

THE RINGING WORLD

No. 420. Vol. XIV.

FRIDAY, APRIL 4th, 1919.

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

Price 2d.

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



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.
WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLET 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 gives 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.

A ROYAL BELL FOUNDING.

The congratulations of the Exercise will go out to the firm of Messrs. Mears & Stainbank upon the honour which was conferred upon it last Friday by a royal visit to the foundry in Whitechapel. The event was private in its nature, but it was none the less interesting from the ringers' standpoint, for it was really doubly historical. The occasion which took the King and Queen, with Princess Mary, to the famous establishment was the casting of one of the new bells for Westminster Abbey, and, although it cannot perhaps be said with certainty, it was most probably the first time in the annals of the ancient craft that an English monarch and his consort had witnessed the casting of a church bell. Throughout the long history of the country, the bells have been most intimately associated with the rejoicings and sorrowings of the Royal House, but the occasions when marks of royal interest have been shown in the bells have been few and far between. The victor of Culloden was supposed to have expressed his appreciation of the ringing which welcomed him back to London, which mark of favour led to the adoption of the title which is enjoyed by that old metropolitan society 'The Royal Cumberland Youths.' Then there was the occasion when the late King Edward, when Prince of Wales, evinced his special interest in the bells of the Imperial Institute, but beyond these two incidents we know of no others when royalty, at any rate since the foundation of the Exercise, until that of last week, has concerned itself with bells.

That the honour of casting the first bell in the presence of a British Sovereign and his consort should fall to the ancient house of Mears & Stainbank seems only fitting, and will not be begrudged by the keenest competitors of this firm, which can trace direct descent for 350 years. Indeed its foundation probably goes back even beyond that, but at any rate there is no question of its continuous existence since the days of Robert Mot in 1570. The business is unquestionably the oldest in London, and probably in the country. Robert Mot made his name as a bell founder in the days of Queen Elizabeth, and one of his bells rang in the Abbey to celebrate the defeat of the Armada. Through the reigns of 15 English monarchs, as well as through the Commonwealth, through the spacious days of peace, through years of civil strife and through the long wars that have sapped the country's blood and treasure, this old concern has maintained its vigour, adding to its fame and to its reputation, which has now spread to every corner of the globe. And to-day Mears & Stainbank enjoys the goodwill and respect not only of the ringing Exercise but of the craft, whose traditions it so worthily upholds.

BELLS! BELLS! BELLS!

Let the Music of the Bells celebrate Peace.

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In their finishing and fitting shops they have installed the most 'up-to-date' Tools and Machinery for the making of Bell Frames and Fittings, so that they are in a position to carry out the complete installation of Peals of Bells for Churches, or Sets of Chimes for Public Clocks, etc.

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Maker to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne, (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester, and Worcester Cathedrals, etc., etc.

TEN BELL PEAL.

WEST HAM, ESSEX
THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
On Saturday, March 22, 1919, in Three Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt.

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| WILLIAM H. DORAN Treble | HARRY FLANDERS 6 |
| WILLIAM W. MILLER 2 | JOHN MOULE... .. 7 |
| WILLIAM H. THEOBALD 3 | HUGH T. SCARLETT 8 |
| EDGAR WIGHTMAN 4 | GEORGE HAYDEN... .. 9 |
| LEONARD A. PVE... .. 5 | WILLIAM J. NUDDS Tenor |

Composed and Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

WHITLEY BAY, NORTHUMBRLAND.
DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 15, 1919, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.

| | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| * THOMAS M. WHITFIELD ... Treble | ALFRED F. HILLIER 5 |
| † RICHARD A. GOFTON... .. 2 | THOMAS T. GOFTON 6 |
| JOSEPH A. GOFTON 3 | R. ALDER GOFTON 7 |
| PTE. A. SMEATHERS, R.F. 4 | WILLIAM H. BARBER Tenor |

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN.
Conducted by T. T. GOFTON.

* First Surprise peal. † First peal of Major.

LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 15, 1919, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt.

