

# THE RINGING WORLD

No. 356 Vol. XIII.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 4th, 1918.

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

Price 2d.

## GILLETT & JOHNSTON CROYDON, Surrey. BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,  
Wolverhampton.  
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WOLFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON.  
MESSRS GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 3th March, 1918  
Solicitors.

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 gives general satisfaction.

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

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor

### MODERN WORK

### THE PROSPECTS FOR 1918.

The predominant thought, the overmastering desire, of everyone on the threshold of this new year must be that it will be a year in which we shall once more see peace in the world. There is no weakening in the determination of the British race to see this war through to a victorious end, but everywhere there is the hope that this devastating conflict will soon terminate, and that 1918 may go down the ages as the year not black with war, but illumined and made memorable by an enduring and a righteous peace. Without that desirable end of the present strife everything must be subsidiary to the struggle, and nothing but winning the war will matter. We have been told by those who are best in a position to judge that we have not yet reached the climax of our trials, and that we have still sterner tests to face before the end we have in view is gained. We have, therefore, to gird ourselves for the task, and if 1918 is to see the conclusion of the war we must be prepared to face even greater sacrifices.

While the war lasts there can be no hope of a revival of ringing. Everything must give way to the one universal effort. Ringers will not mind that, but the thousands who are fighting overseas or doing their part in other directions in this country, without any opportunity of following their cherished art, look to those who remain in the towers to keep the flag flying. A duty devolves upon those who are left to do their utmost to maintain the art, so that when peace returns, be it this year or some other year, those who come back may find, at any rate, a foundation upon which they can rebuild the fortunes of the Exercise. Whether that reconstruction can begin this year depends primarily upon the ending of the war; whether it can begin in any year depends ultimately upon those who are left to "carry on" while the majority of their colleagues are engaged upon the sterner duties of the times. We need not recapitulate now all that might be done to maintain the fabric of the Exercise. Much is being done in some quarters, but much more, we are convinced, could be done by many others. There is too much of the spirit of laissez faire prevailing among some of those who might do a good deal for the maintenance of the art in many ways, for, despite the drawbacks of the times, there are means by which the interests of ringing could be promoted. Unless greater energy is more generally shown than is at present exhibited the future of the Exercise, even with the return of peace, will not be all one could desire; and when the Central Council meet next Whitsun, one of the subjects to which they might well devote some of their attention is that of organising the revival of the art after the war.

Ringers as a class are optimists—the very nature of their art makes them so—and they will all look with hope to the future. But the essence of optimism is to be ready to help

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# CHARLES GARR, LTD



**SMETHWICK,  
BIRMINGHAM**

## BELLS

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

**CHIMES FOR CLOCKS**

PEALS AUGMENTED,  
CRACKED BELLS RECAST

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BRACKETS.

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BEST BELL ROPES.  
REPAIRS AND REHANGING  
IN ALL BRANCHES

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect  
and report on Bells and Towers

**SEND FOR CATALOGUE**

**OPINION OF OUR  
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,  
Chelmsford

Dear Sir,

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. GARR, LTD.  
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your Contract, — we may be able to assist you.

ESTABLISHED 1760.

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oneself, and therefore they can best serve the interests of the Exercise by making personal efforts to promote its well-being in face of the adverse times, instead of merely waiting till the better days arrive. That these brighter days may soon be with us, that the new year will see the dawn of peace and bring prosperity to all our friends, is our sincerest wish.

## TWELVE BELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Wednesday, December 26, 1917, in Three Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN.

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5005 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 36 cwt. in C.

|                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| ALBERT WALKER ... .. Treble | MORRIS J. MORRIS ... .. 7  |
| THOMAS MILLER ... .. 2      | JAMES GEORGE ... .. 8      |
| FREDERICK DICKENS ... .. 3  | ALF. PADDON SMITH ... .. 9 |
| GEORGE F. SWANN ... .. 4    | SAMUEL GROVE ... .. 10     |
| JAMES L. WELLS ... .. 5     | JAMES E. GROVES ... .. 11  |
| WILLIAM KENT ... .. 6       | JOHN NEAL ... .. Tenor     |

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

The first two courses of this peal are in the handstroke position and the remainder in the titum and handstroke position in alternate blocks of six courses each, with the treble in 2nd's place and the 6th in 5th's place at each course end. It is the first composed and rung on this plan.

## TEN BELL PEAL.

ASHTON UNDER-LYNE.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, December 22, 1917, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;**

|                        |                         |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| C. BOWER ... .. Treble | J. LEIGH ... .. 6       |
| J. BROADBENT ... .. 2  | B. GILL ... .. 7        |
| T. JAKEMAN ... .. 3    | A. ADAMS ... .. 8       |
| J. MELLOR ... .. 4     | S. WOOD ... .. 9        |
| S. GREENHALGH ... .. 5 | H. CHAPMAN ... .. Tenor |

Composed by the late JAMES WOOD, SENR., and  
Conducted by SAMUEL WOOD.

