THE RINGING WORLD

No. 332. Vol. XII. FRIDAY, JULY 27th, 1917. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 2d.

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, 1918.
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.

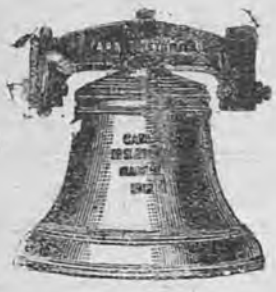
"CLOCKING."

Wherever there are experienced ringers in a tower it seems strange that the mischievous practice of "clocking" the bells should be permitted. It is, unfortunately, a practice which creeps in in belfries where there are no ringers, so that the bells may be chimed for service; but it is done often in ignorance of the damage which is likely to be caused to the bells themselves. People who are not practical ringers get the idea, and perhaps not unnaturally, that there is no more likelihood of cracking a bell by pulling the clapper against it with a rope, than there is in allowing the clapper to strike the sound bow as the bell turns in the process of legitimate ringing. Yet there is all the difference in the world. The striking of the clapper against the bell hanging dead has been a prolific source of damage, and many valuable examples of founding have had to go into the melting-pot through this cause.

Where, however, there are practical ringers, it ought to be well-known by now what danger arises from "clocking," and even if it is impossible to find ringers sufficient to ring all the bells, chiming by attaching the ropes to the clappers ought to be absolutely prohibited. We are led to these remarks by the information which reaches us that "clocking" is now taking place at a Sussex tower where, up to recently, there was a capable change-ringing band. That the company is depleted by the claims of war service is no excuse for taking risk of damaging the bells by a process which is condemned by everyone with the slightest practical knowledge of the subject. The late Sir Arthur Heywood, in his book on the subject of "Bell Towers and Bell Hanging, says "'clocking' is a most dangerous as well as slovenly practice which should be sternly prohibited by churchwardens, and for allowing which, after such prohibition, any sexton or steeple-keeper deserves dismissal." Attention is also called to this "illicit treatment" of bells, for which there is not the slightest excuse, in the recently published annual report of the Salisbury Guild.

Where "clocking" takes place the fault must lay with the person who has charge of the bells, although, of course, the ultimate responsibility rests with the Incumbent and churchwardens. Ringing associations would be doing invaluable service in the preservation of bells if they would bring to the notice of church authorities the danger arising from "clocking," and ringers themselves should do their best to prevent the continuance of the practice wherever it comes to their knowledge. If those responsible for the preservation of the bells are only made aware of the damage likely to ensue from this method of chiming, they would not, we are sure, permit its continuance for another day; but, unfortunately, the danger is only usually realised when a bell is cracked.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



SMETHWICK, BIRMINGHAM

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.
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.

ESTABLISHED 1760.

JOHN NICOLL,

Church Bell Rope and Clock Rope Manufacturer.

60, QUEEN'S ROAD, PECKHAM, LONDON, S.E.

(Two minutes from Queen's Road Station, L.B. & S.C. Railway).

Late 155, Keeton's Road, Bermondsey.

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.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 14th, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, DEANE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DAY'S SIX-PART. Tenor 13½ cwt.

TITUS BARLOW, SENR.	...*Treble*	RICHARD P. HEALD...	... 5
TITUS BARLOW, JUNR.	... 2	P.C. PETER CROOK...	... 6
ROBERT ALLRED	... 3	THOMAS B. WORSLEY	... 7
GEORGE PINCOTT... ...	... 4	SAMUEL MORRIS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by PETER CROOK.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Alderman John Miles, organist at the above church for 53 years, also ex-mayor of the town. He was laid to rest in the churchyard on the previous Monday.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

SWINDON BRANCH MEETING.

A meeting of the Swindon Branch was held at Purton, Wilts, on Saturday week, the attendance of ringers being very satisfactory. The Vicar (the Rev. R. B. Harrison) and Capt. A. P. Richardson, who are keenly interested in the welfare of the local ringers were elected honorary members. A new company of ringers has recently been formed at Purton, and six of them have joined the Association.

Castle Eaton was selected for the next meeting.

The bells were available during the evening, when several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles were rung by the visitors.

A combined practice meeting was held at Wroughton, Wilts, last Saturday evening by members of the Swindon Branch from Purton, Wanborough, and Swindon, assisted by the local ringers. A pleasant and instructive time was spent in the belfry, Grandsire Doubles being well struck, and the beginners were given a good drilling in round ringing and Bob Singles.

LYDNEY FEAST.

SALMON, GREEN PEAS, AND RINGING.

This feast, so well organised and arranged by the genial leader, Mr. J. W. Davies, and in which salmon and green peas are the leading items, took place on Saturday last, and proved quite the equal of those of the past. The visitors this year included Messrs. R. J. Wilkins and C. Gordon, of Bristol; Messrs. J. Austin and J. Gillett, of Gloucester; Mr. Coates, St. Briavels; Mr. J. Williams, of Newent; Messrs. H. Morgan and J. W. Jones, Newport, Mon.; and six of the Ruardean ringers, with Mr. Matthews, their leader.

The Lydney bells were available during the afternoon, and touches in various methods were rung. Supper was served at the Queen's Head Hotel, where an excellent repast was partaken of.

