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THE SUPERLATIVE CONTROVERSY.

The Central Council will be asked to solve a pretty little problem at its meeting next Tuesday, when the Rev. H. Law James will request the members to say, in effect, that the peal of Maximus recently rung at Ipswich was not Superlative Surprise. His motion is: 'That since William Shipway extended Superlative Surprise Major to Royal and the first peal of Royal was rung at Wakefield in 1826, the Council cannot accept any extension to Maximus which does not agree with the Major and Royal.' Will the Council once again have to admit its inability to settle the dispute? This is not the first occasion on which the extension of Superlative has been before the central body. In 1912, at Newcastle, Mr. James brought forward a motion designed to establish that Shipway's Superlative Royal was the correct extension of the Major. It was adjourned for a year to give the members time to consider the question, and at Winchester it was withdrawn after an amendment had been suggested that the Council did not feel competent to decide the matter.

Since that time various things have happened. The discovery was made that Shipway's Royal had been rung at Wakefield and recorded as Superlative, and a peal in the same method has been rung at Surfleet. Great controversy raged round the question, a rival school of thought contending that Shipway's extension is not the true extension. Then came the peal of Maximus at Ipswich, in a method different to Shipway's, and held to be the correct extension from the Major by those who differ from Mr. Law James. It is hardly possible, we think, for a large gathering such as will be present at the Mansion House on Tuesday to sit in judgment on such a contentious matter. To settle questions of this kind it needs, in the Council's organisation, a kind of Court of Appeal, which should consist, as it were, of the 'Law Lords,' that is of those members of the Exercise—not necessarily members of the Council—who have a really intimate knowledge of the technicalities of matters of this kind. They could hear the arguments and examine the figures of both sides, and then embody their views in the report to the Council. There are at least a dozen men in the Exercise capable of dealing with a subject such as this, and the Council, in forming its 'Court' to settle a controversy, could draw upon those who have remained outside the discussion.

At present, of course, no such means of settling disagreements in the Exercise exists, and a very few members of the Council will feel justified in giving a vote on such a subject unless confronted with overwhelming evidence. In the case of Superlative Surprise, the Council is

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facéd with the fact that the name of 'Superlative Royal' was given to a method rung over a hundred years ago, and we have had strong evidence recently that it has no desire to interfere with names given to methods by our ancestors, or even by our contemporaries if they can get their peal in first. The members are asked to make up their minds whether Shipway and Mr. Law James are right, and the several authors who independently evolved the Maximus are wrong; or whether the reverse is the case. In our view the mere ringing of a peal under some particular name does not necessarily justify the perpetual adoption of that name, but whether the Council will feel able to say which side is right and which is wrong in the Superlative controversy is doubtful.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, May 28, 1927, in Three Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 50 cwt.

WILSON RUSHTON Treble	WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD ... 7
W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM ... 2	MAJOR J. H. B. HESSE ... 8
CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... 3	ERNEST BRETT 9
CHARLES J. CHOJET ... 4	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. 10
HERBERT LANGDON ... 5	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE ... 11
JOSEPH S. HAWKINS ... 6	JAMES BULLOCK Tenor

Composed by CHARLES H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by H. LANGDON
Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. Chojet and Groombridge, jun. J. H. Hawkins' 100th peal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

PENSNETT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

*JOHN KENDRICK... .. Treble	HERBERT SHEPPARD 5
SAMUEL J. HUGHES ... 2	GILBERT GUEST 6
WILLIAM GREEN ... 3	JOHN GOODMAN, JUN. ... 7
CHARLES W. COOPER ... 4	SOLOMON PARKER... .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN GOODMAN, JUN.

* First peal and first attempt.

SOUTHAMPTON.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, May 24, 1927, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 17 cwt.

FRANK BLONDELL Treble	D. CECIL WILLIAMS 5
JOHN W. FAIRHULL ... 2	WILLIAM T. TUCKER 6
REGINALD BROWN ... 3	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7
WILLIAM R. MADGWICK ... 4	OWEN H. GILES Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. F. Blondell. First peal of Triples on the bells since they were recast.

STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 28, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

GEORGE LATHAM... .. Treble	THOMAS WILTS 5
TREVOR PRITCHARD ... 2	P.S. GEORGE HASTINGS ... 6
GEORGE ORCHARD ... 3	LESLIE BARRY 7
BASIL LATHAM ... 4	ROBERT SHARP Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE BARRY.

COLWALL, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 28, 1927, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
At the Church of St. James-the-Great,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 11 cwt.

*ARTHUR W. DAVIS Treble	†CYRIL TANSELL 5
†CHARLES EDWARDS 2	ROBERT G. KNOWLES 6
WILLIAM NIBLETT 3	JOHN J. JEFFERIES 7
SIDNEY T. HOLT 4	CHARLES CAMM Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.
Conducted by S. T. HOLT.
* First peal of Surprise. † First peal of Surprise away from the treble. Arranged for Messrs. A. W. Davis and C. Edwards, of Hereford, who were elected life members of the association previous to starting for the peal.

BPSOM, SURREY.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
(St. Mary Abbott's Guild.)

On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
At the Church of St. Martin,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CHALLIS F. WINNEY Treble	HENRY G. MILES 5
ARTHUR CUTMORE 2	WILLIAM E. JODD 6
FRANK V. SINKINS 3	GEOFFREY C. RICE 7
GEORGE W. TRAYNE 4	ERNEST G. GARRARD Tenor

Conducted by C. F. WINNEY.

* First peal. Mr. W. E. Garrard arranged this peal and umpired it throughout, but was unable to take part through severe illness. The band hope he will soon be restored to health.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 23, 1927, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
At the Church of St. Margaret.

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

JOHN COOK Treble	*JOHN A. COLE 5
PETER CHARMAN 2	*WILLIAM J. ROBINSON 6
WALTER CHARMAN 3	WILLIAM STANFORD 7
*WESLEY PETTIFER 4	ALFRED H. PULLING Tenor

Composed by W. CHARMAN.

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

* First peal in the method.

BROMLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 24, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

JOHN WHEADON Treble	ISAAC EMERY 5
JAMES BENNETT 2	GEORGE H. CROSS 6
THOMAS GROOMERIDGE, SEN. 3	JAMES E. DAVIS 7
PERCY J. SPICE 4	JOHN T. KENTISH Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

John T. Kentish was elected a member previous to starting. This was I. Emery's 50th peal on the bells.

HUGGLESCOTE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 28, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S ONE-PART.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

RONALD H. DOVE Treble	HORACE MOULT 5
ALAN W. RANDS 2	ERNEST H. BAGWORTH 6
JOSEPH W. COTTON 3	EPHRAIM W. RANDS 7
JOHN A. MOULT 4	NORMAN S. BAGWORTH Tenor

Conducted by EPHRAIM W. RANDS.

First peal by the ringer of the 2nd, who is only fifteen years of age.

DENHOLME, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 28, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Paul.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr.

WILLIAM AMBLER Treble	ARTHUR BAIRSTOW 5
JOE GREENWOOD 2	*LEWIS RAWNSLEY 6
WILLIE PROCTOR 3	VERNEY BAIRSTOW 7
*ARTHUR J. SMALLBONES 4	MILLIGAN HARRISON Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by V. BAIRSTOW.

* First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to A. Bairstow.

STANFORD-ON-SOAR, NOTTS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 28, 1927, in Three Hours and One Minute,
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF SPLICED TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6120 CHANGES;

ILKESTON VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt.

FREDERICK S. PRICE Treble	J. FREDERICK MILNER 5
ALLAN R. HICKTON 2	JAMES S. HUTCHLY 6
EDWARD C. GOBEY 3	FREDERICK A. SALTER 7
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD 4	PERCIVAL PRICE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by E. C. GOBEY.

The conductor's 200th peal. It was intended to ring a 9,600 at the Bell Foundry, but owing to some misunderstanding the tower was not open. The band wish to thank the Vicar and steeplekeeper at Stanford-on-Soar for giving permission to ring at the above tower at so short notice.

EXMOUTH, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

(EXETER DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, May 28, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
At the Parish Church of Withycombe Raleigh,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

*EDWIN SHEPHERD Treble	EDMUND SARGENT 5
JOHN OKE 2	†JOHN HAYMAN 6
ALFRED MONKLEY 3	†REGINALD TRUMAN 7
WILLIAM HOWE 4	JOHN SKINNER Tenor

Conducted by EDWIN SHEPHERD.

* 100th peal for the Devon Guild. † 50th peal. ‡ First peal of Stedman.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 28, 1927, in Three Hours,
At Christ Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

*HARFORD G. TOVEY Treble	FREDERICK C. RICH 5
THOMAS F. KING 2	JOSEPH T. DYKE 6
WILLIAM H. CROCKER 3	WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT 7
GILBERT H. HARDING 4	*KENNETH REED Tenor

Conducted by GILBERT H. HARDING.

* First peal. A birthday compliment to Messrs. Prescott and Rich. W. H. Crocker was elected a member previous to starting for the peal.

COLN ST. ALDWYNS, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 29, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 8½ cwt. in A.

THOMAS BALDWIN Treble	HERBERT ACOCK 5
FRANCIS J. LEWIS 2	JOHN HOPE 6
WILFRED G. COOK 3	EX-SGT. J. WILLIAMS 7
H. CHARLES BOND 4	JOE SMITH Tenor

Conducted by FRANCIS J. LEWIS.

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TURVEY, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 23, 1927, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt.

HENRY W. GAYTON Treble	WILLIAM SHARP 5
PEARL INSKIP 2	WILLIAM STOCK 6
AMOS SMART 3	HERBERT L. HARLOW 7
BERNARD FISHER 4	HENRY STAPLETON Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by HENRY W. GAYTON

First peal in the method on the bells, and by all the band, except the ringer of the 3rd.

GILLINGHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 23, 1927, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 8056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

FRANK BELSEY Treble	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 5
FREDERICK M. MITCHELL 2	CHARLES E. J. NORRIS 6
JOHN BURLS 3	WILLIAM HAIGH 7
THOMAS BRAUMONT 4	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN

Arranged and rung as a birthday peal for William Haigh, who has been connected with this tower for over 40 years.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WELLINGBOROUGH BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 23, 1927, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR PART.

