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GILLETT AND JOHNSTON CROYDON

Established 1844



The Recast Ring of 10 (Tenor 28 cwt.) for
MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL, Nov., 1925

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NOISY BELLS AND FAST RINGING.

Two points in connection with bell ringing have recently been brought prominently to notice, and both have a bearing with regard to the public. The first and most important is that relating to the noise of the bells in the immediate vicinity of some towers. This is an old subject, but it is one to which more attention should be given than is at present the case, especially in populous areas. All ringers of experience know of numerous instances where, admittedly, the public living near the church are treated to far more noise than they need be, merely from the fact that the bells swing on the level of the louvres, which throw the sound down on to the innocent heads of those just round about the tower, and it is from this, almost entirely, that the complaints about bell ringing arise, resulting in outbursts in the press and other forms of condemnation. To be frank, we, as ringers, cannot afford to ignore the just complaints of the public. We must move with the times, and in nine cases out of ten there is a simple remedy at hand. The blocking up of the louvres entirely (allowing the sound to escape through the spire) or to a height above the level of the bells when ringing, is an effective means of reducing or removing annoyance to those outside. It is a remedy known to everybody connected with bells, and yet it is constantly neglected. It is not necessarily a costly matter, and yet there are churches we know of where ringing is almost barred on account of the noise, but where the church authorities will not go to the expense of a few pounds which would put an end to all reasonable cause of complaint. Ringers should bring the strongest pressure to bear on church authorities, wherever it is necessary, to secure the provision of such slight structural work as would ensure this end.

The second point is in regard to the speed at which bells are rung. With many ringers one of the chief anxieties seems to be to get the bells along as quickly as possible. Some of the finest peals rung in the past have been distinguished for their 'bold and regular striking,' and it is to be regretted that some ringers of to-day do not emulate that style of ringing. As we have previously had occasion to remark, it is not 'the quickest peal on the bells' that merits most praise, but the 'best peal.' And what applies to peals, applies also to everyday ringing. Bells rung too fast give out a torrent of sound which is too confusing to the ear to be pleasant, and this is especially so in the case of bells with modern harmonic tuning. The public do not appreciate fast ringing as they do the 'bold and regular striking,' and ringers would do well to bear this in mind, for, after all, the public are their audience, and they should seek to

(Continued on page 754.)

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give them all the pleasure they can. Modern bell hanging, with bells hung on ball bearings, increases the tendency to fast ringing, but this speedy running of the bells is, we feel sure, a mistake which needs to be seriously considered.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

OXHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 9, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION.

Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb.

CHARLES SHARPLES Treble	FRANCIS SMITH 5
HERBERT DIX 2	FREDERICK W. ELLIOTT 6
HAROLD CASHMORE 3	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW 7
HENRY HODGETTS 4	CECIL KAZER Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW.

Arranged for Charles Sharples, who hails from Blackpool.

ROLVENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 11, 1925, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

*CYRIL W. A. BROWN Treble	WILLIAM P. TICKNER 5
MRS. BAKER 2	WILLIAM BOTTON 6
CHARLES TRIBE 3	WILLIAM WENBAN 7
HARRY BAKER 4	ALFRED BATTEN Tenor

Conducted by W. WENBAN.

Rung half-muffled in memory of those who lost their lives in the Great War. * First peal.

HIGHAM FERRERS, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 14, 1925, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

Tenor 22 cwt. 3 qr. 17 lb.

MISS KITTY MOORE Treble	JOHN R. MAIN 5
*JOHN KING 2	ANDERSON Y. TYLER 6
HARRY BAXTER 3	C. ARTHUR MANNING 7
GEORGE BASFORD 4	ROBERT G. BLACK Tenor

Conducted by C. ARTHUR MANNING.

* First peal in the method.

BARNWOOD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 14, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt.

*H. DANIELS Treble	F. T. WAITE 5
A. HANNIS 2	*W. C. JONES 6
ALFRED A. WAITE 3	F. COLE 7
T. BALDWIN 4	J. A. WAITE Tenor

Composed by T. HURRY.

Conducted by J. A. WAITE

* First peal of Major, and first attempt. A. A. and F. T. Waite have each now rung every bell in this tower to a peal.

DRIGHLINGTON, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 14, 1925, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

ALFRED WINDSOR Treble	JOSEPH BROADLEY 5
GEORGE W. STEEL 2	FREDERICK W. DIXON 6
GEORGE BARRACLOUGH 3	WILLIAM E. ASH 7
ARTHUR WALKER 4	FRANCIS BARKER Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

Conducted by F. W. DIXON.

Rung as a birthday compliment to A. Windsor

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 14, 1925, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5086 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

JAMES GOODSSELL Treble	* PHILIP S. THOMPSON 5
REG. E. LAMBERT 2	FREDK. J. LAMBERT, JUN. 6
* HAROLD S. HODDEN 3	ROBERT T. LAMBERT 7
* ALBERT HODDEN 4	ALBERT E. EDWARDS Tenor

Composed by C. H. MARTIN.

Conducted by A. E. EDWARDS.

* First peal of Major.

LONG STANTON, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 14, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes.

At the Church of All Saints.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.

REV. H. B. WOOLLEY Treble	CHRISTOPHER R. WOOLLEY 5
HAROLD J. HAZELL 2	FRANK WARRINGTON 6
* MISS KITTY WILLERS 3	GEORGE E. CRISP 7
FRANCIS G. GLEAVES 4	CHARLES W. COOK Tenor

Composed by YORK GREEN.

Conducted by CHARLES W. COOK.

* First peal in the method.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 14, 1925, in Three Hours & Twenty-Two Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary and All Saints.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

THOMAS J. SALTER Treble	WILLIAM RANFORD 5
ROBERT MATTHEWS 2	SIDNEY T. HOLT 6
JOHN BASS 3	ERNEST J. BROOKS 7
ROBERT G. KNOWLES 4	CHARLES CAMM Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by CHARLES CAMM.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, November 16, 1925, in Three Hours and Three Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

GEORGE WHITING Treble	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY 5
LESLIE G. BRETT 2	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN 6
GEORGE BENNETT 3	WILLIAM T. LAST 7
C.S.M. J. BENNETT, R.M. 4	ERNEST E. GRIMES Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER.

Conducted by GEORGE WHITING.

TAUNTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 16, 1925, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes.

At the Church of St. James.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

ALFRED J. WYATT Treble	* SAMUEL J. EVERY 5
* WILLIAM H. TARR 2	* HENRY BOSLEY 6
SYDNEY WYATT 3	JAMES HUNT 7
WILLIAM H. COLES 4	PERCY MERSON Tenor

Conducted by JAMES HUNT.

* First peal of Stedman; the tenor man has completed the circle in this tower.

KIDLINGTON, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, November 17, 1925, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION.

Tenor 23½ cwt.

FREDERICK WEBB Treble	JOHN SIMON 5
* FRANK TOFFREY 2	* FREDERICK SELWYN 6
MAURICE SMITH 3	WALTER F. JUDGE 7
JACK JUDGE 4	THOMAS IMPEY Tenor

Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

* First peal. † First peal in the method.

LLANDUDNO.

THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 14, 1925, in Three Hours and One Minute.

At Holy Trinity Church.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

* EDMUND LODGE Treble	JESSE POULETT 5
ALBERT J. HUGHES 2	ALLEN FAIRLIE 6
THOMAS R. HENSHER 3	WILLIAM T. PEGLER 7
* SYDNEY T. R. BROWN 4	ARTHUR E. PEGLER Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM T. PEGLER.

* First peal. First peal on the bells since they were rehung on ball bearings by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., consequently the 'go' leaves nothing to be desired.

SMETHWICK, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, November 14, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes.

At the Old Church.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

* MISS OLIVE G. FARROW Treble	WILLIAM GREEN 5
SAMUEL J. HUGHES 2	GILBERT GUEST 6
JOHN PRICE 3	JOHN GOODMAN, JUN. 7
PERCY HACKETT 4	WILFRED L. FARROW Tenor

Conducted by JOHN GOODMAN, JUN.

* First peal, and first attempt. Rung as a welcome to the new Vicar (the Rev. Stanley Harold Astbury), who was inducted to the living on the previous day.

STAINES, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 14, 1925, in Three Hours and Two Minutes.

At the Church of St. Peter.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

* ERNEST J. GOATER Treble	JOHN PHILIPS 5
ARTHUR CROSS 2	WILLIAM C. PARKER 6
† ALFRED J. HISCOCK 3	JAMES R. MACKMAN 7
† GORDON WALMSLEY 4	FREDERICK W. SMITH Tenor

Conducted by JAMES R. MACKMAN.

† First peal inside. * First peal.

BATH.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 19, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes.

At the Church of St. Saviour.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

ALFRED E. REEVES Treble	WILLIAM KNIGHT 5
FREDERICK G. LEAKER 2	WILLIAM A. CAVE 6
ARTHUR PRINCE 3	SAMUEL J. HECIOR 7
CHARLES W. BELL 4	THOMAS HOGSFLESH Tenor

Composed by REV. H. EARLE BULWER. Conducted by W. A. CAVE.

Charles W. Bell's 100th peal. First peal of Stedman on the bells.

QUEENSBURY, BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 21, 1925, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes.

At the Church of the Holy Trinity.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

CECIL DRAKE Treble	WILLIAM BARTON 5
HAROLD PEARCE 2	EDGAR WHITELEY 6
FRED HUTTON 3	JOHN AMBLER 7
WILLIAM AMBLER 4	VERNEY BAIRSTOW Tenor

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Master Ernest Ambler, son of the 4th ringer. Ringers of 5th and 7th are from Pudsey; tenor from Wenhelme; the rest are members of the local company.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

GREAT HAMPTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Sunday, November 8, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
At the Church of St. Andrew.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

*DENIS PERRY Treble	†ERNEST ANDREWS 4
THOMAS EDWIN 2	†JAMES BRADLEY 5
*WILFRED NEWMAN 3	*GEORGE MOORE Tenor

Conducted by JAMES BRADLEY.

* First peal. † First peal away from the treble. ‡ First peal as conductor. Rung half-muffled on Remembrance Sunday. All the ringers belong to the local band.

