THE RINGING WORLD

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GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, Surrey.

BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.

St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton.

Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12.

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912.
Gentlemen,

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

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

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

MODERN WORK.

HELP NOW.

Only too deeply is it coming home to the people of this land that this war is going to be of long duration, and that, although, while it lasts, the whole nation is working at high pressure, and consequently there is little actual distress, such a huge drain upon the resources of the country as is now being made must inevitably have bitter results in the future. To that fact, we think, none can be blind. But even while the more serious position is likely to arise later on, the present is not without its needs, and many agencies have sprung up as channels of help. The great and the national one, however, is the Prince of Wales' Fund, which has done, and in the future will continue to do, so much to relieve the distress of those who have or may feel the extreme pinch of war.

To give ringers the opportunity of contributing their mite to this fund we opened our columns for the acknowledgment of donations, which still keep quietly rolling in. The amounts received up to last week made the total up to £80, and we would back up with all the strength of which we are capable, the appeal made by a correspondent in our last issue, that the sum should be raised to a hundred guineas by the time the first anniversary is reached. Our first appeal to the ringers of England was on August 21st. Is it too much to ask a body so numerous as ours to raise that other £25 in the six weeks that remain?

As a matter of fact it does not require a penny each all round, but if every band which is not contributing regularly—some few to their great credit, be it said, have done so ever since the fund opened—would send along just one shilling we should not only top the total but exceed it handsomely. We feel the subject only needs mentioning to be readily taken up. Just one shilling, once, among a whole band between now and August 21st. It isn't much to ask, and we are certain that ringers will willingly give.

Let the secretary collect the money the next time the company meet and the thing will be done. Of course, if there are any who wish to send more than a shilling, there is no reason why they should limit themselves to the amount mentioned, but it would be something to say of the Exercise that they had contributed a hundred guineas to such a cause. This is an amount which, it seems to us, should be within easy reach. We are fully aware that many bands are contributing most readily to local funds, but, perhaps, for this one effort they would be able to raise just that one extra shilling to send through us. The Exercise has something greatly to be proud of in the way it has supplied ringers for the fighting line. Let those who remain at home also have something to be proud of in the way they are helping to minimise the trials and anxieties of those who are the war's victims elsewhere than in the trenches.

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,
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TWELVE BELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tuesday, June 22, 1915, in Three Hours and Thirty-seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANCES;

Tenor 36 cwt., in C.

THOMAS RUSSAM	...*Treble*	BENJAMIN GOUGH	7
JAMES GEORGE	2	ALBERT LITTLE	8
ALF. PADDON SMITH	3	JOHN NEAL	9
THOMAS H. REEVES	4	SAMUEL GROVE	10
ALBERT WALKER...	5	JAMES E. GROVES	11
MORRIS J. MORRIS	6	JAMES H. SHEPHERD	...*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

Rung on the fourth anniversary of the Coronation of His Most Gracious Majesty, King George V, and on the eve of the coming-of-age of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. Mr. James George has now rung each bell in the tower to a peal of Stedman Cinques.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

WHITBY, YORKSHIRE.

THE CLEVELAND & NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, June 20, 1915, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART. Tenor 18½ cwt.

THOMAS STEEL	...*Treble*	ALBERT COATES	5
ALFRED E. OXLEY	2	JOHN T. WATERS	6
WILLIAM HARLAND	3	WILLIAM A. BRECKON ...	7
WILLIAM R. KNAGGS... ...	4	GEORGE F. ALEXANDER	...*Tenor*

Conducted by W. A. BRECKON.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to Sergt. George P. Hill, a member of the company, who died fighting in France on Whit-Monday.

SIX BELL PEAL.

LONGNEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

On Saturday, May 15, 1915, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Being 10 Six-Scores of Grandsire and 32 Six-Scores of St. Dunstan's each called differently.

EDWIN TAYLOR	...*Treble*	ERNEST POCKETT	4
THOMAS BALDWYN	2	LOUIS BLAKEMORE	5
SYDNEY BOYCE	3	JAMES POCKETT ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by THOMAS BALDWYN.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, June 22, 1915, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH, SHOREDITCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5085 CHANCES;

*MISS EDITH K. PARKER	1—2	GEORGE R. PYE... ...	7—8
WILLIAM PYE	3—4	ERNEST PYE	9—10
WILLIAM SHEPHERD ...	5—6	ALFRED W. GRIMES ...	11—12

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF, and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Umpire: H. C. ALFORD.

* First peal of Cinques in hand.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY GUILD.

On Friday, June 25, 1915, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE SPITALFIELDS BELL FOUNDRY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

FRANK SMITH	1—2	EDGAR WIGHTMAN... ...	5—6
JAMES HUNT	3—4	WILLIAM T. POWELL ...	7—8

Composed and Conducted by EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

Witness: NORMAN NORTH.

This is believed to be the first peal of Major "in hand" rung by a bell foundry band, the above ringers being all employees of Messrs. John Warner and Sons.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following is a further list of ringers serving with H.M. Forces:—

Pte Percy Scholes, of Moorside Parish Church, Oldham, 5/6 Cyclist Battalion Royal Sussex Regiment.

Hubert J. Warren (No. 1548), of SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Newport Pagnell, Maxim Gun Section, Royal Bucks Hussars, now stationed in Cairo.

Amos Gregory (No. 713), of SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Newport Pagnell, ship's carpenter, H.M.S. "Sir John Moore."

From St. Francis of Assisi's, Holbech, Leeds:—

Pte Mark Melia, 2nd Middlesex Regiment (killed).
Pte J. O'Brien, West Yorks Regiment.
Pte J. McHale, West Yorks Regiment.
Pte W. Norfolk, Royal Irish Rifles.

From Fen Ditton, Cambs:—

Spr. J. Martin, Royal Engineers.
Spr. L. G. Mallion, Royal Engineers.
Pte J. Turner, 1st Batt. Cambridgeshire Regt. (T.F.).
Pte A. Wilkin, 1st Batt. Cambridgeshire Regt. (T.F.).

From the Parish Church, Gestingthorpe, Essex.

Pte O. Broyd, 3rd Batt. Essex Regiment.
Pte A. Catterwell, 5th (Reserve) Batt. Essex Regiment.
Pte H. Catterwell, 5th (Reserve) Batt. Essex Regiment.

RINGING HYMN TUNES.

To the Editor.

SIR,—Acting on "A Non-Ringer's" suggestion five members of the Salisbury Guild last Saturday evening experimented with the hymn, "Now the day is over," on the five bells of Kington Magna Church. Several repetitions were required before success was attained. For demanding absolute mastery of every bell this form of the Exercise beats any change ringing, and it can certainly be commended as a novel means of teaching young ringers to acquire such control.—Yours truly,

June 28th, 1915. F. LI. EDWARDS.

THE FIFTH GENERATION.

Ringing is often said to run in families, but Lavenham provides an almost unique example, for the latest addition to the ranks is a representative of the fifth generation of the Symonds family to take up the art. On Thursday, June 10th, 720 of Bob Minor was rung on handbells by: Maurice Symonds 1, C. Poulson 2, S. H. Symonds (conductor) 3—4, A. Symonds 5—6. It was M. Symonds' first 720. He is twelve years of age, and the fifth generation of change ringers in the family. On Thursday evening, June 24th, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob was rung on handbells by: C. Poulson 1, F. Dakin (first inside) 2, S. H. Symonds (conductor) 3—4, A. Symonds 5—6.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

OFF THE BEATEN TRACK IN DORSET.

