



No. 380. Vol. XII.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, 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.

Lenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MEMBERS GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1918
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. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK

THE NATION'S VOICE.

No greater proof that at heart the British public love the bells of old England, and recognise in them the means of proclaiming the spirit of the Nation, could be found than the unanimous desire expressed through the Press of the country last week that the bells should ring to celebrate the great victory of our arms in France. When, a few weeks ago, the Army achieved a great triumph in Flanders, there were inquiries in the newspapers as to why the bells did not ring, and we suggested that in view of the opinions thus expressed, which clearly marked a desire on the part of the public to hear the bells of victory, ringers should be ready to do their part, as they have done through the great wars of the past, to signalise the successes of the troops.

Last week, with the great and smashing blow at the enemy which reconquered about forty square miles of territory, and brought in nearly ten thousand prisoners and a hundred guns, came the opportunity, and the newspapers called loudly for the bells. Needless to say, the ringers were not behindhand in doing their part, and it is gratifying to find that St. Paul's Cathedral gave a lead. The ringing there was done at the request of the authorities, while the Bishop of London himself issued an appeal for the bells generally in his Diocese to be rung. The ringing at St. Paul's, indeed, was something of a historical event, for we read that a huge crowd gathered round the west front to hear the pealing of this noble ring, and in an interval between the touches the National Anthem was fervently sung.

We may depend upon it that wherever the bells were set ringing hundreds of British hearts were thrilled, and it is a proud thing for ringers to remember that once more the bells became the voice of the nation. Let there be no mistake about this call for the bells. The effect of the silence of the bells through the period of the war has not been lost. Abstinence from unnecessary ringing has had a marked result, and now at last the bells have come into their own. The opportunity which we have waited and longed for came, the public demanded the bells and victory was acclaimed through the land from the lofty towers of our cathedrals and churches.

The ringers have had their part in the national rejoicing, not, be it said, merely through personal desires, but at the call of the country, and if in the future they act as thoughtfully and as tactfully as in the past, when peace comes once more the public will welcome the bells with an enthusiasm which they have never before displayed, and the bells will have a warmer place in the hearts of many who will realise that they are, after all, the voice of the nation in interpreting the spirit that pervades the people at times when great events are happening.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford

Dear Sirs,

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

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

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLEINGERS 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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FOR CHURCHES,
SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

PEALS AUGMENTED,
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

FRAMES

IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
STEEL OR IRON.

Chiming Machines.

Best Workmanship and
Satisfaction Guaranteed

FITTINGS

OF ALL KINDS.

ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON
BRACKETS.

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

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
and report on Bells and Towers.

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Member 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.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

LINDLEY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 24, 1917, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANCES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

JOE HARDCASTLE... .. Treble	WILLIAM B. FRITH ... 5
JOSEPH BROADLEY 2	FREDERICK SALMONS ... 6
JAMES COTTIERELL 3	CHARLES H. CRAVEN ... 7
BENJAMIN THORP 4	*JOSEPH E. SYKES ... Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH E. SYKES.

Rung in honour of the recent great victory of our troops in France, and as a birthday compliment to James Cotterell. * First peal as conductor.

SIX BELL PEALS.

TONG, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 17, 1917, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Comprising one extent each of the following methods: Arnold's Victory, City Delight, London Scholars' Pleasure, New London Pleasure, Duke of York, Violet, and Oxford. Tenor 12 cwt.

CHARLES J. SALLOWAY ... Treble	GEORGE BOLLAND 4
SAMUEL ODDY 2	EDWARD ODDY 5
GEORGE LAMBERT 3	RUFUS THORNTON ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE BOLLAND.

Rung on the 40th anniversary of Mr. George Bolland's first peal.

STANTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 24, 1917, in Two Hours and Forty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being two 720's of Oxford Bob, two of Canterbury Pleasure, and three of Plain Bob, each called differently.

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qrs. in G.

JOHN DOLPHIN Treble	JAMES HEMMING 4
FREDRICK JOHNSON 2	CHARLES GAMM 5
SIDNEY O. ANNIS 3	HENRY MIDDLETON ... Tenor

Conducted by JAMES HEMMING.

First peal on the bells. Tea was provided by Mr. P. S. Stott, and partaken of at Mr. John Wiggins'. The Rector (the Rev. T. W. Reynolds) spent some time with the ringers, and congratulated them on finishing the peal. Votes of thanks were accorded the Rector and Mr. Stott. It is interesting to note that the distance cycled by the band totalled 143 miles.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Thursday, November 22, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH HOUSE, MOOR STREET,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANCES;

Tenor 14 size in D.