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb.

GEORGE BASFORD Treble	*FRED BARBER 5
JAMES T. WARD 2	HARRY PETTIT 6
JOHN R. MAIN 3	WALTER PERKINS 7
*ALBERT FLOWMAN 4	ARTHUR TOMPKINS Tenor

Conducted by WALTER PERKINS.

* First peal in the method. Arranged for the ringers of 4th, 5th and 6th, who hail from Wellingborough.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, May 23, 1927, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

FREDERICK F. MORTLOCK Treble	FREDERICK BOREHAM 5
LAWRENCE POULSON 2	FRANK A. TURNER 6
*MAURICE T. SYMONDS 3	ARTHUR SYMONDS 7
FREDERICK A. POULSON 4	WILLIAM R. J. POULSON Tenor

Composed by J. E. BURTON. Conducted by W. R. J. POULSON.

* First peal in the method on tower bells. Rung to commemorate fifty years' ringing at the above church by the 7th ringer, and in honour of H.M. Queen Mary's birthday.

CRESWELL, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, May 23, 1927, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF NORFOLK SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr.

EDWARD ROBBINS Treble	THOMAS BETTISON 5
*WILLIAM BARTON 2	THOMAS RILEY 6
JOHN H. BROTHWELL 3	*HAROLD KENT 7
CHARLES MASON 4	JOHN FLINT Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by JOHN FLINT.

* First peal in the method. The band desire to thank the Vicar of Creswell (Rev. W. Key) for the use of the bells, as owing to illness the peal could not be rung at Bolsover.

CANTERBURY.—At St. Alphege's Church, on Wednesday, April 20th, 720 Bob Minor in 26 mins.: Alfred Eley 1, Miss Edith M. Chambers 2, Miss Olive M. Sanders 3, W. E. Pitman, Mus.Bac., 4, Fred R. Weller 5, Fred G. Brett (conductor) 6.

GREAT TEW, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, May 29, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 22 cwt. 10 lb.

GEORGE R. PYE Treble	CHARLES T. COLES 5
MAURICE SMITH 2	*HERBERT IMPEY 6
*RUPERT R. LEWIS 3	WILLIAM PYE 7
*THOMAS IMPEY 4	†LEONARD CLIFTON Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

* First peal of Stedman. † First peal.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

STRETTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 18, 1927, in Two Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. in A.

GEORGE VERNON Treble	HARRY PARKER 4
JOHN H. DAVENPORT 2	EDWARD JENKINS 5
JOHN S. ROYLE 3	CECIL RADDOCK Tenor

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

First peal of Kent Minor by all. The conductor has now called Oxford and Kent Treble Bob on 6, 8, 10 and 12 bells.

MARKET DEEPPING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GUTHLAC,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, viz.: (1) Cambridge and Primrose Surprise, (2) Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, (3) Double and Single Oxford, (4) Double and Single Court, (5) Double and Single Bob, (6) St. Clement's Bob, (7) Fulbeck Bob.

Tenor 16 cwt.

CUTHBERT T. H. BRADLEY Treble	JOHN J. JUTSON 4
MISS KATHLEEN A. JUTSON 2	JOSEPH O. LANDON 5
HORACE M. DAY 3	*GEORGE H. WELLS Tenor

Conducted by H. M. DAY.

* First peal in 12 methods. Arranged for Mr. Wells, who is 71 years of age, as he was unable to stand in the last similar peal through illness.

KILLAMARSH, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Three Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London, Wells, Lightfoot, Wearmouth, Lancashire, Stamford and Norwich.

Tenor 11 cwt.

FRED PARR Treble	GEORGE BURNHAM 4
HARRY GREAVES 2	W. H. TURTON 5
GORDON TURNER 3	CHARLES SEVERN Tenor

Conducted by C. SEVERN.

The above was arranged for the ringer of the third, who hails from South Anston, and was proposed a member of the association before starting, it being his first attempt for a peal. He is 17 years of age.

BURTON-IN-KENDAL, WESTMORLAND.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FURNESS AND LAKE DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four 720's of Kent, two of Oxford Treble Bob and one of Plain Bob.

EDWIN JENNINGS Treble	JOHN HOLME 4
FURNESS WOODEND 2	JOSEPH W. HAYTON 5
JAMES THOMPSON 3	WILLIAM ROBINSON Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM ROBINSON.

Treble and 3rd ringers belong to Kendal, 4th and 5th to Silverdale, 2nd to Brathay and tenor to Ambleside. This is believed to be the first peal on the bells.

MATHON, HEREFORDSHIRE.

On Sunday, May 22, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's Woodbine, two 720's Oxford, and three 720's of Kent Treble Bob.

*JOSEPH HERDMAN Treble	CHRIS. BOWERS 4
WILLIAM RANFORD 2	DAVID HORNE 5
†THOMAS PRATT 3	GEORGE JORDON Tenor

Conducted by CHRIS. BOWERS.

* First peal. † First peal on an inside bell. First peal as conductor.

WEEKLEY, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, May 23, 1927, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 Cambridge Surprise, two 720's each Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt. 10 lb.

DAVID SHATFORD Treble	CHARLES W. BIRD 4
CYRIL D. NICHOLS 2	ROBERT G. BLACK 5
WALTER T. WILSON 3	ERNEST MORRIS Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

The conductor wishes to thank the band for arranging above peal at short notice for him.

BISHOP'S HULL, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 24, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEOMAN DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

42 different six-scores. Tenor 12 cwt.

ALFRED J. WYATT Treble	JAMES HUNT 4
*HARRY POCOCK 2	PERCY MERSON 5
*WILLIAM UNDERHILL 3	*FRANK CAVILL Tenor

Arranged by JAMES HUNT. Conducted by PERCY MERSON.
* First peal of Stedman. First peal of Stedman Doubles by remainder. Rung to celebrate Empire Day. The peal was made up of 10 six-scores, starting full quick six, 10 starting full slow six, 10 starting third change of quick six, and 12 six-scores, two with four singles, starting fourth change of quick six. Rung for the first time.

MERTHAM, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 25, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. KATHERINE,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. in F sharp.

H. BERNARD WELLS Treble	DANIEL COOPER 4
*THOMAS A. S. BLOXHAM 2	JAMES BATTERS 5
HERBERT WOOD 3	THOMAS G. BANNISTER Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS G. BANNISTER.

* First peal of Bob Minor.

GLOUCESTER.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Thursday, May 26, 1927, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN, HARTPURY,

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

Being 42 six-scores, each called differently. Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM WASLEY Treble	THOMAS GAZEY 4
WILLIAM H. HARRIS 2	ALBERT MARTIN 5
H. HAYWARD 3	IVOR WHITING Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT MARTIN.

Rung to celebrate Queen Mary's birthday.

HATHEROP, GLOS.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 28, 1927, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's.

GEORGE J. WINTER Treble	*EMANUEL J. WOODROFF 4
JOHN HOPK 2	HERBERT ACOCK 5
THOMAS BALDWIN 3	EX-SGT. J. WILLIAMS Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS BALDWIN.

* First peal of Minor. Believed to be the first peal of Minor on the bells.

SOMERBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 28, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 extents. Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lb. in G.

EDGAR LEWIN Treble	A NORMAN GEARY 3
JOSEPH NORTON 2	J. GEOFFREY GEARY 4

ERNEST MORRIS Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

First peal on the bells by the M.C.A. The ringers desire to thank the Vicar for permission and Mr. and Mrs. Underwood for kind entertainment afterwards.

MILTON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTH BERKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 28, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of eleven 240's of A. J. Pitman's arrangement and 20 extents with 10 different callings. Tenor 9½ cwt.

GEORGE HENWOOD Treble	JOHN NOBES 4
DAN H. WOODLEY 2	PERCY W. FLETCHER 5
HUMPHREY R. COOPER 3	LESLIE F. PULLEN Tenor

Conducted by JOHN NOBES.

First peal for the ringer of the treble, who is in his 70th year; also first peal for the ringer of tenor.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 24, 1927, in One Hour and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT 396, MEANWOOD ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

JOHN AMBLER 1-2	WILLIAM BARTON 5-6
PERCY J. JOHNSON 3-4	H. STANLEY ROBINSON 7-8

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

Attested by FRED HODGSON.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor. This is the 50th peal together by ringers of 1-2 and 5-6 and 3-4 and 5-6.

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, May 26, 1927, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT 26, KIRKMANSHULME LANE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

ALFRED BARNES 1-2	ALLEN F. BAILEY 5-6
HAROLD JACKSON 3-4	FREDERICK PAGE 7-8
HARRY CHAPMAN 9-10	

Composed by MORRIS J. MORRIS. Conducted by FREDK. PAGE.

Witness: W. EDWARDS.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, May 27, 1927, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT 17, NORTH SIDE, CLAPHAM,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

MRS. F. I. HAIRS 1-2	GEORGE H. CROSS 5-6
FRANK I. HAIRS 3-4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS 7-8

Composed and Conducted by GEO. H. CROSS.

Umpire: MR. A. W. COLES.

First peal 'in hand' by Mr. O. W. Roberts, and first in the method 'in hand' by the conductor.

Bell Ropes

MADE FROM BEST RUSSIAN AND ITALIAN HEMP,
ALSO ITALIAN AND DUTCH FLAX.

Kindly write for special low prices of these superior ropes.

Satisfaction guaranteed. Established 1780. Phone 203.

DAVID MAXON, Rope Works, Grantham

NOTES BY THE WAY.

A QUAIN BOOK.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

At the end of Mr. Lukis' article, to which I have referred in previous 'Notes by the Way,' is a list of works on bells published up to that time (1855). This was supplied by the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe. The first thirty-nine books on the list were published abroad, chiefly in Germany or Rome. More than half the number are written in Latin, and are evidently very learned works. Copies of these can occasionally be picked up, and recently the catalogue of a Cambridge bookseller was sent to me which contained a couple, both in Latin and both early seventeenth century. The prices, if I remember, were quite moderate.