The summer quarterly meeting of the West Dorset Branch of the Salisbury Guild is generally set aside to pay a visit to a tower that is out of the beaten track, and on Saturday last such a visit was paid to Corscombe, a scattered village miles from any station, and not lying on any main road, but tucked away under the folds of the rolling uplands of West Dorset. Fortunately the day was fine, and a good shower the day before having put a check to the haymaking, more turned up than might have been expected. True, only four towers were represented, viz., Beaminster, Bradpole and Broadwindsor, together with the local band. It was a twelve miles glorious drive for the party who took that means of reaching the destination, with some grand views from the top of the downs.

The church is a fine building with western tower and a peal of six bells in F. From 4 till 5 p.m. they were kept going merrily. Service was then held, the Rev. C. F. Langford, the chairman of the branch, officiating, while a most interesting, practical and helpful address was given by the Rector of the parish (the Rev. A. N. C. Storrs).

This was followed by tea served in the Rectory. The Rector, his wife and daughter were most assiduous in their attentions to make their guests welcome.

A short business meeting was afterwards held, at which the Rector was most heartily thanked for his welcome and hospitality to the branch. The next monthly practice was fixed for Beaminster, and Maiden Newton chosen as the next place for the quarterly meeting.

More ringing was then indulged in till time came for saying "Good-bye."

On the way home, the Bradpole ringers stopped at Beaminster, and by the Vicar's permission were allowed a pull on this melodious peal with the result that two capital touches of Triples were rung. Thus ended another useful meeting; one of a missionary character, for it was the means of carrying to a village situated "far from the madding crowd" the art of change ringing.

RINGING AFTER SUNDAY EVENING SERVICE

The annual report of the Guild has just been issued. It deals with the affairs of the Guild during the year ended on December 31st. Like other similar associations it suffered through the outbreak of war, and only 11 peals were rung, viz., Grandsire Doubles 3, Grandsire Triples 5, Bob Minor 2, Bob Major 1. The Hon. Secretary (the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards), in his review, says: The war has inevitably curtailed the activities of the belfry, and that for two main reasons. In the first place the ringing fraternity, always alert to interpret the proper sentiments of a Christian people, have rightly felt that in a time of such intense public anxiety the joyous tones of the bells should be little heard except on occasions of religious observance or national celebration. And a second reason redounds to the credit of ringers even in greater measure than the first. So readily has this great body of church workers responded to the call of duty, that the ranks of the Guild are considerably depleted by the absence of many of its most energetic members on the service of King and country. To the patriotic spirit animating our brotherhood the roll of honour published in the report, bears eloquent testimony. Out of a total membership of 756, no fewer than 175 were serving in His Majesty's forces. In this number were included two of the branch secretaries, Messrs. W. H. Fawcett and C. H. Jennings. After referring to the success of the annual festival at Trowbridge, and the regret of the Guild at the death of the former secretary (the Rev. W. P. Schuster), the report proceeds that it is noted with satisfaction that in the various branches while practice has in many cases been modified or suspended, the regular ringing on Sundays and Festivals has, in spite of difficulties, been generally maintained. Whether in peace or war, Sunday is still the Lord's Day, and the Feasts of the Church claim their proper tribute of honour in the sacred music of the bells. In fact, the regular ringing of the bells in time of war may be said to fulfil a specially useful purpose as a perpetual witness to the unchanging truths and immutable blessings of the Christian religion which no vicissitudes of earthly circumstance can alter or impair. Nor, in spite of national sorrow and anxiety, should the bells fail to give their wonted expression to the national thankfulness for blessings bestowed upon our King and Empire. Furthermore, it would be a public disaster if at the end of the great conflict neither bells nor ringers, for want of use and practice, were in readiness to celebrate the conclusion of peace. Where a shortage of hands exists, owing to the absence of ringers on military service, an exceptional opportunity is afforded of training boys to take their place in the belfry, and in due time to recruit the ranks of the Guild. Continuing, the report refers to the suggestion of the President that the custom, already established in some few churches, of ringing after the evening service on Sundays might well be developed into a Sarum Diocesan "use." Nothing in the form of practice should be allowed, but a short peal of the best that can be rung by the band. It might be left to each parish to decide, at the wish of the incumbent, whether this should be done every Sunday (except in Lent) or only on the greater Festivals, but where it has been adopted, it has been found a fitting conclusion to the public worship and observance of the Lord's Day

MARLBOROUGH BRANCH.

Bremhill, a picturesque village pleasantly situated in the North-West of Wiltshire, was, on Saturday last, the centre of attraction to a number of enthusiastic change ringers, the occasion being a most successful and encouraging meeting of the Marlborough branch of the Salisbury Guild, ideal weather prevailing. Amongst those present were the Rev. G. E. Long, Vicar; Mr. P. Bussell, churchwarden; the Rev. A. E. G. Peters, of St. Mary's, Marlborough, branch president; Mr. H. Brownlee West, hon. secretary Devizes Branch, and visitors from Devizes, Swindon, Trowbridge and Wootton Bassett. A short service was held in the church, the prayers being read by the Vicar. The Brench President gave a suitable address, and appropriate hymns were sung.

A substantial tea was afterwards partaken of and thoroughly enjoyed.

There was no business transacted, but a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar of Bremhill for the use of the bells and to the lady organist for her services that afternoon. A similar compliment was paid the Rev. A. E. G. Peters for his excellent address. The last-named briefly responded, and announced that the next meeting would be held at Savernake on July 17th. The ringing throughout the afternoon was excellent, and there was no lack in the variety of the methods successfully brought round. There were several six-scores of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles; touches of Plain Bob Minor and Kent Treble Bob Minor were also well-struck, and a plain course of Cambridge Surprise Minor was successfully negotiated. The proceedings terminated at 7.30, a most pleasant and enjoyable time having been spent.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Winchester Diocesan Guild was held at Winchester on Monday week, when there was a numerous gathering of members from the several districts in the county, although the attendance was far below the average. In the morning the members attended the Diocesan Intercession service at the Cathedral, at which the address was given by the Lord Bishop of the Diocese.

The business meeting in the afternoon was presided over by the Rev. F. G. Hume, who was supported on the platform by the Rev. W. E. Colchester (hon. treasurer) and Mr. G. Williams (hon. secretary).

Apologies for absence were received from the President, the Master (who is now in France with the Expeditionary Force), Miss Belcher, Messrs. Harding, G. B. Edser and J. W. Whiting, the last-named, we regret to state, through continued ill-health.

The annual report, presented by the secretary, stated that the work of the Guild had been quite overshadowed by the national crisis which broke out so suddenly during the first week in August. Since then the quarterly meetings had been for the most part indefinitely postponed, but the annual district meetings had been held, and the accounts passed. As was hoped the new band at St. Mary's, Southampton, had become affiliated to the Guild. Peal ringing for the time being had practically ceased, not only in that Guild, but throughout the country. The special committee meeting that should have been held in September, in connection with the district meetings, was also postponed, as it was felt that no definite action could be taken at present with the proposed new district or the Diocesan badge. Receipts for the year were, on the whole, satisfactory, being made up of subscriptions from 75 honorary, 538 full, 132 probationers, 4 unattached, 21 compounding, and one life member of two guineas to special purposes fund. The report proceeded to refer to the annual meeting of the Central Council at Winchester on Whit-Tuesday of last year, and of the excellence of the arrangements made for the occasion by Mr. Wilfred Andrews and Mr. J. W. Elkins, adding that the peals during the week-end were all successful, viz., Cambridge, London, Bristol, Superlative Surprise (2) and Stedman Caters, in which over 20 different ringers took part. In conclusion, the report asked for the assistance and co-operation of the members in compiling a roll of honour of members of the Guild serving with H.M. forces.

