



No. 280. Vol. XI.

FRIDAY, JULY 28th, 1916.

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

Price 1d.

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, 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.

THE TOLL OF WAR.

The ranks of the Exercise have lost many good men by the toll which the war is taking from the finest manhood of this country, and the great offensive upon which our valiant Army in France is now engaged has added to the losses which have been sustained. Already the deaths of several ringers concerned in the recent fighting have been announced, and it is too much to hope that the list is yet complete, for the fierce fighting is still going on, and even the early casualties are not yet fully known. But that there are large numbers of ringers taking their share in the struggle at the Somme is certain, for the new Armies and the Territorials are bearing the brunt of the attack, and it was to these forces that ringers flocked after the outbreak of war.

Before there was any question of compulsory service ringers throughout the land responded with alacrity to the call to the duty and sacrifice, and there can be very few towers now that are not represented in the ranks. Our roll of honour, published week by week, has contained the names of thousands who have gone from the belfries of this country, and the roll will remain an imperishable record of the contribution which the Exercise has made to the fighting forces of the Empire. At home large numbers of other ringers have been and are "doing their bit" in the munition factories, so that the share of the ringers in the energies of the nation is a very material one.

To those who have embarked on "the great adventure" the best wishes of those at home go out. The memory of those who have laid down their lives will ever be cherished, and with those who are left to mourn the dead the Exercise deeply sympathises. The tragedy of the war is brought home to us, who are safe in England, never so deeply as when we learn of the death of some comrade of the days of peace, and as the list of friends, who have given all for their country, grows we realise more and more the sacrifice which those who go out are ready and willing to make. In the comparatively small circle of the ringing exercise we have seen young valuable lives carried off which could ill be spared, but how much greater is the loss to the loved ones left behind. The consolation that these men have died the death of heroes and have set a noble example of devotion to duty is all that remains to those left behind, but we trust it may be some balm to the stricken hearts. And with all who have sons and brothers in the fray, and who must be wrung with anxiety, there will be the warmest sympathy, for there can be few homes now from which some man has not gone out to war, and between us all there is a common bond of sympathy such as can be forged only through the fires of a great ordeal.

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CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

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

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

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs. C. CARR, LTD.,
Smethwick.

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

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BIRMINGHAM**

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HANDBELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thursday, July 20, 1916, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANCES;

Tenor 17 size, in B flat.

FRANK W. PERRENS... .. 1—2	JAMES E. GROVES ... 7—8
GEORGE F. SWANN 3—4	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD 9—10
ALBERT WALKER 5—6	JAMES GEORGE 11—12

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Referee: MR. GEO. WALKER.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers serving in H.M. Forces:—

From St. Alphege Church, Greenwich:—

Pte G. Rawlings, Royal Marine Light Infantry.

Pte W. J. Rawlings, Royal Engineers, R.O.D.

From the Parish Church, Saffron Walden:—

Pte F. J. Pitstow, Army Ordnance Corps.

Pte H. A. Pitstow, 3rd Batt. East Surrey Regt.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

NORTHAMPTON DISTRICT MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Northampton District was held at Brixworth, on Saturday last, when the following towers were represented: St. Giles', St. Peter's, St. Edmund's, and the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Northampton; Ecton, Boughton and Weston Favell, as well as the local ringers. A short service was held, conducted by the Rev. J. White, Rector of Pitsford, in the unavoidable absence of the Vicar (the Rev. A. K. Pavey) owing to an accident.

Tea was served at the Crown Inn, 22 sitting down. The business meeting was presided over by Mr. J. Clarke (vice-president, supported by the Rev. J. White, Mr. F. Wilford (general secretary), Mr. R. Turner (Kettering District Secretary), and Mr. F. J. Bowley, of Kirby Muxloe, Leicestershire, who was elected a life member during the meeting. Three ringing members were also elected.

A discussion took place as to someone being placed in charge of the ringing during the meeting, to look after the younger members and see that they had some ringing with those more advanced, instead of letting them wait about until they could find enough who were no better than themselves, or, as sometimes happens, go away without having had a pull, which was not good either for them or the Association.—It was decided that one of the committee should take charge.