At the conclusion of the meal the usual toasts were submitted, and the rest of the evening was spent in a very pleasant manner, with songs and handbell ringing. Touches of Triples and Caters were rung, and tune ringing was performed in fine style, the latter especially by Sergt. J. Williams and Mr. J. Austin, who also amused the company by ringing courses of Triples "four-in-hand." A parody on the House that Jack built (new and old style), by Mr. H. Morgan, was much enjoyed.

At eight o'clock next morning the party were off by brake to ring on the musical and easy-going eight at St. Briavels. Arriving there just before ten o'clock, the whole Wye Valley below was found enveloped in fog. The bells were quickly raised, touches of Triples and Major were rung for the morning service, and by the time the descent was made from the tower, the fog had cleared, and a beautiful view obtained of the famed valley. Refreshments, kindly arranged for by the local leader, were much enjoyed, and after a brief stay, the drive was continued, the first halt being made at Hewelsfield, where there is a ring of five, the tenor being a supposed pre-Reformation bell of about 14 cwt. Permission had been given to ring, and the bells were found to be a very musical lot. Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were brought round, and the journey then continued. Lydney was reached in time for a late dinner, which had been prepared by the genial proprietress of the Queen's Head Hotel, Mrs. May.

The Gloucester and Bristol contingent had to leave a little too soon for them to take part for the evening service ringing, but the locals, with the assistance of the Newent and Newport contingent, mustered a Triple band.

The weather on both Saturday and Sunday was delightfully fine and warm, and all the party are looking forward to next year to meet once more, and enjoy a similarly good time. The best thanks are due to the various incumbents for allowing the use of the bells, and especially is the party grateful to Mr. J. W. Davies, who arranges this annual function so well.

TRAGIC DEATH OF MR. H. G. ROWE.

"He died in harness," these words can be truly said of the late Henry George Rowe, of Cheshunt, Herts, who after having conducted a touch of Grandsire Triples for evening service on Sunday, July 15th sat down in the belfry and passed away within three minutes of calling the words familiar to change ringers, "This is all."

Mr. Rowe was born at Hatfield in 1871. Having learned the art of ringing, he had the distinction of ringing and conducting his first peal (Grandsire Triples), this being on the bells of St. Ethelreda's Church, Hatfield, at the early age of 18 years. By a singular coincidence, Mr. Rowe conducted his 100th quarter-peal for evening service only on the Sunday previous to his death at Broxbourne Church. Going to reside at Cheshunt about 20 years ago, deceased became a very active member of the Hoddesdon Society, being a regular ringer at St. Paul's Church until the restoration of the bells of St. Mary's, Cheshunt, in 1911, when he became conductor and secretary of the St. Mary's band, offices which he continued to hold up to the time of his death.

Mr. Rowe's death is a sad loss to the Hertford County Association, for in addition to having organised the band at Cheshunt, and raised it to an excellent change ringing status, he gave very valuable assistance in many towers in the neighbourhood. He never tired of helping beginners, and was one of the men to whom the Exercise owes so much for the spade work that they do.

Mr. Rowe took a large interest in the various societies in the district being grand master and sick steward of the Cromwell Lodge of the Independent Order of Oddfellows, Manchester Unity Friendly Society, a bandsman in the Waltham Cross Temperance band, and an active worker of the Cheshunt Hospital Carnival Committee.

The funeral took place at Cheshunt on Thursday of last week, the first part of the service being held in St. Mary's Church, the Rev. G. B. Law (Vicar of Cheshunt) officiating. Mr. W. H. Lawrence represented the Herts County Association; Messrs. S. Knights and W. Mumford, Hoddesdon Society; and Mr. and Mrs. G. Radley, Broxbourne Society. Members of the local band were also present, and fourteen members of the Oddfellows Friendly Society, wearing their regalia, attended the obsequies. The Rev. G. B. Law read the committal prayers, after which a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells over the grave by: F. Jelf 1—2, A. C. Darnell 3—4, S. Proctor 5—6, G. Maxim 7—8. The funeral oration of the Oddfellows' Society was afterwards read by Bro. P. Burgess, district secretary.

The bells of St. Mary's Church were rung half-muffled during the afternoon, when touches of Grandsire Triples were brought round by Messrs. Andrews, Darlington, Maxim, Jelf, Warnor, Darnell, Smith, Proctor, Radley, Knights, Lawrence and C. Dilley.

Mrs. Rowe desires to tender, through "The Ringing World," her sincere thanks to the various Association secretaries, and to the many ringing friends of her late husband, for the kind letters of sympathy which she has received, they being too numerous for her to answer individually at the present time.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

A successful meeting of the Leeds and District Amalgamated Society was held at Rothwell on Saturday, July 7th, when the ring of eight (tenor 15 cwt.) were kept going to touches of Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob Minor, by ringers from Armley, Burley, Guiseley, Headingley, Leeds Parish Church, Pudsey, Shipley, and the local company.

The business meeting was held at the White Swan Hotel, with the President (Mr. J. Peacock) in the chair.—Mr. Sidney Sadler, of Burley, was made a member of the society.—A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens of Rothwell for the use of the bells and to the local company for their kind arrangements was proposed by Mr. Woodhead, seconded by Mr. Smith, and unanimously carried, Mr. Copley, of the local company, responding.

