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FRIDAY, MARCH 21st, 1924.

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

Price 3d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, SURREY



The Recast Tenor (30 cwt.) at
ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL.

New Ring of Ten opened May 14th, 1921

BELLS, CARILLONS, CLOCK S.

THE PROGRESS OF SURPRISE ROYAL

Gradually by the ingenuity of composers and the enterprise of individual bands, the scope of ringing is being extended, and to the limited class of Surprise Royal methods, in which peals have been accomplished, we now have to add 'Leicester,' which has just been produced and rung for the first time in the city from which it takes its name. Writing from memory, we believe that the total number of Surprise Royal methods which have been rung is only nine. Ten-bell Surprise methods were first practised about a hundred years ago at Huddersfield and Wakefield, and then, so far as any history is preserved to us, there came a long break, during which this class of ringing was entirely neglected, for we have to come down to the year 1898 before we find Surprise Royal ringing taken up again, a peal of Cambridge Ten at Cheltenham setting the modern fashion.

The 'Clavis,' in which was published the methods of London, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major, stopped in the section on Royal methods at Oxford Treble Bob, with the remark, 'we here take leave of changes on ten bells entirely, as no practitioner can expect us to launch into so much extravagance as to give cramp for Surprise peals on so great a number, there being so very little probability of their being practised.' Authors who could invent a method like Superlative would no doubt have had the ability to provide ten-bell extensions, indeed they refer to rules by which they may be produced from Minor, but it is quite certain that in those days the actual practice of ten-bell Surprise methods was looked upon as beyond the capability of ringers.

When Shipway came on the scene he produced, 'for the speculation of the curious,' Superlative Surprise Royal, and included it in his 'Art of Ringing.' But he had a greater foresight as to the future of ringing than had the authors of the 'Clavis' for he added, 'if at any time there should be found a set of ingenious men, bold enough to attempt such difficult methods on ten or twelve bells, I have no doubt that they would be enabled to produce, if desired, more than is here inserted.' Shipway's prophecy very soon came true, for what he put forward as a possibility in 1816 became a reality within six years, for Cambridge Royal was rung in 1822.

Modern knowledge has enabled composers to provide the Exercise with many more and better methods than the two to which the pioneers of a century ago confined their attention, but comparatively few bands are to be found who practise Surprise ringing on ten bells. The difficulties in the way of ringing these advanced methods, are, of course, very great. A ringer has to be above

(Continued on page 178.)

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AND BRASS FOUNDRY,
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average ability to be accounted 'safe' when taking part in a peal of Surprise Royal, and it is not easy to get a whole band of men up to this level. At the same time, we think there might be a wider practice of ten-bell Surprise methods than at present obtains, and the example of bands like that at Leicester will, we hope, be emulated in many ten-bell towers.

TEN BELL PEALS.

HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 23, 1924, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;
Tenor 22 cwt.

HENRY H. CHANDLER ... Treble	† WILLIAM C. IBBETT ... 6
MISS NORAH S. WILLIAMS 2	† JOHN L. BAKER ... 7
* MISS GRACE BAKER ... 3	† RICHARD CARTER ... 8
† MISS PHYLLIS M. MOSS ... 4	† WILLIAM HONOR ... 9
JOSEPH J. PRATT ... 5	PERCY E. JONES ... Tenor

Composed by W. T. ELSON.

Conducted by J. J. PRATT.

* First peal. † First peal of Caters. ‡ First peal of Caters inside.

OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 15, 1924, in Three Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 35 cwt. 4 lb.

* HAROLD LAWTON ... Treble	* SAMUEL M. BUTTERWORTH 6
* JAMES LEES ... 2	ROBERT GREENWOOD ... 7
ISAAC SCHOFIELD ... 3	* CHARLES E. PLATT ... 8
* HERBERT BARLOW ... 4	* CHARLES H. MARSLAND ... 9
W. W. VOLSTENCROFT ... 5	BENJAMIN THORP ... Tenor

Composed by the late JAMES WOOD. Conducted by ROBERT GREENWOOD.

* First peal of Royal. First peal of Royal as conductor. First peal of Royal on the bells since they were recast and rehanged by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. The ringer of the 3rd belongs to Glodwick: 4th and 8th to Moorside; 5th to Ashton (St. Peter's); tenor to Ashton Parish Church. The rest belong to the local band. Rung as a birthday compliment to James Lees.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

TYLDESLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION
(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 8, 1924, in Three Hours and Two Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BIDDLESTON'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 11½ cwt. in G.

* CECIL S. WALLWORK ... Treble	HERBERT ALLRED ... 5
JAMES BOLTON ... 2	HARRY ALLRED ... 6
ERNEST CUTSPORTH ... 3	JOHN POTTER ... 7
ROBERT ALLRED, JUN. ... 4	JOHN HAMPEON ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

This peal was rung with the bells deeply muffled in memory of the late James Allred, who was a ringer and conductor at the above church 45 years; also as a mark of respect to the Rev. John Lund, M.A., who retired 3½ years ago, after a service of 36 years as Vicar of the parish, and died on the above date at Milnthorpe.

CHESTER.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 8, 1924, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-WITHIN-THE-WALLS,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT SPERRING ... Treble	* ALBERT J. HUGHES ... 5½
* HARRY F. HOLDING ... 2	JOHN W. DAVIES ... 6½
GEORGE R. JONES ... 3	EDWARD V. RODENBURST 7
JAMES SWINDLEY ... 4	JAMES H. RIDING ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.

* First peal in the method.

TAUNTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 10, 1924, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

PERCY MERSON Treble	ARTHUR R. THORNE 5
WILLIAM H. TARR 2	*SAMUEL J. EVERY 6
ALFRED WYATT 3	JAMES HUNT 7
HENRY BOSLEY 4	EBENEZER PRIDDLE Tenor

Conducted by PERCY MERSON.

* First peal. First peal of Grandsire Triples as conductor.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 11, 1924, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

THOMAS METCALFE Treble	WILLIAM AINSWORTH 5
ALFRED E. BACON 2	†GEORGE CORNER 6
*GEORGE P. KEMBALL 3	JOSEPH E. SYKES 7
WALTER N. ASHBY 4	THOMAS LANCASTER Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN.

Conducted by THOMAS LANCASTER.

* First peal. † First peal in the method.

LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 11, 1924, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S No. 1.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

THOMAS HAMMOND Treble	EDWARD CAUNCE 5
JOHN WILKINSON 2	CLAUDE S. BENWELL 6
GEORGE R. NEWTON 3	PERCIVAL W. CAVE 7
ARTHUR LINTOTT 4	THOMAS W. GILMOUR Tenor

Conducted by PERCIVAL W. CAVE.

Specially arranged and rung in honour of the diamond wedding anniversary of the parents of Mr J. Martin, an esteemed member of this tower.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 15, 1924, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Paulinus,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*FREDERICK A. COLEY Treble	JOHN S. MORTON 5
WILLIAM J. WHEADON 2	JOHN WHEADON 6
ISAAC G. SHADE 3	EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. 7
RICHARD SMITH 4	EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by E. BARNETT, SEN.

* First peal of Double Norwich.

PULFORD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 15, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary the Virgin,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb.

*EDWARD HARRISON Treble	GEORGE R. JONES 5
ROBERT SPERRING 2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST 6
HARRY F. HOLDING 3	*THOMAS R. BUTLER 7
*JOHN W. DAVIES 4	JAMES H. RIDING Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

* Fiftieth peal. † First peal in the method.

BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 15, 1924, in Three Hours,

A PEAL OF PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

EDWARD ROBBINS Treble	JESSE J. MOSS 5
WILLIAM LAMBERT 2	CHARLES MASON 6
JOHN HOLMAN 3	JOHN H. BROTHWELL 7
BERNARD DITCHER 4	JOHN FLINT Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by JOHN FLINT.

First peal in the method.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 15, 1924, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

At the Bell Foundry Campanile,

A PEAL OF SPICED TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

ILKESTON VARIATION.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

*EDWARD WHITEHEAD Treble	ALBERT COPPOCK 5
*WALTER P. WHITEHEAD 2	ERNEST MORRIS 6
EDWARD C. GOBEY 3	†FRED COTTON 7
GEORGE S. MORRIS 4	*ARTHUR CATTELL Tenor

Composed and Conducted by EDWARD C. GOBEY.

This composition is now rung for the first time. * First peal of Spiced Treble Bob. † First peal of Treble Bob.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 15, 1924, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

At the Bell Foundry Campanile,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 6½ cwt.

ARTHUR CATTELL Treble	ALBERT COPPOCK 5
HAROLD J. POOLE 2	JOHN SADDINGTON 6
EDWARD C. GOBEY 3	EDWARD READER 7
MISS PHYLLIS HARE 4	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD Tenor

Composed and Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

This composition is now rung for the first time, and contains 5-6 the extent in 5-6, with the 2nd never in 6th's. The conductor is presumed to be the first to compose and conduct a peal of Surprise at the age of 16 years.

BICESTER, OXON.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(OXFORD SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 15, 1924, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the Church of St. Edmund,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt. 0 qr. 7 lb.

HARRY MILES Treble	FRANCIS TAYLOR 5
*FREDERICK SHARPE 2	WALTER F. JUDGE 6
WILLIAM JUDGE 3	†LEONARD TUFFREY 7
*CYRIL BENNETT 4	WILLIAM FRYCE Tenor

Conducted by LEONARD TUFFREY.

* First in the method away from the tenor. † First in the method as conductor.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 15, 1924, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

*ERIC W. CROFIS Treble	ROBERT T. LAMBERT 5
WILLIAM LATTER 2	REGINALD E. LAMBERT 6
BERNARD COLLISON 3	FREDERICK J. LAMBERT, SEN. 7
GEORGE THOMPSON 4	STAFFORD H. GREEN Tenor

Composed by FRANK BENNETT. Conducted by STAFFORD H. GREEN. After meeting short for Double Norwich. * First peal and first attempt.

NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE. — On Thursday, March 13th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes): A. Houghton 1, J. Hemming (conductor) 2, H. Middleton, junr., 3, H. Middleton, senr., 4, A. Hughes 5, H. Hall 6. First quarter-peal by ringers of 1st, 3rd, 5th and 6th.

