THE RINGING WORLD

No. 200. Vol. VIII. FRIDAY, JANUARY 15th, 1915. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 1d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON
CROYDON, Surrey.
BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.

St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton.
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON. 4th March, 1911

Gentlemen,

The re-casting of the peal of ten bells with the addition of two new ones in the tower of St Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton recently carried out by you has proved most successful, and given general satisfaction.

I am authorised by the Rector and Wardens to say how pleased they are with the result. In the opinion of those well qualified to judge, we have now, undoubtedly, one of the best peals in the Kingdom.

Yours faithfully, F. T. BEOK,
Architect Diocesan Surveyor

MODERN WORK.

RINGING IN 1914.

In any review of the year 1914 in any sphere of activity, the effect of the war is necessarily the outstanding feature, and in looking back over what was done in connection with ringing during the twelve months which has just closed, the most striking thing is the way in which operations in the belfry were curtailed. Immediately war broke out, ringers realised that peals for ordinary purposes would be quite out of sympathy with the public feeling, and for nearly five months our bells, except of course for service ringing and necessary practices, have remained almost silent. How little has really been done in the way of peal ringing can only be appreciated by a comparison of the figures of 1914 with those of the preceding year. For instance, taking the last four months, only 91 peals (including those on handbells) were rung, compared with 970 from September to December, 1913. The effect on the total for the year was that only 1,411 peals were rung as against 2,359 in the preceding twelve months and this, when the record for the first seven months of 1914 was well in advance of the corresponding period of the previous year. Further interesting comparison can be made from the following figures compiled from the published records of peals:—

	1913	1914		1913	1914
January ...	171	211	July.. ...	124	121
February ...	150	216	August ...	188	63
March ...	197	143	September ...	191	26
April ...	183	183	October ...	208	20
May ...	245	189	November ...	261	37
June ...	131	187	December ...	310	18

An examination of the activities of the various Associations shows that, generally speaking, those that in 1913 had done most peal ringing have once more risen to the head of affairs; indeed, an approximate computation reveals that nine out of the first ten Societies of 1913 will be among the first ten for 1914. A striking advance, however, was made by the Central Northamptonshire Association, who, from seventeenth place in 1913 have risen to near about the seventh place in 1914. Until the report of the Analyses Committee is published it is, of course, impossible to say the exact position in which the Associations will appear, but the following, we think, will prove to be somewhat near the order they will take:—1, Norwich Diocesan (155 peals); 2, Middlesex County (83); 3. Midland Counties (107); 4, Winchester Diocesan (78); 5, Lancashire (79); 6, Kent County (85); 7, Central Northants (76); 8, Sussex County (54); 9, Yorkshire (63); 10, Oxford Diocesan (55).

Of the total peals rung, 162 were on handbells, the

(Continued on page 26.)

CHARLES CARR, LTD.

SMETHWICK, BIRMINGHAM

OPINION OF OUR MODERN WORK.

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

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

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

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

Yours truly,
CHAS. EDMUNDS,
Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs. C. CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

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

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SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.

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CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

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Best Workmanship and Satisfaction Guaranteed

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Maker to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester and Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc.

Continued from Page 25.

Winchester Guild again leading in this department with 35 peals. The Norwich Association rang 24, the Middlesex 19, and the College Youths, the Central Northants and the Yorkshire Associations 10 each.

The individual totals have, of course, fallen correspondingly with the number of peals rung, and those who conducted peals numbered about 550 as against 697 in 1913. Mr. A. H. Pulling headed the list of conductors with 41, the next in order being Messrs. W. Pye with 37, C. F. Bailey 24, Clement Glenn 21, Frank Bennett 18, E. M. Atkins and F. W. Naunton 17 each, E. Barnett, sen., and Keith Hart 15 each, A. C. Wright 14, J. T. Dyke and W. Steele 13 each, B. Prewett, T. H. Taffender and S. H. Symonds 12 each, D. J. Nichols 11, C. R. Lilley, F. G. May, W. Short, B. Thorp, G. Williams and Samuel Wood 10 each.

Two records were put up during the year, viz., four Surprise Major peals in one day by a band of the Middlesex Association, and the 14,000 of Treble Ten at Ashton-under-Lyne which beat the previous best that had stood for 130 years. These were the most noteworthy performances in a year, which, but for the outbreak of hostilities, had the promise of providing a further advance in the accomplishments in the tower.

In reviewing the year, we have put the peals first because they are the most tangible results. But we must not overlook the fact that, as a whole, the spade work of the various Associations went on in a very successful manner, at any rate until the general upset which the war has caused. Since August there has, in many places, been a cessation of active operations in this field, and the immediate work of many bands has been seriously affected by the men who have left to join the colours. As we have mentioned before, we think the recruiting results among ringers have been highly satisfactory and we hope when peace is once more restored that those whose patriotism has led them to take up arms in the great cause of humanity will return with renewed enthusiasm to the duties and pleasures of the belfry.

NATIONAL RELIEF FUND.

The following further subscriptions to the Prince of Wales' Fund have been received:—

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	60	1	0
Bushey Society, December collection (per Mr. B. Prewett)	0	4	6
Mildenhall Parish Church Ringers (per Mr. P. Fordham)	0	2	6
A few College Youths, meeting at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C. (per Mr. W. T. Cockerell, Hon. Sec.)	3	0	0
Ringers of Great Munden, Herts (per Mr. Barnard Patmore)	1	4	0
	£64	12	0

BELGIAN RELIEF FUND.

Amount already acknowledged	1	16	0
"Wanderer" (December contribution)	0	2	0
"Mrs. Wanderer" (December contribution) ...	0	2	0
	£2	0	0

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

OSWALDTWISTLE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Blackburn Branch.)

On Monday, January 4, 1915, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

At the Church of Immanuel,

A PEAL OF GUILDFORD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Arthur Tomlinson ...	...*Treble*	Tom Howarth...	5
James Shaw	2	William Riley	6
Alfred T. Houldsworth	3	James Houldsworth ...	7
Joe Rawcliffe	4	William Whewell	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. Lindoff, and
Conducted by J. Houldsworth.

Rung with the bells muffled for the fallen in the War. First peal in the method by all, and the first in the North of England. All the ringers belong to the local company, except A. Tomlinson who hails from Blackburn.

