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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 2nd, 1917.

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

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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

RINGERS' SERVICE BOOK.

The use of a belfry office, suggested to a correspondent the need for a more universal form of service, for use at ringers' meetings. Mr. E. H. Lewis reminds our readers this week that such a service book already exists in the one drawn up for the Oxford Diocesan Guild by the Master (the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn) and other clergy, and which has received the sanction of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Lord Bishop of Oxford and a large number of clerical ringers, who are also officers of various Guilds and Associations throughout the country. It is published by the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, and, as suggested by Mr. Lewis, it is perfectly well suited to the requirements of any ringing organisation. If the Central Council were to undertake the task of compiling the similar service book, we doubt if they could find anything more suitable or anything more acceptable to the Exercise, for the Oxford Guild, through the industry and interest of those responsible for the publication, have incorporated all that is necessary in such a form of service. In one or two respects it might, perhaps, be possible to add to it to some extent, although it is doubtful if this could really be done with advantage; but to begin de novo would be, we think, more or less a waste of time. "The Manual for Ringers," which is the title of the publication referred to, is more than a foundation for any similar publication; it is, as a matter of fact, the complete thing, and the compilers spent much time and earnest thought in the work. The use of the Manual is open to any association that cares to adopt it, and ringers can possess themselves of copies by purchasing from the S.P.C.K. Those ringing organisations who are looking for a suitable service book may well consider the use of this one, for its existence will save much time and trouble, and, at its present price, is less than any new and similar publication could be brought out for. Compiled by ringers for ringers, and approved as it is by the Archbishop, there can be little doubt that it would be quite acceptable in form to the bishop of any diocese. Mr. Beams, who suggested that the matter might be taken up by the Central Council, had possibly overlooked the existence of this little service book; but his recent letter, which has drawn a reminder from Mr. Lewis, has served to bring to notice the fact that ringers have ready to hand the very publication that meets their needs. The prayers provided in the Manual cover practically every occasion, except, as Mr. Lewis points out, a service for the admission of a ringer after election. Part I includes prayers for service ringing and special occasions; Part II provides alternative forms of service for the dedication of bells, and a form for ringers' meetings; while Part III comprises selected passages of Scripture, Psalms and hymns. From this brief summary its comprehensive nature can be judged.

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**OPINION OF OUR
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Broomfield Vicarage,
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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 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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and Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc.**

KILLED IN ACTION.

DEATH OF AN UPWEY (DORSET) RINGER.

News has been received of the death of Pte. H. Brake, in France. He joined the 5th Dorsets under the Derby scheme, and had seen a good deal of fighting in France, where he had been 13 months. He took part in the action on the Somme last year, and again recently at Messines and Langemarck. Before he joined up he followed the trade of a gardener, and learnt to ring just after the new peal of six was placed in the tower at Upwey five years ago. He was very interested in bells and ringing, and had just started to learn change ringing when he joined up. He was also a member of the choir.

On Sunday last the ringers met and rang the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect to the deceased, who had gone forth to do battle in his country's cause. Canon Gildea also made sympathetic reference to his death from the pulpit, and the deceased's favourite hymn, "Jesu, lover of my soul," was sung. His last message home was: "We are expecting to go forward again, and I hope to do a bit more for dear old England"—really a noble message. His twin brother is serving in India.

Deceased was a member of the Dorchester branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, and the members extend their deepest sympathy to the widow and five children, and also to his aged mother and his brother who was the first captain of the Upwey band. He will be greatly missed by his brother ringers.

READING RINGERS VISIT BASINGSTOKE.

The St. Mary's Society, Reading, visited Basingstoke for their annual meeting on Saturday week. They were met by their old friend, Mr. Harry White, who led them to St. Michael's, where touches of Stedman, Grandsire and Double Norwich were rung. They then made their way to the new peal at All Saints' Church, where, after pulling the bells up in peal, they rang touches of Stedman, Grandsire and Double Norwich, and also a touch of Grandsire on the minor eight, which sounded very plaintive. This is a splendid peal of bells, worth going a long way to ring, and everyone was very pleased with the "go" and the tone of them. The visitors had the company of Miss A. White in the belfry, this being the first time that she had handled a rope for a long period. Miss Belcher, from Bramley, and Mrs. J. W. Whiting, of Fareham, visited the belfry, while several of the local ringers also put in an appearance. After tea courses of Grandsire Caters and a course of Stedman Triples were rung on handbells, and brought to a close one of the most enjoyable outings, for which the thanks of the visitors are due to Mr. H. White, who made all the arrangements. The ringers forming the party were: Messrs. W. P. Routh, J. Swain, F. Hoppood, A. Watmore, W. A. Webb, J. Good-enough, R. Sawyer, C. Giles, R. T. Hibbert and N. Cox.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A highly successful quarterly meeting of the Guildford District was held on Saturday week at Chiddingfold, and was attended by 23 members and friends from Bramley, Cranleigh, Godalming, Guildford (Holy Trinity), Graywood, and Chiddingfold. Ringing in various methods was enjoyed until 5 p.m., when the special service touch, a brilliant three courses of Stedman Triples, was rung by: F. E. Dawe (Bramley) 1, A. J. Bartlett (Chiddingfold) 2, A. Charman (Cranleigh) 3, Sergt. R. Carrier (Victoria, B.C.) 4, W. R. Melville (Guildford) 5, W. Charman (Cranleigh) 6, C. Hazelden (Guildford), conductor, 7, T. Worsfold (Cranleigh) 8. A specially interesting feature of this touch was the inclusion of Sergt. R. Carrier, of the Canadian Expeditionary Force. Sergt. Carrier received his ringing instruction in Canada from Mr. G. Foster, who himself rang his first peal at Chiddingfold many years ago. It was evident from the sergeant's performance that Mr. Foster taught the art in the same thorough manner as he learned it himself, and that the Canadians go about their ringing in the enthusiastic style that they do their soldiering.