THOS. J. GROOMBRIDGE

Church Bell Hanger,

CRAYFORD, KENT.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED FOR NEW OR REPAIR WORK

GILLINGHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 15, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

JOHN HAIGH... ..Treble	FRANK BELSEY 5
RICKS PAINE 2	CHARLES NORRIS... .. 6
THOMAS BEAUMONT 3	WILLIAM J. WALKER... .. 7
CHARLES WINNER 4	WILLIAM HAIGH ... ..Tenor

Composed by N. J. PISTOW.
First peal in the method by all except ringers of 7 and 8.

BANSTEAD, SURREY.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 15, 1924, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb.

JOHN LEE ... ..Treble	FREDERICK G. WOODISS 5
MISS NORAH SHORTER 2	JOSEPH MILNER 6
FREDERICK G. GODDARD 3	ALBERT BECKENSALE... .. 7
CHARLES J. TRICKER 4	GEORGE SPENCER ... ..Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.
Conducted by GEORGE SPENCER.

SIX BELL PEALS.

PETHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 8, 1924, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Double Oxford, two 720's each of Kent and Oxford
Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr.

PERCY CROUCH ... ..Treble	WILLIAM THOMPSON 4
RICHARD FRENCH 2	WILLIAM GOLDFINCH... .. 5
REGINALD MAILE 3	ERNEST SLINGSBY ... ..Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST SLINGSBY.

This is the first peal on the new bells, the church having been destroyed by fire in 1922. First peal in four methods by all the band, and rung at the first attempt. All the ringers are from Sturry.

TEYNHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 8, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Oxford, Oxford Treble Bob, Canterbury,
College Single, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob, and Plain Bob.
Tenor 11 cwt.

GEORGE KENWARD ... ..Treble	THOMAS JELL 4
CHARLES MILLARD 2	CHARLES TUMBER 5
WILLIAM SPICE 3	WILLIAM NYE ... ..Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM NYE.

WOLLASTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, March 11, 1924, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

WALTER J. BRETHERTON...Treble	ROBERT MATTHEWS 4
JOHN BASS 2	WILLIAM H. COOPER... .. 5
HAROLD V. COOPER... .. 3	WILLIAM GIBBS ... ..Tenor

Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.

* First peal on six bells, and first attempt. This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of Mr. W. H. Foster, of Apley, who passed away on the day following his golden wedding, and whose generous support to the Church of St. James so worthily followed that of his late father, Mr. W. O. Foster, who endowed and built the Church, Church Schools, School House, and Vicarage, and also provided the peal of six bells.

WINCHESTER.

On Saturday, March 8, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MAURICE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's differently called. Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr.

*ARCHIE GOULDING ... ..Treble	CHARLES RUSSELL 4
RICHARD PAINE 2	*FREDERICK COX... .. 5
HENRY COOK 3	GEORGE VOICE ... ..Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE VOICE.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. First peal on the bells, to which the treble was added in memory of D. G. Alexander, son of the churchwarden, who died for his country, October, 1918.

MADELEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

STOKE-ON-TRENT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 15, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of York, London, Wells and Cambridge Surprise,
Duke of York, Violet and Oxford. Tenor 16½ cwt.

PHILIP KELSALL ... ..Treble	JOHN E. WHEELDON 4
CHARLES PRESTON 2	WILLIAM WHEELDON 5
WILLIAM FRADLEY 3	JAMES WALLEY ... ..Tenor

Conducted by JOHN E. WHEELDON.

This is the first peal of Treble Bob in seven different methods on the bells. Messrs. C. Preston, W. Wheelton and W. Fradley are from Bucknall; P. Kelsall from Burslem; J. Walley and J. E. Wheelton from Norton-le-Moors. The band wish to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells, and also the local ringers for making the necessary alterations in the ropes.

TWYNING, TEWKESBURY.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 15, 1924, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

42 six-scores each called differently in the following methods: Plain
Bob, Grandsire, Canterbury Pleasure and St. Dunstan's.
Tenor 11 cwt.

H. E. PAGE ... ..Treble	G. BOULTON 4
F. C. GRIFFITHS... .. 2	A. F. DARKE... .. 5
W. WILLIAMS 3	W. J. BROWN ... ..Tenor

Conducted by F. C. GRIFFITHS.

GRAFTON UNDERWOOD, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 15, 1924, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of New Doubles, St. Simon's, Canterbury, Chase,
Old Doubles, Plain Bob and Grandsire. Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr.

GEORGE BLACK ... ..Treble	ROBERT G. BLACK 3
MATTHIAS HOBBS 2	HARRY BAXTER 4
THOMAS BUTLER ... ..Tenor	

Conducted by MATTHIAS HOBBS.

First peal on the bells, which were recently rehung, with the addition of a new treble. Rung as a birthday peal for the ringer of the third.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ELLESMERE, SHROPSHIRE.

(ST. MARY'S SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, March 6, 1924, in Two Hours and Five Minutes,
AT 22, WHARF ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with ten different callings.

REGINALD KYNASTON ... 1—2	†THOMAS R. BUTLER ... 3—4
*ROBERT T. EVANS 5—6	

Conducted by T. R. BUTLER. Umpire: THOMAS BUTLER, SEN.

* First peal 'in hand.' † First peal 'in hand' as conductor. First peal on handbells in the district.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 11, 1924, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,
At 61, NEW PARK STREET,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

REDVERS F. ELKINGTON ... 1—2 | ERNEST MORRIS ... 5—6
HAROLD J. POOLE ... 3—4 | EDWARD WHITEHEAD ... 7—8

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

Umpire: G. S. MORRIS, who ticked off all course ends as rung.

Witness: MR. S. POOLE.

First peal of Triples 'in hand' by all.

CLAPHAM, SURREY.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, March 11, 1924, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
At 63, OLD TOWN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5013 CHANGES;

JOHN THOMAS ... 1—2 | WILLIAM PYE ... 7—8
MRS. F. I. HAIRS ... 3—4 | FRANK I. HAIRS ... 9—10
GEORGE R. PYE ... 5—6 | WILLIAM H. HEWITT ... 11—12

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Umpires: A. W. COLES AND C. W. R. GRIMWOOD.

FEERING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 15, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
At RYE MILL FARM,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 18.

FRANK CLAYDON ... 1—2 | WILLIAM KEEBLE ... 5—6
GEORGE W. MOSS ... 3—4 | ARTHUR SANDERS ... 7—8

Composed by FREDERICK PITSTOW. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

Witness: WALTER ARNOLD.

First peal on handbells by G. W. Moss since Oct. 14th, 1908.

BREWOOD, STAFFORD.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, March 15, 1924, in Two Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
At THE RESIDENCE OF MR. J. PERRY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with ten different callings.

*T. PERRY ... 1—2 | J. PERRY ... 3—4
†E. F. MITCHELL ... 5—6

Conducted by J. PERRY.

Umpire: J. W. PERRY.

* First peal away from the tenor. † First peal on handbells.
Rung as a compliment to Mrs. J. T. Perry, mother of the brothers
Perry, also to Miss F. E. Perry, daughter of T. Perry, whose birth-
days occurred on this date.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The annual meeting of the Council will be held on June 10th
(Whit Tuesday) next, at Westminster. Full particulars of the meet-
ing will be published later. Notice of any proposed motion should be
sent before April 26th.

Secretaries please note that the annual subscription is now due,
together with the names and addresses of representatives, and should
be sent to the honorary secretary, Mr. E. Alexr. Young, of 155,
Rushey Green, Catford, S.E.6.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.—On Tuesday evening,
March 11th, in 25 minutes, 720 York Surprise: Fred A. Mitchell 1,
H. Argent 2, Fred M. Mitchell (conductor) 3, J. Burles 4, L. Beckett
5, G. Morrad 6. First 720 in the method by all the band, and on
the bells.

WASHINGTON, LINCOLN.—On Tuesday evening, March
11th, at St. John's Church, in 49 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire
Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect
for the late Mr. Samuel Oglesby, steward of Canwick, who died on
March 7th: H. Marcon 1, H. Knott 2, H. Leslie Pask 3, H. Lowman
4, T. D. Clark 5, W. Clark 6, J. Hutton (conductor) 7, J. W. Ash 8.

PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR.

By ARTHUR CRAVEN.

12345678
21436587
12346857
21438675
24183657
42816375
42183657
24816375
42861735
24687153
26481735
62847153
26487153
62845731
68254713
86527431
68254731
86527413
85672431
58764213
85674123
58761432
57864123
75681432
57618342
75163824
75618342
57163824
51736842
15378624
51738264
15372846

15738264

Bob 13578264

The first peal in this method was rung at Belsaver, Derbyshire, on
Saturday, March 15th, by members of the Midland Counties Associa-
tion, conducted by John Flint.

5,120 by A. KNIGHTS.

23456	B	M	W	H	Continued	B	M	W	H
45236	—	—	—	—	65324	—	—	—	—
63254	—	—	—	—	36524	—	—	—	—
26354	—	—	—	—	53624	—	—	—	—
32654	—	—	—	—	53246	—	—	—	—
32546	—	—	—	—	24536	—	—	—	—
54326	—	—	—	—	52436	—	—	—	—
35426	—	—	—	—	43526	—	—	—	—
64523	—	—	—	—	62534	—	—	—	—
64235	—	—	—	—	56234	—	—	—	—
26435	—	—	—	—	25634	—	—	—	—
42635	—	—	—	—	25346	—	—	—	—
42356	—	—	—	—	34256	—	—	—	—
					23456	—	—	—	—

4th and 6th the extent in 5-6.

5,088 TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

By YORK GREEN.

23456	M	B	W	H
52364		x	2	2
65243	2		2	2
25463			2	1
64523			2	2
36245	x		2	2
26435			2	1
46325			2	1
43265			1	2
25634	1		1	2
26354			1	2
53624			2	2
53246	2		2	1
52436			1	2
64326			1	2
23458			2	2

This composition is without the 2nd before the tenor at any one
lead; and was first rung on December 26th, 1922, at the Church of
St. Andrew-the-Great, Cambridge, conducted by W. H. J. Hooton

THE CRITICISMS OF CRITICUS.

OUR CONTRIBUTOR DISCUSSES A VARIETY OF TOPICS.

