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, 1913.
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.

LOOKING BACKWARD.

Another day or two, and another year will have gone beyond recall—one more year of war, a year fraught with consequences as vital to our nation and to humanity as any down the ages, and in which gloom and sadness have been vividly illumined by a heroism and sacrifice never equalled in the history of the world.

Successes and disappointments have attended the efforts of those who are fighting the forces of evil, but never has the conviction of this country wavered in the belief that its arms and those of its Allies will eventually triumph. And through this year of stress and strife the Ringing Exercise can look back with satisfaction on the part which its members have played in the fierce combat in which we are striving. Literally, thousands of ringers are serving King and Country in the Army, and large numbers more are rendering equally valuable service in the making of munitions. Many men from our belfries have, alas, laid down their lives. During the year that has passed we have chronicled the names of over fifty who have made the supreme sacrifice. The memory of them will ever remain green among their colleagues left behind, and their names will be written imperishably on the great Roll of Honour.

When one realises to what an extent ringing has been affected by the rallying of so large a proportion of its members to the colours, and the dislocation of ordinary routine by the demands made upon the time and labour of others, it is surprising to find how well the work of the Exercise has been carried on. There are many places, of course, where ringing has practically ceased except on such occasions as neighbouring ringers visit the towers, but a very brave and, indeed, successful effort has been made at innumerable towers to "keep the bells ringing.' Sunday service duties have, as was rightly to be expected, received first consideration, and though it has not been possible always to ring the full complement of bells, the calling of the people to worship has been a duty faithfully performed by the remnant of ringers left at the majority of the belfries.

Throughout the year peal ringing has been almost entirely in abeyance, and unless a large number have been rung during the Christmas holidays—a most unlikely happening—the number of peals in 1916 will fall even shorter than the number in 1915, which was the smallest since 1882, when, of course, peal ringing as a hobby was but little practised. In 1915 there were 259 peals rung, 173 being on tower bells and 86 on handbells. Up to the present we have recorded about 210 peals rung in 1916, of which 80 or so have been on handbells, and the rest on tower bells. The majority of the latter have been muffled peals for the heroes fallen in battle. We think it is likely

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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.

BELLS
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.

FITTINGS
OF ALL KINDS.

ARTISTIC WROUGHT IRON BRACKETS.

MALLEABLE IRON BRACKETS.
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REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect and report on Bells and Towers.

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Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope Manufacturer,

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

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that the number of peals on tower bells this year has been the lowest for at least 40 years, for at that time ago, of course, the number of handbell peals was almost negligible. But when comparisons are made, the difference in the conditions prevailing must be remembered. It is not, happily, that in 1916 interest in ringing is waning, but it is to the national necessity that the falling off is due. Men have laid aside the rope for the rifle, have given up the belfry for the munition factory, and they are only waiting for the achievement of that peace with victory, upon which the nation is determined, before they turn again with renewed enthusiasm and light hearts to the pursuit of our art.

HANDBELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Monday, December 18, 1916, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. A. WALKER,
81, BAKER STREET, SPARKHILL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 6007 CHANGES;

FRANK W. PERRENS ...	1—2	JAMES E. GROVES	7—8
THOMAS RUSSAM	3—4	GEORGE F. SWANN ...	9—10
ALBERT WALKER	5—6	JAMES GEORGE	11—12

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and
Conducted by ALBERT WALKER,
Referee: Mr. GEORGE YENDELL.

First peal as conductor on handbells.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

WEST DORSET BRANCH'S ROLL OF HONOUR.

At the service, held at Bridport, on Saturday, Dec. 16th, in connection with the annual meeting of the West Dorset Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, the under-mentioned roll of sacrifice and service was read prior to the prayers for our forces.

Four killed and ninety-eight serving is indeed a proud record from a corner of so small a county as Dorset. And still the ringers are struggling on, despite depleted bands, and restricted opportunities for ringing, for, as the Rev. C. F. Langford said in his address at the service—when the glad time comes that we ring for an honourable victory and peace we shall not have to lament the fact that bells are out of order, ropes deficient, or willing and capable hands are available to welcome home those who went out from our midst.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

S. Davy, Netherbury, died December, 1914.
J. Hardy, Maiden Newton, died September, 1915.
G. Hoare, Rampisham, died May, 1915.
S. Samways, Chidcock, died May, 1915.

ROLL OF SERVICE.

Beaminster.—E. W. Bailey, F. Brooks, E. F. Bugler, F. H. Cullingford, J. Newman, F. Poole, James Poole, John Poole, E. Stone, A. Winter.

Bradpole.—P. H. Beams, R. H. Beams, B. Elsworth, H. Haines, E. Holloway, E. Joy, R. Langford, A. Lathey, S. Pester, A. Poole, W. Poole, G. Powell, T. Stiby, Harry Way, Herbert Way.

Bridport.—W. Bishop, E. Farrer, G. Lane, H. Lang, A. Mills, J. Zealley.

Broadwindsor.—J. Bartlett, H. Case, G. Smith, R. Tuck, W. Tuck.

Chidcock.—B. Burton, F. Jerrard, Edgar Shute, Ernest Shute.

Corscombe.—F. Bugler, Archibald Davis, Arthur Davis, W. Hawkins, S. Taylor, T. Wareham.

Litton Cheney.—W. Darby, F. Dennett, H. Fry, S. Hounsell, G. Greening, P. Peach, C. Trevett.

