrument, I cannot myself see that there is any danger in "clocking," much as I prefer ringing or swinging as a means of producing the sounds. However, I know what the village sexton is capable of, and have no wish to hinder the effect of your "leader" in thwarting his designs.—Yours faithfully,

Long Stanton.

H. B. WOOLLEY.

## 5008 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By W. HYDE INGLESANT.

23456	1	4	6	Continued	1	5	6
53624	—	—	—	54326	—	—	—
36524	—	—	—	43256	S	—	—
25634	—	—	—	32456	—	—	—
56234	—	—	—	24356	—	—	—
62534	—	—	—	53426	—	—	—
35264	—	—	—	34526	—	—	—
52364	—	—	—	25436	—	—	—
53264	—	S	—	54236	—	—	—
32564	—	—	—	42536	—	—	—
25364	—	—	—	35246	—	—	—
23564	—	S	—	52346	—	—	—
63425	—	—	—	23546	—	—	—
34625	—	—	—				
26435	—	—	—				
84235	—	—	—				
32465	—	—	—				
34265	—	S	—				
42365	—	—	—				
23465	—	—	—				
24365	—	S	—				
42563	—	—	—				

Repeat last 12 courses, calling "Bobs" at 1 and 6 in first course for "Bob" at 5, produces rounds.

EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, May 20th, at the Parish Church, for morning service, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: J. Eaton 1, W. Bryant 2, G. Pigott 3, W. Ranford 4, L. Longney 5, H. Withers (conductor) 6. Also some Stedman and Grandsire Doubles.

**SOLDIER-RINGER'S DEATH.**

LANCE-CORPL. J. THOMAS BOTTRILL, R.M.L.I. (OF ANSTEY).

Broken in the wars, in the Dardanelles and Gallipoli "Tommy" Bottrill—as he was affectionately called by his friends—found a soldier's grave at the early age of 26. He was one of a remarkable ringing band that started to study the art when Anstey (Leicestershire) bells were rehung and augmented to eight in 1907. Mr. W. Willson, of Leicester, was their instructor, and the deceased was the youngest lad. Within twelve months they rang their first peal—Grandsire Triples. The second year came Bob Major and Treble Bob, in which were peals of 7,056 and 10,192. The next saw Double Norwich, in each case the first peal in the method by all (except the conductor). When Stedman and Superlative were reached the band began to fall to pieces through unemployment. One went to, and remains in, Canada. "Tommy" himself migrated to Manchester, where, at Pendleton, with Mr. Harry Chapman, he rang several peals for the Lancashire Association, including one of 6,000 Maximus at Ashton-under-Lyne, and a peal of Cinques at Liverpool.

When war broke out Tom Bottrill offered himself at once, joined the Royal Marines, and went east. The result of privation in the ever memorable Gallipoli Expedition brought the deceased to Plymouth Hospital, where he passed away, emaciation and brain fever being the immediate cause of death.

The body was brought to its native place for burial, and on Sunday, July 22nd, was laid to rest, being accorded the last honours due to a soldier by a firing party and buglers of the "Leicesters" from Wigston Barracks. Covered by a Union Jack, the coffin was borne into the parish church, where Tommy rang his first peal, and the Rector (the Rev. J. Kerry Williams, M.A.) conducted the service. After the ceremony the route to the cemetery was lined with sympathetic on-lookers, and when the three volleys were fired, the "last post" sounded, and the lads in khaki had marched away, the bells, with clappers muffled, added their tribute. There is a stern grandeur about a military funeral, and the volume of respect accorded the deceased would be unthought of in civil life. It is a glorious finish to a life given in the service of one's country, and, methinks, not a few who looked on the scene with swelling hearts echoed the words of the Psalmist, "May my last end be like his."

It should be mentioned that even while stationed at Plymouth the deceased did what he could to advance the art of ringing in that neighbourhood, and assisted the ringers at Tavistock, and other places in the vicinity, till ill-health stopped what might have been a brilliant career. Two of the deceased's brothers, also ringers, are "out there"—one in France, and one in Mesopotamia; but although the Anstey band is broken up, its memory is sweet. What it did in its day is written in the records of the Midland Counties Association, and the sound of Anstey bells will ever keep green the memory of one of its leading spirits. Requiescat in pace. W. W.