THOMAS RUSSAM 1-2	JAMES E. GROVES... .. 5-6
ALBERT WALKER 3-4	GEORGE F. SWANN 7-8

WILLIAM KENT 9-10

Composed by YORK GREEN, and
Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

Referee: MORRIS J. MORRIS.

First peal of Royal as Conductor.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, November 24, 1917, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
At 5, MOOR STREET, CITY.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 size in D.

THOMAS RUSSAM 1—2	JAMES E. GROVES 7—8
GEORGE F. SWANN 3—4	PTE. J. F. SMALLWOOD 9—10
ALBERT WALKER 5—6	*MORRIS J. MORRIS ... 11—12

Composed by JAMES E. GROVES, and
Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

Referee: MR. WILLIAM KENT.

* First peal of Cinques on handbells.

ANOTHER MILITARY MEDALLIST.

News has come to hand that George Trollope, who used to be one of the ringers, at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, and is a brother of Mr. J. A. Trollope, has been awarded the Military Medal for service in France, where he has been now for over two years with the 21st Canadians. Another brother is also serving in France, being a lieutenant in the Middlesex Regiment.

A CANADA BELL.

In connection with the report, inserted last week of the Kent County Association Committee meeting, it should have been added that a grant of £3 5s. was made from the Belfry Repairs Fund towards the new treble at Brabourne, which is to be called the "Canada" Bell to commemorate the sojourn of Canadian Battalions in the parish, and also the Canadian Hospital in the sister parish of Monk's Horton.

KINGTON MAGNA RINGER'S DEATH.

News was received at Kington Magna, Dorset, on All Saints' Day, of the death of Ple. Robert Yeatman, A.S.C., who was for some time a member of the Kington Magna band of ringers. In recent years he was resident in another part of the country. Being an expert driver, he volunteered his services during the early days of the war, and was assigned to the motor transport in East Africa where he met his death of disease. The bells of the Parish Church were rung half-muffled as a tribute to his memory, and the Rector made feeling reference to the sad event from the pulpit on the following Sunday.

DEATH DURING "VICTORY" RINGING.

WELL-KNOWN LONDON RINGER'S TRAGIC END.

A tragic incident brought to a close the ringing at St Michael's, Cornhill, for the great victory. Mr. Henry Springall, a well-known member of the College Youths, was taking part when he was seized with illness, and died immediately.

Mr. Henry Springall, who was a most accomplished ringer, has taken part in many notable peals with the College Youths, and rang the treble in the non-conducted Stedman Cinques at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on February 22nd, 1915. He was a very efficient conductor, and piloted bands through many performances in various methods at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, and other London churches. For many years he has been a member of the St. Paul's Cathedral band, and has been a most regular attendant, except when his illnesses in the last few years have prevented him from turning up, perhaps for two or three Sundays in succession.

During the celebrations for the recent victory, on Friday, the 23rd inst., he rang in touches of Stedman Cinques at the Cathedral, Stedman Triples at St. Andrew's, Wells Street, and was ringing the 6th at St. Michael's, Cornhill, when, after about ten or fifteen minutes, he suddenly collapsed, and fell forwards on to the floor, and to the horror and grief of his fellow ringers was found to have passed away. He set his bell before leaving it, and the ringing came to an abrupt termination.

Fortunately the Rector, the Rev. J. H. Ellison, was at the church, and as soon as he heard the sad news, he hurried up to the belfry and read prayers, and, with others, went to break the sad news to Mrs. Springall.

The funeral is to take place at 3 p.m. to-morrow (Saturday), at Hford Cemetery.

MARESFIELD, SUSSEX.—On Oct. 21st, at the Parish Church, for harvest festival, 720 Plain Bob Minor, in 28 mins.: E. Baker 1, A. Brown 2, W. Burrell 3, A. H. Porter, M.G.C. (Cambridge), 4, J. A. Hart 5, R. Clifford (Beaston, Notis) conductor, 6. Messrs. Hart and Burrell belong to Uckfield, and Baker and Brown to the local band.

ANNIVERSARY PEAL AT TONG.

MR. GEORGE BOLLAND'S CELEBRATION.

No man is better known in the Yorkshire Association than George Bolland, of Tong. He is one of the few veterans left who founded the Association, and he has the happy knack of successfully organising meetings of ringers to promote good fellowship and advance the art. Just over 40 years ago he was admitted a full member of the Tong company, and has been a member ever since. Not only has he faithfully discharged his duties in the tower, but he is also a fine example of a church-going ringer, and occupies the post of warden at the present time.