Lyme Regis.—W. Broom, A. Cox, S. Crane, A. Hillman, G. Hillman, J. Holder, J. Philbrick, W. Sartin, A. G. Whitemore.

Maiden Newton.—H. Barter, J. Samways, G. Scriven, J. Lite, J. Treves.

Netherbury.—W. J. Budden, L. Cooke, W. Crabb, B. Dodge, A. E. Dowle, J. R. Pye, E. Tolley, W. Way.

Rampisham.—W. Cooke, E. Ellis, H. Ellis, W. T. Richards, W. G. Sampson, W. J. Tuck.

Stoke Abbott.—F. Ackermann, H. G. Hallett, R. Hallett, H. J. Welch.

Symondsbury.—E. Norris, G. Perrott, F. Wescott, W. Wescott.

Whitchurch Canonicorum.—H. Bugler, F. Cheney, J. Diment, T. Gibbs, C. Knight, E. Mills, A. A. Pitman, F. Pitman, F. Smith.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In your issue for October 27th you were kind enough to allow me to make some remarks concerning the sixty courses of Stedman Triples. I should like to add to those remarks with your kind permission. It has been suggested to me that I should give some idea, if possible, as to the chances or otherwise of obtaining the sixty courses. This I now propose to do.

I will first draw attention to the fact, that when Mr. Carter, Mr. J. W. Parker and I published the forty courses, it was seen that two of the sets were the same, while my own were thought to be different, but as a matter of fact, my own will transpose to the same thing. Now, it is rather remarkable that each of us, though working entirely independently of each other, should produce the same set of forty courses, which strongly suggests that there is only one set to be had.

In my previous remarks I stated that I had been unable to obtain more than twenty-four courses from the three-part and seven-part tables. Having gone more fully into the matter, I may now state that twenty-four courses is the extent to be had from three-course and seven-course groups.

It was from the five-part tables that I really got the forty courses, which I will here give in their original form:

(1)	(2)	(9)	(10)
2314567	3241567	1432576	4123576
3425167	2135467	4215376	1345276
4531267	1524367	2543176	3512476
5142367	5413267	5321476	5234176
1253467	4352167	3154276	2451376
(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
4357612	1257643	3156724	2456731
2137645	3427615	4216735	1346725
5417623	5147632	5326741	5236714
3247651	2317654	1436752	4126753
1527634	4537621	2546713	3516742

These rows represent slow six-ends, which belong to the forty courses.

In my previous remarks I should have said that table III. represented 360 courses (not 60), these courses being grouped and arranged in three classes, which I then explained. Groups 1, 2, 9, 10, are shown in class I. as quick sixes, they are also shown in class II. as slow sixes, and in either case they represent twenty true courses. Groups 5, 6, 7, 8, are shown in class II. as quick sixes, and in class III. as slow sixes, but it is only as slow sixes that they represent twenty true courses, and taking the whole as slow sixes they represent forty true courses.

I have previously pointed out that Hudson's sixty courses were shown in the table, twenty courses occurring in each class. Either of these sets of twenty courses, although true in themselves, are not true with each other as plain courses, but are made true by the twin-bob system.

With regard to the question of sixty courses coming from the five-part tables, the matter may be summed up as follows: I have previously stated that there was only one set of four groups true in class III., and five sets in class II., each of these sets coming in pairs. If the groups in class I. are dealt with singly, there are fifty-two different sets of four groups true. In eight cases there are single groups in class III. true with four groups in class I., but in no case is it possible to get a single group or even a single in class I. Therefore, it is quite clear that we cannot possibly add to our forty any of the courses in class I. It is also quite clear that sixty courses are not to be had from five-course groups.

The material used in forming the five-part tables was of great value in the construction of the four-part tables, inasmuch that every set of four five-course groups (in which the same relationship existed) formed themselves into five four-course groups, and if true in one case, they were true in the other. Here the forty courses adapt themselves readily to the four-part table. The 360 courses were again arranged into three classes, as previously explained, each class in this case consisting of thirty four-course groups. From class I. there are 122 different sets of five groups true. From class II. and III. there are only two sets in each case, in these sets are shown the forty courses. In eight cases it is possible to get one group from class II. true with five groups in class I., and in two cases a group may be added from class III. In twenty cases it is possible to get one group from class III. true with five groups in class I., and in four cases a second group may be added. Here again, it is clear that sixty courses are not to be had from four-course groups.

I now come to six, eight, and ten part tables. These double tables are useful in many ways; for instance, one side of the table acts as a kind of check to the other side. Also with such tables analogy plays an active part when it should only be necessary to test half, a third, or a fourth of the problems. Also, if we get a certain number of courses which are not equally divided between the two halves of the table, analogy gives an alternative set. With the ten-part table, the forty courses are divided between the two halves of the table. With the four-part table we get the whole forty courses on one side of the table, while analogy gives an alternative set on the other side, each set showing the same family relationship and identification marks.

On taking a survey of this investigation it will be seen that there is little or no chance of our ever obtaining the sixty courses. From the four-part and five-part tables we get the best results (forty courses). I have shown that in each case these courses come classes II. and III., and that we cannot add any of the courses from class I. Here we see why we do not get the 4th in 6th's place at a course-end in Mr. Carter's and Mr. J. W. Parker's set. There remains the question of breaking up the groups and dealing with the thing in one and two part form, but I doubt very much if anyone will ever obtain more than forty courses.