It was reported that during the year quarterly meetings were held at Duston, Moulton, and Kingshorpe, and the special meetings at Yardley, Hastings, Wootton, Dallington and Great Brington.—Four hon. members, fourteen ringing members and one life member were elected. There are now 140 members on the books, and 41 on the roll of honour.—The Rev. J. White presided during the election of vice-president.—Mr. J. Clarke was unanimously re-elected and resumed the chair.—Mr. T. Law, St. Peter's Cottages, Weston Favell, was re-elected district secretary; Messrs. F. Hopper and B. Soden on the Central Committee, and Messrs. H. Clarke, A. Mawby and J. Metherell on the District Committee.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rev. J. White for conducting the service, the Vicar for the use of the bells, the local ringers for having them ready, and the officers for their services during the past year.

LETTER FROM Q.M.S. CAVE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Just a few lines to let you know I am alive and well, and thanking God daily for it.

I am once more, through the kindness of Mr. C. H. Howard, Master of the Essex Association, receiving "The Ringing World" regularly, and following the correspondence and articles therein.

With regard to the former, I am chiefly interested in that concerning the Central Council. I have not the time to write all I would like to, but I wish to say I am strongly in favour of mending rather than ending it. When a discussion of the merits of the Central Council has cropped up, my chief argument in favour has been those excellent publications mentioned by the Rev. T. L. Papillon in your issue of July 7th.

My principal object in writing, however, is that, as Mr. Jerram invites correspondents to correct errors or omissions in your list of twelve-bell towers, I think I am right in saying that Redcliffe tenor weighs 50 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lbs. (a postcard to Messrs. Taylor would confirm this) and not 48 cwt. as stated.—Yours truly,

W. A. CAVE.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

BY "BOB MAJOR."

The opening of the peal board at Cheltenham the other day, recalls one of the finest performances in peal ringing that was ever accomplished. Dear old Charles Hattersley, who took part in that performance, was wonderfully proud of it, and if he said ringing was good, you may depend upon it that it was good. Evidently the men who took part in the peal of 15,227 knew the method, for C.H.H. has told us that for more than five hours on end not a word of correction was spoken. The 120 course-ends of Stedman that were rung that day must have been worth listening to, and I am surprised to learn that the peal had not been permanently recorded in the tower before. It is nearly 30 years ago that it was rung, but now that the record has been put up it seems to have been done in worthy fashion. It has often occurred to me that it would be interesting if a list, as complete as possible, of all the long peals rung, could be got together and published. Jasper Snowden did a good deal in this matter in some methods, but his writings only give particulars of each new record. Many interesting peals running into eight, ten or more thousands have, however, been scored in the past which were not new records, and the Exercise in general has now no cognizance of them. The details may be hung in the tower where the peal was rung, but are seen only by those who visit the belfry concerned.

A NEW EXPERIENCE.

Having in my time rung one or two bad going bells to peals, I thought I knew what hard work was, but I gained fresh experience last week. I don't mind telling you I'm no farmer, but I had always looked upon the life of the agriculturist as one of the most placid, go-as-you-please businesses under the sun, and I had often bethought myself what a delightful holiday it would make if one could just spend a day or so helping to get in the harvest. Just at present, too, when there is a great scarcity of labour I fancied I might kill two birds with one stone, as it were, by doing a farmer a good turn and doing myself one at the same time by having a day in the country, away from the stuffy office, which seems to get smaller as the days get hotter. Whenever I have watched a farmer at work he has always struck me as being one of the happy few able to go through the world at his own pace. I know now why those horny-handed tons of soil—I mean sons of toil, who labour on our farms, appear to go easy at their work. I have had a turn with them in the hayfield, and I have found out that it is not the man, but the job that limits the pace.

"BAYONET" PRACTICE.

Having found a kindly soul, sufficiently patient to put up with my shortcomings and large-hearted enough to give me my keep—I have only realised his patience and generosity since, I may tell you, because when I started I thought I was the person conferring the favour—I set out early one morning for the hayfield. I was surprised to learn how many hours the haymakers had already been at work. They must be daylight saving at both ends of the day. The process of carrying the hay was in progress in one field, and I found Bert on the top of an ever-growing load. Having been shown which end of a prong to hold—I always used to associate this instrument with the presiding genius of warmer regions than any on this earth—I proceeded to help to "pitch," and Bert is likely to remember my efforts. When he wasn't looking, and I was more energetic than watchful, I "caught him bending," so to speak, with the business end of my prong, and he was quick to remind me that he was not there for me to practice bayonet fighting upon. As the work went on and the sun began to blaze down on us, without the slightest consideration for our comfort, I soon found that ringing was not the only job it is necessary to "peel" for, and coat, waistcoat, collar and tie soon had to come off, and more would have been shed had I dared to do it.

