



No. 273. Vol. X.

FRIDAY, JUNE 9th, 1916.

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

Price 1d.

GILLET & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.
BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



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

MESSRS. GILLET & JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912
Gentlemen,

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

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

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

MODERN WORK.

SERVICE RINGING DIFFICULTIES.

A very useful suggestion is made by a correspondent in another column. He refers to the fact that the new military requirements, as typified in the Compulsion Act, will further drain the belfries, and that many, already undermanned, will be further depleted when the "calling up" has been concluded. The writer suggests that those who are left behind should, in the case of neighbouring towers, amalgamate and divide their services between the churches in such a way that instead of all the towers being silent, the bells of each may be rung in turn. He mentions that at Putney, in which district there are four towers near each other, the subject has been discussed, and, we presume, steps will be taken to carry the suggestion into effect if possible. It is, of course, probable that in other districts the same thing is already being done.

This practical idea should, however, commend itself to those ringers similarly placed—and there must be many up and down the country who have not adopted the idea. We have over and over again urged united efforts to keep up the practice of ringing in different districts, and now that the towers will be still harder hit in the loss of men, the adoption of some organised means of "keeping the church bells ringing" is more than ever necessary. Our correspondent's idea that in this matter the clergy should be taken into conference is certainly to be commended, and we think they will be found ready to give their assistance. A ringer's first duty is to his own church, and if, in the stress of present circumstances, he desires to divide his services, it is only right that he should do so with the consent of his incumbent. It may be true that he is under no express obligation, but consultation with the clergy would be a step, to put it on no higher ground, demanded by courtesy as well as one which would doubtless lead to a more satisfactory arrangement.

Where towers are short-handed this method of helping one another should be beneficial in many ways. It would add to the fraternal feeling between ringers, it would show the clergy and the public that ringers are determined to discharge their duties, however difficult the circumstances, to the best of their ability; it would help to keep up the standard of ringing and it would preserve the position of the ringer by maintaining continuity of service. There are likely to be many districts where properly organised amalgamation would enable the bells to be rung fully and properly at regular frequent intervals, instead of remaining for months unring. We think the suggestion made at Putney is likely to commend itself wherever there are remnants of bands handicapped by the absence of those called to the stern duties of war.

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 write with MM in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are so unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs. C. CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

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

**SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM**

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SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.**

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CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

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IN ALL BRANCHES.

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EIGHT BELL PEAL.

SHIFNAL, SALOP.

THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

On Saturday, May 27, 1916, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes

At THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLLIS' IRREGULAR FIVE-PART, No. 1. Tenor 19½ cwt. in E flat.	
G. LEONARD HEWITT... ..Treble	WILLIAM PAGE 5
*WILLIAM JONES 2	JOHN BRADNEY 6
CHARLES R. LILLEY 3	WILLIAM SAUNDERS 7
ALBERT WOODVINE 4	†THOMAS SMITHTenor

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal. † First peal of Triples. Rung with bells muffled as a token of respect to the memory of the late Sir A. Percival Heywood, Bart., it being the band's first opportunity of meeting. The ringers of the treble and 7th belong to Coalbrookdale, 4th to Malins Lee, 5th to Shifnal, 3rd to St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, 2nd and 6th to St. Luke's, Wolverhampton, and tenor to St. Peter's, Wolverhampton. It was also the conductor's 500th peal.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING AT RETFORD.

The 29th annual meeting of the North Notts Association was held in the Parish Room, East Retford, on Saturday week, and was preceded by a service in the church, at which the preacher was the Rev. R. D. Foster (Rector of Ordsall), and a tea well served by Miss Falconer, of the Cannon Cafe.

Canon Gray presided over the business meeting, which was very largely attended, there being present representatives to the number of 65, from East and West Retford, Ordsall, Worksop, Tuxford, East Markham, Blyth, Shireoaks, Anston, Norton Cuckney, Everton, and other towers, including the Rev. C. J. Sturton, Vicar of Orston, Nottingham, and Mr. F. S. Butler, one of the secretaries of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild.

The annual statement of accounts showed a net gain on the year's work of 13s. 10½d., and the balance sheet was passed as read.