Rung to celebrate the occupation of Jerusalem by the British.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

CARDIFF.

THE LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 16, 1917, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

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

A VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

|                              |                             |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| WILLIAM BOLTON ... .. Treble | WILLIAM HEATH ... .. 5      |
| JOHN HARRIS ... .. 2         | ALLEN ROWLEY ... .. 6       |
| EVAN COLES ... .. 3          | WILLIAM COOMBS ... .. 7     |
| SIDNEY DAWE ... .. 4         | SEYMOUR R. BARKER ... Tenor |

Conducted by WILLIAM COOMBS.

Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of William Miller, for many years a highly respected ringer at the above church, who died the previous week, while on a holiday from the West Coast of Africa; also in memory of Mrs. H. Day, wife of a member of the St. John's band, who died on Dec. 14th, 1917.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 26, 1917, in Two Hours and Forty-six Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINES,

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

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

|                              |                            |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| SIDNEY ANSTIEY ... .. Treble | FREDK. J. CULLUM, JUNR. 5  |
| ALBERT E. NEVICK ... .. 2    | ISAAC EMERY ... .. 6       |
| PERCY J. SPICE ... .. 3      | EDWIN BARNETT, SENR. 7     |
| FREDK. J. CULLUM, SENR. 4    | EDWIN BARNETT, JUNR. Tenor |

Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT, SENR.

\* First peal. It is also the first peal by F. J. Cullum, Senr., after a lapse of over twenty years, and all peal ringers of this district will be pleased to welcome him back again in the ranks.

**NORTHOWRAM, YORKSHIRE.  
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

On Monday, December 24, 1917, in Three Hours and Twenty-two Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES I**

Tenor 16 cwt.

|                               |                              |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| JOSEPH BROADLEY ... .. Treble | HERBERT HAIGH ... .. 5       |
| ALBERT JAGGER ... .. 2        | THOMAS B. KENDALL ... .. 6   |
| Pte. GEORGE NAYLOR ... .. 3   | HERBERT DRANSFIELD ... .. 7  |
| WILLIAM JOYCE ... .. 4        | JOSEPH E. SYKES ... .. Tenor |

Composed by J. E. JENKINSON, and  
Conducted by J. E. SYKES.

Rung in honour of the Feast of Christmas and the capture of Jerusalem by the British Forces, and as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. W. Cundall, of Bradford, who was unable to stand in.

**NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.  
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD  
(PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT.)**

On Wednesday, December 26, 1917, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

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

GROVE'S VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qrs. 6 lbs.

|                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| JOHN SIMMONS ... .. Treble | ALBERT CALLAWAY ... .. 5 |
| WILLIAM CHAMBERS ... .. 2  | HARRY PHILLIPS ... .. 6  |
| WILLIAM UPTON ... .. 3     | HENRY JENNINGS ... .. 7  |
| WALTER SCOTT ... .. 4      | JOHN LEAL ... .. Tenor   |

Conducted by HENRY JENNINGS.

First peal by all except the conductor and first attempt. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Pte. Fredk. James Chiverton, Hanis Regt., a former ringer at this church, who fell in action on the 30th Nov.; also as a mark of respect to all those from the parish who have made the supreme sacrifice.

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

On Wednesday, December 26, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,  
AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,

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

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12 cwt.

|                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| JAMES E. GROVES ... .. Treble | JAMES GEORGE ... .. 5         |
| JAMES L. WELLS ... .. 2       | SAMUEL GROVE ... .. 6         |
| ALBERT T. SCRIVENS ... .. 3   | JOHN B. COLLETT ... .. 7      |
| *WILLIAM F. WEBB ... .. 4     | ALBERT E. NORMAN ... .. Tenor |

Conducted by SAMUEL GROVE.

† First peal of Stedman. † First peal of Stedman inside.

**CHIDDINGFOLD, SURREY.  
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.  
(GUILDFORD DISTRICT.)**

On Wednesday, December 26th, 1917, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

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

THE REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' FIVE-PART. Tenor 11 cwt.

|                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| WALTER TROSLER ... .. Treble | ROBERT L. MELVILLE ... .. 5  |
| CHARLES HAZELDEN ... .. 2    | SEPTIMUS RADFORD ... .. 6    |
| THOMAS ATTWELL ... .. 3      | WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... .. 7 |
| ARTHUR J. BARTLETT ... .. 4  | HARRY HARRIS ... .. Tenor    |

Conducted by CHARLES HAZELDEN.

This was R. W. Melville's first peal; also the conductor's first peal of Grandsire as conductor, and first attempt.

**COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.  
THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.**

On Wednesday, December 26, 1917, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;**

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

|                            |                               |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| *WALTER LAGO ... .. Treble | ERNEST WEATHERBY ... .. 5     |
| *THOMAS ABBOTT ... .. 2    | CHARLES R. LILLEY ... .. 6    |
| LEONARD HEWITT ... .. 3    | ALFRED E. FULLICK ... .. 7    |
| FREDERICK DARRALL ... .. 4 | WILLIAM SAUNDERS ... .. Tenor |

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

\* First peal in the method and first peal of Major. The composition is now rung for the first time. First peal in the method on the bells. The peal was specially arranged for the ringer of the 2nd who joins the Cadet Wing of the Royal Flying Corps, at Farnborough, on Jan. 11th, 1918.

**HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.**

**THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD**

(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCK BRANCH.)

**ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, HIGH WYCOMBE.**

On Wednesday, December 26, 1917, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**

Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qrs.

|                               |                               |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| *CADET EDWARD R. COLES Treble | RG.-ST.-MAJ. GEO WHITE 5      |
| JAMES W. WILKINS ... .. 2     | RALPH COLES ... .. 6          |
| GEORGE TWITCHEN ... .. 3      | JOHN GRANSBURY ... .. 7       |
| *EDWARD MARKHAM ... .. 4      | WILLIAM T. HORNE ... .. Tenor |

Composed by the late SIR ARTHUR P. HEYWOOD, BART., and  
Conducted by WILLIAM T. HORNE.

\* First peal of Major. This peal was rung to celebrate the 40th year of Canon Drummond's presidency of the Branch—first as a local association in 1877 and merged into the Oxford Diocesan Guild in 1881. Also rung as a compliment to Cadet E. R. Coles who was home on leave.

**KING'S NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.**

**THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION**

On Saturday, December 29, 1917, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**

Tenor 14½ cwt.

|                             |                            |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| JOHN EATON ... .. Treble    | JOHN T. PRITCHETT ... .. 5 |
| GEORGE F. SWANN ... .. 2    | SAMUEL GROVE ... .. 6      |
| JAMES E. GROVES ... .. 3    | ARTHUR CHAMBERS ... .. 7   |
| THEODORE PRITCHETT ... .. 4 | HARRY WITHERS ... .. Tenor |

Composed by the late HENRY DAINS, and  
Conducted by HARRY WITHERS.

Rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of William Palmer and Frank R. Withers.

**FIVE BELL PEAL.**

**BREDON, WORCESTERSHIRE.**

**THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION  
(SOUTHERN DISTRICT.)**

On Saturday, December 29, 1917, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,  
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

Consisting of 42 Six-Scores of Canterbury, Plain Bob and Grandsire.  
Tenor 19½ cwt.

|                                    |                          |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| FREDERICK J. JOHNSON ... .. Treble | HARRY MIDDLETON ... .. 3 |
| JAMES HEMMING ... .. 2             | HENRY J. PHIPPS ... .. 4 |
| CHARLES C. CAMM ... .. Tenor       |                          |

Conducted by JAMES HEMMING.

First peal on the bells. After the peal the Rector (the Rev. H. Holbeck) very kindly entertained the band to tea at the Rectory.

**DEATH OF AN OLD BOSTON RINGER.**

The death has occurred at Boston, Lines, of Mr. Thomas John Boyer, who was in his 73rd year. Mr. Boyer commenced his ringing career over 40 years ago at St. Botolph's Church, Boston, and was an enthusiastic follower of the art. Although no peals stand to his credit, he was none the less sincere in his congratulations to those who were fortunate enough to be successful in this direction. Mr. Boyer was a true type of an inoffensive and obliging man, regular in his habits, and genial in his disposition. He was highly respected by a large circle of ringing friends. He was a devoted husband, a loving father, a good Churchman, and a sincere and faithful friend. Mrs. Boyer predeceased her husband about six months ago. He was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, London, the Yorkshire and the Lincolnshire Diocesan Associations.

Mr. Boyer, who passed away on December 12th, was interred on Monday, December 17th, at Boston Cemetery.

**CHESTERFIELD.**—On Christmas Day, an attempt for a quarter-peal at the Parish Church having failed, 816 Double Norwich Major was rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. D. Farthing, a respected, and a performing member, at 71 years of age, of the Chesterfield company: G. Hollis 1, T. W. Gore 2, B. A. Knights 3, A. Knights (conductor) 4, F. Jacobs 5, W. Allwood 6, W. J. Thyng 7, G. A. Thompson 8.

# MEARS &

# STAINBANK,

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

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Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c

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

Foundry  
Established  
A.D. 1570.

## KING'S NORTON LOSSES.

WILLIAM PALMER AND FRANK WITHERS.