A suggestion has been made to which the four-part table seems applicable, viz., that forty-eight courses ought to be possible, seeing that twenty courses is the extent to be had from any one class. I would suggest that if the forty courses are broken up, and four groups (sixteen courses) are taken from each class, we get a greater amount of freedom, and forty-eight courses might be possible, but I very much doubt it.

J. J. PARKER.

A BIRMINGHAM BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

A very pleasant gathering of a few members of the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham took place at the residence of Mr. A. Walker, 81, Baker Street, Sparkhill, on a recent Saturday to celebrate Mr. J. George's 63rd birthday. The first thing on the programme was an attempt for a peal of Stedman Cinques on handbells by the following: F. W. Perrens 1—2, G. Swann 3—4, A. Walker (conductor) 5—6, J. E. Groves 7—8, W. Short 9—10, J. George 11—12. The peal came to grief in the 29th course, owing to a trip, after 2¼ hours' splendid ringing. Messrs. W. Kent and G. Walker acted as referees, and Messrs. Tom Russam and J. L. Wells also were present. An excellent knife and fork tea, kindly provided at Mr. J. George's expense, and prepared by Mrs. A. Walker, assisted by Mrs. J. E. Groves, was then enjoyed, and the rest of the evening was devoted to music, capital songs being rendered by Mrs. A. Walker, and Messrs. A. Walker, J. L. Wells, G. Swann and G. Walker, while tunes were rung on the handbells, Mr. A. Walker being at the piano. Speeches were made congratulating Mr. George on his birthday, and thanking him for providing the good things, while thanks were also accorded to Mrs. Walker for her important share in making the party comfortable. A plain course of Stedman Cinques by T. Russam, W. Kent, A. Walker, J. E. Groves, W. Short and J. George, was followed by "Auld Lang Syne" and "God save the King," which brought a very pleasant evening to a close. It is hoped that the same band may be able to meet again on December 30th, at Sparkhill, for the handbell peal.

DEATH OF AN OLD ROTHERHAM RINGER.

The death occurred, on Dec. 12th, of Mr. Tom Frost Lee, of Rotherham, who, born on May 1st, 1840, was 76 years of age. For upwards of 50 years the deceased was a member of the Rotherham Parish Church Company, and was always very regular in his attendance at Sunday service ringing, and evening practices, whenever his duties permitted. He took part in most of the principal peals rung at that church and others in the district. He joined the Yorkshire Association in the year 1879, and was a "double starred" member. He rang 23 peals for the Association, but he had many more to his credit in earlier years, of which no record has been kept, and his last peal was rung at Eastwood in honour of his 70th birthday, on May 6th, 1911, this being a peal of Stedman Triples, conducted by Mr. Clement Glenn. The deceased then rang the 6th, and was heartily congratulated on his performance and his striking at the finish of the peal.

Mr. Lee came to Rotherham at a very early age, and started to work when he was seven years old. He was a metal mixer by trade, and was employed by Messrs. Beatson, Clarke and Co. at their Rotherham Glass Works, but he had to give up some four years ago on account of failing health, and was pensioned off by his employers, which allowed him to live in comfort with his children.

The deceased was a man whose word was his bond, and all who knew him could rely upon what he said. He was of a very unassuming nature, but always ready with a willing hand to help others in distress. He was also always ready to assist a new band. It was the writer's good fortune to be acquainted with him for upwards of 35 years, and throughout that time he was ever the same.

The funeral took place at Moorgate Cemetery, Rotherham, and was impressively conducted by the Rev. J. Poole, M.A., Vicar of St. Michael's, Northfield, Rotherham.

The chief mourners were: Mr. and Mrs. Tom Lee, Mr. and Mrs. E. Lee (sons and daughters-in-law), Mr. Harry Lee (brother), Mrs. Sarah E. Hutchinson (sister), Mrs. Kendal (daughter), and two granddaughters. Floral tributes were sent by the workmen of Messrs. Beatson, Clarke and Co., by his sons and daughters, and grandchildren.

The ringers of Sheffield Cathedral were represented by Mr. Sam Thomas, Mr. W. Burgar and Mr. G. O. Dixon. Mr. Frank Willey represented the Yorkshire Association and the All Saints' Society, Sheffield.

MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry Established A.D. 1570.

Bellfounders & Bellhangers,

32 & 34, Whitechapel Road, LONDON, E.

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.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH EASTERN DIVISION ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the South-Eastern Division was held at Chelmsford on Saturday week, when members attended from Boreham, Broomfield, Chelmsford, Maldon, Writtle and Walthamstow, and Mr. J. E. Sykes, of Huddersfield. The bells were raised at 3.15, and kept going in Stedman and Grandsire Caters until 4.45, after which the handbells were utilised until the service, which was held in the Cathedral at 5.30. After the service the members adjourned to the Cedars Hotel, where 15 members sat down to an excellent repast, presided over by the Rev. G. Colley.

At the business meeting which followed, the District Master explained that the meeting should have been held at Writtle, but owing to the bells being away at the foundry it was decided to hold the meeting at Chelmsford. Mr. W. Lincoln was re-elected District Master. Mr. F. W. Edwards was re-elected district secretary. It was also decided to hold the next meeting at Writtle.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. Canon Lake for allowing the use of the bells, and to the Rev. G. Colley for presiding at the tea and meeting.