The report, as also the statement of accounts, presented by the Rev. W. E. Colchester, having been adopted,

The re-election of the officers of the Guild was agreed to as follows: President, Mr. J. P. Stilwell; Master, the Rev. C. E. Matthews; hon. treasurer, the Rev. W. E. Colchester; auditor, Mr. H. White; peal recorder, Mr. T. W. Fairey; and hon. general secretary, Mr. G. Williams.

INTER-AFFILIATION POSTPONED.

The meeting discussed the question of inter-affiliation with the Guilds of the neighbouring Dioceses, and, it having been stated that so far Salisbury was the only Guild which had considered the matter, the subject was postponed until the next meeting.

Mr. A. H. Pulling brought forward the question of a quarter-of-an-hour's ringing before each service, and a resolution was agreed to as follows: "That at all meetings of the Guild the Ringing Master or secretary be responsible for 15 minutes' ringing, such ringing to be known as the service touch." This resolution was passed as a custom and not a rule.

Mr. Jones asked the meeting to pass the principle of having a roll of honour of all members serving with the forces. They could go into the details afterwards.

The proposal was warmly discussed, and the secretary was asked to communicate with the district secretaries, suggesting that the captains of towers be asked to furnish the names of those who were entitled to be placed on the roll of honour. The suggestion was also made that the roll, when complete, should be hung in the Cathedral tower, and that the fees of members serving with H.M. forces be not asked for during the period they were serving.

It was decided to hold the annual meeting next year at Winchester on June 24th. Three new members were elected.

A service was held in the afternoon at St. Maurice's Church, the preacher being the Rev. E. Bankes-James, of Lee-on-Solent.

At tea, which was held at the Guildhall, the party were joined by Canon Braithwaite (a vice patron) and Canon Storr.

THE CHURCH OF THE GUILD.

The Hon. Treasurer, in offering a hearty welcome to Canon Braithwaite and Canon Storr, remarked that owing to the war they had dispensed with the ringing that day, but they all hoped and prayed that next year they might be able to ring as usual. Owing to their numbers not being so large as usual they had held the service at St. Maurice's Church. At the same time they liked to remember that the Cathedral was the Church of the Guild (applause).

Canon Braithwaite acknowledging the very cordial reception of the treasurer's words of welcome, said he thoroughly appreciated what the Rev. W. E. Colchester had said with regard to the Cathedral, where they of the Chapter body were always delighted to welcome the Guild as worshippers as well as ringers. God grant that the time was not far distant when at the Cathedral, and at every Church in the Kingdom they would be ringing their joy bells for the greatest peace after the greatest war (applause). But there was a great deal of work to be done in the meantime, viz., on the handbells in order that they might keep up their practice and learn more and more the system of change ringing, so that when they came to ring out the message of peace there should be no jangling. When that day came—God grant that it might be soon—the bells would help them in every department of life, and all hoped that the new England that it would be, would be a brighter and happier England, and that all would have greater thoughts and regard for the higher things of life, of their homes, and of their Church (applause).

On the motion of the Rev. F. G. Hume, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rev. E. Bankes-James for his address, and Canon Storr was also thanked for his interest in the Guild, on the motion of Mr. Elkins.

Subsequently courses of Stedman Triples and Grandsire Caters were rung on handbells, those taking part being Mrs. G. Williams, Miss A. White, Rev. E. Bankes-James, Messrs. G. Williams, H. White, C. Edwards, J. B. Williamson and A. E. Wilkins.

DEATH OF A COALBROOKDALE RINGER.

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Mr. William Morgan, who for many years captained the Coalbrookdale (Salop) ringers, and acted as steeplekeeper of the tower. He was a ringer for over 20 years, and captain for more than half that time, while his devotion to the bells was well known to the ringers of the district. When he had charge of them he made it part of his regular duty Saturday by Saturday to have the bells in perfect order for the Sunday ringing, and to his care of the bells is largely due the fact that the beautiful peal of 8 (tenor 19½ cwt.), cast by Mears in 1852, and carried in a light timber frame, have had only about £70 spent on them since their erection. In addition to his services in the belfry, Mr. Morgan was for 30 years a member of the choir, and for some time choirmaster, and, being naturally fond of music, was keen on good ringing. He rang about a dozen peals of Bob Triples, of which he conducted two—one at Coalbrookdale and one at Bridgnorth—and also took part in several peals of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Mr. J. E. Groves and others. Failing health compelled him to give up regular ringing in the year 1907, at which time the inhabitants of the district, in appreciation of his work, presented him with a handsome clock and purse of gold. Up to quite recently, however, Mr. Morgan was able to pay occasional visits to the tower for a short touch, especially on the occasion of national events and church festivals.

Outside the church, he devoted his attention to Friendly Society work, and for many years was secretary of Court "Royal George" (Ironbridge) A.O.F., which has about 300 members. It was only at the last Court meeting, barely a fortnight before his death, that Mr. Morgan resigned the secretaryship of the Court. The deceased passed away, at the age of 54 years, on June 19, and it was not surprising, in view of his many activities, that at the funeral, which took place at Holy Trinity Church at 6.30 o'clock on the evening of Tuesday week, that there was a very large attendance to pay a last tribute to one so much respected. The funeral procession was headed by twelve Foresters, in regalia, including Mr. Morgan's most intimate friend and colleague, Bro. J. B. Barker, P.D.C.R., Court Treasurer, who for the past eight years had worked hand in hand with the deceased in the Friendly Societies' Cause, and particularly in later days in connection with the Insurance Act. The bearers were the deceased's fellow shopmates. In the absence from home of the Rev. C. B. Crowe (Rural Dean), the Rev. A. E. Shields (Rector of Ironbridge) conducted the service, which was very impressive. The hymns, "When our heads are bowed with woe" and "Now the labourer's task is o'er," were sung, and the organist (Mr. Wallace Wall) played Chopin's Funeral March. At the graveside Mr. J. B. Barker read the Foresters' Funeral Oration.

The late hour of the funeral rendered a peal attempt impossible, but a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled, in 48 minutes, by: W. E. Merrington (Dawley) 1, Joseph Hanley 2, James York 3, Albert Woodvine (Malins Lee) 4, Richard Jones 5, Walter Lago 6, William Saunders (conductor) 7, Jack Aston 8. The composition was from Grove's variation of Parker's 12-part, which was Mr. Morgan's favourite composition. It is interesting to note that the ringers of the four back bells are also members of Mr. Morgan's Court of Foresters.

A DISCLAIMER.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The peal of Minor rung at Park Farm, Hadleigh, on Sunday, May 30th, will have to be disclaimed as the first peal rung on handbells in Hadleigh. The following is copied from the files of the "Suffolk Chronicle: "Ringing on Handbells.—On Sunday, October 3rd, 1819, was rang at Hadleigh, Suffolk, by five of the society of ringers of that place a complete Peal of 5104 Changes of Bob Major, with the sixth twelve times wrong and twelve times right, which was completed in 2 hours and 25 minuts by the five under-mentioned:—

George Aldham	.....Treble	John Pettit	..... 3—4
William Spooner	 2	David Bayes	..... 5—6

Henry Podd ..... 7—8.

Conducted by David Bayes.

Through the medium of the "Ringing World" I wish to thank Mr. Theodore E. Slater, of Hunt's Hill, Glemsford, Suffolk, for sending me the above information.