At last someone seems to be trying to get a move on, but I am not quite sure which way they are going to move, or how far they propose to move. With all my doubts, however, I read with pleasure that the Leytonstone ringers want to get something done about the Minor method names, and I assume that, having taken the initiative they will see that the subject is properly brought before the Central Council. As their resolution speaks of enforcing a 'sensible decision,' I imagine I am right in supposing that they want to get rid of the 'nonsense' from method nomenclature. Personally I should have liked to see their resolution a little more definitely worded, for—horrible thought—suppose they don't mean what I and others, think they mean! But, there, what else can they have in mind except those charming titles like *Geranium Treble Bob*, *Easter Sunday Morning Pleasure* and *Turkish Delight*? For the two latter, I am aware, the Council's Committee are not the sponsors, but they are the 'fathers' of something equally ridiculous, and as the pointed leading article in last week's issue, commented, these are names that must be changed.

But why did the Leytonstone Association make their appeal only to six-bell bands. In my opinion, which may not count for much, the whole Exercise ought to be up in arms against this style of thing. Everyone realised that 'Wait and see,' as applied to a very select method was only the author's little joke, and the name disappeared when the first peal was rung, but some of those Minor methods, by the art of propagation, can be grown into Major plants, which by intensive culture might reach Royal dimensions even if they do not touch the Maximus of development; and when this is possible—well, eight, ten and twelve bell ringers are equally concerned with the subject, for have we not seen in the past how desperately earnest our experts are to fix the name of the infant upon a method throughout all the stages of its extension? Had it not been for the attitude the committee took up last year many people would almost have imagined they were trying to introduce a spirit of humour into their task of finding titles for the unnamed. But they were serious, dead serious, and in equally serious vein this subject has got to be tackled at the first opportunity.

The suggestion that a peal of bells should be provided at the British Empire Exhibition, in order to interest overseas visitors in these instruments, and incidentally, I suppose, in the art of ringing, is quite a good one, but surely the suggestion has come rather late in the day. Moreover, I imagine, that even if a peal could be erected, there would be few facilities for ringing on them. I have no knowledge as to whether either of our firms of founders is to be represented by an exhibit, but to put up a peal in ringable condition would now be almost out of the question. Such a scheme would have needed planning long ago. If it were to be of use, from a campanological point of view, arrangements would have been necessary for a daily display of ringing, but, facing the thing squarely, one has to admit that the likelihood of the exhibition authorities permitting this, except perhaps to the extent of a very few minutes, is most unlikely. To think that any Tom, Dick or Harry and his band would have access to the bells is out of all question. But discussion of the possibility of ringable bells at the Wembley Exhibition is, I fancy, quite useless at this time of day. One can recall, however, that a ring of bells (hung in a wooden staging for chiming only) was used at the Festival of Empire at the Crystal Palace in 1911, and an octave, with frame and fittings complete, figured in the great exhibition in London in 1881. If I remember aright the former bells are now at Oatlands Church, Surrey, and the latter were purchased for some country church in Sussex.

Having been an occasional visitor to the tower of St. Peter's, Brighton—and how many hundreds of ringers have found their way to this splendidly appointed belfry, I wonder?—I was interested to read of the peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major rung a week or two ago, and the 'Belfry Gossip' note in connection therewith. The panels which adorn the walls in St. Peter's, contain records of many 'firsts in the method' in the county, and some commemorating the 'first ever.' Bristol Surprise was rung there for the first time, and, I fancy, Gloucester, Norfolk and Oxford Surprise, as well as one, which never seems to be heard of in these days, and, of which, I believe, Henry Dains was the proud author, Champion Surprise. I have been told that about two courses of this—or was it three?—made a peal. But maybe my informant was pulling my leg! Perhaps it was the wearying length of the course that caused weariness to the ringers, and so the method has slipped into the limbo of forgotten things. But those who remember ringing matters of twenty-five to thirty years ago will recall the great achievements by St. Peter's Society, for those were the days when a peal in a new method was really a memorable performance.

The competition among ringers in London for the use of the twelve-bell towers has always been pretty keen, but things must almost have reached a climax when we hear of one tower booked up for twelve months ahead! There are eight rings of twelve in London, but the facilities at six of them are now greatly curtailed. Peals at

St. Paul's Cathedral are few and far between; indeed, an average of one peal in about eight or ten years seems to be the limit, although, of course, there are other attempts, but in any case the bells are the sacred preserve of the Ancient Society. St. Bride's, Fleet Street, is a 'closed' tower so far as peals are concerned, and I think it may be said that, temporarily at any rate, Cornhill is the same. St. Martin's and Shoreditch appear to be available only very occasionally, and then 'for Cumberlanis only,' while Cripplegate, which used to offer opportunities for all and sundry, within reason, seems now to be 'on the shelf.' Bow and Southwark are all that remain, and I trust that the scramble for these bells between the active London Societies may not end in 'putting up the shutters.' Peals were overdone at Cornhill—and the inevitable happened. Sympathetic as the authorities at Cheapside and Southwark may be, there is danger in too much peal ringing in towers such as these, although it is, perhaps, useless to counsel restraint.

Two hundred years ago two peals in a couple of days at St. Martin-in-the-Fields may have been quite all right, but two peals in a month on any one of these big rings of bells in the heart of a great city may, in this twentieth century, eventually bring down a ban on the whole category of peal ringing. Individual bands may be quite reasonable in their demands, but it is the concentrated energies of several societies which cause the trouble. And then there is another phase. With practically only two twelve bell towers available, there is poor chance for anyone, outside the specially favoured companies, getting a twelve-bell peal in London, and if we go on at this rate we may expect Southwark and Bow to be booked up to eternity by the select circles who have the ear of the authorities. The end is hardly likely to be to the general advantage of ringing. What I would suggest is that the authorities should refuse to receive applications for the bells more than three months ahead, and that when received should be dealt with with due regard to the use of the bells which the society has previously had.

Prittlewell ringers set an excellent example the other day in giving away to needy towers two sets of disused but serviceable ropes. I have not yet seen any response to the hint thrown out in the column of 'Belfry Gossip' that other bands with superfluous ropes might follow the example of the Prittlewell men. As a rule, bell ropes are generally pretty well (this is not a pun, so save your half-bricks and mated eggs for someone else, please, gentle reader) worn out by the time they are discarded, for ropes are often one of the last things which church authorities seem to think are needed in the belfry. However, there are some towers more fortunately placed and ropes are forthcoming upon demand. It may be that the action taken by Prittlewell had not occurred to these other happy bands, but doubtless they will bear it in mind in future.

I have not held up the example of Prittlewell for nothing. I am proposing to apply for the next set of ropes that is to be given away, if, in the meantime, I am successful in finding some tower which has a peal of bells to dispose of, merely for the cost of carriage. I know a parish church, where the belfry equipment consists of one bell (cracked), and if any wealthy place is thinking of disposing of its present ring of bells in order to provide a new one, this little parish will be glad to receive them, and no inquiries will be made as to whether they are Simpson tuned or otherwise. I hardly expect to be embarrassed with offers, but if any are forthcoming—well, a letter addressed to me, c/o the Editor, is certain to reach me. And, by-the-by, if someone will turn out their old bells, I know of another tower where it might be possible to turn out some of the old Bills, if anybody wants them. For forty years they have rung the 'old ten,' and they 'don't want any of this 'ere other scientific stuff.' 'Old ten's always been rung in this tower, an' it's good enough for we,' they say. Now who wants a ready-made band in exchange for some ready-made bells?

CRITICUS.

5,040 CAMBRIDGE MAXIMUS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am very sorry I sent you a false peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus, which you published last December. I now enclose one which is really true, and altogether a better peal in construction.

	M	W	H
23456			
*23564			
56234	—	—	
25634			
62534	—	—	
35426	—	—	
42356	—	—	
34256			
23456			

* Call tenor 8th's B 7th's H.

Yours truly,

GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE.

'PEPPERY' ACKNOWLEDGES HIS COAT OF ARMS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I must ask you to accept my thanks, nay, I should say, almost futile efforts to express my gratitude, to you for the trouble you have taken in forwarding to me the package from the 'College of Herald's' containing my apparently numerous heraldic devices, coats of arms, etc. I really was touched to see with what tender solicitude and meticulous care my, unfortunately unknown, admirer had executed this glorious work of art. When I did point out to Goode Mistress Peppery that only an artist of merit, used only to truly great work, had been engaged on this, which was, no doubt, his triumph, I was abased when ye goode Dame did opine that great work was his forte, such as painting the stripes in bacon or the wrinkles on pantomime elephants. But, there, 'twas ever thus. This virtue, like all others, must be its own reward. So I hastened to assure her that he has one consolation, if such it be—he has the unstinted thanks and praise of the recipient of his munificence, and I did adjure ye best of that ilk:—

An ye love me, beste of Spouses, call me early on the day;
Saint Maturin would pull my wishbone at his feast down Hillsborough way.

First—Potage au rusty anchors; Entrees garnie de five tone peals,
Poisson? Whelks au Peppers Roti; joint a slice of good cow heel.
Washed well down with vin de nut brown, then we'll know how sublime it feels,

To be entertained by witty Maturin with epigrams on rubber heels.
Shall I want my silken doublet? No, nor yet a velvet snod;
Trim my sackcloth robe with cockles, see to it my staff's well shod,
Caparison my noble charger!! No—unchain my rubber bus;
Pilgrims travel meek and lowly and Hallam folk don't like a fuss,
To what Saint do I pay homage? No—'tis not Saint Barleycorn;
Tho' I might just quaff one horn of bitter, as guerdon of a pilgrim worn,

And I'll not want Granfer's hautboy for music on the festal morn;
I'll play 'the Deil amang the Cutlers' on my little inkfille horn,

Friar Pistor'll shrive me—he loves such music;

I've made my will and spiked my guns;

Bequeathed to thee, O patient Editor,

Is all that's left: when morning comes

You'll find shipwrecked 'neath Maturin's table,

My merrie thought amid the crumbs.

Your grateful Thane, 'PEPPERY.'

A RIDDLE.

The following quaint verses, headed 'A Riddle,' appear in the peal book of John New, who was an active ringer in Surrey a hundred years ago:—

Bred in the Womb of Mother Earth,
Unseen by Mortal Eyes,
All nature ripens to the birth
And then I upwards rise.