Owing to the extremely foggy weather, several members who intended being present were unable to attend, but those present spent a very enjoyable time.

A PRACTICE AT WEST EALING.

Permission having been given for the holding of a united practice on the musical octave at St. Stephen's Church, West Ealing, on Saturday, December 16th, there was, despite the fog and cold, a good muster of the Middlesex Association from Acton, Eulham, Kensington, Hillingdon, Willesden, and the Royal Mews. The methods practised were Stedman and Grandsire Triples, and Bob Major, and many touches were rung. There was a 252 Stedman Triples, in which R. Kilby and F. Barrett rang: and a 350 Grandsire Triples, conducted by Miss E. Jones, those taking part being: W. Lawrence 1, A. W. Davis 2, Miss E. Jones 3, R. Holloway 4, W. Honour 5, G. M. Kilby 6, Staff-Sergt. A. T. Verralls 7, R. Dyas 8. The following rang in the other touches during the afternoon: C. Edwards, A. Hubbard, R. H. Boddington and C. Brown. Some of the visitors adjourned to Wimborne Gardens for tea, and afterwards—aided no doubt by "Dubec" cigarettes—rang Stedman Doubles and Grandsire Triples on handbells, with a tenor, size No. 21, in D.

SOLDIER-RINGER'S DEATH.

Gunner F. Hill, of the Royal Field Artillery, for twelve years a highly-respected member of the Holy Trinity band, Blackpool, has, we regret to say, succumbed to illness whilst in camp at Whitchurch.

On Saturday last, at Holy Trinity Church, as a last token of respect to the deceased, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung with the bells half-muffled, by Lance-Corpl. F. Butler (Walthamstow) 1, Pte T. H. Reeves (West Bromwich) 2, Pte E. W. Marshall (Barnet) 3, Corp. J. Lloyd (Brierley Hill) 4, Pte M. F. R. Hibbert (Bushey) 5, Spr. S. J. White, conductor (Wickhambreaux) 6. The ringers of 1 and 6 belong to the Royal Engineers, 2 and 4 to Royal Army Medical Corps, and 3 and 5 to the Yorkshire Regiment.

CHRISTMAS TOUCHES.

NEWPORT, MON.—Llandaff Association—At All Saints' Church, on Christmas morning, at 6.15 a.m., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 minutes: F. Cookson 1, T. Ford 2, J. Bullen 3, H. Morgan 4, F. Morgan 5, J. W. Jones 6, C. Greedy (conductor) 7, N. Ridout 8. First quarter-peal by the treble and tenor ringers, and rung also as a birthday compliment to T. Ford.

LLANDAFF.—At the Cathedral, on Christmas morning, for the 11 o'clock service, 1259 Grandsire Triples: J. Pitcher 1, J. Harris 2, W. B. Biss 3, F. Pitcher 4, S. Dawe 5, F. Chamberlain 6, A. Rowley (conductor) 7, J. Aldridge 8. This quarter-peal, composed by William Micklewright, contains 13 4—6's, 13 6—7's and 12 7—4's, all at handstroke, also 'queen's' and 'tittums' at hand.

DEPTFORD, KENT. — At St. John's, for 8 o'clock service, on Christmas Day, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: J. Law 1, F. W. Richardson 2, E. J. Pannett 3, A. J. Bennington 4, C. H. Daynes 5, H. Norgate 6, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 7, C. D. Letzer 8.

A FRIEND OF RINGERS.

The funeral took place on Saturday, at Llangibby, Monmouthshire, of Mr. William Addams Williams, the treasurer to the Monmouthshire County Council, of Penrith House, Llangibby, who for many years has entertained the Llangibby ringers to supper on New Year's Eve. The deceased gentleman, although not an actual ringer, took a great interest in the bells and the ringers, and was in excellent health until two days before his death. He was in his 80th year. Immediately following the interment, the bells were rung half-muffled, followed with the whole pull and stand.

DEATH OF THE REV. H. A. COCKEY.

A WELL-KNOWN CLERICAL RINGER.

We deeply regret to announce the death of the Rev. Herbert Adolphus Cockey, Vicar of Oldland, Bristol, and one of the best known of the clerical members of the Exercise, who passed away at his residence on Wednesday of last week, at the age of 59 years.

Born at Clifton on January 2nd, 1857, Herbert Adolphus Cockey spent the greater part of his boyhood at Fryerning, Essex, where his father was Rector. Educated at Highgate, he proceeded to Wadham College, Oxford, taking his degree in 1880, and during his four years' residence he was a prominent member of the University Society of Change Ringers. Ordained by the Bishop of St. Albans in the same year, he successively served the curacies of Galleywood, Rettendon, Rayleigh, Dunster, and Lewisham. The call of the sea coming strongly to him, he entered the Royal Naval College, at Greenwich, with a view to qualifying as Chaplain and Naval Instructor in the Fleet; but, the call to wedded life proving stronger, he accepted the living of Oldland in 1888, and in the summer of 1889 married Miss Frances A. Ellacombe, third daughter of Canon Ellacombe, Vicar of Bitton, and grand-daughter of the Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, "clarum et venerabile nomen." Gathering round him several of his old friends of college days to celebrate the event, a peal of Stedman Caters was attempted at Christ Church, Bristol, on the previous evening, but failed after 2½ hours' of excellent ringing. On the wedding morn two 720's were rung at Bitton, and after the wedding a peal of Stedman Triples at All Saints', Bristol. On the next day, peals were rung at Twerton-on-Avon, and St. Andrew's, Bath, with an interval for touches at Bath Abbey. Another peal of Stedman was rung on the following morning at Christ Church, Bath. Thus was the marriage honoured by his ringing friends.