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| NEVILLE D. WIDDOWSON ... Treble | EDWARD C. GOBEY 5 |
| ALLEN R. HICKTON 2 | CHARLES E. CHASTY 6 |
| RICHARD HICKTON 3 | PERCY PRICE... .. 7 |
| J. CHARLES DICKEN 4 | JOSEPH BAILEY Tenor |

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.
Conducted by NEVILLE D. WIDDOWSON.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringers of the treble, 2nd and 4th.

LONDON.
ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS
On Saturday, March 15, 1919, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL HALLOWS, BARKING,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 19 cwt.

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| THOMAS LANGDON Treble | JAMES WILLSHIRE 5 |
| ARTHUR W. DAVIS 2 | HARRY R. NEWTON 6 |
| HERBERT LANGDON 3 | WILLIAM T. COCKERILL 7 |
| WILLIAM H. PASMORE 4 | ALFRED B. PECK Tenor |

Conducted by HERBERT LANGDON.

Mr. W. H. Pasmore's 100th peal.

The band take this opportunity to thank the Vicar, the Rev. C. E. Lambert, for the use of the bells, and Mr. A. Joyce, the steeplekeeper, for having everything in readiness.

BRITH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, March 16, 1919, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST.

A PEAL OF ORANDBIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| WILLIAM BRENCHLEY... .. Treble | FREDK. J. CULLUM, SEN. 5 |
| FREDK. J. CULLUM, JUN. 2 | JOHN J. LOWREY 6 |
| EDWARD J. LLOTT 3 | HERBERT A. HOLDEN... .. 7 |
| ARTHUR J. MORTON 4 | JOHN S. MORTON Tenor |

Conducted by FREDK. J. CULLUM, JUN.

Rung to celebrate the conductor's birthday.

**BURTON-UPON-TRENT.
MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
AND THE ST. PAUL'S SOCIETY.**

On Thursday, March 20, 1919, in Three Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

| | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 28½ cwt. | |
| W. C. WAKLEY Treble | E. I. STONE 5 |
| FRANK SHEPHERD 2 | WALTER WHITE 6 |
| JOHN H. SWINFIELD 3 | JOSEPH T. DYKE 7 |
| JOHN HOUGH 4 | *GEORGE NEWMAN Tenor |

Conducted by JOSEPH T. DYKE.

Rung half-muffled in memory of those members of the Society who lost their lives in the war, viz., Sergt. R. G. Stone, C.-S.-M. H. Wakley, and Sergt. A. P. Wakley.

* First peal.

**ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

On Thursday, March 20, 1919, in Three Hours and Four Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

| | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| MISS DORIS OGDEN Treble | WILLIAM H. SHUKER 5 |
| GEORGE GARNETT 2 | JOHN HARRISON 6 |
| MISS CISSY THORPE 3 | W. W. WOLSTENCROFT 7 |
| FRANK STONELEY 4 | AMOS TRIPPIER Tenor |

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by W. W. WOLSTENCROFT.

Rung with the bells muffled in memory of H. Palmer, for 20 years a ringer at the above church, who died within a week of demobilisation from the Army.

* First peal.

**LONDON.
THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(LATE THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.)**

On Thursday, March 20, 1919, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR, SOUTHWARK, S.E.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| THERSTANS' ONE-PART. Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qrs. 7 lbs. | |
| HERBERT W. HIBBERT ... Treble | MAJOR J. H. B. HESSE ... 5 |
| THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... 2 | CAPT. J. H. R. FREEBORN ... 6 |
| GEORGE R. FARDON 3 | REUBEN SANDERS 7 |
| FRANCIS E. DAWE 4 | ALBERT C. V. GASSON ... Tenor |

Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

Rung half-muffled as a mark of respect to Gunner William H. Taffender, R.H.A., Pte. Frederick J. Hardy, Wiltshire Regt., Pte. Frederick S. Morley, M.M., with bar, West Surrey Regt., members of the local Society who were killed in 1918.

HANDBELL PEAL.

**ARMLEY, LEEDS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

On Thursday, March 20, 1919, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes.
AT 10, MITFORD ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANCES;

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| *MALCOLM MOORHOUSE ... 1-2 | PERCY J. JOHNSON ... 5-6 |
| JOHN WM. MOORHOUSE ... 3-4 | *GERALD MOORHOUSE ... 7-8 |
| *OLIVE L. LUMLEY 9-10 | |

Composed by H. J. TUCKER.