The service, which was in the Guild's form, was conducted by the Rector of Chiddingfold (the Rev. C. E. C. Lefroy), who, in the course of his address, referred to his experience in the Colonial Diocese of Perth, Western Australia. He spoke of the intense longing, which many otherwise indifferent Colonials exhibit, for the sound of a peal of bells. He also referred to the great heritage of beauty which English people had in their Cathedrals, Abbeys and Parish Churches, and concluded by reciting Longfellow's "Christmas Bells."

After the service, tea, kindly provided by the Rector, was served under the able superintendence of Mrs. Lefroy.

The Rector presided at the short business meeting which followed. Letters of apology for absence were received from the district secretary, and from Mr. E. Lucas, of Shalford.

The Rev. Canon Hollins, Rector of Dunsfold, was elected an honorary member; Mr. Gilbert Johnson (Chiddingfold) and Miss Ida Charman (Cranleigh) practising members.

The Ringing Master read a short report upon the quarter's work, which was ordered to be included in the Guild's minutes, and the meeting concluded with the usual votes of thanks.

A card of greeting, bearing many signatures, was sent to Mr. A. H. Pulling, who is now in France.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**ENJOYABLE UNITED PRACTICE AT HESTON.**

Seventeen ringers met on Saturday at Heston for a united practice, and a most enjoyable time was spent. Many touches were brought round in the following methods: Grandsire, Oxford Bob, and Stedman Triples; Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Bob Major and Double Norwich, conducted by Miss E. Jones, W. Hewett, W. Henley, S. Carter, R. Sanders, A. Mason, and W. Lawrence.

In a village like Heston a restaurant is not to be found in every street, but very successful arrangements were hurriedly made for tea by "one of the Bills," at which Mrs. Frank Hairs presided with the usual skill worthy of the sex. After the tea, Grandsire Caters was rung on part of a fine set of handbells lent by Mr. Carter. The performers were: A. Mason 1—2, W. Lawrence 3—4, Mrs. F. Hairs 5—6, W. Hewett 7—8, R. Sanders 9—10.

The company included, besides those already mentioned, Messrs. C. Bird and H. Chandler (Heston), A. Chave (Hounslow), A. Hubbard (Pulham), Pike (Brookley), C. Edwards (West Ealing), and T. Beadle, C. Tricker, and A. Beckensale (Isleworth).

REV. F. E. ROBINSON'S DAUGHTER A RINGER.

At St. Mary's Church, Lewisham, on Sunday morning, Oct. 28th, for morning service, also as a farewell touch for Lieut. H. W. Fright, of the 5th North Lancs Regiment, who, although he only joined his battalion about three weeks previously, was going to France in a few days. A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted, and failed just about half-way owing to a shift course, to the great disappointment of all concerned: Lieut. H. W. Fright (North Lancs), conductor, I. C. H. Walker 2, E. J. Pannett 3, H. Warrnett 4, G. R. Simmonds 5, H. Walker 6, W. W. Fox 7, W. Fright 8. Lieut. Fright carries with him the best wishes of all the band and church officials for a safe and speedy return. An interesting feature was that Miss Vera Robinson, daughter of the late Rev. F. E. Robinson, was in the tower at the time, and rang the 4th to rounds for the first time, she having only recently taken up the art, so beloved by her parent.

CLUN'S SUCCESSFUL SOCIETY.

The third annual meeting of the St. George's Society, Clun, Salop, was held in the ringing room on Thursday evening of last week, when the Rev. R. D. Machen (president) presided over a good attendance of members and probationers.—Mr. W. Mead (hon. secretary and head ringer) presented the report and balance sheet. He said they had had a fairly satisfactory year, if somewhat of an uneventful one. For the third year of the war they had been able to keep the bells going regularly for Sunday services and the principal festivals. They now numbered six change ringing members and six probationers, and their funds had increased from 22s. 6d. to 31s. With regard to change ringing they had made some noticeable progress. Fred Wolley, their youngest probationer, had qualified as a change ringing member, and now received his certificate, while some others were making satisfactory progress. It had been their pleasant duty to welcome Mr. Rd. Morris back to the belfry upon being discharged after "doing his bit" at the front. Of their four other members on active service, Jim Dunn had already secured his commission, and Ernest Griffiths was at present in the training camp, having also been offered one; J. W. Lewis, their Military Medallist, had just recovered from wounds, and gone back to camp, and Eric Morris was now "somewhere in France," after being in the East for a long time. They had again paid the Guild subscriptions and sent Christmas parcels to their members. With regard to the Diocesan Guild, he had little to report. The Guild was marking time until the end of the war, when again it would renew its activity. There had been no committee or general meeting this year, as the business was only of a formal character. The balance to its credit to the end of last year (March 2nd, 1917) was 262 17s. 6d.