"FATHER DIDN'T LIKE IT."

We had rather a long way to carry the hay to the rickyard, and to save time every available conveyance was pressed into service, even the donkey cart (No, gentle reader, I was not in the shafts). But it was the donkey that led to trouble. Usually very patient, there is one thing he wouldn't stand, and that was a fly in his ear. With the cart piled high with hay, and Bert on top, Neddy, after flapping his big ears to get rid of his tormentor, reared himself in the air. Up went the cart, and the hay and Bert were promptly unloaded, with Bert underneath. We dug him out, and he was relieved to find that it was not a German mine that had brought about the catastrophe. At any rate our rescue was a quick one, and Bert's experience was not as trying as that of one man I have heard of. Going along a road one day, a hay cart tipped over and the lot was turned out by the roadside. The boy that had been leading the horse was pretty much distressed at what had happened. Then someone living near by came on the scene and told him not to bother about getting the load up just then, but to go home with him to dinner and they would both come back afterwards and pick up the hay. The lad, however, wanted to get on with the job. "If I don't," he said, "father won't like it." "Never mind," said the other, "come and have some dinner; we shall work a lot better after." So, somewhat reluctantly, the boy went away with his new found friend for dinner, but throughout the meal he showed a good deal of restlessness, and as soon as it was over was anxious to be off. "Better stop a few minutes and rest,"

said his host. "No, I'd better not," replied the boy, "father won't like it." "But why won't your father like it?" asked the man. "'Cause father's under the hay," came the reply. But we knew Bert was there, so we didn't leave him till after dinner.

GREASE SPOTS AND BLISTERS.

In the afternoon we had to go out and turn a field. I wondered how that was going to be done till I was told to bring a rake to turn the hay over with. We worked round and round and round that field, making a mess of the swaths of grass so neatly laid by the mowing machine. I seemed to work harder than any of the others, but I couldn't keep pace with these steady-going farmers, and it was then that I realised, if ever I did, that it is not always the man who appears to be busiest who really does most. When we had finished that field there was not much left of me but a few spots of grease and a blister or two, and there would not have been as much as that had not two angels, in blue and white, come on the scene in the middle of the operations with a bountiful supply of liquid refreshment. At the end (of the work, I mean, not of the refreshment, which was strictly non-alcoholic) I was glad to lay up in the shade to rest. But the others just went on, and on and on, and they were still going on with their haymaking when I left them to pedal homeward on my bike, aching and weary, but having learnt that haying isn't such a soft job as some people imagine. It is also a rare thing to improve one's appetite. I doubt if my labour paid for my keep, and that's why I think the farmer was generous as well as patient.

THE OTHER SYKES.

When I wrote that note about the American Bill Sikes, who carried off a bell from under the nose of the congregation, I was careful to point out, that it had no reference to our friend Joe, whose home is at Huddersfield, but who rambles over the globe, and who just at present is at St. Chamas, B du R., France. ("Somewhere," the place where all our British troops seem to be concentrated, is scarcely less vague to those of us who are left this side of the channel). Joe seems to be now in a place where the English colony, at any rate, would be glad of a visit from the American lifting brigade, for they have got a bell over there that evidently gets on Joe's nerves. He writes to me thus:—

Dear Bob Major,—The issue of "The Ringing World," dated July 14th, reached me to-day, and, needless to say, was welcome. In your third paragraph you mention the great William. Of course it was not me; my name is spelt with a "y" not an "i," as was, I believe, the great William's, and as well I early learnt the meaning of "Honi soit qui mal y pense," ergo "Je pense rien de mal." Besides, whoever heard of a ringer looting bells, unless they are spelt with an "e"! But should you ever come across the address of the gentry who were slick enough to rob a Yankee Church in broad daylight, send them right along, as within these ancient castle walls there hangs an abortion of the founder's art, yclept, a bell, which insists on striking each hour, and half-hour twice, thereby making the whole twenty-four more hideous than the other various noises have already done. Would it had joined those of Salzburg. Should the Kentucky gentry turn their attention to it they will earn the undying gratitude of the English colony here—only four of us.—Yours sincerely,

OLD JOE.