CONDOVER, SALOP.

THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

On Saturday, January 9, 1915, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Holt's Ten-Part. Tenor, 13 cwt. in F sharp.

William Passmore...	...*Treble*	E. R. Trevor Corbett ...	5
Charles R. Lilley ...	2	Alfred E. Fullick	6
*George Jones	3	Thomas Stedman	7
E. Maurice Atkins... ...	4	†Ernest V. Rodenhurst	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. R. Lilley.

* First peal of Grandsire. † First peal on eight bells. Rung with the bells half muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. G. J. Taylor.

GARSTON, LANCS.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 11th, 1915, in Two Hours and Forty-nine Minutes.

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Holt's Ten-Part. Tenor, 12½ cwt.

Walter E. Hughes...	...*Treble*	John Turner	5
*James Hooley...	2	Edward Caunce... ...	6
George Woodhall	3	Walter Hughes ...	7
John Allen	4	Samuel Millership ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by Walter Hughes.

* First peal. Rung with the bells half muffled in memory of the late Mrs. Rawlinson, of Garston.

SIX BELL PEALS.

BARCOMBE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 11, 1915, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with 10 different callings. Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 9 lbs.

James H. Cox	...*Treble*	Luke Verrall...	4
Frederick J. Martin ...	2	Albert E. Edwards ...	5
Albert E. Anscombe ...	3	Albert Martin ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by Albert E. Edwards.

Rung with bells deeply muffled, except tenor at back stroke, on the occasion of the funeral of, and as a token of respect to, the late Mr. J. S. Read, Overseer, Deputy Chairman of Parish Council, and who was for over 30 years churchwarden of the parish, from which office he retired about 20 years ago, and who died on Jan. 7th in his 87th year. First muffled peal on the bells and by all the ringers except the conductor.

We have been specially requested to publish the two following peals in order that they may be included in the analysis for 1914:—

SPROUGHTON.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 19, 1914, in Two Hours and Thirty-eight Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

In four methods, being 720 of Double Court and two 720's each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

F. C. Mee	...*Treble*	H. J. Mee	4
G. W. Mee	2	E. Rivers	5
W. Brown	3	C. Mee	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. Mee.

Rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. C. Freeman, for 25 years choirmaster and organist at Sproughton.

SPROUGHTON.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, February 13, 1914, in Two Hours and Fifty-eight Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford, Double Court Bob and Kent Treble Bob, two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, and 720 of Plain Bob.

E. Thurlow...	...*Treble*	J. Rose	4
G. W. Mee	2	W. Kinsey	5
H. J. Mee	3	E. Rivers...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by E. Rivers.

Rung as a birthday compliment to E. Thurlow, this being his first peal.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 27, 1914, in One Hour and Fifty-five Minutes,

At the Residence of S. H. Symonds, 5, Church Street,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's each called differently.

Stedman H. Symonds ... 1—2	Arthur Symonds ... ... 3—4
*Frederick G. Symonds... 5—6	

Conducted by S. H. Symonds.

* First peal of Minor on handbells. First peal of Minor rung double-handed in the Ely Diocesan Association by a father and two sons.

PEALS OF TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The 5088 in your last issue (January 8th), by Mr. York Green, is a simple variation of the original which I composed in 1887, commencing the calling at the sixth course-end. The figures of the original were published in "The Ringing World," May 23rd, 1913.—Yours truly, C. H. HATTERSLEY.

Dear Sir,—Seeing two peals of Treble Bob Maximus in your last issue by Mr. York Green, which he claims to be the first published with those sets of course-ends, I send you one for publication, and also a peal of Royal on the same plan, composed by me and both rung ten years ago.—Yours faithfully,

EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

5040 TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS.

23456	M	W	H
52436		1	
23564	2	2	
23645	2	2	1
32546	2		2
32465	2	2	1
32654	2	2	1
23456	2		2

First rung at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields by the Royal Cumberland Youths on January 14th, 1905, in 3 hrs. and 50 mins. Conducted by the composer.

5080 TREBLE BOB ROYAL.

23456	M	W	H
24536		1	2
43526		2	
56234	1	1	2
42635	1		1
23564	1	2	
23645	2	2	1
32546	2		2
32465	2	2	1
32654	2	2	1
23456	2		2

First rung on December 17th 1904, in 3 hrs. 17 mins. by the Royal Cumberland Youths, at St. James's, Bermondsey. Conducted by the composer.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers who are serving with the Forces of the Crown:—

Pte W. T. Heath, of Hurst, Berks, 4th Berks Regiment, now at Maidenhead.
Pte T. Stott, No. 17578, and
Pte F. Berry, No. 17576, of Brindle, Lancs, 4th Battalion Scottish Rifles, now at Fort Matilda, Greenock.
E. G. Buesden, of Canterbury, Royal Engineers, now at Chatham.
Farrier-Sergt. A. H. Saxby, of Margate, East Kent Yeomanry.
G. Worth, of York Minster Society, 5th Battalion West Yorkshire Regiment, N.R., now stationed at Harrogate.
Hubert Eden,
C. Player, and
G. L. Jackman, of Oxhey, Herts, Battery Royal Field Artillery.

From Christ Church, Macclesfield:—
Pte E. Greenwood, 7th Battalion Cheshire Regiment, at Aberystwyth.
Pte C. Greenwood, 7th Battalion Cheshire Regiment, at Cambridge.
Pte A. Hurst, and
Pte Chowall, 7th Batt. Cheshire Regiment, at Aberystwyth.
Tpr. S. Stanway, Cheshire Yeomanry, at Chester, and
Tpr. J. B. Lomas, 9th Lancers, at Woolwich.

From St. Michael's, Macclesfield: —
Pte G. Bottomley, and
Pte V. Norbury, 7th Batt. Cheshire Regiment, at Aberystwyth.

From Prestbury:—
Pte A. Hough,
Pte W. A. Mayers, and
Pte James Culley, 12th Batt. Cheshire Regiment, now at Seaford, Sussex.

From All Saints' Church, Birchington, and Quex Park, Kent:—
Sergt. G. Hitchcock, and
Sergt. R. Sutton, 4th Batt. "The Buffs" (T.), now in India.
Pte R. Steadman, 6th Batt. "The Buffs," now at Dover.
Frederic Benbow, of Alfreton, wireless operator, H.M.S. "Virginia."