Handbells were then brought into use, and touches of Grandsire Caters, Major and Triples, and Kent Treble Bob Minor, were rung on them. The members present from Leeds Parish Church attended the meeting after having rung their bells for the induction of the new Vicar of Leeds, and it is pleasing to note that after having been idle for seven months, by order of the late Vicar, the bells are now to be rung as usual for Sunday services.

SUCCESSFUL PRACTICE AT HILLINGDON.

Two hours' good practice proved very enjoyable at St. John's, Hillingdon, on Saturday last. Four ladies—all change ringers, who acquitted themselves well on the somewhat heavy ring (tenor 22 cwt., E flat)—favoured the party with their company; they were the Misses Williams and Feltham, of the local band; Miss C. M. Oriebar (King's Cliffe), whose first experience it was to ring on ten bells: and Miss E. Jones (West Ealing). Although no higher methods than Grandsire and Stedman were rung, it may be said that progress was made. Mr. J. Pratt conducted a good touch in the first-named method, in which the following took part: Miss Orlebar 1, G. M. Kilby (Willesden) 2, Miss E. Jones 3, C. Edwards 4, J. Pratt 5, A. W. Davis 6, H. H. Chandler 7, W. Lawrence 8. Messrs. G. Iles (Shepherd's Bush) and H. Honor also rang, and the very best thanks are due to the latter for his kind reception, which was appreciated by everyone present.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE DOINGS OF THE GUILDFORD DISTRICT.

A meeting of the Guildford District was held in lovely weather, among the Surrey hills at Ewhurst, and members attended from Hersham, Cranleigh, Ewhurst, and Guildford. Upon the interesting peal of six bells, touches in various methods were rung during the afternoon, the service touch being by W. R. Melville (Guildford) 1, J. Francis (Ewhurst) 2, Mrs. Whittington (Cranleigh) 3, W. Tidy (Ewhurst) 4, C. Hazelden (Guildford) 5, F. J. Shepherd (Hersham, conductor) 6. The service was conducted by the Rector of Ewhurst (the Rev. A. J. Hamlyn), the Guild form being used, and the address was based upon the words of Isaiah, "Ye that bear the vessels of the Lord; be clean."

Tea was prepared at the Crown Inn, the Rector presiding. He was supported by the Ringing Master (Mr. C. Hazelden), Mr. R. Whittington, Mr. F. J. Shepherd, Mr. W. Charman, Mr. F. E. Dawe, and 16 members. The short business meeting followed, at which a letter of apology for absence was read from Mr. J. J. Jones (hon. secretary), who pointed out that it was the first district meeting he had missed during the whole period he had held the office of district secretary.—The Ringing Master (Mr. C. Hazelden) presented his report, the first since he succeeded to office. After alluding to the effects of the war, the report stated: Since our last meeting at Shere, in February, one attempt has been made for a peal, Grandsire Triples, at Cranleigh. The attempt was made by the kind permission of the Rector, to honour the silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Whittington, who were together in the attempt. I feel sure that everyone present will share our regret that the attempt did not meet with success, and will also join in wishing Mr. and Mrs. Whittington many more years of wedded happiness. Although the war has caused a number of village towers to close down, there are welcome signs of an awakening in some quarters, notably at Clandon, where, I understand, a new company, mainly ladies, are receiving instruction. Such instances as have been brought to my notice convince me that a complete "shut down" can be avoided in many cases by foresight and energy. In nearly every place there are one or two capable ringers left, and I would very strongly urge every tower leader, whom my words may reach, to begin at once to teach, and to keep on teaching, teaching, teaching. It doesn't sound very amusing, but really it is surprising what satisfaction can be obtained from teaching learners to ring Grandsire Doubles. Last winter we arranged a series of practices at various churches by the kindness of the incumbents. The meetings were, on the whole, well attended, but it would have been very nice to have seen some fresh faces sometimes, while in some cases the local men themselves failed to appear. This was notable at Shalford tower, which we visited on the direct invitation of a local leader. At that meeting not a single local man was present. As regards the future, we have received the consent of the Rector of Worplesdon for a practice there on one Saturday in each month. We make a start at Worplesdon on Saturday, July 28th. Let me close this perhaps rather doleful report with a ray of cheerful hope for the future. It is, I suppose, quite true that if we searched the district through we could not find a company to ring a plain course of anything beyond the four standard methods, but our strength is not measured by this standard. The strength of a band or a district is represented, not by the few who can ring the Surprise Methods, but by the many who are either learning, or who ring the standard methods.

Two new members were elected, viz., Mr. E. Edwards, of Slinfold, a compounding member, and Mr. J. Scott, Holy Trinity, Guildford, an ordinary member.

The question then arose regarding the advisability or otherwise of adhering strictly to the programme of meetings laid down at the annual meeting, in view of the changed conditions. The meeting was, however, unanimously of opinion that the success of the meetings already held quite justified the district in carrying out its programme, and instructed the hon. secretary to proceed with the arrangements for the next meeting, which is to be held in August at Christ Church, Epsom.—A vote of thanks to the Rector for presiding, and for his address, proposed by Mr. F. E. Dawe, and carried by acclamation, concluded the proceedings.

