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.

THE DEFENCE OF RINGING.

Even the most apathetic of ringers are, we think, beginning to wake up to the fact that it is time the Exercise organised itself to resist, by counteracting influence, any attempts by outsiders to interfere with the rightful practice of the art. But there are large numbers throughout the country who are anxious to know what is being done by those in a position to act, lest any unjustifiable restriction on ringing, introduced at the whim of a few unreasoning opponents of bells, should be sprung upon us and find us without any effective means of countering the activities against the Exercise. In a striking letter in another column, that champion of bells in their use in connection with Church festivals and services, the Rev. F. Llewellyn Edwards, shows conclusively that the ringing of bells is not only an inherent part of our religious services from centuries of practice, but that it has biblical authority. Moreover, it is common to the Christian Church, both East and West, and it is the only form of music that is thus universally adopted.

There is, indeed, behind our ringing, as ringers have always known, but many outsiders do not know, a deep religious significance, and it leads Mr. Edwards to advocate an uncompromising stand in the use of bells as part of the Church services, on the ground that "secular interference with ringing on Sundays and Holy Days and their Eves, would constitute a flagrant violation of religious liberty." Such action, if it were necessary, could only be taken by an organised body, and there is clearly a duty laid upon the representative council of the Exercise at least to consider the possibilities and lay plans to uphold the rights associated with ringing.

Ringers have only to read the extract which we quote elsewhere from the parish magazine of St. Peter's, Bedford, to realise that even outside our own ranks there are those who recognise that influences are at work to make a "dead set" at bell ringing; and the stout defence, which the Vicar of St. Peter's sets up, is the kind of thing which could be secured in practically every parish in the kingdom, were it to become needful, if only the necessary preparations were made and organisation was available. And this defence could be carried further than the parishes: it could be secured in the high places, if only the matter were tactfully dealt with. But a crisis which found us unprepared would mean precipitate action and perhaps divided counsels. All that we ask is that the Exercise should not find itself thus unready, but that the possibilities should receive timely and mature consideration and a workable plan prepared for the defence of ringing, which could be put into operation without delay if and when it became necessary.

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OR IN PEALS.

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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.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE

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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EIGHT BELL PEAL.

OLDSWINFORD, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

On Sunday, December 10, 1916, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwts. in F.

GEORGE POPNELL ...	...*Treble*	ALFRED E. WHATMORE ...	5
RALPH MOORS	2	JAMES NEWNAM	6
WILLIAM SHORT	3	JOHN BASS	7
THOMAS HEATHCOCK	4	*THOMAS WHITEHOUSE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM SHORT.

* First peal. Rung with the bells half muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Edward Chance, for 40 years clerk and sexton, and to the officers and men in all forces fallen in the war.

FIVE BELL PEAL.

EWHURST, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 10, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with 10 different callings. Tenor 10¼ cwt.

JAMES GOODSELL... ...	...*Treble*	TRAYTON BOOTH	3
WALTER H. PERRY	2	*EDWARD MILLS	4
ALBERT E. EDWARDS	*Tenor*		

Conducted by ALBERT E. EDWARDS.

* First peal with a bob bell. First peal on the bells. First peal on five bells by all the ringers, who hail from Salehurst. The ringers were entertained to an excellent tea by the Rector, the Rev. A. Morrison.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

From St. Stephen's, Eastwood, Rotherham:—
Clement Glenn, hon. secretary Yorkshire Association, 3rd writer, R.N.V.R., 2 H Mess, Chatham.

From Blackburn Parish Church:—
Pte Fred Wilson, 3rd Battalion East Lancashire Regiment, Plymouth.

From All Saints', King's Cliffe:—
Pte Thomas Smith, 3rd Northamptonshire Regiment, Chatham.

MILITARY RINGERS AT BLACKPOOL.

In the neighbourhood of Blackpool there are, just at present, enough military ringers to make up quite a good band for Triples or Major, and it would not be surprising if in the near future an "all khaki" attempt for a peal were made. Last Saturday afternoon, at a branch meeting of the Lancashire Association, at St. John's Church, South Shore, six of the soldiers rang 720 of Bob Minor: Pte M. Hibbert (Bushey) 1, Pte E. Marshall (Barnet) 2, Sgt. T. Allanson (Lytham) 3, Cpl. T. Butler (Walthamstow) 4, Spr. S. White (Canterbury) 5, Pte J. A. Trollope (Ealing), conductor, 6. The ringers of 1, 2 and 6 belong to the Yorkshire Regiment, 4 and 5 to the Royal Engineers, and 3 to the Loyal North Lancashire Regiment.