Conducted by JOHN W. MOORHOUSE.

Umpire: MR. GEORGE JOWITT.

* First peal on ten bells and first attempt.

WAR MEMORIALS.

Mr. C. H. Jennings, of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, has made a war memorial suggestion in the 'Dorset County Chronicle' which says that paper, will doubtless find favour in some of the Dorset villages. We have in the county a large number of very fine church towers, several of which contain only four or five bells, and very poor at that. He suggests that they should be overhauled, and where possible, augmented to a complete peal of eight. The church bells are an intimate part of the life of a village, and this would be far more appropriate than stone crosses and brasses, and other 'dumb' memorials, that are being so much favoured. One church at least is thinking of doing this, and Mr. Jennings wishes it to be known that should any villages in Dorset require assistance in this matter, he will be pleased to visit them and give advice. This public-spirited offer will encourage other villages to follow suit.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

UNVEILING CEREMONY AT ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

On Saturday last the Manchester Branch held its usual monthly meeting. Members were present from all parts of the branch, and there were visitors from Yorkshire, Cheshire, Derbyshire, Warwickshire and Gloucestershire. The Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Pugh-Morgan, M.A.) presided, and was supported by the Rev. A. T. Beeston, Secretary of the Chester Guild; Mr. W. H. Shuker, General Secretary of the Lancashire Association.—The Vicar gave a very hearty welcome to the visitors, and expressed his sorrow and that of the local company in the loss of another ringer, in the person of Herbert Palmer, who had died within a week of demobilisation, through pneumonia. He then called upon Canon Elsee, M.A., President of the Association, to unveil a very interesting peal board.

Canon Elsee expressed his sorrow at hearing of the death of H. Palmer at a time when it was thought all was over, and sympathetically spoke of his demise. In speaking of the occasion which called them together that day, he said that a double interest centred in the event of the day. The first was to record a peal which was rung in the tower before they thought of the things that had overtaken the world, the first of its kind on the bells, and the first in Ashton-under-Lyne. Secondly, it was to perpetuate the memory of two ringers who bore honoured names—Lieut. H. Washbrook—a name which was a household word in the ringing world. He was glad to have known and made the acquaintance of the Washbrooks many years ago when at Oxford and it was with deep feelings that he extended to Mr. J. W. Washbrook, who he was pleased to see with them, his sympathy on behalf of those present, and more so in the fact that he had lost three sons in the war. Corpl. Bottrill, another name familiar to many present, had contracted disease while in the army, and had died in hospital. To those two men their did honour, not only as good ringers, but as true men who had given their lives in their country's cause. Their thoughts went back also to Joseph Ridyard, and they remembered with a shock it was to them all when he was called away. He was sure they were called away to a higher service.

Canon Elsee then unveiled the board, and read the inscription, which was as follows: 'St. Peter's Church, Lancashire Association (Gloriam ad Dei Veritas).—On Saturday, March 15th, 1913, in three hours and 11 minutes, a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major (5120 changes), by: Samuel Greenhalgh treble, Alfred Barnes 2nd, Joseph Lowe 3rd, Harry Washbrook 4th, J. T. Bottrill 5th, Walter W. Wolstencroft 6th, Harry Chapman 7th, Joseph Ridyard tenor. Composed by G. R. Newton. Conducted by J. Ridyard. This is the first peal in the method ever rung in Ashton. This board is erected to the memory of Harry Washbrook and J. T. Bottrill, who gave their lives in the Great War (1914-15-16-17-18-19), and to Joseph Ridyard, vice-president (1915-16-17-18). Chas. Hoyle, Ed. Foulkes, churchwardens; Rev. T. W. Pugh-Morgan, M.A., Vicar.'

It was decided to hold the next meeting jointly with the Ashton-under-Lyne Society, at St. Michael's (12 bells), on Saturday, April 26th.—A vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for presiding and granting the use of the bells; to Canon Elsee for his kindness in coming to unveil the peal board and for his kind words of sympathy.—A cordial vote of thanks was also accorded to Mr. Amos Trippier who had kindly given the board, which is a beautiful piece of workmanship. The bells were rung during the day to Grandsire, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Superlative and Stedman.