LAVENHAM CELEBRATION.

On Saturday, June 23rd, the 106th anniversary of the erection of two little bells to complete the octave was celebrated. Ringing commenced at 1 p.m., with half-muffled clappers, a touch of 714 Grandsire Triples being brought round as a mark of respect and sympathy for our sailors and soldiers who had given their lives in the war, and on the tower the flag of St. George was hoisted half-mast. After removing the muffles and hoisting the flag to full mast, the next touch was rung to celebrate the birthday of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales. The methods rung during the afternoon were Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Major, and Double Norwich. The visitors included Messrs. W. Burst and F. Claydon (Earls Colne), E. Beckwith (Great Coggeshall), D. Elliott (Little Coggeshall), P. Langston (Feering), A. Shufflebotham (Braintree), L. Wiseman and A. Wash (Sible Headingham), T. Fitzjohn (Thetford), C. Woodcock (St. James', Bury St. Edmunds), W. Head (Little Waldingfield), E. F. Pike and W. Hewitt (London). The conductors were Messrs. Elliott, Hewitt, Wiseman, and Symonds, junr.

MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry Established A.D. 1670.

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.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The members of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild were privileged to hold a meeting at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on Saturday last, and a company of over 30 ringers were able to avail themselves of the opportunity to ring on the splendid peal of ten in many methods, including Stedman Caters and Treble Ten. Tea was served at the Nag's Head, and was followed by the business meeting, at which the chair was taken by Mr. F. A. Milne (vice-president). September 15th was suggested as the date for the next meeting.—A vote of sympathy and condolence was passed with the widow and family of the late Mr. H. G. Rowe, of Cheshunt, who was a member of the Association, Messrs. W. A. Alps, G. B. Lucas and the chairman paying glowing tributes to his memory as a ringer of great ability, a keen worker for his own tower, and good company among all who knew him. His loss will be greatly felt amongst his own band at Cheshunt.

The members then expressed their thanks to the Vicar (the Rev. R Lampen) for the use of the bells, to Mr. J. H. Wilkins, of the local band, for making such successful arrangements, and to Mr. G. B. Lucas.—Mr. Wilkins briefly replied.

After the meeting, several touches were rung on the handbells, kindly supplied by Mr. Rayner. The meeting from all points was most successful.

MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Nottingham District was held at Lenton on Saturday last, when the bells were available for ringing during the afternoon. There were representatives present from Beeston, Bulwell, Cotgrave, East Bridgford, Long Eaton, Orston, Radcliffe-on-Trent, Sandiacre, in addition to the local ringers.

A meeting was held after the ringing, for the election of a chairman and committee for the Nottingham district.—Mr. J. W. Taylor (President of the Association) took the chair, supported by the Rev. C. J. Sturton. The President said he thought it would be the most advisable to have a representative chairman and committee for the district, so that they might get more into touch with the ringers, as the district has been neglected of late.

The Rev. C. J. Sturton was elected chairman, on the motion of Mr. F. Spencer, seconded by Mr. L. Price, and the following committee was elected: Mr. W. Clifford, senr., Mr. C. F. Vickers.

Three new members were elected, and it was proposed that the next meeting be held at St. Mary's, Nottingham, on August 11th, providing the bells can be obtained.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last a very pleasant meeting of the Bedford District was held at Cardington. Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain, Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major, were rung during the afternoon, and tea was served in the Parish Room. At the meeting which followed, with Miss D. D. Steel in the chair, it was proposed to hold the next meeting at Bletsoe, on August 18th. Two new members were elected, and a vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells. Thirty-two members were present at the meeting, including the three District Secretaries, and members from Bedford, Elstow, Willington, Sandy, Biggleswade, Northill, Everton, Roxton, Old Warden, Potton, Luton, Wellingborough, and Sharnbrook, with Mr. Duffield, of Norwich.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A well attended and enjoyable meeting of the S.E. Division of the Essex Association was held at the Church of SS. Mary and Lawrence, Great Waltham, on Saturday week, members attending from Boreham, Chelmsford, Felstead, Walthamstow, Romford, Widford, Writtle, and the local company. The methods rung included Stedman, Kent Treble Bob Major, and Grandsire Triples.

A special service was held, conducted by the Rev. Nansen (Vicar), the choir and organist rendering great assistance to the choral part of the service.

Tea and business meeting followed at the "Six Bells," presided over by the District Master (Mr. W. Lincoln).—Borcham was selected as the place for the next meeting (the annual), to be held in November.—A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. Nansen for allowing the use of the bells, and to the organist and choir for their assistance at the service.

