THE RINGING WORLD

No. 285. Vol. XI. FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1st, 1916. [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, 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.

RINGING ASSOCIATIONS' FUNDS.

The Chester Diocesan Guild, the report of whose annual meeting we published last week, is exceedingly fortunate in its financial position, for its funds amount to nearly £170. This is an extremely satisfactory position for an association to be in, especially at a time when the war is having serious effects upon the income of many similar organisations. The resources of the Chester Guild, have, of course, only been built up by many years of careful administration, but its present position gives a sense of security and of promise for the future. Ringing societies are not money-making concerns—their characteristic being, indeed, to provide their members with as many facilities as possible to practice and extend the art, and where this can be done in combination with a gradual accumulation of funds, so much the better.

There are, no doubt, a good many ringing associations who would be glad at the present time to have as substantial a financial foundation as the Chester Diocesan Guild possesses. It is not for lack of good men to manage their affairs that some of these organisations find themselves to some extent handicapped for want of funds. In most cases it will be found that they charge too little or give too much, and while it may be quite all right at the end of the year if it is found that the expenditure has been just within the income, yet the absence of a reserve of funds is always a source of anxiety to those who are responsible for the management of a society's affairs. There is nearly always a difficulty in getting in some members' subscriptions, and this gives the officials much extra work without the satisfaction of better results for the increased labour. This is a matter in which the members can individually help the financial side of their organisation.

But the principal manner in which those associations, who have an almost continual struggle to make ends meet, might help to establish themselves on a firmer financial basis, should, we think, be by asking the members to pay a little more for the privileges they enjoy. "Ninepence for fourpence" is alright when someone else is paying the other fivepence, but unless the balance is forthcoming from another source no Association can go on indefinitely giving even five pennyworth for fourpence, and we do not think members expect it. There are several Associations whose financial position would be eased if the annual subscription were increased by, say, sixpence a member, and although there is a natural reticence to take such a step as this, increasing the contribution or reducing the facilities is a question which some of them will inevitably have to face—unless they can find some other more agreeable solution.

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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FOR CHURCHES,

SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.

CHIMES FOR CLOCKS.

PEALS AUGMENTED,
CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

FRAMES

IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
STEEL OR IRON.

Chiming Machines.

Best Workmanship and Satisfaction Guaranteed

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OF ALL KINDS.

ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON BRACKETS.

MALLEABLE IRON BRACKETS.
BEST BELL ROPES.
REPAIRS AND REHANGING IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANGERS sent to Inspect and report on Bells and Towers.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

DEANE, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, August 23, 1916, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

FRANK MORRIS	...*Treble*	RICHARD P. HEALD ...	5
*TITUS BARLOW, Junr. ...	2	THOMAS B. WORSLEY ...	6
†JOHN PLATT	3	PETER CROOK	7
ROBERT ALLRED...	4	TITUS BARLOW, Senr. ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by THOMAS B. WORSLEY.

* First peal. † First peal inside. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the men of Deane who have fallen in the war, among whom are Sec.-Lieut. J. Y. A. Lyne, South Staffordshire Regt., son of the Vicar of Deane, Lieut. J. Farnworth, Loyal North Lancashire Regt., late Superintendent of Sunday School, and Pte. J. E. Ball, 15th Welsh Regt., uncle of the conductor.

NORTHOWRAM, HALIFAX, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, August 24, 1916, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

EDWARD KERSHAW	...*Treble*	JOSEPH BROADLEY	5
JAMES COTTERELL	2	BENJAMIN THORP	6
JOHN LAWSON	3	MALLINSON TAYLOR ...	7
ERNEST LAWSON	4	ALBERT JAGGER	*Tenor*

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS, and
Conducted by JAMES COTTERELL.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a token of sympathy with the victims of the Yorkshire Munition Works Disaster.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 26th, 1916, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 9 cwt. 0 qr. 26 lbs.

ERNEST DUMPER	...*Treble*	GEORGE WILLIAMS	5
WILLIAM G. EDWARDS ...	2	PTE. ALF. JONES, A.S.C.	6
CHARLES J. FRAY	3	WILLIAM T. TUCKER ...	7
ALBERT MARKS	4	*CHARLES AYLIFF ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Sec.-Lieut. Richard Thomas Cyril Willis-Fleming, R.H.A., T.F., second son of Mr. and Mrs. Willis-Fleming, of North Stoneham Park, who was killed in action on August 6th, aged 20 years.