Mr. Bolland rang his first six-bell peal at Tong, on Saturday, Nov. 17th, 1877, and the following is a copy of the record taken from "Church Bells":—

"On Saturday, 17th ult., six members of the Yorkshire Association of Change Ringers met at St. James' Church, Tong, and rang 5040 changes in the following intricate methods, viz.: Arnold's Victory, City Dolight, London Scholars, Duke of York, New London Pleasure, Oxford and Violet. The ringers were: W. Sugden 1, G. Bolland 2, E. Webster 3, B. A. Dodson 4, J. H. Dixon 5, J. Haley 6. Conducted by J. H. Dixon. Tenor, 12 cwt."

Mr. Bolland is the only one of the band now living, and to celebrate the 40th anniversary of this peal it was decided to attempt a peal in the same methods by the local band.

Some thirty ringers were invited from Armley, Bramley, Birstall, Calverley, Dewsbury, Headingley, Holbeck, Thornhill, Halifax, and other places, and they were keenly interested in the performance, which was successfully brought round, about 6 p.m., as recorded in another column.

By the kindness of the local company tea was served at the Greyhound Inn, to which ample justice was done. Afterwards the President of the Yorkshire Association (the Rev. C. C. Marshall) complimented the band on ringing the peal, and voiced the congratulations of the visitors to them, and especially to the conductor, concluding a very felicitous speech by wishing Mr. Bolland long life to continue his good work amongst ringers.

Mr. Bolland very feelingly replied, and the rest of the evening was spent in social intercourse, interspersed with touches and courses on handbells.

WOKINGHAM RINGERS AT HURST.

On Saturday afternoon, November 17th, some of All Saints' and some of St. Paul's, Wokingham, bands, mustering nine in all, had a walk to Hurst, Berks, for a ringing outing. They were met at the church by the Vicar and Mrs. Broome, and the curate. After the office for ringers had been said by the Vicar, a six-score of Doubles with 7-6-8 covering, was rung as an opening touch, in which some of the beginners of All Saints' took part. Touches of Doubles followed to enable the two lady beginners of All Saints' (Misses E. Walker and E. Fielder) to have a pull, and they performed creditably, it being Miss Fielder's first attempt at changes. Mr. J. White and the following lady ringers, with the visitors, rang touches of Grandsire Doubles and Triples: Mrs. Broome, Misses Roe, White and Beeson, after which the party adjourned to the Vicarage, where Mr. and Mrs. Broome had kindly provided light refreshments, which were keenly appreciated.—Mr. S. Price, on behalf of all the ringers, heartily thanked the host and hostess for their kindness and generosity in granting the use of the bells, for their welcome, and also for their hospitality.—Mr. Broome, in reply, pressed them to come again when convenient.

DEATH OF MR. C. BLACKMAN, OF ARUNDEL.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Charles Blackman, of Queen Street, Arundel, on November 16th. Deceased had been employed many years at the Swallow Brewery, and although no one saw what happened, it appears that he was ascending a perpendicular ladder to a loft, when he slipped and fell on his head, sustaining a fractured skull. At the inquest a verdict of "Accidental death" was returned.

The funeral took place at Arundel, on Thursday, Nov. 22nd. The first part of the service was very impressively conducted at the Parish Church by the Vicar; the cortege then proceeded to the cemetery. The coffin was borne to the grave by Mr. E. Lindup (Heene), Mr. R. Whittington (Cranleigh), Mr. J. Neley (Arun del) Mr. Blake (Chichester). At the conclusion of the last sad rites, the ringers attending the funeral returned to the church, where the bells were muffled as a token of respect. Touches of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major were rung; also a touch of Stedman Triples by the following: R. Whittington 1, Mrs. R. Whittington 2, E. H. Lindup 3, P. H. Doick 4, G. Norris 5, W. Hillman 6, A. W. Groves (conductor) 7, M. Blake 8. This was Mrs. Whittington's first touch of Stedman Triples.

Deceased was a member of the Sussex County Association, and in his younger days rang many peals. The sympathy of all will go out to Mrs. Blackman in the sad loss she has sustained.

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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 CENTRAL COUNCIL.

ITS FAILINGS AND THE REMEDIES.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

V.

I have now frankly, and I think fairly and temperately, stated what I think are the shortcomings of the Council. These are the things which should be avoided in future. But how? It is easy enough to find fault; it is not nearly so easy to find a remedy; and I have no infallible plan of reform. But I will make a few suggestions, if only as the basis of discussion.

Two things must be kept in mind: first, the Council must be made really representative; and, second, it must be made really useful to the Exercise.

