



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, 1915
 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 authorized 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. BLOK,**
 Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

THE CLERGY AND RINGING.

The suggestion that was put forward last week for reaching the clergy through the various official diocesan publications, with the influence of the bishops behind them, has brought a letter from "An Old Ringing Parson," whose experience in the past was not of an encouraging nature. There will be many association secretaries to-day ready to endorse the view that the clergy, as a body, are difficult to move in most things connected with ringing. Direct appeals to them only have an effect in a small minority of instances, and it was the hope that the method we suggested last week would facilitate the awakening of interest which induced us to put it forward. There are probably few parishes where the clergy have not got their hands constantly full, and they hesitate to enter upon anything which appears likely to involve further distraction from their work. Yet one really wonders how they can, for instance, draw any distinction between the care of the organ and the demands of the choir—which seldom fail to find a sympathetic spot in an incumbent's heart—and the care of the bells and the requirements of the ringers—which not infrequently are largely neglected.

It is true that slowly the work of the associations and individual ringers is bringing to the clerical mind a larger interest in matters that appertain to the belfry; but, unfortunately, there is still in existence in many quarters the spirit of which our correspondent speaks, when he says, "No class of men are so jealous and suspicious of interference from outside as the parochial clergy." For that reason it seems to us that there is something to be gained by approaching these incumbents through a channel which they are likely to view with less disfavour. "An Old Ringing Parson" has found that clerical intervention, however well intentioned and tactfully made, is not always welcome, and his long experience places his opinion beyond question. His suggestion that the object in view might be better attained by the ringing laity therefore merits attention, especially when it becomes a matter of direct appeal. We doubt, however, whether in a publication like a diocesan gazette, the contribution of, say, an average ringing layman would carry the weight which would be given to an article by one of the clergy. But be that as it may, we hope the effort will be made to influence the bishops to permit diocesan ringing matters and subjects of real general importance relating to bells to be dealt with with some regularity in those official publications. The result certainly could do no harm to the cause of ringing, and it certainly has the possibilities of much good. At any rate, we are convinced that the various associations would be well advised to make some effort in the direction advocated, and few ought to be at a loss to find a correspondent with sufficient knowledge, interest and weight willing to undertake this light service.

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 CHURCH WARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLEFONGERS 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.**

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PEALS AUGMENTED,
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

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IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
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OF ALL KINDS.

**ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON
BRACKETS.**

MALLEABLE IRON BRACKET—
BEST BELL ROPE.
REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLMEN sent to inspect
and report on Bells and Tows

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, August 4, 1917, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. THOMAS AND EDMUND (R.C.),

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THE LATE SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION. Tenor 15 cwt.

BERNARD W. WITCHELL ... Treble	† WILLIAM KENT 5
* ALBERT E. NORMAN 2	JAMES GEORGE 6
MORRIS J. MORRIS 3	JAMES E. GROVES 7
JACOB SEABORN 4	BRO. WULSTAN, O.S.B. ... Tenor

Conducted by BERNARD W. WITCHELL.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Pte. George Parsons, 20th Batt. London Regt., reported missing Oct. 1st, 1916, now presumed to have died on that date. He had been a ringer at the above church since 1902, and was highly respected by all who knew him, and will be very much missed in the belfry.

* First peal, aged 15. † First peal on tower bells since Sept. 15th, 1900.

SHIPLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 18th, 1917, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

* HORACE HURLEY Treble	† HERBERT HAIGH 5
JAMES COTTERELL 2	FIRTH HOPWOOD 6
THOMAS B. KENDALL 3	JOSEPH BROADLEY 7
ARTHUR GILL 4	GEORGE A. NETTLETON ... Tenor

Composed by the late C. H. HATTERSLEY, and
Conducted by THOMAS B. KENDALL.

* First peal. † First peal on eight bells.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 18, 1917, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CRANSDIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 16½ cwt.

* JAMES GOODSSELL Treble	WILLIAM H. LAMBERT 5
WALTER FRANKS 2	* WILLIAM H. HOAD 6
CHARLES TRIBE 3	† ALBERT E. EDWARDS 7
WILLIAM HAIGH 4	* TRAYTON BOOTH Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT E. EDWARDS.