HANDBELL PEAL.

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

On Saturday, August 26, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-four Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN ATERS 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 size, in B flat.

ALBERT WALKER	1—2	GEORGE F. SWANN ...	5—6
WILLIAM KENT	3—4	JAMES E. GROVES... ...	7—8
JAMES GEORGE...		9—10	

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.
Referee: ALBERT E. NORMAN.

It is 21 years since Mr. Kent rang a peal on handbells.

RINGER'S HYMN.

Copies of the new hymn, specially written for ringers by the Master of the Winchester Guild (the Rev. C. E. Matthews) can now be obtained from "The Ringing World" Office, price 2s. 6d. per 100.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

BY "BOB MAJOR."

They say that open confession is good for the soul. That has been so long an accepted axiom that I am not going to dispute it, but while confession may be good for the soul it is not always equally good for the body, as when the small boy found when he confessed that he had chopped pussy's tail off to see what Manx cats looked like. But I am going to confess for the sake of my soul—and to obey orders. When my last scribbling should have appeared I, so to speak, "missed a bob," and my readers missed "Bob Major." Not that they worried about that, of course, for they probably felt it to be one of the misses that is as good as a mile. A friend of mine says a miss is better than a mile because you can kiss a miss—and he may be right, until he gets caught by his missus. But when those notes should have been written, I was taking my annual bath at the seaside, and in that fit of laziness which seizes most people when holidays are being endured, I mentally consigned writing, the Editor and all my other troubles to that warmer climate where some of us would like to see a good many people and things that worry us in this world. So that is how it is I have been absent from these columns so long. The "knight of the blue pencil" has told me I ought to explain it, and here you have it.

SEVEN DAYS' HARD.

In these times I suppose I really ought not to have taken a holiday, if I would be considered patriotic. But the temptation was too great. And, mind you, when I have a holiday, I like a holiday and not a week's hard work like some of those fellows who, before the war, used to go off for seven days' ringing, at the rate of two peals a day. I have known ringers on some of those trips work harder during their "holiday" than during any other week in the year. I met one once who had just come back from one of these strenuous little affairs, and I asked him if he had had a good time. "Splendid, splendid," said he. "Plenty of good ringing?" I inquired. "I should think so," he replied, "just look at my hands." And I counted up his blisters—twenty-three of them. Yet he had had a splendid time! I mentioned just now that my holiday caused me to "miss a bob," which reminds me that once in conversation with a friend, I told him that I had just been out for a peal, but that we had to stop because the conductor missed a bob. "What, did he lose it or was it stolen?" he innocently asked. And then I had to explain that there were other "bobs" besides coin of the realm.

APATHY.

I was interested last week to read the experiences of the Sussex district secretary who got only one invitation to hold a meeting from all his towers in a year. It is strange what an apathetic lot many ringers are. It doesn't matter whether it is meetings or peals, or what it is, they just want everything done for them. You meet men, not unfrequently—or you did in those now seemingly prehistoric times which preceded the war—who grumbled and said they were never asked to stand in peals, although "so and so" was always getting them up. When I used to meet men of this kind I used to ask them if they had ever mentioned to "so and so" that they would like to stand in. The reply was more often than not that they hadn't, while as for arranging a peal themselves and asking "so and so" to take part, well, they had never dreamt of it. The man who gets on in this world is the man who make opportunities for himself, and it is equally so in peal ringing as in the sterner things of life, yet how many ringers realise it! They wait to be asked. With regard to waiting for invitations to meetings that has always seemed to me a slow way of progressing, and things might move a bit faster if the old saying was acted on that if the mountain won't go to Mahomed, Mahomed must go to the mountain. But who would be an Association secretary? I wouldn't, I know that, although I suppose someone must be. The secretary of a well-known society said to me only a few days ago, "Some of these chaps do want some putting up with," and I could quite believe him.

THE BELL FOR PONDOLAND.