MUFFLED RINGING AT ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

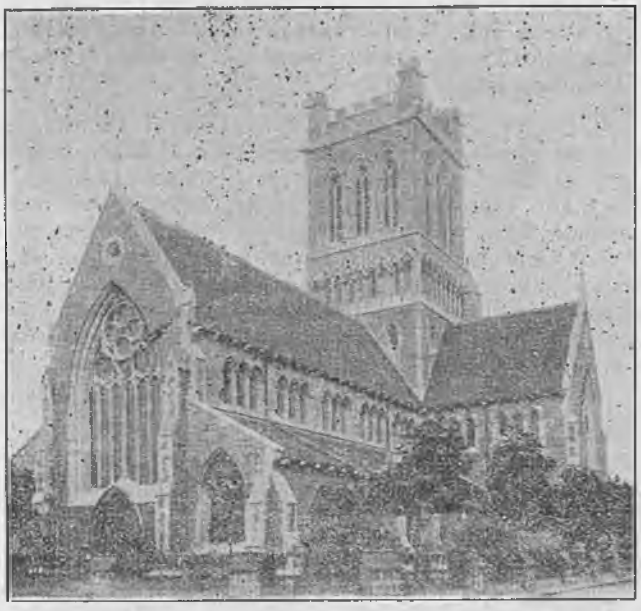
At the memorial service, held at St. Peter's Church, Ashton-under-Lyne, for those who lost their lives in the recent munitions disaster, his Worship the Mayor attended, and the Vicar preached from the text, "If a man die, shall he live again?" (Job xiv. 14). The bells were deeply muffled for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples being rung by: Mrs. Wolstencroft 1, Miss E. Grimshaw 2, J. W. Holme 3, Miss A. Wolstencroft 4, Miss S. Holt 5, J. Harrison 6, W. W. Wolstencroft (conductor), 7, J. Rolls 8. For evening service, 504 Stedman Triples: C. Bower 1, Thos. Jakeman 2, James Wood 3, J. Mellor 4, Sam Wood (conductor), 5, A. Adams 6, W. W. Wolstencroft 7, Thos. Jackson 8; and 336 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. W. Wolstencroft 1, Miss E. Grimshaw 2, J. W. Holme 3, Pte. H. Palmer 4, Miss S. Holt 5, J. Harrison 6, W. W Wolstencroft 7, J. Rolls 8.

ST. PAUL'S, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

THE STORY OF A FAMOUS SOCIETY.

St. Paul's Society, Burton-on-Trent, is one of the bands which has helped to make ringing history. The older school of ringers of to-day will well remember their great activities of the eighties, when they were unquestionably among the foremost companies in the provinces, and proved themselves pioneers in popularising ringing in the higher methods. Undoubtedly the general practice of the more difficult methods would have come in any case, but many of the "terrors" which Surprise methods had for ringers of those days were dispelled by the successful accomplishments of the Burton men, the death of one of whose early members the Exercise has just had to mourn in the passing of Harry Wakley. He and his gifted brother William have both crossed the bourne whence no man returns; but it is a source of gratification that to-day there are still with us, active and enthusiastic in the pursuit of the art, such men as Joseph Griffin, John Jaggar, Edward Stone, and a few others who participated in those early triumphs.

In those celebrated days Burton was the Mecca of all those famed in the Exercise, and they, as well as lesser lights, counted it an honour to take part in a peal with the Burton men, whose bells were hung in the handsome church given by Mr. Michael Thomas Bass. Unfortunately at first Burton was one of the towers where the structural arrangements made the belfry exceedingly noisy. This was afterwards remedied, much to the comfort of the ringers; but Sir Arthur Heywood, who was a not infrequent visitor, records that "although the church was built regardless of expense, the belfry was, from the noise of the bells, the worst adapted for ringing of any in which I have ever rung, and I have rung in some bad ones."



ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, BURTON-ON-TRENT.

But this drawback did not damp the enthusiasm of the Burton band for change ringing, and step by step they progressed up the campanological ladder until they reached the zenith of their fame in the years 1885—1888. Grandsire and Stedman Triples came in quite the early stages; in fact, the first peal of Stedman Triples was rung in May, 1883, but it was with the ringing of Double Norwich Major that the Burton men really stepped into the limelight of success. They had made splendid progress in the standard methods, but when they left the beaten track and scored peal after peal in this little practised method, they lifted themselves from the ruck and began to make the name of Burton what it is in the Exercise. They began practising Double Norwich early in 1882, at a time when five years had elapsed since the previous accomplishment of a peal in the method, and although they did not score the next—that fell to the College Youths during Lent—they were successful just after Easter, and peals of Double Norwich became quite a common occurrence.

On November 18th, 1882, they rang the longest length in the method achieved up to that time, 7,200, at Beeston, Notts. The names of that band are worth recalling: Harry Wakley, Edward I. Stone, John Jaggar, Joseph Griffin, A. Wakley, George Appleby, Jaspar W. Snowdon, and William Wakley. For some years, Double Norwich was a favourite method at Burton; in fact, in the year 1885 they rang eleven peals in the method in succession, seven of them within the space of about six weeks. Superlative Surprise followed the practice of Double Norwich, and in peals in this method, attempted up to then on only rare occasions, they were equally successful, and were the first band to achieve the extent with the tenors together, this being rung on January 24th, 1885. At the end of the same year they rang, with Joseph Field, Charles Hounslow and James W. Washbrook, of Oxford, three peals of Superlative in three successive days, a unique performance at that time. In 1886 they gained another distinction by ringing the first peal of New Cumberland Surprise Major ever rung, and scoring it at the first attempt. Cambridge Surprise was also at that time well practised at Burton, and three peals were rung in three attempts in 12 days in February, 1887, including the full 5,600, which was William Wakley's 100th peal, of which number he had conducted 53. In April, the Burton men rang the first peal of Cambridge in the Burton variation (New Cambridge as it is now known), and on September 1st of the same year came the crowning triumph, a peal of London Surprise, the first by all the band and the fourth ever rung. About twelve months afterwards the extent of London, with the tenors together, was rung at Burton.