THE LATE MR. S. REEVES.

The fund for erecting a memorial peal tablet to the late Mr. S. Reeves, of West Bromwich, will be closed on Saturday, January 23rd. All further subscriptions should, therefore, be forwarded before this date to the Rev. E. V. Cox, 104, Borneo Street, Walsall. The following further donations are acknowledged with thanks: Messrs. T. Russam, R. Cartwright, T. H. Bloore, 2s. 6d. each; W. Griffin, F. J. Cope, J. H. Gallimore, G. Pigott, "Anon." 1s. each: total amount to date, £5 15s.

DEATH OF A SHREWSBURY RINGER.

It is with deep regret that we have to announce the death, on Jan. 2nd, of Mr. G. J. Taylor, of Shrewsbury (after a long illness), at the age of 35 years. The deceased commenced ringing when very young at St. Alkmund's, Shrewsbury, and remained a ringer at that Church for a great many years. Of late years, however, he was also connected with St. Chad's, and Condover, where he gave valuable help to a young band. He was highly respected by his brother ringers, and by all who knew him.

The funeral took place at the General Cemetery on Wednesday of last week. The first part of the service was taken at St. Alkmund's Church, the officiating clergyman being the Rev. H. B. Beckwith, hon. secretary of the Salop Guild, of which the deceased was a member. The chief mourners were Mr. F. Taylor and Mr. W. Taylor (brothers), and Miss Taylor (sister), Rev. J. Mackay (late hon. sec. of the Salop Guild), and a number of ringers and other friends. There were several wreaths, including one from the Shrewsbury ringers. The remains were carried to the grave by ringers, and a plain course of Grandsire Triples rung at the graveside after the committal.

As a last tribute of respect, an attempt was made on Thursday evening, at St. Alkmund's, for a peal of Kent Treble Bob with the bells half-muffled, but owing to the muffles coming off two bells, the attempt had to be abandoned after ringing 1 hour 16 mins. A peal, however, was rung at Condover on Saturday, which will be found in the peal columns.

The peals rung by the deceased were as follows:

Grandsire Triples	15	Conducted 4
Stedman Triples	4	
Grandsire Caters	2	
Minor (in three methods)	1	
Grandsire Doubles	1	Conducted 1
Treble Bob Major	4	
Plain Bob Major	1	
Grandsire Major	1	
Total	29	

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

DEVIZES BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING.

On Saturday last the annual meeting of the Devizes branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild was held at Southbroom, Devizes. Ringing began soon after 3 p.m., at the Church of St. James-the-Great, Southbroom, and at 5 o'clock, by the kind invitation of the Vicar (the Rev. Canon Gardiner, B.D., R.D.), the ringers, to the number of 26, adjourned to St. James' Parish Room, where a bountiful tea awaited them, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The business meeting was afterwards held, at which the Rev. H. E. Tilney-Bassett (Master of the Guild) occupied the chair, in the unavoidable absence of the Rev. J. A. Sturton, and was supported by the Rev. Canon Gardiner, the Rev. Evelyn Smith (curate of Southbroom), Mr. H. Brownlee West (hon. branch secretary), and ringers from the towers of Westbury, Holt, Trowbridge, Southbroom, Bromham, Devizes (St. John's), and Beechingstoke.

The secretary's annual report was presented and confirmed. It showed that 13 meetings had been held in the branch during the year, including the Guild Festival, held in May, at Trowbridge, at which 84 ringers from various parts of the Diocese attended. The aggregate number of ringers attending the 12 branch meetings amounted to 227, giving at average of 19 for each meeting. During the year, Bromham tower had joined the Guild. The number of members had increased from 200 in 1913, to 236 in 1914, of which number 105 were change ringers. The growth of the Devizes branch was shown by the following figures:—

	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910
Change Ringers	105	83	83	75	70
Round Ringers	131	117	97	71	41
Total	236	200	180	146	111

—indicating a steady increase in ringing members. They had also made 12 new life ringing members, and six honorary members during the year. Owing to the war the attendance for Sunday ringing had been very uncertain, and no week-night practices were now being held. A roll call of ringers gone to the war from the diocese was being prepared for insertion in the next report book.

Eleven peals had been rung for the Guild during the past year—not so many as hitherto, owing to the unsettled state of the country. The members of the Guild deeply regretted the death of the Rev. W. P. Schuster, Vicar of West Lulworth, and for many years their much respected and highly valued general secretary. The thanks of the Guild were due to the following gentlemen, who had so generously provided tea at the meetings held in their respective parishes, viz.: The Rector of Devizes, the Vicar of Market Lavington, the Vicar of Bishop's Cannings, and the Vicar of Upavon.

The balance sheet for the year was then presented by the secretary, and duly adopted, showing, after payment of all expenses, a very satisfactory balance to be carried forward.

The election of officers then took place. The chairman, the Rev. J. A. Sturton, and the secretary, Mr. H. Brownlee West, were both thanked for past services, and with one consent again elected to fill their respective offices for the ensuing year.—Mr. S. J. Hector, of Trowbridge, was recommended with the assent of all present, as an instructor of change ringing for the branch, and several new ringing members were also proposed and duly elected.

The next three meetings were then decided upon, viz.: January 30th, Market Lavington; February 13th, Westbury; April 10th, Melksham.

The meeting was brought to a close with a three-fold vote of thanks to the Vicar of Southbroom for his kindness in providing the tea, for the use of the Parish Room for the meeting, and also the use of the church bells.

The ringers then again indulged in ringing on the tower bells, some going also to St. John's, by the kind permission of the Rector of Devizes. Touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Bob Doubles, etc., were rung until 8 o'clock, and brought to a close a very successful and satisfactory meeting.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A most successful practice meeting of the Western District was held at Shipley last Saturday, when upwards of 40 members attended from Bolton, Calverley, Guiseley, Halifax, Holbeck, Idle, Ilkley, Mirfield, Pudsey, Queensbury, Skipton, and the local company. The bells were available from 5.0 p.m. to 9.0 p.m., and were well utilised, the following methods being rung: Cambridge Surprise Major, Double Norwich Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Kent Treble Bob and Bob Major, the conducting being shared by Messrs. P. J. Johnson (Ringing Master), B. Smith, C. Pratt, J. Cotterill and F. W. Dixon. The committee take this opportunity, through the medium of "The Ringing World," of thanking the Vicar and churchwardens for kindly granting the use of the bells, also to the local company for making all the necessary arrangements.