The peal at King's Norton, recorded in another column, was rung after the funeral of William Palmer, of King's Norton, who died on Christmas Day, aged 60, after some months of failing health. It was intended also as a token of mourning for the loss of Frank Withers, also a King's Norton ringer, who gave his life for his country in France on November 17th last.

William Palmer was the son of Francis Palmer, who died a year ago, aged 88, and a nephew of Frederick Palmer, also a ringer. For fifty-three years William Palmer was connected with the Parish Church of King's Norton, first of all as a choir boy at the age of seven, afterwards as a ringer, and later, when his father retired, as a towerkeeper. He was a most enthusiastic and accomplished ringer, having rung 88 peals in all the well-known methods, including Loud Surprise, of which he was very proud. He was a member of the Worcestershire Association, the St. Martin's Guild, the Midland Counties and the Warwickshire Associations, and always a most regular attendant. His first peal was in 1876, at Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham, and it was ten years before he rang his second; his fifth peal he conducted himself, and that was the only one, although he frequently called touches at the Sunday morning ringing. He was also devoted to composition, and claimed to have invented a new method which he called King's Norton Surprise. He was a clever handbell ringer, and took part in two handbell peals. He leaves a widow, four sons, three of whom are serving in the army, the fourth being an invalid, and four daughters, one of whom has given her husband to King and country. His funeral was largely attended, many ringers being present, and also representatives of the Birmingham Gas Department, where he had been employed for 37 years. A course of Grand sire Triples was struck over his grave, by: H. Withers, 1-2, George F. Swann 3-4, James E. Groves 5-6, and Arthur Chambers 7-8. His last wish, as expressed to the writer was to be buried close to the belfry door and this was complied with, and his last prayer was for peace and harmony among all mankind.

Frank Withers was 31 years of age, and had taken part in the Sunday morning ringing at King's Norton for about ten years. He also was an enthusiastic and excellent ringer, having rung between 80 and 90 peals in all the methods in practice, including London Surprise. The writer has had the pleasure of ringing many peals with him and never knew him to make a mistake. He was as usual with ringers of special merit, quiet and unassuming in his manner, and won the respect of all who met him. He left home after leave of absence, on November 14th and was killed in action three days afterwards. He leaves a widow, whom he married since the outbreak of war. It was thought appropriate that his cousin, Harry Withers, so well known to all ringers throughout the country, should conduct the muffled peal which he did with his usual ability. The beautiful bells of King's Norton Church rang out their solemn farewell in regular cadence for three hours and a quarter without the slightest trip, and eloquently expressed the grief we all feel at the loss of two of our familiar friends and brother ringers, both of whom will be long and affectionately remembered.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the North-Western Division was held at Bishop's Stortford on Boxing Day. The bells were available from one o'clock till 4 p.m., and touches were rung in the following methods: Stedman Triples, Grand sire and Stedman Cateris, Superlative Surprise Major, Cambridge Surprise Major, and Double Norwich Court Bob Major. A short service was held in the church, when an address was given by the Rev. E. R. Souper (curate).

Tea and the business meeting were held at the Chequers Hotel, the Rev. E. R. Souper presiding over an attendance of 22 members, from Staunsted, Saffron Walden, Braintree, Harlow St. Mary's, Harlow Common, Sawbridgeworth, Broxbourne, and the local company.

Mr. F. Pittslow was again re-elected Master for the ensuing year and Mr. W. Watts, district secretary.

Mr. H. J. Tucker proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Master and secretary for past services.—Mr. W. Watts replied on behalf of the Master and himself, remarking they would only be too pleased to do all they could for the Association for another year.

Master Albert Harney, of Stansted, was elected a probationer of the Association.

It was resolved to hold the next meeting at Sawbridgeworth. At the close, votes of thanks were accorded the Vicar (the Rev. H. T. Lane) for the use of the bells; the Rev. E. R. Souper for his address and presiding at the meeting; to Miss M. Pritchett (assistant organist) for presiding at the organ; and to Mr. P. Springham, church clerk, for his help in making the arrangements. The Master of the Association (Mr. C. H. Howard, J.P.), and Mr. Dent, of Harlow Common, were present during the day, but were unable to stay to the business meeting.



## LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Llandaff Diocesan Association was held at St. Woolos, Newport, Mon., on Boxing Day. The bells of both St. Woolos and All Saints' Churches were available during the day, and full advantage was taken of them, the four standard method being rung. There was a good muster of ringers from all over the diocese, and there were also several visitors, amongst whom were Mr. Jesse Gillett, of Gloucester, and Mr. John Austin, the Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Association.