† First peal of Triples as conductor. * First peal on eight bells. Messrs. Franks, Lambert, Tribe and Haigh hail from Battle, Benenden, Tenterden and Gillingham respectively, the others being members of the local band. Mr. Haigh was elected a member of the association previous to starting. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Franks.

This is the first time any local ringers are known to have succeeded in assisting to ring a peal on these bells, which were first hung in 1771.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND
LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, August 14th, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

IN ST. BOTOLPH'S PARISH ROOM, BISHOPSGATE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5085 CHANGES;

REV. A. H. F. BOUGHEY 1-2	REV. E. BANKS JAMES 5-6
WILLIAM PYE 3-4	GEORGE R. PYE 7-8
WILLIAM SHEPHERD 9-10	

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and
Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Umpire: T. WALKER.

Rung as a compliment to the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey and W. Pye, upon their birthdays, both of which fall on the above date.

LEYTONSTONE STEDMAN CATERS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I am obliged to you for inserting the paragraph, pointing out that the peal published under my name is false, and if not trespassing too much upon your space I should like to show how the falseness arises. In the first ten of each course the four fixed bells are all dodging behind. Consequently there are four course ends false with rounds, and every other course end must have four course ends false with it. This will be clearly seen by making each row ending 5879 the starting row.

Plain Course.	
90 changes.	
123456789	318254
214365879	a 132645
12346	
a 132645879	634152
31624	b 361425
b 361425879	
63412	462351
c 643215879	c 643215
46231	
d 426135879	241653
241639597	d 426135

Repeat eight times.

How I came to overlook the obvious fact that this form of Stedman has not a clean proof scale I cannot now say, but I did overlook it, and I only found out what I had done by accident a few weeks ago.

As no actual harm has been done, I am rather glad that the peal is false, because it gives me the opportunity of telling Mr. Baker that I did not find fault with him for publishing a false peal, though I expect that a great deal has been read into the letter of mine, which you were good enough to publish in the "Ringing World" for May 19th, 1916, than what is to be found therein; but I found fault with him, and do so still, for tampering with Stedman. I have not the pleasure of Mr. Baker's acquaintance, but I know him by reputation as a man that knows a great deal more about ringing than I am ever likely to learn, and I am not ashamed to say that I have profited by his writings. But he has yet to learn that Stedman differs essentially from every other method.

When a false peal is published the best way of making amends for it is publishing a true one, and I append a peal which I believe is true.

I do not now think that Leytonstone Stedman is likely to commend itself to ringers in the first flight, but it is easy to ring, and its musical qualities—it having five musical course ends to every notational course—should make it acceptable, both to the non-ringing listeners, and to those ringers who are unable to appreciate delicate musical effects. Of course, long lengths of multiple dodging are not pleasing when discordant pairs of bells are together behind, and it is a form of Stedman that offers great scope to composers should it come into use as a stepping-stone from Grandsire to the ordinary Cambridge form of the method.

	5040		This calling repeated three
4 6 7	123456		times produces
S —	563214	4 6 7	253641
—	253614	S —	413526
—	623514	—	543126
S —	523614	—	153426
—	653214	S —	453126
—	263514	—	143526
S —	513624	—	513426
—	653124	S —	423156
—	163524	S	123456
S —	563124		
—	153624		
—	613524		

Additional bobs at 1 to be called in the first and two last courses.

HAPPY COINCIDENCE AT BROMLEY.

At St. Luke's Church, Bromley recently, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 45 mins.: Miss E. Burch 1, W. Hewett 2, P. J. Spice 3, Sergt. F. H. Herbert, R.A.M.C., 4, A. E. Newick 5, I. Emery (conductor) 6, T. Groombridge, senr., 7, W. Lyddiard 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor, to whom the company tendered the usual good wishes. It was Miss Burch's first quarter-peal, and, by a happy coincidence, her fiancé, Sergt. Herbert, who, prior to joining up was hon. secretary of St. Luke's band, was home on leave after fifteen months in France, and was able to take part.