P.S.—Don't cut your notes so short. All right, Joe, as soon as I can get the address of those Kentucky bell snatchers, I'll ring you up. Your postscript makes me blush.

HATS.

The question of ladies wearing a head covering when ringing in the belfry opens up visions of "The Ringing World" with fashion plates illustrating the latest Parisian models in hats and gowns suitable for wear in the ringing chamber. Of course, I'm no more a milliner than I am a farmer; therefore, I am afraid that any advice I could give would not be worth much, but those gorgeous bits of decoration which I generally manage to get seated behind if I ever happen to have a theatre ticket given to me, and which effectually blot out the view of the stage, would, I imagine, hardly suit the case. The care with which ladies adjust their head gear would all be lost if a kink in the rope should give the hat an awkward flip, and the knowledge that a choice bit of millinery was on one side would, I am sure, be enough to distract any lady's attention and make her miss a dodge, or forget that she was in the slow. Please, ladies, don't think I am trying to dictate as to the kind of head gear you should wear. No man in his senses would try to dictate to a lady. They say it is not gentlemanly, but there is another reason, so my married friends tell me. No, I wouldn't give the game away for worlds. But ye who do not believe me, just try it on! Head gear for ladies is not a man's question, and, to tell you the truth, the clergy may not have an enviable job when it comes to approving of what is to be worn.

C.B. FOR ABSENTEES.

I hear there has been a Court Martial down Birmingham way. They have to mind their p's and q's at Bishop Ryder's now, you know, and if they don't turn up regularly and promptly for the ringing there is a gentleman who wants to know the reason why. The other Sunday evening there were three absentees without leave. When they went "on the carpet" afterwards they pleaded that they had only stayed away to lend a hand at another church, but the Ringing Master, I am told, sentenced them to ten years C.B.

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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.

PATRIOTISM AND PROFIT.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I am surprised that Mr. Willson should question the patriotism of our association for withdrawing part of its Reserve Fund from the Post Office Savings Bank, and responding to the appeal of the Government to take up 4½ per cent. War Loan. In the first case there is an undertaking to allow depositors, after giving three days' notice, to withdraw part or whole of the money invested, consequently a large reserve has to be kept to meet withdrawals which cannot be used for prosecuting the war. But in the latter case the Government have full control of all the money invested until 1925, or, if it wishes, for 20 years beyond that period.

By the strong appeals that were made for small investors to apply for allotment through the Post Office, it is obvious that the Government expected that depositors in the Post Office Savings Bank would show their patriotism by transferring their money into the War Loan Inscribed Stock, and for the use of the same the Government were prepared to pay an extra two per cent. for the accommodation, the investor taking the risk of having to realise at below par if the money was required before the date of redemption.

Braintree.

C. H. HOWARD.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I rather fancy that Mr. Willson's criticism may cause other Associations to pause and consider. I must myself plead guilty and ask, "Which is the merchant here and which the Jew?" and suggest to "the student of finance" that he should consider the difference in investment in the Post Office Savings Bank and War Loans. The first is so readily realised; in fact, in almost the same position as if it were in the box at home: and the interest is a gift—the others cannot be withdrawn until a specified date, and the interest is a payment.

It appeared to me that as the Government has no certainty of retaining Post Office deposits and cannot make the use of them as in the case of War Loans—that he is a truer patriot who places his money at the disposal of the Government, than he who keeps it in hand or in the Post Office Savings Bank, which is to all intents and purposes much the same; and that he is receiving a gift instead of a payment.

Saffron Walden, July 21st, 1916.

J. F. PENNING.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last a most successful and interesting meeting of the Manchester Branch took place at St. Elizabeth's Church, Reddish. A large number of towers was represented during the afternoon and evening. The recently inducted Rector (the Rev. Hugh B. Lester, M.A.) presided at the business meeting. He had been suffering with an attack of influenza, but so anxious was he to give a welcome that he attended at very great risk. He was, he said, very pleased to welcome the visitors to what he described as one of the finest modern churches in Manchester, and hoped they would not miss the opportunity of looking through the building after the business meeting. He went on to give a very interesting description of various campaniles he had seen on his travels, much to the pleasure of the listeners. He also spoke of his initiation in the art of ringing a bell, and said he had so far escaped hanging through the able tuition of their leader, Mr. Alfred Barnes.