Settling down at Oldland, a family of three sons and a daughter (another child died when young) grew up. The eldest son is now serving as an officer with the Devons in Salonica; his brother is a lieutenant in the Royal Naval Air Service.

The claims of a large and extensive parish were ever his first care, so much so, that holidays were few and far between. A short cruise in a friend's yacht or in a Mission to Seamen steamer, or a few days on the North Devon or Somerset Coast, being the limit, while many a ringing tour had to be carried through without his welcome presence, though urgently sought. His curate days were marked by much good service from a ringing, rehanging and restoring point of view; his most important work being the founding of the Essex Association and the resuscitation of the Society of Trinity Youths, Greenwich. On giving up the secretaryship of the Essex Association, a beautiful peal book was presented to him, recording in its first page that "the success of the Association is mainly due to your noble example and thorough earnestness in the work." An illuminated address from the Trinity Youths, on presentation to the living of Oldland, records that he was "endeared to every change ringer in the district"—a statement which has held good with regard to everyone with whom he came in contact. The Rev. Maitland Kelly, writing on the day of the funeral, says: "He was a most attractive personality even to those who, like myself, only occasionally met him. I feel that I have lost a real friend." And so say many more!

As Vicar of Oldland, his services were naturally claimed by the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. Master from 1889 to 1894, he later served the office of treasurer from 1907 to within a few weeks ago, and from a parlous financial position he raised it to a sound condition. On his marriage, the Association presented him with an illuminted address and a beautiful peal of 20 handbells, the pride of the Vicarage Hall. A member of the Central Council from the beginning, he served and did important work on several committees.

A finished striker, and intolerant of anything but the very best, all the peals rung by him were of a high order of merit: the early ones are recorded in the peal book given by the Essex Association, but no record has been found of later ones. It is known, however, that they exceed 60 in number. Among those on which he most prided himself may be mentioned, the first peal rung by the Oxford University in 1879; the only peal of Stedman Caters rung by a clerical band, at Warwick; a peal of Stedman Cinques with the College Youths at Cornhill; two peals at Wells Cathedral; the first peal at Exeter Cathedral; the first peal on the new bells at Bishopstone; a peal of Stedman Caters at St. Mary, Redcliffe, on the old bells, the second peal of Stedman Triples by a clerical band at Mickleton, a peal of Stedman Caters at Yeovil; and, above all, the only peal ever rung on Lundy Island—an enterprise which was entirely engineered by him, in face of difficulties which few would care to encounter.

Devoted to good ringing—and his loss will be specially felt by the men of Bristol—he always remembered that his parish and family were his chief delight and care. A sound and lasting spiritual work was accomplished, in addition to the building of a new and beautiful church at Longwell Green, and a very complete and commodious Church House for the main portion of the parish. How deeply his work was valued, may be gathered from an address, accompanied by a purse of gold and framed photo, presented by the parishioners, after 20 years' service, testifying to his "devoted and unswerving interest" in them. That "devotion and unswerving interest" was the keynote of his life—his strenuous toil made of him an old man ere he had reached the age of 60—there was no real illness—simply "premature old age." Signs of failing were apparent last summer, when his medical man ordered a complete change and rest for six months. A fortnight only at Porlock was all he allowed himself last August, but there he experienced a terrible breakdown. On partial recovery he soon realised that his work was over, and promptly sent in his resignation to the Bishop, but before the necessary preliminaries could be completed, he was again seized, and after a few days of semi-consciousness, sank into a state of coma, and passed peacefully and quietly away on Wednesday, December 20th.

On Saturday, December 23rd, the body, vested in the eucharistic vestments worn by him in life, was taken to the church at 8 a.m., when the Holy Sacrifice was offered, the coffin resting in the chancel, surrounded by the six funeral lights, emblematic of life and immortality, and a great array of beautiful flowers, conspicuous among them being a very large and beautiful wreath of chrysanthemums, lilies and orchids, surmounted by a bell in violets, the tribute of the Gloucester and Bristol Association. The late Vicar's cassock, surplice and hood were laid over the empty reading desk.

The funeral service was at 2 p.m., when the church was filled by parishioners and friends, including a special deputation from the Gloucester and Bristol Association, viz., the Rev. E. Bankes James, past Master; F. G. May, past Master; F. K. Howell, past Master; H. T. Howell, chairman of the Bristol branch; R. J. Wilkins, A. Maggs, and W. Lansdown. Many clerical friends and neighbours, notably the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, who had inadvertently fallen from a train which he imagined had drawn up at Stonehouse platform (he is, happily, recovering), were unable to attend, owing to illness, and the inconvenience of the Saturday before Christmas. An old friend, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, was, however, represented by his son, Mr. J. D. R. Davies. The Rev. H. Ault, formerly Vicar of Bishopstone, who had been taking the duty for the past three months, read the lesson, the Psalm and three hymns being led by the choir. Headed by the Processional Cross, the choir, on leaving the church, chanted the Nunc Dimittis, followed by the Requiem Aeternam. The Anthem having been recited by the Rev. R. Atkins an old friend serving as curate, the Rev. G. F. Coleridge, vested in a silver embroidered black cope, kindly loaned by the Church of All Saints', Clifton, took the committal prayers at the grave, which was lined with evergreens and white flowers. At the conclusion was sung "Now the labourer's task is o'er," and four members of the Association rang a perfectly struck course of Grandsire Triples over the grave on the heavy octave of the 20 bells presented by the Association on his marriage: H. T. Howell 1—2, Rev. E. Bankes James 3—4, R. J. Wilkins 5—6, W. Lansdown 7—8. The Benediction fitly closed the dignified, reverent and touching service; and the body of a true priest—a deeply-loved pastor—a devoted husband and father—an ever-faithful friend—was left to rest in peace till called to rejoin the spirit on the Last Great Day.—R.I.P.