**GLoucester AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.
SWINDON BRANCH.**

The annual meeting of the Swindon Branch was held at Chippenham on Saturday last. Although on the eve of 'Summer-Time' winter was very prominent with his white jacket, which no doubt had a lot to do with the limited attendance. The two nice rings of eight at St. Andrew's and St. Paul's Churches were available, and members from Swindon, Stratton St. Margaret, Trowbridge, Marshfield, and the local company obtained useful practice in Stedman, Grandsire and Bob Major. A short service for the ringers was held at St. Paul's, the Rev. F. G. Walsley officiating. A substantial tea was partaken of at the Waverley Restaurant, and the business meeting followed. Mr. Ernest Bishop, Master of the Swindon Parish Church Guild, presided and spoke on the subject of working in harmony for the welfare and unity of ringers. The meeting regretted the retirement of Mr. R. W. Hyner from office as secretary, and a vote of thanks was accorded for his valuable services.

Upon the recommendation of the Chairman, the vacancy was filled by the election of Mr. H. W. Bishop, of Wanborough, who had much pleasure in acceding to the request, and expressed his intention of doing his best for the branch.—Three new members were elected, and it was also decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Swindon. This will be advertised in 'The Ringing World.'

A vote of thanks was accorded the respective Vicars for use of bells and the service, especially to the Rev. F. G. Walsley, who expressed his admiration for the meetings, and the interest he had in change ringing.—The meeting concluded with a silent vote in memory and honour of members who have made the great sacrifice.

Ringing was afterwards indulged in until 8 p.m., and brought a pleasant meeting to a close.

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

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,

**Foundry
Established
A.D. 1570.**

RINGING VICAR'S DEATH.

REV. V. A. CRESWELL SUCCEEDS TO PNEUMONIA.

We regret to record the death of the Rev. Vaughan Augustus Creswell, M.A., Vicar of Yarkhill, Herefordshire, which took place on March 15th, from pneumonia, following a severe attack of influenza at the age of 47 years. The deceased had held the living of Yarkhill for nearly two years, and here he was laid to rest on the 20th ult., amidst great sorrow, the bell-ringers being his ringing friends.

The Rev. V. A. Creswell was instituted to the living of St. Weonards in 1909, one of the most exposed parishes in South Herefordshire, and there found some of the bells in bad going order, but he got funds together, and had the treble and second rehung. He then set to work and formed a band, and taught them half-pull ringing, and most of them had scored peals when the war partly broke up the company. The deceased gentleman was, however, looking forward to a peal attempt with them on the day peace was signed. He always took a very active part in the ringing, and was to be found in the belfry regularly each Sunday, as well as on practice nights. On more than one occasion he helped to ring the bells, and afterwards played the organ and took the complete service.

He had rung about six peals, his last one being at Clun during the Armistice ringing week, when he rang the treble—the bell given by his family—through a peal of Grandsire Triples. In a letter to the writer a few days afterwards he said: 'I shall always look back with a great deal of pleasure to last Wednesday. For four years I have been looking forward to that day which has now come and gone, leaving behind it only a memory.'

He was a member of St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, the Hereford Diocesan Guild Committee, and regularly attended the meetings and festivals, and also of the St. George's Society, Clun, in which he took a particularly keen interest. After his last visit he presented the society with a peal book containing the six peals rung during that week. His family used to reside at Clun, and it was there he spent his boyhood days, during which the writer first taught him to handle a bell rope.

He leaves a widow and two daughters to mourn their loss.

MR. W. H. PASMORE'S 100 PEALS.

Included in their first one hundred peal, few ringers have probably such a record as that of Mr. W. H. Pasmore, of London, whose century is made up of the following: On tower bells: Grandsire Triples 6, Caters 2, Stedman Triples 8, Caters 4, Cinques 4, Bob Major 1, Kent Treble Bob Major 2, Oxford Treble Bob Major 1, Treble Bob Royal 5, Treble Bob Maximus 2, Double Norwich Major 1, Royal 5, Westminster Surprise Major 3, St. Stephen's Surprise Major 1, Superlative Surprise Major 8, Cambridge Surprise Major 8, Cambridge Surprise Maximus 3, London Surprise Major 20; total 84. On handbells: Grandsire Triples 2, Caters 1, Stedman Triples 3, Caters 2, Cinques 2, Bob Major 3, Kent Treble Bob Major 1, Superlative Surprise Major 2; total 16.