RADSTOCK, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 11, 1925, in Two Hours & Thirty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Nicholas.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 12 six-scores of Plain Bob and 30 of Grandsire. Tenor 9 cwt.

EDWARD BRADFELD Treble	RONALD BECK 4
EDWARD PAIN 2	HARRY PRODT 4
THOMAS M. GRIFFIN Tenor	

Conducted by RONALD BECK.

Rung for Armistice Day.

KEMPSTON, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 11, 1925, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, College Exercise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

ARTHUR WALLER, R.E. ... Treble	EDMUND J. HOBBS, G. Guards 4
ALFRED DOLLIN, R.A.F. ... 2	PEARL INSKIP, R.E. ... 5
NOEL WILES, Tanks ... 3	HORACE H. SMITH, 2nd Beds Tenor

Conducted by PEARL INSKIP.

Rung half-muffled in memory of the men who fell in the war. First peal on the bells since they were rehung.

COUND, SHROPSHIRE.

(THE ST. CHAD'S SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, November 14, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Oxford Bob, Grandsire and Plain Bob.

Tenor 11½ cwt. in F.

JAMES EVANS Treble	JAMES E. LILLEY 4
CHARLES LEE 2	WILLIAM B. KYNASTON ... 5
WILLIAM SHORT 3	CHARLES R. LILLEY Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

First peal on the bells, which have been rehung by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. All the above ringers are from St. Chad's, Salop.

BRAUGHTON-IN-FURNESS, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FURNESS & LAKE DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 14, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's each called differently.

HARRY CASSON Treble	*MISS EMMA BUTTERFIELD 4
WILLIAM T. CLARK 2	FURNESS WOODEND 5
EDMUND THOMPSON 3	WILLIAM ROBINSON Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM ROBINSON.

* First peal. Arranged for Miss Butterfield, of Ulverston. The treble ringer is from Kirkby; 2nd and 3rd local; 5th from Brathay; tenor from Ambleside.

HEIGHINGTON, Nr. DARLINGTON.—On Thursday, Oct. 15th, for harvest festival, at St. Michael's Church, 336 London Surprise Minor. Also 840 Wells' Surprise Minor: J. T. Titt 1, W. Oliver 2, R. Park 3, F. W. Lupson 4, W. N. Park 5, G. W. Park (conductor) 6.

BRAUNSTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 14, 1925, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising seven different 720's. Tenor 17 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb.

FREDERICK W. ROWLEDGE ... Treble	BERTIE O. SODEN 4
FRANK ROLLINGS 2	THOMAS LAW 5
THOMAS H. WISE 3	TOM TEBBUTT Tenor

Conducted by TOM TEBBUTT.

First peal on the bells, and rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 5th.

HARESFIELD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Sunday, November 15, 1924, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE & ST. DUNSTAN'S DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THOMAS BALDWIN Treble	BERT JONES 4
ALBERT WRIGHT 2	JOHN BALLINGER 5
GEORGE ORCHARD 3	WILLIAM JONES Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

Rung after meeting short for Minor.

SHARESHILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thursday, November 19, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

With ten different callings.

Tenor 9 cwt.

†ROBERT PICKERING Treble	ALBERT G. HUNT 4
JOHN PERRY 2	†EDWARD F. MITCHELL ... 5
THOMAS PERRY 3	*HOWARD BUTLER Tenor

Conducted by JOHN PERRY.

First peal on the bells, and rung as a welcome to the Rev. W. Walkerdine, who was inducted as Vicar of the above parish on Nov. 4th. * First peal, and a member of the local band and was proposed a member of the society previous to starting for the peal.

† First peal of Doubles. ‡ First peal of Doubles on tower bells.

KINGSLEY, STAFFS.

THE STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 21, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes.

At the Church of St. Werburgh.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents taken from 'Rope sight.' Tenor 12 cwt.

*THOMAS HAWLEY Treble	*JOHN BARKER 4
HENRY CARNWELL 2	WILLIAM CARNWELL 5
JOHN G. CARTLEDGE 3	ARTHUR W. HALL Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR W. HALL.

* First peal. First as conductor. Also first peal in the method by all.

HANDBELL PEAL.

OLD HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 21, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Residence of Mr. Albert E. Parsons,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5017 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 17 in B flat

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

Composed by FRANK W. PERRENS. Conducted by G. F. SWANS.

Referee: MR. ALBERT E. PARSONS.

The band thank Mr. and Mrs. Parsons for their very kind hospitality and entertainment after the peal.

HORNSEY, N.—On Oct. 12th, at St. Mary's Church, 720 Bob Minor, in 27 mins.: G. Northcott (first 720 in the method) 1, J. G. Nash 2, H. Blee 3, T. G. Deal 4, A. Putland 5, C. H. Ross (conductor) 6. Also 720 Kent Treble Bob, in 28 mins.: H. Blee 1, T. G. Deal 2, E. G. Hibble 3, J. G. Nash 4, A. Putland 5, C. H. Ross (conductor) 6.

THE DEATH OF THE QUEEN MOTHER.

MUFFLED BELLS THROUGHOUT THE LAND.

'The church bells of England, above the noise of cities, or the quiet of villages, spoke as no other voices could of the joys, sorrows, tumults, troubles and thanksgivings of our common lives.'

In these words the Archbishop of York, at the dedication at Carlisle Cathedral, described the manner in which the bells of this country interpret the feelings of the community on all national occasions, and the muffled bells which poured their mournful sounds from the steeples of England on Saturday and Sunday surely struck a chord in harmony with the spirit of the nation at the passing of the Queen-Mother, whose death has touched the nation as that of few others has done. Wherever ringing was done on Saturday, whether at meetings or for peals, the clappers were muffled, and on Sunday service ringing was universally carried out in the same sad but impressive manner.

Queen Alexandra, it is said, was a lover of bells. Rung in the English fashion, they were strange to her when she landed on these shores in 1863, but their welcome was one of the things which struck her when first she came to the country which was so long to be her home, and she is credited with describing the sounds of the bells as 'angel music.'

Following the usual custom, the great bell at St. Paul's Cathedral was tolled for an hour on Friday evening. This bell is only used in this way on the death of a member of the royal family, or of a Bishop of London, a Dean of St. Paul's or a Lord Mayor who dies during his year of office. The last occasion on which its tolling was heard over the city was on the occasion of the death of King Edward VII., and now it has sounded for the passing of his gracious consort.

Immediately the news of Queen Alexandra's death became known the Rector of St. Clement Danes (Rev. W. Pennington Bickford) got together members of his ringing society, and the bells of the famous Strand church were rung muffled for her, who, seven years before, had opened the bells after their restoration.

Many muffled peals were rung on Saturday—not all of them specially arranged, of course—but wherever ringers met to pursue their art, muffles were put on the bells not only as a tribute of the ringers to the departed royal lady, but also as a mark of the public mourning.

MEMORIAL PEALS.

The following peals have been rung with muffled bells as a tribute of love and respect to the Queen Mother:—

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 21, 1925, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5043 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

Mrs. W. H. THOMAS... .. Treble	REGINALD G. GILBERT ... 6
HENRY PRING 2	WILLIAM A. CAVE 7
WILLIAM H. THOMAS... .. 3	WILLIAM KNIGHT 8
CHARLES H. JENNINGS ... 4	JOHN A. BURFORD 9
RICHARD CLARK 5	URIAH BRAVEN Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM A. CAVE.

Rung with the bells half-muffled.

LEICESTER.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, November 21, 1925, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21½ cwt.

JOSIAH MORRIS Treble	WILLIAM WILLSON 6
SHIRLEY BURTON... .. 2	JOSEPH S. CARTER 7
GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS ... 3	*JOHN H. DREWERY 8
REDVERS F. ELKINGTON ... 4	†ERNEST MORRIS... .. 9
E. HARRY STONELEY 5	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN A. BURFORD. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

Rung with bells half-muffled. First peal of Surprise Royal for the above Guild. * First Surprise Royal peal. † First of Surprise Royal as conductor. The composition is now rung for the first time.

CARLISLE.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION AND NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL GUILD.

On Saturday, November 21, 1925, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 21 cwt.

CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE ... Treble	JOSEPH E. R. KEEN 5
ARTHUR PAYNE 2	WILLIAM W. SINCLAIR ... 6
JOSEPH ROWELL 3	WILLIAM H. BARBER 7
RICHARD THOMPSON, JUN... 4	JOHN FORMAN Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM H. BARBER.

Rung, muffled, in memory of the late Queen Mother. The first peal of Stedman in the county of Cumberland, and the first peal on this historic peal of bells, which have just been reorganised and rehung.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 21, 1925, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in B.

*DAVID COLLINS... .. Treble	†PERCIVAL A. ALDHAM ... 5
GEORGE A. NEWTON... .. 2	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 6
WILLIAM THORLEY 3	WILLIAM H. CLARKE 7
THOMAS K. DEACON 4	†LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD... Tenor

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire Triples on an 'inside' bell. ‡ 25th peal. The conductor's 25th peal on the bells. Rung with the bells half-muffled.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, November 21, 1925, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt. in E.

GEORGE WILSON... .. Treble	FREDK. J. SMITH 5
ALFRED KEEBLE 2	ERNEST S. BAILEY 6
JAMES M. BAILEY 3	JAMES G. RUMSEY 7
GEORGE BAILEY 4	CHARLES F. BAILEY Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by CHAS. F. BAILEY.

Rung with muffled clappers.

BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 21, 1925, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

RENNIE HARTLEY Treble	*WALTER STEPHENSON ... 5
HERBERT WORMWELL... .. 2	EDWIN OGDEN 6
WILLIAM MCCLEAVE 3	HARRY ENTWISTLE 7
WILLIAM ROBINSON 4	WILLIAM H. HUNTER ... Tenor

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL. Conducted by W. H. HUNTER.

Rung with the bells muffled. First peal on the bells after being recast. First peal in the method as conductor. * First peal on an inside bell.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 21, 1925, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

LIONEL J. CULLUM Treble	ROBERT BRETT SMITH... .. 5
EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. 2	CYRIL BRETT SMITH 6
FREDERICK A. COLEY 3	ERNEST B. CROWDER... .. 7
JOHN S. MORTON 4	FREDERICK J. CULLUM, JUN. Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by E. BARNETT, SEN.
The bells were rung half-muffled. * First peal of Major.