The list of English books on ringing is interesting, and I give it in full:—

Tintinnalogia, or the Art of Ringing improved, by T. W(hite). 18mo. 1668. This is the book alluded to by Dr. Burney in his *History of Music*, vol. iv., p. 415.

Campanalogia, or the Art of Ringing improved. 18mo. This was by Fabian Stedman.

Campanalogia improved, by I. D. and C. M., London Scholars. 18mo. 1702.

Ditto, second edition. 12mo. 1705.

Ditto, third edition. 12mo. 1733.

Ditto, fourth edition. 12mo. 1753.

Ditto, fifth edition, by J. Monk. 18mo. 1766.

The School of Recreation, or Gentleman's Tutor in various exercises, one of which is ringing. 1684.

Clavis Campanalogia, by Jones, Reeves and Blackmore. 12mo. 1768. Reprinted in 1796 and 1800?

The Ringers' True Guide, by S. Beaufoy. 12mo. 1804.

The Campanalogia, or Universal Instructor in the Art of Ringing, by William Shipway. 12mo. 1816.

Elements of Campanalogia, by H. Hubbard. 12mo. 1845, 1854.

The Bell, its origin, history and uses, by Rev. A. Gatty. 12mo. 1847.

Ditto, enlarged. 1848.

Blunt's Use and Abuse of Church Bells. 8vo. 1846.

Ellacombe's practical remarks on Belfries and Ringers. 8vo. 1850.

Ellacombe's Paper on Bells, with illustrations, in the Report of the Bristol Architectural Society. 1850.

Croome's Few Words on Bells and Bell Ringing. 8vo. 1851.

Woolf's Address on the Science of Campanology. Tract. 1851.

Plain Hints to Bell Ringers. No. 47 of Parochial Tracts. 1852.

The Art of Change Ringing, by B. Thackrah. 12mo. 1852.

Quarterly Review. Art. Church Bells. September, 1854.

Osborn's Manuscripts. Additional MSS., Nos. 19,368 and 19,373.

At the time this list was drawn up Mr. Lukis evidently had not yet obtained possession of his copy of the 'Tintinnalogia,' for it is said to be by T. White. White's book, 'A Rich Cabinet of Inventions,' was published in 1677, and the chapter on change ringing was re-issued about 1700 under the title of 'Tintinnalogia.' I have never seen a copy of Beaufoy's 'The Ringer's True Guide,' nor yet of Blunt's, Croome's or Woolf's books. It would be interesting to know if any ringer owns one, or if they are in any public library.

Yet another has to be added to this list. This is a book entitled 'The Shepherd's Kalender or the Citizen's and Country Man's Daily Companion.' It is a little book of 157 pages, and is dated 1702. I know of only one copy. It belongs to Mr. E. M. Atkins, and was picked up some years ago in the sixpenny box of a second hand book shop. In the preface the author tells us that: 'In this Labour'd Work you will find so many Useful and Profitable Things, that I am persuaded to be Constrained to acknowledge you never before found the like in any (of what Volume soever) and I have digested them into so Easie a Method that any ordinary Capacity may Comprehend what has so long been handled in Ambiguous Sentences, Dark and Abstruse, to keep all but those that are very learned in Ignorance.' What these so many Useful and Profitable Things are we may learn from the title page, where they are given as 'many Things that

are Useful and Profitable to Man-kind with above Two Hundred Wonderful Curiosities, never before Published. Also, a Discourse of the Eclipses of the Sun and Moon with Rules to know when they will happen. Infallible Signs of the Weather. To know when Wet or Dry, and when sudden Storms arises. Hot or Cold Weather by living Creatures, A Curious Observation never made Public before.

'An Account of the Lucky and Unlucky Days throughout the Year. The Mosaick Wand to find out Hidden Treasures; The Calculation of Nativities and to Resolve all Lawful Questions.

'To which is added,

'The Country Man's Almanack, Directing when to Bleed and Dyet the Body; A Treatise of Bees, Warrens, ordering of Cattle, Hawks, and how to Kill Vermine. The Measuring Land and Timber: The Art of Ringing: The true Value or Worth of a Single Penny: Or a Caution to keep Money.

'Being above Forty Years' Study and Experience of a Learned Shepherd.'

If I had space I should like to quote some of the many recipes given, and perhaps some of my readers might put them in practice and see how they worked. For instance, if you want to stop a dog barking at you in the night time you must take the skin off the Forehead of an Hyena, boil it and smoak it over the burnt Hoof of a Cow twice or thrice, and so carry it about with you, and so long as you do this the dogs will not only be silent, but run away from you as fast as they can. Which is a very useful thing to know. So, too, are the rules for keeping away ghosts and how to know what to do when you are in love, and much more.

Among all this quaint matter a treatise on ringing seems odd enough, but our learned shepherd was evidently a keen member of the Exercise and could not forbear to include a chapter on his favourite pastime. He promises us a plain and easie Introduction to the Most Curious Art, and healthful Exercise of Ringing Musically on 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 or 9 Bells. But he hardly keeps his promise. He goes no further than 'The Old Trebles and Doubles on Six Bells,' which is a plain course of Bob Minor. He thus begins his chapter: 'Since a Knowledge of this Art has been much desired by many and is a very Healthful as well as Pleasant Exercise, I have placed an Introduction to Young Ringers in this so useful a Book of Rareties, though at first sight it may appear a Digression from the rest; however since I have designed this Work to fit every one as near as may be I cannot but Conclude that this will be desired by many and cannot be hurtful to none.'

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The monthly meeting of the Barnsley and District Association was held at Felkirk on Saturday, May 14th, when members attended from Barnsley, Wath, Sandal, Horbury, Royston, Crofton, Wortley, Armley, Hoylandswaine, Cawthorne, Darfield, South Kirkby, and the local company. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m., and at the invitation of the Vicar (Rev. H. S. P. Coster) a short service was held, which was well attended. Tea followed in the old schoolroom, to which about 30 sat down.

At the business meeting, the Vicar presiding, a vote of condolence was passed with the relatives of Mr. F. Edwards, a late member of the South Kirkby company and a chorister, the members standing for a few moments in silence.

Wentworth and Shelley were proposed for next meeting, Wentworth being selected by 15 votes to 8.

A hearty vote of thanks was unanimously passed to the Vicar and churchwardens, and to the local company for their hearty welcome.

Afterwards, ringing continued in various methods until 9 p.m., when the members made tracks for home highly satisfied with the day's proceedings.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD. THIRD ANNUAL RINGING COMPETITION.

To comply with the general request that the annual ringing competition be held on the Saturday nearest Empire Day, the third contest was held at the tower of St. Elli's Church, Llanelli, Breconshire, on Saturday, May 21st. The church is delightfully situated, overlooking the valley, leading from Crickhowell to Abergavenny, and possesses a fine peal of six bells, the tenor being between 400 and 500 years old. The competition was open to members of the Guild, a shield being presented to the winning band. Several bands (competitors last year) were unable to attend this year's competition. The Guild was again fortunate in getting Mr. W. H. Fussell, of Slough, to act as adjudicator, and he carried out his duties in his usual satisfactory way. The order of ringing and the points obtained by the several bands were:—

Morriston	...	...	219
St. David's, Brecon	...	...	191
Cadoxton	...	...	227
Llanelli	...	...	231
St. Mary's, Brecon	...	...	186
Llangatlock	...	...	201
Baglan	...	...	216

The maximum number of points obtainable was 240. Llanelli headed the competition, but owing to a rule that a local tower should be handicapped nine points, they were relegated to second place. Cadoxton were thus the winners, and they have now won the shield two years in succession. Certificates were presented to the first three teams.

Mr. Fussell, in his report, complimented the Guild on such a good muster, and stated that the standard of ringing was not up to that of previous competitions. Several of the bands competing last year have broken up, and the new ringers have made great strides in the art of change ringing. The teams kept fairly good compass, and were fairly efficient in the methods rung.

The company present were entertained to a cold luncheon at the Church Hall, when the Rector, the Reverend W. Gurnos Davies, was in the chair. He was supported at the cross table by the Rev. T. W. B. Thomas (curate), Rev. E. R. J. Jones (Brecon), Rev. H. C. Willis (Brynmawr), Mr. W. R. Williams (churchwarden), Mr. W. H. Fussell (adjudicator), Mr. Charles Powell (hon. treasurer), and the hon. secretary stated that the completed design had that day been handed him.

The competition commenced at 11 a.m., and terminated at 4 p.m. Tea was served at 6.30 p.m., the adjudicator afterwards delivering his award. The shield was presented to Mr. J. E. Bloxham, the captain of Cadoxton band, by Mrs. Davies, the Rector's wife, whilst the certificates were presented by Mr. W. R. Williams (churchwarden).

The thanks of the ringers were heartily accorded the Rector, Mrs. Davies, and the ladies who were responsible for the catering, on the proposition of Rev. T. R. Jones. After the Rector and his warden had responded, three hearty cheers were accorded them all. Mr. W. H. Fussell came in for very special thanks, and the hon. secretary, in proposing them, remarked how greatly they were indebted to Mr. Fussell for having journeyed from Slough at great inconvenience to fulfil his duties so well. Mr. Fussell had previously promised to present the Guild with a design for their membership card, and the hon. secretary stated that the completed design had that day been handed him by Mr. Fussell, who, it may be added, had spent a great deal of his time in executing the beautiful and appropriate work shown thereon. Members present were afforded an opportunity of inspecting the design. It is hoped to have the certificates ready for the annual meeting, when the Lord Bishop has intimated his desire to present them to the captains of the several towers.

Led by the Rev. W. Gurnos Davies, three hearty cheers were accorded Mr. Fussell for the great interest he has taken in the Guild since its formation four years ago, to which he suitably responded.

GARSTON BELLS REHUNG.

Garston Parish Church bells have been rehung in ball bearings by a local firm, and they were opened for ringing on Saturday last. Ringers attended from Grassendale, Halewood, Hale, Birkenhead, Woolton, Frodsham, and the local company. A service was held, in which Archdeacon Howson and Canon Rowe took part, and an address was given by Canon Elsee (president of the Lancashire Association).