On Sunday, at St. John's Church, 464 Plain Bob Major: J. Smith 1, W. Wilde 2, Pte E. W. Marshall 3, Pte J. A. Trollope (conductor) 4, J. Bolton 5, Sapper S. J. White 6, Pte M. F. R. Hibbert 7, Corpl. F. Butler 8. Also 504 Grandsire Triples: E. Howarth 1, J. Smith 2, J. Bolton 3, Sapper S. J. White 4, Pte E. W. Marshall 5, Pte M. Hibbert 6, Corpl. F. Butler (conductor) 7, Pte J. A. Trollope 8.

CAVERSHAM, OXON.—Recently, several touches of Bob Major, Grandsire Triples and Stedman Triples have been rung for evening service, in which Air-Mechanic W. J. Jarman, R.F.C., has taken part, the ringing including his first 504 Stedman Triples: G. Essex 1, F. Pounds 2, W. Hibbert 3, A. D. Cullum 4, E. J. Menday 5, Air-Mechanic W. J. Jarman, R.F.C., 6, R. T. Hibbert (conductor) 7, H. Simmonds 8.— On Sept. 10th, Air-Mec. Jarman rang his farewell touch, he being under orders for "somewhere overseas," and all the Caversham men wish him well and a safe return.

WESTBURY-ON-TRYM.—On Sunday evening, Oct. 15th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles for the harvest festival, and also as a farewell to H. J. Tucker, who has been called to H.M. Forces: J. Busby 1, W. H. Lewes 2, H. J. Tucker (first quarter-peal) 3, H. Walters 4, W. White (conductor) 5, H. Lewis 6.

RINGING AND THE PUBLIC.

THE BELLS' PART IN RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

To the Editor.

Sir, — Allow me to commend in terms of highest praise the statesmanlike character of your leading articles on the question of "Ringing and the Public." You are doing a grand service to the Church in endeavouring to awaken ringers to a due sense of the danger threatening the free exercise of their art, and to rally them to a strong and united defence of their rights—and those of the Church, while there is yet time.

In any steps that may be taken to deal with the situation, the first essential is that we proceed on sound, logical principles. And foremost among these is a clear understanding of the proper use of bells, and their place in the worship of the Catholic Church. Now, discussion as to the earliest use of bells, either in pagan or in Christian worship, such as that in the "Nottingham Guardian," is all more or less beside the point. The same may be said of superstitious usages in bygone days. The one fact of real consequence is that bell ringing at the present day is one of the modes of expression of religious devotion sanctioned by the authority of the Holy Catholic Church throughout the world, both Eastern and Western. The music of bells, at once solemn and joyful, is one of the principal means whereby the Church of Christ has been guided by the Holy Spirit to carry out the Scriptural "exhortation to praise God with all kinds of instruments," (Ps. cl, A.V.). And it is a significant fact, that this is the only form of instrumental music used by the entire Church, for, while we in the West employ organs and orchestral instruments in public worship, the Eastern Orthodox Church excludes all instruments from the actual services (the Armenian Church, however, permitting the "Sistrum"). but bells are regularly rung, as with us, to celebrate religious festivals, and other occasions of public rejoicing.

This fundamental principle then being established, that bell ringing is one of the religious observances hallowed by the use and tradition of the universal Church, it follows at once that any attempt, under normal conditions, on the part of secular authority to interfere with the customary ringing of bells on Sundays and Holy Days and the Eves of the same, would constitute a flagrant violation of religious liberty, and as such ought to be uncompromisingly resisted by those in control of belfries, even to the extent of incurring the penalties of the law, if any such impious legislation were passed. It is the simple duty of the authorities of the Church stoutly to maintain against any attempted encroachment the inalienable right of Churchmen to worship with the full complement of music from the bells, as well as from the organ or any other instrument employed for the purpose.

It is true, on the other hand, that Churchmen may reasonably be expected to show some consideration for the sensibilities of their neighbours in the use of such powerful instruments of music. But here again, we must be quite uncompromising in the assertion of principle. It is not our business, for instance, to pander to the typically English vice of somnolence by silencing our bells till a late hour in the day. In no other country in the world would such dishonour to religion be for a moment thought of. Where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated at early hours of the morning, as is evidently the case at the "seaside town" mentioned by Mr. Whittington, it is but fitting and proper that the greatest Christian service should be honoured with the music of the bells. If the less devout or indifferent choose to spend their Sunday mornings in bed, that is no reason why the church bells should not send forth their summons to the faithful to be up and rendering their tribute of praise. In the same letter from Mr. Whittington's pen a very dangerous concession is hinted at. The writer expresses his belief that "very few people . . . . would raise the least objection to . . . . change ringing done between . . . . 10 and 11 a.m. or 5.30 and 6.30 p.m." That may be so, but it would be a lasting disgrace to our Church. if we consented to have our ringing confined to those hours for the benefit of objectors. If the Apostles and their contemporaries had confined their religious activities to such things as did not meet with "the least objection," there would have been no Christian Church to-day, and consequently neither belfries nor ringers. I quite agree that there is room for various modifications with a view to mitigating opposition to ringing, but the most essential point is that we take our stand firmly on the principle of liberty of worship in the fullest sense, and the inherent rights of the Church.—Yours truly.