Has anybody yet hunted up that spare bell that is wanted for Pondoland? As a rule there are not many oddments in bells lying about in churches, and you can't pick them up cheap on remnant days at the sales, so that the Rev. A. Erskine is hardly likely to find people, however good their intentions may be, falling over one another with their offers of bells. I don't like to suggest that he should engage those slim gentlemen, who recently carted off one in broad daylight from under the noses of an American congregation, to look round for some unconsidered trifle which might be useful to him, because if they happened to get caught it might lead to awkward questions. But how about some of our English bell founders? Doesn't there happen to be an oddment in some foundry yard somewhere, that might well be used in Kaffraria? I don't suppose the natives would mind if the bell were not tuned on the Simpson principle, but I hope Mr. Erskine, whose little parish is as large as an English diocese, will not have to go back with his appeal unrealised.

TIMED TO THE TICK.

The story of Leeds Parish Church bells—another of that long series of deeply interesting articles which Mr. Jerram and others are providing us with—contained two little points which may have escaped the notice of some readers, but which certainly caught my attention. I always thought it was only in these later days when ringers bothered their heads about splitting minutes in the time of peals, but apparently there was an equal desire for exactness in the distant days of '42, for we read that the first peal of Cinques was rung at Leeds in 3hrs 43 mins. 9 secs. That is accurate timing if you like. To go one better than that you will have to have your peals timed with a stop watch, so that you can get down to seconds and fifths, like the policemen do when trapping the unwary motorist. The other little matter which I thought specially noteworthy was the description of the second tenor man. He apparently did not, at Leeds, a century ago, count equally with the man on the box, for in three peals he is described as "assistant." Nowadays when two men ring the tenor they are bracketed as equally responsible for the job. And, by-the-way, I notice that one of those peals was rung a hundred years ago next month. Is there going to be a centenary peal? There ought to be, war or no war.

WHEN THE BISHOP RINGS!

No doubt every reader of "The Ringing World" read the other day of a ringing parson being inducted by a ringing Bishop. I believe the Bishop of Buckingham is the best that can be found among the bishops, so far as ringing attainments are concerned, but he himself has confessed that his experience has been limited. However, we hope for the day when we may see a bishop taking part in a peal. At Southwell, I believe, there is a very capable ringer in the Archdeacon, so that most of the stages up the ladder to the episcopate can now provide a ringer. There are curates, vicars and Rural Deans, as well as the Archdeacon, and if they could only prevail upon the Bishop to practice a bit, what an interesting band might be made up. How about this for an "official" company: The Sexton treble, the Clerk 2, the Churchwarden 3, the Curate 4, the Vicar 5, the Rural Dean 6, the Archdeacon 7, the Bishop, who ought also to be the conductor, tenor. There would certainly be a peal board for the first performance of that kind.

KING'S CLIFFE TENOR.

The fund for recasting this bell is still a long way from completion, and contributions towards the £38 required should be sent to and will be gratefully received by the Rev. H. A. Orlebar, at King's Cliffe Vicarage, near Peterborough.

THE DEATH OF MR. A. SHEPHERD.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Allow me, through your columns, to thank the many ringers who have sent letters and tokens of sympathy to us in our recent sad bereavement, as they are far too numerous to answer separately.—Yours faithfully,

Leyland, Hersham. WILLIAM SHEPHERD.

WILLIAM SHIPWAY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Although my name is mentioned by your contributor in his article on William Shipway, I do not intend to be drawn into a controversy on the merits or de-merits of the departed gentleman.

It will be sufficient if I express my opinion as follows: If Shipway had known anything of Reciprocal Proof he would have been clever enough to have made use of it, and to have understood the significance of same, with the result that many methods now to be found in Shipway would have been eliminated entirely, others would have been given in their correct form—starting from the fundamental row and having a simple transposition row at the lead-end, the latter being a characteristic of every perfectly constructed method, coursing or non-coursing, that has ever been invented.

Shipway's book then would better deserve the enlogies bestowed on it by your contributor.—Yours faithfully,

Brighton. GEORGE BAKER.

THE FIRST 720 AT STEVENTON.