Lavenham, Suffolk. A. SYMONDS.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY.

FAMOUS SOCIETY CELEBRATES ITS ANNIVERSARY.

The anniversary of the Saffron Walden Society, which was founded in 1625, was held on Saturday last, the 27th (the actual date) falling on Sunday. Ringing by the local band commenced at 9 a.m., five courses of Stedman Caters, selected as the opening touch, being well struck. Visitors began to arrive at 10 o'clock from London and other ringing centres, and the bells were kept going at intervals until the service at 1.30. The organist, Mr. H. Mahon, Mus. Bac., kindly officiated at the organ, and the singing was led by the choir boys. The sermon, which was a very able discourse on ringing and ringers, was preached by the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, M.A., of Cambridge. This was followed by a capital luncheon, provided by Mr. Scotney, of the Temperance Hotel, about 30 ringers being present. The chair was taken by Mr. F. Pitstow who, after the good things provided had been disposed of, submitted the loyal toast, which was enthusiastically honoured. — The Chairman then proposed "The Vicar and Churchwardens." He remarked that few companies had such an excellent Vicar and good churchwardens as they had at Saffron Walden. He would have liked to have seen them present, but the Vicar was away on his honeymoon, and he was sure that all would wish him a long and happy married life, and would hope that he might be with them for many years to come. He was very pleased to see Mr. Boughey present, and would couple his name with the toast.—The Rev. A. H. F. Boughey responded in a witty speech, remarking that he was not the Vicar of Bray, but he thanked the company present on behalf of the Vicar, churchwardens and himself. It always gave him the greatest pleasure to visit Saffron Walden, not only for the good ringing he got, but for the genial reception he always received.

A FLOURISHING SOCIETY.

The next toast was that of "The Saffron Walden Society," proposed by Mr. H. J. Tucker, who said that he had visited Saffron Walden for a great number of years, and he looked upon the members of the society as some of his best ringing friends. He hoped the society would continue to flourish, and he coupled with the toast the name of Mr. F. Pitstow—their able conductor.—The Chairman, in replying, said he was exceedingly pleased to say that the company was in a fair way of mastering their twelve bells, and he hoped that they would be able to keep up their reputation in the future.

The toast of "The Visitors" was next proposed by Mr. E. A. Pitstow, who said they included some of the best ringers of the day—men who had made ringing their great study and pastime, and whose names alone told the tale. He was pleased to couple with the toast the name of their old friend, Mr. W. A. Alps.

The "man of few words" was soon on his feet. He remarked upon how thoroughly he had enjoyed the able and excellent sermon which Mr. Boughey had given them. The preacher, he said, had alluded to the war and its dreadful consequences, saying that at one time Napoleon, like a present ruler, wanted to conquer the whole of Europe, but he (the speaker) thought he went past himself when he tried "to cross the Alps" (laughter). He thanked Mr. Pitstow for all the kind remarks he had said concerning the visitors and himself, and hoped that he would live to visit Saffron Walden on many future occasions. He might add that it was 39 years that day since he first visited the town, and he could only see two faces on that occasion that he saw upon his first visit.

Mr. Tucker proposed a vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding, to which Mr. Fred Pitstow briefly responded.

THE RINGING.

The company then returned to the belfry, where touches of Stedman Cinques, Caters and Triples, Grandsire Cinques, Caters and Triples, London and Bristol Surprise Major and Double Norwich Major were successfully brought round. A double-handed course of Stedman Cinques on the handbells was also rung by the following: Rev. A. H. F. Boughey 1—2, G. R. Pye 3—4, W. Pye 5—6, W. A. Alps 7—8, E. Pye 9—10, A. W. Grimes 11—12. The bells were kept going until 8.30 p.m., when the company adjourned to the Cross Keys Hotel. Handbells were then the order, and touches of Cinques and Caters, London and Bristol, and Double Norwich were rung.

Some of the London friends stayed over Sunday and rang for the services. A quarter-peal of Stedman Cinques was attempted, but was not brought round owing to a miss call—the number was rung, but the rounds were absent.

The visitors included the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey (Cambridge), the Misses Steele (Bedford), both rang touches of Stedman Caters; W. H. Lawrence (Munden), J. Grimwood and H. Lucas (Walthamstow), E. Pemberton (Ipswich), H. J. Tucker (Bishops Stortford), W. Wall (Stansted), P. Webb, J. Clements (Ickleton), G. Dent (Harlow), T. Austin (Shelford), F. Jolly (Rickling), A. W. Grimes, E. Pye, G. R. Pye, W. Pye, W. Hewitt, E. F. Pike, W. Kemp, C. T. Coles, E. J. Butler, F. Richardson, W. A. Alps (London), the members of the local company, Q.-M.-S. James, Sergt.-Major Owen (Queen's Westminsters), Pte A. E. Hull (London Scottish), and others. It was admitted by all to be one of the most successful gatherings of ringers that has ever been held in Saffron Walden.

BROOMFIELD, ESSEX.—For evening service, on June 13th, 720 Bob Minor, in 28 mins.: H. Bradley (Broomfield) 1, G. Rogers (Ingatestone) 2, G. Camp (Fryerning) 3, E. Clarke (Broomfield) 4, W. Green (Fryerning) 5, A. Bradley (Fryerning), conductor, 6.

REHANGING OF BIDDENDEN BELLS.

FAMOUS KENT PEAL RESTORED.

The grand ring of eight at Biddenden have just been rehung, and thus another of the heavy peals of Kent (the tenor turns the scale at 24 cwt.) is put in excellent order. In the second half of the 18th century change ringing was evidently successfully practised at the church, for on entering the belfry door, situated in the north-east corner, a peal board at the eastern end of the south wall arrests the visitor's attention, the performances recorded thereon showing that there existed a society from 1780 to 1790, styled the Biddenden Youths. On the board, four peals stand to their credit, three of Bob Major and the other of Treble Bob Major. One peal was a long length comprising between six and seven thousand changes. Biddenden bells are of magnificent tone, especially the tenor, which, in the opinion of many ringers, gives off a better note than the famous Tenterden tenor, which is 6 cwt. heavier, but there may be a diversity of sentiment on this point. However, all who have heard the tenor strike will agree that it would be exceedingly difficult to find a 24 cwt. bell of better musical qualities. As a matter of fact, when all eight are in motion, such a charming effect is produced that one has every reason to believe that the octave ranks among the foremost throughout the country for music. Change ringing has not been practised on them for some considerable time except upon some very occasional visits by members of the Kent County Association. The local ringers also meet sometimes, and they have always been very proud of their bells. Three of the ring have been recast, and are well in tune, and the whole peal is now excellent, thereby showing that the present-day founders can cast bells equal to their forefathers. The founders' names and the dates on the bells before the restoration were:—

Treble, Robert Patrick, of London, 1784.
2nd, Robert Patrick, of London, 1784.
3rd, Richard Phelps, 1712.
4th, Robertus Mott, 1599.
5th, Lester and Pack, 1765.
6th, Thomas Mears, 1812.
7th, Lester and Pack, 1797.
Tenor, Richard Phelps, 1712.