The report was also presented, and in this the list of special performances was headed by Mr. John Segar, junr., of East Retford, who had taken great pains, since the war commenced, to teach a band to ring changes double-handed on handbells. Mr. Segar and his band had been successful in ringing five peals of 5040 changes in three Minor Methods, which were the first peals for the Association on handbells. This was a very good record for a young band in their first year of existence and their trainer, and they were to be congratulated upon the success which had rewarded their perseverance. One new tower, Shireoaks, with eight ringers, had become affiliated; the membership roll to date being 144 ringing members, 28 probationary, and 19 ex-officio, total 191, a gain of 17 on the year.—The Secretary took the opportunity of thanking Mr. Arnold Beck, of Worksop, who had given him great assistance since becoming a member of the Association, and all the local committeemen who had been prompt in answering any communication; also the vice-presidents for their patronage and support during the year, especially at that most critical time, when everybody was asked to economise. He looked forward to a continuance of support during the current year. In conclusion he expressed a wish that those who were fighting our battles against the common foe might be spared, and that a year hence they might meet under widely different and happier circumstances.

The Hon. Secretary also made an appeal to the ringers to support "The Ringing World," by each of them taking a copy weekly and not being content with one or two copies for a tower. It would be the worst day's work the ringers did if they allowed the only ringing paper that now existed to be starved through want of support. With 15 ringers at Worksop, 13 copies of the paper came to the tower weekly, and he hoped all other belfries would follow Worksop's example.

The report was adopted, and the whole of the officers were re-elected en bloc, with the addition of Mr. Arnold Beck, of Worksop, as assistant secretary.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar of East Retford, to the Rev. R. D. Foster, Rector of Ordsall, and the Rev. Canon Gray, Rector of West Retford, for the use of bells, and to the latter for presiding, were passed, the Rev. Canon Gray suitably responding.

During the afternoon and evening touches on 10, 8 and 6 bells in the methods of Grandsire, Treble Bob, Plain Bob and Killamarsh Treble Bob were successfully brought round, whilst in the evening Mr. Segar's handbell band rang 240 Bob Minor non-conducted, and Mr. Segar tapped a course of Cambridge single-handed.

A CITY INVITATION TO RINGERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The bells of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, City, will be available on Whitsun Day at 9.45 a.m. and 5 p.m., when ringing visitors to London, naval, military and civilian, will be heartily welcomed by—

Yours faithfully,

10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate.

T. WALKER.

CHESTER GUILD'S FOUNDER.

An event of much interest to members of the Chester Diocesan Guild and ringers generally, took place at Chester Cathedral on Saturday week, when a memorial to the late Archdeacon Barber, founder of the Guild, was dedicated. A stone has been placed in the north aisle of the choir, and has been erected by the Diocesan Guild. It bears the following inscription:—

"In honour of the worship of God, Edward Barber, M.A., Archdeacon of Chester, founded the Guild of Church Bell Ringers in 1887, and was master until his death in 1914. By this tablet the members desire to keep his faithful work in lasting remembrance."

During the afternoon the Cathedral bells were rung, and the impressive service, which was attended by a large number of ringers, took place in the choir. Among the clergy present were the Ven. Archdeacon Paige-Cox, the Rev. Minor Canon Williams, and the Rev. H. Grantham, V.D. The members of the committee of the Guild present included Mr. C. J. Bowen Cooke (Crewe) (Master), Archdeacon Paige-Cox, Mr. H. A. Heywood (Christleton), Mr. G. D. Warburton (Stockport), Mr. R. T. Holding, Mr. R. Langford, Mr. J. Pierpoint (Crewe), Mr. Ashcroft (Grappenhall), Messrs. Mottershead, Galleymore, and Norbury (Macclesfield), Messrs. Ashmole and Yarwood (Northwich), Messrs. Brocklebank, Storer and Wilcox (Birkenhead), and the Rev. A. T. Beeston (Stockport), hon. secretary and treasurer. Several other towers were represented by a number of members.

Following the third Collect, the choir sang the first five verses of a hymn, as the Dean proceeded to the tablet. The first verse was:

Swing them gently in our towers,
Let our bells be set on high,
There fulfil their daily mission
Midway 'twixt the earth and sky.

As the Dean walked to the tablet he was followed by members of the Guild, Mr. C. J. Bowen Cooke and the Rev. A. T. Beeston walking immediately behind the Dean.

The special Collects were:—

Almighty God, Who by the mouth of Thy servant Moses did'st command to make silver trumpets for the convocation of solemn assemblies, send Thy blessing on the bells dedicated to Thy service throughout the diocese, and upon the Guild here present, grant that through this generation and the generations yet to come, they may call together Thy faithful people to praise and worship Thy Holy Name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We dedicate to Thee, O Heavenly Father, this memorial of Edward Barber, who with zealous care gathered and guided the Chester Diocesan Guild of Church Bell Ringers. They bless Thy Glorious Name for his faithful example: Let the light of Thy countenance ever shine upon him, and grant that we with him may have eternal peace, through the merits of Thy Son our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

The choir then sang the remaining five verses of the hymn, commencing:—

Year by year the steeple music
O'er the tender graves shall pour;
Where the dust of saints is garnered
Till the Master comes once more.