BACK FROM THE WAR.

The annual meeting of the Woburn band was held in the belfry of St. Mary's Church on March 24th, the Vicar (the Rev. W. V. R. White) presiding, and the churchwardens and practically all the ringers being present. Mr. S. A. Avis was elected foreman, and Mr. Ernest Herbert deputy foreman. Mr. Charles Matthews was elected a new member. Practices will now be resumed on Mondays. The Vicar and Churchwardens thanked the ringers for their services during the past year. Though thinned in numbers during the war, they had managed to ring for all Sunday services. They also welcomed back the three members, Messrs. W. Jones, D. Jones, and J. Chance, who had been demobilised. Six of the band had responded to their country's call, but happily all had returned.

DEVON RESTORATIONS.

The bells at Kingsteignton Parish Church have been restored, and the tenor recast, and rehung by Messrs. Aggett and Sons, of Chagford, Devon. The firm's patent adjustable bearings have been used, and the work has given great satisfaction to all concerned.

Littlehempston church bells have also been successfully restored by Messrs. Aggett and Sons.

Messrs. Aggett have in hand the restoration of the bells at Barnstaple (8), Highweek (8) and Widecombe (6).

OFFICERS' PEALS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir—May I beg a space in your next issue to ask all officers of the Navy, Army and Air Force, who are change ringers, within, say, 100 miles of London, and who are not already in communication with me, to put me in possession of their addresses, as it is hoped to arrange for more officers' peals before general demobilisation takes place?—Yours sincerely,

J. H. R. FREEBOEN,
Captain.

Bernerton, Cedar Road Sutton.

ROYAL VISIT TO WHITECHAPEL FOUNDRY. KING, QUEEN AND PRINCESS WITNESS CASTING OF ABBEY BELL.

The casting of the first of the new bells which are to complete the octave at Westminster Abbey took place last Friday at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry in the presence of the King and Queen, and Princess Mary, and the royal visitors evinced the greatest interest in all that they saw.

Messrs. Mears and Stainback are pressing on with the work of restoration, so that the Abbey bells may take their share in the peace celebrations, and on Thursday they were informed that their Majesties, with their daughter, would be present on the following afternoon to witness the casting of a bell. The King and Queen, and Princess Mary, accompanied by Major Reginald Seymour, arrived at the Foundry at 3.45 p.m., and were received by the Dean of Westminster (Dr. Ryle, formerly Bishop of Winchester). The visit was a strictly private one, and the only other persons present, apart from the foundry staff, were Mrs. Ryle, Mr. E. F. Knapp-Fisher (Chapter Clerk of the Abbey), and Mrs. Knapp-Fisher, Mr. A. A. Hughes, the head of the firm, was presented to the King, Queen and Princess, who shook hands heartily. The party then proceeded straight through to the foundry, where they saw the metal poured from the furnaces into the ladle. The King asked many questions as to the metals used and their proportions, and also as to the processes of moulding.

Just before the actual casting took place, the Queen and Princess Mary each cast a small model church bell, with a small hand ladle of metal taken from that with which the large bell was cast, the Queen in doing so, jocularly remarking that the Princess had got rather more than her share of metal in her mould.

Then came the real business of the day, and the new bell was successfully cast. It will replace the Pre-Reformation treble, and will be the third in the augmented peal.

After the casting, the royal party were shown moulds of other of the Abbey bells in various stages, and spoke for some time to the head moulder, Mr. S. Dunwell, who has been with the firm for over 35 years. Some tunes were then played on a set of handbells, by the firm's handbell tuner, the Royal visitors expressing great admiration for their beautiful tone. They chatted to the men, and evinced great interest in the old bells from the Abbey, especially the ancient treble, which is an early 14th century bell, and which, happily, is to be preserved in the Abbey. They also saw a bell being tuned, and the tenor clapper being welded up.