F. Ll. EDWARDS.

Kington Magna, Dorset 11th Dec., 1916.

BEDFORD VICAR'S DEFENCE OF RINGING.

A spirited defence of Sunday ringing is made by the Rector of St. Peter de Merton's, Bedford, where there has been for some years past one of the most capable of six-bell companies, whose ranks include the Misses Steele. The Rector, in his "Parish Magazine," says:—

"A dead set has been made in some quarters against the practice of ringing the bells on Sunday morning. 'A wink is as good as a nod to a blind horse.' On the same principle we shall treat this with deaf ears. The agitation has been led in the supposed interests of munition workers. St. Peter's bells are never rung before 10.15 a.m. Is it pretended that munition workers are so numerous in our parish, and their sleep is so precarious, that they are really disturbed? The bells are said to yield 'a solemn sound from a thoughtless tongue,' and so have become a symbol of hypocrisy. Isn't this a case of the shoe being on the wrong foot? It may be said with safety that those who like to hear the church bells vastly outnumber those who don't. Besides, our bell ringers are just the last people to be inconsiderate to others. Many are the occasions when they have without a murmur given up their Sunday pleasures, out of deference to the wishes of our parishioners. What is more, they have held together all through these troubled times, when others have disbanded, and they will be ready to peal the joy bells when peace is in sight. They are all volunteers, and among them are two ladies. They must not by any means be discouraged, we want them, we wish them well."

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

BRISTOL BRANCH MEETING.

The monthly meeting of the Bristol Branch was held at St. Andrew's, Clifton, on Saturday last. The bells (a ring of 8) were kept going to various methods from 3 till 5 o'clock, and ringing was followed by a short service in the church, the Rev. Allan Clover officiating. The company of 17 then adjourned for tea, after which a short business meeting was held, with Mr. H. T. Howell in the chair.—It was decided to hold the annual meeting at St. George's on January 13th, if possible, and it is hoped that every member will endeavour to attend. A vote of thanks was passed to the Rev. Allan Clover (who, it was regretted, was unable to be present at tea) for officiating at the service, and also to the organist, who thanked the meeting, and assured them of his services when the tower was again visited.

During this meeting, the suggestion was made that a meeting should be held in each district of the branch once in the year, which should be fixed beforehand, the essence of the suggestion being to have four fixed quarterly meetings. The proposal is to be brought forward at the annual meeting.

A most pleasant surprise to the members was the presence of Bombardier Jesse Tyler (St. Stephen's, Bristol), who was home on leave from France, and who was again able to take part, with old ringing friends, in touches on the handbells of Stedman and Grandsire Caters, as well as on the tower bells.

MEETING AT WICKWAR.

The annual meeting of the Wotton-under-Edge and District Branch was held at Wickwar on Saturday week, when most of the branch towers were represented, and there were also visitors from Bristol, Swindon, Minchinhampton, Lydney, and Newport (Mon.). Standard methods were rung on the tower bells, from 2.30 until 5 p.m., when tea was partaken of at the White Horse Inn, after which the business of the meeting was transacted, the Rector (the Rev. T. A. Garnett) presiding.

The branch hon. secretary (Mr. W. A. Lewis) presented the accounts of the year, which were passed as most satisfactory, and also read a report of the year's work, in which it was stated that the branch had held eleven meetings, with an average attendance of 19 at each meeting.—One hon. member and six performing members had joined during the year.

The President of the Branch (the Rev. T. A. Garnett) was unanimously re-elected, as were also Mr. H. W. Fussell and Mr. G. Sheppard, representatives on the management committee. The branch secretary (Mr. W. A. Lewis) was thanked for his past services, and re-elected unanimously.

It was decided not to hold the monthly meeting in January, owing to the short afternoons, and the next meeting will be held at Stone, on February 3rd.

Mr. F. K. Howell proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the President for his great help to the branch, and for the use of the bells, to which the Rector responded.

The handbells were brought into use, and some very good practice was put in.

KING'S CLIFFE TENOR FUND.

A further sum of £2 has been added to the King's Cliffe Tenor Bell fund, being part proceeds of a "social." A contribution of 10s. is acknowledged from Mr. W. J. Nevard, Great Bentley, bringing the total up to £19 14s. The sum is just over half of what is needed. We hope that ringers who have not yet helped the fund will do so as quickly as possible, so that the peal may be put in ringing order again without delay. Contributions should be sent to the Rev. H. A. Orlebar, King's Cliffe Rectory, near Peterborough.