As I have already said, we do not need any change of personnel to make it representative. What we want is to gain the confidence of ringers; to induce them to let the central body represent them; and that will be done when, and not till when, they recognise it as a real help to them.

Reform should start at the top. Never again must the office of President become the personal right of any one man. It should be open to every man who has the needful qualities, and I suggest a rule that no man should occupy the position for more than three consecutive years. Indeed, I would go further; I would have a fresh President every meeting. He should be elected at the preceding meeting, and it should be an understanding that anyone who has once served should not offer himself for re-election, so long as there is a qualified man who has not served. I would make the President's address a great feature of the meeting. He should be expected to address the Council on some definite subject of interest to ringers. Not string together a few platitudes, but select a definite subject of which he is master, and give a carefully prepared address on it. The range of subjects should not be restricted in any way except by the proviso that it should be of use.

In place of the present procedure by resolution and committee report, I would suggest that a certain number of members should be invited to read papers on different subjects. These subjects could be selected by the Standing Committee, and more than one paper read on the same thing. Or, if any member desired to address the Council on any matter he should, due notice being given, be allowed to do so. A time-limit would be set to all, and after the set papers had been read, a general discussion could be allowed. In these things the model of the Church Congress should be closely followed.

A wide variety of subjects should be encouraged, but in every case the idea should be to get someone who knows something to tell the Council, and, through it, the Exercise about it. The Council should expect to be taught, and instead of as at present pretending to be able to judge and decide these matters it should treat its speakers as authorities, and break up with a larger amount of knowledge than it had before. What would be said would not pretend to bind anybody, but opinions expressed by an authority would carry weight, because the speaker was an authority. No doubt many false and superficial opinions would be expressed but if they stimulated thought the cause of ultimate truth would benefit.

Many of these papers, of course, would be slight, and hardly worth preserving, but if the speakers really took trouble there would be a good proportion of permanent value. If a selection of such were carefully edited and printed the book would be of far greater value and have a far larger sale than the present Central Council publications.

The subjects should, I say, be as varied as possible. Let me suggest a few: The correct status of ringers in the Church, and the best way to attain to it; the influence of a man like Henry Johnson on change ringing; a critical estimate of Jasper Snowden's works; the value of Double Norwich Caters as a method for nine bells; the value of self-aligning and ball bearings in hanging bells. And many more such. They must not be treated on too technical lines. The papers should seek to teach ringers and stimulate an interest in many ways. The interest in ringing does not consist entirely in peal ringing, and few ringers realise what a goodly heritage they have.

I am sure such papers would prove of far greater value than resolutions as to whether we should decorate ourselves with some sort of emblem or other, or long speeches on Bob Major Lead Ends, when neither speaker nor audience know what Bob Major Lead Ends are.

(To be continued.)

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

The election of officers of the College Youths took place at the annual meeting at the Coffee Pot on Tuesday of last week, as follows: Master, Mr. Albert A. Hughes; hon. treasurer, Mr. Leonard A. Hughes; trustees, Messrs. Challis F. Winney and Walter Prime; senior steward, Mr. Reuben Sanders; junior steward, Mr. Chas. H. Horton; hon. secretary, Mr. W. T. Cockerill.

A VETERAN'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

MR. W. ROCK SMALL'S RECORD.

For more than a quarter of a century (except for years 1914-15 and 16, owing to the war), it has been one of the customs to attempt—and generally successfully—a peal of Stedman Triples at one of the principal churches in the Black Country—Tipton Parish Church—better known to people for miles around as the "Pepper-Box," because the shape of the tower is like a pepper-box. These peals have been for "the annual" of one of the most noted and highly respected campanologists of the Midlands—Mr. William Rock Small, who celebrated his 78th birthday on Monday, November 12th. For more than a decade the arrangements have been in the capable hands of Mr. John Smith, the tower-keeper and vergier of this ancient church, but owing to his serious illness, and through the war, he has been unable to undertake the management during the three years mentioned, so younger blood, and a pupil of Mr. Small, undertook to revive the birthday peal celebration, and arranged two peals of Stedman—Mr. Small's favourite method—in honour of his 78th birthday—the first to be at his beloved church at Tipton, and the second at his native place—Wednesbury.

On the afternoon of November 12th, a strong band had been got together, all of them old friends of Mr. Small, and visited Tipton, specially to do honour to one to whom honour was due, and the Rev. C. H. Barker, the Society's clerical secretary, came purposely into the



MR. W. ROCK SMALL.

belfry before the starting of the peal, and heartily congratulated Mr. Small, and wished the band the best of luck. Owing to the lighting and the military restrictions in Staffordshire, an early start had to be made. With Mr. J. E. Groves as conductor, a fine peal was accomplished in two hours and forty-nine minutes, as recorded in last week's "Ringing World." Mr. Small was heartily congratulated by the band, who wished him the usual "many happy returns," and hoped he would enjoy the best of health, and be able to take part in many more of his birthday peals.