NEWPORT, MON.—Llandaff Association.—On Wednesday, July 11th, in 50 mins., at the Church of All Saints', a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): H. Forbes 1, J. Bullen 2, T. Ford 3, H. Morgan 4, M. Selby 5, C. Greedy (conductor) 6, J. W. Jones 7, W. Ridout 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled, as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. F. E. Prothers, J.P., who was buried on this day, and who was for several years Vicar's warden at All Saints' Church.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
SUCCESSFUL PRACTICE MEETINGS.**

Following their successful meeting at Cookham, the High Wycombe Society arranged three more friendly meetings.

At Woodburn the visitors were met by Mr. J. West (foreman), and the bells were soon set going to various methods, some good touches being run, under the conductorship of Messrs. W. T. Horne and Jas. W. Wilkins, while it provided two local ringers with a splendid opportunity of practice.

The gathering at West Wycombe took place under ideal surroundings. The magnificent view from the hill, a quiet "stroll," and a "smoke" after a touch, while others were having a turn at the ropes, and the knowledge that good friendship was being cemented, all added to the enjoyment of the meeting; though it must be said that it was a bit of a struggle to face the climb, and it is rumoured that some of the enthusiasts contemplate going in for "mountaineering." The genial foreman (Mr. W. Coles), assisted by other local men, had everything in readiness for the visitors.

The meeting on Saturday last was at the Church at Monks Riborough. Evidently the reputation of these outings has got abroad, for there was quite a "crowd"—eighteen ringers at a six-bell tower! However, Kent Treble Bob was soon on the tapis, followed by Plain Bob Minor, Stedman, Grandsire, and Plain Bob Doubles, the conducting being shared by Messrs. J. W. Wilkins, W. T. Horne, R. Coles, F. Elburn (R.E.), and G. Twitchen. The ringers were received by Mr. L. Cummings (the foreman), and all his merry men were present. At the close of a very successful meeting, the hope was expressed that it would not be long before another visit was paid to the church.

Thanks are accorded to the Vicars of the respective parishes for their kindness in allowing the use of the bells; and to the foremen of the belfries for their courtesy.

These meetings, arranged by the Wycombe belfry, have for their object maintaining interest and stimulating enthusiasm in the art while so many "brother strings" are away, that the "home fires may be kept burning" for the day when our magnificent heroes return.

A successful combined practice was held at Chalfont St. Peter on Saturday week by the East Berks and South Bucks branch, ringers being present from Beaconsfield, Hillingdon, Stoke Poges, Fulmer, and the local company, including the Rev. J. F. Amies. Touches of Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Oxford Bob Minor and Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were rung. On Saturday last a very enjoyable meeting was held at St. John's, Hillingdon, several touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples being brought round. The ringers present were: Messrs. Leader, Smith and Cooper, of Slough; W. Henley and Miss Baleman, Stoke Poges; Messrs. J. J. Pratt, Chandler, Honor, and Misses Feltham and Williams, of Hillingdon; Miss Fuller and Mr. G. H. Gutteridge, of Fulmer.—It is proposed to hold the next meeting at this tower, on September 8th, when any visiting ringers' help will be much appreciated.

HAMMERSMITH GUILD OUTING.

The Hammersmith Guild held their outing on August Bank Holiday. They proceeded by brake to Hounslow, where they were met by Messrs. Beadle, Dewey, Goddard, and several local ringers. Touches, which included Stedman, Kent Treble Bob, Grandsire and Bob Major, were rung, and the party then proceeded to Staines, where Mr. Parker had the bells in readiness. Touches in various methods were brought home, and the journey was continued to Chertsey through picturesque country, the ancient town being reached about 2 p.m. Host Nowell, of the Swan Hotel, had prepared a sumptuous repast for the party, and all, after the long journey, did full justice to it. A visit was paid to the Chertsey tower, where several touches were rung, both before and after tea. Home was reached about 11 p.m., after a most enjoyable day. The ringers desire to take this opportunity of thanking the Vicars of the various towers for their kindness in granting the use of the bells.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

The monthly meeting of the Wotton-under-Edge and District Branch was held at Thornbury, ringers attending from Berkeley, Dursley, Cam, Tytherington, Stone, Thornbury, Wickwar, Painswick, Bristol, Newton, and Newport (Mon.). The bells, a fine peal of eight, were set going at 4 p.m. and several touches of Grandsire were brought round before tea, which took place at the Vicarage, at the kind invitation of Canon Cornwall. The usual business meeting followed, the Vicar presiding. Upper Cam was selected as the next meeting-place, on Sept. 15th.—Mr. J. W. Jones proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and Mrs. Cornwall for the kind way they had entertained the ringers, and this was carried with applause.