I take a Run, on Earth below,
Can Stand, yet have no feet;
I take a Round you cannot go
And then I mount my height.

When tow'ring aloft I fly,
And beat the gentle air;
Protected from th' inclement sky,
Yet all its storms can bear.

When Mortals are involv'd in Ills
I Sing with mournful voice;
If Mirth their Hearts with Gladness fills
I celebrate their joys.

I like the glorious sun above,
Who rounds the Globe with light,
In Motion circular do move,
Have beams, tho' not so bright.

I headstrong and unruly Grow,
If left into my Will,
Which often proves my Overthrow
And sometimes other's Skill.

I, like the Moon in Clouded Air,
Around i' the dark do ran;
Like her, my Movements regular,
Like her, am given to change.

And as the lark, with warbling throat
Ascends upon the Wing,
So I lift up my Cheerful Note,
And as I Mount, I Sing.

JOHN TAYLOR & Co.,

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE

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MEARS & STAINBANK,

**Foundry
Established
A.D. 1570**
(12th year
of reign of
Elizabeth).

**Bellfounders and
Bellhangers,**

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LONDON, E.1.**



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HANDBELLS

In Sets of any number.

BELL ROPES, MUFFLES, &c.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

It has now been finally arranged for the Central Council to have the use of the historic Jerusalem Chamber at Westminster Abbey for its meeting on Whit Tuesday next.

Mr. E. Alexr. Young, hon. secretary of the Central Council, has been incapacitated for nearly a month, suffering from bronchitis, following influenza. We are glad to be able to state, however, that he has now much improved.

There is a quaint footnote to a peal of Grandsire Triples, rung by the Union Youths of Newport, Isle of Wight, on March 20th, 1774, viz.: 'The first ever rung in the Isle of Wight. In this peal there is a repeat, though it runs the extent.'

Any ringers, especially handbell ringers, who are in or near Toronto, Canada, are invited to get into touch with Mr. C. F. White, Birch Cliff, P.O., near Toronto.

It is hoped, in a few weeks, to rehang the five bells at Tackley, Oxfordshire, and add a new treble.

Mr. C. Sharples, hon. secretary of the Fylde Branch of the Lancashire Association, will be pleased to arrange peal attempts in the Blackpool district for visitors during the Easter holidays. Mr. Sharples' address is 3, Rutland Gate, Blackpool.

One hundred and ninety years to-morrow a peal of 6,876 Grandsire Caters was rung at New College, Oxford, where on March 27th, 1815, 10,008 in the same method was rung.

The Royal Cumberland Youths rung a peal of 7,104 Treble Bob Maximus in 5 hrs. 30 mins. at Southwark on March 22nd, 1802.

On March 23rd, 1837, Elijah Roberts 'tapped' his famous peal of 19,440.

A peal of 6,048 Albion Surprise was rung at Liversedge on March 24th, 1837.

A record which stood for 130 years was set up on March 27th, 1784, when the Royal Cumberland Youths rang 12,000 Treble Bob Royal at Shoreditch. This peal was not unsurpassed until the year 1914, when a band at Ashton-under-Lyne rang a longer length by 2,000 changes.

The rivalry which existed between the Cumberland Youths and College Youths, in those far-off days, is exemplified by the following lines, written by one John Tichborne, and preserved in the Osborne MSS. in the British Museum:

'Come ringers all, and view this church, within the steeple-door,
Twelve thousand Oxford Treble Bob was rung in eighty-four,
In hours nine and minutes five, the Cumberlands did compleat,
And on the twenty-seventh day of March the College Youths they beat.

Success unto the Cumberlands wherever they do go,
That they may always have success to beat their haughty foe!

Another interesting anniversary that occurs on March 27th is that of the first peal of Superlative Surprise Royal, which, composed by Joseph Tebbs, of Leeds, was rung at Wakefield, Yorks, in 1826, 'nobly conducted by Mr. William Woodhead.'

The peal at Wyrardisbury, Bucks, on Feb. 23rd was R. A. Fardon's first peal of Double Norwich, and not W. E. Judd's. The ringer of the 5th was James R. Mackman.

His many friends throughout the Exerciss will learn with regret that Mr. William Rock Small, of Tipton, the 'Black Country' veteran, is seriously ill. Mr. Small has reached the advanced age of 84 years.

'Real Double Twelve In' was a method which the College Youths practised a good deal a hundred and forty years ago. In fact, they rang two peals in three days in 1784. The first of these was 5,160 at St. Bride's on March 24th, and 6,048 at St. Saviour's, Southwark, on March 26th. The peal at St. Bride's is recorded as 'the first true peal ever rung in the above method on any number of bells.'

An old and respected member of the Lancashire Association has passed away, in the person of Mr. James Allred, of Tyldesley. For 45 years he gave faithful service at the Parish Church as ringer and conductor.

Members of the Devon Guild will learn with regret of the illness of Mr. Harry Payne, of Huntsham, and will wish him a speedy recovery. Mr. Payne was one of the first members of the Guild, and did a lot of spadework with Colonel Troyte.

Mr. E. C. Gobey writes to point out that the Ilkeston Variation of Spliced Treble Bob is not the same as Hudson's 'New Light.'

At the meeting of the Canterbury District of the Kent Association the vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells, etc., was proposed by Mr. W. E. Pitman, Mus.Bac., and not by Mr. Millway, as mentioned in the report. Mr. F. G. Brett was elected district representative.

Mr. A. Symonds desires to return heartfelt thanks for all the kind expressions of sympathy shown him in his recent bereavement.

ST. PETER MANCROFT BELLS.

RESTORATION OF FAMOUS PEAL.

The accompanying picture shows the removal of the bells of St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, which are to undergo rehanging by Messrs. Taylor & Co., of Loughborough. The restoration of an historic ring is always a noteworthy event, and is of especial interest in the case of this fine old Norwich peal. The photograph was taken last week by Mr. G. P. Burton. In the foreground are the 9th (marked with a cross) and 10th bells, while the 11th is seen in the background beyond and beneath the suspended tenor. The smaller bell to the right of the 11th is the 5th of the ring of 12.



REMOVING THE BELLS FROM THE TOWER.

The bells of St. Peter Mancroft have a wonderful history, and a remarkable interest for ringers. It was here that the first true peal of Triples was rung on May 2nd, 1715.

Here was rung by the ringers call'd Norwich Scholars that most incomparable Peal called Grandsire Bob Triples, it being the 3d whole Peal that they have rung, but the first whole peal that ever was rung to the truth by any ringers whatever.

This was followed by the first peal of Grandsire Triples, in and the first peal of Stedman Triples on October 25th, 1731. During this time there were eight bells in the steeple. Originally, in the fifteenth century there were five, increased to six in 1602, by a treble cast by William Brend, a Norwich Bell Founder. In 1675-6 they were made into an octave.

'In 1736 this ring was made a peal of ten by an addition of two bells subscrib'd for by Gentlemen in ye Parish,' says an old record,

and in the following year, on March 8th to be exact, a peal of Grandsire Calers was rung 'which for excellency of its ringing, Harmonious changes, and ye number of them was certainly superior to anything of its kind ever done in the World; an to Remove all doubt of the truth of the performance several ingenious Ringers were abroad the whole time with proper rules to prove if certainty of ye same. Thus was this great peal perfectly completed, to the entire satisfaction, surprise and amazement of thousands of hearers in the space of 8 hours 15 minutes. The number of changes were 12,600, rung by nine men belonging to the steeple; the tenor singly by a young ringer 8,000, then a second rang her to the end of the peal. The persons names and the bells they rung were as follows: Tho Melchior treble, Wm. Pettingall 2, John Gardiner 3, Tho Barrett 4, Robert Crane 5, Wm. Porter 6, Tho Blofield 7, Edwd. Crane 8, Christ. Booty 9, James Jerom, Robt. Liddaman tenor.'

Nearly forty years later it was decided to replace the old bells by a new peal of twelve, and the present ring was the result, the tenor having been recast in 1814. On March 16th, 1778, a peal of 6,240 Treble Bob Maximus, in 5 hrs. 22 mins., and among subsequent famous peals was a peal of Norwich Court Bob Maximus in 1817, and 7,126 Stedman Cinques in 5 hrs. 17 mins. In this latter peal, conducted by James Truman, Charles Middleton and Henry Hubbard, took part.

Samuel Thurston, who did so much to make and maintain Norwich as one of the chief centres of ringing, had died three years before, and his memorial is to be seen on the wall to the left of the accompanying photograph. The memorial is inscribed as follows:—

THIS STONE IS ERECTED
TO THE MEMORY OF

MR. SAMUEL THURSTON,

MANY YEARS AN EMINENT RINGER OF THIS PARISH IN
COMMEMORATION OF HIS GREAT ABILITIES AND PER-
SEVERANCE IN ADVANCING THE ART OF RINGING. HE
HAVING PERFORMED AND CONDUCTED MANY OF
THE MOST INTRICATE PEALS EXTANT.
HE SUDDENLY DEPARTED THIS LIFE
MUCH REGRETTED BY THE EXERCISE AT LARGE
ON THE 9TH OF JANUARY, 1841,
IN THE 52ND YEAR OF HIS AGE.

Samuel Thurston was born in Norwich in 1789, and rang his first peal (Bob Major) at St. Giles', in 1813. He joined the St. Peter Mancroft Society in 1814. In 1817 he rang in a peal of Norwich Court Bob Maximus, and in 1825 was presented with a silver gilt jewel by the 'United Ringers of St. Peter Mancroft for his eminent services in composing the peal of Norwich Court Twelve-In, and ringing the tenor in Superior Style.' Thurston conducted the first peal of London Surprise Major ever rung. This was at St. Andrew's, Norwich, in the year 1835.