It is worthy of note that Mr. Small attends Divine service at the church he loves and rings at nearly every Sunday morning and night, walking a distance of nearly five miles each Sunday for the purpose. He is proud of his church, and has been a sidesman for many years. He has placed a beautiful stained-glass window in the church to the memory of his devoted wife, who died a few years ago, and in addition to this, he has had erected a marble tablet (with the coat of arms) recording a muffled peal of Stedman Triples rung to the memory of Queen Victoria, and this is the only memorial in Tipton to her late Majesty. In addition, Mr. Small has placed other tablets of marble and wood in the little belfry recording peals he has rung, ranging from Grandsire Triples to Double Norwich. He has rung at this well-known little "pepper-box" thousands of changes, and spent many enjoyable hours there in teaching the art of change ringing and improving its practice. He was for nearly 30 years the tower-keeper, and has been a ringer at this church for forty years. He is not so agile as a few years ago, but can still "go the pace," as a good many

friends know. His name figures in nearly every belfry (where bells are ringable) in the Midlands. He's a wonderful man is "Rock," and now we shall have to style him "the grand old man of the Black Country." He likes the name of "Rock," because his mother (before marriage) was a Miss Rock, and if there are any peals to be fixed, and he has taken part in them, his special orders are to be sure and put Rock, not "R."

After the ringing of his birthday peal, all adjourned to the residence of Mr. John Smith, the Church House, and sat down to tea. The evening afterwards was enjoyed by ringing handbells—Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Grandsire Caters, and recounting reminiscences of past ringing events. "Rock" told some of his wonderful ringing experiences. The evening was creeping along, when Mr. John Jagger (of Burton fame) proposed, in an appropriate little speech, "the jolly good health of Mr. Wm. Rock Small," and Mr. John Smith seconded, and Mr. Jas. George, of Rugby, now of Birmingham, spoke in support, saying how pleased he was to know that such a magnificent peal had been accomplished for Mr. Small's 78th birthday. — The motion was, of course, carried with much heartiness, and the company parted with wishes for the same success on the following Saturday, at Wednesbury.

Wednesbury is the native place of Mr. Rock Small. There he learnt the art of change ringing, and there he has scored many peals on the old peal of ten. There also, to extend the celebration, it was his desire for the second peal of the week, and another good band was got together, which included four ringing masters and two ex-masters of the principal ringing Associations of the Midlands, and included colleagues who had the pleasure of ringing with Mr. Small, one about 40 years ago, five others of thirty years, and two others 20 years ago. This shows the respect in which he is held. Two o'clock was the time fixed, and Stedman Caters was the order for the afternoon. Again the clerical secretary put in an appearance—he is a fine mascot—and wished "good luck and a good peal." Mr. Groves was again conductor, and his own composition of 5095 changes was accomplished in three hours and twenty minutes—just five minutes under the military restricted time. The composition is a fine one, with the bells turned every four courses, and was rung for the first time on tower bells. This was the first peal Mr. John Carter had attempted since the war broke out, but it was his desire that he should ring another peal with his dear old friend, "Rock" Small. Afterwards, Mr. Small entertained his colleagues at the "Prince Regent" Hotel, where a couple of hours was pleasantly spent.

Mr. James George proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Small for providing refreshments after the Wednesbury peal, and Mr. J. E. Groves seconded; and Mr. George and Mr. Rowley proposed and seconded respectively, a vote of thanks to the writer of this report for the arrangements he made in bringing Mr. Small's 78th birthday celebration to such a success.

Mr. Small was the recipient of many letters of congratulations—both near and far—on the day of his 78th birthday.

It is interesting to know that Mr. William Rock Small first saw the light at Wednesbury on November 12th, 1839, and joined the Wednesbury band in April, 1863, and rang his first peal at the Parish Church (St. Bartholomew). This was a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, in 3 hrs. and 8 mins. This peal was rung on Sunday, April 29th, 1866, and a tablet fixed in the tower recording it states that the band were all natives of Wednesbury. Joe Bale, who took part in the peal, rang in a peal of Grandsire Caters when 83 years of age, and died just over a year ago, so that Mr. Small is the only one now living that rang in the peal. Mr. Small has rung in the first peal in many churches in the Midlands, and his name is widely known in the Midlands. Up to date he has scored 324 peals, which are as follows:—Stedman Cinques, 14; Stedman Caters, 19; Stedman Triples, 75; Grandsire Cinques, 5; Grandsire Royal, 2; Grandsire Caters, 41; Grandsire Major, 6; Grandsire Triples, 78; Kent Treble Bob Maximus, 1; Kent Treble Bob Royal, 10; Kent Treble Bob Major, 15; Plain Bob Royal, 5; Plain Bob Caters, 1; Plain Bob Major, 34; Plain Bob Triples, 1; Darlaston Bob Triples, 4; Canterbury Pleasuro Major, 1; Double Norwich Major, 5; Double Oxford Major, 1; Forward Royal, 2; Forward Major, 4; total, 324.