On Sunday, July 22nd, for evening service, at St. Thomas' Church, Pendleton, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, by: F. Smith 1, J. Winterbottom 2, W. E. Clark 3, G. Pincott 4, J. Lowe 5, W. H. Shaker 6, H. Chapman (conductor) 7, E. Smethurst 8; and some touches of Grandsire in the morning, were rung with the bells half-muffled, as a last tribute of respect to Corpl. J. T. Bottrill, who was formerly a member of this tower.

**"A MAGIC SPELL."**

From A.J.P.

The bells of St. Mary's, Beddington, were rung half-muffled on a recent Sunday and Tuesday evening by the local ringers, assisted by Croydon ringers on Tuesday evening, in memory of one of the sons of the Rector, fallen in the war. Bells tell a wondrous tale, and play their part both in our sorrows and our joys. Perhaps the following lines will express more fully that which the writer means:—

They are ringing gaily now as they rang so long ago—  
Silver tones that we know so well,  
And what is it that they say to our inner lives to-day?  
And what is the tale that they tell?

They whisper first of all in the quiet evening's fall,  
Of the happy days of childhood that we pass'd,  
When each garland that we made seemed too beautiful to fade,  
And each butterfly more radiant than the last.

Of awak'ning up to life, of a long and bitter strife;  
Of a restless spirit fretting in its pain;  
Of a season when the bells only rack'd us with their spells—  
Only mocked us with old memories again.

Of a peaceful life at last; of a sense of peril past;  
Of a future left in safer hands than ours;  
Of a sweet refreshing dew falling on our lives anew,  
As the raindrops fall and satisfy the flowers.

Like a story that is told seem those memories of old—  
Haunting still with a magic spell.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**

The twenty-seventh quarterly meeting of the Warwickshire Guild was held at Berkswell, on Saturday week, when about 30 members attended, representing Allesley, Birmingham, Berkswell, Chivers Coton, Coventry, Emscote, Grendon, Knowle, Nuneaton, and Warwick. The bells, a fine-toned ring of six (tenor 17 cwt.), were utilised during the afternoon, and touches in various methods were rung. A short service, with an address by the Rector (the Rev. H. C. A. Bach), took place in the church, after which the members adjourned to the Rectory for tea, kindly provided by the Rector and Mrs. Bach.

The business meeting followed, the Rector (who is President of the Guild) being in the chair.—Six new members were elected, and Solihull was selected as the place for the next quarterly meeting.

Mr. James George (Ringing Master) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector and Mrs. Bach for so kindly providing tea, and the motion was carried with applause.—The Rector, in replying, expressed the pleasure it gave him to welcome the members to Berkswell, especially upon that occasion, it being his silver wedding day.

The handbells were then brought into use, and Grandsire Triples and tunes were tapped off, while other members strolled through the Rectory grounds. The tower was afterwards again visited, and touches of Kent Minor, Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were brought round until 8 p.m., when the bells were lowered, and an enjoyable meeting brought to a close.

**CENTRAL NORTANTS ASSOCIATION.**

A successful meeting of the Thrapston District was held at Thrapston on Saturday week, when ringers were present from Raunds, Ringstead, Addington, Tichmarsh, Twywell, Burton Latimer, Lowick, Wellingborough, Irthlingborough, Higham Ferrers, Peterborough, and the local band. A service was held, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. H. E. Fitzherbert), and the amount collected for the Belfry Repair Fund was 6s. 4d.

The business meeting followed, the Rev. F. H. Lang (who was elected vice-president), presiding, supported by the Rector, the General Secretary (Mr. F. Wilford), and about 30 members.

The report showed there were 48 members on the books, and 14 on the Roll of Honour. Mr. F. Stubbs was re-elected district secretary, and the following committee were appointed: D. Redhead, E. Mayes, G. Jeffs, J. Ball, and E. Curtis, the first two to serve on the Central Committee.

The Rector was elected an honorary member, and three ringing members were also elected.—Tichmarsh was chosen as the next place of meeting in September, and Addington was selected for the practice meeting on August 18th.

The usual votes of thanks were passed, and the Rector, in replying, said it gave him much pleasure to welcome the members. The tower was then again visited, touches of Double Norwich, Stedman Grandsire Triples and Bob Major were run during the day.