Touches in a variety of methods were rung on the bells, and the 'go' gave satisfaction to all present.

DARLINGTON RINGER'S FATAL FALL.

Mr. Fred Cooke, a member of the band of St. John's, Darlington, died in Greenbank Hospital, on May 21st, as the result of a fall. The deceased, who was 51 years of age, was by trade a joiner, and was fixing new spouting to the roof of a house when the ladder on which he was standing slipped, and he fell to the ground. He received severe head injuries, to which he later succumbed.

He was a member of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association and the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association, and will be much missed in the belfry at St. John's.

On Sunday evening, May 22nd, his colleagues rang a half-muffled touch of 1,008 Grandsire Triples: T. Scollick 1, A. Coates 2, F. W. Johnson, jun., 3, F. W. Johnson, sen., 4, J. W. Dawson 5, W. Broadley (conductor) 6, H. Taylor 7, H. Broadley 8.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

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LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

MEARS & STAINBANK,

**Foundry
Established
A.D. 1570**
(19th year
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Elizabeth).

**Bellfounders and
Bellhangers,**

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

Telephone London Wall 9549



ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

for

Recasting, Retuning and Rehanging.

HANDBELLS

In Sets of any number.

BELL ROPES. MUFFLES. &c

BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. E. H. Lewis, who from 1914 was works manager of the Glasgow Iron and Steel Company, Ltd., one of the most important under-ribs of its kind in Scotland, has been appointed general manager. For four years Mr. Lewis was president of the West of Scotland Iron and Steel Institute, and as a speaker and writer on matters relating to the industry has made valuable public contributions.

As a ringer, Mr. Lewis has also done a great deal of work for the Exercise, the most important, perhaps, being his investigations into the strains and stresses set up by bells in motion, and their effects upon church towers. Mr. Lewis represents Cambridge University Guild upon the Central Council, and is a member of the Methods Committee and the Towers and Belfries Committee. The great claims of business have prevented him taking much active part in ringing in recent years.

Some idea of the importance of the concern of which Mr. Lewis is now the head may be judged from the fact that the company works six collieries at Wishaw and Motherwell; the Wishaw Iron Works, Wishaw Cement Works, Wishaw Ammonia Works, Harburn Limestone Mines, in Midlothian; and the Lamplugh Iron Ore Mines in Cumberland.

Mr. Edwin Shepherd, who has been for so many years a stalwart in the Devon Guild, and who is chairman of the Exeter Branch, reached his 100th year for the Guild last Saturday, and is, we believe, the first to do so, although Mr. F. J. Davey, if he has not actually reached the century, is very close indeed.

It is never too late to begin ringing, or to ring one's first peal. Mr. George Henwood, of Milton, Berks, has rung his first 5,040 when in his 70th year.

A secretary for the Canterbury District of the Kent County Association has at length been found, the duties, which for some time have been temporarily discharged by the general secretary, the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, having been taken over by Mr. Percy Smith, of Fairview, Littlebourne.

A sum of about £350 is required for the restoration of the tower and bells at Tilsforth, a little Bedfordshire village with about 160 inhabitants. A fete in aid of the fund is to be held to-morrow, and ringers will be welcome. Those who cannot go, can send their contributions to the Vicar. Any help will be much appreciated.

A new banking company, writes a correspondent, has been formed for the special benefit of bell ringers, with offices at Warrington—Messrs. Soundbow, Headstock and Co., Ltd.

Mr. Wm. Keeble, of Kelvedon, Essex, recently lost his eldest son, killed on the road by a motor lorry whilst cycling to his work. All ringers will sympathise with the family in their bereavement.

A team of touring ringers propose to visit Scotland in June, and hope to attain the distinction of being the first peal band to ring in kilts. The company will include such well-known men as 'Harry,' of Manchester, and it would be worth a long journey to see him ringing in the Scots' national dress, complete with sporran.

At the annual meeting of the Beaconsfield company on May 23rd, Mr. R. Buckland was elected to the office of foreman of the belfry for the year.

STEDMAN DOUBLES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Your readers may be interested to have a few details of the arrangement of the six-scores rung in the peal of Stedman Doubles at Bishop's Hull on Empire Day. Some five or six years ago I worked out the whole extent of Stedman Doubles. Fifteen 120's were well known at the time, viz., 10 with two singles and five with four singles. To these I added 165 more, starting from the 11 remaining ways, making a total to be rung with two singles 120, and another 60 with four singles, grand total 180.

The peal at Bishop's Hull was selected from these. The calling of each was strictly adhered to, viz., singles on 1-2, 1-3, 1-4, 1-5, 2-3, 2-4, 2-5, 3-4, 3-5, and 4-5; and two 120's with four singles, 1-2, 3-4 repeated; 2-3, 4-5 repeated. I may add the peal was not rung at the first attempt.—Yours faithfully,

Taunton.

JAMES HUNT.

HOYLANDSWAINE RINGER WEDDED.

On Easter Monday, the marriage took place at St. John's Church, Hoylandswaine, of Miss Alice Simpson and Mr. Fred Broadhead, the ceremony being performed by the Vicar (Rev. J. Hewetson). The bride, who is the daughter of Mr. W. Simpson, is a Sunday School teacher attached to the above church, and the bridegroom, the eldest son of Mr. W. Broadhead, is a local ringer and a member of the choir. Immediately after the ceremony, the bells pealed forth their joyful music, and 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was brought round by: W. Marsden 1, L. Wilkinson (conductor) 2, W. Chappell 3, E. Crosland 4, S. Fielding 5, E. Brookes 6.—A 360 in the same method was also rung by: E. Crosland 1, L. Wilkinson (conductor) 2, W. Chappell 3, S. Fielding 4, T. Noble 5, E. Brookes 6. Afterwards, the ringers adjourned to the Rose and Crown, the bride's home, where a reception was held, and were just in time to convey to the happy couple their best wishes for their future happiness, before their departure for Blackpool, where the honeymoon is being spent.

The ringing was also in honour of the 21st anniversary of the conductor's wedding day.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL. WHITSUNTIDE ARRANGEMENTS.

Among the arrangements which are being made for the enjoyment of visitors to London in connection with the Central Council meeting, are river trips, social gatherings, and plenty of opportunities for ringing.

The private launch, 'Sovereign' (accommodation about 65), has been reserved for the Council. The party will leave Westminster on Sunday afternoon at 2.25 sharp, and, proceeding down the river for Greenwich, will leave to at Bankside for the purpose of hearing St. Paul's bells from the water. The famous Greenwich Naval Hospital will be visited, also Greenwich Park and Observatory, and the party will return at 6.30. Charge, including tea, about 4s. (according to number). Names to be given in early to the hon. secretary, Mr. E. A. Young.

A personally conducted party, provided sufficient number of names are sent in, will be taken to Kew Gardens on the Bank Holiday afternoon. In the morning, a visit to the dome of St. Paul's, or other place of interest, will be arranged if a sufficient number so desire.

RINGING.

The following towers will be open for ringing:—

Sunday, June 5th: St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, 5 p.m.; St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, 5.15 p.m.; St. Giles', Cripplegate, 5.30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 7th: St. Paul's Cathedral, 6 to 7.30 p.m.; St. Clement Danes', Strand, 6 to 7.30 p.m.

On Saturday, June 4th, visitors will be welcomed at St. Mary's Church, Ealing, between 6 and 9 p.m.

Mr. W. E. Garrard will be pleased to welcome visiting ringers to St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, on Whit Sunday, at 10.50 a.m. and 5.45 p.m., and on Whit Monday at 10.30 a.m.

Should any of the Central Council members care to visit one of the rural beauty spots of Kent, there will be ringing at Chislehurst Parish Church on Whit Sunday, at 9.30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. Trains every half-hour from Charing Cross and London Bridge (ten miles).

Visitors will also be welcome at All Saints', Fulham, on Sunday, from 4.30 to 6.30 p.m.

SOCIAL MEETINGS.

Saturday, June 4th: King of Denmark, Old Bailey, 7.30 p.m.

Sunday, June 5th: King of Denmark, 7 p.m.

Monday, June 6th: The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, 7.30.

Tuesday, June 7th: The Bedford Head, Maiden Lane, Strand, 7.45.

THE COUNCIL'S BALANCE SHEET.

The balance sheet for the year ending Whitsuntide, 1927, is as follows:

Receipts: Balance in bank £67 6s., affiliation fees £14 2s. 6d.; interest on stock £4 2s. 5d., sale of publications £7 10s. 5d.; total, £93 1s. 4d.

Expenditure: Committee expenses, Rev. A. T. Beeston (records) £1 17s. 2d., Mr. E. A. Young (postage, stationery, etc.) £7 9s. 4d.; 'Ringing World' (printing) £38 16s.; balance in bank £44 18s. 10d.; total, £93 1s. 4d.

ANOTHER LONG PEAL ATTEMPT IN LANCASHIRE.

A RECORD LENGTH.

All being well, eight members of the Lancashire Association intend to attempt on Saturday, June 11th, at the Church of St. Leonard-the-Less, Samlesbury, near Preston, a long peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 22,086 changes, starting at 7 a.m. The tenor here is 18 cwt.

Mr. E. Jenkins writes that some apology is perhaps due for this rather late notice. Application was made for Mottram bells on May 3rd for this event, but the answer 'No' did not arrive until May 21st, which has left very little time to arrange for another tower. Samlesbury are 'O.K.' except the ropes, but it is hoped to obtain a new set in time for the peal.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 28th, a quarterly meeting of the Christchurch District was held at Fordingbridge, those present including Mr. G. Williams (Master), Mr. G. Pullinger (general secretary), Mr. Preston (district secretary), Mr. Townsend (Poole), Mr. Romaine (Salisbury), and members from Brockenhurst, Bournemouth, Christchurch, Ringwood, Fareham, North Stonham, Poole and Salisbury. Mr. J. H. Shepherd, of Swindon, was also a very welcome visitor, and added one more to his already long list of towers.