The Vicar, in proposing that the report and balance sheet be accepted, considered it was a very good one, as it showed progress all round. He thought they were exceedingly fortunate to have a full band of ringers when other towers were so short. He would again ask the Rev. H. J. Scott to act as chaplain.

In proposing that Mr. W. Mead be re-elected head ringer and hon. secretary for the fourth year, the Vicar said how very much he appreciated the good work that had been done by Mr. Mead in the belfry, a work, which, he knew, was also greatly appreciated in the parish, for the parishioners were pleased to hear the bells rung, and well rung so regularly.—The motion was seconded by the Rev. H. J. Scott, and carried unanimously.—Mr. Mead, in reply, said he thought now that he had got their little society established and running so smoothly it was a good time for him to retire in favour of someone else, but as they wished it he would "carry on" until the end of the war.

It was again decided to pay the Guild subscriptions of the active service members, and to send them Christmas parcels. It was also decided to procure a set of handbells.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for presiding concluded the meeting.

DEATH OF A DORSET WORTHY.**VILLAGE BLACKSMITH AND THE BISHOP'S "CROOK."**

Each morning sees some task begun,
Each evening sees its close,
Something attempted, something done,
Has earned a night's repose.

Longfellow.

It is with deep regret that we have to chronicle the death of Mr. Fred New, which took place at his residence at Leigh, Dorset. He had been suffering from an internal complaint for two or three months, and his end came on the 27th of last month at the age of 73 years. The deceased was the village blacksmith, and was known and much respected for his kind and generous heart for miles around, the smithy being in the centre of the village, where three main roads meet, and facing the village cross, "which is worn by time." He was the clerk at the Parish Church, had been a ringer for a number of years, and was one of the old members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild. He was always at his post on Sundays, and rang for service regularly.

Like other parishes, Leigh has suffered through the loss of ringers, and he was the only one left, but he loved the bells so well that he chimed them right up to his illness. He never went very far with half-pull ringing, but he encouraged the younger ones to go in for it. Before the branches were divided up he was a prominent member of the West Dorset branch, and attended the meetings regularly, one of his favourite peals and places of visit being Sherborne Abbey. Mr. New taught his two sons, Fred and William, to ring, the latter becoming a first-class ringer in a number of methods. Previous to joining the colours he was a member of the Isleworth band, and an ardent member of the Middlesex Association. He has been away in Salonica over a year. Last year, while the Bishop of Salisbury was holding a Confirmation service at Leigh, the deceased was interested in the Bishop's pastoral staff (the shepherd's crook, as he called it). The Bishop noticing this, said: "Well, New, you are very interested in my pastoral staff." "Yes, my lord," came the reply, "it was never forged right." The Bishop was not aware of it. Mr. New explained it only had one curl where it ought to have two, and the Bishop thanked him for such information. The next week the worthy smith set to work, obtained the best piece of steel he could and forged a perfect shepherd's crook, and polished and burnished it like silver. He also made the rod in three pieces, so that it could be unscrewed and packed in a box, which he also made and lined with baize. Not many months after the Bishop came to the neighbouring parish, Minterne, and Mr. New walked there, and presented the Bishop with his rod of office. The Bishop was taken by surprise and especially with this splendid craftsmanship. He thanked him most heartily, and told him he would always take it in future with him.

The deceased was laid to rest in God's Acre, and near the tower and bells he loved so well, amidst signs of the respect of the whole parish. The following Sunday Canon Mayo (an old friend of Mr. New's) came to Leigh to preach, and paid a high tribute to his sterling qualities. Thus passes one of the old school of village ringers which it is hard to beat.—R.I.P.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

A quarterly meeting of the above Guild was held at Solihull on Saturday week, when members from Allesley, Birmingham, Coventry, Knowle, Tipton, and Solihull, put in an appearance, together with Mr. W. Rock Small, of Tipton, and Mr. J. Pigott, of Smethwick. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m., and was continued until 5.30 p.m., touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major being brought round. Tea was served at the Mason's Arms, eighteen sitting down.

The usual business meeting followed, presided over by Mr. James George (Ringing Master), and it was decided that the next quarterly meeting be held at Nuneaton.

Seven new members were elected, including four ladies of Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham, who had rung rounds on ten bells for the first time during the afternoon.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector for the use of the bells, and to the tower keeper for having everything in readiness. The members were very glad to welcome among them Mr. W. Rock Small, of Tipton, who, in an interesting little speech, expressed the pleasure it gave him to attend a Warwickshire Guild meeting.

After the business meeting, Mr. H. Withers entertained the members with touches in various methods on the piano, including a well-tapped course of Double Norwich Major.