THE LATE ARCHDEACON'S EXAMPLE.

In a brief sermon, the Dean spoke of the purpose of the ringing of church bells, alluding to the change which has taken place, and spoke of the late Archdeacon's aim in his work among the bell ringers. His text was from the first epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians: "Seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the Church." To-day, he said, our thoughts are specially turned to the use of bells as used in the service of Almighty God. Primarily, as you know, they are used to call God's people to His worship, and at times they are used to express the sympathy of the Church for the sorrow felt by bereavement. We know the pathetic touch of the muffled peal, and our hearts are led to weep with them that weep. But not only so, they are often used to express the joy which we feel in common. We ring our peal in the honour of the King; we ring upon his day of birth, we ring upon his accession, and all this is done in the service of that God Who has given us a Sovereign to reign over us. Therefore, I think you ringers, as you practice, may keep as your motto, "Seek that ye may excel in the edifying of the Church." You know, and a great deal better than I, the practice that is required, and the labour that you have to expend, in seeking to excel, not only in ringing your changes to perfection, but in the order and quiet and reverence observed in the tower where you gather; I do not intend to allude only in a most distant way to what may have happened in days gone by. Things have vastly changed for the better in the sense that we have in bell ringers distinctly officers of the Church, devoting their skill and their time to excel to the edifying of the Church, not in boasting, but in reverent devotion of that God to Whose house you summon others. You do not forget the God for Whom you work, and you do not forget the work which you do in His name for the benefit of others. Now, as one who was very intimate for forty years with your late warden, I know that above all things he had at heart when he went about among you this very text, that you might seek to excel to the edifying of the Church. There was nothing he desired more than your lives should be consecrated to this work, and that you should recognise that in your ringing of the bells you had in mind the setting forth of the glory of God, and the extending, by the very sound of the bells you ring, an invitation to "Come unto Me; fall down and worship at My footstool,

receive a blessing from Almighty God." In his memory we have joined together to dedicate this simple, but very beautiful, tablet, in its simplicity, to his memory, and to keep alive, not for this generation only, but for those to follow you in the same work, the memory of a zealous, faithful and courageous master, who often laboured against and under great difficulties, but who was determined to do his duty. Let that example of his tarry with us and inspire us with the same high sense of duty both to God and man.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The half-yearly meeting of the Lancashire Association held at Wigan brought together some 60 ringers from the county and neighbourhood. Three o'clock found the first batch at the historic church, almost if not quite the oldest in Lancashire.

The building of the old Church, dedicated to All Saints, is lost in the mists of history. Certainly there stood a church on the same spot in Saxon times, as is learnt from the survey of William the Conqueror. The existence of what is supposed to be an old Roman altar, at present embedded in the bay of the north window of the tower, suggests that the present church stands, as did its predecessors, upon the site of some heathen temple. The first Rector of Wigan, whose name we know, was Ranulph, treasurer of Salisbury, who resigned it in 1205. Among the most famous of the Rectors were the following: John Maunsel, keeper of the great seal to Henry III., to whom the town was indebted for its first charter of freedom; John de Winwick, who obtained for himself and his successors, from Edward III., powers to hold assizes, which were held probably by no other secular priest in England, in right of his Church: Thomas Linacre, the great scholar and physician, who founded the College of Physicians; and John Pearson, Bishop of Chester, whose work on the Creed is still a text-book. From 1616—1707, except during the rebellion, the rectory was held by the Bishops of Chester. The registers date from 1580. A due of £20 is still paid by the Rector to Lichfield, and is supposed to have been paid since St. Chad was Bishop in the year 669.

The Church has three Private Chapels: on the north of the altar, the Leigh Chapel, originally belonging to the Leigh family; on the south, the Bradshaigh Chapel, which now belongs to Lord Crawford; and the third a Gerard or Walmesley Chapel, recently restored, separated from the north aisle by an iron screen, belonging to the Walmesley family. Except in the lower part of the tower, which appears to date from the thirteenth century, but may be earlier, there is no trace of any earlier architectural style than the perpendicular. The whole church, except the tower and Walmesley Chapel, was re-built between 1846 and 1850, but the lines of the old church were closely followed.

Specially interesting to ringers, of course, are the bells. There is mention in the wardens' accounts in 1651 of repairs to bells, and in 1732 there were six bells, with a tenor nearly 26 cwt. These were recast into eight by Rudhall, with a tenor 29½ cwt., but the tenor, being cracked, was recast by J. Taylor, at Loughborough in 1876, and now weighs 28 cwt. There is also a priest's bell weighing 60½ lbs.