On Sunday, August 6th, by kind permission of the Rev. H. C. Meara (Vicar), the 1st 720 ever scored on the bells of Steventon Parish Church, Berks, was rung. This was 720 Bob Minor brought round in 24 mins. by: T. Groves (Milton) 1, Mrs. A. E. Lock (Abingdon) 2, H. Holifield (Abingdon) 3, H. R. Cooper ((Milton) 4, G. Abury (Theale), A.O.C., 5, J. W. Wilkins (conductor), High Wycombe, 6. Owing to the people having to pass between the ringers when entering the church, together with the troubles of defective ropes and the indifferent go of the tenors, this was a meritorious performance, every change being well struck. On a previous occasion one of the local men pushed a bicycle between the ringers, and dodged the ropes to shelter behind a curtain on one side of the church, which put an end to the ringing after over 600 changes. But this time he made amends by standing at the entrance, cautioning interested persons who assembled, to maintain silence, and thus enabled the peal to be rung. The conductor, though having a warm job on this hot summer evening, was much pleased at the result of a long deferred wish, this being the church in which he was married, and at which the christening of two of his children took place. Mrs. Lock, formerly Miss K. Holifield, was complimented on her ringing.

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Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

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At the Handbell Contest held annually in Manchester the First Prize for the last 16 years has been awarded to bands using our bells, and on fourteen of those occasions they have gained the Second Prize also.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING AT HIGHAM FERRERS.

The annual meeting of the Central Northamptonshire Association was held at Higham Ferrers on Saturday last. It was originally intended to hold the meeting on Whit-Monday, but owing to the general holiday being cancelled it was decided to postpone the gathering. Ringing commenced about 2.30, and at 4.30 service was held in the Parish Church, the sermon being preached by the Rev. Eric Robson, who is doing duty in the neighbouring parish of Rushden for his brother. His very able discourse was listened to with marked earnestness.

Tea was served in the Bede House, presided over by the President (the Rev. W. St. George Coldwell), who was supported by the Vicar of Higham Ferrers (the Rev. K. Fry), the Rev. J. Lang, Rector of Twywell; Mr. Owen Parker, J.P., treasurer; Mr. F. Wilford, general secretary; Mr. J. Slarke, Towcester; Messrs. F. Stubbs, and R. Turner, district secretaries; R. Sanders, London, and about 60 members.

At the annual business meeting which followed, the report and balance sheet were adopted. It was resolved that all members serving in H.M. Forces be exempt from payment of subscriptions until the end of the war. It was decided that a new district be formed, called the Guilsborough District, and that towers be visited which belong to no Association, and asked to join the Central Northants. Fourteen meetings were held in various parts of the county during last year. These were well attended, especially by the younger ringers, much useful instruction being given them, to enable them to take the vacant places in the belfry caused by the war. Cordial thanks were given the clergy for granting the use of the bells where these meetings have taken place.

A collection was taken for the Kingscliffe Bell Fund, and £1 2s. was contributed.

The Rev. W. St. George Coldwell was re-elected President; Mr. Owen Parker, treasurer, and Mr. Fred Wilford (Northampton), general secretary; and thanks were accorded the officers for their work during the past year.

It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Rothwell.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar (the Rev. K. Fry) for the use of the bells; to the Higham ringers for the very excellent tea they had provided, and to everyone who had made the meeting such a success.

The Rev. K. Fry said how pleased he was to welcome the Association to Higham Ferrers. He was sorry he was not able to talk to them in church owing to being under the dentist's treatment.—Mr. George Randall responded on behalf of the ringers.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman brought a very successful meeting to a close.

THRAPSTON DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Thrapston District was held at Islip on Saturday week, when ringers were present from Raunds, Thrapston, Ringstead, Twywell, Wellingborough and Peterborough. A short service was held, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. W. St. George Coldwell), and tea was afterwards served at the White Hart Hotel, Thrapston. The Rev. W. St. George Coldwell (President of the Association) occupied the chair, supported by the Rev. F. H. Lang (Twywell). The report showed there had been four quarterly meetings and two by-meetings held during the year, and that there are now 48 members on the books and eight on the roll of honour.