WEDDING BELLS.

The following special touches were rung at St. Mary's Parish Church, Aston, on Wednesday, October 24th, on the occasion of the marriage of Pte. Robt. W. Marsh, 44th Battalion Canadian Expeditionary Force, Winnipeg, to Miss Gertrude Huntley, of The Beach Hotel, Weston-super-Mare: R. Holloway conducted 434 Grandsire Triples, and W. Lawrence 252 Stedman: the ringers taking part being: Miss E. Jones 1, A. W. Davis 2, A. Hubbard 3, J. Frain 4, R. Holloway 5, E. Vicary 6, W. Lawrence 7, C. Edwards 8. The bridegroom is a nephew of the ringer of the seventh.

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RINGING AFTER DARK.

EXTENSION OF TIME IN SOUTHERN AND ALDERSHOT COMMANDS.

Application having been made by Mr. L. Brightman, hon. secretary pro tem, of the Yorkshire Association, for an extension of the hours during which ringing might take place at a meeting to be held in Sheffield on December 1st, the following reply has been received from the Competent Military Authority for No. 24 Area:

Dear Sir,—With reference to your letter, dated 9/10/17, applying for permission to hold a bell ringing meeting at All Saints' Church, Pitsmoor, Sheffield, on the 1st December, 1917, I have been in communication with the Chief Constable, Sheffield, thereon, and find that without exception the instruction prohibiting the ringing of the church bells, etc., has been strictly observed in Sheffield. It is considered that if the concession was ceded on this occasion it would create a dangerous precedent. Under the circumstances, therefore, it is regretted that your application cannot be granted.

The counties of Oxford, Berks and Bucks, covered by the Oxford Diocesan Guild, lie in three military commands, each of which has been approached by the hon. secretary, Mr. R. T. Hibbert.

From the Command Headquarters, Aldershot, the following reply, dated October 19th, was received:—

Sir,—With reference to your letter of the 14th instant, church bells are allowed to be rung in this command until 9 p.m. daily. The civil authorities have been informed of the decision.

Under date, October 11th, Headquarters, Southern Command, Salisbury, wrote:—

Sir,—In reply to your letter of the 9th inst., I am directed to inform you that no alteration as regards the hours of ringing of church bells has been made since the 13th of February, 1917, when permission was given for the ringing of bells up to 9 p.m. throughout the Command. With reference to ringing of church bells in Bucks, the inquiry should be made to the General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Command, 50, Pall Mall, S.W. 1, in whose Command that County is situated.

REFUSALS IN OTHER AREAS.

The application in respect of Buckinghamshire was not successful, the reply being as follows, from the Competent Military Authority, No. 13 Area:—

With reference to your application to Headquarters, Eastern Command for permission to ring church bells after dark within the area of Bucks, I regret to inform you that no permit can be granted for this purpose.

The Rector of Bletchley, whose church is situated in the same area, has had a similar reply.

A request for permission to ring up to 6.30 p.m. on Sundays for evening service at Tring has also been refused, the tower being in the Eastern Command (No. 12 Area). The reply was as follows:—

With reference to your letter, dated 18th October, 1917, I regret that permission to ring bells in question on Sunday evenings cannot be granted.

Mr. John Austin, Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, has been informed by the Southern Command that ringing up to 9 p.m. is authorised throughout the Command until further notice.

Mr. W. Hughes, district secretary of the Lancashire Association, has received the following reply, dated October 19th, to his application to ring after sunset, from the Head Constable of Liverpool:—

Dear Sir,—With reference to your letter, I hope, in the course of a week or two, to be able to give permission for the ringing of bells up to 9 p.m., but at present I am not in a position to do so. When the necessary authority is received it will be advertised in the local papers.

WHOLE QUESTION TO BE REVIEWED.

The Acting General Secretary of the Ely Diocesan Association (Mr. A. E. Austin) recently wrote to the Competent Military Authority for No. 9 District, asking whether permission could now be granted to ring up to nine o'clock at night; if not, whether it would be possible to ring for evening service; that is, up to not later than 6.30 p.m. From the reply received it is obvious that the Higher Military Authorities are reconsidering the regulations with regard to church bells:

Sir,—Referring to your letter of the 17th October, I am to inform you that the whole question of the hours during which bells may be rung is now under consideration by Higher Authority, and that the Competent Military Authority regrets that, pending the issue of a general ruling in the matter, he is unable to sanction any departure from the hours laid down by the terms of No. 12b of the Defence of the Realm Regulations.

CHESTERFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.—On Sunday, Sept. 30th, on the occasion of the harvest festival, 352 Bob Major: Miss E. Wornham (longest length of Major) 1, G. Hollis 2, W. Nuttall 3, G. Thompson 4, W. J. Thyng 5, F. Parsons (Staveley) 6, F. Jacobs 7, A. Knights (conductor) 8. Also touches of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Messrs. Knights and Thyng.

THE GREAT BELL OF ST. PAUL'S.