The Burton band also rang the first peal of London Surprise Major ever rung in London, this being at All Saints', Fulham, and it was further to their credit that it was the first time a peal of London had been rung by any band on bells other than those on which they were accustomed to practise. This was on December 8th, 1888, and they rang another peal of London before the year was out. We have before us a list of the peals rung by the band in the years from 1885 and 1888, and something of the performances of the society may be judged from the fact that in those four years 85 peals were scored, made up of Double Norwich 18, Stedman Triples 18, Stedman Caters 1, Kent Treble Bob Royal 1, Major 1, Grandsire Triples 2, Duffield Royal 1, Superlative Surprise 28, New Cumberland Surprise 2, Cambridge Surprise 4, New Cambridge Surprise 4, London Surprise 5.

An illustration of the manner in which the band hung together may be found in the fact that within about a year four of them rang their one-hundredth peal, William Wakley, on February 14th, 1887; John Jaggar, Holt's Original conducted by him on October 13th, 1887; Joseph Griffin, the second peal of New Cumberland ever rung, conducted by him on January 12th, 1888; and Harry Wakley, the second peal of Duffield Royal ever rung, on April 3rd, 1888.

St. Paul's has seen many new records for the Midland Counties Association established, including the first peals for the Association of Stedman Triples, Double Norwich Major, Superlative, New Cumberland, Cambridge, New Cambridge and London Surprise Major. Burton is still also an easy first in the number of peals rung on its bells for the Midland Counties Association, the total being 225. Of later years peal ringing has not been so frequent, for loss of old members, and other calls upon the time of the men, as well as the inevitable "easing up" which comes to almost every band sooner or later, no matter how successful they may have been, have had their effect; but enough has been said to remind old ringers of the famous days of Burton, and to show the younger generation what was done by dint of perseverance and enthusiasm in days when there was little but men's own brains and initiative to help them.

DARTFORD BELLS.

The recast peal of eight bells at Dartford Parish Church, Kent, were dedicated on Sunday week by the Bishop of Rochester. The new tenor is 18 cwt. 3 qrs. 1 lb. in E flat, and the restoration has been carried out with characteristic efficiency by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry. A large number of ringers were present for the ceremony, and the greatest satisfaction was expressed at the tone and "go" of the bells, which have been rehung with new fittings, the old oak frame having been strengthened with tie bolts and angle plates.

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.

EASTERN DIVISION SUPPORTS REQUEST FOR ANNUAL MEETING.

A very pleasant time was spent by the members attending the meeting of the Eastern Division, at Mayfield, on Saturday last. The following towers were represented: Battle, Brighton (St. Peter's), Rotherfield, Christ Church, Eastbourne; Shoreham, Rye, Mayfield, etc.

During the afternoon and evening touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and Double Norwich Major, etc., were rung.

An excellent tea was provided by Host Farrer at the Royal Oak Hotel, and at the business meeting Mr. H. R. Butcher (churchwarden of St. Denis', Rotherfield) was voted to the chair.

Messrs. C. R. Carter and R. W. Curtis, of the Battle branch, were elected members.—It was proposed that the divisional hon. secretary try and arrange a meeting at Salehurst for September 1st or 8th.

The meeting also carried a resolution, asking the general hon. secretary to arrange for the annual meeting of the Association to be held at Brighton on Bank Holiday, August 6th.

After votes of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, to Mr. A. R. Miles for making the local arrangements, to Host Farrer for his catering, and to Mr. H. R. Butcher for presiding, the company returned to the tower.

NOTICES.