BROMLEY, KENT.—On Sunday, Oct. 15th, at SS. Peter and Paul's Church, for morning service, the last 700 of Holt's Original: C. Austin (longest length away from tenor) 1, H. J. Blackwell 2, G. Durling 3, P. J. Spice 4, G. Huxley 5, A. Bygrave 6, I. Emery (conductor) 7, S. Miles (longest length) 8.

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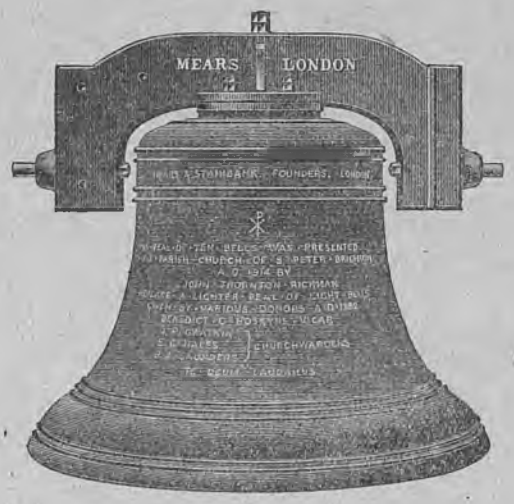

Tenor Bell, 25½ cwt., of the new ring of Ten at St. Peter's, Brighton.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

For Rehanging, Retuning and Recasting.

Musical Handbells in sets, Bell Ropes, &c.

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.

GLEMSFORD BELLS AND RINGERS.

RECOLLECTIONS OF AN OLD SOCIETY.

By T. E. SLATER.

The Parish Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, Glemsford, is a handsome edifice in the Perpendicular style of architecture, consisting of a nave, side aisles, a northern and southern porch, a chancel, and an embattled western tower, containing six musical bells, the subject of these notes.

It is not known when the first ring of bells was erected at Glemsford, but in the parish accounts it is recorded, "November 15th, 1698, Wm. Tamplin for hanging the tenor bell and mending the other bells, 9s. 6d." Concerning these bells nothing is known except that they were six in number, but the inscriptions show that two of them were cast by Miles Graye. Just previous to the year 1830, whilst the bells were being rung, the 4th bell broke off at the cannons, and fell to the floor. Shortly afterwards, the tenor also became cracked, and then the ring was declared to be useless, so it was agreed to get advice on the matter. This was obtained from Mr. Thomas Hurry, of Norwich, who examined the bells and found them quite out of order. It was then decided to take away the two cracked bells and add a new treble and fifth in their places, which has made a good ring of six. These two were cast at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, and two better bells were never cast. The whole ring was rehung by Thomas and Joshua Hurry, and opened by the Glemsford company of ringers with various touches.

There is a legend existing in the village that the authorities were not satisfied about the weight of the two new bells, according to Hurry's statement, and they requested him to take them down and weigh them again, which he consented to and did on the following conditions, that if they weighed less than he had stated he would allow for the deficiency; but if they weighed more, that he should be paid for the over weight. Now the bells weighed their proper weight, and Hurry, to make a job of it, suspended a fifty-six pound weight to the crown staple inside each of the bells, so that he should have one cwt. to be paid for after the weighing was over. But this is only a legend. The bells remained for several years with only one peal rung upon them, the particulars of which are given by the conductor, William Oakley, as follows: "One summer's afternoon, in the year 1830, was rang on Glemsford church bells seven peals of Bob Minor (720 changes), each making in all 5040 changes, in 3 hrs. and 30 mins., by six of the Glemsford company, as follows: Thomas Hume treble, Thomas Aust 2, Charles Game 3, Robert Brown 4, James Jarmin 5, William Oakley tenor. Conducted by William Oakley."

Some account of the members of this band may be of interest. Thomas Hume was a native of Glemsford, and died through an accident, which happened on a Midsummer day. He fell off a load of hay and broke his back. Thomas Aust was a respectable man, a good six-bell ringer, and a broad silk weaver by trade. In his latter days he became a deacon and a brother beloved of the Providence Baptist Chapel, where he was buried in 1861. Charles Game was also a native of this village, a very quiet and respectable man. A broad silk weaver by trade, and a good six-bell ringer. Robert Brown was born, lived and died at Glemsford and was a bricklayer by trade. James Jarmin was a farm labourer, and worked all his life for a Mr. Eldred, of Mill Hill Farm, until he emigrated to America, and was not heard of any more. William Oakley was a horse-hair curler by trade, and a man of fine stature. He died at Glemsford on Sept. 11th, 1868.