The above dates of the sixth and seventh are probably when they were recast, for the peals referred to above were rung prior to the year of the inscriptions. The seventh has again been recast, and the treble and second have also been in the melting pot. Each of these now bear the name of of Mr. Alfred Bowell, of Ipswich, who has also rehung the octave. On the treble is the following inscription: "Major A. H. Tylden-Pattenson gave £100 to this restoration in 1915." The whole peal is now fitted with all modern improvements, consisting of steel headstocks, oak wheels, new clappers, and the old bells have been quarter-turned. It was unnecessary to have a new frame, the old one being capable of carrying the peal for many years, but standing on tall legs made it naturally a bit shaky. Mr. Bowell and his experienced workmen dispensed with these "ornaments," and lowered the cage on to the stone set-offs of the tower walls, and braced the whole mass of timber together to avoid oscillation.

On Tuesday week, members of the Kent Association had a test ring upon them, and the company were unanimous in their decision respecting the bells, which they considered now go perfectly, and at the same time they were quite satisfied with the three new ones. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung, and the local ringers rang some rounds. The churches represented were: Appledore, Ashford, Hawkhurst, Stone-in-Oxney, Tenterden, Headcorn, Benenden, Rolvenden and Horsmonden.

During spare moments of their stay in the district, Mr. Bowell and his mechanic (Mr. H. Welham) rang at Benenden, Tenterden, Frittenden, Bethersden and Pluckley, a 720 being scored at the last-mentioned tower. Mr. Bowell also had a pull at Hawkhurst, where a quarter of Grandsire Triples was brought round by: T. Ashenden 1, A. Marshall 2, A. H. Wellard 3, J. Blake 4, O. Waghorn 5, A. Bowell 6, G. Billenness, 7, F. Chapman 8. At the conclusion of the ringing Mr. T. Ashenden, who appeared to be in the best of good health, attended Matins, but towards the latter part of the afternoon was taken seriously ill. On Tuesday he was conveyed to the East Sussex Hospital at Hastings. We are glad to say he is making favourable progress, and are sure that all his ringing friends wish him a speedy restoration to his former vigour.

KINGTON MAGNA CEREMONY.

The churchyard of this Dorset village, situate on a lofty hill, and commanding a glorious view over some twenty miles of country, was on St. John-the-Baptist's Day, the scene of a simple and impressive ceremony. At evensong the clergy and choir, preceded by churchwardens, sidesmen, Boy Scouts and soldiers in uniform, and followed by the congregation, made their way in procession to the site of a fine churchyard cross, newly erected in grey granite. The favourite hymn, "When I survey the wondrous Cross," having been sung, the cross was unveiled by two scouts and two little maidens, and the form of dedication pronounced by the Rev. W. Neville, formerly well known to ringers as the Rector of St. Mary's, Reading. As the choir responded "Amen," the bells broke out into rounds proclaiming the ceremony duly completed, and ringing was continued, while the procession wended its way back into the church. At the close of the service touches of Grandsire Doubles were rung, and the bells lowered in peal at 10 p.m.

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FALLEN HEROES.

On this page we give the photographs of two more ringers who have laid down their lives for the country in this great War—Sergt. G. P. Hill, of Whitby, who was killed in France while serving with the North Riding R.F.A. (T.F.), and Seaman G. I. Playle, of Dagenham, who went down in H.M.S. "Ocean" when that vessel was sunk at the Dardanelles.

SERGT. G. P. HILL.

SEAMAN G. I. PLAYLE.

RINGERS KILLED IN ACTION.

The sad news reached Whitby on June 13th of the heroic end of Sergt. George P. Hill, of the North Riding Battery, R.F.A. Territorials, who died on Whit-Monday from wounds received in action that day, during a terrific artillery duel. The gun detachment under Sergt. Hill was completely wiped out by a bursting shell, all the men, who belonged to the Scarborough section, being killed, the sergeant surviving for a short time only. The gun which was damaged was eventually saved and brought safely back to the British line by a detachment of the Whitby Territorial force, who were supplying the guns still in action with ammunition, amidst a veritable hail of bursting shells.

On Sunday, June 20th, the flag was flying at half-mast on the Whitby Parish Church tower, and the bells were rung for the morning service, half-muffled, as a tribute of respect to one who had willingly sacrificed his life for King and country.

Always a keen ringer since the formation of a change ringing company in 1909, he had taken part in peals of Plain Bob Triples and Major, Grandsire Triples and Caters and Kent Treble Bob Major and Royal, and previous to the outbreak of war, was looking forward to scoring his first peal of Stedman Triples. After the service a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells deeply muffled.

Sergt. Hill was of a cheerful and generous nature, and held in high esteem by the many ringers who had made his acquaintance. He will be sadly missed by the Whitby company and others, who mourn the loss of a sincere friend. He was 31 years of age, and leaves a widow and three young children, for whom, with other members of his family, the deepest sympathy will be extended by all ringers.

We regret to have to record the deaths of two other ringers whose lives have been given in their country's cause. Pte H. W. Sharman, of the 2nd Batt. Northants Regiment, has been officially reported missing, but news has been received from two of his comrades that he was killed by a shell during the desperate fighting on May 8th and 9th. He was a well-known ringer in the Kettering district. His introduction to a tower took place at Cransley in 1909, and he soon made rapid strides, ringing his first peal in the following year. Altogether he had rung 24 peals for the Central Northants Association, 14 of which he had conducted. A safe ringer in all the standard methods, he will be much missed in ringing circles in the Kettering district. He was 24 years of age.

His career as a soldier was short. Offering himself on the outbreak of the war he was rejected, but again offering himself in December was drafted into the Northants Regiment in training at Weymouth, and went out to France on April 25th, so that he had only been there a fortnight before he was killed.

The company at St. Francis of Assisi's Church, Holbeck, Leeds, have lost one of their members, Pte Mark Melia, who was killed in action in France on June 12th, while serving with the 2nd Middlesex Regiment, and was buried at Merville Cemetery.

STREATHAM.—On June 13th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): A. J. Perkins (conductor) 1, A. B. Bradley 2, J. C. Mitchell 3, F. Smith 4, I. Attwater 5, H. Langdon 6, H. J. Garfath 7, L. Attwater 8.

METHODS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In reply to your correspondent he will find all about the Grandsire single and a suggestion for an alternative in the "Report on Calls" by a committee of the Central Council, and published by that body. I was not a member of that committee, and have nothing to add to what they say since it is outside the particular groove I work in. We of the Method Committee have confined ourselves to Plain Courses. As a matter of individual opinion, I think it is a pity that the Grandsire single and the Kent bob, have four blows made consecutively in one position, but we ought to recognise that they are the natural and convenient places for the bob and single to be made, which is the only reason that they are made there. In theory there are many places where you could make both.

And is not your correspondent "Khaki Lad" a little hard on "experts" in theoretic ringing. I think you will find that those men who take the most interest in any branch of ringing do more for ringing in general than the men who only know a little of practical ringing. It is the man who rings the most peals or who understands the best peal composition or the theories of bell hanging or any other advanced thing that seems so useless to some men who really advance change ringing. Stedman and Annable and Holt were advanced theorists in their time, and the "humble bell ringer" of to-day "who is still expecting help in elementary work and drudgery of practical bell ringing" is reaping the fruits of their labour.—Yours truly,

J. A. TROLLOPE.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

"A COUNTRY RINGER'S" INDICTMENT.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I was not surprised to see in your last issue that at length someone has plucked up courage enough to tell the Central Council that they are mere time-wasters. Year after year they sit in solemn conclave. The talking is done by just a few who have views to air on some crank scientific subject which not one ringer in a hundred understands, and not one in a thousand cares a snap of the fingers about. And when all is said and done, what is the result? We are no nearer than we were before as to whether Tweedledee or Tweedledum is right, for the "experts" never even agree among themselves. How, therefore, can the common or garden variety of ringer decide what is right and should be rung, and what is wrong and should not be rung. As an outsider, I feel it is time the Central Council found a more practical channel for their labours. In my own association I know the members feel strongly on the subject of the waste of money in sending a number of delegates to a meeting at the other end of the country to sit and listen while half-a-dozen folks talk of things which are of no interest and use to ringers at large. If people want to argue whether Union Triples ought to be rung, and some of the Surprise methods ought to be "scrapped," whether a method should have Bob Major lead ends or lead ends which are some other Major, let them do so, but do it without casting a lot of expense upon Associations—many of them "hard up"—to provide the audience. Very little of a practical character has emanated from the Council in their 25 years' existence, so far as I have been able to see. Why don't they turn their attention to helping the masses, get a practical programme before them and carry it through? I read your report of the meeting in London on Whitsun Tuesday from end to end most carefully, and if ever 75 men spent a day doing nothing—many of them at somebody else's expense—the Central Council, in my opinion, did so on that occasion.—Yours truly,

A COUNTRY RINGER.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ENJOYABLE MEETING OF MANCHESTER BRANCH.