On the occasion of the meeting, the bells were sent off into Stedman, and on through Kent and Grandsire until 5.30, when in the Parish Room the meeting was held, but as there was no business it was a happy family gathering. The Rev. H. J. Elsee presided, supported by the Revs. C. A. Clements and W. E. Kingsbury. The Rev. H. F. Lloyd also met the visitors in the churchyard to welcome them. After a few complimentary speeches to the clergy and ringers for making the Association welcome, the visitors again adjourned to the tower to ring for service, while others took car to Poolstock to ring on the grand peal there, with its 25 cwt. tenor, by Mears, which had also been placed at their disposal. Touches of Grandsire, Stedman and Double Norwich were rung till train time brought another successful meeting to a close, the striking being such that "Bob Major" would not grumble at.

MANCHESTER BRANCH DISCUSS CENTRAL COUNCIL.

On Saturday last members of the Manchester Branch met at Flixton. A goodly number attended from Ashton-under-Lyne, Birch, Bolton, Barlow Moor, Denton, Miles Platting, Pendleton, Reddish, Stretford, Worsley, etc. Ringing was indulged in from an early hour until 9 p.m., the methods being Plain Bob, Grandsire, Kent Treble Bob, Stedman, Double Norwich, and Superlative. Several lady ringers from Ashton and Miles Platting took part in the more elementary methods.

The ringers were delighted to see at this meeting two old members of the Flixton company, viz., Mr. George Astbury and Mr. James Rove, the latter having rung a peal of Kent on the tenor as long ago as 1861. A special touch of Grandsire Triples was arranged for him, and he is to be heartily complimented on his ringing at so ripe an age as 81 years.

A discussion took place on the subject of the Central Council, and the opinion was expressed that there might be room for improvement, either in its construction or policy towards ringing in general. The Council's work in the past, especially during its early stages, was recognised as being invaluable and worthy of commendation, and without its aid the ringing fraternity would have been the poorer.

Didsbury (Barlow Moor) was chosen as the next meeting place on July 1st.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector and wardens for the use of the bells, and to the ringers of Flixton, who are ever ready with a hearty welcome to visitors.

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A.D. 1570.

Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

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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.

OXFORD GUILD SECRETARY'S MARRIAGE.

BRIDE CONDUCTS HER OWN WEDDING PEAL.

On Ascension Day, June 1st, the village of Bradfield, Berks, was en fete for the marriage of Miss M. E. Chillingworth and Mr. A. E. Reeves, the secretary of the Guild. Just before 2 p.m. a company of Berks Women Volunteers, in which the bride holds the rank of captain, formed a guard of honour in the church path, with three colours displayed over the porch. Having seen the bride into church, accompanied by her father and Miss Nell Sellwood, her bridesmaid, the B.W.V.'s lined the aisle during the service—these, together with bride and bridesmaid, being in uniform. The bridegroom, captain and adjutant of the C.L.B. Cadet Corps, was supported by Major the Rev. H. Wardley King, of the same corps, both being in khaki.

The Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, C.F., Master of the Guild, fortunately home on short leave from France after a full year's duty with the troops, took the service, assisted by the Rev. Canon Hurt, Rector of the parish, and the Rev. G. F. Coleridge, Vicar of Crowthorne and Rural Dean of Sonning, who gave an address at the end of the service. The registers being signed, the party proceeded from the Vestry to the belfry, where an excellent 720 Bob Minor was rung, conducted by the bride. The occasion was unique, for never had a bride and bridegroom rung their own wedding peal with two of the officiating clergy standing in, the Rector and bridesmaid being part-time spectators. The ringers on this historic occasion were: J. Swain 1, S. Chapman 2, Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn 3, Rev. G. F. Coleridge 4, Mrs. A. E. Reeves 5, A. E. Reeves 6.

AN ACCOMPLISHED AGRICULTURIST.

Mention may be made in passing that Mrs. Reeves is the only lady member on the Oxford Guild Committee, and is not only a skilled ringer and conductress, but also a skilled agriculturist. Perfectly at home on any bell in any tower, she is equally at home on a motor plough and other implements, made use of in England's leading industry. Quite recently she returned from the war zone in France, whither she had been sent by the War Agricultural Committee, with the approval of the Boards of Trade and Agriculture, to study and report, and, finally, lecture, on the farm work done by women within range of the enemy's guns.