The following officers were elected: Vice-president, Rev. F. H. Lang (Twywell); district secretary, Mr. F. Stubbs (Raunds); Central Committee, Messrs. R. Loveday and F. Kirk; District Committee, Messrs. D. Redhead, E. Mayes and E. Curtis.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Woodford.

One new member was elected, and a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Rector for the use of the bells, on which various touches of Minor were rung during the afternoon and evening.

BLIND RINGER'S PERFORMANCE.

The observance of Hospital Sunday took place at Devizes on August 27th. In the morning several 120's of Grandsire Doubles were rung at St. Mary's Church, where the bells have been rehung, by: Miss A. Bolland 1, Miss E. Jones 2, W. Lawrence 3, Second Air Mechanic B. Kilborne 4, S. Hillier 5, W. Greenland 6. At the special service held in the afternoon at St. John's Church a large number of members of the Friendly Societies, together with the Fire Brigade and Boy Scouts, attended, and the sermon was preached by the Archdeacon of Wilts (the Ven. E. J Bodington, M.A.). Both our own and the Russian National Anthems were sung, and the collection amounted to £12. Prior to the service 336 Grandsire Triples was rung by: Miss A. Bolland 1, O. J. Hunt 2, Miss E. Jones 3, W. Lawrence 4, B. Kilborn 5, S. Hillier 6, R. Phillips 7, T. Merrett 8. In this touch the 7th was rung very correctly by a blind man. For the evening service a touch of Bob Major, Mr. H. D. Higginbotham taking a rope, and a 672 Grandsire Triples, conducted by S. Hillier, both the ladies taking part, C. Mead ringing the 6th. Miss Bolland rang her first touch of Bob Major in fine style, and Miss Dally also rang, showing good mastery over a bell near the heavy end.

FALLEN IN BATTLE.

SERGT. ARTHUR PLANT,
Northamptonshire Regiment,
of Kettering, Northants, killed in action in France, on August 4th.

LCE.-CORPL. WILLIAM BUTLER,
Gloucestershire Territorials,
of Long Ashton, Bristol, died on July 20th, of wounds received in action on the previous day.

DEATH OF MR. F. E. WARD.
PAST MASTER OF THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

Ringers generally, and particularly those of an older generation and those connected with the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, will learn with deep regret of the death of Mr. Francis Edward Ward, of Wotton-under-Edge, and formerly of Cheltenham, who died on August 5th at the age of 56 years. A native of Cheltenham, the late Mr. Ward commenced his business life at the County of Gloucester Bank, Cheltenham, where his father was accountant. The bank having been taken over by Lloyds Bank, Ltd., Mr. Ward was for many years cashier at the Cheltenham Branch, and was later appointed accountant at the head office, Birmingham, where he remained until February, 1913, when he was appointed manager at the Wotton-under-Edge Branch. This position he held for about a year, when a breakdown in health caused his retirement. It is a fact worthy of recording that the family connection with the banking profession has continued uninterruptedly for 150 years—four generations.

Those who were intimate with the late Mr. Ward knew him to be a man of great ingenuity, and in this connection it may be stated that in 1903 he secured patent rights for an improved trolley pole reverser for electric tramways, his invention having since been widely adopted, and may be seen in operation at Bristol, Cardiff, etc.

Mr. Ward was an ardent ringer, and took the keenest interest in all things appertaining to the art, which was his lifelong hobby. He was known throughout the Exercise, and did a great deal of splendid work in helping beginners, as well as being an accomplished ringer himself.

In 1889 he took part in the then second longest peal ever rung—15,227 changes—at Christ Church, Oxford, rung in 9¾ hours.

In the year previous he rang in the longest peal of Stedman Caters ever rung up to that time—13,054 changes—at St. Mary's, Cheltenham.

Altogether he had rung about 120 peals. For many years he was one of the mainstays of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, and was Master from 1887 to 1889; he was also a member of the College Youths, the Bath and Wells Association, and the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

The funeral took place at Gloucester Cemetery, and as the funeral cortege left Wotton, the parish church bell was tolled. Owing to the fact that the death of Mr. Ward was unknown to the members, the Gloucester and Bristol Association was not represented.

WOUNDED.