Mr. Small was one of the band to ring in a peal of Stedman Triples, at Peel, Isle of Man, in July, 1888, and was one of a band who toured Shropshire in 1894, and rang five peals—37 hours in all, and at a cost of nearly £40! Four of the band who were in this tour rang in his birthday peal on the 17th inst., these being Messrs. Small, Carter, Jas. George and Jas. E. Groves.

He has rung in some long peals, including 9,020 Grandsire Cinques, in 6 hrs. 7 mins., at St. Martin's, Birmingham, on the occasion of Queen Victoria's visit on March, 23rd, 1887; 8,064 Grandsire Caters, at Bromsgrove, on December 27th, 1888, in 4 hrs. 59 mins.; 8,009 Grandsire Caters, at Wolverhampton, in 5 hrs. 11 mins., on April 3rd, 1893. Mr. Small was also in the two unique peals of Kent at Coseley, in 1895, and by the same band ringing the same peal and bells, in 1915—and he hopes to be fit for next year (1918), to make it 25 years. He was also in the "Old Men's" peal of Grandsire Caters, at Aston, in 1914, when every man was over 60 years of age.

Mr. Small belongs to the following Societies: St. Martin's, Birmingham, joined 1880; College Youths, London, 1883; Archdeaconry of Stafford (one of the founders), 1883; Worcestershire Association, 1887; Yorkshire Association, 1888; Midland Counties Association, 1891; Hereford Guild, 1893; Dudley Guild, 1899; Warwick Guild, 1917. He is Vice-President to the Worcestershire Association, and is the respected treasurer to Dudley Guild.

In the peal of Stedman Caters, at Wednesbury, the list of ringers, with their records, which totals 2,516, is as follows: Mr. Small, 324; Mr. Carter, 298; Mr. Groves, 476; Mr. Hughes, 132; Mr. Swann, 161; Mr. Fisher, 200; Mr. Parsons, 111; Mr. Rowley, 86; Mr. George, 601; Mr. Gough, 127.

Mr. Small and the bands desire to thank the Rev. W. T. de Vine, Vicar, and Mr. John Smith for the Tipton bells, and Rev. W. T. Hyatt, Vicar, and the Wednesbury ringers for their bells, especially Mr. Walter Brittan, for seeing that everything was in good going order at the latter church. B. G.

HOME FROM FRANCE.

His many friends in the Midlands will note with pleasure the name of Pte. J. Frank Smallwood in a handbell peal of Stedman Cinques at Birmingham. The peal had been arranged, and it was only by accident that on the way to the ringing room some of the band met Pte. Smallwood, who was home on 14 days' leave. It was not known to any of the ringers that he was even in England, so that the pleasure and surprise of the meeting can be imagined. Although on his way to pay a visit to friends, he was persuaded to join in the peal, and his performance was a great credit, seeing that he had not handled a pair of bells for sixteen months. Mr. W. Kent kindly refereed instead of ringing.

On Sunday, Nov. 11th, Gnr. R. Wood, R.G.A., of Billingshurst, Sussex was home on leave, after 17 months' service in France. Ringing could not be arranged at Billingshurst for him, and a hearty welcome to Pulborough belfry was, therefore, extended to him by some of his old comrades. Some well-struck touches of Grandsire Triples were rung for morning service: Gnr. R. Wood 1, S. Stone 2, P. H. Doick 3, S. W. Corden 4, G. H. Lee 5, Chas. Smart 6, A. Greenfield (conductor) 7, F. J. Killick 8. In the afternoon a pleasant time was spent at Slinfold, touches of Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob being rung, the following taking part: Elias Knight, E. Edwards, R. Whittington, Mrs. R. Whittington, Gnr. R. Wood, P. H. Doick, A. Greenfield, Lea Paice and W. Short. Mrs. E. Knight, in her usual genial way, very kindly provided an excellent tea for the visitors. Gnr. R. Wood has now returned to duty, and takes with him the hearty wishes of his many friends for a safe and speedy return to "Blighty."