Among the wedding presents of interest to ringers, were displayed a handsome silver Queen Anne teapot, bearing the inscription: "Presented to Miss Mary E. Chillingworth on her marriage by the members of the Bradfield Deanery Branch of the O.D.G.C.B.R., June 1st, 1916," and also a sugar basin to match. "Presented to Mr. A. E. Reeves and Miss Chillingworth on their marriage, June 1st, 1916, by the St. Mary's ringers, Reading." The Master of the Guild gave a handsome salad bowl and bell-shaped inkpot; cheques were also received from the Rev. R. H. Hart-Davis, treasurer of the Guild; the Rev. E. Broome, secretary of the Sonning Deanery Branch, and the Rev. G. F. Coleridge, a member of 35 years' standing. Mention should also be made of an attache case, writing wallet and shower bouquet of white roses and ferns presented by the B.W.V.'s.

The wedding cake was embellished with six bells, which in mould, if not in material, evidently betrayed the work of an artist-ringer.

Ringers will join in wishing "health and happiness to the newly-married couple," while the Oxford Guild will no doubt find that its affairs, which have always gone smoothly, will now go with even less friction, notwithstanding the scratching of two pens in place of one on the secretarial desk.

SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD'S FIRST PEAL OF STEDMAN.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In your issue of the 26th ult., I notice a letter from an old Burton-on-Trent friend, Mr. John Jagger, and hasten to thank him for his kindly remarks concerning the recent article written by me about Duffield and its principal resident. Mr. Jagger asks for information as to Sir Arthur Heywood's first peal of Stedman, and goes on to mention that he always thought he called the late President's first in the method on March 2nd, 1886.

I can go two better, for Sir Arthur's first peal of Stedman Trinles (Brooks') was with the 6th at St. Paul's, Shadwell, on Tuesday, 26th May, 1885, and anyone referring to the paper of that period will find his name "starred" to this effect. Again, at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, on Wednesday, 25th November, 1885, Sir Arthur rang the 8th for 5002 Stedman Caters, and on this sad occasion the bells were deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Jasper Whitfield Snowdon. Sir Arthur Heywood accomplished his first peal of Stedman Cinques (5014), at St. Giles', Cripplegate, on Monday, 22nd March, 1886, in which he rang the 9th, and all the above were conducted by the late James Pettit. The fact was often alluded to by the late baronet at the annual banquet of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

I will certainly take the hint dropped by Mr. Jagger to occasionally contribute something of interest, so far as lays in my power, during this trying period when peal ringing is at such a low ebb.—Yours faithfully,

FRANCES E. DAWK.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.—On May 20th, in 28 mins., 720 Bob Minor: W. Cramp 1, H. Edwards 2, T. Booth 3, W. Hoad 4, W. H. Perry 5, A. E. Edwards (conductor) 6. First 720 Bob Minor by all except the conductor.

ANOTHER SUFFOLK RINGER KILLED.

The band at Eye, Suffolk, has lost another promising ringer, who has been killed in action in France. Lance-Corpl. Ernest William Clover, of the 16th Lancers, son of Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Clover, of Cross Street, Eye, joined the army 5½ years ago. Before that he was an enthusiastic ringer, regular in his attendance in the belfry, and quickly becoming most proficient. He had taken part in four peals for the Norwich Diocesan Association, including one of Double Norwich with the Diss company.

The deceased, who was 26 years of age, was through the early stages of the war. He took part in the battles of Mons, the Marne, the Aisne, and the battle of Ypres, being wounded on February 15th, 1915, when the trenches of D Squadron, 16th Lancers, were blown up. After staying for a time in hospital in France, he was conveyed to the 4th Northern General Hospital, Lincoln, and when convalescent he stayed



THE LATE LANCE-CORPL. E. W. CLOVER.

at Brocklesby Park, the residence of the Earl of Yarborough, which had been transformed into a military hospital. Whilst there he had a nervous breakdown, and had to return to the 4th Northern General Hospital. He subsequently went to Eye on the 29th April of last year, and rejoined his regiment at the Curragh Camp, Ireland, about a fortnight later, where he remained until he returned to France again on the 11th October last, when he was attached to the Military Mounted Police. He had seven days' leave at home about the end of March, and had only been back about three weeks when he met his death, which occurred on Easter Day. Much sympathy is felt for his parents in their great loss.

The deceased was much respected by his brother ringers and, on the occasion of a memorial service at Eye Parish Church on Sunday week, the bells were rung muffled before and after the service by F. Day, E. Broome, A. Berry, E. Youngs, Sergt. A. E. Howell, Corpl. F. Brunning, H. Moss, A. Oakes, C. Nunn, D. Whiting, G. Murton and E. Poppy. Lance-Corpl. Clover was for many years a member of the church choir.

CHIDDINGFOLD RINGER'S DEATH.