The bells have recently been put in order by Messrs. Taylor and Co., the fifth, sixth and seventh have been recast, the others retuned and the whole rehung with ball bearings, and the work has been carried out in the usual excellent style of this firm. Fordingbridge now possesses a very musical octave with a tenor of 14 cwt.

At the business meeting, which was presided over by the Master, it was decided to hold a meeting at Milford-on-Sea in September, the date to be left to the discretion of the district secretary.

Mr. Rolls (Salisbury) was elected a compounding member, and votes of thanks passed to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells. The methods rung were Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob, Kent, Double Norwich and Cambridge Major.

SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR.

5,408 OF LONDON, SUPERLATIVE, CAMBRIDGE AND BRISTOL.
BY THE REV. H. LAW JAMES.

The plain course: 2345678

4263857 London.

3527486 Cambridge or Superlative.

2345678 London.

23456 M W H

63542 — 2 —

24536 — — —

26435 2 —

46532 —

56234 —

The second W and the second M are produced by inserting a lead of Bristol.

Four times repeated.

Also five more parts starting from 54326.

Join the two five parts together by omitting the 2W in the first course of any one of the first five parts (omitting the lead of Bristol), which comes to the W in one of the second five parts. Ring these five parts and omit the W to get back into the first five parts.

Reduce to 5,024 by omitting the last two M in a part and the first M in the next part, and do this a second time.

This ingenious production by the Rev. H. Law James will be studied with interest by Surprise ringers. That a true peal containing these four methods is possible will come as a revelation to many.

An attempt was made to ring it at Warnham, Sussex, on Saturday, but, although the band were experienced Surprise ringers, they were unsuccessful.

BIRMINGHAM AND SHEFFIELD RINGERS.

FRATERNAL MEETING AT DUFFIELD.

For very many years, a great bond of friendship has existed between Sheffield and Birmingham, and periodical visits by Birmingham men to Sheffield, and vice versa, have been paid.

Thanks to a happy thought on the part of Mr. Albert Walker, Birmingham, this feeling of friendship was still further cemented by a gathering which took place at Duffield on Saturday, May 28th.

A more ideal place could hardly have been conceived, for Duffield lies practically half-way between the two towns. Not only was it suitable by virtue of position, but Duffield was for many years the home of the late Sir Arthur P. Heywood, and meeting together on this spot conjured in the minds of many of those present many incidents and associations in connection with that past giant in the art.

Upwards of 50 ringers were present—22 from Birmingham, 20 from Sheffield, and the remainder from Derby and Duffield. The Birmingham contingent called at Derby on their way to Duffield, and arrangements had been made for them to ring at St. Andrew's, where they found an excellent ring of ten bells recently augmented and retuned by Messrs. Taylor and Co. These bells called forth a good deal of admiration, and Stedman Caters and Cambridge Royal were soon brought round.

Thanks were expressed to the Ringing Master of St. Andrew's, Mr. C. E. Hart, for arranging for permission to ring, and to Messrs. A. H. Ward, W. Wallis and C. Draper for meeting the visitors.

The party then proceeded by bus to Duffield, where the Sheffield men were waiting. Ringing in various methods took place, including London Surprise Major, Cambridge Royal, Duffield Royal, Stedman and Grandsire Caters, etc.

A substantial meat tea was awaiting the visitors at the Bridge Inn, and afterwards Alderman J. S. Pritchett, Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild, briefly referred to the happy relations between Sheffield and Birmingham. He said he was glad to have the opportunity of visiting Duffield, and to pay a tribute to the splendid work done by the late Sir Arthur Heywood. They were also pleased to see with them that day Mr. Thos. Russam, a well-known and respected Birmingham ringer.

Mr. Percy J. Johnson and Mr. S. F. Palmer also expressed the pleasure of the Yorkshiremen at being present, Mr. Palmer saying that all credit for the organisation of the gathering was entirely due to Mr. Albert Walker.

Mr. Walker expressed thanks to the Vicar of St. Andrew's, Derby, and to the Vicar of Duffield, for so readily giving permission to ring, and specially thanked Mr. and Mrs. S. Dawson, of Duffield, for making such splendid arrangements for the comfort of the visitors.

During the afternoon, a collection was made towards the restoration of Duffield bells, and a pleasant evening was afterwards spent renewing old friendships and with the handbells. It was decided unanimously to make the affair an annual event.

J. F. S.

LONG SERVICE.

At St. Mary's Church, Broughton Astley, Leicestershire, on May 25th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) in 48 mins.: W. Arnold 1, J. Brunt 2, C. Carr 3, A. Bodycote 4, H. Bird (conductor) 5. Rung on his 70th birthday, as a compliment to the ringer of the 2nd, the captain of the local band and a service ringer at the church for 54 years.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION. ANNUAL FESTIVAL.

The 41st annual festival of the above association was held at East Retford on Saturday last, when ringers were present from Anston, Barlborough, Collingham, Cuckney, Edwinstowe, Gamston, Gainsborough, Rotherham, Tickhill, Shireoaks, Sutton-on-Trent, Misterton, Wheatley, Warsop, Worksop, East Retford and Ordsall. The three towers, East Retford (10), Ordsall (6), and West Retford (6), were available, by permission of incumbents, from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m., and the following methods were rung: At East Retford, Grandsire Triples, Grandsire Caters, Stedman Triples, Bob Major and Kent Treble Bob Major; and at West Retford and Ordsall, methods from Plain Bob to Cambridge Surprise. At the service an eloquent and appropriate address was delivered by the Rev. Alfred Parkinson from St. Luke xiv. 17. The preacher dealt with the duties of ringers and the encouragement they should receive from the clergy, the disappointments the enthusiasts had to put up with in all games and pursuits of life. Being a great footballer and cricketer himself, he knew how trying it was for half a dozen men only to turn up to time for a game where 11 players were required, and the other five to come later or send the most frivolous excuses for absenting themselves. The leaders had to enlist the service of substitutes, and carry on the game with a brave spirit and make many sacrifices. Was it not the same in bell ringing, and more difficult, too, where substitutes could not be found? Yet the leaders went on year by year in country villages and towns, and tried to carry on bravely. He appealed to all present to take the greatest interest in their noble art, and to put life and inspiration into their leaders by attending all practices and Sunday ringing regularly and punctually.

Tea was served at Cooke's Cafe, where 55 sat down, presided over by the Rev. A. Parkinson. At the business meeting which followed, the hon. secretary's report was accepted. It dealt with the year's work in detail, and hinted at his resignation on account of increasing ties and advancing years.

The hon. secretary, however, agreed to accept office for another two years, and all other officers, including the president, vice-presidents, and assistant secretary, were re-elected on bloc.

The next meeting will be held at Edwinstowe on June 25th.

Seventeen new members were duly enrolled, and the question of a competition for the new silver cup, which Mr. Crawford, of Rampton, had offered in memory of his late father, who was an enthusiastic ringer and a committeeman, was left in the hands of a small committee of five to draw up rules, etc., and report as early as possible.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar of East Retford for his address and for the use of bells and presiding over tea and meeting. Also to the Rev. R. F. Wilkinson and Rev. G. E. Summers, of Ordsall and West Retford respectively, for the use of the bells. The former sent an apology for absence from the meeting, as he was away from home, and wished the association every success.—The Chairman briefly replied, and the meeting terminated. The towers were then again visited, and ringing continued until 8.45 p.m.

H. H.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. LICHESTER DEANERY BRANCH.

A well attended meeting of this branch took place at Langport on Saturday, May 21st. Over 30 sat down to tea in the Church Room, ringers being present from Yeovil, Martock, Stoke-under-Ham, Ilminster, Drayton, Curry Rivel, Street, and from such distant Dorset towers as Dorchester and Buckhorn Weston. The president of the branch (the Rev. G. W. Saunders) conducted a short service in the Parish Church, assisted by the Vicar (the Rev. J. W. Plaxton).

A business meeting followed the tea, the president being in the chair, supported by the vice-president (the Rev. A. Rhys James, Vicar of Drayton) and the Vicar.

The Chairman said he was most pleased to see such a good meeting. He thanked the Vicar for the use of the bells and for making all arrangements, especially for arranging for them to have a choir. He was pleased to see the choir boys had come to tea, and he thought they must intend to become ringers, as they had stayed on for the meeting. He also thanked Mrs. Plaxton for playing the organ, and ladies who had provided such an excellent tea.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Ilminster.—The Misses Eva Sibley and Jessie Bailey and Mr. J. Rice, all of Ilminster, were made members.

The President read a circular letter from the general secretary (Mr. J. T. Dyke), which is being sent to the clerks of all Church Councils in the diocese, asking their support to a scheme of insurance of ringers. He brought this to the notice of the ringers because clerks of parochial councils, as well as Vicars, sometimes possessed waste-paper baskets, so he advised the members to see that it was brought before their Councils, and to do their utmost to support it.

By kind permission of the incumbents, the bells of Curry Rivel and Drayton, Machelney and Huish Episcopi were available. The Secretary (Mr. F. Farrant) expressed the thanks of the meeting for the privilege.

Langport and Huish bells were made good use of until late, the methods rung including Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Stedman.

NEW PEAL OF EIGHT AT SWINDON. NEW TREBLES GIVEN BY RINGERS.

Two new treble bells have been added to the six in St. Mark's tower, Swindon, and were dedicated by the Archdeacon of Swindon (Dr. R. T. Talbott) at the monthly meeting of the Gloucester and Bristol Association on Saturday, May 21st. One new bell was the gift of the late Mr. O. W. Layng, a former Swindon ringer, and the money for the other was raised by the local ringers. The Archdeacon, in his address, said the augmented peal would be a valuable asset to the town and neighbourhood of Swindon, in the same way as the peal which was recast and rehung in the Parish Church, and it was a beautiful thought that the bells of both parishes would be pealing out a welcome and answering each other, filling the whole district with beautiful sound. The ringers had a very sacred and happy work to perform in calling people to worship on Sundays, but chiefly he wished them to associate the bells with three great events—Christmas, Easter and Whitsuntide.