The steeple of Glemsford Church, as years went on, became unsafe, and in 1859 the bells were taken down and placed in the north chapel, and remained there during the demolition of the old steeple and the building of the new, the foundation stone of which was laid on September 25th, 1860. The new steeple was completed in the year 1864, and in it the bells were placed. The rehanging was entrusted to Mr. E. W. Downs, then one of the Glemsford ringers, and the bells were opened on Friday, December 16th, 1864, with various touches of Plain Bob. A 720 was rung by: William Scott treble, William Snell 2, Joseph Slater 3, John Slater 4, E. W. Downs 5, William Oakley tenor. A 360 was also rung by: Thomas Bonney treble, John Bonney, senr., 2, John Bonney, junr., 3, Walter Bonney 4, E. W. Downs 5, W. Oakley tenor. These four Bonneys hailed from Sudbury. William Oakley conducted all the ringing on this day.

The inscriptions on the bells are as follows:—

Treble.—Thomas Mears, of London, fecit, 1830.

2nd and 3rd.—Miles Graye made me, 1659.

4th.—Thomas Gardiner, of Sudbury, fecit, 1754.

5th.—Thomas Mears, of London, fecit, 1830; Rev. Wm. Butts, Rector; Rev. E. D. Butts, Curate; Ambrose Jeffreys and Charles Bigg, Churchwardens.

Tenor.—Charles Newman made me, 1686; William Stanby and John Tomson, Churchwardens.

The tenor is 44ins. diameter, and a fine mellow-toned bell in F, weighing 16 cwt.

The bells having been rehung with everything new, in an oak frame, John and Joseph Slater set to work to raise a band to ring them, the old band being reduced to six in number. Charles Adams,

Fredk. Paul Adams, Samuel Slater and John Pettit, a Hartest man, who had just come to reside in the village, joined them. This band rang their first 720 on May 20th, 1865, but finding they could do but little without a set of handbells, a set was purchased after this fashion. One of the Bonneys that rang at the opening had an old set for sale. This got to the ears of the new band, who arranged an interview with him, and an agreement was made to buy them. Neither of the band having enough money to buy them out, Mr. John Bigg of Churchgate Farm, lent John Slater the money to get them with. Meanwhile the bells had been put in pawn, so one had to go and find Bonney, while the other waited. At last they got them, but three of the bells had to be recast later. A society was then formed, consisting of John and Joseph Slater, Samuel, Zachariah and James Slater, Charles and Fred Paul Adams, William Brown and John Pettit. These nine paid one shilling a month each until the bells were paid for. John Pettit stopped paying, and he was excluded.

Having got a set of handbells, rapid strides in ringing were made. Plain Bob Major and Royal, in touches and courses, and afterwards touches of Plain Bob Maximus being rung, while later on, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor, Major and Royal, were rung, and still later, Double Norwich Major. These bells are 15 in number, in C, 21 size.

Soon the youngsters began to improve. Paul Adams became the conductor, making his debut by calling a date touch of Bob Major in 1868. Visiting Cavendish they soon mastered some of the advanced methods, and a peal in seven Minor methods was rung on the tower bells in 1870. Two members each of the Cavendish and Glemsford companies had previously, in 1869, rung a peal of Bob Major, containing 6160 changes, then the longest length "in hand" in England. Messrs. C. Honeybell and F. Wells joining the society, a local band was complete, and methods began to be rung in quick succession, no less than twelve being mastered in 1872, including Cambridge Surprise. In 1875, Superlative Surprise was added. On January 28th, 1876, a touch of Bob Royal, containing 1080 changes, was rung on handbells by the five Slaters, at John Slater's house: Zachariah Slater 1 and 2, Samuel Slater (conductor) 3 and 4, Joseph Slater 5 and 6, James Slater 7 and 8, John Slater 9 and 10. In 1877 they rang a silent 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor.

GLEMSFORD PARISH CHURCH.

In 1878, a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was scored at Long Melford, and was the first of a long series of peals, the longest being a 7008 of the same method in 1883. In 1882-3 an attempt was made to ring the 16 Surprise methods given in the "Clavis," but after ringing London, Ely, Rochester and Coventry, besides Cambridge and Superlative, the attempt was abandoned. In 1893 a peal in seven different methods was rung at Glemsford by members of the Glemsford society, all the ringers being mat weavers The methods were: Woodbine (composed by S. Slater in 1877), New London Pleasure, Cambridge Surprise, Double Court, Single Oxford Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. This was conducted by Samuel Slater, and was also his 99th peal. Soon after this, ringing began to fall off, but the band continued to ring together until 1904, when they were broken up. They were good strikers, and steady, sober, respectable men most of them living in their own houses. Since their departure the bells have seldom been rung, except by visitors. A new set of ropes was put on in 1914, and it is hoped to try and revive the art in this once "ringing" village when tranquillity is restored.