EWELL, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 21, 1925, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PISTOW'S VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb. in F sharp.

ALFRED H. PULLING Treble	JOHN BEAMS... .. 5
HENRY HUTTON 2	C.O.M.S. G. GILBERT, R.E. 6
JOHN HOWES 3	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE... .. 7
JOHN A. COLE 4	OLIVER SIFFETTS... .. Tenor

Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

Rung with the bells fully muffled for Queen Alexandra. Also for Mr. Walker, a loyal supporter of the church.

KINGSWINFORD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM AND THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 21, 1925, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt. 23 lb.

THOMAS J. SALTER Treble	WILLIAM SHORT 5
JOSEPH PIGOTT 2	SAMUEL GROVE 6
JOHN BASS 3	JOHN SMITH 7
CHARLES R. LILLEY 4	ROBERT MATTHEWS Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.

Rung with the bells half-muffled. First peal of Surprise on the bells.

WISTASTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 21, 1925, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Plain Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob, and two of Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 6 cwt. 6 lb.

FRED H. CRAWLEY Treble	ALBERT CRAWLEY 4
ALBERT BOOTH 2	JOHN S. ROYLE 5
GEORGE H. CRAWLEY... .. 3	HARRY PARKER Tenor

Conducted by HARRY PARKER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled. First peal in three methods by all the band and on the bells. Ringers of 2nd, 5th and tenor hail from Davenham; 3rd from Crewe; treble and 4th belong to local band.

DEEPING ST. NICHOLAS.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 21, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's in eight methods, viz.: Single and Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Plain Bob, Double Court, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 6½ cwt.

WILLIAM TILLEY... .. Treble	HORACE M. DAY 4
MISS PHYLLIS HARE 2	JOSEPH LONDON 5
WILLIAM ROSE 3	ARTHUR RIGGALL... .. Tenor

Conducted by H. M. DAY.

Rung with the bells muffled.

GREAT BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, November 21, 1925, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF BOB M'NOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of seven extents, each called differently.

Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.) in G.

EDWARD LARGE Treble	HARRY N. WAY 4
LOUIS S. GRIFFITHS 2	GEORGE E. LARGE 5
SYDNEY ELTON... .. 3	FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

Rung with the bells half-muffled.

KEMPSTON, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 21, 1925, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London, Wells, Lancashire, Stamford, York, Durham, Cambridge.

PEARL INSKIP Treble	CHARLES WM. CLARKE 4
MISS EVELYN STEEL 2	EDMUND J. HOBBS 5
HORACE H. SMITH 3	WILLIAM STAPLETON Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM STAPLETON.

Rung with the bells half-muffled.

MEETINGS POSTPONED.

The following meetings, which were to have been held to-morrow (Saturday) have been postponed or abandoned:—

Ladies' Guild, Central District, at Willesden, postponed to Dec. 12th.

Herts Association, at Bushey, postponed to Dec. 12th.

Winchester Diocesan Guild, Isle of Wight District, at Brading, postponed to Dec. 12th.

Winchester Diocesan Guild, Guildford District, at Guildford, postponed to Dec. 5th.

Midland Counties Association, Nottingham District, at Wollaton, abandoned.

Peterborough Diocesan Guild, Peterborough District, at Castor, postponed.

Lancashire Association, Bolton Branch, postponed to Dec. 5th.

RANG WHEN THE QUEEN ENTERED LONDON.

Mr. Joseph Waghorn, of East Ham, still hale and hearty, and, happily, active among us, was handling the ropes when Queen Alexandra entered London in 1863. He would like to know if there are now any other old ringers in London who did the same.

RANG FOR QUEEN VICTORIA'S DEATH.

In connection with the peal rung at St. Stephen's, Bristol, it is interesting to know that five of the band (Messrs. H. Pring, R. Clark, W. A. Cave, W. Knight and J. A. Burford) took part in a muffled peal of Double Norwich on the same bells on the day after the death of Queen Victoria, nearly a quarter of a century ago.

MUFFLED TOUCHES.

One of the first muffled touches rung was at St. John's Church, Hoylandswaine, Yorks, where, on Friday evening, with deeply muffled bells, 720 Bob Minor was brought round: W. Chappell 1, F. Broadhead 2, W. Marsden 3, E. Robinson 4, S. Fielding 5, E. Brooke (conductor) 6.

It will be impossible, we are afraid, to record in our columns all the ringing done for this mournful occasion, but below are given the particulars of some of the other touches:—

NEWPORT, MON.—On Saturday, Nov. 21st, at All Saints' Church, a peal of Stedman Triples, half-muffled, was attempted and lost after ringing over half-way. Before the morning service on Sunday, Nov. 22nd, 1,008 Stedman Triples, half-muffled: H. Ridout 1, A. E. Morgan (conductor) 2, J. W. Jones 3, G. Day 4, H. Morgan 5, F. Chapman 6, J. Hammond 7, H. Forbes 8; and before the evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), in 50 mins.: H. Ridout 1, T. Foord 2, J. W. Jones 3, A. E. Morgan 4, G. Day 5, F. Chapman 6, J. Hammond (conductor) 7, H. Forbes 8.

HESTON, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday morning, Nov. 22nd, for service, with the bells muffled, except tenor, which was half-muffled, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. Mackman 1, W. H. Hollier 2, H. C. Chandler 3, C. S. Bird 4, C. I. Edwards 5, E. R. Gladman 6, J. R. Mackman (conductor) 7, S. Rose 8.

SANDHURST, BERKS.—On Sunday, Nov. 22nd, for morning service, with bells half-muffled, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Miss C. Newhouse 1, C. Riches 2, C. Barlow 3, E. Barlow 4, G. Englefield (conductor) 5, J. Moth 6.

SOUTHAMPTON.—At St. Mary's Church, for evening service, on Nov. 22nd, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): Roy Curtis 1, J. W. Faithfull 2, A. Newman 3, F. Mursell 4, F. White 5, H. Reeves (conductor) 6, F. Blondell 7, A. Reid 8.

ROTHERHITHE.—On Sunday, Nov. 22nd, for evening service, at St. Mary's Church, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: W. M. Eyles (first quarter-peal inside) 1, S. C. Moye 2, F. W. Chorley 3, H. Dyas 4, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 5, G. J. Harman 6, W. Berry 7, L. Bayliss 8.

WICKEN, NORTHANTS.—On Sunday, Nov. 22nd, for evening service, with half-muffled clappers, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: F. C. Case 1, C. Read 2, L. Smith 3, D. Chexfield 4, T. Roberts 5, G. Cooper 6, T. Read 7, A. J. Green (conductor) 8.

TUNSTALL, KENT.—On Sunday, Nov. 22nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), with the bells fully muffled (except the tenor, which was open on one side): Mrs. F. H. Spice 1, W. Spice, sen., 2, W. Spice, jun., 3, G. Eastman 4, H. E. Simpson (conductor) 5, W. Burley 6, E. H. Spice 7, G. Wilkins 8.

CONISBOROUGH, YORKS.—On Sunday, Nov. 22nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins.: J. Rands 1, G. Jackson (Doncaster) 2, M. Fowler 3, P. Gledson 4, F. Lewis 5, O. Greathead 6, H. Walker (Doncaster), conductor, 7, R. Sarsby 8. Arranged and rung, with muffled clappers, to the memory of her late Majesty Queen Alexandra, and also in memory of the victims of the M 1 disaster.

RICKMANSWORTH.—On Sunday, Nov. 22nd, at the Parish Church, for evening service, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), in 48 mins.: J. B. Marks 1, C. Lord 2, J. E. Jones 3, G. Foster 4, E. Hookham 5, W. Elliott 6, J. H. R. Freeborn (conductor) 7, T. Reeves 8. First quarter-peal of Stedman Triples ever rung in Rickmansworth by a local band, and first quarter-peal in the method by ringers of 2nd, 4th, 5th and tenor.

SELBY ABBEY, YORKSHIRE.—On Sunday, Nov. 22nd, with bells fully muffled, excepting the tenor, which was half-muffled, for morning service, 395 Grandsire Caters.—For evensong, a quarter-peal of 1,257 Stedman Caters, in 54 mins.: J. W. Hall 1, R. Fenton 2, F. W. Hinto 3, T. Morgan 4, H. S. Morley 5, E. Storr 6, F. Cryer 7, G. W. P. Fenton 8, H. Fairlam (conductor) 9, T. Strudwick 10.

BRISTOL.—On Saturday, Nov. 21st, at the Church of SS. Philip and Jacob, with the bells muffled, a quarter-peal of Cambridge Surprise Major (1,344 changes): Mrs. E. J. Brown 1, Miss A. Brown 2, F. W. Wade 3, E. J. Brown (conductor) 4, P. C. Williams 5, R. C. Seager 6, F. E. Tyler 7, I. Long 8.

HANDSWORTH, SHEFFIELD.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, Nov. 22nd, with the bells muffled, for morning service, two short touches of Stedman Triples; and for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), in 50 mins. *Miss N. Cawthorne 1, Miss E. Hopkin 2, H. Bower 3, †F. Cardwell 4, J. Garth 5, W. H. Taylor 6, F. Watkinson (conductor) 7, *H. Taylor 8. * First quarter-peal of Stedman. † First on an inside bell. All are members of the local company except the ringer of the 3rd.

BRISTOL.—On Sunday, Nov. 22nd, at St. Michael's, City, before the morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, with the bells half-muffled: S. Isaacs 1, F. Headford (first quarter-peal) 2, A. Lea 3, A. Lake 4, G. Tudball (first quarter-peal as conductor) 5, F. Maine 6.

DEEPING, ST. NICHOLAS.—At the Parish Church of St. Nicholas, for evensong, on Sunday, Nov. 22nd, with bells half-muffled, 720 Plain Bob, in 24 mins.: A. Cummins 1, F. Duffy 2, H. Taylor 3, F. Taylor 4, H. Willerton 5, A. Riggall (conductor) 6.