By the kindness of Pte. C. V. Ebberson, a cutting from an old periodical has reached us, and the following article on "The Great Bell of St. Paul's" will be read with interest:—

There was a famous bell originally cast in the reign of Edward I., and hung at Westminster Hall to notify the hour to the judges. It was first called "Edward of Westminster," and afterwards "Westminster Tom." William III. gave this bell to the Cathedral of St. Paul, whither it was brought on New Year's Day, 1699, and recast, with additional metal. The hour is struck on the bell by a large hammer, which is drawn up by a wire in the clockwork, and falls on the outside brim of the bell by its own weight. The clapper, which weighs only 180lb., is only used to toll on the death of one of the royal family, or of the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, the Dean of St. Paul's, or the Lord Mayor.

According to some authorities, the name of the Westminster bell was "Edward," after the royal Confessor. Subsequently to the time of Henry VIII., as appears by two lines in Eccles's glee, it was called "Great Tom," as Gough conjectures, by a corruption of "Grand Tom," from its deep sonorous tone. It was on August 1st, 1698, the clockward or clock-tower was granted by William III. to St. Margaret's parish, and was taken down, when the bell was found to weigh 82 cwt. 2 qrs. 21 lb., at the price of 10d. per pound, producing £385 17s. 6d., for St. Paul's. While being conveyed over the boundary of Westminster, under Temple Bar it fell from the carriage. It stood under a shed in the cathedral yard for some years, and was at length recast, with additional metal, the inscription stating it to have been "brought from the ruins of Westminster." "The key-note (tonic) or sound of this bell is A flat (perhaps it was A natural, agreeably to the pitch at the time it was cast), but the sound heard at the greatest distance is that of E flat, or a fifth above the key-note; and a musical ear, when close by, can perceive several harmonic sounds."—(W. Parry.) The same hammer which strikes the hours has always been used to toll the bell on the occasion of a demise, but the sound produced on the latter occasion is not so loud as when the hour is struck, in consequence of the heavy clock-weight, not being attached when the bell is tolled, and causing the hammer to strike with greater force than by manual strength.

Mr. Thomas Waterby, the well-known collector of works of art and who takes a special interest in campanology, has corrected some popular mis-statements respecting St. Paul's great bell. It has been stated, over and over again, by numerous writers, from about the middle of the last century down to the present day, that the diameter of the great bell of St. Paul's is 10ft., whereas it is only 6ft. 9½in. We are further told that the bell was cast in 1716, and that its weight is 11,474lb. The fact is, it was made in 1709, its weight being 11,648lb., or 5 tons 4 cwt.; and it bears the following inscription: "Richard Phelps made me, 1709."

Many readers will remember the story about the sentinel on duty at Windsor Castle, who declared St. Paul's clock struck thirteen instead of twelve times at midnight, in order to prove that he could not have been guilty of sleeping upon his post, as he was accused by the guard who relieved him after the due time. The circumstance is thus recorded in a newspaper of the 22nd of June, 1770:—

"Mr. John Hatfield, who died last Monday at his house in Glasshouse Yard, Aldersgate, aged 102 years, was a soldier in the reign of William and Mary, and the person who was tried and condemned by a court-martial for falling asleep on his duty upon the terrace at Windsor. He absolutely denied the charge against him, and solemnly declared that he heard St. Paul's clock strike thirteen; the truth of which was much doubted by the court, because of the great distance. But whilst he was under sentence of death, an affidavit was made by several persons that the clock actually did strike thirteen instead of twelve; whereupon he received his Majesty's pardon. The above his friends caused to be engraved on his plate, to satisfy the world of the truth of a story which has been much doubted, though he had often confirmed it to many gentlemen, and a few days before his death told it to several of his neighbours. He enjoyed his sight and memory to the day of his death."

The clock striking thirteen instead of twelve is mechanically possible, and may have been caused by the lifting-piece holding on too long.

It is rather against the truth of the story that St. Paul's had no very great bell before 1709. The bell at Westminster clock-tower, afterwards recast for St. Paul's, may have been the one intended. It adds to the doubtfulness of the story that a similar legend had existed at an earlier date.

Before the time of the present St. Paul's, and as long ago as the reign of Henry VII., there is on record a story of a young girl, who, going to confess, was insulted by the priest then on his turn there for the purpose of confession in the building; and, quickly escaping from him up the stairs of the great clock-tower, raised the clapper or hammer of the bell of the clock just as it had finished striking twelve,

and, by means of the roof, eluded her assailant and got away. On accusing him as soon as she reached her friends and home, she called attention to the fact of the clock having struck thirteen that time; and on those in the immediate neighbourhood of the cathedral being asked if so unusual a thing had been heard, they said it was so. This proved the story, and the ecclesiastic was degraded. We may smile at the improbability, but the acceptance of the story shows what was the popular feeling as to the priests of the time, and the practice of confession.

The new "Great Tom" of Lincoln, cast in 1834, is 6 cwt. heavier than the great bell of St. Paul's. Its tone is generally considered to be about the same as that of St. Paul's, but sweeter and softer. Mr. E. B. Denison, however, thinks "St. Paul's far the best of the four large bells of England, though it is the smallest of them, being about 5 tons; while York is 12, Lincoln 5½, Oxford 7½, which last is a remarkably bad bell."—"Treatise on Clock and Watchmaking," Weale, 1850.)