Service took place in the Parish Church, and was conducted by the Rev. A. H. Thomas (curate), in the unavoidable absence, through illness, of the Vicar. In the course of his address, he welcomed, on behalf of the Vicar, the members of the Association to St. Woolos, and was glad to see such a large number at the service. He said he was sure, speaking as a ringer himself, that the authorities throughout the country were indebted to the ringers for a great deal, not only for the ringing of the bells, but for bringing before their notice every little defect that occurred both inside the tower and out. Towers where the bells were rung were always in a better state of repair than those in which there were no bells. The address was an excellent and appropriate one, and was much appreciated.

The business meeting followed in Waters Lane Mission Room, and was presided over by the Rev. A. H. Thomas, who at the outset said he was sure they had all heard with the deepest regret that one of their hon. secretaries (the Rev. Connop L. Price) had had the misfortune to lose his wife. They all knew the good work that both Mr. and Mrs. Price has been engaged in during this terrible war, and the blow to him was a severe one.—The Chairman then moved a sincere vote of condolence with the Rev. Connop Price in his grief, and this was carried by the members standing in silence.

The election of Master for the ensuing year was proceeded with, and three names were before the meeting, viz., Mr. Slatter, of Merthyr; Mr. Cook, of Caerphilly; and Mr. Bolton of Cardiff. On being put to the vote, Mr. Bolton was elected by a large majority.

The hon. secretaries, the Rev. Connop L. Price and Mr. J. W. Jones, were re-elected, and Mr. Jones was chosen as the Association's representative at the Central Council.

A motion, proposed by Mr. Dawe, seconded by Mr. Bolton, that the rules be amended so that in future there be four quarterly meetings, exclusive of the annual meeting, met with general approval, and was carried unanimously.

The next annual meeting will be held at Llandaff; the next Glamorganshire quarterly meeting at Peterston-super-Ely; the next Monmouthshire quarterly meeting at St. Mellons.

New members were elected from Rumney, Llanhradach, Newport, Merthyr, Penarth, Llangonoyd, and Llanelly, Breconshire.

A vote of thanks to the chairman closed the meeting.

Ten, kindly provided by the Vicar and churchwardens, was partaken of in the same room, and the bells were afterwards kept going until 9 o'clock.

## PRESENTATIONS AT CHESTERFIELD.

### PENDING DEPARTURE OF ARCHDEACON CROSSE.

A pleasant ceremony took place in the belfry at Chesterfield on Sunday, December 23rd, when Archdeacon Crosse, who is shortly leaving Chesterfield, was presented with a silver bell-shaped inkstand, the gift of the ringers. In making the presentation, the speaker took the opportunity of expressing the ringers' regret at his departure, and of thanking him for all the kindness he had extended to them during his 13 years as Vicar of Chesterfield. When one considered the amount of ringing and the number of peals rung at Chesterfield, it would at once be seen that the bells had been ungrudgingly placed at the disposal of any ringers who cared to utilise them.

The Archdeacon, in reply, thanked the members of the company for their most useful and unique gift, which he considered a beautiful thing, and would in the days to come serve to remind him of the bells he had so much loved to hear. He expressed his thanks for the loyalty and devotion of the ringers, and went on to say he considered them the one band of churchworkers who caused him no trouble or worry, as he could always rely on them to be in their place both for service ringing and any special occasion.

The Archdeacon then presented Miss E. Wornham with a gold pendant, as a mark of appreciation for her voluntary assistance to the ringers during the past year. He complimented her on the splendid progress she had made, and said he trusted she would continue to make rapid strides in the art of campanology.—The lady, who evidently is not "uncertain, coy and hard to please," was completely taken by surprise, and certainly surprised her audience by her outburst of oratory. She thanked the Archdeacon and ringers for their very kind gift, remarking that it was solely for the love of the art that she had attended so regularly.

## DEATH OF MR. GEORGE BREED.

### ONE OF THE GREATEST OF HEAVY BELL RINGERS.

Those of our readers who knew him, and he had a wide circle of friends, will much regret to hear of the death of Mr. George Breed, of York, who passed away on Tuesday, the 18th December, after a long illness.

The deceased, who was 68 years of age, was born at Braintree, Essex, and was a bricklayer by trade. He went to York 41 years ago, and was in the employ of the contractor engaged in the extensions to the present York Railway Station. Prior to going North, Mr. Breed became well known amongst the London ringers as a clever heavy bell ringer. As a cricketer, too, he had played for the Essex Colts, but had never been capped for the county.

On arriving in York he soon found his way to the Minster, where he received a very hearty welcome from the ringers, and a fifty-three cwt. tenor bell waiting for him. Being a good handbell ringer, too, he was especially welcomed by four of the younger members, who had just scored the first Yorkshire Association handbell peal, Grandsire Triples, which was rung on January 12th, 1876, in 2 hrs. 52 mins. On October 28th, in the same year, with Mr. Breed ringing 3-4, a peal of Treble Bob Royal was rung in 3 hrs. 17 mins., and on March 12th, 1877, the same band rang a peal of Grandsire Caters in 3 hrs. 5 mins. A close friendship was formed between the young band and the late Mr. Chas. Henry Hattersley and his colleagues at St. Andrew's, and ringing visits between the two companies were frequent—visits intended for one day sometimes extending to as long as a week—and on these occasions it was good to hear either of these now departed friends recounting the exploits of their younger days.