It was noted that while the last hymn was being sung, the setting sun in a cloudless sky just touched the ridge tiles of the Vicarage hard by with its lower edge; as the handbells came into rounds, it disappeared from view behind the roof, but left a golden glory in the sky above—fit emblem of the setting of a strenuous life at the close of life's day of toil, leaving a cherished glory behind it, which no cloud of sorrow may dim—no rain of tears efface.

FULHAM.—On November 5th, for morning service, at All Saints' Church, 1260 Stedman Caters: R. Harvey 1, E. A. Arthurton 2, Bomb. W. H. Worsley 3, W. H. Hollier 4, A. Cutmore 5, P. L. Miles 6, W. A. Garrard 7, W. E. Garrard 8, H. G. Miles (conductor) 9, M. E. Smith 10.

BOLNEY.—Sussex County Association.—On Sunday, Nov. 5th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1246 changes), in 47 mins.: E. Davey 1, W. Wheeler 2, A. Absalom 3, G. Walder 4, T. Gasson 5, Sapper G. A. Lewry, R.E., 6, W. Vincent (conductor) 7, W. Walder 8. The above are all members of the local band, and the touch was arranged for Sapper G. A. Lewry, who was at home on short leave from "somewhere in France." Also previous to morning service on the same date, 672 Grandsire Triples by: G. Walder 1, F. R. Hounsell (Cuckfield) 2, A. Absalom 3, E. Davey 4, T. Gasson 5, Sapper G. A. Lewry 6, W. Vincent (conductor) 7, W. Walder 8.

EYE, SUFFOLK. — On Sunday, Nov. 5th, touches of Bob Major, with half-muffled clappers, as a token of respect to Col. J. S. Wilkins, D.S.O., for many years churchwarden, by: P. Steggalls, E. Youngs, E. Broome, F. Day, A. Oakes, G. Cattermole, C. Nunn, E. Poppy.

CAERPHILLY, GLAM.—On Sunday evening, Nov. 5th, for the National Mission Service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), with different callings, in 45 mins., 4, 6, 8 behind: E. Phillips 1, G. Cooke (conductor) 2, F. Boucher 3, W. Pike 4, P. Jones 5, A. Addicott 6, F. Evans 7, H. Chalice 8. First quarter by all, except 1 and 2.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CHRISTENING, MARRIAGE AND SILVER WEDDING TOUCHES.

On Sunday, 26th November, for morning service at St. Mary's Church, Slough, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 47 minutes (the first on the bells): T. S. Smith 1, R. Flaxman 2, W. H. Fussell 3, G. H. Gutteridge 4, W. Henley 5, P. E Jones 6, E. T. Hooper (conductor) 7, J. H. Cropley 8. The steeplekeeper, Mr. G. T. Leader, kindly stood out for Mr. R. Flaxman, who had been laid up for some time. He is considerably better after a little Stedman. The conductor's second son was baptised at the same church in the afternoon, a few friends gathering at his home, Cambridge Villa, to pay homage to the infant and the mince pies.

At Burnham, on Sunday, Nov. 26th, for afternoon service, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 42 mins.: T. S. Smith 1, G. Allder 2, J. J. Parker 3, W. Henley 4, P. E. Jones 5, W. H. Fussell 6, E. T. Hooper (conductor) 7, E. Carter 8.

To celebrate the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Gutteridge, of Iver Heath, on the 27th November, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (Bill Horne's quarter) was rung, in 40 mins., for morning service, at Farnham Royal Parish Church, on December 3rd, by: E. T. Hooper 1, J. J. Parker 2, W. Henley (conductor) 3, W. H. Fussell 4, G. T. Leader 5, James Elderfield 6, G. Basden 7, P. E. Jones 8.

On Sunday, December 10th, for morning service, at Windsor Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 44 mins.: Sidney Boore 1, W. Burden 2, G. Cutts 3, W. C. Parker 4, W. E. Butter 5, Arthur Blake (conductor) 6, G. T. Leader 7, F. Guttridge 8. This was rung as a compliment to the local bob caller, Mr. W. Welling, on his marriage the previous day. He was an old choir boy and bell-ringer at this church, but is now—R.G.A., Plymouth.