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

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on every first Sunday in the month at 6 p.m.; and at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on July 31st, for general business.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—Owing to a serious illness near the church at Cheddar the quarterly meeting will be held at Worle on Saturday, July 28th. Service 5. Tea and meeting after. Bells (6) afternoon and evening.—G. Chamberlain, 35, Oxford Street, Burnham-on-Sea.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Wellingborough District.—The next meeting will be held at Finedon on Saturday, July 28th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea at the Star Hall, 5.30.—W. Perkins, Dis. Sec., 6, Addington Road, Irthlingborough.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Easton-in-Gordano on Saturday, July 28th. Bells available, 3.30. Divine Service, 4.30. Tea and business meeting, 5.30.—George Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The next meeting will be held at Dartford, by kind permission of the Rev. Leonard Savill (Vicar), on Saturday, July 28th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. Service and address at 4.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow in the Church Hall, Lowfield Street. Half rail fares allowed.—T. Groombridge, Hon. District Secretary, 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Woolton on Saturday, July 28th. Bells ready at 4. Meeting 5.30. Service 6.30.—Rev. E. C. Collier, Walter Hughes, Secs.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. Established 1755.—Quarterly Meeting will be held on Saturday, July 28th, at St. Martin's. Bells (12) available from 3.30 to 5 o'clock. Canon Willink has very kindly invited members to tea at the Rectory, Sir Harry's Road, and tea will be provided at 5.30 for those who send in their names, *not later than the 25th inst.*, to A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual festival will be held at St. Mary's, Stockport, on Saturday, July 28th. Service at 3.45. Preacher: The Rev. F. C. L. Hamilton, Rector of Northenden. Other particulars by circular.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Hon. Sec., New Mills.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at the Burnley Parish Church on Saturday, July 28th, 1917. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting, 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Sec.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Practices have been arranged to be held monthly at Worplesdon, the first to be held on Saturday, July 28th, at 6.30 p.m. and continuing until dusk, and until further notice on the last Saturday in each month. All ringers welcome.—A. C. Hazelden, St. Michael's, Joseph Road, Guildford.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North Eastern Division.—A bye-meeting will be held at Stisted on Saturday, August 4th. Short service with address at 4.30. Tea at moderate charge at the Red Lion Inn, at 5.30. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than July 31st.—B. Redgwell, The Street, Rayne, Essex.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Pendlebury on Saturday, August 4th. Bells available from 4 p.m. Meeting at 6. Any alterations for the ringing calendar to be given in at once.—W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Sec.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next monthly meeting of the above Society will be held at Calverley on Saturday, August 4th, 1917. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting in the "Thornhill Arms" at 7.30 p.m.—Wm. Barton, Hon. Sec., 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Dronfield (6 bells) on Saturday, August 4th. Members are requested to note Secretary's change of address.—Sam Thomas, Hon. Sec. *pro tem*, 164, Greystones Road, Sheffield.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Central District.—The summer meeting will be held on Bank Holiday, Aug. 6th, 1917, at Mitcham. The bells at the Parish Church, SS. Peter and Paul (8), and the six at Christ Church will be available from 3 to 5 and from 7 to 9 p.m. Service at the Parish Church at 5 p.m. Tea at 6 p.m. (members 3d. and visitors at 1/-), and business meeting after. Ringers intending to be present at the tea are asked to send a post card not later than Friday, the 3rd August, to Mr. Charles Bance, The Queen's Head, Lower Green, Mitcham.

PETERBOROUGH AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Peterborough on Monday, August 6th. Service at St. John's Church at 4 o'clock; business meeting after. St. John's, St. Mary's and Woodston's bells will be available. No arrangements for tea, but all ringers welcome.—John J. Jutson, Hon. Sec., St. Mary's School House, Peterborough.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Hertford on August Bank Holiday, when the bells of All Saints' (10) and St. Andrew's (8) will be opened for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be prepared at the Castle Cabin; members 9d., others 1/-. Business meeting after. All ringing friends will be made welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, District Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Milnrow Parish Church on Saturday, August 11th. Bells ready at 2 o'clock. Meeting at 6 o'clock.—T. K. Driver, Sec., Middleton.

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.

MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. SAMUEL SPITTLE.

Subscriptions to the above should be forwarded at once to the Ringing Master, Mr. Harry Mason, Stourdell, Old Hill, or to the Hon. Sec., Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

	£	s.	d.
Subscriptions already acknowledged	7	5	6
Mr. H. Williams, late Kidderminster Co., now Wortley, Leeds	0	2	6
St. John's Sunday Ringers, Deritend, Birmingham	0	2	6
Mr. John Jagger (Oldbury)	0	2	6
Mr. John B. Ashton (Holmfirth)	0	2	6
Sedgley Company (per Mr. W. Mills)	0	12	0
Smethwick Company (per Miss S. Pigott)	0	5	0
Mr. Thomas Cattell, Tipton St. Martin's	0	1	6
Mr. Reuben Hall, West Bromwich and Oldbury	0	1	0
Rev. J. Arthur Price, Coseley Vicarage	0	5	0
William Cheshire, Esq., Erdington and Coseley Church	0	10	6
Mr. William Fisher, Coseley Church	0	2	6
Mr. Albert E. Law, Coseley Church	0	1	0
Mr. Samuel Baker, Coseley Church	0	2	0
Mr. Samuel Pearce, Coseley Church	0	1	0
Mr. William A. Jeavons, Coseley Church	0	0	6
Mr. William Short, Clent	0	1	0
Total to date	£9	18	6

C.-S.-M. WAKLEY'S LAST PEAL.

Pte. A. E. Sharman, of the Northants Regiment, writes: "It was with the greatest regret that I, and I'm sure of many other ringers in the Dunstable and Luton district, read of the death of C.-S.-M. Harry Wakley, as during the early days of the war, when stationed in the neighbourhood, he was a very welcome visitor to the towers. It might interest your many readers to know that the last peal the deceased rang was at the Priory Church, Dunstable, on August 4th, 1915. The peal was Thurstans' four-part, which he conducted from the 6th, and I, personally, and I'm sure the rest of the band, although now separated far and wide, will always look back with pride to that peal. I know the deceased was highly elated with the ringing. In spite of the many striking successes which he achieved, I venture to think that his last peal gave him as much pleasure as any."

DEATH OF MR. R. MINGAY, OF FOXEARTH.

A much respected Essex ringer has passed away, in the person of Mr. Robert Mingay, of Foxearth, who died on June 29th, at the age of 70 years.