After a few touches of Grandsire Triples, etc., on the bells, tea was partaken of in Maxwell Street Schools, the catering being admirably done by the wives of St. Mark's band, under the supervision of the captain's wife (Mrs. G. Lawrence).

After tea, the Vicar (Canon A. G. G. Ross) thanked the Archdeacon for his presence and for dedicating the new bells.

The Archdeacon, in responding, said it gave him great pleasure to be in the company of so many efficient campanologists. They had with them that afternoon Mr. Hopper, who had acted as hon. secretary to the scheme to raise the money for the new bells, and within a very short period had seen the consummation of his work, and he hoped this would be acknowledged. Ringers were artists in a very fine sense. Ignorant people said that anyone could ring bells, but this was not so. Only a trained person could ring in a skilled sense.

Mr. Ernest Bishop congratulated the St. Mark's parish on completing their peal of eight, which he considered were of a very fine quality.

After tea, a return to the tower was made, and ringing in various methods was continued until 9 p.m.

Messrs. Mears and Stainbank are to be congratulated on the perfect splice, which goes to make a nice light peal of eight, tenor 11 cwt. The following towers were represented at the dedication: Bristol, Gloucester, Faringdon, Stratton (St. Margaret's), Barcote, Elkestone, Devizes, Swindon Parish Church and the local band.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE ATTENDANCE AT THE ANNUAL FESTIVAL.

The spring meeting of the Witney and Woodstock Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held at Combe, near Woodstock, on Saturday, May 21st, when the following towers were represented: Aston Bampton 1, Combe 8, Barton 6, Ducklington 1, Eynsham 1, Freeland 2, Yarnton 2, Wootton 1, Woodstock 1, Witney 3, Steeple Aston 2, Rousham 6, Standlake 1, Stonesfield 2, Stanton Harcourt 1, and Kidlington 2. Among others present were the Revs. G. Ward-Jackson (Rousham), H. K. Norton (Stonesfield) and C. Tristram (Ducklington). The meeting began with a ringers' service at Combe Church, and the Vicar of Combe, the Rev. J. H. Pearson, preached an inspiring sermon from the text, 'Fellow workers in the Kingdom of God,' in the course of which he spoke of the valuable work which ringers and Guilds like the Oxford Diocesan Guild were doing.

After tea, a business meeting was held at which the Rev. F. R. Marriott (Rector of Wootton and Rural Dean), chairman of the branch, presided. He welcomed all new members of the Guild, and expressed gratitude to all who had made the meeting a success.

The Secretary (Mr. W. Everts, jun.) reported an increase in the half-year of 24 new members, three towers and one honorary member. Last year the amount collected from 21 hon. members was £5 13s., and from 17 towers £9 17s., a total of £15 10s., half of which was due to the general Guild. At the end of 1926 the balance in hand was £20, and after certain expenses, which would not be so heavy in a normal year, they were now left with a balance in the bank of £23 8s. 9d.

On the proposition of the Chairman, who thanked Mr. Everts for carrying out the double position of secretary and treasurer, the report and balance sheet were adopted.

It was decided to hold the autumn meeting at Aston Bampton.

Mr. T. W. Bond reported that he had attended the Guild committee meeting at Reading in April, and the Master had then remarked on the falling off of the attendance at the Guild's annual festival. Their branch was spoken of as a growing and strong branch, and he (Mr. Bond) appealed to the members to attend the festival, which would be held at Oxford.

Several new members were elected to the Guild, after which Mr. Everts called attention to the death of an old hon. member, the Rev. W. Bryant. It was agreed to send a letter of condolence to his relatives.

The question of making a donation to the General Restoration Fund was referred to the annual meeting.

The Secretary spoke of the advisability of obtaining more young members, and emphasised the desirability of getting members to attend the service after ringing, a view with which the Chairman concurred. He advocated the making of a rule that where possible ringers should attend once on Sunday.

SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE EXTENSION. CENTRAL COUNCIL TO BE ASKED TO DECIDE.

The Central Council next Tuesday are to be asked for a decision upon the much discussed question of the true extension of Superlative Surprise. Since the last meeting, a peal of Royal, which is Shipway's method which was rung over a hundred years ago at Wakefield, has been rung at Surfleet, and a peal of Maximus in a different method, but also designated Superlative, has been rung at Ipswich.

The Rev. H. Law James, the advocate of Shipway's extension, has given notice of motion: 'That since William Shipway extended Superlative Surprise Major to Royal, and the first peal of Royal was rung at Wakefield in 1826, the Council cannot accept any extension to Maximus which does not agree with the Major and the Royal.'

'Owen Kay' now writes that like a war horse he 'scents a battle from afar,' and as he is not able to take a part in it, he wishes to do 'the next best thing,' i.e., to see that those who do are well armoured to meet the onslaught of the opposing forces.

To this end he draws the attention of friends, who value truth and order, to the lead heads produced by the first five constructional places of 'Superlative' Major, and the first five constructional places of Shipway's Royal.

The figures which follow, he says, will speak for themselves:—

'SUPERLATIVE.'

Minor.
123456
214365
124635
216453

261435
624153
261453
624135

264315

** Transpose by
5371920486

Lead head 145236, if
no other places.

Lead heads of four possible
Single methods.

(1) 135264
(2) 156342
(3) 164523
(4) 142635

One Double method, irregular
and false.

Royal.

1234567890
2143658709
1246357890
2164538709

2614357890
6241538709
2614583079
6241850397

2648105937

** Transpose by
5371920486

Lead head 1452367890 if
no other places.

Lead head of Single method with
Round Block progression.
1573920486

Double Method, like Minor, Ir-
regular; Round Block progression
in three leads only.

Minor.
123456
214365
124635
216453

261543
625134
261534
625143

265413

** Transpose by
536142

Lead head 153246 if
no other places.

Major.
12345678
21436587
12463578
21645387

26143578
62415387
26145837
62418573

26481753

** Transpose by
53718264

Lead head 14523678, if
no other places.

Lead heads of four possible
Single methods.

(1) 13527486
(2) 13527486
(3) 13527486
(4) 15738264

One Double method: 'Superlative.'

15738264

Maximus.

1234567890et
2143658709te
1246357890et
2164538709te

2614357890et
6241538709te
261458307te
624185037e9

2648105t3e79

** Transpose by
537192e4t608

Lead head 1452367890et if
no other places.

Lead head of Single method with
Round Block progression.
157392e4t608

Double Method Irregular, but
can be converted into a Regular
Single Method by omitting the
Extreme when the Treble is
behind.

Major.
12345678
21436587
12463578
21645387

26154378
62513487
26153847
62518374

26581734

** Transpose by
53718264

Lead head 15324678 if
no other places.

Lead head of Single Method.
156342

Double Method impossible with-
out altering at the second cross
section.

N.B.—This Minor is not a Sur-
prise Method ascending to arbi-
trary definition.

Royal.

1234567890
2143658709
1246357890
2164538709

2615437890
6251348709
2615384079
6251830497

2658103947

** Transpose by
5371920486

Lead head 1532467890 if
no other places.

Lead head of Single Method.
1573920486

N.B.—This Royal can be con-
verted into a Double Method by
making 8th's place at the second
cross section, and it then becomes
Shipway's so-called ('Superla-
tive') Royal.

Lead head of Single Method.
15738264

Double Method Irregular.

N.B.—This Major is a Surprise
Method according to arbitrary
definition, which shows the use-
lessness of making any arbitrary
definitions when dealing with
scientific problems.

Maximus.

1234567890et
2143658709te
1246357890et
2164538709te

2615437890et
6251348709te
261538407te
62518304te9

2658103t4e79

** Transpose by
537192e4t608

Lead head 1532467890et if
no other places.

Double Method like the Major,
Irregular.

Lead head of Single Method.
157392e4t608

P.S.—'Owen Kay,' in face of
the above figures, would like to
learn what claim Shipway's
method has to the title of
'Superlative.'

SUFFOLK GUILD.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT HAUGHLEY.

On Saturday, May 28th, a district meeting was held at Haughley, which was surprisingly well attended considering it is only a five-bell tower. Members were present from Stowmarket, Debenham, Stoke Ash, Thornham, Marlesford, Leiston, Campsey Ash, Ufford, Sproughton, and other places, including two visitors from Cambs.

A committee meeting was held in the study at the Vicarage, by kind permission of the Vicar (the Rev. W. G. White), over which the genial and popular president, Archdeacon Farmiloe, presided.

Tea was served on the Vicarage lawn, to which about thirty-five sat down, after which the company were invited to face the camera.

The bells were kept going during the afternoon to Stedman, St. Simon's, Grandsire, and Plain Bob, in which some of the local band took part.

The bells of Wetherden (advertised as five) were at the disposal of members during the afternoon, and to many it came as a surprise to find the tower contained six bells. Touches of Oxford Treble Bob, Cambridge Surprise and Bob Minor were brought round.

A move was then made to Stowmarket, where the eight bells were available during the evening, touches in various methods being rung.

It is desired to thank the incumbents for the use of the bells, and to all concerned in making the arrangements for what proved to be a most pleasant afternoon. This result should act as a stimulus to further effort in this direction.

LAVENHAM DISTRICT AT LITTLE WALDINGFIELD.

A meeting of the Lavenham District was held at St. Lawrence's Church, Little Walsingham, on Saturday, May 21st. Twenty-five members attended from Lavenham, Long Melford, Monks Eleigh, Great Henny, Sudbury, Acton and the local band. A service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. E. H. Melling), who gave an interesting address on the duties of bell ringers. Tea was served in the Parish Room, the Vicar presiding.

On the proposition of Mr. A. Symonds, seconded by Mr. S. Gridley, Preston was chosen as the next meeting place in July, and it was also decided to leave the actual date to the secretary, so as to avoid the clashing with neighbouring meetings, as was the case that day.

Four new ringing members were elected, and Mr. F. Johnson, churchwarden, kindly consented to enter as an honorary member.