The death occurred on Tuesday week, from consumption, at Brompton Hospital, of Mr. H. J. Ellis, a well-known and highly-respected member of the Chiddingfold (Surrey) company. The deceased, who was 30 years of age, had been ailing about three months before going to the hospital, where he had been confined to bed for twelve weeks.

The funeral took place on Saturday at Fulham New Cemetery, where the deceased's father is also buried. The bells at Chiddingfold were rung muffled at the time of interment by the following past and present ringers: A. Ashdown, T. Attwell, J. Gardiner, A. C. Bookham, G. Johnson, G. Bartlett and A. J. Bartlett.

The late Mr. Ellis had rung upwards of 30 peals in following methods: Grandsire Triples and Caters, Bob Minor (one of which he conducted), Bob Major, Double Norwich (on the treble) and Stedman Triples (a good many of these latter having been conducted by the late Rev. F. E. Robinson). With the exception of two for the Oxford Guild, all the peals were rung for the Winchester Diocesan Guild. Deceased was at one time a great help to the Cobham (Surrey) band, who showed their recognition of his help by presenting him with a valuable walking stick, suitably engraved, and which he greatly prized.

AMALGAMATION FOR SERVICE RINGING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In view of the possible further depletion of many local bands when the new Compulsion Bill becomes operative, it would seem to be desirable that ringers and clergy alike should consider the question of ways and means of keeping the ringing going until the return of normal conditions.

The matter was discussed at the annual meeting of the St. Mary's, Putney, Society last week, and a resolution was passed expressing the opinion that, in order to provide for the ringing of the bells for Sunday services, neighbouring bands should amalgamate for the time being, and so organise the arrangements for ringing, that the bells at each church should be rung at least once on alternate Sundays. There are, for instance, within two miles of Putney at least four towers, each with a change ringing band, but it is quite conceivable that when the Compulsion Act gets into full swing there will not be more than two or three left in each tower.

Would it not be possible for those few who are left, to agree to form one band and ring at one church in the morning and another in the evening on one Sunday, visiting the other two churches in the same way on the following Sunday? Similar arrangements could no doubt be made in other districts. There is an opportunity for the clergy all over the country to take a little more than passing interest in the welfare of ringers and ringing.

If neighbouring clergy could be induced to confer on this subject and discuss the question with their respective local bands, it is certain that much could be done to keep up the standard of ringing during the difficult times ahead. It is necessary that someone should make the first move, and it is suggested that ringers at neighbouring towers should get into touch with each other during the next week or two, and decide whether they are in favour of temporary amalgamation, and, if so, agree on the point as to which bands should amalgamate, and the order in which their towers should be visited.

Perhaps these suggestions might be considered at the meetings of the various county associations.—Yours faithfully,
A. JONES.
Fulham.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

NEW HON. MEMBERS FOR DEVIZES BRANCH.

On Saturday last a monthly meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at the fine old Parish Church of the Holy Trinity, at Bradford-on-Avon, with its grand ring of eight bells, the tenor weighing 31 cwt. 3 qrs. 14 lbs. It being a beautiful day, a good number of ringers assembled from the neighbouring parishes. Ringing commenced at 4 o'clock, and later the authorised Guild service was held in church by the Vicar, the Rev. A. T. Richardson, M.A., who gave a very impressive address to those present. Tea was partaken of at Summer's Restaurant, and 18 sat down.

Afterwards a short business meeting was held, presided over by Sidney Hillier, chairman of the branch, supported by Mr. H. Brownlee West, hon. secretary, and ringers from Holt, Bradford, Trowbridge, Southbroom, Melksham, Erchfont, Devizes, Bromham, and Batheaston.

The Secretary made the pleasing announcement that he had just succeeded in obtaining three new honorary members for the Guild, viz., the Rev. F. G. Gough, Rector of All Cannings; the Rev. E. P. Knubley, Vicar of Steeple Ashton; and the Rev. J. L. Thorold, Rector of Bromham; all of whose names were joyfully received by the members present. Mr. J. Taylor, of Batheaston, was elected as a life ringing member; and with the proposal by Mr. West of a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar of Bradfield for the use of the bells, and the service in church, and to the organist for his kind services, the meeting was brought to a close, the whole company adjourning to the tower, where ringing was resumed and some good touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, and Bob Major were successfully brought round, the striking in all cases being exceptionally good. The bells were kept going until eight o'clock, when the company dispersed to their various homes, many of the members having cycled twelve and eighteen miles to attend the meeting.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

A most enjoyable meeting of the Wotton-under-Edge and District Branch was held on Saturday week at Wotton-under-Edge, ringers being present from Bristol, Berkeley, Dursley, Hinchcombe, Thornbury, Wickwar, Wotton-under-Edge, Minchinhampton and Newport (Mon.).