Mr. Breed was of a very genial disposition, and always ready to help the young ringer either in practice or theory, and when the writer of these notes, with five others, was struggling to master the intricacies of Plain Bob Minor, he would always turn into the belfry, on his way home after a hard day's work to give them the benefit of his advice and skill. He was a splendid striker himself, and nothing but the best would satisfy him.

His great ambition was to ring a company peal of Treble Bob Maximus at the Minster, but to his deep regret, and that of others of the band, this was never attained, although on two occasions at least, success nearly crowned their efforts. The last attempt was the most unfortunate of all, as the peal came to grief after the last bob had been called.

George Breed was a good all-round sportsman, an excellent billiard player, a good Rugby footballer, and while captain of the York Cricket Club headed the batting averages for several years in succession, as the display of presentation bats hanging on his walls testified. On several occasions he topped the century, and he was the first to score a century on the York Cricket Ground.

He gave up ringing at the Minster seven or eight years ago, owing to heart trouble, but the gap has never been filled.

## THE PEAL AT NEWPORT, I. OF W.

The peal performance at Newport, recorded in another column, is unique in its local interest, inasmuch as it is the first peal for 108 years rung by a local band of ringers, and it was secured at the first attempt. Ringers of the treble, second, fourth and tenor had been "stony" ringers for periods varying from 20 to 30 years, until 1914, when they were taken in hand by Mr. H. Jennings, of Ryde, who quickly got them out of the old ruts, and has now attained what was their then ambition. The ringer to whose memory the muffled peal was rung, was one of the old "stony" band. He would never attempt change ringing, but in a broad-minded manner, stood by so as not to impede others when the improvement was first introduced. But his genial and unchanging character prompted his brother ringer to do what they could to do honour to him in the greatest of all sacrifices that man can be called upon to make. May he rest in peace.

## SOLIHULL'S ROLL OF HONOUR.

Two more ringers from St. Alphege's Church, Solihull, have joined the Army, bringing the total number up to ten. The following is the full list:—

- Pte. T. Turner, Royal Warwicks (killed).
- Sapper K. Timms, Royal Engineers.
- Lieut. R. Bragg, Royal Marine Light Infantry.
- Lance-Corpl. H. Shepherd, Royal Warwicks (wounded).
- Pte. Archer Bragg, Royal Warwicks (wounded).
- Sapper Samuel Bragg, Royal Engineers.
- Pte. John Bragg, Royal Flying Corps.
- Lance-Corpl. E. Shepherd, Cheshire Regt. (wounded twice).
- A.-M. Stanley Bragg, Royal Naval Air Service.
- Pte. V. Rigg, Hampshire Yeomanry (Cyclists).

ACTON.—For the morning service, on Sunday, Dec. 23rd, the first part of Holt's Ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples: A. E. Smith 1, W. Phillips 2, J. H. Fruin 3, J. Hunniset 4, W. Lawrence (conductor) 5, C. Edwards 6, R. Holloway 7, A. Grey 8.

## 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 (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on January 15th and 29th, and for handbell practice on the 10th and 24th, 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.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The monthly meeting of this society will be held at St. Chad's, Far Headingley, on Saturday, Jan. 5th, 1918. Bells will be available from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. The business meeting will be held in the Parochial Hall adjoining the Vicarage at 7 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

THE CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Northampton District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Kingsthorpe on Saturday, Jan. 5th.—Bells ready at 3 p.m. Service 5.30. Tea and meeting 6 p.m. (no sugar provided).—T. Low, District Secretary, Weston Favell, Northampton.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Estab. 1775).—The annual meeting will be held at the Tamworth Arms Hotel, Moor Street, City, on Tuesday, Jan. 8th, 1918, at 7.30 p.m. All subscriptions are due at this meeting.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Fareham on Saturday, Jan. 12th. Bells available 2.30. Tea will be provided at Miss Foster's, West Street, free for those that acquaint me not later than Jan. 9th; business meeting after tea.—J. Harding, Dist. Sec., 76, Carnarvon Road, Portsmouth.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society—Established 1824).—The next meeting will be held at the Church of St. Giles, Camberwell, on Saturday, 12th January, 1918. Bells available from 2.45 to 5 p.m. A business meeting will follow at the Stirling Castle, Church Street. All ringers and friends invited.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Balderstone Parish Church on Saturday, Jan. 19th. Bells ready from 3 o'clock till dusk; meeting to follow. Subscriptions are now due.—T. K. Driver, Hon. Sec., 99, Hunter Street, Middleton.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bromley (SS. Peter & Paul) on Saturday, 19th January, 1918. Tower open at 3 p.m. Further particulars next week.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields on Saturday, January 19th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; meeting in the Church Room at 6.30. Owing to the difficulties of catering, no tea will be provided this year.—J. Parkin, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*

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.