After ringing a course of Triples on the handbells, another visit was paid to the tower, where Major and Triples were rung until 7 p.m., at which hour service was held, conducted by the Vicar, the Association's special form being used. Further touches on the tower bells were afterwards rung, and concluded a very enjoyable gathering.

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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.

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"REACHING THE CLERGY."

To the Editor.

Sir,—To enlist the interest of the clergy in the care of their bells and encouragement of their ringers is an object as necessary as it is desirable; but how difficult, none but those who have tried it know. For some 20 years, as one of the chief officials of a County Association, I did my best, by correspondence, as opportunity offered, and by circulating among the clergy of our leading towers the excellent report of the Central Council on "The Care and Preservation of Bells", but with disappointing result. Few of those to whom I sent the pamphlet read it carefully; most of them never read it at all. One very leading Rector (who afterwards became an Archdeacon and Suffragan Bishop) told me plainly that "he could not see what change ringing had to do with the Church", and when I pleaded for its encouragement in his own belfry, then given over to a "stony" band, he intimated politely that I had better mind my own business. It never occurred to me, I confess, to appeal to our Bishop. But had I done so, he would first have taken counsel with that very incumbent, who was his right-hand man in diocesan matters. Both of them, I may add, have since passed away.

It is possible that the object of "reaching the clergy" may be better attained by the ringing laity. No class of men are so jealous and suspicious of interference from outside as the parochial clergy; and advice on a matter within their own control from the clergy of other parishes, however tactfully offered, is not always welcome. If Bishops will take the matter up, they may succeed better. Meanwhile, I hope that the ringing clergy of the present day may have better success with their brethren than we of an older generation enjoyed.—
Yours, etc.,
AN OLD RINGING PARSON.

THE "CLOCKING" OF BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I notice in your issue of August 10th a letter upon the above subject from Canon Papillon (to whom an apology is due from me for neglecting his proper designation in my last letter—I wrote in haste). The list of names he quotes, together with his own position and standing in the Exercise, claim from all ringers a deferential regard for any opinion upon the use (or abuse) of bells with which they are associated. But, for all that, I still hold that even a good case may be weakened by over-statement or the reverse, and my feeling is that the arguments which have been used against "clocking" go too far in one direction, and not far enough in another. Why, for instance, should only this particular method of chiming be attacked? It seems to me that other methods are open to the same class of objection, viz., that they place the bell and its fittings at the mercy of the chimer. Chiming with the ropes lends itself to very varied modulation, and the force of the blow, as well as the wear and tear of gudgeons, bearings, and ropes, is dependent in great measure upon the discretion of the operator. I have shuddered sometimes at the thumps administered by the heavy-handed, the youthful, and the vigorous, in chiming by this method, especially upon small bells, while our friend, the village sexton (not every sexton, of course, but the particular type which Canon Papillon, you, sir, and myself have in our minds), always seem to prefer to pull his rope on the slant at an angle of about 45 degrees from the mousehole, thereby giving it far greater wear than any ringing would do.

My suggestion, to come to a practical point, would be either to abolish chiming altogether, or to point out carefully its possibilities and its dangers, and to insist upon the necessity of safeguarding its use, whatever method may be adopted. A set of rules and cautions, placed in a prominent position in every tower, might be a means towards this end.

One great danger, which your article of July 27th did not mention, is that which comes from the hammers of clocks, which owing to the steel springs being out of adjustment, or corroded by the dampness of the air (this is especially the case near the seaside), are often allowed to lie flat upon the bells, to the detriment of the sound, and the danger of the bell. It is quite astonishing to notice how often clock hammers are suffered to offend in this way through neglect. I could quote numerous instances, but have already trespassed too much upon your space.—Yours faithfully,

Long Stanton.

H. B. WOOLLEY.

FIRST QUARTER-PEAL OF CATERS BY A BUCKS LADY.