Miss Thorp, of Ashton St. Peter's, was elected a ringing member on the proposition of Miss Edith Barnes.

Worsley was chosen as the next meeting-place, on the 19th August. Nominations for the official positions of the Association are to take place at that meeting, viz., president, general secretary and treasurer. Ringing was indulged in in various methods during the day.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector for his kindness in attending and granting the use of the bells, and also to the local ringers for having things ready.

TWELVE BELL RINGS.

SOME CORRECTIONS.

As will be seen from Q.-M.-S. Cave's letter the weight of St. Mary Redcliffe, tenor is 50 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lbs.

Mr. T. H. Reeves writes that the weight of Christ Church, West Bromwich, is 23 cwt.

In regard to the twelve at Sheffield Cathedral Mr. Sam Thomas writes:—"The treble of the old ten was cast in 1809, this being the date on the bell, not, as Mr. Jerram has it, the 2nd (in ten) 1808. The 2nd in ten was and is a 1798 bell, the others are given correctly. I have before me a brief historical booklet on the Sheffield Cathedral Church (1916), which gives the following description of the bells: 'The tower contains a peal of twelve bells, the majority of which date from 1804, when a new peal was purchased. Now to be exact, there are only four 1804 bells in the tower, viz. (in twelve) the 5th, 9th, 11th and 12th. So even the newest account is misleading.'

HECKINGTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.—On Whit-Monday, at St. Andrew's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins., with the bells half-muffled, in the memory of the late Lord Kitchener and his staff: M. Clark 1, C. Ward 2, J. T. Holmes 3, J. H. Clark (conductor) 4, H. P. Nash 5, A. Dixon 6, W. Woods 7, F. Ekins 8.

CASUALTIES AMONG RINGERS.

It is with great regret that we have to announce further losses among ringers in the fighting that is now going on in France.

LIEUT. ROBERT W. FALCONER KILLED.

We much regret to announce the death of Lt. R. W. Falconer, of the 16th Service Batt. of Northumberland Fusiliers, who, as we mentioned in our last issue, had been reported missing. The deceased officer was the only son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Falconer, of Gosforth, Newcastle, and he was killed in action on July 1st in the great advance.

At the outbreak of the war Mr. Falconer joined the 16th Service Battalion, N.F., as a private, and rapidly rose to sergeant, and became instructor of musketry to his battalion. After nine months' training he was offered a commission—still remaining musketry instructor—and went to France in the latter part of November, 1915. While there he was one of two picked out of his division to instruct at the Telescopic Sight and Sniping School, and he re-joined his battalion just before this last advance.

Mr. Falconer was a keen and active change ringer, and during his career made many close friends. He was a member of the band of All Saints', Gosforth; an hon. member of the Newcastle Cathedral



LIEUT. R. W. FALCONER.

Guild, member of Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, in which he had held various offices from time to time; a member of the Yorkshire Association, and became a member of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild while training with his regiment on Salisbury Plain. He was one of the original ringers of Gosforth, and he learned to handle a bell in the year 1901 (when the new bells were opened), under the able tuition of the late Mr. Robert Story.

Mr. Falconer had rung 37 peals in the following methods: Stedman Caters 2, Triples 10, Erin Caters 1, Triples 2, Double Norwich 4, Duffield Major 1, Shipway Major 2, Forward Major 1, Oxford Treble Bob Major 3, Dublin Complex Major 1, Kent Treble Bob Major 4, Bob Triples 1, Bob Major 2, Superlative Surprise Major 2, London Surprise Major 1.

He was loved and held in great esteem by all who knew him, and will be greatly missed, especially by the band, where he did so much in teaching and helping others in the art. His loss to the Durham and Newcastle Association is also a great one, and his death is deeply lamented by a large circle of ringing friends, who extend to his parents their sincere sympathy in their sorrow, and in the loss of such a promising life.