It is scarcely correct to say that the present bell of St. Paul's was cast "out of the metal of 'Great Tom' of Westminster." That bell was subsequently cracked, and then recast by Philip Wightman; but it proved so faulty that Richard Phelps was employed to make one of new metal; and this bell, on which the clock now strikes the hour, was delivered at the cathedral before Wightman's bell was removed from that edifice. (See Sir Christopher Wren's "Answer to a Pamphlet entitled 'Frauds and Abuses at St. Paul's,' 1712. See also "Facts against Scandal." London, 1713.)

THE LATE MR. W. A. GARRARD.

A YOUNG RINGER OF OUTSTANDING ABILITY.

Readers of the "Ringing World" will have already read with regret of the untimely death of Mr. W. A. Garrard, eldest son of Mr. W. E. Garrard, of St. Mary Abbot's Church, Kensington. Born in Kensington, the deceased was connected with the church from his earliest days, first as choir boy and scholar at the church schools, and later, until his health would not permit it, as an energetic and skilful member of the St. Mary Abbot's Guild of Change Ringers. His health failed about two years ago, and his life was despaired of, but his indomitable spirit, aided by a complete change of air and surroundings, enabled him to recover sufficiently to return to London and take up his daily life and work once again, though the effort required was probably only realised by his family.

He passed away very peacefully on October 14th, after being confined to the house for only a few days, at Barnes, where he had gone to live only about a month previously, in the hope that the better air would help him through the winter.

The interment took place at Barnes Cemetery, Sheen, on October 19th, after a choral service at St. Mary Abbot's, many members of the Guild and ringing friends being present. A representative from the Admiralty Department, where he was employed, and where his work was valued, was also present.

For a young man of 23 his ringing record is noteworthy. He was at home with most methods and any bell, and had an exceptional grip of the theoretical side. As a member of the College Youths, most of his peals were rung for that society and the St. Mary Abbot's Guild.

Unfortunately there is no complete record of his peals, but the number is known to be over twenty, all rung before he was 20 years of age, including Stedman Triples at Isleworth when only 16; Stedman Caters at St. Mary Abbot's on the eve of his 17th birthday; Stedman Cinques at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich; Treble Bob Royal at Christ Church Priory, and Double Norwich Major in his 18th year, and Double Norwich Caters at 19. He had also stood in attempts for Treble Bob Maximus. The peals, as far as he himself had kept a record, are as under: Stedman Cinques 1, Double Norwich Caters 1, Stedman Caters 4, Stedman Triples 5, Treble Bob Royal 2, Double Norwich Major 2, Treble Bob Major 2.

By his death the ranks of the younger generation of ringers have lost a stalwart, and the Exercise at large an asset. The sympathy of all will go out to his parents whose loss is immeasurably greater.

PRESENTATION.

LINCOLN WORTHY'S LONG SERVICES RECOGNISED.

An interesting event took place in connection with St. Botolph's, Lincoln, on Saturday afternoon last, the occasion being the presentation of a timepiece (suitably inscribed) by the Vicar and bell ringers to Mr. Charles Johnson, in recognition of his services for the long period of 38 years as a ringer in St. Botolph's belfry. Previous to the presentation, which took place at Mr. Johnson's house, six six-peals of Grandsire Doubles were rung upon the bells in honour of the event by the following: R. D. Holland 1, C. Johnson 2, J. Watterson 3, J. S. Betts 4, R. T. Sharp (conductor) 5, H. Pinion 6. Although Mr. Johnson has felt it necessary through advancing years to sever his connections as a ringer, he hopes still to be able to continue his duties as clerk at St. Botolph's.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

PLYMOUTH.—At Charles' Church, on a recent Sunday evening, for the harvest festival service, an excellent quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters, in 50 mins.: Messrs. Kentsfield (Swanage) 1, Broad (Kidderminster) 2, Malins (Rugby) 3, Richards (Plymouth) 4, Woodley (Plymouth) 5, Holloway (Aircraft Section, Plymouth) 6, Rundle (Devonport) 7, Walter Marsh (Plymouth) 8, Myers, Plymouth (conductor) 9, Kerswill (Plymouth) 10.

BURNLEY.—At Holy Trinity Church, on the occasion of the harvest festival, for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: H. Entwistle 1, C. W. Stephenson 2, Seaman E. Ogden 3, W. Walton 4, T. Redman (conductor) 5, R. Hartley 6. For afternoon service, 704 Kent Treble Bob Major: T. Lord 1, H. Entwistle 2, W. Walton 3, Seaman E. Ogden 4, Gunner W. H. Hunter 5, D. Campbell 6, T. Redman (conductor) 7, R. Ashworth 8. For evening service, 432 Oxford Minor: R. Hartley 1, H. Entwistle 2, Seaman E. Ogden 3, Gunner W. H. Hunter 4, T. Redman (conductor) 5, R. Ashworth 6. Seaman E. Ogden (H.M.S. Dublin) and W. H. Hunter, R.G.A., were both home on leave, the latter being on sick leave, after being wounded "somewhere in France." Their comrades gave them a hearty welcome.