On Thursday, August 9th, at St. John's, Hillingdon, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1439 changes), was rung in 1 hr. 5 mins., by the following members of the Oxford Guild: Miss G. E. Bateman 1, W. Henley 2, W. Lawrence 3, J. J. Parker 4, H. Hollifield 5, G. H. Gutteridge (conductor) 6, W. Horne 7, J. Bruce-Williamson 8, H. E. Chandler 9, W. J. Bateman 10. This was arranged and rung as a compliment to Miss Bateman, on the occasion of her 16th birthday. Miss Bateman is the first lady ringer of Buckinghamshire to score a quarter-peal on ten bells. Mr. Hollifield, of Abingdon, kindly took a rope, as Mr. Fussell (the branch secretary) was prevented from turning up.

MANSFIELD'S VETERAN BELL RINGER.

A touch of Grandsire Triples (672 changes) was rung on St. Peter's bells, Mansfield (Notts), on Friday evening, August 3rd, as a birthday compliment to Mr. William Gosling, senr., who on that date attained his 90th birthday. The veteran's practical ringing commenced as far back as 1840. Previous to that he used to chime the curfew at eight o'clock at night, his period of ringing being well over 77 years. His first peal of 5040 changes was rung in three hours, at Mansfield Parish Church, in 1862. A peal was considered a rare achievement in those days. During his ringing career he has taken part in peals of Grandsire Triples, Treble Bob Major, Double Norwich Major, and Stedman Triples. Mr. Gosling still takes an active part in ringing, and enjoys all his faculties, except for a weakness in his legs, the result of an accident two years ago.

He has been a member of the Midland Counties Association for many years, and has rung in most of the towns in the Midlands. His last peal was at Stanford-on-Soar, on the occasion of his 86th birthday.

The following rang in the birthday touch: W. Gosling, junr., William Gosling, senr., G. Hardstaff, J. Bleby, H. Allsop F. May, and C. Carr.—On Sunday, August 12th, Mr. Gosling took part in a 288 of Kent Minor, with 6—8 covering: C. Carr 1, W. Gosling 2, G. Hardstaff 3, J. E. Wheelodon (Norton, Staffs), 4, H. Allsop 5, F. May 6, T. Bettinson 7, J. Bleby 8.

The other week it was reported that the oldest bell ringer in England, who resides at Uttoxeter, had retired after ringing for 85 years. When this came to the knowledge of Mr. Gosling, senr., he exclaimed: "Why, he's nowhere, I can give him 12 years' start." May he still continue to enjoy

The rapture that impels,
To the swinging and the ringing
Of the bells, bells, bells,
To the rhyming and the chiming of the bells

J. E. W.

BELL ROPES CUT AT ECTON.

Owing to the mischievous and, apparently, objectless act on the part of some visitors to Ecton Church last week, says the "Northampton Daily Chronicle," the usual chiming of the bells for service on Sunday could not take place. The tower and belfry have no means of approach from the church itself, but are approached by a separate entrance from the churchyard, and the key of the door at this entrance is kept by the sexton. When the place was locked up on Sunday night week, everything appeared to be in order, but on Tuesday it was found that the ropes of three of the six bells had been cut clean through high up in the tower.

The authors of this mischief have not at present been discovered, but the matter was this week placed in the hands of the police at Wellingborough, and steps are being taken which it is hoped will lead to their being found.

It has transpired that several parties visited the church on Bank Holiday, and that some of them went to the tower, borrowing the key from the sexton for that purpose.

Since the above paragraph appeared, the following letter has been published in the same newspaper:—

Sir,—Regarding the cutting of bell ropes at Ecton Church last week, I am prepared to pay the sum of £1 (one pound sterling) to the person who shall give such information to the police as shall lead to the conviction of the offender or offenders, my reason being that my boy was there as a boy scout; and this, I trust, will either clear or convict the Boy Scouts.—Yours truly,

ARTHUR T. HOWLETT.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.

A meeting of the Romney Marsh and District Guild was held at New Romney, on Saturday week. A few good touches of Grandsire Triples were brought round before an adjournment was made to the residence of Churchwarden Anderson for tea. The Rector (the Rev. Hugh South) is away in France acting as chaplain to H.M. Forces, and his wife was staying in Dorsetshire, but came home to give the Guild a hearty welcome, and to do honours at the table, which, needless to say, was greatly appreciated, as on previous occasions tea at the Rectory has been one of the great features of the Romney meetings.