CARDIFF.—At St. John's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 45 mins., with the bells half-muffled, after an attempt for a peal, which failed after 2 hours and 9 minutes' ringing: L. Strong (first quarter-peal) 1, F. Smith 2, J. Davies 3, G. Large 4, W. Heath 5, A. Parnell 6, E. Coombes (conductor) 7, S. R. Barker 8.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, Nov. 22nd, for early celebration, at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, 720 Kent Treble Bob, rung half-muffled: W. Henagough 1, W. Finch 2, G. Stace 3, W. Harris 4, F. A. H. Wilkins 5, W. H. B. Wilkins (conductor) 6.—For men's service, in the afternoon, at the Church of St. Aldate, 720 Kent Treble Bob was rung half-muffled: W. Henagough 1, W. Collett 2, R. Chaundy 3, H. Tolley 4, F. Clinkard 5, W. H. B. Wilkins (conductor) 6.

BURFORD, OXON.—On Sunday, Nov. 22nd, at the Parish Church, for evensong, with the bells half-muffled, 1,260 Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins.: *W. Dixon 1, A. Bishop 2, W. Bransdon 3, R. Hudson 4, F. Soden 5, *H. Terry 6, T. Bond (conductor) 7, C. Cook 8. † First quarter-peal in the method.

HYTHE, KENT.—On Sunday, Nov. 22nd, for service, with the bells half-muffled, in the morning, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A. Swan 1, W. Bidnell, sen., 2, W. Bidnell, jun., 3, R. J. Birch 4, A. Wratten (conductor) 5, A. R. Manning 6, S. A. Gower 7, Cyril P. Munn 8.—In the evening, a quarter-peal in the same method: A. Swan 1, W. Bidnell, jun., 2, W. Bidnell, sen. (conductor), 3, S. Mowl 4, T. A. Vincent 5, A. R. Manning 6, S. A. Gower 7, C. P. Munn 8.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE

LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

MEARS & STAINBANK,

**Foundry
Established
A.D. 1570**

(13th year
of reign of
Elizabeth).

**Bellfounders and
Bellhangers,**

**32 & 34, WHITECHAPEL ROAD
LONDON, E.1.**



ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

for

Recasting, Retuning and Rehanging.

HANDBELLS
In Sets of any number.

BELL ROPES. MUFFLES. &c

BELFRY GOSSIP.

It is a sad coincidence that two old ringing societies—the College Youths and the St. Martin's Guild—should lose their respective 'fathers' by the hand of death within a few days of each other. The bells of St. Martin's were rung muffled on Tuesday, the 17th inst., as a token of respect to their memories.

One hundred and ninety years ago to-morrow—on Nov. 28th, 1735—a peal of 6,012 Grandsire Caters was rung at Southwark, a similar length to the peal rung three years earlier at Cripplegate by the London Scholars.

In those distant days the London Scholars were active in ringing long lengths, for on Nov. 27th, 1729, they brought off a 6,204 Grandsire Cinques at Cornhill.

They had scored 6,006 in this method as the first peal on the bells of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields—which was beaten on the same bells the next day by the College Youths. The 6,204 at Cornhill followed upon an attempt earlier in the month, when they broke down after ringing 4,200 changes in 3 hours 10 minutes.

William Doubleday Crofts died on Nov. 29th, 1809, and was buried at St. Mary's, Nottingham, on December 2nd, on which occasion a 'mourning peal of 1,494 Grandsire Caters' was rung.

In view of the first peal on the restored Maneroft bells, which we recorded last week, it is interesting to recall that a peal of Grandsire Cinques, the first on the present twelve, was rung on Nov. 23rd, 1775—exactly 150 years ago last Monday.

A peal of 10,080 Bob Major was rung by the Cumberland Youths at Edmonton 150 years ago last Monday. It was composed and called by George Gross, sen., and Shipway was one of the band. Longer lengths of Bob Major had, however, been rung years before. On Nov. 25th, 1737, for instance, the Eastern Scholars had scored a peal of 15,120 in 8 hours 40 minutes at West Ham.

Friday was the anniversary of the first silent peal of Stedman Triples. It was rung on Nov. 20th, 1886, at Burton-on-Trent, by men whose names were household words in ringing in the closing years of last century—some of them, indeed, will be remembered as long as ringing lasts, and some, happily, are still with us: C. H. Hattersley, J. Carter, H. Bastable, J. Griffin, S. Reeves, W. Wakley, J. Jaggard, and A. Thomas.

St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, has still a band of ringers, who are able to practise Grandsire Triples, and are hoping to ring a peal. They got nearly half-way in an attempt a few months ago.

The Master of the band is Mr. J. H. Guest, who is now 85, and who left England half a century ago. He formed the first society of change ringers in Melbourne in 1882. There are ringers in the band from Bedfordshire, Cheshire, Gloucestershire, Leicestershire, Worcestershire and Oxfordshire.

Twickenham (Middlesex) bells, we are informed, have been retuned and rehung, and will probably be opened about Christmas.

Mr. Alfred Waite, who has been a ringer at Barnwood, Glos. since February, 1868, has now rung every bell in that tower to a peal, and he completed the circle on Saturday as the same time that Mr. F. T. Waite finished the round. One is tempted to comment that he waited a long time to fulfil this ambition, but his friends will wish him many more years of active enjoyment of the art.

READY SHORTLY.

METHOD-SPLICING

A reprint of the Articles

**'HINTS ON "SPlicing" AND
RINGING MINOR METHODS.'**

By JOHN P. FIDLER,

with an INTRODUCTION
by JOSEPH W. PARKER,

**And a number of Minor Extents in Six,
Eight and Ten Methods.**

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL BELL RESTORATION.

HISTORICAL PEAL RING OUT AGAIN.

As already briefly announced in our columns, the restoration of the bells of Carlisle Cathedral has been completed, and Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, who carried out the work, are to be congratulated upon their successful efforts. The old six (one of them an early 15th century bell) have been made eight by the addition of two trebles, and a great improvement has been effected by tuning the ancient bells.

The dedication was performed, at a simple but impressive service, by the Archbishop of York. There were a large number of clergy present, headed by the Bishop of Carlisle, the Dean of Carlisle and the Bishop of Barrow-in-Furness. The congregation filled the Cathedral, and included the Earl of Lonsdale (Lord Lieutenant of Cumberland), the High Sheriff, the Mayor of Carlisle, and the chairman of Cumberland County Council.

After the opening hymn and psalm, the Archbishop, the Bishops, the Dean, and members of the Chapter, together with Mrs. Hastings Rashdall, to whose generosity the restoration is due, and Mr. Percy Matheson, a personal friend of the late Dean, proceeded to the north choir aisle, where Mrs. Rashdall set in motion the electrical chiming apparatus for the bells.

During the service also, Mr. Matheson unveiled and the Archbishop dedicated, a mural tablet placed in the south choir aisle in memory of the late Dean Rashdall.

The Archbishop gave an appropriate address, in the course of which he said the church bells of England, above the noise of cities or the quiet of villages, spoke as no other voices could, of the joys, sorrows, tumults, troubles and thanksgivings of our common life.

Crowds of citizens waited in the streets to hear the bells ring out, and were delighted with their pleasant chimings.

After the dedication, the bells were raised and rung by members of the Cumberland Association. Although nothing very great was accomplished in the way of ringing, as there was only the space of an hour before evensong, everybody was pleased with the 'go' of the bells. It is to be hoped that in the near future the Cathedral will have a band of ringers of its own to ring regularly for service.

A meeting of the association was held in the Refectory of the Cathedral, and the tower was affiliated to the association.—The election of eleven life members, proposed in Kendal belfry previous to starting for a peal, was confirmed. The Dean was elected a vice-president of the association.

Votes of thanks to the Dean, and everybody connected with the opening, concluded the meeting.

THE BELLS.

The particulars of the bells are as follows:—

Tenor (4ft. 4in. diameter, Note E flat; weight 20 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb.).—Inscription: 'I warne you how your time doth pass away. Serve God therefore whil life doth last and say Glorie in Axcelis Deo. Anno Domini 1657. John and William Langshaw, Workmen.'

7th (3ft. 8in. diameter; weight 15 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb.).—'x Ihe x In : Voce : Sum : Munda : Maria : Sonando : Secunda : I : B.' This bell was cast about the year 1420.

6th (3ft. 4in. diameter; weight 10 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.).—'C. and G. Mears, Founders, London, 1845.'

5th (2ft. 11½in.; weight 8 cwt. 0 qr. 2 lb.).—'x Jesus be our speed. George Lees; Edmund Wright, Belfounders. Will: Orbell L.M. 1608.'

4th (2ft. 8½in.; weight 6 cwt. 2 qr. 0 lb.).—'Georg. Fleming, D.D. Decanus (Ed: Seller. Ebor. Stamp) Gloria in Altissimis. Dec. 1728.' 3rd.—'I. W. L. 1659.'

2nd (2ft. 5in. diameter; weight 4 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb.).—'To the Glory of God; and in Memory of Hastings Rashdall his servant I ring, 1924.'

Treble (2ft. 4in. diameter; weight 4 cwt. 1 qr. 1 lb.).—'In Remembrance: Hastings Rashdall and Constance gave me to God, 1924.'

The 6th was originally cast by the Langshaws, and became cracked whilst being chimed for the Peace celebrations after Waterloo. It bore the following inscription:—

THIS RINGE WAS MADE SIX TUNEABLE BELLS AT THE CHARGE OF THE LORD HOWARD AND OTHER GENTREE OF THE COUNTY AND CITIE. AND OFFICERS OF THE GARRISON, BY THE ADVICE OF MAGER JEREMIAH TOLHURST, GOVERNOR OF THE GARRISON, 1658.

This is particularly interesting as being a unique instance of restoration work in the church carried out under instructions from one of Cromwell's officers (Major Jeremiah Tolhurst). The three bells restored were the old treble, 4th and tenor, which were recast by the Langshaws, who were bell founders in Carlisle.

CAST IN 1402.