On Saturday last the Manchester branch held their monthly meeting at Worsley, when about 100 ringers and friends put in appearance. Ringing commenced early in the afternoon, with various bands and methods, and the bells were kept going till five o'clock, after which the ringers, with their wives and lady friends, met at the entrance of Worsley Hall, the seat of the Earl of Ellsemere, and were conducted through the beautiful gardens and grounds by their genial friend, the well-known ringer, Mr. Joseph Ridyard. Through the kindness and generosity of the Earl, the hall and grounds have been placed at the disposal of the British Red Cross Society, where upwards of 150 wounded soldiers are being treated.

The business meeting was held in the open-air near the entrance to the hall, and a hearty vote of thanks was tendered to the Earl of Ellsemere for his kindness in allowing the Association the privilege of viewing the gardens and grounds, also to the Rector and local ringers for granting the use of the bells.—Flixton was chosen as the next meeting-place.

Further ringing was then indulged in, the methods including London Surprise, Superlative Surprise, Double Norwich, Stedman, Kent Treble Bob and Grandsire, and brought to a close one of the most successful and enjoyable meetings the branch has ever held.

BURSTOW, SURREY.—On June 14th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: C. Varo 1, A. Wisdom 2, J. Sherlock 3, Rev. E. J. Teesdale 4, A. E. Dath 5, A. Harman (conductor) 6. Also 240 College Exercise.

CHURCH BELLS FOR GUNS.

WAR MATERIALS FROM AUSTRIAN BELFRIES.

Church bells in Austria are being devoted to a use in war, which is not exactly new, but which may be an indication of some shortage of materials in our enemy's camp—they are going into the melting pot for the casting of guns. The Austrian Press, says the "Daily Chronicle," is loud in its praises of the spirit of sacrifice manifested by numerous provinces, and especially by the Tyrol, in devoting their church bells to war uses. Judging by the reports in the "Neue Freie Presse," these gifts of bells are on a very large scale, and in all parts of the country the clergy are enthusiastic in their desire to devote all superfluous bells, or those which strike a false note, or those whose voice is not in perfect harmony with the other bells of the set, to the War Materials Department.

In no part of the world, we are told, are the bells sweeter than in the valleys and on the hill-sides of the Tyrol, nowhere are people more attached to their solemn music, but, says the "Neue Freie Presse," when it is the duty of all to keep back the enemy from their beautiful land, and from desecrating their beloved churches, no sacrifice can be too great.

The Vienna newspaper concludes: "If we are victorious we shall receive back the metal for our bells, and the metal which we are now devoting to thunder, death and destruction on our enemies will once more sound in love and peace from our church towers."

It looks to us as if the clergy have an eye to business as well as to patriotism, for they possibly imagine they can see new bells for old to be had on the cheap. But suppose Austria does not win!

Appropos the above, the Daily Chronicle" on Saturday had the following verses by "A. W.," which form a very clever parody upon some well-known lines on the subject of bells. It is headed "'Firing' the bells":—

Hear the bursting of the bells, shrapnel bells!
What a dream of harmony their dominance dispels!
In the startled ear of night
How they scream in savage spite!
O the mad revenge they wreak
On the innocent and weak
With a horrid ghoulish shriek,
Out of tune,

In a clamant, crashing chorus, with a hurricane of fire.
From the steeple dragged unwilling to be hurled against the spire,
Keeping time, time, time,
With the burning fuse of crime.
O the bells, bells, bells!
Tolling fallen angels' knells!
O the smashing
And the gashing,
Wild as captives in their cells,
As the danger shrinks and swells,
With the loading and the goading of the belfry-raided shells,
Of the shells, shells, shells, shells
Made of bells
That have melted Heaven's music into Hell's!

BUSHEY SOCIETY'S OUTING.

On Saturday week this society held their annual outing. It had been organised upon a somewhat reduced scale, but it was, nevertheless, very successful. Chartering a brake at Bushey, at 2 p.m., they journeyed to Aldenham House Gardens, where about an hour and a half was spent in scrutinising the wonderful products for which the gardens are so deservedly famous. The party afterwards journeyed to Aldenham, where Host Jones, of "Chequer" fame, had provided in a marquee a sumptuous meat tea, which was not in the least suggestive of war famine. The Rev. Montague Hall, Rector of Bushey, who, by-the-way, is a parson who takes a great deal of interest in his ringers, presided, supported by his churchwardens, the hon. secretary of the Hertford County Association, and about 20 ringers. Speeches were few, but the Rector, in a short address, welcomed the visitors, two of whom replied in words recognising the kindness of the band in extending their invitation to them, and asking that the good wishes of the company present should be forwarded to the Master (Mr. Bertram Prewett), who, it was stated, was dwelling "somewhere" in England, known only to himself. Sympathetic reference was also made to the death of Mr. E. E. Huntley, and to the fact that just prior to his death he had presented his handbells to the Bushey Society. By the kindness of the Vicar of Aldenham, the bells were soon set going, but it was very evident that a good meal and successful ringing are somewhat widely separated. The pulling, however, soon settled the tea, and some nicely struck touches in various methods were brought round at a pace somewhat resembling the rush, which two of the ringers had subsequently to make in order to catch their train. The man with the camera was present, and before the ringers went into the tower they had their "best-go-to-meeting" expressions transferred to sensitised glass. The result is unknown at the time of going to press what freak the camera played, but this one thing is certain, everybody looked charming, and it will be a thousand pities if, through a shift-course, this part of the outing was a failure. Further ringing during the evening filled up an enjoyable half-day. May we all live to have many another such occasion.

"LEMTRAC."

AN AMERICAN PERFORMANCE.

At the Church of the Advent, Boston, Mass., 560 Grandsire Triples has been rung by the following members of the Boston Guild: A. Matthews 1, P. J. Allfrey (conductor) 2, W. Bashford 3, H. Petts 4, J. Goodhead 5, E. E. Randall 6, J. F. Laker 7, R. Newton 8. This is the first touch of 500 or over ever rung on the bells, and the striking was good.

LAVENHAM'S CELEBRATION.