At the business meeting, after tea, Mr. G. H. Anderson presided.—It was decided to hold the next meeting at Rolvenden in September.

Votes of thanks to the Rector, with a sincere wish for his safe return, and to Mrs. South for coming so far to welcome her guests at tea, and to Mr. Anderson for his kindness in arranging the tea at his house, were accorded by acclamation.

A few courses of Grandsire Triples were afterwards rung on handbells on the lawn, and further touches on the tower bells, which were then lowered in peal. The members were very pleased to have the company and assistance of A.-M. R. N. Runham, of Reading, now stationed with the R.F.C. Squadron, Hythe. The following towers sent representatives: Ashford, Appledore, Rye, Stone-in-Oxney, Tenterden, and Woodchurch, and two or three of the local band were also present.

ERDINGTON RINGER PRESUMED DEAD.

Pte. George Parsons, a much valued member of the band at the Church of SS. Thomas and Edmund, Erdington, since 1902, who was serving with the 20th Battalion London Regiment, was reported missing on October 1st, 1916. His relatives have now been officially informed, that as nothing has since been heard of him it is regretted that it must be presumed that he was killed. To his memory a muffled peal was rung at the church where he rendered such good service in the belfry.

KILLED IN ACTION.

Pte. W. Caple, a much esteemed member of the band at Easton-in-Gordano, Somerset, has fallen on the field of honour. He was killed in France on July 9th, and a muffled peal of Doubles has been rung to his memory at St. George's Church.

WALSALL ROLL OF HONOUR.

St. Matthew's, Walsall, has the following ringers serving in the Forces:—

Gilbert Harding, 2nd South Staffs Regt.
William J. Smith, R.A.M.C.
Edgar T. Smith, 5th South Staffs Regt.
Harry Walker, 5th South Staffs Regt.
Harold Banks, R.N.
A. D. McDougall, Royal Garrison Artillery.
Robert Field, Leicestershire Regt.
Harold Pugh, T.R.

The following, who learned to ring at St. Matthew's, and are past members of the band, have come from the Colonies to serve. They have re-visited their old tower:—

H. Henry Somerville, from Canada, R.G.A.
William Stanton, from Canada, Canadian Expeditionary Force.
George Peate, from Melbourne, Australian Expeditionary Force.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Biggleswade Branch was held at Roxton on August Bank Holiday, when members were present from Everton, Sandy, Biggleswade, Northill, Elstow, Bedford and Willington, with the local company. The lady members were again well in evidence, and, taken as a whole, they seem to show more enthusiasm than the men. The bells were kept going until about 5.30, when an adjournment was made for tea, at the invitation of the local captain and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Bartram (who are also host and hostess of the Pear Tree Inn).

After tea a short business meeting was held, during which it was decided to go to Southill for the next meeting, provided the bells are available.—The passing of the usual votes of thanks concluded the meeting; the members returning to the tower; but here a disappointment awaited them, as, after only about half an hour's ringing, they were asked to stop on account of illness, a very pleasant meeting thus coming to a close an hour earlier than was expected.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

A monthly meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at the Church of All Saints', Fittleton, on Saturday week, and was well attended by ringers from Southbroom, St John's, Devizes; Potterne, Chirton, West Ealing, Plymouth, Swindon and Beechingstoke; 24 from Devizes, doing the 14-mile journey in two well-equipped brakes from the Pelican Inn and posting-house. Ringing commenced soon after four o'clock, and some good touches of Grandsire Doubles and Bob Minor were brought round on the pretty ring of six hanging in the steeple. Tea at five o'clock was very generously provided for the company on the Rectory premises by the Rector (the Rev. P. J. Dale, M.A.), and thoroughly enjoyed.

At the business meeting, which followed, one new honorary member (the Rev. H. Cromwell Bush, Vicar of Secund) was proposed by Mr. H. Brownlee West, and seconded by the Rev. H. E. Tilney-Bassett, Master of the Guild, and carried with loud acclamation.—Hearty votes of thanks were accorded to the Rector of Fittleton for the use of the bells, and the welcome tea, to which the reverend gentleman duly responded, and the ringers then returned to the steeple, lowering the bells about seven o'clock to resume the long journey home, thus bringing to a close a very enjoyable and pleasant meeting.