The 'patriarch' of the tower is the 7th, which was cast about the year 1402 by order of William Strickland, Bishop of Carlisle from 1400 to 1419. Bells, however, hung in the tower long before this, for it is on record that in the beginning of the 14th century (A.D. 1307) the Pope's legate, Cardinal Petrus Hispanus, preached in the Cathedral, and later revealed himself, and with other Bishops which were

present—with candles light and causing the bells to be rung, they occurred in terrible wise Robert Bruce, the usurper of the crowne of Scotland with all his partakers aiders and maintainers.' Although Bruce badly ravaged the rest of Cumberland, he never succeeded in taking Carlisle. It was, however, taken and burnt in 1345 by Sir W. Douglas, and was again burnt (by accident) in 1392, when 1,500 houses and a great part of the Cathedral were destroyed: it must then have been in reparation of the damage done in 1392 that Bishop Strickland raised the tower and installed the four large bells, the second of which was the existing 7th. The tenor of that ring of four must, therefore, have been a bell of considerable weight. The present 7th is the only one of Bishop Strickland's ring now left, and from a casting point of view, is a beautiful piece of work.

Until the present occasion, the last time the bells are supposed to have been rung was on November 18th, 1745, when Prince Charles Edward (Bonnie Prince Charles) made his entry into Carlisle, and for this offence the Cathedral bells were 'sentenced' to silence for a period of one hundred years. For many years past, however, it has not been possible to ring the bells on account of the bad condition of their hanging.

The present restoration consists of the addition of two trebles to complete the octave, cleaning the old bells by sand-blast, tuning them, and hanging the peal with entirely new fittings in a very heavy teak frame.

With the exception of the tenor and 6th, the old bells were very poor in tone, but the Cathedral authorities were particularly anxious that no recasting should take place on account of the historical interest. The old bells cannot, of course, be expected to come up to the modern standard for 'tone,' but a vast improvement has been effected by the tuning, and by the addition of the two trebles.

The framework is of very massive proportions, and the bells swing in the latest type ball bearings, the 'go' being perfect. Over 11 tons of timber were used in the construction of the framework and the beams.

A carillon machine has also been installed by Messrs. J. Smith and Sons, of Derby, to chime sets of changes for the week-day services.

The whole of the restoration scheme, including the fitting up of the ringing chamber and repairs to the tower, has been carried out through the generosity of Mrs. Rashdall, in memory of her husband, the late Dean of Carlisle.

COLLEGE YOUTHS' OFFICERS.

THE NEW MASTER.

Owing to business having taken him away from London, Mr. W. Hibbert, jun., who, as Senior Steward last year, would, in the ordinary course of events, have succeeded to the Mastership of the College Youths, was unable to seek nomination, and at their meeting last week the society elected Mr. H. R. Newton to the vacant office. The other officers elected were: Messrs. A. A. Hughes, treasurer; C. F. Winney and W. Prime, trustees; C. W. Roberts, senior steward; J. S. Hawkins, junior steward; and W. T. Cockerill, hon. secretary.

Mr. 'Bob' Newton, the new Master, has long been one of the best known of London ringers, having been associated for many years with the bands connected with St. Stephen's, Westminster; Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's Cathedral. He has taken part in some memorable performances, and has rung the 'heaviest tenor' to each of the three Surprise methods, Superlative at Southwark Cathedral in 1904; London at Bow in 1910; and Cambridge at Southwark in 1924. He also took part in the record length of 21,563 Stedman Caters rung in 12 hours 25 minutes at Appleton in 1922 and rang the eleventh in that great performance, the record peal of Stedman Cinques, 12,675 at Southwark Cathedral, in 9 hours 47 minutes, on Whit Munday, 1923.

BOW BELLS AGAIN NEXT SUNDAY.

ANOTHER BROADCAST.

The success of the broadcasting of Bow Bells on Sunday week, has led the British Broadcasting Company to repeat the experiment, and next Sunday evening we are promised a 'full quarter of an hour of the same bells.' The ringing will begin at 8 p.m., and will again be done by the St. Paul's Cathedral band.

Our readers will doubtless be interested to know the names of the band who so perfectly rang the touch of Stedman Cinques on the first occasion. They were C. F. Winney, E. G. Fenn, H. Langdon, H. R. Pasmore, A. B. Peck, C. W. Roberts, T. Langdon, H. A. Newton, C. F. Burden, T. H. Taffender, W. T. Cockerill (conductor), W. Prime. Messrs. Fenn and Roberts acted in the place of the late Mr. E. Horrex, and Mr. E. Gibbs and the two other members of the Cathedral band, Messrs. W. E. Garrard and E. Wallage were in reserve.

The ringer of the tenor in the peal of Doubles at Trumpington on November 1st was William Rayner, and not Frank Rayner, as published.

DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**ANNUAL FESTIVAL.**

The 48th annual festival of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association was held at Durham on Saturday, October 31st. Service was held in St. Nicholas' Church (owing to the Cathedral not being available) at 1 p.m., the Vicar (the Rev. Canon W. Bothamley) officiating, and giving a very interesting address. Luncheon followed at the Royal County Hotel, Mr. C. Todd (the president) being in the chair, supported by Bishop Wood, Rev. Canon W. Bothamley, Messrs. E. Ferry (hon. secretary), Arthur Payne (treasurer), C. L. Routledge (auditor), Rev. A. W. Lister, and others, the company numbering 55.

At the business meeting, the balance sheet showed a deficit of £3 17s. 10d., caused by the heavy expense of printing the annual report.

The report, read by the secretary, contained some interesting items. The sad note came first, reporting the loss, by death, of Mr. A. G. Euden, who had been a member for 20 years of the Cramlington tower, where he will be sadly missed.

Some 20 years ago a scheme was introduced whereby each band of ringers should enter on a sheet hung in the belfry (supplied for that purpose) the number of changes, and the method rung for the Sunday service. Points are given for each 1,000 changes, varying according to the quality of the method. Thus all the towers in the two dioceses are induced to compete in doing the best Sunday service ringing. For this a first and second certificate are presented for the 8, 10 and 12-bell towers, and also for the 6-bell towers. For the year just ended (Sept. 30th) Whitley Bay won the 1st, in the former class, for the sixth consecutive year. If a band wins it for three consecutive years, or four times altogether, the certificate becomes their own property, to hang in their belfry. Whitley Bay have thus won two certificates in succession. Their points this year were 1,599.924. North Shields, who were 4th last year, with 439, take 2nd place this year with 1,193.96, a splendid performance. The other competitors were Gosforth, 1,005.544; St. Ignatius, Sunderland, 948.274; Newcastle Cathedral, 948.05; St. John's, Darlington, 326.78; Gateshead, 179.55; St. Michael's, Sunderland, 159.48; St. Oswald's, West Hartlepool, 145.25; Tanfield, 131.37; Shildon, 103.21; Chester-le-Street, 98.84; Consett, 76.25; St. George's, Jesmond, 35.99.

In the six-bell towers, Holy Trinity, Darlington, took first place for the fourth year in succession, with 1,185.54 points; Benfieldside, 590.75; Newton Hall, 566.76; Houghton-le-Spring, 223.68; Newburn, 148.15; Winton, 27.72; and Whickham, 21, being the other competitors. Twenty-eight peals have been rung during the year, against 29 last year. Ten of these were rung with friends from the South and Midlands, who were on a ringing tour in the district. In the 28 peals, 73 members took part, and there were nine conductors.

The following were elected officers for the ensuing year: President, Rev. A. W. Lister; vice-presidents, Messrs. R. B. Robinson (Southern District), R. L. Patterson (Eastern), F. Sheraton (Western), J. E. Goffon (Northern); hon. secretary, E. Ferry; hon. treasurer, G. S. Taylor; hon. Editorial secretary, Arthur Payne; hon. auditor, C. L. Routledge; district secretaries, W. Story (Northern Division of the Northern District), A. Deas (Newcastle Division), G. S. Taylor (Eastern), A. Hunter (Southern), H. Tyson (Western).

Two hon. members and 30 active members were elected.

Mr. Routledge presented the certificates to the winning towers for the best Sunday Service ringing during the year.

The Cathedral bells were not available owing to a meeting at the Deanery, but the two peals of six were kept going in different methods. Meetings for 1926 were fixed as follows: Pre-Lent meeting, Newton Hall, Saturday, Feb. 13th; Whit Monday, Hartlepool, May 24th; summer meeting, Staindrop, Saturday, July 24th; annual festival, Newcastle, Saturday, October 30th.

We are extremely sorry Mr. J. A. Goffon has retired from ringing by doctor's orders; we sincerely hope he will soon be restored to health and strength, and will again take up the art in which his name has world-wide fame.

It was extremely unfortunate that two peals were arranged for the evening. It prevented some members coming to the meeting, and caused others to leave early.

SWINTON RINGER'S FUNERAL

On Saturday, Nov. 7, the funeral of the late Mr. J. Brockland took place. He was for many years the highly respected captain of Swinton Parish Church belfry. According to the wishes of deceased, the ringers acted as bearers, and a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells at the house, and also at the graveside. The first part of the service was held in St. Peter's Church, the interment following at the cemetery. In the evening a well-struck half-peal of Grandsire Triples (Taylor's six-part) was rung in 1 hr. 40 mins., with the bells fully muffled at St. Peter's Church, as a tribute to the late captain by a mixed band of St. Peter's and Christ Church (Pendlebury) ringers. Mr. Brockland was widely known among the ringing fraternity around Manchester.

COVENTRY BELLS.**WILL A CAMPANILE BE BUILT?**

The announcement that the bells of Coventry Cathedral were to be used for a carillon has led to some natural anxiety on the part of change ringers generally. We are assured, however, that the authorities suggest nothing to prejudice the ringing of the bells in peal, whenever the time comes for the erection of a campanile. Though there are differences of opinion as to the propriety and need of recasting the existing bells, we are told that the metal for the proposed extra four will be entirely new. We may add that designs for a campanile have been hanging in the Cathedral vestry for some years.

AN AMBITIOUS SCHEME REQUIRED.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The Exercise will regret to learn that the efforts to prevent the destruction of these bells have not met with that success which was first hoped. It will be recalled that the proposal was to melt down the bells to use the metal towards that required for a carillon, and that earnest representations were made to those responsible to prevent such an act of vandalism.