On returning to the office, the visitors examined some of the old records, and were greatly interested in the collection of ancient bell inscriptions. This collection consists of pen and ink facsimile reproductions of the inscriptions of many old bells which have passed through the firm's hands. These reproductions are a remarkable example of pen and ink work, and are unique as being perhaps the only collection of their kind in the world. They are the work of Thomas Kimber, who was a moulder at the foundry, and whose grandfather came over to the firm at the time the Aldbourne Foundry was acquired about the year 1829.

The Royal party remained at the Foundry nearly an hour. Before departing they told Mr. Hughes, with whom they shook hands most cordially, that they had had a most interesting visit, it being the first time they had seen a church bell cast. The King remarked that he would be very interested in hearing the bells after their restoration, and also hoped that a record would be made of the afternoon's ceremony.

Mr. Hughes' youngest son, Douglas, aged nineteen months, was presented to their Majesties, and the King asked if he was going to be a bell founder.

The Royal party had a most enthusiastic welcome outside the foundry. It having leaked out who the visitors were, a great crowd gathered, and gave them a very hearty send-off.

Interviewed subsequently with regard to the Royal visit, Mr. Hughes said it was plain to see that the King, the Queen and Princess were all genuinely interested, and, whilst the tunes were being played on the handbells, the Queen was quietly humming them.

It was a real pleasure to talk to their Majesties, said Mr. Hughes. 'I have often heard of the quiet, democratic way in which they have visited places, but I did not dream they were so easy and pleasant to talk to.'

THE J. S. GOLDSMITH TESTIMONIAL.

I thank the secretaries of associations and members for the tangible manner in which they have so far helped in the above testimonial.

The fund is still open, and the date for returning the lists is extended to April 19th, 1919. There are still 112 numbered lists out. Besides other supplementary lists, and I shall be very glad if those who have the lists will kindly return them to me, with every line filled up if possible, on or before April 19th, 1919.

JAMES GEORGE,

Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

15, Dolman Road,
Aston, Birmingham.

NOTICES.

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

'The Ringing World' can be obtained by placing an order with a Newsagent, or it will be sent direct from the Editorial Office post free for 2/6 per quarter, 10/- per year.

KENT' COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury Branch.—There will be a quarterly meeting at St. Laurence's on Saturday, April 5th next. Bells available for ringing. Service in church 5 p.m. Tea and business meeting after. Travelling allowance 1/3. Tea, 1/- a head—Rev. C. W. B. Cobbe, District Sec., Elmstead Vicarage, Ashford, Kent.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Quarterly meeting at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, April 5th. Tower open 3.30. Tea at Nags Head, to those who notify me by Wednesday, 2nd April.—H. J. Bradley, Hon. Sec.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Kidsgrove on Saturday, April 5th.—J. Johnson, Hon. Sec., 51, Dunrobin Street, Longton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Half-yearly meeting will be held at St. George's Gravesend, on Saturday, April 5th. Bells available from 3 p.m.; Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea in the Church House, for which 1/6 each will be charged. Half rail fares allowed at this meeting. Subscriptions are due and should be paid at or before the meeting.—E. A. G. Allen, 77 Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

SHEFFIELD AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Worksop on Easter Monday. Further particulars next week. A meeting of the committee will be held in the belfry of Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday, April 5th, at 3.30 p.m.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec., 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings for practice will be held at *St. Michael's, Cornhill, on April 8th; *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 22nd; and Southwark Cathedral on the 29th, all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards at Headquarters.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W. 4.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—The next meeting will be held at Sible Hedingham, on Saturday, April 12th, being the fifth anniversary of the ring of eight. Service 4.30, followed by tea at the 'White Lion,' at moderate charge, 5.30. Those who intend to be present please notify me not later than April 5th.—B. Redgwell, District Sec., Rayne.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Feltham, on Saturday, April 12th. Ringing from 3 p.m. All ringers welcome.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec., 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Aldenham on April 12th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea and business meeting at 5 o'clock.—F. Smith, 82, Glencoe Road, Bushey, and F. Edwards, 24, Glencoe Road, Bushey, Joint Secs. (*pro tem.*)