The splendid peal of eight bells were available from 3 p.m., and the members attended service, the form adopted by the Association being conducted by the Rev. F. J. Greenham (Vicar), who gave a most appropriate address. A good number of ladies also attended and rendered great help in the singing.

The Vicar presided at the tea-table, and then had to leave the company, but before his departure Mr. F. K. Howell proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the kind welcome and for allowing the use of the bells. This, needless to say, was carried unanimously.—Mr. H. W. Fussell, vice-chairman of the branch, then took the chair for a short business meeting, which followed. Coaley was selected for the next place of meeting on June 24th.

MEETINGS POSTPONED.

On account of the abandonment of the Whitsun holiday this year, the following meetings, arranged for next Monday, have been postponed.

Essex Association annual meeting, postponed to August Bank holiday.
Central Northants Association annual meeting, postponed.
Yorkshire Association, Eastern District, postponed to Saturday, June 17th.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The annual meeting of North Bucks Branch of the Oxford Guild was held at Shenley on Saturday last, when there were about 70 ringers present, representing Bletchley, Fenny Stratford, Loughton, Stony Stratford, Newport Pagnell, Melton Keynes, Maids Morton, Old Bradwell, Linslade and the local band. A choral service, which was well attended, was followed by a splendid sermon preached by the Rev. A. Rust, of Ridgmont. An excellent tea, kindly provided by the Rev. J. R. Vincent, to which justice was done, was followed by the business meeting. The late secretary, Mr. T. Best, having resigned, Mr. W. Sear, of Bletchley, took the branch work over. The accounts showed a good balance in hand, and it was decided that £210 should be invested in War Loan.

A letter from the Master, the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, was read by the chairman (the Rev. J. R. Vincent) expressing his good wishes for a successful meeting. He being in England only for a few days after a strenuous time in France as Chaplain to the Forces, time would not allow him to attend. It was decided that a letter should be sent to the Master conveying the best wishes of the branch and hopes for his safe return, as all would be glad to see him in their midst again.

Opportunity was taken of impressing upon the members the importance of supporting "The Ringing World."

The bells of Shenley and Loughton were available, the methods rung being Grandsire Doubles, Stedman Doubles, Bob Minor, Kent Treble Bob, Double Court and Cambridge Surprise.

An unofficial gathering of ringers will be held by the East Berks and South Bucks Branch on Whit-Monday, when members and friends will be welcome to a little ringing, by kind permission of the respective incumbents, as follows: Farnham Royal, 9.30 to 11 a.m. (motor bus from Slough Railway Station 9.55); Beaconsfield, 12 to 1.30 p.m.; High Wycombe and Hughendon in the afternoon and evening. Visitors should book single journeys, as they will be able to return home by an alternative route. Please write me at once if coming, and say if tea is required. It will be advisable for visitors to bring their own "war rations" in the way of lunch, and those requiring tea should communicate with W. H. Fussell, Farnham Avenue, near Slough.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

To the Editor.

Sir,—On looking over the paper that you were good enough to publish in "The Ringing World" for April 14th, I see that I made a stupid blunder. In speaking of twin-bob, five-part quarter-peals with 60 bobs, I said that the observation bell is in 6-7 exactly 15 times each way with every other bell. The 15 should, of course, be 30. In the extent, each of the 42 pairs of bells, i.e., 21 pairs, both ways, must obviously be in 6-7, 30 x 4 equals 120 times. I should not have troubled about this correction, the blunder being so obvious, but it has been pointed out to me that in such quarter-peals the observation bell is not necessarily in 6-7 30 times each way with every other bell, and in support of this statement, my informant handed me the following quarter-peal with an expression of regret that he could not give me the composer's name.

H	L	Q	123456
x	x	x	615423
	x		245163
x	x		315246

Repeat four times.

This quarter-peal, notwithstanding the 10 four-bob sets, is of singular excellence, the 6th and 7th being together behind no less than 45 times each way, or half as many times again as their proper quantum; but as the foundation for a peal it is as useless as any odd-bob quarter-peal that I have examined. In some respects Stedman Triples is the most treacherous of all methods, and it will be noticed that I add the words "that I have examined" in case anyone should come along with an odd-bob quarter peal with the observation bell in 6-7 30 times each way with every other bell, which would probably knock the bottom out of the twin-bob principle altogether.

I shall feel obliged if you will publish this correction.—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE T. CLAYTON.

HELD OVER.

The article upon past performances at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, is unavoidably held over until next week, as are also a letter from Mr. R. Whittington on the question of the Winchester Guild's representation on the Central Council, and a report of the Yorkshire Association meeting at Whiston.