STOKE-IN-COVENTRY.—Warwickshire Guild.—On Sunday, July 8th, at St. Michael's Church, on the occasion of the unveiling of a war shrine, by the Lord Bishop of Worcester, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins., with the bells half-muffled: C. Freeman 1, W. Pryce 2, A. Wilson (first with a bob bell) 3, H. Thorpe 4, J. Horron 5, W. T. Cox 6, J. H. White (conductor) 7, W. Clements 8.

BROXBORNE.—Herts Association.—On Sunday, July 8th, for evening service, at St. Augustine's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): G. Gouldsmith 1, W. Mumford 2, G. Maxim 3, H. G. Rowe (composer and conductor) 4, J. Puplett 5, S. Knight 6, G. Badley 7, S. Proctor 8. Rung as a farewell to Mr. J. Puplett, who is leaving the district for Luton.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

STOKE POGES.—On a recent Sunday morning, for service, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: G. T. Leader 1, T. Smith 2, Miss G. E. Bateman (conductor) 3, G. H. Gutteridge 4, W. Bateman 5, W. Henley 6. Miss Bateman's first attempt to call a 720.

RIGGLESWADE (BEDS).—On Sunday, July 1st, for morning service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: H. L. Harlow (Bedford) 1, J. Church (Bedford) 2, W. Mayes (Old Warden) 3, E. Stratton (Biggleswade) 4, C. Pratt (Clifton) 5, F. Duffield (Sharnbrook) 6, C. W. Clarke, conductor (Bedford), 7, A. Frankling (Biggleswade) 8.

LUTON, BEDS.—On July 8th, at the Parish Church, for evening service, after meeting short for Grandsire Triples, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins., with tenor covering: J. Shaw 1, A. J. Smith (first in the method) 3, A. King (conductor) 4, B. Wilson 5, T. Kendall 6, J. Rookwood 7, H. Shaw 8.

NORTON-LE-MOORS, STAFFS.—On Sunday, July 8th, for matins, 720 Lichfield Surprise: S. B. Bailey 1, J. F. Ryles 2, J. E. Wheelodon 3, W. C. Lawrence (conductor) 4, F. T. Dawson 5, W. P. Deane 6.

BARNES.—At St. Mary's Church, on July 8th, on the 705th anniversary of the dedication of the church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 44 mins.: W. H. Stevens 1, H. Barrett 2, M. Jacobs 3, S. Meadows 4, H. Cook 5, C. Hunt 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, H. D. Gas 8.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.—At St. Mary's Church, on July 8th, for evening service, 504 Stedman Triples: A. Crane 1, W. Mead 2, H. Sear 3, H. M. Day (Market Deeping) 4, F. Hedges 5, E. Marks 6, W. Sear (conductor) 7, V. Sear 8. This was the first attempt at Stedman Triples by the ringer of the 4th, who is a sapper in the Royal Engineers.

STANSTEAD.—Essex Association.—On Sunday, July 8, for morning service, at the Parish Church, 120 Grandsire Doubles.—On Sunday, July 15th, for morning service, 360 Grandsire Doubles: Lance-Corpl. W. W. Watts 1, T. J. Watts 2, G. Gray 3, Pte. H. W. Watts 4, W. Watts (conductor) 5, Pte. A. Jordan 6.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.—At the Parish Church of St. Peter, on July 8th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 44 mins.: G. Pincoft 1, James Allred 2, F. Morris 3, J. Makin 4, J. T. Allred 5, R. Allred (conductor) 6, H. Allred 7, P. Nuttall 8. Arranged for the ringers of the 2nd, 5th, 6th, 7th, who hail from Tykdesley; the rest are of the local band.

SHORNE, KENT.—On Sunday, July 8th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob and 240 Kent: J. Avis 1, C. Waterman 2, G. Jones 3, G. Morrad 4, G. Ambrose 5, Air Craftsman Fred M. Mitchell (conductor) 6.

ALDERSHOT.—On Saturday, July 14th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: Sapper Newnan, R.E., 1, Corporal J. T. Bartram, R.F.A., 2, Pte. H. W. Kirton, A.O.C., 3, Pte. R. George, A.S.C., 4, Corpl. E. Bennett, M.F.P., 5, J. Mann (conductor) 6.