The bells at All Saints', Gosforth, and Newcastle Cathedral, were rung muffled to the memory of the deceased officer on Sunday, and at the Cathedral a muffled peal was to be attempted on Monday.

RINGERS' OUTINGS.

A BIRMINGHAM SOCIETY AT EVESHAM.

On Saturday week, the St. Chad's (R.C.) Cathedral Society, Birmingham, visited Evesham, on the occasion of their annual outing. They were met by some of the local ringers, and after being introduced to the Evesham ringers' headquarters, the Golden Heart, where some remarkably fine Worcestershire ale and cider is dispensed, they had a look round the interesting old town. The evening was pleasantly passed at headquarters with songs and handbell ringing. On Sunday morning the visitors met at the famous campanile, where the grand peal of ten were set going to Bob Royal, Grandsire Caters and other methods. Afterwards the party made their way to the pretty village of Haffenden, where a capital dinner was awaiting them, to which, needless to say, full justice was done. Permission having been

LIEUT. SHORTER.

In memory of Lieut. A. G. Shorter, whose death we recorded last week, the bells of Consett Parish Church were rung muffled on Sunday week. Lieut. Shorter was secretary of the local band and their representative on the Durham and Newcastle Association Committee. —The Vicar (the Rev. J. Hudson Barker), in his sermon at Matins, made sympathetic allusion to the death of the gallant young officer, and at evensong, Mr. J. Surtees played Chopin's Funeral March at the conclusion of the voluntary.

CAPT. THOMAS MURRAY AMONG THE MISSING.

In the lists of officers reported as missing has appeared the name of Capt. Thomas Murray, of the 11th Batt. Cheshire Regiment.

Capt. Murray, who was a language master at Wallasey Grammar School, won extremely rapid promotion when he joined the army as a private on Sept. 11th, 1914. Within a week he had risen to the rank of Quartermaster-Sergeant, and on the seventh day was given a com-



CAPT. T. MURRAY.

mission. Before the regiment left for France he had gone through further steps, and had been gazetted captain. Formerly he was captain of the ringers at Rothbury, and on removing to Wallasey joined the band at St. Mary's, Liscard.

DONCASTER RINGER'S WATCHWORD—"DUTY."

Another ringer who has fallen in the great fight is Corpl. Harry Champion, of the "C" Battery, 168th Brigade, R.F.A. Corpl. Champion was a member of the Doncaster band, and of the Yorkshire Association. His parents, who reside at Penistone, have received a letter extending the deepest sympathy of the N.C.O.'s and men of the battery in the loss of "your dear son and our true comrade Harry. He was a fine soldier, manly and true, and never once found wanting in courage and faith. He died a noble death, doing his duty manfully. Duty was his watchword." The letter adds that deceased was mending a line of communication, and during the heavy shelling was hit by shrapnel.

As soon as possible after receipt of the news of the brave young corporal's death, the Doncaster ringers met at St. Mary's Church and rang the bells half-muffled, including a touch of 1008 Stedman Triples by H. Fevre 1, G. Clow 2, J. Holmes 3, F. Ashe 4, C. Scott 5, A. Ashe 6, G. Halksworth (conductor) 7, H. Baldwin 8.

obtained to ring on the six bells of the parish church, the belfry was visited, and some Grandsire Doubles were tried, but it was found that the bells badly needed rehanging. After tea the party returned to Evesham, and, having spent a pleasant hour at the Golden Heart, returned to Birmingham, having thoroughly enjoyed the outing. The visitors wish to thank Messrs. Middleton, Morton, Johnson and others for their kind co-operation in making the outing so successful.

ROCHESTER RINGERS AT SALEHURST.

The staff of Rochester Cathedral had their annual outing on Saturday week, and among the places visited was Salehurst. The party, numbering 30, arrived by motor, and after partaking of an excellent dinner at the New Eight Bells Inn (Host Best), the ringing members visited the belfry of St. Mary's Church, where short touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Bob Major were rung on the bells.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**SOUTHERN BRANCH MEMBERS ENTERTAINED AT FECKENHAM.**

A quarterly meeting of the Southern Branch was held at Feckenham on Saturday week, when there were ringers present from Worcester, Malvern, Evesham, Hampton, Upton-on-Severn, Stoke Prior, Bretforton, Toddington, etc. At the service the Rev. W. Davis Winstone gave an excellent address. Tea was provided by the Vicar and his mother, Mrs. Davis Winstone, and was partaken of on the Vicarage lawn, the weather being all that could be desired.