NOTICES.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on June 15th and 29th; and for general business on the 20th, all at 8 p.m. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Middlesbrough on Whit Monday, June 12th, 1916. Middlesbrough, Thornaby, Ormesby (8 bells), Stockton-on-Tees (10 bells). Committee meeting at 11 a.m. Divine service at 12 noon; Address given by the Rev. F. H. Stock, Vicar of Middlesbrough. Dinner provided at the Clifton Temperance Hotel; members 1/3, non-members 2/6. — T. Metcalfe, Hon. Sec., 26, High Street, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.
—A meeting of the above will be held at New Romney on Whit-Monday, June 12th. Ringing to commence at 2 3'clock. A short special service in the church at 4 o'clock. The Vicar and Mrs. South have cordially invited all the members attending to tea in the Vicarage grounds at 5 o'clock. A brief business meeting will follow and ringing continued till sunset.—C. Tribe, Hon. District Secretary, Bristol School Villas, Tenterden.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD OF BELL RINGERS. — The annual meeting will take place at Hereford on Wednesday, June 14. There will be Divine Service at St. Peter's Church at 11.30 a.m., with an address by Rev. W. L. B. Janvrin. The business meeting will follow at St. Peter's Church House, and can be adjourned till after dinner if necessary. Dinner 2s., at Farmer's Ordinary. Those intending to be present are requested to let the Hon. Secretary know as soon as possible. — James L. Roper, Quatt Rectory, Bridgnorth, Salop.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Hartlebury on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in the church at 4.45 p.m. The service will be taken by Archdeacon H. J. Greig. Tea kindly provided for all those who let me know on or before June 14th. — E. J. Dowler, 11, Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Rochester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hoo St. Werburgh, on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available from 3.30 till 8.30 p.m. (election of district representative for Central Committee). — Edward A. G. Allen, Hon. District Secretary, 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—Owing to the suspension of the Whitsuntide Holidays the meeting of the Yorkshire Association to be held at Beverley on Whit-Monday is cancelled for that date, and will be held on the following Saturday, June 17th. The bells at the Minster and also at St. Mary's will be available during the day. Tea (1s.) will be provided to all who notify Mr. W. Gibson, 3, Brithunus Place, Long Lane, Beverley, by Tuesday, June 13th.—Thos. Smith, Hon. District Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Horwich on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m. —G. Pincott, Branch Secretary.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society).—The next meeting will be held at the Church of All Saints, Edmonton, on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available at 4 p.m. to 9. A business meeting will be held in the tower. All ringers are welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Secretary, 10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate, E.C.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Abbot's, Leigh on June 17th. Bells (6) from 3. Service 5. Tea 9d., at 5.45, in the George Inn. Kindly notify by June 14th to A. W. Seviour, 5, Brunswick Street, City Road, Bristol.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Oswaldtwistle on Saturday, June 24th, 1916. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Derby on Saturday, June 24th. (Full particulars in next week's issue). Nominations for presidency, signed by two members of the association, should reach me not later than first post on Saturday, June 24th.—W. E. White, Hon. Secretary.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS' ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch. — The next quarterly meeting will be held at Crowle on Saturday, June 24th. Service at 4 o'clock, business meeting afterwards. The bells will be available. Tea provided only for those who notify me by the Wednesday previous. — R. G. Knowles, Branch Secretary, Madresfield, Malvern.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY OF CHANGE RINGERS (Established 1623). — The 293rd anniversary of the above society will be held on Tuesday, June 27th. Ringing commences at 9 a.m. All visitors are cordially welcomed.—R. A. Strong, Hon. Secretary.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The annual meeting will be held at Tamworth on Saturday, June 24th. Bells available at 3. Service in church at 4.45, with an address by the Rev. and Hon. M. Peel (Vicar). Tea (at 5.30), 6d. each, to those who have paid their subscriptions; to others 1s. Please send word not later than Tuesday, the 20th inst.—H. Knight, Hon. Secretary, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—In consequence of the decision that Whit-Monday shall not be regarded as a holiday this year, it has been decided to postpone the annual meeting to Bank Holiday, Monday, August 7th. Further notice and particulars will appear in due course.—Chas. H. Howard, Master; H. T. W. Eyre, Hon. Secretary.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting, arranged for Whit-Monday, has been postponed.

CHANGES OF ADDRESSES.—The address of Mr. J. Armstrong, Master of the North and East District of the Middlesex Association is now 4, Field View Cottages, Balaam's Lane, Southgate, N.—The address of Mr. J. E. Sykes is, for the present, Chez Simon Carves et Cie, St. Chamas, B. Du R., France.

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