SURPRISE ROYAL COMPOSITIONS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In view of the compositions sent you, per Mr. C. T. Coles, composed by Mr. Lindoff, I would like to say that the peals of Princess Mary and New Cambridge, rung at St. Martin's last year, and reported as having been composed by Mr. Craven, should have been published as being composed by Mr. Lindoff, unless, of course, Mr. Craven can claim publication earlier than 1903, as the compositions we ran are the same as those given by Mr. Coles. Will the hon. secretary Midland Counties Association kindly note? — Yours truly,

J. H. DEXTER.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. FORTHCOMING SIX-BELL CONTEST.

The monthly meeting was held at South Kirby on Saturday, Mar. 8th. Ringers were present from Barnsley, Crofton, Badsworth, Hoylandswaine, Horbury, Darfield, Royston, Felkirk, Sandal, Wath, Wragby, together with members of the local band. The bells were ringing early in the afternoon in many Minor methods, with good results. As tea-time approached batches of eight in number adjourned to the Rose and Crown, when Host and Hostess Tait provided for all in turn and good style. They also placed rooms apart for the meeting, singing and handbell ringing. Mr. Thickett (president) occupied the chair at the business meeting, and expressed great pleasure in having such a good number round him.

The chief items for discussion were the forthcoming cup contest for six-bell Ringers at Hoylandswaine; this event is likely to be very interesting. Six companies have entered, and several more are probable, while several names of repute were given as likely judges, etc. Darfield bells, it was mentioned, are soon to come under the hands of a reputed firm for restoration.

Crofton was selected for the next place of meeting, which will be jointly held with the Doncaster and District Association on the second Saturday in April.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar, churchwardens, and local ringers.

THE BELLS OF ST. MARGARET, LYNN.

By J. R. Jerram.

The number of bells at St. Margaret's, Lynn, previous in 1663 is uncertain; but Mr. L'Estrange, in his Church Bells of Norfolk, 1874, says: 'Mackerell tells us that the great bell was called the Margaret, and was for her curious sound one of the finest, and might be heard (the wind favouring, as I have been assur'd) full ten miles distant. Others has likewise their distinct names, as the Trinity, the St. Thomas, &c., so christened, I suppose, as was usual before the Reformation. But the biggest and least of these was purposely broken, and with some addition cast into others, to make a Ring of Eight, which was effected in the year 1663, as they remain to this day.'

He also tells us that the 4th bell was new cast in 1627 by Draper, of Thetford, yet in 1673 the two great bells were called the Margaret and Thomas, as appears from the churchwardens' account for that year.

In 1766 these bells were recast into a new peal of eight by Lester and Pack, of the Whitechapel Foundry, who also recast the bells of St. Nicholas into a peal of eight at the same time.

The present peal at St. Margaret's consists of ten bells, tenor 55½ in diameter, 30 cwt. The two trebles are 'Jubilee' bells, added in 1887 to Lester and Pack's peal of eight. The inscriptions are as follows:—

- Treble.* ALBERT. THIS BELL WAS GIVEN BY ME, EMMA RODWELL BURKITT, MAYORESS, IN HONOUR OF QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE, JUNE 20, 1887. R. DALE, VICAR; WILLIAM BURKITT, CHARLES AYRE, CHURCHWARDENS; MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON.
- Second.* VICTORIA. THIS BELL WAS GIVEN BY ME, WILLIAM BURKITT, MAYOR, IN HONOUR OF QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE, JUNE 20, 1887. (Names of vicar, churchwardens, and founders, as on the treble.)
- Third.* PEACE AND GOOD NEIGHBOURHOOD. LESTER & PACK, OF LONDON, FECIT, 1766.
- Fourth.* MUSIC IS MEDICINE TO THE MIND. LESTER & PACK, OF LONDON, FECIT, 1766.
- Fifth.* OUR VOICES SHALL WITH JOYFUL SOUND MAKE HILLS AND VALLEYS ECHO ROUND. LESTER & PACK, OF LONDON, FECIT, 1766.
- Sixth.* LESTER & PACK, OF LONDON, FECIT, 1766.
- Seventh.* HONOUR BOTH TO GOD AND KING OUR VOICES SHALL IN CONSORT RING. LESTER & PACK, OF LONDON, FECIT, 1766.
- Eight.* YE RINGERS ALL THAT PRIZE YOUR HEALTH AND HAPPINESS, BE SOBER, MERRY, WISE, AND YOU'LL THE SAME POSSESS. RECAST, E. G. A. WINTER, VICAR; W. BURKITT, C. M. AYRE, CHURCHWARDENS; MEARS & STAINBANK, FOUNDERS, LONDON. 1893.
- Ninth.* RICHARD MARSHALL AND CHARLES CRUSOE, CHURCHWARDENS, THOS. OSBORN, FOUNDER, DOWNHAM, NORFOLK, 1800.
- Tenor.* JOHN MATHER LEET, CH: WARDEN, LESTER & PACK, OF LONDON, FECIT, 1766.

The following is a copy of the tablets in the belfry:

Jany ye 20, 1740. there was rang ye

5 Thousand and Forty Changes of GARTHING'S TREBLES, in 3 Hours and 40 minutes by Ringers of ye Steeple, named:

JN. ATKIN ... ..	... Treble	JOS. RAVEN ... ..	... Fifth
JN. STREET ... ..	... Second	WM. MOORE ... ..	... Sixth
WM. AIMORE ... ..	... Third	ANT. BERRY ... ..	... Seventh
JN. PARKINGS ... ..	... Fourth	CHAS. HILL ... ..	... Tenor

HORBURY, YORKS.—At SS. Peter and Leonard, for evening service, on March 9th, 768 Double Norwich Major: W. H. Mitchell 1, G. Hunt 2, G. F. Pickles 3, J. Smith 4, G. Barstow 5, H. Rowley (conductor) 6, G. W. Pickles 7, R. Thickett 8.

Feb. 23rd, 1770, was rung in this Steeple a compleat

Peal of 5040 BOB MAJOR,

by the undermentioned persons:

ROBT. FIELD ... ..	... Treble	JNO. RAVEN ... ..	... Fifth
JNO. PARRINSON ... ..	... Second	NATH. WILLIAMSON ... ..	... Sixth
WHO CALL'D THE PEAL.			
THOS. KILLINGBANK ... ..	... Third	THOS. CRANE ... ..	... Seventh
JNO. BELL ... ..	... Fourth	JNO. SQUIRES ... ..	... Tenor

Nov. 5th, 1796, was rung a compleat

Peal of 6000 Changes of BOB MAJOR

in 4 Hours and 10 Minutes by the ringers of this Steeple, viz.,

WILLM. RUSSELL ... ..	... Treble	WILLM. JACKAMAN ... ..	... Fifth
JOHN BELL ... ..	... Second	HENRY SMITH ... ..	... Sixth
JOHN BODHAM ... ..	... Third	EDWD. BODHAM ... ..	... Seventh
WHO CALL'D THE PEAL.			
BENJN. SEAMAN ... ..	... Fourth	THOS. BALLS, JUN. ... ..	... Tenor

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

SOME OF ITS INCONSISTENCIES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I read with interest your leading article of March 14th, and agree with every line of it. Our Parliament is by no means consistent in its work. The naming of the six bell methods, bad as it was, is only one of the points that will have to be rectified as soon as possible. At least half the methods published had been named years ago, and many are still rung under their original titles. The board recording the 15,120 in Wath tower bears names of 21 methods, some of which have been renamed. That board is proof of publication or copyright. Other boards were in existence at Horbury and other Yorkshire towers more than fifty years ago. I have a manuscript book thirty years old, with about 150 six-bell methods in it, all of which had been rung and named.

Then there is the question of Treble Bob composition to be gone into thoroughly. Some years ago the Council, I believe, decided that peals of Kent with 6th's place bobs were not to be countenanced, and at least one large association decided not to publish these peals in their report on that account. Now we have peals of Treble Bob as a regular thing in which two kinds of calls are made. Call them spliced if you like, the result is the same. If you ring Kent with 6th's place bobs it is out of court, but if you call it Kent and Norwich spliced you can do it with impunity. Kent, rung with what are known as 'treble extremes,' viz., with treble, making 6th's and dodging 5-6 down, while bells behind treble dodge, is out of court, and cannot be thought of in the best circles, but if you ring Plain Bob and let the treble do the 'extreme' trick each lead in 4th's, you can call it Little Bob and put it in court and be proud of it.

The Council, through their committee, gave us gracious permission to scramble for these collection of six-bell methods and rename them as we liked. Had we chosen to take a broader view of this privilege, and taken a dislike to the name of Stedman, and someone had published a peal of it as St. Benet's Triples or 'The Cambridge Principle,' who was to say us nay? It is admitted that the Council's committees have done a marvellous amount of very tedious work in their scant leisure moments, and that it is an honorary position, but all the honour goes to those who have the honour to carry out to the last jot the duties for which they allowed themselves to be elected. No one should allow himself to be elected on the Council unless he intends to carry out the duties, and a member elected on a committee should do his utmost to fulfil his duties, or retire. The Exercise has long ago passed the happy childhood in which it played at ringing when the idea of a Council was first conceived. It is now a serious proposition; and its affairs must receive serious and businesslike treatment if it is to be the respected and prominent branch of church work that it is our aim to make it. It is oftentimes said that the Church has need of all her sons; the Exercise needs hers as well, and the sons she should give to the Council should be those who intend to hand it on letter perfect as a going concern. Let us wash out chaos, leave out the door slamming, and write up 'Business only meant.'—Yours sincerely,

ONCE A BEGINNER.

BELL RINGERS' SERMONS.

The Coalbrookdale Ringers' sermons, which, as will be seen from a notice elsewhere, are to be delivered next Sunday, have been preached annually for nearly thirty years. The offertories throughout the day are devoted to the ringers' funds, and are in place of the old custom of 'passing round the hat' at Christmas. The parish enters warmly into the events of the day, when there are special preachers, and in the afternoon a musical service. Visiting ringers will be welcome.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION. SOUTHERN DISTRICT

A meeting of the Southern District was held at Hurworth-on-Tees on Saturday last, and was very successful; the bells (tenor 17½ cwt.) being kept going throughout the afternoon and evening to London and Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court and Bob Minor, and Stedman Doubles. Tea was followed by the meeting, presided over by the district vice-president (Mr. G. W. Park), and Shildon was decided upon for the next meeting on a date to be arranged between the President and the District Secretary (Mr. A. Hunter).

Sympathetic reference was made to the untimely death of Mr. Pullinson, a ringer at Bishop Auckland, and, on the motion of Mr. W. Kingdon, it was resolved to write a letter of condolence to his widow, in her loss.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar (the Rev. Faber) for the use of the bells concluded the business, and a return was made to the tower.