We have been fortunate in securing support and sympathy from those representing important bodies outside our own Exercise, and the views of all interested can be summarised in the reference made in the 'Morning Post' of the 8th July last, which, speaking of the Coventry bells, said:—

'Whilst on the subject of bells, it is interesting to note that a proposal is afoot to melt down the ancient peal of ten bells, said to be the finest of their kind, which used to ring forth from the famous tower of St. Michael's, Coventry. The desire is to provide bell metal for a new carillon, the tower being said to be too weak for the bells. Although we have had occasion of late to comment favourably on carillons, this proposal rather savours of exchanging "new lamps for old." Carillons are good, indeed very good. But it would be a serious thing to destroy a celebrated peal for this object. Ringers throughout the country are much concerned, and, urged on by their organ, the 'Ringing World,' the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers will make representations to the Bishop of Coventry with the view of saving this fine peal. Thus the citizens of Coventry, who have enjoyed the possession of these bells for nearly 200 years, may hope to continue so to do for still further centuries to come.'

I learn, therefore, with regret that the proposal is again revived, and that though slightly modified, it still involves the sacrifice of the bells. And I feel that the Central Council will desire that every effort must be used to defeat this project, even if it calls for an ambitious scheme, such as building a bell tower! I believe that such a proposal initiated and supported by the Exercise, would receive that backing from the public, which would ensure its success.

It is melancholy to recall that the late Mr. Horrex, who died so tragically on the morning of the College Youths' Festival, devoted his last speech to this subject. In the course of his remarks, which for him were of unusual length, he expressed the firm hope that these famous bells should be preserved. He also gave an interesting account of how he formed one of a band of College Youths who visited Coventry to ring them, and how George Muskett, the then Master, preferred to stand outside and listen, rather than ascend and ring. Muskett's verdict on this occasion was significant, viz., 'a wonderful peal, these bells are all brothers and sisters.'—Yours faithfully,

155, Rushey Green, S.E.6.

E. ALEX. YOUNG.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**WESTERN DISTRICT.**

A very enjoyable (as usual) meeting of the Western District was held at King's Langley on Nov. 21st, when members and friends were present from Bletchley, Tring, Berkhamsted, Hemel Hempstead, Bray, Apsley, Watford, St. Albans, and the local tower.

Tea was held in the Church House, presided over by the Rev. and Mrs. Haythornthwaite. After tea, the Vicar, in a very eloquent speech, gave all present a very hearty welcome, and spoke feelingly of the death of the well-beloved Queen Alexandra, asking the company to stand as a token of respect, and loyalty to our King and Queen.

At the business meeting which followed with the Vicar in the chair, two new members were made, Messrs. Taylor and Russell, of Bray, Berks.—The next meeting was arranged for Hemel Hempstead in January, subject to the necessary permission being obtained.

Mr. F. J. Reeve proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar, the ladies for their insistent attention at tea, and the local ringers for providing such an excellent tea free of charge.

Mr. Walker (local secretary) replied that there were only one fault—the company hadn't eaten enough.

The ringers then adjourned for further ringing until 7.45 p.m. All the ringing done was half-muffled, the methods rung being Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Treble Bob and Little Bob Major, as well as rounds for the beginners.

Thus concluded another good meeting at King's Langley.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

THE LAST OF THE NORWICH SCHOLARS.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

Samuel Thurston's sudden death on January 9th, 1841, was a severe blow to Norwich ringing, although the full effect was not seen till later. The work such a man as he does lives after his death; and, besides, there was the great ringing tradition of the Norwich Scholars that John Garthorn had started, and that Thomas Melchior and others had handed on. For one hundred and thirty years there had continuously been a first-class band connected with Mancroft, and this tradition was not to be lost all at once. In 1842 the Norwich band was equal, and, perhaps, the superior to any other in the country. Other good performances had yet to be accomplished, but the top-most point was passed. There were no more peals of the same merit as the Double Norwich Maximus, or the London and Superlative Surprise Major. The year 1835 marks the zenith of Norwich ringing; after that there was decline, slow at first, but certain, and after a few years, rapid.

When Thurston died he left quite a number of good ringers, but none of outstanding ability as leader. At St. Andrew's, Thomas Hurry was supreme; he had given the two trebles in 1825, and was generally in charge of the tower. Hurry was an ambitious, forcible man, but his abilities were not equal to his ambition. A good ringer, no doubt, but not of the very first class. He was not included in the band which rang the Double Oxford and the Superlative and London. The reason is pretty obvious—he was not good enough; otherwise he was not the man to be left out. And his many attempts to call a peal were all unsuccessful. 'I have known him,' said Hubbard, 'many times call four parts of a peal correctly, and then run wild in the fifth. In the year 1825 we rang, at St. Andrew's, about 40,000 changes in trying for a 5,120 of Reeves' in five parts without doing it.'

At St. Peter's the mastership fell to James Truman, an excellent ringer, one of the London and Superlative band. He afterwards proved himself a competent conductor, but he was hardly of the same class as Thurston. He held, I think, some official post connected with St. Peter's Church, either sexton or parish clerk, or something of the sort.

The one man who seemed marked out as Thurston's successor was Henry Hubbard. He had a much greater experience of peal conducting than any of the others, and he knew far more about composition and methods and the theory of ringing. But I think he lacked just that amount of push that a good leader must have. If Hubbard had had some of Hurry's masterfulness or Hurry had had Hubbard's skill and knowledge, the third quarter of the nineteenth century would no doubt have been as brilliant a period in the history of Norwich ringing as the second.

As it was the next two peals were called by Hubbard. The first was 5,040 Kent Treble Bob Royal at St. Andrew's. It was the first peal on the ten bells, and the first peal of Kent rung in Norwich. The composition was Reeves' one-part peal in ten courses, with double bobs at Home, and the sixth the extent each way. It is given on page 105 of Snowden's collection, and is pretty well as good a peal as Treble Ten as there is. Kent Royal on an ordinary ring of bells is, to a good band, one of the easiest things to ring, but it is a different thing altogether when the ropes fall in this order—1, 3, 2, 7, 10, 5, 4, 6, 9, 8, as they did at St. Andrew's.

Melchior and Crane rang their peals of Stedman Triples in 1731, and then for one hundred and eight years no peal in the method was accomplished at Norwich. In 1839, Thurston called a peal of Triples at St. Giles', the composition of Lates, with 180 bobs, 218 common singles, and 22 bob singles. Hubbard did not ring in this peal, and now the Norwich Scholars turned their full attention to Stedman. On Sept. 15th, 1842, they rang 5,295 of Caters at St. Andrew's, and on November 24th, 1843, 5,296 at the same church, both conducted by Hubbard. Charles Middleton, the composer of the peal of Cambridge Surprise, rang in both these peals. Two years later, at Mancroft, they rang 7,126 Stedman Cinques, at that time the longest peal anywhere in the method. The following is a copy of the very fine peal heard in St. Peter's belfry.

On Thursday, January 18th, 1844, was rung in this steeple that most intricate and ingenious peal called Stedman's Cinques in 5 hours and 17 minutes, consisting of 7,126 changes without the misplacing of a bell or the repetition of a single change. The bold and regular striking attracted the notice of the public, and is allowed to exceed any other performance ever attempted in England upon twelve bells. The peal was conducted by James Truman, and rung by the under-mentioned persons. The Minister and Churchwardens with a portion of the Inhabitants, have contributed to the erection of this tablet, the remainder being subscribed for by the company of ringers.

Thomas Hurry	...	1	William Freeman	...	7
Robert Burrell	...	2	George Watering	...	8
Elijah Mason	...	3	James Truman	...	9
Charles Middleton	...	4	Joshua Hurry	...	10
William Gaul	...	5	Henry Hubbard	...	9
John Greenwood	...	6	George Smith and	...	} Tenor
			Robert Palgrave	...	

The tradition about this peal, when I started ringing, was that it was very finely rung indeed, and the claim as to good striking was well founded. Two of the band were alive in my time; Robert Palgrave was still a member of the company, but was an invalid, and had not rung for many years. William Freeman was still active, and still ringing. He had had a dispute with some of the later Mancroft men, and had left the company and formed a rival band which practised at St. Andrew's, and some of the six-bell towers. I do not think their performances went beyond Plain Bob Minor. I got to know the old man very well, and found him quite nice and agreeable, when you had made allowances for his age and real or imaginary grievances. He was steeplekeeper at St. Andrew's, and had rung the tenor there to the 1842 peal.

George Smith, who rang the tenor with the help of Robert Palgrave, was one of a family of ringers, all good men at the heavy end. The first was Matthew Smith, who helped Thurston to ring Mancroft tenor to the Double Norwich Maximus in 1817. His son was the George Smith of the 1,844 peal, and his grandson, George Smith, the second, was the first man who turned Mancroft tenor in to 5,000 of Major, though for some reason or other the peal was false, and could not stand. He had, I think, the best action and pull of any heavy bell ringer I have seen.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ROCHESTER DISTRICT.

After a lapse of many years, the annual meeting of the Rochester District of the Kent County Association was held in Gravesend. Nearly 100 ringers attended, including representatives from 18 towers in the Rochester District, Tonbridge, Maidstone and Lewisham districts, and Essex and Middlesex Associations. In the afternoon the bells of St. George's Church were rung, and later a special service was conducted by the Rector of Gravesend (the Rev. Elliott Mitchell).

Tea was served in the Co-operative Cafe, where the meeting followed. The Mayor of Gravesend (Alderman J. A. Axcell) presided, being supported by the Rector of Gravesend (the Rev. Elliott Mitchell), the Rector of Milton (the Rev. G. W. Mennie), Messrs. F. T. Grant, F. M. Mitchell (district hon. secretary), R. J. Tall, W. Haigh (Rochester Cathedral), and W. Harper.

Mr. F. M. Mitchell, who reported a record year, both in membership and financially, first thanked the Mayor of Gravesend for presiding, saying that was the first occasion in this county that a chief magistrate of the borough had presided at a ringers' district meeting. They had 21 towers in union, compared with 20 last year, Milton Regis being the newcomers. The number of practising members had increased from 177 to 185. Mr. John H. Chcesman headed the list of conductors with 16 peals. Gravesend tower had made history by having the first lady to conduct a peal in the county, when Miss Edith Parker, of Edmonton, acted in that capacity in November. Sunday service ringing had been fully maintained. The benevolent fund showed a balance of £90 19s 10d., and the district finances a balance of £17 18s., compared with £16 7s. 2d. The report expressed thanks to the incumbents and members of the towers for welcoming visiting ringers, and he (the secretary) personally added his sense of appreciation for the co-operation he had received from secretaries and members of towers in the district.