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A district meeting will be held at Billingshurst on Saturday, April 12th. Bells available 2.30. Tea and business meeting at the 'King's Arms' Hotel. Election of officers for the Western Division. All members intending being present kindly advise me not later than April 9th—A. W. Groves, Hon. Divisional Sec., 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting of the above Branch will be held at Hoghton on Saturday, April 12th. Tower open for ringing at 3 o'clock. Meeting in the Tower at 5.30. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—A. E. Woodhouse, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Todmorden Unitarian's on Saturday, April 12th, bells ready at 3 o'clock; business meeting at 6. A good attendance is requested. All ringers welcome.—T. K. Driver, Sec., Middleton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Thomas', Helmshore, on Saturday, April 12th. Bells ready for ringing at 3 o'clock; meeting at 7. Subscriptions are due; reports to hand. A good attendance is earnestly requested.—John H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at Oswaldtwistle, on Saturday, April 12th, 1919. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A Memorial Service for those Ringers in these Dioceses who have sacrificed their lives for King and Country, 1914—1918, will be held at St. John's Church, Grainger Street West, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on Saturday, April 12th, at 3.30 p.m. (Address by the Rev. A. E. Corbin, Vicar of St. John's). A peal of Stedman Triples will be attempted on the bells, muffled, before service. All ringers, with their relations and their friends, are invited to attend and pay this humble tribute of respect and gratitude to our fallen heroes. The bells of the Cathedral and All Saints' will also be muffled for ringing after the service.—G. T. Potter, Hon. Sec., 13, Park Parade, Whitley Bay, Northumberland.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The thirty-seventh annual meeting will be held at Derby on Easter Monday, April 21st. Ringing at St. Andrew's, St. Alkmund's and All Saints' Churches from 10 a.m. For tea arrangements see next week's notice. No nomination has yet been received for the Hon. Secretaryship.—W. E. White, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Christ Church, Southport, on Monday, April 21st. Bells ready at 2. Service at 5. Tea at 5.30. Members intending being present please send word to the Secs.—Rev. E. C. Collier and Walter Hughes.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Gloucester on Easter Monday, April 21st. Bells available from 10.30. Dinner 12.45. Service at Cathedral (Lady Chapel) 2.30. Tea 3.30, followed by business meeting. Charabanc leaves Bristol 8.30 a.m. Will members please notify me for tea and dinner before April 13th, and about charabanc before April 12th?—E. Guise, Hon. Sec., 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's Hill, Bristol.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 21st. General meeting in the Cathedral Chapter House at 2.15, Service in the Cathedral at 4.15, with address by the Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., Dean. Tea at 5.15 for all who notify me before Wednesday, April 16th. Bells available: Cathedral (12) 1 to 2 p.m., All Saints' (10), Hallow (8), St. Helen's (8), St. Nicholas' (6), St. John's in-Bedwardine (6). Subscriptions should be paid, reports obtained, etc., in St. Helen's Church House between 11.30 and 12.30.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheepcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, April 21st. Ringing can be had at the Cathedral and St. Peter's from 12 to 1, and again from 2 p.m. Those wishing to ring earlier at the six bell towers should communicate with me. There will be Service in the Cathedral at 5 p.m., with address by the Rev. C. G. Ward, Vicar of North Mimms. Tea and annual business meeting in the Abbey Institute at 6 p.m. sharp. Dear fellow-ringer, if you are coming, please let me know not later than Easter Monday morning, to save confusion at tea table. All ringers welcome.—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., Duffield, St. Albans.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will take place at Windsor on Easter Monday, April 21st, 1919. Service at the Parish Church at 5 p.m., when the Very Rev. The Dean of Windsor has kindly consented to address the members. Tea for those who notify the Secretary in good time will be provided at the Church Rooms at 5.45, and the business meeting will follow. His Worship the Mayor of Windsor, Canon Drummond, and Canon Coleridge have expressed a wish to support this gathering. St. John's bells will be available 3 to 5 o'clock, and the following towers have been placed at the disposal of members and friends during the morning: Slough and Old Windsor from 10 to 11; St. Andrew's, Clewer, 12 to 1.—W. H. Fussell, Hon. Sec., Farnburn Avenue, Farnham Royal.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Central Division.—A meeting will be held at Southover, Lewes, on Easter Monday (April 21st) for election of officers of Division, etc. Tower open 11-1 and 2-4; short Service 4; tea 4.30, in Church Hall, meeting to follow. Half railway fare. Tea 1/- each to those who notify me not later than Wednesday, April 16th.—A. D. Stone, Divisional Hon. Sec., 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Rugby on Saturday, April 26th, instead of the 19th. Further particulars next week.—Joseph H. White, Hon. Sec., 59, George Eliot Road, Coventry.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Meetings for practice: St. Martin's first Monday in the month at 7.30 p.m.; second Saturday, St. Bride's, 5 p.m.; third Monday, Shoreditch, 7.30 p.m.—H. J. Bradley, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Horbury Branch.—There will be a practice every Thursday at 8 p.m., also on the third Saturday in each month at 3.30 p.m., when all ringers will be cordially welcomed. All standard methods rung.—J. Smith, Hon. Sec.