Of the more recent generation of ringers at Glemsford, Charles Honeybell, who is still living, was formerly a mat weaver. At one time a good ringer and six-bell conductor, he was never a great peal ringer like some of the band. Fredk. Wells, a mat weaver, rang 78 peals, including the following long lengths of Kent Treble Bob: 7008 at Long Melford, 6016 and 6048 at Lavenham, 10,176 at Foxearth, 7040 at Bellchamp Walter. He was a man ever ready to help beginners, and is still with us. James Slater, brother to John and Joseph Slater, was a handbell ringer only. He could ring Plain Bob Major, Royal and Maximus; also Kent Treble Bob Major and Oxford Treble Bob Royal, double-handed. He also was a mat weaver.

Frederick Paul Adams was a carpenter by trade, and a good ringer on tower and handbells. It is said that he never made a mistake whilst ringing or conducting a peal. He met a tragic end in October, 1896, aged 49 years

John Pettit, a matting weaver, after residing in Glemsford a year or two, went to the North of England, and never visited Glemsford again, and disappeared from the ken of his old ringing associates.

Charles Adams was a mat weaver, and a good ringer. He held the office longer than any other man, viz., 47 years. He rang but few peals, and died November 4th, 1915, aged 74 years.

Samuel Slater, the best known of the whole band, was also a mat weaver, and a good ringer both on tower and handbells. He conducted all the 25 methods that the society rang, and rang more peals than any other of the band, viz., 128, and in a greater variety of methods. He collected a great deal of ancient history, and made a MS. history of change ringing in Suffolk from which these notes are copied, and to him must be given the praise. He died December 28th, 1909, at the age of 59 years.

Zachariah Slater, his brother, was also a mat weaver, a clever ringer on tower and handbells, and an able violinist. He rang but few peals, and died November 4th, 1916, aged 61 years.

Charles Honeybell and Fredk. Wells are still living, as is also James Slater.

Thomas Oliver Garwood was one of nature's gentlemen. A first-rate performer on tower bells, he was hardly equalled at ringing a great bell in any method that he knew. He was also a fair conductor. He was some time chairman of the Mat and Matting Weavers' Trade Union, and was a delegate to the Ipswich Trades Council several times. He died in 1915, aged 67 years.

It is rather remarkable that Samuel Slater, Thomas Oliver Garwood and Fredk. Wells rang 50 peals together Concerning those that rang at the opening of the bells in 1864. I knew John (my grandfather) and Joseph Slater (my great uncle), and E. W. Downs, as well as all the new band, now fast dying out.

John Slater was a general labourer and a good ringer both on tower and handbells. He rang ten peals in all. He died in February, 1897, aged 81 years.

Joseph Slater, his brother, was also a labourer, and of very quiet disposition. He was a good double-handed ringer. He died suddenly at Mr. F. Wells' house, on Oct. 17th, 1892, aged 75 years.

E. W. Downs served an apprenticeship to the carpentering and engineering trades. He hung the Glemsford bells in the new tower in 1864, but was not so good a ringer as the other members, and used to say that Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Double Court were enough to learn. He died in 1897, aged 87 years.

It is not uninteresting to add that seven of the above lived in their own houses, which shows that, in addition to being good ringers, they were thrifty men.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

WALTHAMSTOW.—At St. Mary's Church, on October 15th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes), in 51 mins., as a birthday compliment to the conductor: W. D. Smith 1, F. C. Maynard 2, Geo. Lucas 3, J. H. Wilkins 4, Robt. Maynard, senr., 5, C. T. Coles 6, Robt. Maynard, junr. (conductor) 7, *Sergt. R. G. Maunder, R.E. (of Yeovil) 8, Albert A. Hughes 9, *Leonard A. Hughes 10. * First quarter-peal.

ABERAVON.—At St. Mary's Church, on Oct. 21st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. Stitch 1, D. Frankcom 2, W. Nurton 3, A. Perry 4, A. J. Pitman (composer and conductor) 5, H. Perry 6, F. B. Stedman 7, A. E. Pitman 8. This quarter-peal is in six parts, containing 12 6—7's and 12 7—6's, 6 5—6—7's and 6 5—7—6's at back stroke.

ACTON, LONDON.—On Sunday, Oct. 22nd, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1.264 changes): C. Edwards 1, J. W. Fruin 2, W. A. Garrard 3, J. H. Payne 4, Robt. Holloway (conductor) 5, E. Newell 6, W. E. Garrard 7, W. Lawrence 8.—On Oct. 29th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A. Diserens 1, W. Phillips 2, C. Edwards 3, R. H. Boddington 4, E. Newell 5, J. W. Fruin (first quarter as conductor) 6, W. Lawrence 7, A. E. Smith 8.