Second Lieut. W. R. Irving, of Hawkshead, has been wounded in the back and arm, while with his regiment in the Somme battle, and is now in hospital at Reading.

Another wounded ringer is Pte Fred Davies, of the Chesterfield company, who was hit in the thigh and right arm, while serving with the Sherwood Foresters. He is now in hospital at Taplow.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Blackburn Branch of the Lancashire Association was held at the Parish Church, Blackburn, last Saturday, and proved to be a very successful gathering, nearly 40 members attending from Todmorden (Rochdale Branch), Bolton, Worsley, Burnley, Accrington, Clitheroe, Church (Kirk), and the band of lady ringers from Oswaldtwistle. Ringing began soon after three o'clock, and was continued until after five, when an adjournment was made for tea.

The subsequent business meeting was presided over by the Vice-President of the Association (Mr. Jos. Ridyard, of Worsley). Mr. Wm. Heaton (Colne) was again re-elected President of the Branch, and Mr. J. Watson to fulfil the duties of branch secretary.—On the motion of Mr. T. Redman, Mr. W. E. Wilson was re-elected on the committee of the Association.

It was decided that the next branch meeting should be held at Church (Kirk), on Saturday, October 14th.

Mr. H. Anderton, of Blackburn Parish Church, was elected a member of the Association.

Mr. T. Redman proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and a vote of thanks was also accorded to the chairman for presiding.—The bells were rung during the evening till nearly nine o'clock.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Ashford District was held at Appledore on Saturday last, about 20 members attending, representing the following towers, Ashford, Rolvenden, Stone-in-Oxney, Rye, Woodchurch and Tenterden, and the two surviving members of the local band. Ringing commenced about 2.30, and the bells were kept merrily swinging till five o'clock, touches of Bob Doubles and Minor, and Grandsire Doubles and Triples being brought round. Tea was partaken of at the Red Lion, the hostelry adjoining the churchyard, and Host Noakes fully deserved the thanks accorded to him for providing such an excellent meal. After tea the tower was again visited, when the ringers had the honour of a personal visit from one of the Vice-Presidents of the Association, the Bishop of Woolwich, who is staying at Appledore Vicarage for a few weeks, and who thanked the members for the pleasure the ringing had given him. He handed to the district secretary a donation as a token of his great interest in the Association's work.

FORTY YEARS A RINGER.

The Easton-in-Gordano (Somerset) company, have lost one of their oldest members by the death of Mr. H. Gale, who was a ringer at the Parish Church for 40 years. A quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles, with the bells half-muffled, was rung to his memory, in 45 minutes, on August 8th, by: E. Gregg 1, F. A. Atherton 2, A. Rumble 3, G. Bennett 4, J. Caple (first quarter-peal as conductor) 5, H. Porter 6.

NOTICES.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Eastern District of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Bridlington on Saturday, September 2nd, 1916, Bells available during the day.—T. Smith, 12, Sutton Street, Goole, Hon. District Secretary.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Braughing on Sept. 2nd, when the bells will be open during the afternoon and evening. Tea at the Brown Bear, members 6d., others 8d., at 5.30. All members will be made welcome. Will those who can notify me?—W. H. Lawrence, Hon. District Secretary.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting of the Guildford District will be hold at Woking on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Tea (9d.) at 5 o'clock. Service at 6; Preacher, the Vicar.—John J. Jones, Hon. Sec., North Street, Guildford.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at North Stoneham, on Saturday, September 9th. Bells available at 2.30. The Rector of North Stoneham has kindly promised to provide tea at 5 o'clock, but members intending to be present must inform me not later than Wednesday, September 6th.—Jas. W. Elkins, District Secretary, 20, Culver Road, Winchester.