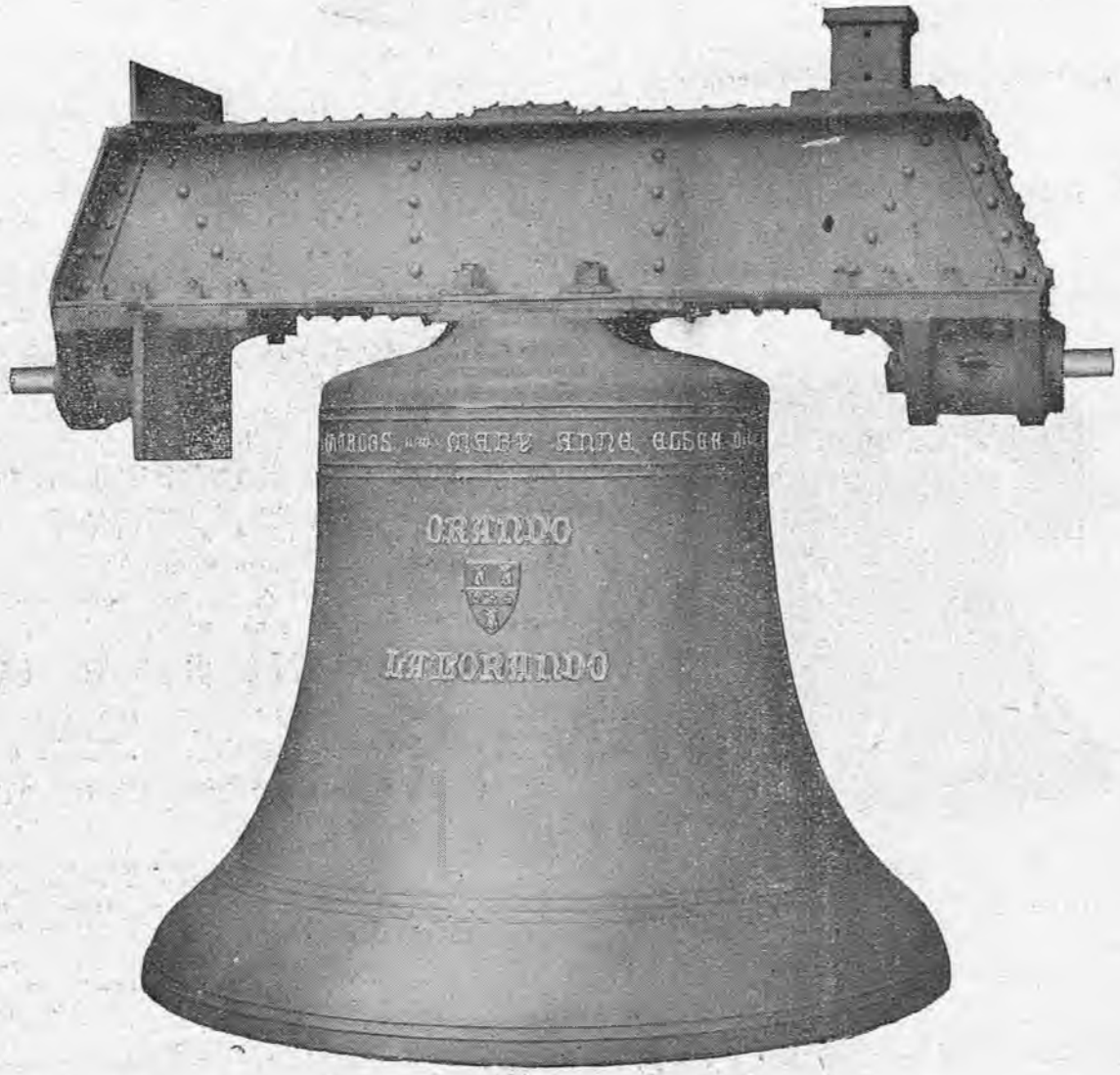
LADIES' GUILD AND CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Ladies' Guild, which is now qualified by numbers to be represented on the Central Council, has elected Miss Edith K. Parker, the hon. sec., as the representative.

THE BELL OF RUGBY SCHOOL CHAPEL

(Weight 64cwt. 2qrs. 20lbs.)

DEDICATED 21st JULY, 1914.



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STANDARD METHODS. 2s. 6d.; fifth ed.; revised; to follow either of the above; Diagrams alone 1s. 6d.; 41 pages; Letterpress alone 1s. 6d.; 100 pages.

STEDMAN. 2s. 6d.; 275 pages, by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, M.A. with an appendix by Sir Arthur Heywood, Bart., etc., etc.

TREBLE BOB. Part I. 1s. 6d.; second ed.; with appendix; 100 closely printed pages. Part II., suited for Conductors only, very scarce; 2s. 1½d.; 236 pages.

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ANOTHER RINGER KILLED.

A FAMOUS RIFLE SHOT.

Fighting for the dear old country, Corporal John Tippins, a famous rifle shot, and a ringer at Mistley, Essex, has fallen on the field of battle.

John Tippins came of ringing stock, for his father is, and his grandfather was, a change ringer, the latter being one of the best of his day in Herefordshire, and a skilled bell hanger in the bargain, while the former is still actively connected with the Mistley band. His son, who has just lost his life, had not time to do much ringing, for his chief

THE LATE CORPL. JOHN TIPPINS.

pastime was rifle shooting, and he did not ring a 5040, his longest lengths being date touches, although he was a very safe ringer in the Grandsire, and Oxford and Kent Treble Bob methods. He, however, had rung only on six bells, and almost all his ringing was done at Mistley.

It was on the rifle ranges that he secured the greatest distinction; indeed so great was his skill that short of winning the King's Prize itself, nearly all the honours that could be gained he had won. He was in the final stage of "The King's" in 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911 and 1913; he won the Wimbledon Cup in 1910; the Association Cup in 1909; the Service Rifle Championship in 1911 and the Albert in the same year.