At Burnham, on the same morning, for service, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 44 mins.: E. Carter 1, G. Allder 2, E. T. Hooper 3, T. S. Smith 4, W. H. Fussell 5, W. Henley (conductor) 6, P. E. Jones 7, H. J. Cropley 8. Rung upon the 25th anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. T. S. Smith, of Slough, silver congratulations being tendered the rosy couple in a cosy room, where the band "hived up" for an hour—somewhere. — On Thursday, December 14th, 1916, for a special Confirmation service in the afternoon, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: T. S. Smith 1, G. H. Gutteridge 2, E. T. Hooper 3, J. J. Parker 4, W. H. Fussell 5, George Martin, R.E., 6, W Welling, R.G.A. (conductor) 7, H. J. Cropley 8. This was a farewell touch for the conductor, who left Windsor the following day for service in the army.

PEAL BOARD UNVEILED.

BERKHAMPSTEAD RINGER'S SERVICES HONOURED.

A pleasing and striking ceremony took place in the belfry of St. Peter's Church, Berkhampstead, Hertfordshire, on Saturday week, the occasion being the unveiling of a peal board. Among those who assembled in the belfry were the Vicar, churchwardens, choirmaster and choir (robed), Miss V. Smith-Doran, the band who rang the peal (except the ringer of the treble, Mr. H. Fowler, of Chesham), and a good muster of the local ringers. The proceedings opened with prayers, read by the Vicar, and the singing of Psalm 122. The Vicar then asked Miss V. Smith-Doran to draw the curtain and thus unveil the board, and this having been done, the Vicar read the dedication prayers, and the hymn, 'O God, our help in ages past,' was sung. Then followed a short and instructive address by the Vicar, who mentioned that the peal was rung and the board placed there to commemorate the long and faithful services of the captain of the local ringers, Mr. F. Norris, who had completed 42 years in that capacity, and who rang the tenor to the peal. The service closed by singing the first verse of the National Anthem.

The board, which is of Oregon pine, the gift of the Vicar and churchwardens, bears the following inscription, written in gold:—"Berkhampstead, Hertfordshire.—The Hertfordshire Association.—On Saturday, February 19th, 1916, in 2 hrs. 57 mins., a peal of Grandsire Triples (5040 changes). J. J. Parker's Twelve-Part, was rung upon the bells of this tower. Tenor 18 cwt.: *H. H Healey treble, *F. Reeves 2, B. Jarman 3, H. Golding 4, O. Bayes 5, H. F. Cooper 6, A. King 7, F. Norris tenor. Conducted by H. F. Cooper (5th Essex Regt.). * First peal. Rev. R. Hart-Davis, Vicar. J. King, G. Chilton, churchwardens. Rung to celebrate the completion of 42 years as captain of the ringers of this church by Mr. F. Norris."

Touches of Grandsire Triples followed, Messrs. Jarman, King and Cooper sharing the conducting. The Defence of the Realm Act having to be obeyed, the bells were rung down in peal at 4.30 p.m., and all then adjourned to a substantial tea. Handbells were afterwards brought into use for a short time, the departure of trains being responsible for the breaking up of the party about 7 p.m.

It may be of interest to mention that six towers and three counties were represented in the peal. Messrs. Healey and Reeves belong to Tring (Herts), Jarman to Harpenden (Herts), Golding to Hemel Hempstead (Herts), Bayes and Norris to the local company, King to Luton (Beds), and Cooper to Chelmsford (Essex), and all, except Mr. Healey, were once again able to meet.

INTERCESSION SERVICE RINGING.

Next Sunday, the last day of the year, will be observed in a great many parishes as "Intercession Sunday" in connection with the war, and, as on former occasions, muffled ringing in memory of those who have fallen in the war will take place. As to the fitness of the occasion for this ringing, we have the authority of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the other Bishops, as expressed a year ago, for adopting Intercession Sunday for thus honouring the noble dead. The deaths of about one hundred ringers on war service have already been recorded, and doubtless there have been many more who have given up their lives, without the fact coming to the knowledge of the Exercise at large. Ringers have, therefore, a special reason for honouring the memory of the dead, for they include a great many of their own colleagues of the belfry.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

GREENWICH.—On Oct. 23rd, at St. Alphege Church, on the occasion of the marriage of Capt. R. Sherman, R.A.M.C., on leave from an advanced dressing station on the Somme front, with Dorothy Raffles, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Raffles Brooke, of Osborne House, Formby, Lancashire, 504 Grandsire Triples: C. T. Clark 1, H. Hoskins 2, E. E. Richards 3, J. J. Lamb 4, I. G. Shade (conductor) 5, Sergt. J. Waghorn, junr. (1st E.V.R.) 6, F. W. Thornton 7, Pte G. Noakes (A.O.C.) 8.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—Lancashire Association.—On Saturday, October 28th, at St. James' Church, 720 Bob Minor: Miss Cushing 1, J. Williams 2, J. E. Burles 3, T. Suart 4, James Burrows 5, C. J. A. Cushing (conductor) 6.

BROXBOURNE.—Herts Association.—On Sunday, Oct. 29th, for evening service, 560 Kent Treble Bob Major: S. Knight 1, G. Maxim 2, G. Radley 3, J. Puplett 4, H. G. Rowe 5, W. Cavill 6, A. Darnell 7, S. Proctor (conductor) 8.

FRODSHAM.—Chester Guild.—On Oct. 29th, for evensong, 180 Plain Bob Minor: A. Jeffs 1, Miss A. Walker 2, J. E. Bibby 3, W. Bibby 4, A. Unsworth 5, T. H. Lightfoot 6.