This is the third meeting of this district to be held this year, the two previous being at Stockton-on-Tees on January 2nd, and at Heighington on February 16th, both of which were well attended, about 20 members taking part at Stockton in Stedman Triples and Caters, Grandsire Triples and Caters, Double Norwich, Plain Bob and Kent Major, and 16 members at Heighington taking part in London and Cambridge Surprise Minor, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Plain Bob Minor, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

A general meeting of the Guild was held at Diss on Saturday afternoon, March 8th. By kind permission of the Rectors, the ring of eight at St. Mary's Church, Diss, and the ring of eight at St. Peter's Church, Palgrave, were placed at the disposal of the members during the afternoon and evening, and some well-struck touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Major were brought round. Tea was served at the King's Head Hotel, and was followed by the general business meeting, at which in the absence of the President (the Dean of Norwich), the Rev. R. L. Whytehead (Rector of Diss) presided.

The chairman was supported by Mr. S. Wilson, Mr. S. G. Hind, the general secretary (Mr. Arthur L. Coleman), Messrs. W. Ireland, G. H. Cross, G. T. Peggall (district secretaries), and representatives from Diss, Dickleburgh, Fakenham, Great Yarmouth, Norwich, Palgrave, Laxfield, Thornham Magna, Stoke Ash, Wymondham.

The secretary submitted nominations for election, including those for confirmation, four new honorary members, viz., the Rev. J. Pole Simeon, Rector of Fakenham; the Rev. Ralph Layard Whytehead, Rector of Diss; Dr. Arthur H. Vaughan, of Diss; Mr. Sidney George Hind, of Diss; and four new performing members, viz.: Bertie William Marsh (North Elmham), Bertie E. Basingthwaite, and Cecil G. Kerrison (Wymondham), Albert Boast (Wissett).

It was resolved that the Bank Holiday general meetings of the Guild be held as follows: Easter Monday at King's Lynn; Whit Monday at Lowestoft; August Bank Holiday at North Elmham.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. R. L. Whytehead for presiding, and for the use of the bells of the Parish Church of Diss, and also to the Rev. B. M. Downton for the use of the bells of the Parish Church of Palgrave. — The Rector kindly acknowledged the vote, and expressed the pleasure he had had in presiding over the proceedings.

This brought a most enjoyable meeting to a close, the whole proceedings being of a very genial character.

THE FALSE PEAL AT ERITH.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I carefully perused Mr. P. J. Cullum's, junr.'s letter in your issue of the 22nd ultimo, relative to the above, and I have also looked up Mr. Barnett's letter published by you in the previous month.

It is quite evident that I was in error when I described the above as an 'attempt' only at Erith, as Mr. Barnett certainly uses words to the effect that the company assembled at Erith rang the false composition. I thank Mr. Cullum for pointing this out to me, and in replying to him, it gives me again an opportunity of expressing my apology, with even greater emphasis than in my first letter, to the parties who rang the false composition at Erith and Wye, and the figures of which I had not the slightest idea contained any repetition.

Although I cannot be regarded as the sole producer of the composition, yet I alone should tender this public apology, owing to the fact that I happened to be the only person who could make public property of what proved to be a false variation.

To employ a business phrase, 'I have met my liability' by apologising, and I now await the usual method of acknowledgment, viz.: 'Received with thanks,' from representatives on behalf of both aggrieved parties.—Yours truly,

GEO. BULLENESS.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

A SUCCESSFUL YEAR.

The annual meeting of the above Guild was held at Dudley on Saturday week, the weather being all that could be desired. The ten bells were available during the afternoon, and the service was conducted by the President of the Guild, the Rev. Canon A. H. Phelps, R.D. (Vicar of Dudley), who also gave an eloquent and interesting address. At the close of the service an adjournment was made to the Schoolroom, where a bountiful tea was in readiness, Mrs. Phelps, Mrs. H. Watson and Miss Bagott kindly presiding at the tables, at which upwards of seventy members sat down, representing the following towers in union with the Guild: Bilston, Bradley, Coseley, Dudley, Sedgley, Tipton, Old Hill, Smethwick, Rowley Regis, Kingswinford, West Bromwich, Netherton, Wood Green, Wednesbury, Birmingham, etc. The business meeting followed, at which the chair was taken by the Rev. A. H. Phelps, who gave a right cordial welcome to the members to Dudley on behalf of himself, the churchwardens, and the Parochial Church Council. Apologies for inability to be present were announced from Messrs. J. W. Naylor, H. Watson (churchwardens), J. Bayliss, W. A. Pugh, H. W. Wilde, H. Mason, and others.

The Hon. Secretary, before reading his annual report, referred in very feeling terms to the loss the Guild had sustained by the death of Mr. Councillor Herbert Wilkes, who had been an honorary member and vice-president for a great number of years. He was a strong and devoted churchman, and Christian gentleman. The secretary also referred to the death of Mr. A. E. Whatmore, of the Brierley Hill band, and Mr. Joseph Faulkner, of the Netherton band.—A vote of sympathy and condolence to their respective families was passed, by the members standing in silence; also to the Brierley Hill and Netherton bands for the great loss they had sustained by the death of their former ringing comrades.

The Hon. Secretary presented a report which showed an improvement in the work of the Guild during the past year. One outstanding feature was the joining of the Guild by the Rowley Regis and Kingswinford bands. An increase of new membership on the previous year was noticed. Both the honorary and performing members kept up to the average, and there was a balance in hand from all sources of £6 2s. 11d. A donation of £2 2s. had been given to the Dudley Parish Church Renovation Fund, and 10s. 6d. to the Rowley Regis Belfry Fund.

The election of officers then took place, including president, the Rev. Canon Phelps; vice-presidents, the Rev. C. H. Barker, Vicar of Swindon, near Dudley, Messrs. C. E. Lloyd (M.P. for Dudley), F. R. McDowell, J. W. Naylor, H. Watson (wardens), J. McDougall Tait, Harry Mason and Arthur Spittle, Mr. J. P. Bill being elected to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Councillor Herbert Wilkes. Mr. John Goodman, junr. (Dudley), was elected Ringing Master, and the hon. secretary, Mr. Herbert Sheppard, was unanimously re-elected. Mr. S. J. Hughes was elected treasurer, and representative on the Central Council. Messrs. F. Evans and T. H. Justice were appointed auditors.

On the proposition of the secretary, it was decided to ask for the usual permission to hold the next meeting at the beautiful country village of Penn, near Wolverhampton, the date and arrangements to be left with the secretary.

Several new members were added to the roll.

At the close of the meeting, a hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. Arthur Spittle, seconded by Mr. B. Gough, was passed to the president for his warm welcome, also for his kindness in conducting the service in church and for his eloquent address; also for the use of the tower and bells, to Mr. J. P. Bill, the secretary of the managers, for the use of the Schoolroom for the tea and meeting, to the ladies for presiding at the tables, and those who had prepared and served the tea and looked after the comfort of those present. It is also desired to offer sincere thanks to the donors of the tea, the funds for which were provided by subscriptions collected by the hon. secretary from members of the Dudley Parish Church, who are all staunch supporters of the Guild.

Votes of thanks were also passed to the officers for their past services, and the President briefly replied on behalf of all concerned, mentioning how sorry he was that the organ had gone wrong during the last week, and regretting that the bells were in such a bad state. They were, however, having the serious attention of the Parochial Council, and something would have to be done in the matter. He then closed, what was declared one of the best and successful meetings during the past few years, with prayer.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

A most successful meeting of the Loughborough District was held at Hugglescote on Saturday, March 8th. The church, though modern, possesses a magnificent tower with a beautiful peal of eight bells. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major and Minor, were rung by members from various parts, including Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Shepshed, Loughborough, and the local tower.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Whitwick on Saturday, April 26th.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

OSWESTRY, SHROPSHIRE.—On Sunday, March 16th, for evening service, 504 Stedman Triples, in 20 mins.: R. Kynaston 1, J. Hughes 2, T. Butler 3, R. T. Evans (conductor) 4, E. Jones 5, H. T. Hughes 6, R. Edwards 7, T. Marshall 8. T. Butler hails from Ellesmere.

GREEN'S NORTON, NORTHANTS.—On March 16th, for Matins, at the Parish Church, 240 Grandsire, 240 Plain Bob and 120 St. Simon's Doubles: G. Mansfield 1, J. W. Sharp (conductor) 2, A. Booth 3, J. M. Gray 4, A. Mansfield 5.—For evensong, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: R. A. Hornsby 1, J. W. Haynes 2, A. Mansfield 3, J. M. Gray 4, A. Booth 5, J. W. Sharp (conductor) 6.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On Sunday, March 16th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins.: G. W. Sayell (first quarter-peal) 1, J. A. Howard 2, E. Jones 3, W. E. Oakley 4, W. Norris 5, F. Edwards 6, E. M. Elliott (first quarter as conductor) 7, W. Hewitt 8.

DORCHESTER, OXON.—At the Abbey Church, for evening service, on March 16th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 48 mins.: C. Worley 1, H. Cobb 2, C. Exon 3, R. Davis 4, E. Naish 5, F. Naish (conductor) 6, W. Hutton 7, C. Spicer 8.

EGHAM.—On Sunday, March 16th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: H. Worsfold 1, H. J. Chaffey 2, M. Norman 3, E. Butler 4, F. Nye (conductor) 5, S. Armstrong 6, J. B. Hessey 7, W. Perrey 8. First quarter by ringers 1st, 6th, 8th. The Rev. Tranter paid a visit to the belfry, and thanked the members for attending.

CHELSEA.—At the Church of St. Luke, on Sunday, March 16th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 48 mins.: H. W. Mance 1, G. Watkin 2, W. J. Dean 3, C. F. Mitchell 4, H. H. Mance 5, E. A. Reeve 6, H. Mance (conductor) 7, W. Essery 8. First attempt for a quarter in any method by ringer of treble, who is 14 years of age.

PETERBOROUGH.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, March 16th, for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: E. Tilley 1, Miss K. Jutson 2, Miss K. More 3, Miss A. Dale (first 720 as conductor) 4, W. Waldron 5, J. Jutson 6.