He was one of the English Twenty and shot in all the teams but the Elcho in 1914, and had shot in a previous year in that. He was one of the Empire team going to Australia this year and was famous as a team shot and in all forms of deliberate and rapid fire. He was formerly a sergeant in the 5th and 8th Essex Regiments, but since the war broke out had joined the 2nd Essex Regiment, in which he was a corporal. He met his death while fetching water for his maxim gun.

Ringers, and Essex men particularly, will regret to learn of the death of so good a soldier and will extend their warmest sympathy to the bereaved parents.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ROCHESTER DISTRICT.

A quarterly meeting of the Rochester District was held on Saturday last at St. John's Church, Higham. The bells were available from 3 p.m. A short service was also held, at which visiting ringers numbered twelve. There were also several parishioners. The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. G. C. Allen, D.D.).

The District Secretary (Mr. E. A. G. Allen) presided at the organ.

Tea, to which ample justice was done, was kindly provided by the Vicar, and was served at the Sir John Falstaff Hotel.—Mr W. J. Walker was voted to the chair for the business meeting.—The report of the district for the year 1914 showed that 29 peals had been scored, and that the bells in two towers had been overhauled, namely, Shorne and Higham. At the former the work consisted of a new steel frame for eight bells, and rehanging the old six complete with new fittings throughout. At Higham, a new steel frame for six bells, rehanging the old five with new fittings, and adding a treble. The opinion of all who had rung at either place was that they reflected the greatest credit on Mr. A. Bowell, of Ipswich, who had carried out the work. The only drawback at Higham was the noise in the belfry which needed remedying.

The Hon. Secretary was thanked for his report, and two new members, of the Tunstall band, were elected.

Cobham was selected for the half-yearly meeting, to be held in March.

A vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for so kindly providing tea, and also for the use of the bells. The tower was again visited until 9 p.m., when the bells were lowered in peal. After a course on handbells, the gathering broke up, with the expression of opinion that those present had thoroughly enjoyed a small but very pleasant meeting.

PRESENTATION TO A RETIRING SECRETARY.

The quarterly meeting of the Maidstone District was held at East Farleigh on Saturday. In accordance with a resolution passed at the Central Committte in December last, it was decided to make out a list of all the ringers who are serving their country with the colours. In order to do this it is hoped that every ringer who enlists will notify his district secretary, stating his regiment, rank, etc. The roll of honour is to be published with the annual report for 1915.

The Rev. K. W. Mumford, who has for two years acted as district secretary for Maidstone, having accepted a curacy at Dunstable Parish Church, it was necessary to elect a new district secretary, and Mr. S. Hazzleden, of East Farleigh, was unanimously elected to this post. He said he would do his best to make ringing go forward in the locality, and thanked the members for honouring him with the position. The cloth, he said, was different, but not so much as might be expected. The retiring secretary's was once black, and his was once grey, but now they were both much nearer another shade. He then asked the chairman (the Rev. H. B. Littlewood), on behalf of the members, to present the Rev. K. W. Mumford with a brown leather surplice case as a parting gift from the ringers, and in appreciation of his services.—The Rev. K. W. Mumford said that the splendid bag, which had his initials stamped upon it in gold, would be of constant service to him in the future and a perpetual reminder of the very pleasant two years he had spent with the bell ringers of the Maidstone district. He thanked them deeply for their real expression of gratitude for the little that he had been able to do for them.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Manchester branch was held on Saturday last at the Cathedral, when a goodly number of members and friends put in an appearance. Mr. John Eachus, who presided over the business meeting, expressed deep regret that their old friend Mr. Jas. Barratt (who had passed over to the great majority), was no longer with them with his genial smile and welcome voice.—Mr. J. Wright, of the local company, was elected a performing ringing member.—Pendlebury was chosen as the next meeting place.—A discussion as to how best honour might be shown to those who have gone to serve their king and country took place, and will be further discussed at the half-yearly meeting.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Dean and wardens, and to the local ringers for having things in readiness.

BURTON LATIMER, NORTHANTS. — On Dec. 6th, for evening service, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: J. Pettit 1, J. Hendry 2, M. Hobbs 3, H. Saddington 4, H. Meadows 5, G. Lines (conductor) 6.

THE WEST HAM SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual social gathering of the West Ham Society, held on Friday evening last at the Bay Tree, West Ham, evinced the fact that, notwithstanding the calamities of war, the gloom of winter, and the restricted use of the tower bells, there remains in the heart of all true lovers of our art, a bright and hopeful element for the future, when he shall ring the message of peace and goodwill to all mankind.

As a visitor, one could soon distinguish the magnetic influence and personality of the captain, Mr. Wm. Doran. Though verging on the allotted span of life, he is still remarkably keen in all matters relating to his office of steeple keeper, which he has with great credit held for twenty years. He has a record of more than fifty years change ringing, and recently conducted from the treble a good peal of Stedman Caters. William is among the few remaining old Suffolk "bricks," who seldom lose their native brogue or originality. To William a spade is a spade, no matter others call it a shovel. Sometimes his memory plays him fine tricks, and while ringing "gets owt somehow or other." But to-night our hero was in good form, and took the chair with all his usual firmness of purpose. Mr. F. Newman took the subordinate chair. This was an occasion when the proceeds of a chase round West Ham for Christmas boxes was to be declared, a very much declining old custom, rapidly becoming obsolete. The chairman, giving his Christmas experiences, told how he had "an awful time and got wet, feeling as miserable as any one of the twelve sons of Jacob." Whether this allusion to such a biblical and historical family was unconsciously suggested by Reuben Hardy facing the speaker cannot well be determined. William stated he had serious thoughts of retirement next May, when he claimed Lloyd George's legacy. "I think," said the speaker, in an effective peroration, "the owd hoss has done his bit."

Mr. Newman proposed the adoption of the report, which was carried. He hoped their old friend Doran would remain in office many years, and though the "owd hoss," as he chose to call himself, might lose his legs, he hoped his head would remain steady.

Then ensued a noval performance on twelve handbells, Messrs. Newman, Truss, Doran, Moule, Torble and Hayden ringing two bells each to a course of Bob Minor, not at all musical to the ear of the writer. Then followed a course of Grandsire Triples by Messrs. Sanders, Moule, Truss and Scales. It then became evident that time was limited, and that the musical portion of the programme must be curtailed. A song by Mr. G. F. Margetson and a few popular airs on the piano by Mr. Fiddes, brought a very enjoyable evening to its close. Mr. Harry Long had to abandon his customary song. "Round goes the wheel," but as the landlord bolted his doors at our heels, someone, in an undertone, sang "Out in the cold and dreary street, out in the mud and driving sleet."