HILLINGDON, WEST.—Oxford Guild.—On Sunday, Oct. 22nd, at St. Andrew's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 46 minutes, for morning service: Miss G. M. Bateman (first quarter-peal) 1, E. Hancox 2, G. H. Gutteridge 3, W. Henley 4, W. Welling (conductor) 5, T. Smith 6, R. Carter 7, J. Peddle 8.

NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—A Meeting will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on December 19th for business, and on the 28th for handbell practice. The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members, who seldom attend the meetings, to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the South Eastern Division will be held at Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Bells available 3.15 till dusk, followed by handbell ringing, and service. Tea, 6 o'clock at the Cedars Hotel, followed by meeting, election of officers, etc. Tea 1s. each to non-members. — F. W. F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Pudsey, on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Bells (8) available until dusk; afterwards for handbell ringing at "White Cross," business meeting there 7.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—P. L. Cooper, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Manchester Town Hall on Saturday, December 16th. Bells available from 2.30 till dusk. Meeting to follow. Reports now ready. Life members 6d. each. Subscriptions due.—W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec., 103, Victoria Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Long Ashton on Saturday, December 16th. Bells available at 2 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., 62, Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Garston on Saturday, December 16th. Ringing from 3 to 5. Service at 5. Meeting at 6. Members intending being present please send word to Walter Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.—Rev. E. C. Collier, Walter Hughes, Secretaries.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Preston, on Saturday, December 16th. Ringing from 2 to 5 p.m. Meeting at 5 o'clock. A good attendance requested.—A. E. Woodhouse, Branch Secretary.

LLANDAFF DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.— The annual meeting will be held at St. John's, Cardiff, on Boxing Day, Dec. 26th. Bells (10) available from 10 o'clock. Short service in the church at 3 p.m. Business meeting at 4.30, the Vicar will preside. A meat tea will be provided at 5.30, to be followed by a social gathering. Llandaff Cathedral bells (8) available from 12 to 2; Whitchurch bells (6) available from 10 to 2.—Rev. Connop L. Price, M.A., John W. Jones, 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon., Hon. Secs.

BEDDINGTON SURREY.—A ringing meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Beddington, on Boxing-day, December 26th. Tower open at eleven o'clock a.m.—Alfred Clayton, 5 Highland Cottages, Bute Road, Wallington, Surrey.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The Hon. Gen. Sec., Mr. Clement Glenn, having joined the R.N.V.R., all official communications should, for the present, be sent to the President or Hon. Treasurer.

ADDRESS.—The correct address of Mr. James George is 46, Minstead Road, Gravelly Hill, Birmingham.

GREETINGS.

The Bristol Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Association wish to extend to all its members, who are serving with H.M. forces, its kind and sincere remembrances during Christmas and the New Year.

Old scenes are dear, old times are sweet,
But good old friendship nought can beat.

Good luck for the New Year, and victory, and remembrances of all my dear old ringing friends this Christmas.

H.M.S. "Admirable," F. A. HOLDEN, R.M.L.I.
War Position.

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.

SITUATION VACANT.

WANTED, A GARDENER, not eligible for the Army, good change ringer.—Apply Rev. H. A. Orlebar, King's Cliffe Rectory, Peterborough.

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

METHODS, PRINCIPLES AND SYSTEMS.

By GEORGE BAKER.

When—if ever—Reciprocal Proof is generally and fully understood there will be no questions raised as to what is the proper extension of methods from the lower to the higher numbers; and systems like "Wanstead Stedman" will be given in their correct form, starting from the fundamenetal row, and having a simple transposition row at the Division-end.

We know that Methods, Principles and Systems are produced by bobs (or by bobs and extremes) from the Quick and Slow Primary Principles separately, or in combination, and it is useless for anyone to argue that a method produced by three bobs (i.e., interior places) is the same method as one produced by two bobs, for the following reasons:—

(1) Every constructional bob (or interior place) made alters the coursing order of the bells.

(2) Whole pulls in front or behind (i.e., exterior places) do not alter the coursing order of the bells.

Correct extensions of methods from the lower to the higher numbers are determined by the fact that the constructional bobs affect the same bells in every instance, and a glance at the rows with the treble behind of the Major, Royal and Maximus published in these columns on the 1st inst. over my name will prove this contention. Constructional bobs in other positions—in spite of the pivot bell being the same—will not give the equivalent rows with the treble behind.