Mr. W. R. J. Poulson proposed, and Mr. A. Symonds (district secretary) seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. E. H. Melling for presiding and for the use of the bells, also to the ladies for arranging the excellent tea.

The Vicar, in replying, said how pleased he was to meet the ringers at that the first meeting ever held at Little Walsingham. He hoped he would soon be meeting them there again.

A collection was taken for the Church Restoration Fund, and amounted to 14s. 7d.

The touches rung during the day were very short and few, owing to the bad 'go' of the bells, an unmusical peal of five, but a quickly arranged musical evening more than compensated those members who stayed an extra hour.

SHIPWAY'S METHOD.

THE BELLS OF DEVON.

A 'RINGERS' GUIDE.

There has just been published a revised list of church bells of Devon corrected up to date. It is published at 1s. 6d. by Messrs. W. Pollard and Co., of Bampfylde Street, Exeter, and should be of great value and interest not only to Devon ringers, but also to ringing visitors to the county. This new addition has been prepared by the Rev. Maitland Kelly (ex-president), Rev. E. S. Powell (president), and Mr. T. Laver (secretary of the Devon Guild). It contains a list of all the churches in Devon with three bells and upwards, giving in each case the weight of the tenor, the date when any work was last done, and by whom. This last information is, of course, of great importance to any touring ringers, as it enables them to judge what prospect they may find of a ring of bells being fit for a peal. Great care has evidently been bestowed upon the work to make it as accurate as possible.

It is interesting to quote from the Preface: An inventory of church bells throughout England was ordered to be made in Edward the Sixth's reign, in the year 1553. Subsequent to this date no further general record of bells in the county of Devon was made until the middle of the 19th century. In the years 1864-1865 the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, although well over 70 years old, ascended every church tower in the county, with but two or three exceptions, and catalogued the inscriptions and measurements of the bells. This monumental work was published by the Exeter Diocesan Architectural Society, and it must always remain as the basis of all further publications on the subject. But it is a book which can hardly become generally accessible, and on this account Mr. C. Pearson published an abbreviation of Ellacombe's list in 1888, brought up to date and bearing the title, 'The Ringers' Guide to the Church Bells of Devon.' A supplement to this book was published by him in 1900, and it is this supplement revised to date that the present editors are now offering to the ringing Exercise and others interested in church bells, with the permission of Mr. Pearson. In order to keep the book within limits of the smallest purses, and thus render its contents of wider circulation, this edition is confined strictly to an actual catalogue of the bells in the various towers. Fuller information can be obtained from Mr. Pearson's book, which is still obtainable from the publishers.

The following comparative list of the church bells in the county of Devon in the years 1553, 1865, 1900 and 1927 is interesting:

Rings of	1553.	1865.	1900.	1927.
Twelve bells	—	—	—	2
Ten bells	—	1	4	4
Eight bells	—	19	52	75
Six bells	—	137	183	228
Five bells	35	122	93	66
Four bells	216	64	37	22
Three bells	183	96	75	57
Total	434	439	444	454
Number of bells in rings of three to twelve	1,588	2,139	2,393	2,624

It will be observed that while the number of towers in which there are installed three or more bells has remained almost constant during four centuries, there has been a steady tendency to increase the number of bells in the respective bellfries. Previously to the middle of the last century, this desire generally took the form of recasting the few, though often heavy, bells, number three or four, into a new peal of five or six. In the last fifty years the influence of half-pull change ringing has made itself felt with the demand that more opportunity for variety should be given, and has thus fostered the increase to eight and more bells in a tower. In this respect, as in many others, the beneficial effects that have issued from the establishment of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers in the year 1874 can be seen.

FORTY YEARS ON.

Forty years ago on Whit Monday, May 30th, 1887, twelve members of the Ancient Society of College Youths attempted to ring Mr. H. W. Haley's peal of 10,030 Stedman Cinques at St. Michael's, Cornhill, London, but, unfortunately, got out in the last course after ringing upwards of 9,900 changes in 7 hours and 35 minutes: J. Pettit (conductor) 1, H. Springall 2, S. E. Joyce 3, C. F. Winney 4, E. Gibbs 5, G. T. McLaughlin 6, F. E. Dawe 7, E. E. Clark 8, W. Greenleaf 9, F. G. Newman 10, E. Horrex 11, J. M. Hayes 12.

When the band came out of the tower they were met by Mr. A. P. Heywood (as he then was), of Duffield Bank, who had journeyed to London to hear the ringing. After expressing his sorrow at their bad luck, he kindly invited them to the Bell Tavern to partake of a substantial meat tea, which he had liberally ordered for them. Few of this band are now left.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

In honour of Queen Mary's 60th birthday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) was rung at St. John's Church, Stanmore, on Thursday, May 26th, in 49 mins.: E. Leversuch 1, R. G. Ilsley 2, C. Cook 3, S. Hoare 4, C. Dyke 5, F. Edwards (conductor) 6, G. A. Hughes 7, F. Hawkins 8.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

SOUTHAMPTON, HANTS.—At St. Michael's Church, for morning service, on Sunday, May 29th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): S. Common 1, H. Payne 2, E. Tall 3, F. Mursell 4, T. White 5, J. Faithfull (conductor) 6, F. Cole 7, A. Newman 8.

LONDON.—On Sunday, May 29th, at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, for evening service, 1,216 Norfolk Surprise Major: R. Bullen 1, Miss E. Chapman 2, C. W. Roberts 3, J. Bennett 4, W. Hewett 5, E. F. Pike 6, R. Sanders 7, J. E. Davis (conductor) 8.

BARNES.—On Sunday, May 22nd, for evening service, 1,260 Stedman Triples: R. Mackrill 1, H. Barrett 2, A. Cutmore 3, W. C. Stacey 4, H. Cook 5, C. Hunt 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, F. Hendy 8.

FELKIRK, YORKS.—On Sunday, May 22nd, for matins, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: A. Kellsall 1, A. Cole 2, H. Chant 3, D. Smith 4, M. Perry 5, J. T. White (conductor) 6. First 720 of Treble Bob by all the band.

WEST CLANDON, SURREY.—For evening service, on Sunday, May 22nd, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor rung as a birthday compliment to the Rector, the Rev. Sir John Herschel: H. Harding, sen., 1, N. Harding 2, G. Grover 3, J. Goacher 4, W. Savage 5, F. Bennett (conductor) 6.

ALDERMASTON.—On Sunday, May 22nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): A. Nash 1, S. Quintin (conductor) 2, S. Collins 3, T. Aberly 4, A. T. Frankum 5, H. Smith 6, R. Frankum 7, R. Aberly 8.

SANDIACRE, DERBYSHIRE.—On Sunday, May 22nd, for evening service, at St. Giles' Church, 720 Carlisle Surprise: W. Thornley 1, R. H. Cox 2, J. Hall 3, A. Freeman 4, W. R. Drage (conductor) 5, H. Turner 6.

WILLESDEN.—On Sunday evening, May 22nd, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (from Holt's Original) in 40 mins.: E. H. Kilby 1, E. Lankester 2, G. M. Kilby 3, Miss R. Hawksworth 4, Miss E. Chapman 5, H. Kilby 6, R. A. Fardon (conductor) 7, R. Sanders 8.

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PUBLICATIONS.

'AMONG THE BELLS.'—THE RINGING CAREER OF LATE REV. F. E. ROBINSON, M.A., Vicar of Drayton, Berks, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Part I. to XX may be had singly at 6d. net. Unbound numbers I to XX complete, 8s. 6d. Or the whole work bound in cloth for 10s. 6d. net. From MRS. ROBINSON, Fair Home, Wokingham.

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FOR SALE.

SMALL HOLDING, seven acres good land with wooden bungalow in parish of Kingston Magna. To be sold by auction at South Western Hotel, Gillingham, Dorset, on Monday, 13th June, at 3 p.m. Is any ringer disposed to purchase? Particulars from F. Fairlie & Son, Fisbury, Woolwich.

NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on June 30th, St. Paul's Cathedral on the 7th (6 to 7.30 p.m.), St. Magnus' on the 9th and 23rd, 'The Coffee Pot,' Warwick Lane, on the 14th (8 p.m.), Southwark Cathedral on the 21st, 'St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 28th, at 7.30 p.m. * Business meeting.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—The annual festival of the above branch will be held at Bletchley on Saturday, June 4th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. All those intending to be present kindly notify me in good time. Visitors welcomed. —Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Rainford Parish Church on Saturday, June 4th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. A good attendance requested. —James Grounds, Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