BLACKPOOL.—Lancashire Association.—At St. John's Parish Church, on Sept. 30th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: E. Howarth 1, J. Smith 2, Pte Saunders (Burton-on-Trent) 3, W. Wild 4, A. E. Parsons (Old Hill), conductor, 5, Lance-Corpl. E. Smith (Chester) 6, T. Crookall 7, J. Winter 8. Rung as a farewell to Lance-Corpl. Smith, who was leaving for another camp.

WORSLEY.—On Sept. 30th, for Sunday evening service (the harvest festival), a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes): Rev. C. B. Hulton 1, Joseph Lowe 2, Stanley Harrison 3, Wm. Jones 4, Fred Grundy 5, Percy Derbyshire 6, Joe Ridyard (conductor) 7, Amos Trippier 8. The Worsley ringers wish to thank Messrs. Lowe, Trippier and Chapman for their assistance.

GARGRAVE.—Yorkshire Association.—At St. Andrew's Church, for morning service, on the harvest festival, Sept. 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 mins.: C. Langstroth 1, W. H. Birtwhistle 2, A. R. Jones 3, W. Bradley 4, J. McKell (conductor) 5, G. Wane 6, J. Wane 7, H. Birtwhistle 8. For evening service, 1288 changes, in 46 mins.: C. Langstroth 1, W. H. Birtwhistle 2, Dr. Wales (first quarter-peal) 3, W. Bradley 4, A. R. Jones (conductor) 5, G. Wane 6, J. Wane 7, J. McKell 8.

DEPTFORD, KENT.—On Sunday, Sept. 30th, for the harvest festival, at St. John's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 42 mins.: J. Law 1, F. W. Richardson 2, E. J. Pannett 3, Pte. W. E. Malden (A.S.C.), Framlingham, Suffolk 4, A. G. Bennington 5, E. B. Crowder 6, W. J. Jeffries 7, Arch Bennington 8.

EARL SOHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, Sept. 30th, on the occasion of harvest festival, at St. Mary's Church, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: C. Lovett (1st 720) 1, H. W. Crickmer 2, W. Miller 3, W. Crickmer (conductor) 4, G. E. Symonds 5, G. Balls 6.

WOLLASTON.—On Sunday, Oct. 7th, at St. James' Church, on the occasion of harvest festival, 720 of Bob Minor, for evening service: W. Stinton 1, J. Bass (conductor) 2, G. H. Pagett 3, C. W. Cooper 4, W. Short 5, A. W. Dodd 6.

BROMLEY, KENT.—At SS. Peter and Paul's Church, on Sunday, Oct. 7th, for harvest festival, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: *T. J. Knight 1, P. J. Spice 2, A. E. Newick 3, *G. F. James 4, G. Durling (conductor) 5, G. Huxley 6, I. Emery 7, C. Austin 8. After evening service, 504 of Grandsire Triples by the same band, and three courses of Stedman Triples with Messrs. W. Hewett and E. F. Pike standing in. * First quarter.

HORLEY, SURREY.—On Sunday, Oct. 7th, at the Parish Church, for evening service, on the occasion of the harvest festival, a 504 Grandsire Triples: J. Sherlock 1, S. Lanaway 2, G. Hollingsbees 3, A. Songhurst 4, G. Illman 5, F. Voice 6, P. Etheridge (conductor) 7, W. Hunt 8.

NORTH SHIELDS.—Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—On Sunday, Oct. 7th, for harvest festival, 699 Stedman Caters: C. L. Routledge (conductor) 1, A. Dalton 2, J. E. Keen 3, R. Richards 4, W. A. Cooke 5, W. Sinclair 6, A. Hillier 7, B. Horton 8, A. Tully 9, N. Harrison 10. For harvest festival, at All Saints', Gosforth, on Sunday, Oct. 14th, 1216 Kent Treble Bob Major: W. A. Cooke 1, J. Richardson 2, J. McKeag 3, A. Hillier 4, C. L. Routledge 5, J. Foreman 6, W. Sinclair 7, W. H. Barber (conductor) 8.

CAERPHILLY, GLAM.—On Oct. 10th, for harvest festival, 714 Grandsire Triples: J. Jones 1, F. Boucher 2, W. Pike 3, A. Addicott 4, F. Evans 5, D. Stephens 6, G. Cooke (conductor) 7, W. Williams 8.—On Sunday, Oct. 14th, for harvest festival service, 14 six-scores Grandsire Doubles, by W. Williams, F. Boucher, J. Jones, A. Addicott, F. Evans, P. Love, G. Cooke, S. Addicott, with 4, 6, 8, behind Conducting shared by F. Evans and F. Boucher.

FULHAM.—On Sunday, Oct. 14th, for morning service, at All Saints' Church, 1263 Stedman Caters: R. Harvey 1, J. W. Driver 2, A. V. Selby 3, A. W. Davis 4, A. Cutmore 5, E. F. Cole 6, W. H. Hollier 7, C. Charge (conductor) 8, H. G. Miles 9, M. E. Smith 10.

NOTICES.