## HANDBELLS WANTED.

HANDBELLS.—WANTED set of 8, secondhand. Address J. Puplett, Victoria Nurseries, Leighton Buzzard.

## GREETINGS.

From German East Africa.—The Season's Greetings to all ringing friends from J. W. Uuwin, R.E. Signals, German East Africa.

Pte. W. Keeble, A.V.C., B.E.F., France, wishes all brother ringers a Happy New Year and hopes shortly to meet some of them while on leave.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

## A RETURN VISIT TO WHATTON.

Members and friends of the Midland Counties Association paid a return visit on Boxing Day to the Vale of Belvoir country, in weather that was certainly conducive to putting muscle and brain to a good test. The arrangements were made by that fine all-round enthusiast, the Rev. C. J. Sturton, of Orston, whose enthusiasm and willingness to further the art of change ringing is so well known, and who once again prevailed upon the Vicar (Mr. C. Dawson) to grant the privilege of ringing on his beautiful peal of six bells. The Vicar, who is evidently a lay enthusiast, delighted the company with his presence during part of the afternoon's proceedings, and seriously interested himself in the diagrams of bell music, thus giving rise to a united hope that he may see his way to become initiated into the ranks of the Exercise.

Among the visitors who assembled from many parts were Messrs. Sydney Proctor, Harry Thorpe, W. G. Thorpe (Grantham), J. J. Jackson (Belton, Uppingham), Arthur Mackears (Long Bennington), Frank Spencer (Radcliffe), William E. White, Walter White, G. Footie (Colgrave), Tom Squires (Colgrave), and W. C. Hunt (Nottingham).

The "star turn" of the afternoon was Cambridge Surprise Minor in which the following took part: Messrs. W. E. White 1, J. J. Jackson 2, Sydney Proctor 3, Walter White 4, Arthur Mackears 5, W. C. Hunt 6; also with the Rev. C. J. Sturton on the 3rd.

Other methods rung were: Double Oxford, Double and Single Court, Kent Treble Bob, Bob Minor, etc., piloted by Walter White, Arthur Mackears, Sydney Proctor, W. C. Hunt, and W. E. White. Also 120 Bob Doubles by the local band.

When the visitors' efforts ended with the moon at its best, Mr. Sturton conducted them to "a place within the meaning of the Aet," where he had made arrangements for tea. This was followed by talks about the exploits of the afternoon and possibilities of the future, until the advent of the handbells, upon which courses and touches were ticked off to the satisfaction of those present.

On the motion of Mr. Sydney Proctor, Mr. Sturton was asked to convey Mr. Dawson their best thanks for placing the bells at their disposal, and to Mr. Huckenby for having everything in readiness.

Another course of Grandsire Triples brought the proceedings to a conclusion all too soon and the shadows on the blinds were changed for the shadows of the highways and upways that led to home. H.

## BOXING DAY TRIP TO MIDDLESEX TOWERS.

In obedience to the order, "Meet at St. Stephen's, West Ealing, at 10 o'clock," a goodly company assembled, including Mrs. Frank Bairs, Miss Edith Jones, and Messrs. Frank Bennett, Wm. Hewett, Wm. Henley, George M. Kilby, C. Horton, and W. Emmett, and others. Stedman Triples and Kent Major were rung, and a start then made for Uxbridge. The day's programme was strictly adhered to, and upon arrival at St. Margaret's—by the old Town Hall—the ringers were met by the Misses Freda and Phyllis Moss, and Messrs. Kedge, Bedford, Wright and Grange, of the local band. The Rev. R. F. Hanning, M.A., had to keep an appointment, so just missed the party.—Several methods were rung, and some of the ladies rung in Stedman Triples, with Mr. Bennett at the helm.

After dinner, the tower of St. Andrew's was visited and Double Norwich Major was the highest method reached. An easy fifteen minutes' walk and then came the treat of the day: for Mr. Wm. Honor—the best thanks to him—had gained permission to have the use of the fine ring of ten at St. John's, Hillingdon, for two hours. The methods rung were: Grandsire Caters, with Miss Gladys Bate-man; Bob Royal, in which Mr. T. Beadle took a rope; Treble Ten, and then a course of Superlative Surprise Major, by: J. Pratt 1, Mrs. F. Hairs 2, G. M. Kilby 3, W. Hewett 4, F. Bennett 5, J. Evans 6, W. Henley 7, W. H. Fussell 8. This was followed by a touch of 315

Stedman Caters: Miss E. Jones 1, G. M. Kilby 2, W. Henley 3, J. Pratt 4, W. H. Fussell 5, F. Bennett 6, W. Lawrence 7, A. Harding 8, C. Horton (conductor) 9, W. Honor 10.