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-Under-Edge and District Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Cam, on Saturday, September 9th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m.—W. A. Lewis, Branch Hon. Sec., Ham, Berkeley, Gloucester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Middleton Parish Church, on Saturday, September 9th. Bells ready at 3.30 p.m. Meeting at 6.30.—T. K. Driver, Secretary, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next meeting will be held at Wortley, near Sheffield, on Saturday, September 9th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Tea (11d. each) provided for those who notify Mr. W. A. Wooler, The New Lodge, Wortley, by Wednesday, September 6th.—Leonard Brightman, District Sec., pro. tem., 45, St. Stephen's Road, Rotherham.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Battersea, on Saturday, September 9th. Bells available from 4 to 8 p.m. A business meeting will be held at the conclusion of ringing. T. Walker, Hon. Sec., 10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION & LIVERPOOL DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting will be held at St. Nicholas', Liverpool, on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells ready 4. Business meeting in the Church House at 7.—Rev. E. C. Collier and Walter Hughes, Secs. pro tem.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—A special practice will be held at St. John's, Miles Platting, on Sept. 9th. All ringers invited; 4.30 till 8.—W. Wolstencroft.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on September 12th and 26th, and for handbell practice on September 7th and 21st, all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Headcorn, on Saturday, September 16th. Bells available at 2 o'clock. A special service will be held in the Church at 6 o'clock. Tea provided by the Association at 6.30 for all members who notify me of their intention to be present on or before Tuesday, September 12th. A general meeting will be held after tea for the election of officers, etc., for the ensuing year.—C. Tribe, Hon. District Secretary, British School Villas, Tenterden.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. P. C. West) at Sunbury on Saturday, September 16th. Bells available from 3.30. Tea at 6. All ringing friends welcome. The Hon. Sec. begs to remind members that all outstanding subscriptions should now be paid.—H. C. Chandler, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Hefton, Hounslow.

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.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

WHEELWRIGHT, also WHEELWRIGHT'S SMITH wanted. Must be good workmen. Change ringers preferred.—Write "Wheel," Ringing World Office, Woking.

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS.

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

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday week a very pleasant and successful meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at Hadley and Barnet, upwards of 40 members and friends attending during the afternoon and evening. Ringing commenced at Hadley about 3.30, and continued until 5.30, when the company was reinforced by the ringers who had been enjoying a pull on the fine peal at Barnet, and partook of tea, which was most admirably served in the Church House adjoining, by a member of the Hadley band.

At the business meeting following, the chair was taken by the District Master, now Rifleman J. Armstrong, K.R.R.C., whom everybody was delighted to see, and who looked very fit after two months' training in the army.

One new member, Mr. W. E. Farr, of the Finchley band, was elected, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, City, if it is possible to obtain permission, and failing this at Willesden.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. C. T. Coles) referred to the recent sudden and quite unexpected death of Mr. Arthur Hughes, a very highly respected and valued member of the Association, whom they were all sorry to lose. On receipt of the sad news, he (the hon. secretary) had, on behalf of the members, written a letter of sympathy to Mr. A. A. Hughes, conveying to the relatives of the deceased member their deep sorrow at the great loss they had sustained. A reply had been received from Mr. Hughes, thanking them for their sympathy, and, to enable him to record this in the minutes, the Hon. Secretary asked the members to pass a resolution confirming his action in the matter.—This was done by the members standing in silence for a few moments.

The Master proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Revs. R. H. O. Stubbs and W. Manning, Rectors of Hadley and Barnet respectively, for the use of their bells, and to the former for allowing them the use of the Church House for tea; also to Messrs. T. Lilley and J. Sumpter for having the bells in readiness; and to all those who had contributed towards the success of the meeting.—This was seconded by Mr. G. M. Kilby, and carried unanimously.

Mr. W. E. Farr suggested that a resolution should be passed, wish-

ing success and a safe return to all brother ringers who had gone gallantly forth to fight their country's battles. In the future it would be seen by those who were thus serving that they had not been forgotten by those who stayed at home if such a resolution were placed on the minutes. Mr. Farr said he thought it would be better if one of the older members moved that this be done, and the resolution was proposed by Mr. W. Pickworth, Mr. Farr seconding.—The Hon. Secretary supported the motion, saying how pleased they all were at seeing their Master, Rifleman J. Armstrong, with them that day, and adding that they all hoped it would not be long before all their absent friends were amongst them again. —The resolution was carried unanimously, and the Master, on behalf of the members on service, replied, saying how much it would help them to know of the good wishes of their fellow members.

Ringing was continued at both churches until about 8.30, whilst good use was made of a pretty peal of handbells brought by Mr. G. M. Kilby, amongst the methods rung on these being Stedman Doubles and Triples and Grandsire Caters.