At Liverpool, on Sunday, Nov. 18th, for evening service, at St. Nicholas' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1314 changes) was rung. It was specially arranged for Pte. T. Hammond, junr., A.S.C., who was home on leave from France for a few days: W. McGowan 1, T. J. Elton 2, G. R. Newton (conductor) 3, T. Hammond, senr., 4, Pte. T. Hammond, junr., A.S.C., 5, Pte. F. S. Macey, A.S.C. (Sittingbourne), 6, G. Fisher 7, J. Martin 8, W. Davies 9, E. Counce 10.

ROCHESTER RINGER'S DEATH.

AN ORIGINAL MEMBER OF THE KENT ASSOCIATION.

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death of Mr. James Edward Tulett, of Rochester, who passed away on Saturday, November 3rd, at the age of 67 years, after suffering for some time from dropsy. The deceased had been prevented for a considerable period from doing much ringing. He was a member of the St. Margaret's and Cathedral Societies for nearly 50 years, and of the Kent County Association from its institution.

He was not a great peal ringer, but what little peal ringing he did he liked to be of good quality, so far as striking was concerned. He rang in all about 30 peals, his first being at Gillingham (Grandsire Triples) on December 8th, 1886, and his last and only peal on ten bells at Canterbury Cathedral, viz., Stedman Caters, on April 26th, 1913. As far as can be ascertained he rang Grandsire Triples 3, Bob Major 4, Kent Treble Bob Major 9, Double Norwich Major 9, Stedman Triples 4, Stedman Caters 1.

A man of fine physique, he was always cheerful, and will be much missed by his ringing colleagues. May he rest in peace.

RINGING AFTER DARK.

The permission of the Competent Military Authority to ring for Sunday evening services has been given at Reigate and Godstone, Surrey. Other Surrey churches in the same military area could doubtless obtain this concession on application.

Mr. W. Mand. Clun, informs us that he has received notice from the local police that bells may now be rung and clocks strike until 7 p.m. until further notice. On making inquiries he was informed that this order refers to the county of Shropshire.

NOTICES.

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

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held by kind permission of the Rev. Halliday Thompson, LL.D., at St. Stephen's, West Ealing, on Saturday, Dec. 1st. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Short service at 5. Tea at the Bell Hotel, Ealing Broadway, at 6 (1/- per head), followed by handbell ringing.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Mersham, near Ashford, on Saturday, Dec. 1st. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock until sunset.—H. Balcomb, Hon. Sec., The Priory, Appledore, Ashford, Kent.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at All Saints', Hamer, on Saturday, Dec. 1st. Bells ready at 3 o'clock; meeting at 6 o'clock. Reports are now ready. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—The quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Newport Pagnell on Saturday, Dec. 1st. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Service, 4 p.m.; meeting to follow. No tea will be provided. No ringing after dark.—W. Sear, Sec., 69, Windsor Street, Bletchley.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business, on December 4th and 18th, and for handbell practice on the 13th and 27th, all at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1/8, which entitles members who have not attended twenty meetings in the past year, to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Branch.—A meeting will be held at Garston on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Bells ready at 3. Service at 6, meeting 6.30. Members intending being present please send word.—Rev. E. C. Collier, Walter Hughes, Secs.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society. Estab. 1824).—A meeting for handbell practice and social intercourse will be held at 6.30 p.m. on Saturday, 8th December, at Headquarters Room, "The Edinburgh," Milford Lane, Strand, W.C. Ringers and friends invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A Branch meeting will be held at the Holy Trinity Church, Burnley, on Saturday, Dec. 15th, 1917. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Ringing till 7 p.m. Report now ready.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Eccles Parish Church on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells available from 3.30 to 7 p.m. Meeting immediately after ringing.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

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THE BELLS OF VICTORY.

CELEBRATION OF THE BRITISH SUCCESS IN FRANCE.

The great victory in France last week led to a general demand for a celebration of the event by the ringing of the church bells. The newspapers called loudly for it, published interviews on the subject with distinguished people, and certainly did the Exercise a good turn by making the ringing a national event. A statement by the Bishop of London, hoping that all the bells of the Metropolis would ring, stirred up further interest, and, as far as ringers were available, they did their part. In most places, where it was possible to muster a band, ringing took place, generally on Friday, but in London the bells of Southwark Cathedral were rung on Thursday.

The ringing at St. Paul's, on Friday, brought together a great throng outside the Cathedral, and emotions were stirred as this grand peal, crashed out the strains of victory. When the bells stopped the crowd sang the National Anthem, and then the ringing started again, and there were scenes of real rejoicing.