**WILLENHALL VICAR DIES ON SERVICE.**

Half-muffled ringing has taken place at Willenhall, Staffs, as a tribute of respect to the late Rev. A. M. Pratt, M.A., Vicar of St. Giles' Church (1909-1917), who died in France, on June 29th, whilst serving his King and country as chaplain to the 6th Battalion South Staffs Regiment. The news of his death came as a great shock to the people of Willenhall, among whom he was held in great respect, and the church was packed for the memorial service on July 12th, when the Bishop of Lichfield preached.

An attempt for a half-muffled peal of Stedman Triples was made on July 10th, but came to grief after ringing 1½ hours, through a change course, the band being: B. Gough 1, E. Hortin 2, W. E. Wathen 3, E. Marlow 4, C. Wallater 5, J. George 6, W. Fisher (conductor) 7, A. E. Reed 8. A second attempt was made on July 13th by: E. Marlow 1, E. Hortin 2, T. Hill 3, D. Jones 4, W. E. Wathen 5, J. Malpass 6, C. Wallater (conductor) 7, A. E. Reed 8. This also came to grief after 1½ hours. A third attempt was made on July 19th, 1917, but came to an end after 1 hour 40 minutes, through the same cause as in each of the other attempts. The band on this occasion was: B. Gough 1, E. Hortin 2, T. Hill 3, D. Jones 4, E. Marlow 5, J. George 6, C. Wallater (conductor) 7, A. E. Reed 8. The local ringers wish to take this opportunity of thanking all who have helped them in these attempts, viz., Messrs. W. Fisher and B. Gough, of Coseley; James George, of Birmingham; D. Jones, Blakenhall; and E. Marlow, T. Hill and J. Malpass, of Wood Green.

**J. H. RIDYARD HELPING HAND FUND.**

The following amounts are acknowledged:—St. Thomas', Pendleton, £1 1s.; Christ Church, Pendlebury, 4s. 6d.; St. Bartholomew's, Radcliffe, 5s. 0d.; St. Michael's, Flixton, 13s.; St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, 5s.; St. James', Rusholme, 5s.; Christ Church, Barlow Moor, 2s. 6d.; St. Peter's, Swinton, 6s.; Mr. A. Barnes, 2s. 6d.; Mr. W. Brammer, 2s.; Preston Branch, £1 1s.; Bolton Branch, £1 12s. 6d.; total, £5 16s.

## NOTICES.

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

THE LADIES' GUILD.—The Committee have decided to abandon the Annual Meeting of the above Guild, which was to have been held in London.—Edith K. Parker, Hon. Sec., Carlton House, Bridge Street, Per-shore, Worcestershire.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the first Sunday in the month at 6 p.m.; and at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on August 9th and 23rd; and for general business on the 14th and 28th, all at 8 p.m. Also at St. Mary's, Beddington, on Saturday, August 18th, at 4.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North Eastern Division.—A bye-meeting will be held at Stisted on Saturday, August 4th. Short service with address at 4.30. Tea at moderate charge at the Red Lion Inn, at 5.30. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than July 31st.—B. Redgwell, The Street, Rayne, Essex.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Pendlebury on Saturday, August 4th. Bells available from 4 p.m. Meeting at 6. Any alterations for the ringing calendar to be given in at once.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next monthly meeting of the above Society will be held at Calverley on Saturday, August 4th, 1917. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting in the "Thornhill Arms" at 7.30 p.m.—Wm. Barton, Hon. Sec., 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Dronfield (6 bells) on Saturday, August 4th. Members are requested to note Secretary's change of address.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Bury, on Saturday, August 4th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 7 o'clock. A good attendance earnestly requested. Business important.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Secretary.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Brighton, on August 6th (Bank Holiday). Tower open from 11 till 1, and from 2 till 4. Service at 4. Business meeting at 4.30 in Parish Room (adjoining church). Half railway fares, without limit.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Central District.—The summer meeting will be held on Bank Holiday, Aug. 6th, 1917, at Mitcham. The bells at the Parish Church, SS. Peter and Paul (8), and the six at Christ Church will be available from 3 to 5 and from 7 to 9 p.m. Service at the Parish Church at 5 p.m. Tea at 6 p.m. (members 3d. and visitors at 1/-), and business meeting after. Ringers intending to be present at the tea are asked to send a post card not later than Friday, the 3rd August, to Mr. Charles Bance, The Queen's Head, Lower Green, Mitcham.