With the usual parting wish, that of a Happy New Year, extending the sentiment to all readers of "The Ringing World," the social annual of the West Ham ringers ended.

* * *

Our pleasures o'er, what further need be said?
For now the fun had ceased, we sought our bed,
To sleep, perchance to dream, in certain hope
Such joys to those alone who pull the rope.

G. F. MARGETSON.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

A very enjoyable and helpful meeting of the Crewe branch was held at Alsager. The welcome extended to the branch at this place is invariably so generous and cordial that the meeting is voted one of the most attractive of the year. The present one proved no exception to the rule, the annual official visit of the general secretary (the Rev. A. T. Beeston) and the presence of the new Master of the Guild (Mr C. J. Bowen Cooke) adding further interest to it. The proceedings commenced with a visit to the tower, where the bells were requisitioned until tea-time, when, on adjourning to the school, it was found that the church authorities had prepared an excellent repast for the visitors, to which, as usual, full justice was done, and for which the donors were heartily thanked.

At the service which followed in church, the Vicar gave a practical and appropriate address, and intercessions for our soldiers and sailors, and for a righteous and permanent peace were included.

Subsequently, after re-assembling in the school, the General Secretary, after complimenting the branch on the manner in which its affairs were administered, submitted several matters concerning it to the members for their consideration which, if adopted, would, he believed, materially contribute to the advancement of the objects of the Guild.

A final visit to the tower, where a good practice in some of the standard methods took place, terminated a successful gathering. Four towers were well represented, together with a few visitors from the Potteries, over forty members being present.

In connection with our article in the issue of January 1st upon Mr. C. J. Bowen Cooke, it should have been stated that he is the newly elected Master of the Guild, and not the President, who is the Lord Bishop of the Diocese.

PRESENTATION AT SOUTHAMPTON.

After the service on Sunday evening, Dec. 20th, the members of the St. Mary's band, Southampton, met in the belfry to do honour to two friends who have so ably and patiently taught the young band to ring. Those present included the Rector (the Rev. E. Neville Lovett), Alderman C. J. Sharp (Churchwarden), Messrs. G. S. Houghton (Captain), W. F. Fagan (Hon. Secretary), W. J. Butler (Hon. Treas.), a good muster of the band, and several ladies. The captain, in suitable words, eulogised the splendid work done by Mr. Wilkes, and the Rector, in asking Mr. Wilkes' acceptance of a framed illuminated address and umbrella, expressed his pleasure in making the presentation, and hoped that when the bells were rung on New Year's Eve, his work would show considerable progress and give him the credit which he richly deserved.—Mr. Wilkes, who was taken by surprise, expressed his thanks to the band for their present, and hoped he would spend many evenings with them in teaching the art of change ringing.—The Rector then asked Mr. Hunt to accept from the band a cigarette case, with his initials stamped in gold, for which Mr. Hunt returned thanks. The proceedings then terminated, after an expression of thanks being accorded the Rector for attending. The wording of the address presented to Mr. Wilkes was as follows:

"St. Mary's, Southampton. Christmas 1914.

"The St. Mary's band of ringers wish to express their deep gratitude to Mr. Wilkes for the kindness shown to them, by instructing them in the art of church bell ringing, and ask him to accept a small token as a mark of their esteem."

Then follow the signatures.

BELLS RING IN THE NEW YEAR FOR FIRST TIME.

The bells of St. Mary's Church rang in the New Year for the first time, on January 1st, and the event was marked by a special gathering in the belfry. There were present the Rector (the Rev. E. Neville Lovett), the churchwardens (Ald. C. J. Sharp, J.P., and Mr. A. I. Russell), together with a goodly number of members of the choir, as well as church workers.

Mr. G. S. Houghton, captain of St. Mary's band, tendered those who had attended a hearty welcome to the belfry, stating that the occasion was unique, as there were not many towns where there were bells going to be rung for the first time. He thanked Mr. H. W. Wilkes, captain of the St. Michael's band of bell ringers, for the assistance he had rendered in training those of St. Mary's.

The Rector said anxiety was still upon them, national as well as personal, and it was not intended to ring the bells yet; but it was thought better for several reasons they should bring along the ringing at a time when their hopes were high. They were trusting to God that the year just coming in would not be far advanced before peace would be restored. The year, which was closing with such anxiety, and such desperate straits for their country, the Empire, and the world, had been curiously a year in the history of St. Mary's for which they must all thank God, as they had completed the tower and spire, and had placed there the peal of bells. He would always thank God for the wonderful way they had been blessed that year. He congratulated the bell ringers. That time last year there were no ringers, and now St. Mary's had its band of ringers, who by hard work, devotion, and real enthusiasm in everything to do with St. Mary's, had made them capable of ringing in the New Year, it having been decided not to ring out the old one.

The hymn, "O God, our help in ages past,' was sung, and prayer offered by the Rector, who just on the hands of the belfry clock pointing to the midnight hour, rang the tenor bell twelve times, after which the peal of bells rang out for twenty minutes, those taking part being Messrs. Speare, Witchers, Butler, Murray, Fagan (hon. sec.), Tucker, Phillips, Withers, Houghton (captain), H. W. Wilkes, Mursell, and Hunt.

A large number of persons had assembled in the vicinity of the church to hear the bells rung for the first time.

INTERCESSION DAY TOUCHES.

Among the touches rung on Sunday week, Intercession Day, with bells half-muffled in memory of the fallen, were the following:

ROYSTON, HERTS.—For evening service, 720 Bob Minor: F. G. Griffin 1, H. Bonnett 2, W. Manning 3, S. E. Roberts 4, Pte E. Bonnett 5, R. G King 6. Conducted by Pte E. Bonnett, 3rd Beds Regiment, stationed at Felixstowe.

HERSHAM, SURREY.—For morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: A. F. Shepherd 1, W. Shepherd (conductor) 2, J. Emery 3, W. A. Woodrow 4, A. Woodrow 5, F. Shepherd 6, F. J. Shepherd 7, R. J. Polley 8.