At various other famous towers, throughout the country ringing took place, Peterborough Cathedral, where the bells had long been silent, being among them.

The Bishop of Salisbury sent a request to all the parishes, requesting the bells to be rung on Sunday last in commemoration of the victory won in France. This action of the Bishop is specially noteworthy, and it is one which we should like to see adopted in other dioceses whenever there is occasion for uniform action.

At St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, on Friday, touches of 498 and 234 Stedman Cinques were rung, by: J. D. Matthews 1, W. J. Nudds 2, F. Smith 3, H. Burton 4, B. Foskett 5, G. Hare 6, W. Theobald 7, W. Powell 8, W. Lawrence (Ealing) 9, E. Wightman 10, C. Hunt (conductor) 11, W. Walters 12. Afterwards, at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, 190 Stedman Caters was rung, and the twelve bells fired.

At St. Alfege, Greenwich, on Saturday, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 55 mins. (Thurstans): A. S. Beer 1, J. J. Lamb 2, I. G. Shade (conductor) 3, E. E. Richards 4, J. Waghorn, junr., 5, F. W. Thornton 6, H. Hoskins 7, T. Jakeman 8.

On Sunday, for morning service, at St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 47 mins.: A. Kiley 1, J. Barry 2, F. G. Symonds 3, M. Fensom 4, H. Franks 5, G. Smith 6, Sapper R. F. Deal 7, A. A. Hughes 8. The bells were also fired.

A quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes) was rung at St. Nicholas, Bristol, by: Mrs. E. J. Wilson 1, F. G. May (conductor) 2, W. White 3, F. W. Wade 4, W. Probert 5, J. Caple 6, T. Harris 7, I. Long 8, J. Richmond 9, U. Braven 10. It was the first quarter-peal of Caters, and first attempt by Mrs. Wilson and J. Caple, who belong to Portishead and Easton-in-Gordano respectively.

At Godalming, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on Saturday: W. Moorey 1, W. Clissold 2, W. Smith 3, W. Hooker 4, C. Chikis 5, Sergt. R. Carrier 6, A. G. Bartlett (conductor) 7, R. Pamment 8. Special interest attaches to this touch, as Sergt. R. Carrier, who is of the Canadian army, was galloper to General Byng through the South African War.

At Pinedon, Northants, on Saturday, 504 Stedman Triples: G. Ette 1, M. Hobbs 2, T. Abbott 3, H. Tompkins 4, J. Packwood 5, J. Main 6, G. Basford (conductor) 7, A. Tompkins 8; 252 Stedman: M. Hobbs 1, T. Abbott 2, P. Manning 3, H. Ette 4, J. Packwood 5, J. Main 6, G. Basford (cond.) 7, A. Tompkins 8; 224 Kent Treble Bob Major: P. Manning 1, M. Hobbs 2, G. Ette 3, H. Ette 4, J. Packwood 5, T. Abbott 6, J. Main 7, G. Basford 8.—On Sunday, Nov. 25th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes) was rung by: T. Abbott 1, G. Ette 2, H. Ette 3, G. Basford 4, J. Packwood 5, J. Main 6, W. Perkins (conductor) 7, A. Tompkins 8.

At Keynsham, near Bristol, on November 21st, 448 Cambridge Surprise Major: G. Warburton 1, R. J. Wilkins 2, C. Tomkins 3, Miss E. Parker (conductor) 4, H. M. Day (Market Deeping) 5, A. Reeves 6, G. Condie 7, J. Burford 8. This was the first attempt at Cambridge Major by the ringer of the 5th. Also 448 of London Surprise Major: G. Warburton 1, R. J. Wilkins 2, C. Tomkins 3, Miss E. Parker (conductor) 4, W. Knight 5, A. Reeves 6, J. Burford 7, G. Condie 8.

At Henfield, Sussex, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung in 46 mins., at noon on Thursday, by: A. E. Baker 1, W. Markwell 2, S. Burt 3, C. Tyler 4, W. J. Alliss 5, H. Markwell 6, G. Payne (conductor) 7, A. Hodges 8.

At Tunstall, Kent, on Friday, at noon, a 720 of Bob Minor was brought round, by Miss C. N. Jarrett 1, H. E. Simpson 2, G. Webb 3, E. H. Spice 4, G. H. Spice 5, and W. Spice (conductor) 8; and on Sunday, a 360 of Oxford Treble Bob, with Thos. Jull in place of H. E. Simpson.

On Saturday, a peal, recorded in another column, was rung at Lindley, Yorks.

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