A business meeting followed, at which the Vicar presided. Two honorary members and several performing members were elected, and it was decided to attempt the quarterly peal at Feckenham, with Mr. J. D. Johnson as conductor. It was further resolved to hold the next quarterly meeting at Stanton, subject to the approval of the Rector (the Rev. T. W. Reynolds).

The Secretary reported that several more members from the branch had joined H.M. Forces.

Upon the proposition of Mr. E. Barber hearty votes of thanks were accorded the Vicar for presiding at the meeting, for his address at the service, and for the use of the bells; also to him and Mrs. Davis Winstone for providing such an excellent tea to the ladies who had waited upon them, and to the organist who so kindly presided at the organ during the service.—Needless to say these votes of thanks were carried with applause.—The Vicar briefly replied, and the meeting closed.

The bells, a peal of eight, were kept going afternoon and evening in various standard methods.

WINCHESTER GUILD.**SPADE WORK IN THE YOKETOWN DISTRICT.**

A combined practice of the Yorktown District took place at Pirbright last Saturday, and those who took part in it will not regret their attendance, for much good was done locally, and it is hoped that the ringers will soon become members of the diocesan organisation. It is many years since the Guild arranged any ringing in this pretty but remote village (in the churchyard of which Sir Henry Stanley, the great explorer, lies buried), and though the visitors did not muster in large numbers the ringing impressed the local "strings" very much. Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain and Treble Bob Minor were the methods rung on the peal of six, and perhaps the most satisfactory thing was that, after a lot of pressing, two of the local men were induced to have a 120 of Grandsire Doubles, on condition that the treble went straight up and down and the tenor kept behind.

A peep at the bells and a look round the quaint little church brought up the subject of handbells, and the Pirbright men were treated to a touch on eight bells, some of them not having heard that number rung for a very long time. Parting time soon came, and, aided by motor cycle, auto-wheel, push bike, train and foot, the company departed homeward, all having helped in that useful spade work which is always so much needed, especially in a big diocese like Winchester.

Two interesting boards are to be found in the belfry. One records the various punishments for ringers in years gone by who came to ring the "worse for drink," etc. The other board records that in 1826 a ringer from Twickenham visited the tower and performed a 720 Treble Bob Minor on the bells. Rather a tall order for one man!

KENT ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Maidstone District was held the other day at Boxley, and was well attended, there being present, in addition to those from the district towers, members from the Rochester and Ashford districts. The bells were started soon after three o'clock, and a couple of hours' ringing was indulged in before service, which was conducted by the Rev. Best Dalison, in the absence of the Vicar (the Rev. Hale), who is serving as Chaplain to the Forces at the front. Tea was very kindly provided by Mrs. Best Dalison, and a company numbering 46 sat down.

At the business meeting which followed, one new member was elected, and the Rev. Best Dalison became an hon. member of the Association. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Wrotham, on Saturday, Oct. 7th.

Many of the visitors then made a pleasant round of the gardens and glass-houses of Park House, the Rev. Best Dalison conducting them and giving them quantities of flowers. Afterwards ringing was again the order until it became time to depart.

BARWELL, LEICESTERSHIRE.—Midland Counties Association. — On Sunday, June 11th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: Pte A. D. Aldham 1, W. White 2, W. A. Needham 3, R. C. Belton 4, C. H. Belton 5, Pte T. W. Belton 6, G. P. Garner 7, A. R. Aldham (conductor) 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Earl Kitchener, and for those brave heroes who have fallen in the recent battles on land and sea. Pte A. D. Aldham belongs to the 10th Batt. South Staffordshire Regiment, stationed at Rugeley, and Pte T. W. Belton to the Shropshire Light Infantry, stationed at Shrewsbury.