CHESHUNT.—Hertfordshire Association.—On Sunday, Oct. 29th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1344 changes): W. Mumford 1, O. Twist 2, H. G. Rowe 3, G. Maxim 4, G. B. Lucas (conductor) 5, S. Proctor 6, A. Darnell 7, H. Simmons 8. First quarter-peal in the method on the bells. Rung on the 32nd anniversary of the founding of the Association.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.—On Sunday, Oct. 29th, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples: W. Mead 1, W. Sear 2, J. Mead 3, H. Morris 4, H. Sear 5, F. Hedges 6, F. Stanton (conductor) 7, V. Sear 8.—On Sunday, Nov. 19th, for morning service, 504 Stedman Triples: A. Crane 1, W. Mead 2, J. Mead 3, H. Morris 4, Sapper L. Meager, R.E., 5, E. Marks 6, H. Sear (conductor) 7, F. Hedges 8.

SWANSCOMBE.—Kent Association.—On Oct. 29th for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: J. H. Cheeseman (conductor) 1, F. J. Ring 2, R. Smith 3, F. Hayes 4, A. Mason (Cambridge) 5, W. S. Lane 6, W. Harper 7, A. Broom 8.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.—On Sunday Oct. 29th, for matins, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1260 changes), in 42 mins.: J. Goodsell 1, F. Morgan (first-quarter of Doubles) 2, W. Cramp 3, T. Booth 4, A. E. Edwards (conductor) 5, L. French (first-quarter) 6.

BIRMINGHAM.—At St. John's Church, Deritend, on the occasion of Hospital Sunday, Oct. 29th, after morning service, 720 Bob Minor: A. E. Norman 1, A. Scrivins 2, E. Mansell 3, J. Porter 4, J. Neal 5, W. F. Webb (conductor) 6.

LONDON—St. Paul's Guild, Hammersmith.—On Sunday, Oct. 29th, for morning service, at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 46 mins.: M. Jacobs 1, W. H. Stevens 2, H. Barrett 3, R. Mackrill 4, H. Cook 5, F. Skevington (conductor) 6, C. Hunt 7, H. Dyas 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to M. Jacobs.

LEICESTER.—On Sunday, Oct. 29th, at St. Margaret's Church, 360 Singles, consisting of Plain Bob, Reverse, Double Court and Grandsire, by: J. Vernon 1, A. Ballard 2, J. Morris 3, Pte E. Morris (A.S.C.) 4, H. Mills 5, H. Peach 6. Rung as a welcome to Pte Ernest Morris, A.S.C., who was home on short leave from York.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—At St. Peter's Church, on Oct. 29th, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. Wolstencroft 1, Miss S. Holt 2, J. W. Holme 3, Miss A. Wolstencroft 4, J. Harrison 5, H. Palmer 6, W. W. Wolstencroft (conductor) 7, J. Rolls 8.

PLYMOUTH, DEVON.—On Sunday, Oct. 29th, at H.M. Dockyard Chapel, for harvest thanksgiving service, 504 Stedman Triples: W. Hooper 1, J. Woodley 2, W. Richards 3, W. Rundle 4, Pte R. Foulds 5, Walter Marsh 6, Pte W. Malins (conductor) 7, G. Kerswell 8. Also 377 Grandsire Triples: A. Kentfield 1, W. Hooper 2, Walter Marsh 3, Pte C. Mallinson 4, Pte R. Foulds 5, Pte W. Malins 6, J. Woodley (conductor) 7, G. Kerswell 8. Also 168 Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Rundle, with Signalman T. S. Winterbottom ringing the tenor. Pte R. Foulds and Pte C. Mallinson hails from Colne; Pte W. Malins from Rugby; Signalman T. S. Winterbottom, R.N.V.R., from Prestwick.

NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on January 2nd, 16th and 30th; and for handbell practice on the 11th and 25th. All at 8 p.m. 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.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual general meeting of the above will be held at Appledore on Saturday, January 6th. Ringing to commence at 2 o'clock. A special service at 4.30. Tea (free) to all members at 5 o'clock, to be followed by the business meeting. Will all members intending to be present at tea kindly notify me not later than Wednesday, Jan. 3rd?—H. Balcombe, The Priory, Appledore.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—The yearly meeting of the Branch Committee will take place at Cookham, Berks, on Saturday, January 6th, 1917, by kind permission of the Rev. A. W. Batchelor, M.A. Ringing at the Parish Church at 3 o'clock. Business meeting at the Vicarage at 5 p.m.—W. H. Fussell, Hon. Secretary and Treasurer, Farnburn Avenue, near Slough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bolton Parish Church on Saturday, January 6th, 1917. Bells available from 2.30 to 5.30.—Thomas B. Worsley, Branch Secretary, 19, Parkfield Road, Bolton.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Established 1755.—Annual Business meeting will be held at Tamworth Arms Hotel, Moor Street, City, on Tuesday, January 9th, 1917, at 7.30 p.m. All subscriptions are due at this meeting, and the special attention of members whose subscriptions are in arrears is directed to Rule 5. The balance sheet and statement of accounts for year ending Nov. 30th last will be presented.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth.

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.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The Honorary Secretary, Mr. C. T. Coles, having joined H.M. Forces, all communications should be sent to Mr. W. H. Oram, 25, Crown Street, Harrow, until further notice. Will members and others please note?

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.

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

MESSAGE FROM THE FRONT.

The following message reached us at Christmas from the Front, but too late for insertion in our last issue; "To wish you and all brother ringers a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.—W. A. Cave."

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