REPORTS WANTED.—Will give 10/- each for Norwich Association Report for years 1879, 1881 and 1883.—E. F. Poppy, Moorball, Eye, Suffolk.

Will 44525 Lce.-Corpl. D. Williams, No. 1 Coy., 3rd Bn. Dorset Regt., kindly communicate with Mr. A. W. Osborne, 17, Dorothy Street, Reading?

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.

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FOREMAN, MOTOR REPAIRS—13 years' experience; married; requires situation garage or repair shop, 50 miles radius of London; change ringer.—'Motor,' 'Ringing World' Office, Woking.

YOUNG MAN seeks situation, any capacity with good prospects. Age 26; tall. Ex-N.C.O. of Artillery. Change ringer on 6, 8 or ten bells.—'Demob,' 'Ringing World' Office, Woking.

TWO BROTHERS DEAD.

STALYBRIDGE RINGERS' WAR LOSSES

The ringers at St. Paul's Church, Stalybridge, have lost two valued colleagues in the war, in Frederick and Arthur Fielding. Frederick was killed in France just over a year ago, and news has just been received that Arthur, who was reported 'missing' in April last year, died on September 30th at Tourvel Belgium, from pneumonia, while a prisoner in German hands.

Pte. Arthur Reginald Fielding was the eldest of four sons, of Mr. Abel Fielding, now of Oldham, but until recently a resident in Stalybridge. All the sons served in the army, and Sappers Samuel and William Fielding, R.E., are still in France. Arthur originally joined the R.E.'s, and was transferred to the S.W.B. He had been in the army two years, and after six months' training he was drafted to France. He was connected with St. Paul's Church and School; a ringer at St. Paul's, formerly a chorister, and a member of the Cricket and Football Clubs, and of the Young Men's Institute. He was particularly well known and was much esteemed. He leaves a widow and one child, a girl, aged nine years, with whom much sympathy is felt.

As a tribute to the memory of the deceased and his brother Fred, St. Paul's band rang 1008 Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled, in 45 minutes. The ringers taking part were as follow: E. Lees 1, C. Wood 2, A. Jackson 3, W. Norton 4, G. E. Shaw 5, Sam Hill (conductor) 6, A. Roberts 7, C. Lawton 8. Before the war it was no unusual thing to have four Fieldings ringing for service out of the eight ringers, namely, A. Fielding (father), Arthur, Fred and Samuel.

RECONSTRUCTION AT SOLIHULL.

A meeting of the Solihull Guild of Ringers was held on Friday week at the residence of Mr. G. A. Martineau, for the purpose of discussing the future of change ringing in Solihull.—Mr. G. A. Martineau was elected Ringing Master and Mr. R. Bragg, Deputy Ringing Master.—The rules of the Guild were revised, and it was resolved to adhere to them strictly.

As regards the future of the Guild, it was decided to practise the four Standard methods, so as to raise the standard of ringing in Solihull to a higher level than formerly. Practices will be held on Saturday evenings at 7.30 p.m., when any change ringers from neighbouring towers will be heartily welcomed.

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