NOTICES.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—West Dorset Branch.—A meeting will be held at Whitechurch Canon-icorum on Saturday, 29th July. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea (by kind invitation of the Rev. E. H. H. Lee) at 5.30 p.m., followed by meeting. Ringing till 9 p.m. Stations: Axminster, Bridport, or Lyme Regis. —Frank Bugler, Hon. Sec., Beaminstor.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Established 1755.—Quarterly Meeting will be held at Solihull on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (10) available from 4 o'clock. Tea, 1/- per head, will be arranged at the Mason's Arms Hotel.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual business meeting will be held on Saturday, July 29th, in the Chapter House at Christ Church, Oxford, at 3 p.m.—Albert E. Reeves, 5, Fatherson Road, Reading.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Winscombe (Cheddar Valley) on Saturday, July 29th. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting (at Bird's Restaurant) to follow. Bells (8) afternoon and evening.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham, Som.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Marden on Saturday, July 29th, 1916. Tower open at 3.30. Service in church at 5. Tea at 5.45, followed by business meeting. Half travelling expenses up to but not exceeding 2s. each will be paid to members attending.—W. Latter, Hon. District Secretary, 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Rumney, near Cardiff, on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available from 3.30. Tea provided. — Rev. Connop L. Price, J. W. Jones, Honorary Secretaries.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on August 1st, 15th and 29th, and for handbell practice on the 10th and 24th. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. G. H. Vincent), at St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, on Saturday, August 5th. Bells available from 3.30. Tea by kind invitation at 6 o'clock. All ringing friends welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Todmorden Parish Church on Saturday, August 5th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock, meeting at 6.30.—T. K. Driver, Secretary, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Treeton, near Rotherham, on Saturday, August 5th, six bells, available from 3 to 8 p.m. Treeton Station. Midland Railway.—Sam Thomas, Secretary, 19, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual festival will be held at Crewe on Monday, August 7th. Service in Christ Church at 11 a.m. Preacher, the Ven. Archdeacon Paige Cox, M.A., Vicar of Hoylake. Particulars by circular.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Hon. Secretary, New Mills.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting of the above society will be held at Calverley on Saturday, August 5th, 1916. Bells available from 6.30 p.m. Business meeting in the Thornhill Arms at 7.30 p.m.—Wm. Barton, Hon. Secretary, 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Madresfield on Saturday, August 5th. Service at 4 prompt. Business meeting afterwards. The bells will be available. The Branch Secretary should be notified how many to expect by the Wednesday previous.—R. G. Knowles, Branch Secretary, Madresfield, Malvern.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—IMPORTANT NOTICE.—In consequence of the postponement of the Bank Holiday the annual meeting will be held at Braintree on Saturday, August 5th, 1916. The bells of the following towers will be available all day, except during the time of service and meeting: Braintree (8), Bocking (8), Felsted (8), Stisted (6), Rayne (6), Black Notley (5). A short service in the parish church, with an address by the Vicar (Rev. J. H. France, M.A.), at 4.30 p.m. Tea to be followed by the annual meeting at the Mechanics' Institute at 5.30 p.m. It is most important that those who intend being present should give me notice not later than Monday, July 31st.—H. T. W. Eyre, Hon. Secretary, Great Totham Vicarage, Witham.

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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MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

HITCHIN, HERTS.—On June 11th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 49 mins.: H. Day 1, A. Squires 2, C. Cannon 3, F. R. Bacon 4, G. Wolfe 5, J. Have (conductor) 6, L. Fidler 7, H. Else 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of Lord Kitchener.

ISLEWORTH.—On June 11th, for evening service, at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: E. Webb 1, G. A. Ransom (conductor) 2, G. Spencer 3, T. Beadle 4, W. New 5, W. H. Lidbetter 6, A. Beckensale 7, H. Beadle 8. Rung as a farewell to Mr. H. Beadle, who was joining the service with his group. He formerly belonged to Northampton and holds the Indian Frontier medal.

LEICESTER.—On Whit-Sunday, at St. Margaret's Church, for morning service, 360 Grandsire Doubles, called by J. Morris; also 240 called by Pte E. Morris. For evening service, 360 Grandsire Doubles and 336 Grandsire Triples, the latter by: F. Sharman 1, W. Aldridge 2, E. Smith 3, A. Ballard 4, Pte E. Morris (conductor) 5, Gunner T. J. Hardy 6, J. Morris 7, J. Vernon 8. Rung as a welcome to Gunner T. H. Hardy (R.G.A.) and Pte E. Morris (Sherwood Foresters), who were home on week-end leave from Weymouth and Langwith respectively.

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