PETERBOROUGH AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Peterborough on Monday, August 6th. Service at St. John's Church at 4 o'clock; business meeting after. St. John's, St. Mary's and Woodstone's bells will be available. No arrangements for tea, but all ringers welcome.—John J. Jutson, Hon. Sec., St. Mary's School House, Peterborough.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Hertford on August Bank Holiday, when the bells of All Saints' (10) and St. Andrew's (8) will be opened for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be prepared at the Castle Cabin; members 9d., others 1/-. Business meeting after. All ringing friends will be made welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, District Secretary.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A meeting of the above will be held at New Romney on Saturday, August 11th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock. A free tea for all members and ringing friends provided by the Vicar, the Rev. South. Will those intending to be present please notify me not later than Aug. 8th?—H. Balcomb, Hon. Secretary, The Priory, Appledore, Kent.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—A combined practice will be held at Wombourne on Saturday, August 11th, at 4 o'clock, instead of at Pattingham as previously arranged.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society. Established 1824).—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Mortlake, on Saturday, August 11th. Bells available from 5.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Thornbury on Saturday, August 11th. Bells available from 3.30. Tea by kind invitation of the Vicar, Canon Cornwall. Those intending to be present please notify not later than August 6th.—W. A. Lewis, Branch Secretary, Ham, Berkeley, Glos.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Milnrow Parish Church on Saturday, August 11th. Bells ready at 2 o'clock. Meeting at 6 o'clock.—T. K. Driver, Sec., Middleton.

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.

Subscriptions to the above should be forwarded at once to the Ringing Master, Mr. Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, or to the Hon. Sec., Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

MAPLEDURHAM, OXON.—Recently, at St. Margaret's Church, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 23 mins.: R. T. Hibbert (conductor) 1, 2nd Air-Mechanic W. H. Pasmore 2, W. Hibbert 3, A. Wiggins 4, E. J. Menday 5, H. Simmonds 6. Also 720 Grandsire Minor, in 25 mins.: Ex-Sergt.-Major W. Hibbert, R.H.A., 1, 2nd Air-Mechanic W. H. Pasmore 2, R. T. Hibbert (conductor) 3, W. Hibbert, junr., 4, E. G. Frankum 5, Rev. O. W. O. Jenkyn, C.F., 6.

## MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**WESTERHAM, KENT.**—On Sunday, May 13th, at St. Mary's Church for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans'), in 45 mins.: H. J. Selby 1, H. E. Wills 2, F. Pike 3, C. Dean 4, W. S. Wise (conductor) 5, A. J. Lewes 6, D. Wright 7, R. Stone 8. Messrs. Dean, Wills, Wright and Wise, hail from Croydon; F. Pike from London.

**NORTHAMPTON.**—At All Saints' Church, on Sunday, May 20th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: H. Blundell 1, A. Hensman 2, W. J. Unwin 3, E. C. Lambert 4, F. Hopper 5, H. Rainbow 6, W. Farey (conductor) 7, J. Hensman 8. Rung as a farewell to W. J. Unwin, who was shortly joining the colours.

**BARKING, ESSEX.**—On Sunday, May 20th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Superlative Surprise Major (1280 changes), in 48 mins.: T. Cranfield 1, R. Fenn 2, C. Fenn (conductor) 3, E. Andrews 4, A. J. Neal 5, J. Moule 6, H. Torble 7, A. C. Hardy, R.F.C. (composer), 8. —On June 3rd, for evening service, and King's birthday, a quarter-peal of Superlative Surprise Major (1280 changes), in 47 mins.: F. G. Newman 1, C. Fenn (conductor) 2, T. Faulkner 3, L. Pye, R.F.A. 4, A. J. Neal 5, E. Andrews 6, R. Fenn 7, H. Flanders 8.

**CARDIFF.**—Llandaff Association.—At St. John's Church, on Empire Day, May 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes), in 55 mins., composed by C. Charge: H. Day 1, J. Harris 2, E. Coles 3, W. Biss 4, W. Heath 5, J. W. Jones 6, A. Rowley 7, S. Dawe 8, F. Chamberlain (conductor) 9, Wm. Bolton 10. Also 168 of Grandsire Triples: H. Day 1, J. Harris 2, Rev. F. Hatford 3, E. Coles 4, Wm. Heath 5, A. Rowley 6, Wm. Bolton (conductor) 7, Fred Chamberlain 8. The first touch with an inside bell by the Rev. F. Hatford for 15 years.