UXBRIDGE.—At St. Margaret's Church, on Sunday morning, July 15th, 630 and 336 Oxford Bob Triples: J. Peddle 1, Miss G. E. Bateman 2, G. H. Gutteridge 3, J. J. Pratt (conductor) 4, T. Smith 5, H. H. Chandler 6, R. Carter 7, P. Kedg 8.

LATE NOTICES.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting will be held at Edenbridge on Saturday, September 1st. Tower open 3.30. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.45. Followed by business meeting. Half travelling expenses up to 2/- each will be paid to members attending. All members intending to be present at tea must notify me not later than Tuesday, August 28th.—W. Latter, Hon. District Secretary, 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Steyning on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Tower open 3 p.m. Members please note that the election of officers for the Western Division will take place at this meeting.—A. W. Groves, Hon. Divisional Sec., 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society). Established 1824.—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. Ann, Swain's Lane, Highgate, on Saturday, September 8th. Ringing from 4 to 8.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow. All ringers heartily invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

NOTICES.

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

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at 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 general business on the 28th, at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Prestwich on Saturday, August 25th. Bells available at 4.30. Meeting at 7.15.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—A meeting will be held at Heston on Saturday, August 25th. Bells available from 3.30.—J. Parker, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, on Saturday, August 25th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 7.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's, Street, Ramsbottom.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—The quarterly meeting of above branch will be held at Padbury on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Service, 3.30 p.m. Business meeting and tea to follow. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m.—W. Sear, Hon. Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Yateley on September 1st. Bells available from 3 p.m. till dusk. Ringers' service 5 p.m. Tea at 5.45 p.m. (for those who notify me by August 28th), to be followed by short business meeting. All ringers welcome.—F. J. Shepherd, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Surrey.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The next meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. P. C. West), at Sunbury on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Ringing from 3.30. Tea at a nominal charge at 6 p.m. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next monthly meeting of the above society will be held at Idle on Saturday, Sept. 1st, 1917. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting in the Parochial Hall at 7.30 p.m.—Win. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley, Leeds.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Salehurst (Robertsbridge Station) on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Ringing from 3 to 8 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock (6d. to members who must let me know by August 28th). Half railway fares will be paid for this meeting. Will secretaries of bands and members generally please note that this meeting is a very important one, as by a new rule passed at the annual meeting, the Divisional Secretary, Divisional Committee and Committee of Advice, are to be elected at the business meeting which follows the tea?—Geo. H. Howse, Div. Sec., Kenilworth, Latimer Road, Eastbourne.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The Western Branch will hold a meeting at Aldenham, on Saturday, Sept. 1st, when all members and ringing friends will be welcomed. Bells available from 3 to 8 o'clock.—F. A. Smith, F. Edwards, Hon. Secs., 67, Upper Paddock Road, Oxhey, Watford.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Mersham on Saturday, Sept. 1st, by kind permission of the Rector (Rev. G. Brocklehurst). Bells will be available at 2 o'clock, a short service at 5 o'clock, and tea, kindly provided by the Rector, at 5.30. Will all those intending to be present at tea kindly notify me not later than Wednesday, August 29th? Ringers in khaki will be specially welcomed.—C. Tribe, Dist. Hon. Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The last meeting of this summer series will be held at Ranmoor, Sheffield, on Saturday, Sept. 1st. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Rd., Sheffield.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wentworth (near Rotherham), on Saturday, Sept. 8th. Bells (6) available 3.30 p.m. till dusk. Tea will be provided at the George and Dragon Hotel at 1/9 per head for those who notify me by Monday, Sept. 3rd. Nearest station, Elsecar and Hayland (M.R.), for Barnsley district visitors, and Wentworth and Hayland Common for Sheffield district visitors; also Thorpe bus from Rotherham (1½ miles).—Leonard Brightman, District Secretary *pro tem.*, 45, St. Stephen's Road, Rotherham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Blackburn on Saturday, Sept. 15th, 1917, instead of Sept. 29th. Particulars by circular.—W. H. Shuker, J. H. Banks, Hon. Secs.

"BELL NEWS" WANTED.—Wanted to complete series for the Hattersley Library, Vols. 16 to 25 inclusive, bound or unbound. Price and particulars to Sam Thomas, 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

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