NOTTINGHAM SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS (Established 1672).—A meeting of the above will be held at Sutton-in-Ashfield on Saturday, June 4th. Tower open 3 p.m. Peel tablet unveiling. All ringers welcome.—F. Blood, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. —A meeting will be held at Moorside on Saturday, June 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—Owing to illness at Bolsover, the June 4th meeting is transferred to Creswell (buses Clowne). New peal of 8 by Taylor's. Tea will be provided as usual. The Rector of Creswell writes: 'Come early and stay late.'—Colin Harrison, Hon. Sec., 62, Roach Road, Sheffield.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Northampton on Whit Monday, June 6th. Committee meeting in Holy Sepulchre's Institute at 11 a.m. Service in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at 12 noon. Luncheon, followed by the business meeting, at the Plough Hotel, Bridge Street, at 1 p.m. Towers available: Kingsthorpe (6) from 10 to 11.30 a.m., St. Giles' (10), All Saints' (8), St. Edmund's (8) and Holy Sepulchre (8) from 10 a.m. throughout the day.—R. G. Black, Gen. Sec., Geddington, Kettering.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Newton Abbot on Whit Monday, June 6th. Service in St. Leonard's Chapel, at 12.15 p.m. Dinner in Ambulance Hall, East Street, at 1.0 followed by meeting. Highweek, Wolborough and St. Leonard's towers open for ringing.—T. Laver, Gen. Sec., 21, Cross Park, Heavitree, Exeter.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Thirsk on Whit Monday, June 6th. Bells (8) available all day. Committee meeting 11.30 a.m. at the Church. Service in the Church at 12 o'clock. The address will be given by the Vicar of Thirsk. Dinner will be provided at the Golden Lion Hotel.—T. Metcalfe, Hon. Sec., 26, High Street, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The 48th annual meeting will be held at Chelmsford on Whit Monday, June 6th. 11.30 a.m.: Service at the Cathedral, with address by the Rev. Canon F. C. Macdonald, of Purleigh. 12.15 p.m.: Meeting in Cathedral Hall. 1.30 p.m.: Lunch at Hicks' Restaurant, High Street, members 2s. each. Towers open for ringing during day: Cathedral (12), Great Baddow (8), Writtle (8), Great Waltham (8), Widford (8), Springfield (6), Galleywood (8), Broomfield (6), Boreham (8). No ringing permitted during service and meeting.—Chas. H. Howard, Master; F. J. Pitstow, General Sec. and Treas., 45, High St., Saffron Walden.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The next quarterly meeting for ringing only will be held at Hawkshead on Whit Monday. Bells (6) will be available all day.—W. T. Clark, Sec., Broughton-in-Furness.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The 41st annual meeting will be held at Hereford on Whit Monday, June 6th. 11.45: Unveiling peal tablet in Cathedral Tower. Service in the Cathedral 12.15. Preacher, Rev. G. H. Jobling, Rector of Kingsland. Dinner at Bootlie Hall Hotel (2s. 6d.) 1 p.m. Mr. C. Edwards (Master) in the chair.—Rev. Preb. G. W. Turner, Hon. Sec., Madley Vicarage, Hereford.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The forty-ninth annual meeting will be held at Stow-on-the-Wold and Bourton-on-the-Water on Whit Monday, June 6th. Important business, including Jubilee Meeting arrangements, election of officers. Luncheon may be had at the Unicorn Hotel, Stow-on-the-Wold, 3s. 6d. Ringing at Stow from 12 noon. Ringing at Bourton-on-the-Water up to 3 p.m. and after business meeting. Service at 3 p.m. Tea at the Lansdown, free to all members, upon notification by Saturday, June 4th. The Ven. the Archdeacon of Cheltenham will conduct the service, with Canon White, of Bourton-on-the-Water.—Edgar Guise, Gen. Hon. Sec., 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's Hill, Bristol.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The Whit Monday meeting will be held at Morpeth, on June 6th. The Watch Tower bells are open all day. Committee meeting at noon and Dinner (2/6 to members, 3/- to non-members) at 1 o'clock, at the Earl Grey Hotel, the Mayor of Morpeth, will welcome our members at the tower and at the dinner.—E. Ferry, 16, Gordon Avenue, Gosforth.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Quarterly Meeting, Ipswich District.—A meeting will be held at Sproughton on Saturday, June 11th. Bells at Bramford (6) also available during the afternoon and evening. Tea, 9d., at 4.45, to those sending their names by June 8th. Every ringer welcomed.—G. E. Symonds, Dis. Sec., 28, Chevallier Road, Ipswich.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District. —A meeting will be held at St. John's, Redhill, on Saturday, June 11th. 8 Bells. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 5.15 p.m. Tea 5.45 p.m. —H. F. Ewins, Hon. Sec., 27, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Brindle Parish Church on Saturday, June 11th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. It is essential that those requiring tea should notify Mr. W. Sharples, Thorpe Green, Brindle, on or before Tuesday, June 7th.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next ringing meeting will be held at Clitheroe on Saturday, June 11th. Bells available from 3 p.m.—J. Watson, 48, Palmer Street, Blackburn.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A quarterly meeting will be held at All Saints', Sedgley, on Saturday, June 11th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30. A tea will be provided, for which a small charge may be made.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—Next meeting at Kimpton on Saturday, June 11th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Tea will be provided at the Vicarage by the Vicar (the Rev. A. T. Whyte Venables). Will all who can please attend this meeting?—W. Nash, North Mymms, Hatfield.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting of this district will be at Lutterworth on Saturday, June 11th. Bells (8) available from 3.30 p.m. All ringers are cordially invited, a good meeting being hoped for. — W. Cope, Smockington, Hinckley.

LONG MELFORD, SUFFOLK.—The annual ringing day will be held on Saturday, June 11th. The bells (8) available all day. Tea, 1s. per head, at 5 p.m. It is necessary that visitors requiring tea let me know by the 9th inst. A cordial welcome to all.—Granville C. Bixby, Hall Street, Long Melford.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting for combined practice in 10-bell methods will be held at St. Martin's Church, Epsom, on Saturday, June 11th. Bells available at 6 p.m. Will those attending please learn either Plain Bob, Treble Bob or Cambridge Surprise Royal?—A. C. Hazelden, Guildford.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Wentworth on Saturday, June 11th. Bells ready at 2 p.m. Those requiring tea please apply to G. West, The Square, Wentworth, by Tuesday, June 7th. — A. Panther, Sec. (pro tem.), 25, Sandymount Road, Wath-on-Dearne.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch. — Quarterly meeting will be held at Bishopstone on Saturday, June 11th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. for those who notify me by Wednesday, June 8th.—S. Hopper, Hon. Branch Sec., 79, Edinburgh Street, Gorse Hill, Swindon.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Overseal on Saturday, June 11th. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. Tea at Schools 5 o'clock. Those requiring tea (1s.) must notify Mr. J. W. Cotton, 50, Gresley Wood Road, Church Gresley, near Burton, by the previous Thursday. All ringers welcome.—R. H. Dove, Dis. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Vale of White Horse Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Stanford-in-the-Vale on Saturday, June 11th. Service at 3.30. Tower open 2.30. Those requiring tea should notify secretary, G. A. Webley, Southampton Street, Faringdon, by Wednesday, June 8th.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Western District. — The next meeting will be held at Merrow on Saturday, June 11th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Those requiring tea please notify me by Tuesday, June 7th. All ringers welcome.—Miss N. E. Shorter, Hon. Sec., Ferndene, 15, Russell Road, Walton-on-Thames.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool and Wigan Branches.—A service will be held at the Liverpool Cathedral on Saturday, June 11th. Service 5 p.m. Tea 6.30. St. Luke's bells will be open for ringing from 3 to 4.30. Tea 1s. each. Members intending being present please send word to Archdeacon Howson, 3, Gambrian Terrace, Liverpool. Business for meeting: Election of branch sec.—Walter Hughes.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Ely.—A district meeting will be held at Stapleford on Saturday, June 11th. Bells (6) afternoon and evening. Church 7 minutes from Shelford Station. Short service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5. 'Minglepen' gardens, near the church, will be open to any ringers and friends, by kind permission of Mrs. Goldsmith-Martin. A hearty invitation is extended to all.—F. Warrington, Long Stanton, Cambs.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at New Romney on Saturday, June 11th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. Tea will be arranged.—C. W. Franklin, Hon. Sec., 18, Kingsnorth Road, Ashford.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch. —A monthly meeting will be held at Steeple-Ashton on Saturday, June 11th. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. Service 4.40. Tea 5. Short business meeting follows tea.—F. Green, Branch Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bourne on Saturday, June 11th. Bells available afternoon and evening. Service in the church at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. Those requiring tea please notify me by June 14th.—S. Proctor, 72, Bridge End Road, Grantham.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—South District.—A business meeting will be held on June 11th at St. Mary's, Woolwich. Tower open from 4 to 8. Tea at 5.30 p.m. Business after. Will those coming to tea please let me know before the 15th?—C. F. Mitchell, Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Phene Street, Chelsea.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at St. George's, Tyldesley, on Saturday, June 11th. Bells available 4 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

DEVON GUILD.—North-East Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Cadeleigh on Saturday, June 11th. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.45. Tea, 1s. each, 5.15. Will those requiring tea kindly notify me by Tuesday, June 14th?—M. Hanson, Hon. Sec., 2, The Avenue, Tiverton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division. —The annual joint meeting of the Barnsley and District, the Doncaster and District, the Sheffield District and the Southern Division of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Conisborough on Saturday, June 11th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m., at 1s. 3d. each. Please send names to Mr. M. C. Fowler, 26, Northcliffe Road, Conisborough, near Doncaster, by Thursday, the 16th.—F. Clarke, Hon. Sec., 18, Royston Avenue, Doncaster.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch. — A meeting of the above branch will be held at Chaddesley Corbett on Saturday, June 11th. Bells will be available at 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30. All those requiring tea must notify me by June 14th latest. Charge, 1s. per head.—A. J. Skelding, Branch Sec., 7, Cecil Street, Stourbridge.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District. —A meeting will be held at Sunbury-on-Thames on Saturday, June 18th. Bells ready at 3.15. The usual tea arrangements will be made. All ringers and friends welcome. And Ruislip July 9th.—Wm. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District. —A meeting will be held at Brabourne on Saturday, June 25th. Tower open 2.30. Service at 4.45, followed by tea, at the invitation of the Vicar (Rev. S. K. Lockyer) and friends. Business meeting after. A good gathering at this annual event is hoped for.—A. C. Kay, Dis. Sec., 6, Sturges Road, Ashford.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The first general quarterly meeting will be held at Earl Shilton, near Leicester, on Saturday, June 25th. Bells (8) also Barwell (8) will be available. Fuller details later. —Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division. —A quarterly meeting will be held at Brightling on Saturday, June 25th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea will be provided at the Parish Recreation Hall at 5.30, through the kindness of the Rector (the Rev. E. A. W. Haviland). Business meeting to follow. Half fares (maximum 1s.) allowed to members.—G. W. Stokes, 22, Melbourne Road, Eastbourne.

LANCASHIRE AND YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATIONS.—By kind permission of the respective clergy, a joint meeting of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Associations will be held at Halifax on Saturday, July 9th. Further details later.—W. H. Shaker and P. J. Johnson, General Secs.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual general meeting will be held at Guildford on Saturday, July 2nd. In connection with this the Southern Railway have agreed to issue return tickets at single fare, by any train, available for that day only. Those requiring the necessary signed voucher, which must be handed to the booking clerk when applying for the cheap tickets, should apply to me without delay. Please make this as widely known as possible.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Eastleigh, Hants.

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