The 104th anniversary of the grand old peal of bells at Lavenham, Suffolk, was celebrated on Saturday week, when ringers turned up in good numbers, larger even than was expected, including Messrs. E. Newman (Bocking), W. Chalk (Colchester), E. W. Beckwith (Coggeshall), F. Chalk and G. Mansfield (Maldon), S. Hale, Rayner and L. Wiseman (Sible Hedingham), T. Fitzjohn (Thetford), P. Fordham (Mildenhall), H. English (Coddenham), H. Gladwell (Felsham), W. Head (Little Waldingfield), —. Lathbury (Newmarket), H. Crick and T. Hollocks (Preston). The methods rung included Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Double Norwich, the conducting being shared by E. Beckwith, W. Chalk, A. and S. H. Symonds.

LINK WITH A CENTURY AGO.

In our record last week of the peal in celebration of the victory of Waterloo, rung at Farnham, on July 3rd, 1815, it has been pointed out to us that the ringer of the treble was J. Garfath, and not Garforth as printed. This Mr. Garfath was churchwarden of Farnham about the same date as the peal—a fact that is also recorded on a board in the ringing chamber. James Garfath died on the 12th December, 1840, aged 61. He was the grandfather of the late Mr. H. L. Garfath, for some years captain of the Farnham ringers, and great-grandfather of Mr. H. L. Garfath, now a ringer at Croydon, and formerly of Guildford and Farnham.

THE OLD BRIGADE.

On a recent Sunday, at Stockton-on-Tees, for morning service, a band of only six men mustered, owing to the war and munition work. The front six bells were raised in peal, the extent of Kent Minor run off in good style, and the bells lowered without a stop. The ringers were: W. Newton 1, A. Alcock 2, J. Clarkson 3, J. Waller 4, T. W. Waller 5, T. Stephenson (conductor) 6. The average age of the band is about 56 years, and the average ringing career is about 37 years. This, for a company ringing together in the same belfry, cannot be far short of a record.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ASH BOCKING, SUFFOLK.—On June 8th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: A. Fleming 1, G. Fleming 2, G. Pryke 3, G. Bennett 4, Sergt. J. Bennett 5, G. Farnish (conductor) 6. 720 Cambridge Surprise: G. Fleming 1, A. Fleming 2, G. Pryke 3, Sergt. J. Bennett 4, G. Bennett 5, G. Farnish (conductor) 6. Also at St. Mary's, Witnesham, on Sunday afternoon, June 6th, 720 Bob Minor: A. Fleming 1, G. Farnish 2, G. Bennett 3, G. Pryke 4, G. Fleming 5, Sergt. J. Bennett (conductor) 6. Arranged and rung to oblige Sergt. J. Bennett, Royal Marines, who was home for a few days' leave from H.M.S. "Phæton."

SWINDON, WILTS.—On June 8th, at Christ Church, 384 Cambridge Surprise Major: G. Lancaster 1, J. Odey 2, R. W. Hyner 3, D. W. Jackson 4, W. G. Lancaster 5, G. W. Townsend 6, L. A. Wilson 7, C. J. Gardiner (conductor) 8.

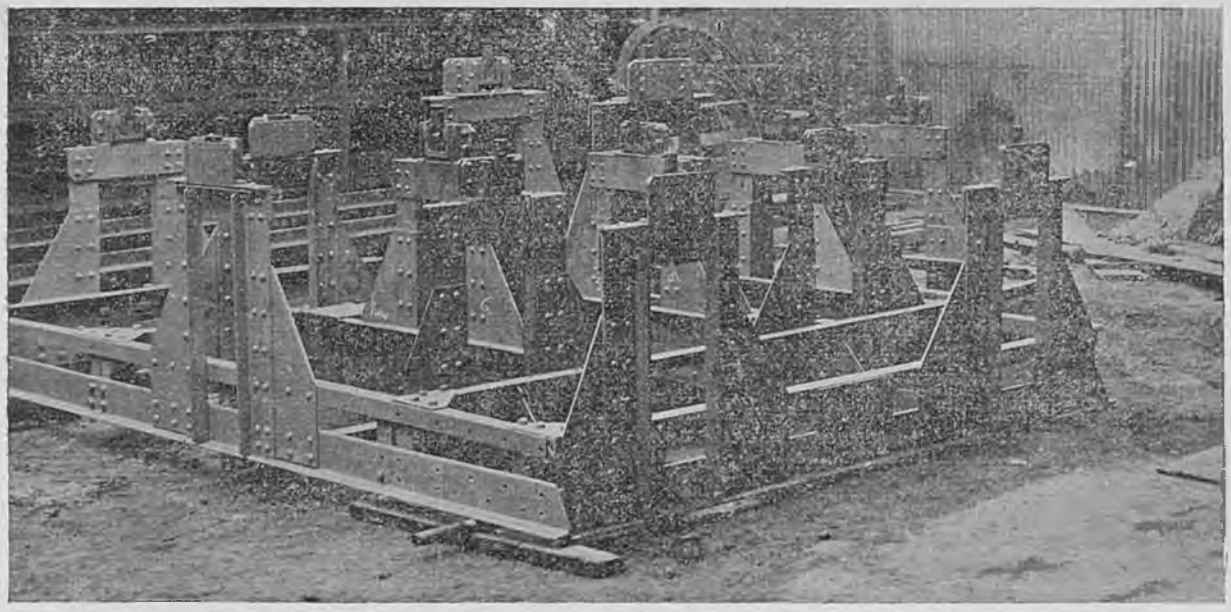
HERSHAM, SURREY. — On June 20th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich: G. Edser, senr., 1, W. Shepherd (conductor) 2, A. F. Shepherd 3, W. A. Woodrow 4, A. Woodrow 5, F. Shepherd 6, F. J. Shepherd 7, J. Emery 8. Also on handbells the same day a course of Grandsire Cinques: F. J. Shepherd 1—2, F. Shepherd 3—4, W. Shepherd 5—6, A. F. Shepherd 7—8, W. A. Woodrow 9—10, J. Emery 11—12.

WRENTHAM, SUFFOLK.—On June 13th, for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: J. Spencer 1, A. J. L. Naunton 2, E. Chatten 3, Pte E. W. Hall 4, Pte T. King 5, F. W. Naunton (conductor) 6. Also another 720 in the same method: A. J. L. Naunton 1, A. J. Naunton 2, Pte T. King 3, W. H. P. Mellin 4, J. Spencer 5, F. W. Naunton (conductor) 6.

BIRMINGHAM.—At Bishop Ryder's Church, for evening service, on March 22nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: *S. Coley (97th quarter-peal) 1, W. E. Stratford 2, J. T. Perry 3, J. B. Collett 4, G. A. Taylor 5, A. T. Scrivens (conductor) 6, J. Porter 7, S. Price 8.

BROMLEY, KENT.—On the 15th June, at the SS. Peter and Paul's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: A. James, junr., 1, A. James, senr., 2, G. Durling 3, Wm. Grace (1st quarter-peal in method) 4, S. Marshall 5, G. Huxley 6, E. Filtness (conductor) 7, C. Austin 8. Rung on the occasion of the conductor's 20th birthday.

PETERBOROUGH.—At St. John's Church, on June 13th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins.: H. Coles 1, T. Vaughan 2, F. T. Cook 3, Pte A. Catterwell (2/5 Essex Regiment) 4, W. G. Cross 5, Pte H. W. Catterwell (2/5 Essex Regiment) 6, Pte H. F. Cooper (2/5 Essex Regiment), conductor, 7, T. Herling (first quarter-peal) 8.