ERITH.—On Sunday evening, March 9th, at St. John-the-Baptist's Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 44 mins.: L. Cullum 1, F. Axtell 2, W. Axtell 3, F. J. Cullum 4, E. Hott 5, H. Holden 6, J. Morton (conductor) 7, O. Robinson 8.

KIDDERMINSTER.—On Sunday, March 9th, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples: R. Davies 1, G. Davies 2, F. J. Brookes 3, K. Salter 4, T. J. Salter 5, J. Woodberry 6, H. Martin, Birkenhead (conductor) 7, J. Bennett 8.—For evening service, 504 Stedman Triples: T. J. Salter 1, G. Davies 2, J. Davies 3, K. Salter (conductor) 4, E. Higgs 5, J. Woodberry 6, E. J. Brookes 7, H. Martin 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. Bennett, the respected towerkeeper, at this church.

WICKEN, NORTHANTS.—On Sunday, March 9th, for evening service, 504 Stedman Triples: T. Roberts 1, C. Read 2, F. Case 3, D. Chexfield 4, L. Smith 5, G. Cooper 6, A. J. Green (conductor) 7, G. Green 8. Longest length of Stedman by the local band.

GREEN'S NORTON, NORTHANTS.—At the Church of St. Bartholomew's, on Sunday, March 9th, for evensong, 720 Oxford Bob Minor, in 23 mins.: J. W. Sharp 1, J. W. Haynes (first 720 in the method) 2, G. F. Lucas 3, A. Booth 4, Geo. Mansfield 5, J. M. Gray (conductor) 6. Ringer of treble hails from Towcester; 2nd from Pattishall; the remainder are local.

PRITTLEWELL, SOUTHEND.—On Sunday, March 9th, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters, in 49 mins.: L. H. Page 1, G. A. Bacon 2, G. P. Chalk 3, J. Barrett 4, W. Dudley 5, H. T. Wilson (conductor) 6, S. Cordon 7, L. Stilwell 8, W. H. Judd 9, W. Bacon 10.

NEWHALL.—At St. John's Church, for evensong, on March 9th, 720 Bob Minor: S. Jones 1, H. Hough 2, H. Hurdman (conductor) 3, J. Hough 4, H. Brealey 5, H. Cotton (first 720) 6.

DERBY.—Midland Counties Association.—On Sunday, March 9th, for evening service, at St. Alkmund's Church, 504 Grandsire Triples: H. Waterfield 1, W. Slater, junr., 2, J. Haywood 3, C. Draper 4, E. Summerside 5, W. Slater, senr., 6, Geo. Freebury (conductor) 7, W. Critchley 8.

ACTON.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, March 9th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: R. Wincote 1, Miss Hawsworth (first of Stedman) 2, R. Fardon (conductor) 3, S. D. Breeze 4, W. Sparrow 5, R. Holloway 6, J. W. Fruin 7, W. Atkinson 8.

GRANTHAM.—On Sunday, March 9th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), in 50 mins.: F. Proctor J, D. Overton 2, H. Proctor 3, A. Parker 4, E. Nidd 5, S. Proctor (conductor) 6, W. G. Thorpe 7, T. H. Hall 8.

SOUTHWELL.—At the Cathedral, on Sunday evening, March 9th, for service, 700 Grandsire Triples: H. F. Clulow 1, T. Foster 2, J. P. Beeson 3, G. E. Padgett 4, F. Pickard 5, J. F. Milner 6, A. J. Chamberlain (conductor) 7, E. Foster 8. Rung to celebrate the birthday of H. F. Clulow, the number of lead ends corresponding with his age.

LONDON.—At All Hallows', Lombard Street, City, on Sunday, March 9th, for evening service, 4 courses London Surprise Major: W. Nudds 1, Mrs. F. I. Hairs 2, F. Hairs 3, E. F. Pike 4, R. W. Grimwood 5, W. Hewett (conductor) 6, J. E. Davis 7, R. Sanders 8. Also two courses of Bristol, W. Nudds ringing the 5th.

STOKE POGES.—On Sunday, March 9th, 420 Minor, in six methods: Plain Bob, Oxford Bob, Double Court, Double Oxford, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob: J. Shuker 1, T. G. Hawkins 2, Mrs. A. D. Barker 3, E. O. Hartley 4, A. D. Barker (conductor) 5, W. L. Gutteridge 6.

MILVERTON, SOMERSET.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, March 9th, for evening service, 504 Stedman Triples: W. Chapman 1, R. Norman 2, R. Scott 3, C. Tarr 4, W. Cross 5, A. Andrews 6, W. A. J. Knight (conductor) 7, J. Carter 8. First touch of Stedman Triples as conductor.

SWANAGE.—At St. Mary's Church, for evensong, on Sunday, March 9th, 576 Kent Treble Bob Major: C. Turner 1, R. S. Bastable 2, C. Tones 3, D. Hill Brown 4, G. F. Haysome 5, W. J. Bastable (longest touch) 6, G. J. Williams 7, W. G. Bishop (conductor) 8.

LONDON.—St. Andrew's, Holborn, Guild.—On Sunday, Feb. 18th, for evening service, 1,344 Bob Major, in 51 mins.: G. Harman 1, C. Chooet 2, J. Lee 3, R. Green 4, H. Gowllett 5, J. Hawkins 6, E. Russell 7, J. Bullock (conductor) 8.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHERN DIVISION AGAINST INCREASED SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The annual meeting of the Southern Division was held at the Church of St. Marie, Sheffield, on Saturday last. The bells were open from 2 to 7 p.m., and a good number of ringers visited the tower during the afternoon and evening.

The business meeting was held at the Talbot Hotel, and, the room previously engaged being not quite large enough, the billiard-rooms was kindly placed at the disposal of the association—an offer which was very much appreciated. Between 30 and 40 members and friends were present, the towers represented being the Cathedral, All Saints', St. Marie's, Handsworth, Rannoor, Bolsterstone, Wath, Arksey, Doncaster, Wortley, Ecclesfield, and Rotherham, also out-county members from Norton and Staveley.

The vice-president (Mr. F. Willey) presided.—Mr. F. Mortimer, of Ecclesfield, and Mr. H. Mortimore, of Rawmarsh, were elected members of the association.

An invitation was given to hold the next meeting at Ecclesfield on June 21st, and this was accepted.

Mr. F. Willey was re-elected vice-president for the next three years, as were also the retiring committee: Messrs. J. H. Charlesworth (Bolsterstone), G. Clark (Arksey) and G. Lewis (Ecclesfield). The last named is also on the general committee.

The proposal from the annual meeting at Hull, re increase of subscriptions, was very keenly criticised, the feeling being that such a course would result in a great number of members lapsing from the association, and the secretary was instructed to write all towers in the Southern Division and get their opinion on the matter. The meeting itself was entirely against any increase, it being felt that the present subscription of 1/6 was quite enough in comparison with other associations, and as much as many could afford to pay.

Votes of thanks to the St. Marie's company for the excellent arrangements made were heartily carried, and acknowledged by Mr. C. Harrison of that company.

BOOKS ON RINGING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I should be obliged if any of your readers would let me know if it is possible to procure copies of the following books on bell ringing; if so, at what prices?

Stedman's Tintinnalogia	...	A.D. 1668
Stedman's Campanologia	...	1677
Campanologia by J. D. and C. M.	...	A.D. 1702
Ditto	Second Edition	1705
Ditto	Third	1733
Ditto	Fourth (1st gives Cambridge Surprise Minor)	1753
Ditto	Fifth (Monk's Edition (1st gives Cambridge Surprise Major)	1766
Clavis Campanologia, by Jones, Reeves and Blakemore	...	1788
Ditto,	Second Edition	1796
Shipway's Work	...	1816
Hubbard's Work	...	1845
And subsequently 1854, 1864, 1868, & 1875.	...	
Thackrah's Work	...	1852
Sottanstell's Work	...	1867
Bannister's Work	...	1874
Heywood's 'Duffield'	...	1888

I should be glad to know if all, or any, of the above can be purchased.—Yours truly,
G. M. GREEN.
15, Park Road, Southborough, Tunbridge Wells.

HALESOWEN RINGER'S RETIREMENT.

There was an interesting gathering at Halesowen (Worcester) recently, when Mr. Elijah White, who has just retired from the local band after 49 years' service, received a present of a wallet containing over £28 subscribed for by residents in the parish. The Rector (the Rev. H. C. A. Colville) presided, and the large company present included many prominent parishioners, Messrs. G. N. Cockin, M. Hackett and W. Webb, and others of the local band, and Mr. A. E. Parsons (Old Hill), and Mr. W. B. Cartwright (Ringing Master of the Northern Branch, Worcestershire Association).

The Rector said that was a pleasant and yet, in a sense, a sad meeting, because they were saying 'good-bye' to active service of one who had been a great worker and helper in the parish. Mr. White was not content to be a bell ringer only; he also had long associations with the Sunday School and choir, and they all wished him long life and happiness in his retirement.

After other tributes had been paid to Mr. White, Mrs. Hornfray (a well-known lady worker in the parish) handed to Mr. White the wallet, and in doing so thanked him for all he had done, and the example he had set, and said the parishioners hoped he would be spared to them for many years to come (applause).

Mr. White, in some well-chosen words, suitably responded.

Heartily thanks were voted to the organisers; also to the Halesowen handbell ringers, who gave selections during the evening.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**NORTHERN DIVISION.**

By kind permission of Archdeacon Lindsey a quarterly meeting of the Northern Division of the Yorkshire Association was held at Saltburn on Saturday, March 1st. The attendance was adversely affected by the wintry weather, and only the immediate towers of Thornaby, Middlesboro', Skelton and Scarborough were represented. The visiting ringers, however, made good use of the fine peal of eight bells, and during the afternoon and evening several touches of Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major, Sedman Triples and Double Norwich were enjoyed. In the absence of the vice-chairman, the Rev. E. Drage, M.A., Mr. J. H. Blakiston, of Middlesboro', presided at the business meeting. Regret was expressed at the unavoidable absence of the secretary and the Pickering ringers. A week of continued snowstorms made it impossible to travel by road from Pickering to Saltburn, and the train service was equally inconvenient.