The Mayor warmly congratulated the secretary on the report, which, he said, showed they were a progressive body, and Mr. Mitchell was reappointed district hon. secretary.

Messrs. Haigh and Spice were elected district representatives to the Central Committee.

By 21 votes to 20, Upchurch (where the bells have been rehung), was selected for the next quarterly meeting, to be held in January.

It was moved by Mr. F. M. Mitchell, and supported by Mr. W. Haigh, 'that the Rochester district considers it advisable to discontinue the payment of half-railway fares up to 2s. to the half-yearly district meeting, and that the same facility be granted to members attending the annual meeting of the association, and that this item be placed on the agenda for discussion at the next annual meeting.'—This was carried.

Mr. R. J. Tall said he was not very pleased that a tower like Southfleet should be silent for so many years. He suggested they should write to the Rector and ask if anything could be done so that the bells could be rung.—This was seconded by Mr. W. Lane, and carried.

The Rector of Gravesend was thanked for conducting the church service, and also the churchwardens for the loan of the church for ringing.—The Rector replied, expressing thanks to the Mayor for presiding.

Ringing in standard methods afterwards took place at St. George's Church.

THE PASSING OF JOHN BUFFERY.

'FATHER' OF ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

There's nae sorrow there, John,
There's neither could nor care, John,
The day is yeo fair
In the laud o' the leal.—Lady Nairne.

As briefly announced in our last issue, Mr. John Buffery passed out of human ken on the 12th inst., at his residence, at Smethwick, near Birmingham, after a long illness, at the age of 73 years.

He was the 'father' of St. Martin's Guild, in terms of years of membership (though not in age), having joined the St. Martin's Youths in 1863, and by his death another link with Birmingham ringers of nearly a century ago is severed.

John Buffery was born at Perry Barr, in 1852, and became interested in bells and ringing when the ring of eight was put in the tower of St. John's Church in 1868, the donor being the late Lord Calthorpe. He rang his first peal, Grandsire Triples, there in 1870, and conducted his first peal there in 1879, the method also being Grandsire.

He soon became attracted to St. Martin's, and as he was a good striker, and could handle the heavy end when necessary, he made quite a name for himself at one time as a tenor man.

He rang the tenor to his first peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Martin's in 1873, and took part in the first two ten-bell peals rung in Ireland, these being Stedman Caters at Christ Church Cathedral on May 20th, 1899, and Bob Royal at the R.C. Church of St. Augustine and St. John on the following day.

John Buffery had what he always called the great pleasure of witnessing the only peal ever rung on the high seas—a peal of Stedman Caters in hand by members of St. Martin's Guild, rung aboard the s.s. Cambria when crossing the Irish Sea on May 29th, 1901. A photo of this band, and the witnesses, kindly presented by Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, is carefully preserved in St. Martin's belfry.

Other notable peals in which he took part were the 9,238 Stedman Cinques in 6 hours and 48 minutes at St. Martin's on Feb. 28th, 1881 (then record), in which Henry Johnson (whose 72nd birthday it was) rang the 6th; and the 9,020 of Grandsire Cinques rung in 6 hours and 17 minutes at St. Martin's on March 23rd, 1887, which he conducted. He had a powerful voice, and the late Thomas Reynolds (who rang the 11th to this peal) used to declare that he called the last bob in such a loud voice that it could be heard in the Bull Ring, and was, in fact, heard by several outside!

In the early eighties John Buffery was also a prominent member of the Holt Society of Aston, later amalgamated with the St. Martin's Guild, for which society he called a number of peals. He 'called ye bobbes' in an attempt for a long peal of Grandsire Caters at Aston in 1883, when the peal was lost, after over 12,000 changes had been rung, and which he said was 'the longest breakdown he had ever had.'

Mr. Alderman Pritchett tells a story of how he invited Buffery, with others, to visit him at Oxford, when he was at college as a young man, and how John mistook the extra strong ale he had got in for the occasion for soda water, with the result, so says the alderman, that they could not get on with the Grandsire Caters at Magdalen in the afternoon.

John Buffery—how the name seemed to suit the man! To many of the elder brethren it will recall him as he was in his prime—sturdily built, with fresh complexion, plump cheeks and genial disposition—a typical John Bull.

Unfortunately he had not enjoyed good health for the last few years, and had been unable to take an active part in ringing. Towards the end he suffered with bronchitis, and had been confined to the house for some time.

It is interesting to reflect on the fact that it is now nearly 45 years since the 9,238 of Stedman Cinques was rung, in which John Buffery rang the 8th, and Henry Johnson, sen., rang the 6th. The latter was 72 years old that day (28th February, 1881), and had been ringing then for over 50 years, so these two men in the space of their ringing lives, span practically a century of Birmingham ringing.

The funeral took place at the Uplands Cemetery, Smethwick, on the 18th inst., and among the floral tributes was a wreath from members of St. Martin's Guild, who were represented by one of Mr. Buffery's oldest and most intimate friends, Mr. Thomas Miller.

No further seek his merits to disclose,
Or draw his frailties from their dread abode
(There they alike in trembling hope repose),
The bosom of his Father and his God.—Gray.

A. P. S.

A HALF-PEAL.

At Thorne, Yorks, on Armistice night, November 11th 2,520 Grandsire Triples: H. Rodwell 1, C. Thorley, jun. (conductor) 2, W. Sleight 3, D. England 4, C. H. Thorley 5, W. Hobson 6, R. Thompson 7, J. Thorley 8. The ringers of treble, 4th and 7th hail from Hatfield; the rest are local men.

YORK MINSTER BELLS.

HALF-TONE BELL TO BE PROVIDED.

So well has the appeal for funds for the restoration of York Minster bells been responded to that an effort is to be made to recast 'Great Peter,' and to provide a half-tone bell with the ring of twelve to give a light eight. Canon H. E. Nolloth has given particulars of the additional proposals, in a letter which appeared in the 'Yorkshire Herald.' He says: 'Since the report of the progress of the work recently appeared in your columns, more donations have been received. But, as often happens in these undertakings, additional expenditure has to be incurred. Only some £180 are now required to complete the task of furnishing the Minster with the deepest and finest-toned ring of twelve bells in the country, and the massive framework of iron and steel in which they are to be hung. But the ringers (who have shown their interest in the work by undertaking themselves the cost of recasting one of the bells) are very anxious that, as is usual in the case of so heavy a ring, an extra "half-tone" bell should be provided, in order that they may have a more manageable octave for practice than the lower or "back" eight; and this is, undoubtedly, most important for the cultivation of good ringing. The cost of this bell, if hung at the same time as the others, will be £179, in addition to the above-mentioned £180.'

'Now, with regard to the great bell "Peter," in size fully worthy of our great Cathedral, but so discordant, musically, that there is no reason to regret its present useless condition, impossible to be rung, and unconnected with the clock, to which it should serve as the hour-bell. As stated in the report already referred to, we propose to recast and retune it to a rich and musical E flat, in exact tune with the peal, hung in ball bearings, so as easily to be rung by two men without the slightest strain upon the tower. More than one-third of the cost of this work has already been given or promised, viz., £550, if it can be undertaken soon. If the balance of £975 can be provided, our desire to give the Minster we venerate a "Bourdon" entirely worthy of it, can speedily be attained.'

Donations will be gratefully received by me, as hon. secretary, or they may be paid to the account of the 'York Minster Bells Fund' at the Midland Bank, Ltd., Parliament Street, York.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE RINGER'S DEATH.

The death occurred, on November 8th, of Mr. Samuel Booth, president of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society, who passed away at the age of 52 years. He was buried at Hurst Cemetery on Nov. 12th, when the following members rang a course of Grandsire Caters over his grave: Joseph Mellor 1—2, Harry Heap 3—4, Samuel Wood 5—6, Jack Thomas 7—8, Harry Chapman (Manchester) 9—10.

The late Mr. Booth had rung in upwards of 200 peals, including the famous record length of Kent Treble Bob Maximus (12,240 changes), in 8 hr. 39 min., on Easter Monday, April 17th, 1911, at Ashton Parish Church. He also took part in that other celebrated performance on the same bells, the record peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal (14,000 changes), in 9 hours 24 minutes, on Easter Monday, April 13th, 1914. He was a safe ringer, and highly esteemed by his colleagues. He will be sadly missed by the members of the society.

A touch of Grandsire Cinques was rung on muffled bells at Ashton Parish Church on Sunday, November 15th, as a last tribute of respect: S. Wood 1, H. Heap 2, C. Bowers 3, W. Brammer 4, J. Mellor 5, F. Althorp 6, G. Gorrington 7, C. F. Johnston (Croydon) 8, B. Thorp 9, J. S. Goldsmith (Woking) 10, A. Adams 11, T. Jackson 12.

ACCIDENT TO BEDWAS RINGER.

An accident to Mr. G. Martin, of the Bedwas (Mon.) band of ringers, occurred recently near Bristol. Mr. Martin was out for a walk, and, accidentally falling, broke his leg. He was found lying on the road in a very weak state by the occupants of a passing motor-car, in which he was conveyed to Bristol General Hospital, where he is now progressing as favourably as can be expected. His ringing friends in the district are very much concerned, and hope for his speedy recovery.