RINGERS' OUTINGS.

The St. James' Society, Bolton, Bradford, had their annual outing to Gargrave, Skipton, and Kildwick. Starting by the 6.45 a.m. train Gargrave was reached about 8.30, and there they were met by some of the local men who took them to the church, which contains a musical peal of eight.

The bells were soon on the way for a quarter-peal of Grandsire, with the bells half-muffled, and it was brought round in 46 minutes by J. Nichols 1, S. B. Norfolk 2, J. Palframan 3, A. Gill 4, W. Waland 5, F. Horwood (conductor) 6, B. E. Howe 7, S. Palframan 8. The party then set off for Skipton, where dinner was waiting at the Ship Hotel, a five miles' walk through most beautiful country enabling ample justice to be done to the good things provided. After dinner the handbells were brought out, and a very pleasant hour was spent.

Then the excursionists started on their way to Kildwick, which is another five miles' jaunt. Here they found tea awaiting them, and after it had been disposed of they made their way to the tower, and, with some of the local men standing in, several touches were rung for evening service. Home was reached again, about 9 p.m., after a most pleasant day. The party take this opportunity of thanking the Vicar's churchwarden and ringers for the arrangement for the enjoyment of the visitors; and Mr. J. Nichols, who made the arrangements for the occasion, and ably carried out his duties.

ST. STEPHEN'S GUILD, BRISTOL..

On August 12th, Bristol St. Stephen's Guild held their annual outing, a visit to Trowbridge and district being made by twelve of their members, with the following visitors: Mr. T. King (Tiverton, Bath), the Rev. E. Banks James (Leigh-on-Solent), Lieut. Alec. Miller (London), Mr. J. W. Jones (Newport), Mr. S. Abrahams (St. Thomas'), Mr. A. Sevier (St. James'). The war has naturally made inroads into the ranks of the Guild, and those who were specially remembered on this occasion were Q.-M.-S. W. A. Cave, R.E., J. Tyler, R.F.A., Corpl, G. Seward, Australian Contingent, and Corpl. E. Ridler, R.E., all on active service.

Arriving at Trowbridge no time was lost by the party in visiting the belfry of the Parish Church, and for the first time in local history touches of London and Cambridge Major were heard, and Stedman Triples were also rung. On leaving the tower the handbells were brought into play on the green, and a course of Stedman Caters was rung, to the intense pleasure of a large audience. There was an adjournment for tea at Messrs. Smith and King's Restaurant, a capital spread being laid by Mr. and Mrs. Weston. At the close the handbells were again heard in a course of Stedman Cinques, following which the party took brake for Bratton. The drive through Heywood, Yarnbrook and along the road skirting the Westbury Hills and the White Horse proved highly enjoyable, the rain which threatened happily keeping off.

A first halt was made at Bratton. This pretty little hill resort is now full of visitors, and as they partook of tea in the pleasure gardens the ringers gave a touch of Grandsire Caters which was greatly appreciated by the company. Continuing the journey, Steeple Ashton was the next objective, on reaching which the bells of the grand old church were soon going to Stedman and Grandsire Doubles and Plain Bob Minor. A further drive of a mile and a half brought the party to Keevil, where the bells of St. Leonard's were soon pealing to Stedman and Grandsire Doubles and Plain Bob Minor.

At the fall of the bells there was an adjournment to the Beach Arms, where supper was found laid 'neath the trees in an old-fashioned garden. The journey home was via Hillperton, where a halt was made, and at the cross-roads the handbells were again rung in a touch of 168 Grandsire Triples, in which Mr. S. J. Hector, the conductor of the Trowbridge ringers, took part. A course of Stedman Cinques was also rung. Arriving at the railway station the waiting time was spent in more handbell tunes, etc., including the popular "Blue Bells of Scotland" to the evident enjoyment of the waiting passengers.

The day proved highly enjoyable in every way, and before entraining the party expressed their thanks to the Rector of Trowbridge and Vicars of Steeple Ashton and Keevil for the use of their bells, and also to Mr. Hector, who so kindly made the local arrangements, which gave so much enjoyment to the party.

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