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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. Leonard's, Shoreditch, the third Sunday, at 10 o'clock. Meetings for practice at Shoreditch every third Monday at 8 p.m.—H. J. Bradley, Parish Church, Shoreditch.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD (South and West District).—The next meeting will be held, by kind permission of the Rector (Rev. H. Wilson), at Harlington, on Saturday, July 3rd. Bells available from 4 o'clock. Tea provided at a small charge, at 6. Members and friends heartily welcome.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Heston, Hounslow.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Newchurch, near Warrington on Saturday, July 3rd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30.—G. Pincott, Branch Secretary.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bridgend on Saturday, July 3rd, at 4.45.—Rev. Connop L Price, M.A., John W. Jones, Honorary Secretaries, Piercefield, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Coppull on Saturday, July 3rd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock.—A. E. Woodhouse, Honorary Branch Secretary.

CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meetings will be held at Rothwell on July 3rd, at Duston July 10th, at Titchmarsh July 17th, and Earls Barton July 24th. It is hoped members will try and attend these meetings, as important business is to be transacted.—Fred Wilford, Gen. Sec., 149, Ashburnham Road, Northampton.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The monthly meeting of the above society will be held at Rothwell on Saturday, July 3rd. Bells available from 4 p.m. Business meeting at 7.30 p.m. — William Barton, Honorary Secretary.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for business on July 6th and 20th; for handbell practice on the 15th and 29th, at St. John's, Hackney, for practice on the 13th and 27th, and for service on the 18th, at 6 p.m. Also at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on Saturdays, at 7.30. The others at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Honorary Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at Oswaldtwistle on Saturday, July 10th, 1915. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting 7 p.m. A committee meeting will be held the same day.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Maidstone District.—A meeting will be held at Linton on Saturday, July 10th. Bells available at 3 p.m., short service at 5 p.m., tea by Vicar at 5.30 p.m. Business meeting after. Would all members intending to be present at tea please let me know not later than Monday, July 5th.—Stephen Hazzelden, Secretary, Lower Street, East Farleigh.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting will be held at St. Phillip's Church, Bristol, on Saturday, July 10th. Bells open at 3 o'clock, service at 4 o'clock. Tea and meeting to follow in the schoolroom. Business: election of officers, reports, etc. St. Nicholas bells (10) open from 7 to 8. Will the branch secretaries let me know by Wednesday, the 7th, how many members will be present?—R. J. Wilkins, Secretary pro. tem., 84, Woodland Road, Clifton, Bristol.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION (Southern Branch). — A quarterly meeting will be held at Pershore, on Saturday, July 10th. Service in the Abbey Church at 5 p.m. prompt, at which all members are requested to attend. Business meeting after. Tea will be provided by the Vicar (the Rev. A. H. Philips), and it is most important that I should be notified by all intending to be present by the Wednesday previous. Bells available: St. Andrew's (6), 3 till 5 p.m., the Abbey (8) 7 till 9 p.m.—James Hemming, Branch Secretary, 29, Church Bank, Great Hampton, Evesham.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION. — The next meeting will be held at North Weald, on Saturday, July 10th. Bells available from 3.30. Tea at 5.30, at a small charge, followed by business meeting. Will all those who intend to be present kindly notify me on or before July 7th.—H. Rumens, District Secretary, 32, Verulam Avenue, Walthamstow, N.E.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD OF CHANGE-RINGERS.—Guildford District.—A meeting will be held at Leatherhead, on Saturday, July 10th. Bells (10) available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5.15. Tea at the Institute, at 5.45. Tickets, 9d. to members; 1s. 3d. to visitors. The annual Bank Holiday outing at Ranmore will not be held this year.—John J. Jones, Honorary Secretary, North Street, Guildford.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Blyth (Ranskill Station) on Saturday, July 10th. Tea will be provided at the Swan Hotel, 5.15 p.m., 1s. 3d. per head, or half price to members only who notify Mr. J. Eastland, Swan Hotel, Blyth, Rotherham, not later than Tuesday, July 6th. A good attendance is requested.—H. Haigh, Honorary Secretary.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting of the Bridgwater Deanery Branch will be held at Nether Stowey on Saturday, July 10th. Bells available 2 p.m. Service 4 p.m. and tea 5 p.m. A waggonette will leave the Malt Shovel Hotel at 2.15 p.m. Tickets 9d. each for the return journey.—A. E. Moulton, Honorary Secretary.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late the St. James' Society, Established 1824).—Northern District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Anne's, Highgate, on Saturday, July 17th, at 4.30 p.m., and the local ringers at St. Martin's, Gospel Oak, have kindly made arrangements if sufficient members wish to have a pull on that peal of six. The business meeting will be held at Highgate, and business affecting the future welfare of the district will be brought forward. Will all members make an endeavour to attend.—L. B. Porter, Honorary Secretary, 1, Canonbury Mansions, Canonbury, N.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Goring on Saturday, July 17th. Bells available 4 p.m. Tea 5.30. — A. W. Groves, Hon. Secretary, Sea View, Sugden Road, Worthing.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at Stanmore on Saturday, July 17th. Bells available from 3.30. A short service will be held, followed by tea, on the usual terms. Members and friends cordially invited. — C. T. Coles, Hon. Secretary, 49, Wood Street, Walthamstow.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Central District.—The Midsummer meeting of the Central District will be held on Saturday, July 17th, at the Parish Church of St. Martin, Dorking (S.E. and C. Railway via East Croydon, L. and B. via Mitcham and Sutton, S.W. via Wimbledon; half-hour service motor 'bus via West Croydon to Reigate and Reigate to Dorking). Bells 8 (tenor 25 cwt.)—available at 3.30 o'clock. Service 5 o'clock. Tea 5.45 in the Church Room (members 3d., visitors 1s.). Short business meeting to follow. Members of Southern District and visitors will be welcome. Please notify intention to be present before Thursday, 15th, to Ch. Reading, Assistant Honorary Secretary, Union Bank Chambers, Croydon.

FELSTED, ESSEX.—Dedication and opening of new ring of eight at the Parish Church of The Holy Cross by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford at 3.30 p.m. Saturday, July 17th. All ringers will be welcomed. Tea on the Vicarage lawn at 5 p.m. All intending to be present should intimate to me not later than Wednesday, July 14th. —W. T. Farron, Lilla Cottage, Felsted.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Minehead on Saturday, July 24th. Particulars to follow.—E. E. Burgess, Secretary, Taunton.

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.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

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FOR SALE.—Peal of 12 Handbells (with extra 2nd), by Mears, of London. Tenor 19 size in F; all in good order, with lock up box complete; a real bargain; worth £5, what offers?—Apply "War Bell," c/o Editor, "Ringing World."

RESTORATION OF FELSTED BELLS.

NEW PEAL OF EIGHT FOR ESSEX.

An appeal is made for contributions to the fund for restoring and augmenting to eight the ring of five bells of Felsted, Essex. For upwards of half a century the bells of the Parish Church of the Holy Cross have been in a dilapidated condition, and for nearly thirty years it has not been possible to ring them. The restoration has, however, been taken in hand by the parishioners, but before they could proceed with the restoration of the bells it was necessary to restore the tower. This has been accomplished at a cost of £550, which is already paid for. The bells are costing £300, towards which they have in hand only £50.

The five old bells have been re-cast and augmented to a fine ring of eight, and hung in a steel frame with the latest improvements in bell hanging, by Messrs. Warner and Sons.

The bells are to be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford, at 3.30 p.m., on Saturday, July 17th, and the Vicar and churchwardens will heartily welcome ringers and all lovers of church bells who will be good enough to come to the dedication and opening.

As £250 has still to be raised to free the bells from debt, contributions, however small, will be much appreciated by the parishioners of Felsted. They should be sent to the Vicar, the Rev. E. J. Doherty.

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