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The **EDITORIAL OFFICE** of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 63, **COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.**

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4/- per quarter.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Nov. 28th, at Earls Colne. The bells will be available for ringing during the afternoon and evening. The ringers' service will be held at 4.15, after which tea will be provided at the George Hotel. As this is the most important meeting of the year it is hoped that a goodly number of ringers will make an effort to attend.—W. H. Dyson, Dis. Sec., High Street, Braintree.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—A general meeting will be held at Sleaford on Saturday, Nov. 28th. Service 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., 1s. 9d. per head. Bells (8) available.—F. S. W. Butler, Hon. Sec., 6, Spital Terrace, Gainsborough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Middleton on Saturday, Nov. 28th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next ringing meeting has been arranged at Beaconsfield on Saturday, Nov. 28th. Bells available from 6 to 9 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Branch Sec., Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—The meeting arranged for to-morrow (Nov. 28th) will be held at Hyde, instead of Stalybridge (H.T.). Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting 5.15.—John P. Fidler, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at *St. Paul's Cathedral on December 1st and 29th, Southwark Cathedral on the 8th, St. Magnus on the 10th and 24th. *St. Mary-le-Bow on the 15th, all at 7.30; St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 17th, at 8 p.m.; St. Michael's, Cornhill, for service, on the 20th, at 6 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members who have not made 20 attendances in the past year, to vote on financial matters, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The bells of Lamberhurst Church will be dedicated (after restoration) by the Archdeacon of Tonbridge on Wednesday, Dec. 2nd, at 7 p.m. The tower will be open for visiting ringers on Saturday, Dec. 5th, from 3 till 4.30 and from 6 till 8. Tea can be arranged for if sufficient number notify the local secretary, Mr. A. Relfe, Windmill Cottage, Lamberhurst, not later than Thursday, Dec. 3rd.—W. Latter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Saviour's Church, Bolton, on Saturday, Dec. 5th. Bells available 4 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 201, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Bishop's Stortford on Saturday, Dec. 5th (St. Michael's Parish Church). Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m. in the Parish Room. Business meeting to follow. All requiring tea advise me as quickly as possible.—C. Beeston, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, King's St., Bishop's Stortford.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Netherton on Saturday, Dec. 5th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service in church 4.30. Tea will be provided for those who notify me by Tuesday (latest), Dec. 1st.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Guildford on Saturday, December 5th. Bells (8 and 10) available from 3 p.m. Service in St. Nicholas' Church at 5, when an address will be given by the Rev. F. S. Colson, Vicar of Godalming. Tea at St. Saviour's Hall, followed by the annual business meeting. The chair will be taken by Admiral T. P. Walker, D.S.O., of Woking. After the business a smoking concert will be held. All ringers welcome. It is hoped as many members as possible will attend.—E. Raddon, Hon. Dis. Sec., 15, Baillie Road, Guildford.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney, on Saturday, Dec. 5th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Short service at 5.30. Tea, at usual terms, and meeting to follow. As accommodation for tea will be limited, those who do not advise me by Dec. 2nd may be disappointed.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 49, Wood Street, E.17.

WASHBROOK MEMORIAL.—The service of dedication of the new bells will be held at St. Ebbe's Church, Oxford, on Saturday, Dec. 5th, at 3 p.m. Seats in the church will be reserved for those who give notice before Nov. 28th of their intention to be present. Tea at 1s. per head will be served at 4.30 p.m. in the Parish Room for those who make application at the same time.—A. J. Wright and R. T. Hibbert, Hon. Secs., 40, Hamilton Road, Reading.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Pontefract on Saturday, Dec. 5th. Parish Church bells (10) available from 3.30 to 4 p.m., and All Saints' (8) from 1.30 p.m. onward. Service in Parish Church at 4 p.m. Tea in All Saints' Church Room at 5 p.m., at a charge of 1s. 6d. per head. Applications to be made to Mr. W. Pearson, jun., 53, Northgate, Pontefract, on or before Thursday, Dec. 3rd. Business meeting to follow. Ringers of kindred associations heartily welcomed.—A. B. Cook, Hon. Dis. Sec., 58, Wyndham Street, Hull.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The November meeting at Ossett has been postponed to Dec. 5th. Ringing from 2 to 7.30 and 8 to 9 p.m.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Armley, Leeds.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Pontefract on Dec. 5th, in conjunction with the Yorkshire Association (Eastern Division). Applications for tea to be made to Mr. W. Pearson, 53, Northgate, Pontefract, before Dec. 3rd.—Harold Walker, Hon. Sec., 3, Beech Crescent, Old Hexthorpe, Doncaster.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wimborne Branch.—The annual meeting is to be held at Wimborne Minster on Saturday, Dec. 5th. Full particulars next week.—C. A. Phillips, Hon. Branch Sec., Walton House, Bournemouth.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Killamarsh (6 bells) on Saturday, Dec. 5th. Will members endeavour to attend this meeting, being the only 6-bell fixture for the year?—Colin Harrison, Hon. Sec. (pro tem.), 62, Roach Road, Ecclesall, Sheffield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Dec. 5th, at St. Nicholas, Newchurch. Bells ready at 3.30. Meeting at 7. A 'hot pot' will be provided for all those sending in not later than Dec. 3rd to Mr. Saml. Lord, 1, The Square, Turnpike, Newchurch. — J. H. Haydock, Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Buckingham on Saturday, Dec. 5th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Those attending please notify me by Dec. 3rd, so that arrangements can be made for tea. All ringing friends welcome.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Stoke on Saturday, Dec. 5th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Annual general meeting immediately following tea. All desirous of attending please notify Mr. S. Churton, 11, Lonsdale Street, Stoke-on-Trent, on or before Nov. 30th. — A. Vaughan, Hon. Sec., 10, High Street, Knutton, Staffs.

MIDLAND COUNTRIES' ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting of the district will be held at Quorn on Saturday, Dec. 5th. Bells (8) open from 3 o'clock. Short service 4.30 p.m. Business meeting 5 o'clock. Buses leave Loughborough every five minutes.—J. Saddington, Hon. Dis. Sec., 27, Chapman Street, Loughborough.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Long Melford on Saturday, Dec. 5th. Bells (8) ready 2.30 p.m. Tea will be arranged at reasonable charge. Good attendance expected.—S. H. Symonds, Assistant Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at East Molesey on Saturday, Dec. 5th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Hampton Court nearest station, 10 minutes' walk. It is hoped as many as possible will attend this meeting. Kindly let me know for tea by Wednesday, Dec. 2nd.—Miss N. E. Shorter, Hon. Sec., Ferndene, 15, Russell Road, Walton-on-Thames.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—Exeter Branch.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at St. Sidwell's, Exeter, on Saturday, Dec. 5th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. All ringers welcome. The following bells will be available from 3 p.m.: The Cathedral, St. Sidwell's, St. David's, St. Thomas and Heavitree.—J. C. Oke, 35, St. David's Hill, Exeter.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meetings for December: St. Clement Danes, Sunday, the 6th, at 10 a.m., and Mondays, the 7th and 21st, at 7.30; St. Mary, Lambeth, Tuesday, the 1st, at 8.—A. H. Keighley, Gen. Sec., 18, Merrick Square, S.E.1.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Pudsey on Saturday, Dec. 12th. The bells will be available from 2 p.m. Tea at a charge of 1s. 3d. per head to those who notify Mr. W. Barton, 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey, not later than first post Tuesday, Dec. 8th.—F. Hutchinson, Hon. Dis. Sec., Weetwood Lane, Headingley, Leeds.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION (Southern Branch) AND THE ALL SAINTS' AND ST. LAWRENCE (EVESHAM) GUILD.—A combined meeting of the above will be held at Evesham on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells (10) available 3 p.m. Service in All Saints' Church, with an address by the Vicar (the Rev. E. O. Burbidge) at 5 p.m. Tea will be provided for all those who notify either of the undersigned on or before Wednesday, Dec. 9th.—J. Hemming, Branch Sec., 29, Church Bank, Great Hampton, Evesham, J. D. Johnson, Guild Sec., Pershore Road, Great Hampton, Evesham.

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Willesden, on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells from 3.30 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Gentlemen specially invited.—Mrs. F. I. Hairs, 17, North Side, Clapham Common, S.W.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Rotherfield on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. (being provided by the kindness of the Rector). Meeting to follow.—Geo. W. Stokes, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, Melbourne Road, Eastbourne.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Christchurch District.—The annual meeting will be held at Christchurch on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea 4.30. G. Preston, Dis. Sec., 3, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The fifth annual social of the above branch will be held at Leyland St. James on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Tickets 2s. 6d. each. Will those who intend going please write for tickets, and state number they require as early as possible, to Mr. J. T. Miller, Oak House, Midge Hall?—Fred Rigby, Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

HERTS ASSOCIATION.—Postponement.—Meeting, Bushey Heath, Nov. 28th, postponed till Dec. 12th.—C. H. Horton, Bushey.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Southern District) AND BARNSELY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A joint meeting of the above associations will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, Dec. 12th. It is desired that all members of each body will keep this date open and attend the meeting. Further particulars will be given in next issue.—F. Clark, Hon. Sec., Southern Division, C. D. Potter, Hon. Sec., Barnsley and District Association.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Devizes on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells (St. John's 8, St. Mary's 6, St. James' 6) ready at 3 p.m. Service at St. John's 4.30. Tea at 5. Business meeting follows tea. All ringers welcome. If tea required, please write by Dec. 10th to F. Green, Hon. Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Dorset Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Gillingham on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service

at 4.30. Preacher, Rev. R. E. G. Newman (Vicar). Tea at 5 (6d. for members). Business meeting to follow. Towers available: Gillingham (8), Mere (8), Bourton (6), Buckhorn Weston (6), Kington Magna (5). Will those wishing to attend kindly let me know by Dec. 7th?—R. E. P. Gorrings, Hon. Sec., Manston Rectory, Sturminster Newton.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—The annual meeting of the above association will be held at St. Peter's, Bedford, on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells ready 2.30. Tea at 5, in St. Peter's Hall. The secretary regrets to announce his resignation, owing to working duties.—L. Turner, Dis. Sec., 7, High Street, Kempston.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Phillip's, Nelson, on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Second anniversary of the opening of the bells.—J. Watson, Branch Sec., 48, Shear Bank Terrace, Palmer Street, Blackburn.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Garston on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells ready at 3.30. Service 5.30. Meeting 6. Members intending being present please send word to secretary.—Walter Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—The meeting arranged for Nov. 28th is postponed to Saturday, Dec. 12th, owing to the lamented death of H.M. Queen Alexandra.—W. Upton, 10, Elm Grove, Newport, Isle of Wight.

DEVON GUILD.—North-Eastern Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Tiverton, on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells (8) available at 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock, 1s. each.—M. Hanson, Hon. Sec., 2, The Avenue, Tiverton.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Eastern District will be held at Jarrow on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Further particulars next week.—G. S. Taylor, Sec.

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