The method dealt with is not Oxford Bob, neither is it Court Bob, it is the Obverse of a Single method, which was published in the "Bell News," 25th December, 1915, the Double method (when the Single and Obverse are amalgamated) being Double London Court Bob as below:—

Single	Obverse	Double
12345678	12345678	12345678
21436587	21436587	21436587
24163857	24163857	24163857
42618375	42618375	42618375
24681735	46281357	24681357
42867153	64823175	42863175
48276513	68432715	48236715
84725631	86347251	84327651
87452361	68374521	48372561
78543216	86735412	84735216
75834126	87653142	87453126
57381462	78561324	78541362
75318642	75816342	87514326
57136824	57183624	78153462
51763284	51738264	71835642
15672348	15372846	17386524
16527384	13527486	13768542

"Wanstead Stedman" and "Duffield" Major have features in common, as follows: Both are double methods, and both have reciprocal relationships of the opposite pairs of bells throughout the plain course, but they differ in the fact that "Duffield" is a properly constructed system, and "Wanstead Stedman" is not. "Duffield" starts from the fundamental row, and has a simple transposition row at the division-end, the bobs being properly duplicated in the first division.

"Wanstead Stedman," as given, does not start from the fundamental row; and taking 21436587 as the starting row, it is still imperfect in construction, the bobs not being properly duplicated in the 18 changes constituting the first division, consequently the division-end is a complex transposition row.

There are two round blocks of "Wanstead Stedman" that are as perfect in construction, as the first sixteen changes of Bob Major, each starts from the fundamental row, the bobs are all properly duplicated in the first division, the division-ends are simple transposition rows, the first with visible coursing order, the second with invisible coursing order. Both of these round blocks, when proved by Reciprocal Proof, have only one false row, the division-end.

12345678	12345678
13254768	13254768
31245786	31245786
13427568	32154876
14372658	23145867
41327685	21354687
43172865	12536478
34127856	21563487
31472586	25136847
13745268	52163874
17354628	51236784
71345682	15263748
73154862	51627384
37145826	56172834
31754286	65127843
13572468	61572483
31527486	16527438
35172846	15672348
53127864	51763284

If the author of "Wanstead Stedman" adopted the first round block here given, there is no reason why he should not use a 4th's place bob at the division-end, which would only shift three bells.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

ALLESLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.—Warwickshire Guild.—On Oct 22nd, on the occasion of the harvest festival, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, in 26 mins.: J. Taylor 1, A. Wilson 2, W. J. Smith 3, H. Kettle 4, J. H. White (conductor) 5, W. T. Cox 6.

CLUN, SHROPSHIRE.—Hereford Guild.—On Sunday morning, Oct. 22nd, at the Parish Church, for a special memorial service for Lord Clive and others from the parish who have given their lives for King and country, several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with the bells half-muffled and 7, 6, 8 covering: P. S. Pullen 1, F. S. Dyke 2, F. Evans (conductor) 3, G. W. Roberts 4, W. Mead 5, R. Jones 6, G. W. Griffiths 7, J. Davies 8. Also for evening service on the back six: P. S. Pullen 1, F.S. Dyke 2, Rev. H. J. Scott 3, G. W. Roberts 4, W. Mead (conductor) 5, J. Davies 8. Messrs. Pullen, Dyke and Evans hail from Knighton, Radnorshire, and kindly came over to help the local band who are short-handed.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Oct. 22nd, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor: Miss E. M. Suart 1, Miss A. Lindsay 2, Miss A. Gilchrist 3, J. Huddleston 4, T. R. Jackson (conductor) 5, W. S. Forshaw 6, F. Burrows (cover) 7.

FULMER.—On Sunday afternoon, Oct. 22nd, at St. James' Church, 360 Bob Minor: Miss E. A. Fuller 1, J. J. Parker 2, W. H. Fussell 3, W. Henley 4, W. Burden 5, W. Welling (conductor) 6; and 300 Oxford Bob Minor: W. Burden 1, Miss G. M. Bateman 2, W. Welling 3, W. H. Fussell 4, G. H. Gutteridge 5, W. Henley (conductor) 6. Also touches of Kent Treble Bob Minor and Grandsire Doubles.

LONDON.—Royal Cumberland Youths.—At St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, on Sunday evening, Oct. 22nd, on the occasion of the harvest festival, 912 Stedman Cinques: J. D. Matthews 1, H. Burton 2, F. Smith 3, W. G. Matthews 4, B. Foskett 5, G. B. Lucas 6, W. H. Theobald 7, T. Scarlett 8, G. Card 9, W. Berry 10, J. Hunt (conductor) 11, W. Simmons 12.

LONG EATON, DERBYSHIRE.—At St. Lawrence Church, on Sunday, Oct. 22nd, for evening service, 504 Stedman Triples: N. H. Widdowson 1, R. Seneschall 2, R. Hickton 3, R. Drage 4, T. Hutchinson 5, Pte G. Bull (North Stafford Regiment) 6, J. Bailey 7, C. Carey 8.

UXBRIDGE.—At St. Margaret's, on Oct. 22nd, 336 Oxford Bob Triples: Miss A. Swabey 1, G. Gutteridge 2, W. Welling 3, W. Henley 4, T. Smith 5, E. Hancox (conductor) 6, R. Carter 7, P. Kedge 8.

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