**SELLY OAK.**—Worcestershire Association.—On Empire Day, on May 24th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): E. J. Dowler 1, S. Grove 2, A. E. Norman 3, G. Pigott 4, O. Norman 5, L. Longney 6, H. Withers (conductor) 7, J. Eason 8.

**WORSLEY.**—On Sunday evening, May 27th, 504 Grandsire Triples, as a farewell touch for Willfred Grundy, who was joining His Majesty's forces on the 30th inst.: J. Ridyard 1, W. Grundy 2, \*S. Harrison 3, — Tickle 4, W. Jones 5, P. Derbyshire 6, F. Grundy 7, \*S. Hilton 8. \* First 504.

**WORKSOP.**—North Notts Association.—On Sunday, May 27th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: Sergt. T. Anderson, 28 Sherwood Rangers, 1, H. Haigh (conductor) 2, S. C. Walker 3, G. Hardwick 4, W. Roberts 5, A. Johnson 6, J. T. Wilson 7, E. Clark 8. Rung as a compliment to Sergt. T. Anderson, a member of the company, who was on leave prior to embarking for France; and also to Geo. Hardwick, whose first quarter-peal it was on an inside bell.—On Whit-Monday, 560 Bob Major: G. Hardwick 1, E. Clark 2, S. C. Walker 3, A. Johnson 4, H. Haigh 5, Sergt. Stanley Andrews (Wisbech) 6, J. T. Wilson 7. Corp'l. J. W. Barker (Bedford) (conductor) 8. Lougest touch by first three ringers.

**FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.**—During a Whitsuntide visit of Mr. E. H. Lewis, of Carluke, to Frodsham, the following touches were rung: On handbells, 720 Plain Bob Minor: F. Bibby 1, E. H. Lewis 3-4, W. Bibby 5-6. On tower bells, 720 Bob Minor: W. Bibby 1, E. H. Lewis 2, J. E. Bibby 3, H. W. Wilde 4, Miss M. Walker (first 720) 5, T. H. Lightfoot 6. 1264 Bob Major: \*F. Bibby 1, W. Bibby 2, H. W. Wilde 3, A. Unsworth 4, \*Miss M. Walker 5, \*J. E. Bibby 6, T. H. Lightfoot 7, E. H. Lewis 8. \* First quarter-peal. E. H. Lewis, conductor.

**SOUTHAM.**—Warwickshire Guild.—On May 30th, at St. James's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, in 58 mins.: A. Adkins 1, W. King 2, F. King 3, J. King (conductor) 4, E. G. Berry 5, W. Pratt 6, G. Stowe 7. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect and esteem for the late Rector (the Rev. J. Hart Davis), who was interred in the churchyard on the above date. All the ringers are members of the local band.

**BIRCH-IN-RUSHOLME, LANCASHIRE.**—On May 31st, on the occasion of Mr. W. E. Ryder's 71st birthday, 630 Grandsire Triples: W. Holbrook 1, W. E. Ryder (conductor) 2, A. Frost 3, H. Brickell 4, J. Leigh 5, R. Davies 6, J. H. Collier 7, F. Brickell 8. 432 Bob Major: J. Leigh 1, A. Frost 2, W. Holbrook 3, H. Brickell 4, F. Brickell 5, J. H. Collier 6, J. Derbyshire 7, R. Davies (conductor) 8.

**ERTH.**—Kent County Association.—On Saturday, June 2nd, at the Church of St. John-the-Baptist, a peal of London Surprise was attempted as a birthday compliment to T. Groombridge, junr., but after one hour's ringing it came to grief, through one of the ropes getting jammed: I. Emery 1, T. Groombridge, junr., 2, I. G. Shade 3, W. Hewett 4, R. Sanders 5, G. R. Pye 6, T. Groombridge, senr., 7, W. Fye (conductor) 8. Afterwards, at Christ Church, the same band rang a course of London, the first Surprise on the bells, and a course of Bristol, E. F. Pike in the place of W. Hewett.

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