The late Mr. Mingay was a good six and eight bell ringer, and took part in several peals of Kent Treble Bob Major at Foxearth, one at St. Gregory's, Sunbury, a peal in four Minor methods at Stanstead, and also a peal on the original six bells at Foxearth prior to their augmentation to eight. He was a Cumberland Youth, and some time a member of the Essex Association, and was highly respected by all who knew him.

Owing to the young members of the local band being at the war a company to ring the full peal of eight bells could not be got together on the occasion of the funeral on July 3rd, but touches of Kent Treble Bob Minor were rung with muffled clappers as a last tribute of respect, by: J. Taylor 1, T. E. Slater (Glemsford) 2, A. Maxim 3, F. Inch 4, A Taylor 5, S. Evans (conductor) 6.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

The summer quarterly meeting was held at Southgate on Saturday week, when touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Double Norwich, Superlative and London Surprise were rung on the beautiful peal of bells at Christ Church. Tea and the business meeting took place at the "Cherry Tree," and a vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar and the local band. The members then returned to the tower, and rang touches until 9 p.m.

PUTNEY.—St. Mary's Church, on Accession Day, Thursday, May 17th, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1264 changes), in 49 mins.: H. Adams 1, T. Bolton 2, A. Reeve 3, E. Cassel 4, C. C. Collis 5, A. Darlington 6, W. T. Elson (conductor) 7, C. Hunt 8.

Llewellins & James, Ltd.,

CHURCH BELLS SINGLY OR IN RINGS.

Bell Frames in Cast Iron, Steel and Oak.

Bells tuned on the latest improved principles initiated by the late Canon Simpson.

CASTLE GREEN,

BRISTOL.

JAMES BARWELL,

LIMITED,

Church Bell Founders

— AND —

Church Bell Hangers,

GREAT HAMPTON STREET,

BIRMINGHAM.

Towers and Campaniles Inspected and Estimates Furnished to cover every Expense.

Musical Handbells, in any size and number, for Tune or Change-ringing, in Guaranteed Quality.

The Jasper Snowdon Series.

ROPE-SIGHT. 1s. 6d.; sixth ed. 150 pages; treats Plain Bob, commencing on three bells.

GRANDSIRE. 2s. 6d.; second ed.; 264 pages; commencing on five bells; complete with the Thompson Charts, etc., etc.

STANDARD METHODS 6th Edition Now Ready, 2s. 6d.

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

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

DOUBLE NORWICH C. B. Major. At present out of print.

SURPRISE PEALS. Cambridge, Superlative and London; compiling.

All post free, on receipt of postal order, from

Mrs. LAURA SNOWDON, Cartmel, Lancashire.

ALFRED BOWELL,

CHURCH BELL FOUNDER,

IPSWICH.

JOHN SMITH & SONS

Midland Clock Works,

DERBY

Telegraphic Address—
"Clocks, Derby."
Tel. No. 569

CHURCH & PUBLIC CLOCKS

MAKERS OF CLOCKS AND CHIMES for S. Paul's Cathedral Beverley Minster, Selby Abbey, Truro Cathedral, Thurles Cathedral, Trinity College, Cambridge, Belfast Assembly Hall, Magdalen College, Oxford, and many others to Lord Grimthorpe's designs. In 1897, writing to the Vicar of Minchinhampton, Lord Grimthorpe said:—"Smith of Derby will clock you in the best way and as near eternity as possible."

"The World's Best Bellropes"

PROVED IN THE RINGING OF THE WORLD'S RECORD PEAL.

THE SAME EXCELLENT QUALITY AS BEFORE THE WAR, AND PRICES VERY LITTLE HIGHER.

Splicing and Repairs

Price List of the Sole Maker.

JOHN PRITCHARD,
Swan Street,
LOUGHBOROUGH.

Established over a HUNDRED YEARS.

UNIQUE FOR PRESENTATION.

An Inkstand in the design of a Well-shaped Bell

This charming model in Solid Hall Marked Silver will make a most appropriate and useful Gift.

It can be supplied in the following sizes:—

Diameter	2½in.	2¾in.	3¼in.	3½in.	4in.	4½in.	5in.
Price ...	12/6	17/6	22/6	28/6	36/-	46/-	60/-

Monogram or Inscriptions Engraved at Moderate Charges.

J. COMBER, Goldsmith and Silversmith,

WOKING

(MAKER OF THE RINGERS BADGE.)

THOMAS DOBLE & SON, Church Bell-Hangers, TAUNTON.—Bells Hung on the most approved principles Old Bells Re-cast, New Bells supplied, Ropes of the best make. Ellacombe's Chiming Apparatus fixed, Handbells in sets, Chromatic or Diatonic.

THE BADGE OF THE CRAFT

A Beautifully Executed

RINGERS' PENDANT

in Gold, Silver or Bronze.
Specially Suitable for Gifts.

Prices, Gold (9 carat) 25/-, Silver 5/- Bronze 2/9 (post free).

J. COMBER, Goldsmith and Jeweller,

TELEPHONE: 171 WOKING. **WOKING**

Printed for the Proprietors by the WOODBRIDGE PRESS, LTD., Guildford, and Published by Messrs. WM. DAWSON & SONS LTD. Cannon House, Breams Buildings, London, E.C.