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

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Oatlands Park (near Walton Station, L. & S.W.R.), on Saturday, November 3rd. Ringing from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Short service, 5 p.m., to be followed by tea. All ringers welcome. Business meeting at conclusion of tea for election of officers, etc.—F. J. Shepherd, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 1, West Carr's Lane, Hersham, Surrey.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South Eastern Division.—The annual district meeting will be held at Boreham on Saturday, Nov. 3rd. Service, 5 o'clock, with address, followed by tea and meeting. Bells available 2.30.—F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle, Chelmsford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Bartholomew's, Bolton, on Saturday, Nov. 3rd. Bells ready at 3; meeting at 6.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Sec., 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The annual meeting of the District will be held (by kind permission of Canon J. E. Dawson, Rector) at Chislehurst, on Saturday, Nov. 3rd. Bells at 3.30 p.m.; service and address by Rector at 4.30 p.m.; tea and business meeting to follow in Boys' Club.—T. Groombridge, Hon. Dist. Sec., 35, Albany Rd., Chislehurst.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—A meeting will be held at Bredon, on Saturday, Nov. 3rd. Service will be held in the church at 5 p.m., at which all members attending the meeting are requested to be present. Tea will be provided by the Rector (the Rev. H. Holbeck) for those who send me their names. Bredons Norton (6) and Bredon (5) will be available.—J. Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Hampton, Evesham.

OXFORD GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Combined practices: Saturday, Nov. 3rd, Stoke Poges (six bells); Saturday, Nov. 10th, Hillingdon (ten bells). Ringing at each, 3 o'clock until 5.30. Ringing friends' help much appreciated.—G. H. Gutteridge.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting of the Guildford District will be held at Dorking on Saturday, Nov. 10th, 1917. Bells from 3 to 6. Service at 6. Tea at 6.30; free to members, 2/- to visitors.—John J. Jones, Hon. Sec., 3, Bridge Street, Guildford.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—The annual meeting will be held at Southampton on Saturday, Nov. 10th, 1917. Bells of St. Mary's Church available from 2.30. Tea in St. Mary's Parish Hall at 5.30, to be followed by business meeting. Members intending to be present at the tea will oblige by letting me know by Nov. 7th.—Jas. W. Elkins, Dist. Sec., 20, Culver Road, Winchester.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice, on November 15th and 29th; and for general business on the 6th (Nominations for Office) and 20th (Election of Officers), all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society. Est. 1824).—A meeting will be held on Saturday, Nov. 10, at the Church of St. Mary, Putney. Bells available from 3 to 5.30. Business meeting to follow at the Duke's Head, Lower Richmond Road. It is earnestly hoped that ringers will avail themselves of this opportunity of united practice in view of the restrictions in ringing at the present time.—T. Walker, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Strretford, on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Bells available at 3.30. Meeting at dusk. Reports ready. Subscriptions due.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at Barnet on Saturday, Nov. 17th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Short service with address by the Rector at 6 p.m. Fuller particulars next week.—W. H. Oram, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 25, Crown Street, Harrow.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

HANDBELLS WANTED.

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WEDDING GIFTS AT NUNEATON.

Last Saturday, the ringers of Nuneaton made presentations to two of their number, who have recently joined the Benedicts. To Mr. Ernest Stone they gave a clock, and to Mr. Walter Horton a barometer. After the little ceremony an enjoyable hour with handbells was spent.

Earlier in the afternoon, the Nuneaton men, with other ringers of the district, met at the Parish Church and rang a touch each of Grandsire, Stedman, and Bob Major, with the bells muffled, as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. Arthur R. Aldham, who passed away on Saturday, Sept. 29th, and who had rung and conducted a number of peals at Nuneaton. During the evening, touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Bob Major, Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Superlative were rung, in which several ladies took part.

PRESENTATION AT TRING.

On a recent Sunday morning, the Vicar and ringers of Tring met in the belfry before ringing commenced to present Mr. F. Fitkin, on his leaving the parish, with an oak timepiece.—The Vicar, in making the presentation, wished Mr. Fitkin good luck in his new home (Watford), where he is doing work of national importance.

The leader (Mr. F. Reeve) said how sorry the ringers were to lose Mr. Fitkin, who had been a ringer at the Parish Church for 33 years. He was most regular in his attendance, and could always be relied upon to be in his place for service ringing.

Afterwards, two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung on the back six: G. Hinton 1, F. Reeve, junr., 2, F. Fitkin 3, F. Waterton 4, J. Bull 5, F. Reeve 6, W. Redman 7, E. Noyce 8.

Rounds were rung in which Miss M. Batchelor and Miss F. Harding, who have recently learned to handle a bell, took part and also Air-Mechanic Byrt, of the Australian Flying Corps, who had not had a pull since he left England, 16 years ago.

A RINGERS' SERVICE BOOK.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—There is no need for the Central Council to compile a Ringers' Service Book. "A manual for ringers," which was arranged by the Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, and which has been approved by most of the prominent clerical ringers could not be improved upon, unless possibly by the addition of a service of admission of a ringer after election. But this point the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn has promised to consider when a new edition is called for. The manual is published by the S.P.C.K.—Yours, etc.

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