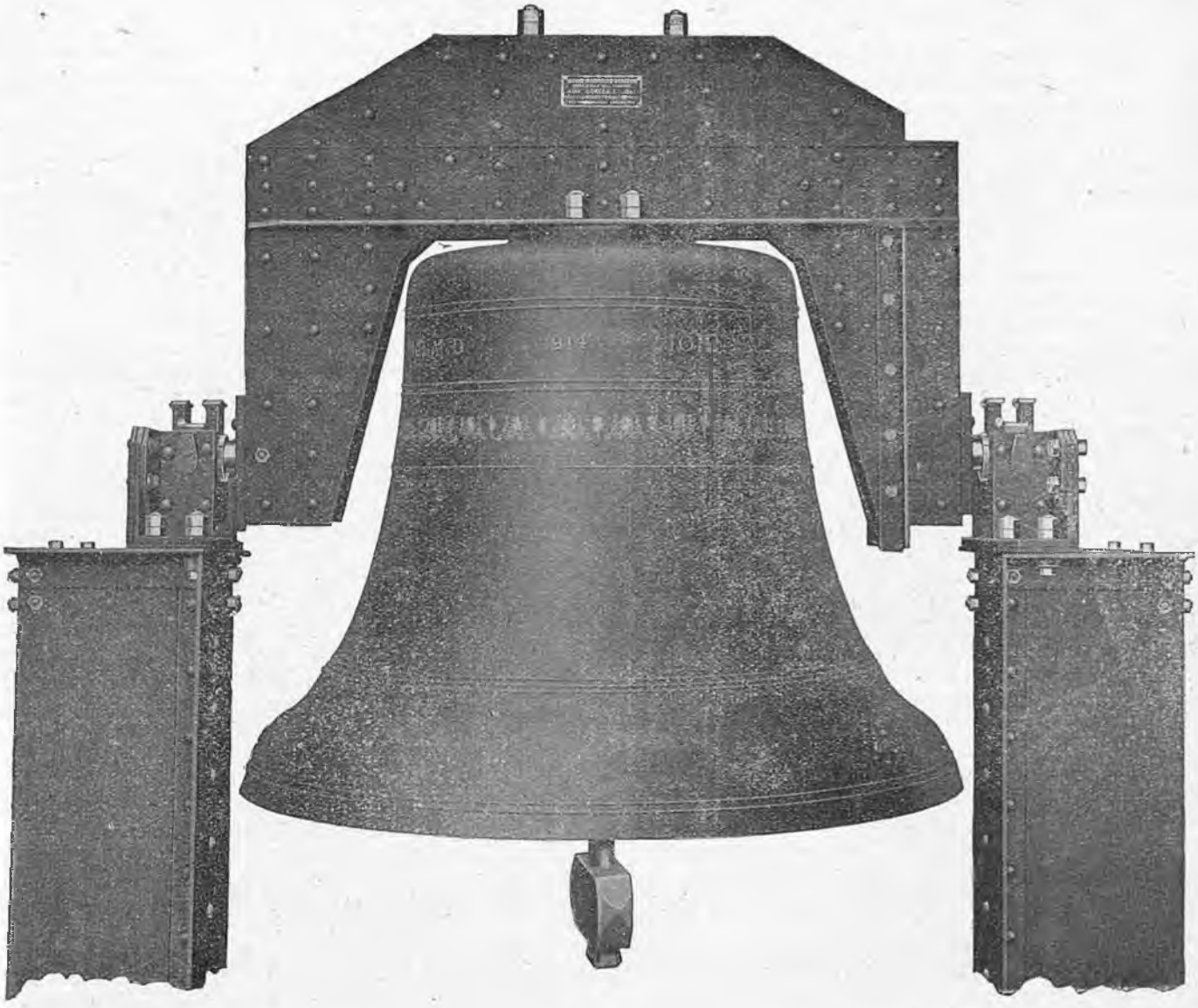
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—At St. Peter's Church, several courses of Grandsire Triples were rung with the bells muffled, by: Messrs. T. Allott, Geo. Lowe, J. W. Holme, H. Holme, H. Palmer, H. Kersham, R. Mills, D. Wolstencroft and W. W. Wolstencroft.

DENHOLME, YORKS.—For evening service, 640 Kent Treble Bob Major, with the bells deeply muffled: T. Bancroft 1, W. Foster 2, A. Hoyle 3, B. Holmes 4, E. Rawnsley 5, A. Bancroft 6, V. Bairstow 7, F. Bancroft 8.

[Other touches are unavoidably held over.]

TORONTO TENOR BELL.

Note A. Weight 60 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lbs.



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The above is the largest bell of the carillon of 21 bells which is now being erected by our men at the Timothy Eaton Memorial Church, Toronto, Canada. The weight of the smallest bell is 1 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lbs, Note A, and the total weight of the 21 bells is 265½ cwt. The "WARNER" self-aligning headstock for chimes is fitted to all the bells, with the exception of the Tenor, which has a ringing headstock and special balanced clapper and also the "WARNER" self-aligning, self-lubricating, oil ring bearings, Type G (Patent No 18896).

NOTICES.

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

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Ringing for Divine service at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields the first Sunday in the month, and at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, the third Sunday, both at 10 o'clock. Meetings for practice at Shoreditch every third Monday at 8 p.m.—H. J. Bradley, Parish Church, Shoreditch.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Newhey on Saturday, January 16th, 1915. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Business meeting 6.30. Subscriptions are now due. New reports are ready. Life members will be charged 6d. each for reports.—Joseph Ogden, Secretary.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Halesowen on Saturday, January 16th. Service in the Church at 4.45 p.m. Tea kindly provided at 5.30. Business meeting to follow.—Jas. Dowler, 11, Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Nicholas, Liverpool, on Saturday, January 16th. Bells ready at 5.—Walter Hughes.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bolton Parish Church on Saturday, January 16th. Bells available at 5 p.m. Meeting 7.30 p.m. Reports now ready.—G. Pincott, Branch Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at Padiham on Saturday, January 16th, 1915. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting for the whole district will be held at the Parish Church of All Saints', Kingston, on Saturday, January 16th. Bells (10) available from 3 till 9 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock. Meat tea (members 9d., visitors 1s. 6d.) in the Mission Hall 5.40, followed by meeting for election of officers and other business.—Ch. Reading, Assistant Honorary Secretary, Mitcham, Surry.

THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The monthly meeting of the above society will be held at Bramley on January 16th, 1915. Bells available from 3 p.m. to 5.30 p.m., and from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Business meeting in the Cardigan Arms at 7.30 p.m.—Wm. Barton, Secretary.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Nuneaton on Saturday, January 16th. Bells (8) ready at 3.30. Committee meeting at 4.15. The bells at Chilvers Coton will also be available for a short time. — H. Kettle, Honorary Secretary, Allesley, Coventry.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—The annual meeting of this District will be held in the belfry at St. Peter's Church, Derby, on Monday, January 18th, at 7.30 p.m.—J. Lord, District Secretary.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society, Established 1824).—Southern District.—The Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday, January 23rd, at St. Mary's, Rotherhithe. Tower open from 4 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Business Meeting at 7.30 p.m. in the Parish Room adjoining church.—F. A. Smith, Hon. Sec., 86, Gaskarth Road, Balham Hill, S.W.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Established 1824).—North District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held on Saturday, January 23rd, 1915, at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, E.C. The tower will be open for ringing from 5.30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Business meeting at 8.15 p.m. All ringers and friends cordially welcomed.—L. Porter, Honorary Secretary, 1, Canonbury Mansions, N.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Annual meeting at Shoreditch, January 23rd. Tea to those who notify me by the 19th. Tower open 2.30.—H. J. Bradley, Shoreditch Church.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bromley (SS. Peter and Paul) on Saturday, January 30th. Tower open at 3.30 p.m. Divine service at 5.30 p.m. and address by the Rev. Canon Donald Tait, who will also provide tea for those who send their names to me not later than Tuesday, January 26th; business meeting to follow. Subscriptions are now due and should be paid at this meeting.—T. Groombridge, Hon. District Secretary, 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—A meeting for practice will take place at Pershore, on Saturday, January 30th. Bells available, St. Andrew's (6) from 3 p.m. till 5.30; The Abbey (8) 7 p.m. till 8.30.—J. Hemming, Branch Secretary.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Bridgwater, on Saturday, January 23rd. St. Mary's bells available from 2 p.m. Service at Holy Trinity Church, 4 p.m. Tea, Holy Trinity Parish Hall at 5, meeting to follow.—W. G. Sellick, Branch Secretary.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Preliminary notice. The annual meeting of this district will be held at Tonbridge, on Saturday, January 30th, 1915. Further particulars will be announced next week.—W. Latter, Hon. District Secretary, 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — A quarterly meeting will be held at the Bell Foundry, Loughborough, on Saturday, January 30th. Committee meeting at 3.30, tea and general meeting at 4. The Foundry peal will be available for ringing until 6 o'clock, after that handbell ringing only. Messrs. Taylor & Co. are generously providing the tea for those who notify them not later than January 23rd of their intention to be present.—W. E. White, Hon. Secretary.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The annual meeting will be held at Southgate (by kind permission of the Rev. C. F. Peploe), on Saturday, January 30th. Bells available from 3.30. Short service at 5.30. Tea at the Cherry Tree at 6 o'clock, 6d. to members who inform me by the 27th inst. of their intention to be present.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Secretary, 49, Wood Street, Walthamstow.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Halifax on Saturday, January 30th. For particulars see circular sent to each local branch. Important to life members: There is now no distinction between "single" and "double" star members, and all life-members are now entitled to a Report on payment of 1s. (postage 2d. extra). Application should be made to the District Secretary. Non-residents may, if desired, apply to me.—Clement Glenn, Hon. Gen. Secretary, 11, Fisher Road, Sheffield.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual general meeting will be held at Bray on Saturday, February 6th. Service 4.45. Tea and business to follow. Bells will be rung before and after service. Tea will be provided only for those sending their names to me not later than February 1st.—Rev. P. Gordon Levy, 49, All Saints' Avenue, Maidenhead.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. James George, of Rugby, has removed to 274, Kingsbury Road, Erdington, Warwickshire. Will Secretaries of Associations and others kindly note.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS—The address of Mr. Ernest Morris is now 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

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

HANDBELLS FOR SALE.

HANDBELLS FOR SALE.—Splendid set of 12 bells in C with extra bell (size 18 in G), just overhauled, equal to new.—W. Page, 37, St. John's, Worcester.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

VISITORS TO BRISTOL will find every convenience and moderate charges at Mr. Ponton's, Admiral Duncan, Nicholas Street, Bristol. Headquarters of the Bristol Ringers.

RINGERS and visitors to Matlock will find every comfort and convenience at Mrs. H. Paulson's, Beech House,

"JAMES GEORGE, OF RUGBY."

This phrase, so familiar to ringers, will no longer be applicable to the popular Master of the Warwickshire Guild. For a generation it has appeared in the footnotes of peals in all parts of the country, we have read it in the reports of meetings far from that centre of education and railway activity, we have seen it attached to compositions, and we are sure it has been, for the user, a passport to many a belfry. But it is 'James George, of Rugby" no longer. Gentle reader, do not think that Mr. James George, of Rugby, has "shuffed off this mortal coil" to some other sphere. Far from it. He was never more alive than he is to-day, but after a residence of 34 years in Rugby he has removed to another town to spend, and, we hope, long to enjoy, his well-earned retirement. His address for the future is 274, Kingsbury Road, Erdington, Warwickshire.

PRESENTATION TO A SOLDIER.

The bells at Holy Trinity Church, Skipton, were deeply muffled on Sunday, January 3rd, both morning and evening, in connection with the Intercession Services. In the evening touches of Double Norwich, Superlative, and Grandsire were rung, and during a halt occasion was made for the presentation to Pte F. C. Billows, of the 10th Devons, Kitchener's Army (who was home for a short furlough), of a wrist watch and strap. The watch was handed to the recipient by Mr. Hy. Horner, who voiced the feelings of the company by wishing Pte Billows every good luck whilst in the service, and a safe return.—Pte Billows feelingly responded.

SWANSEA.—West Wales Association.—On handbells, at 55, Rhondda Street, on December 17th, 720 Bob Minor; on December 24th, 720 Bob Minor; on December 29th, 720 Bob Minor; on December 31st, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor (1260 changes), in 34 mins.: Sydney A. Perry 1—2, James A. Hoare 3—4, J. Arthur Hoare (conductor) 5—6.

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