Everyone agreed that this touch, and the course of Superlative were the cream of the outing. At half-past five the back eight were lowered in peal, and this made a good finish to the day's ringing.

Many now made their way homeward, but sixteen partook of tea together at the hostelry near the church. The Rev. J. Fraser Amies (Chalfont St. Peter) very kindly provided a large cake as an addition to the tea table, and Mrs. Hairs and Mr. Fussell gave valuable help. The donor of the cake suggested that the last slice should be drawn for by way of diversion, and it fell to the organiser to win, and this drew from "the man of Slough" the remark "that of all the saints and sinners he took the cake." After tea, W. H. F. told us some good belfry yarns; and someone handed round a special brand of cigarette, but not for the world (even the "Ringing World") will the name be divulged. Suffice it to say, the result was, that more laughter was crowded into the space of five minutes than one usually experiences in a week.

In addition to those already mentioned, there were present, Miss F. Gudgin, and Messrs. A. Beckensale, J. Blackmore, H. E. Chandler, C. Edwards, A. Evans, and W. Horne. The best thanks are due to Mr. F. Kedge, of St. Margaret's, for arrangements made by him. Mr. G. H. Gutteridge, who had done much towards making the trip a success, was unavoidably absent.

#### A REUNION AT BROMLEY.

The meeting-place was at New Cross Gate, and the time 2 o'clock, on Saturday, December 29th. "Your humble" was there first, but had not long to wait before a voice from the crowd called "Bob." It was a voice that had called bobs many hundreds of times at St. John's, Waterloo, in pre-war days, the owner then being familiarly known as "Double Norwich Jim." Now, however, we call him Sergt. James E. Davis, of the Royal Engineers, and he was all fresh from the Somme on fourteen days' leave. We had not to wait long before another member of the old Waterloo Surprise band, viz. Air-Mechanic Frank I. Hairs, R.N.A.S. (also home on leave from France), accompanied by Mrs. F. I. Hairs, of handbell fame, put in an appearance, and soon after came Mr. G. M. Kilby, of Wilkesden; then all boarding a bus we were soon down at that old-fashioned Kentish town of Bromley. It was not the parish church we were bound for, but the new church on the common, dedicated to St. Luke, with its red brick and stone spire, and fine octave by Taylor, with a tenor of 15 cwt., all tuned on the Simpson principle. Here we were met by more "brother strings," including I. Emery, G. Durling, A. Newick, G. James, and G. Huxley, of the Parish Church; T. Grombridge, of Chislehurst; E. Barnett, junr., of Crayford; E. F. Pike, of Brockley; and F. Jones and W. Lyddiard, of the local band.

The bells were soon raised in peal, and a good touch of Stedman rung. Next, "Double Norwich Jim" was asked to show his abilities as conductor in that best of all Major methods, and I may say, that although it is fourteen months since his previous leave, he is still entitled to his name. The next tune was Superlative, and our handbell lady on the second showed us that it is not nearly so hard to ring as we men make out it is. More Double Norwich, Stedman and Grandire followed, all being well struck, and this, after all, is the essence of good ringing. At 5 o'clock, the time limit, the bells were lowered in peal in very good style.

Tea was the next item, which Mr. I. Emery had thoughtfully arranged and provided, and, needless to say, we soon allayed any fears he may have had that we might have lost our appetites. Ringing is a fine cure for that. By the way, "We had some jam." Somebody is sure to ask me—so it's best to tell them now.

After tea, handbells—what could be nicer? A course of Grandire Cinques, several touches of Stedman Caters and Triples, and Grandire Caters and Triples, intermixed with the inevitable smoke and "jaw," soon passed the time away all too quickly.

Before we parted, however, best wishes for an early and safe return were expressed to our two soldier brother strings, and a sincere hope that before long we shall all be nailing up peace peal boards.

Our best thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. I. Emery for making all the arrangements, and for so generously providing the tea, which in these days is no easy matter. Thanks are also due to Mr. W. Lyddiard and Mr. Jones, of the local band, for their attention to the bells and welcome to St. Luke's, of Bromley Common. W. H. H.

#### LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A very successful meeting of the Bolton Branch was held at the Saviour's Church on Saturday week, ringers being present from Walkden, Pendlebury, Bury, Newchurch, Deane, Bolton Parish, St. George's and St. Bartholomew's, Chorley, St. Peter's, and the local tower. Touches of Grandire and Stedman Triples, Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major were rung, and the business meeting was presided over by the Rev. H. J. Elson, President of the Association. The next meeting will be held at Bolton Parish, on January 19th.

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