At the invitation of the Scarborough band it was decided to hold the annual meeting at St. Mary's Church, Scarborough, on Saturday, June 21st. This is an ideal arrangement for a summer meeting, and the Northern committee of the Yorkshire Association trust that many towers will make a note of this date, and wherever possible try to fix up their annual ringing excursion to Scarborough for the occasion. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to Archdeacon Lindsey for his kindness to the ringers, as well as for his helpful and inspiring address, and to Mr. Peck and the local ringers for the genial hospitality extended to the visiting ringers.

GRAMOPHONE BELL RECORDS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Reverting to the correspondence in relation to the above, the writer would like to point out that he took a record on a wax cylinder in or about the year 1895, on an Edison phonograph, very much to the fore at that time. A touch could not be accomplished, so a course of Bob Minor was tried, and apparently with success.

I fear, however, your correspondent is under a misapprehension when he states 'a gramophone record' in or about the year he mentions. The process of taking a record on a gramophone was not in existence, and I do not think it is possible to-day, it being generally recognised that to take a record on a gramophone is a secret process. I believe the Columbia firm manufactured the phonograph under licence in the year above mentioned.

I still hold that record, and I believe, in the absence of bruises and scratches it might still be of interest to 'listen in,' and when a phonograph is available I shall have the pleasure of producing the record (a course of Bob Minor on bells which will be nameless for the time being) at some ringers' meeting. At the time of reproducing the record it met with appreciation, and a record was taken of handbell ringing. This, and the foregoing, have received compliments from noted ringers in the years now past. It is generally acknowledged that gramophones have had none other than flat discs.

When the cobwebs, etc., have made their departure, I hope to report its behaviour through the medium of your useful journal. Meanwhile, I shall remain a youth as in EIGHTEEN NINETY-FIVE.

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NOTICES.

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ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — Established 1637.—Meeting for practice will be held at *St. Paul's Cathedral, March 25th, at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Framlingham District.—A practice meeting will be held at Laxfield on Saturday, March 22nd. Bells available from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.—J. Hall, Dis. Sec., College Road, Framlingham.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Wotton-under-Edge Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Coaley on Saturday, March 22nd. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, by invitation, at 5 o'clock. Business meeting to follow.—W. A. Lewis, Branch Hon. Sec., Ham, Berkeley, Glos.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Central Division.—The annual meeting will be held at East Grinstead on Saturday, March 22nd. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea (by kind invitation) 5, followed by business meeting.—A. D. Stone, 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Ludlow and Church Stretton District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Tenbury on Saturday, March 22nd. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m., service 4.30. Tea and-business meeting to follow. — P. Lane, Dis. Hon. Sec., 19, Castle View, Ludlow.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—A meeting of this branch will be held at Sapcote on Saturday, March 22nd. Bells (6) available 4 p.m. All ringers welcome.—F. Cotton, Local Hon. Sec., Hinckley.

BRISTOL UNITED GUILDS.—The next social will be held at Saturday, March 22nd. Ringing, St. Mary Redcliffe, 3.30 p.m. Tea at St. Thomas' Church Room 5 p.m. Social and dance to follow. Historical documents of St. Thomas' on view, by kind permission. Everyone invited.—Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Bromham on Saturday, March 22nd. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—L. Turner, Dis. Sec., 7, High Street, Kempston.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The annual meeting of this division will be held at Horsham on Saturday, March 22nd. Bells available from 2.30. Tea, at the Queen's Head, at 5 o'clock.—A. W. Groves, 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

TIVERTON.—The bells of St. Peter's, after being recast and rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Exeter at the 11 o'clock service on March 23rd, and there will be a ringing festival on Easter Monday. Particulars later.—Richard Grater.

PARISH CHURCH, COALBROOKDALE, SALOP.—Bellringers' Sermons.—On Sunday, March 23, special sermons will be preached—in the morning by the Rev. C. S. Jackson, Rector of Willey, in the evening by the Rev. W. A. Warner, Rector of Broseley. Holy Communion 8 a.m., Matins 11 a.m., Evensong 6.30. There will be a musical service in the afternoon at 3 in which the following will take part: The Broseley Quartette Party, Miss Elsie Broome (contralto), Miss Malcolm (violinist), local handbell ringers, the choir and Mr. Wallace Wall (organist). The offertories will be given to the ringers who receive no other remuneration for their services. Donations will be gratefully received by the Rev. Preb. C. B. Crowe (Vicar), the Churchwardens or Mr. William Saunders.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting and 8-bell contest will be held at Low Moor on Saturday, March 29th. Draw for order of ringing at 2.45 p.m. Tea will be provided at 1s. 6d. each to those who send word to me by March 24th.—L. Hargreaves, Hon. Sec., 30, Bankfield View, Halifax.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Saviour's Church, Bolton, on Saturday, March 29th. Bells from 5 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m. Business: Annual outing.—Peter Crook, Sec., 201, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—A meeting of the above association will be held on Saturday, March 29th. Ringing at Trowel from 2 to 3 p.m. At 3 p.m. prompt those present will commence a tour of the Stanton Hill Iron Works and the new Huime Pipe Plant, by the kindness of the officials; then on to Stanton-by-Dale for tea at 5.30. Stanton bells will be open from 2.30 to 8.30 p.m. Will those requiring tea please send their names to Mr. E. C. Gobey, 23, Shaw Street, Ilkeston, not later than Thursday, March 27th?—F. Blood, Hon. Local Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—A monthly meeting of the above will be held at Ashbourne on Saturday, March 29th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Members make their own arrangements for tea. All ringers welcome.—G. Cecil Wallace, Local Hon. Secretary.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A district meeting will be held at Merrow and Clandon on Saturday, March 29th. Merrow bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service in Merrow Church at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Clandon bells available during the evening.—E. Raddon, Hon. Dis. Sec., 'Hillcrest,' Baillie Road, Guildford.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Barton Sea-grave (5) on Saturday, March 29th. Usual arrangements. Will those requiring tea please notify me on or before Tuesday, March 25th?—R. G. Black, Branch Sec., Stamford Road, Geddington.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Arksey on March 29th. Bells (8) ready early. Tea only provided for those who notify me before the 26th. The annual subscription is now due, and tower secretaries are asked to collect the same from their members and to forward the total to me as early as possible.—Harold Walker, Hon. Sec., 3, Beech Crescent, Old Hexthorpe, Doncaster.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Poulton (6 bells) on Saturday, March 29th. Bells ready 3 p.m.—C. Sharples, Branch Secretary, 3, Rutland Gate, Blackpool.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilborough Branch.—A monthly meeting will be held at Creton on Saturday, March 29th. Usual arrangements. Will those requiring tea please notify me by the 27th?—W. Bott, Hon. Dist. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Chippenham on Saturday, April 5th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m.—H. A. Hearl, Branch Hon. Sec., 5, The Knoll, Swindon.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meetings for April: Bishopsgate, Monday, 7th, 7.30 p.m.; St. Clement Danes, Sunday, 6th, 10 a.m., Monday, 14th, 6.30 p.m., Monday, 28th, 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting to follow.—J. Bullock, Hon. Sec., 56, Halliford Street.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual General Committee Meeting.—This meeting will be held in Chapter House, Christ Church, Oxford, on Saturday, April 12th, at 3.15 p.m. Notice of motion should reach general secretary at least ten days before that date.—R. T. Hibbert, Hon. Sec., Warren House, St. Peter's Avenue, Caversham.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The Annual General meeting will be at Nottingham on Easter Monday, April 21st. Nominations for President, Hon. Treasurer and Hon. Secretary for ensuing year, and for four representatives on Central Council for next three years should reach me one month before the above date.—A. C. Wright, Hon. Sec., Strathallan, Darley Dale, Derbyshire.

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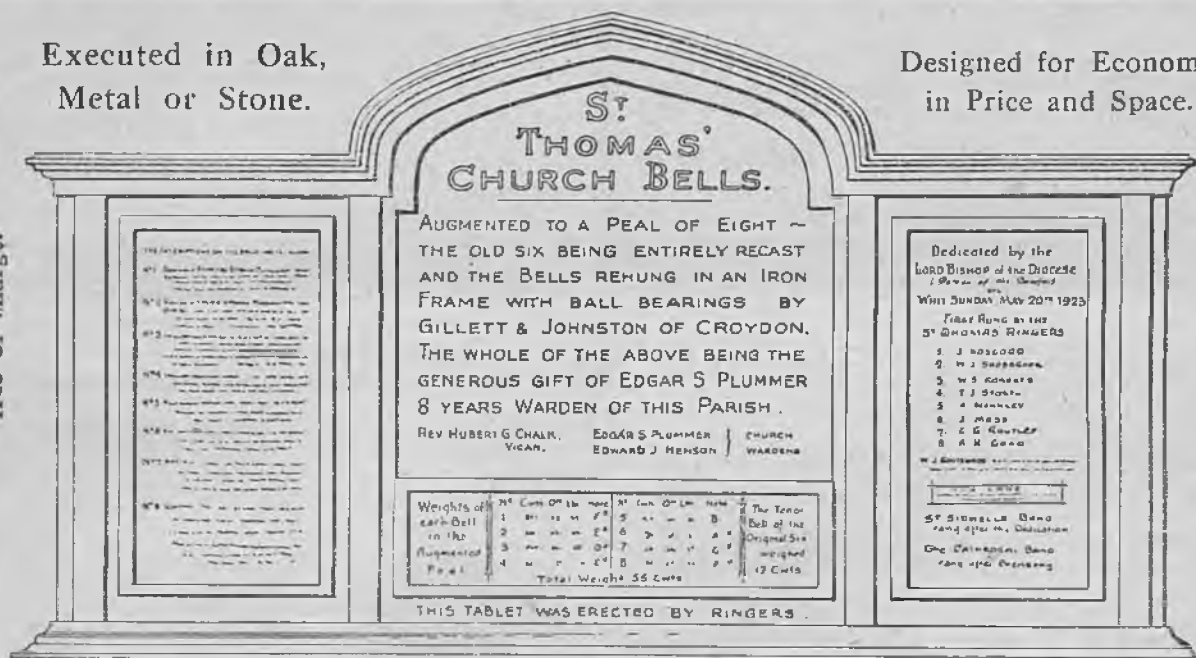
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