THE RINGING WORLD

No. 384. Vol. XII. FRIDAY, DECEMBER 28th, 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, 1915.

Gentlemen,

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

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

Yours faithfully, F. T. BECK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

THE CLOSING YEAR.

Another year will shortly join the limbo of the past, another year of war, marked with its appalling sacrifices, with suffering and misery for millions of men who are called upon to bear the burden and the horrors of the fighting, and lighted only by those innumerable instances of heroism and endurance which tell of the greatness of human nature. The task which lies before this nation and its allies grows not less but greater, but the spirit which prompts them to carry on to the very end—to victory which is the only one end possible for them—is as grim and determined as ever. More than ever it is realised that this is a war not merely of armies, but of peoples, and every able man is called upon to do his share. It is not alone in the fighting line that the only peace that is possible for us will be won, but in the less dangerous and less exciting walks of life at home. In the year that is closing this has more than ever become apparent to us all, and among ringers at any rate it can be said all have been "doing their bit."

When we remember that our ranks include all ages, from boyhood to years well over the allotted span, it says much that the number of men from the belfry who are actually in the fighting forces of the country runs literally into thousands. Of the rest, large numbers are in the factories making munitions, or in agriculture, which must play an all-important part in winning the war, while the others not thus accounted for are contributing their quota to work of the State either directly or indirectly. The net result is that there has been during the year a still greater depletion of the available hands in the belfries of the land; but those whose opportunities have left them in a position to carry on, have continued to keep the flag flying to a most praiseworthy degree, and in many instances a great deal of good work has been done by enlisting new recruits.

The year 1917, like its two immediate predecessors, will be black in the annals of the Exercise—black in many ways, and not least by the many splendid lives that have been lost—but despite the inevitable drawbacks, there is much to be thankful for in that matters stand as well as they do. But for the determination of the comparative few that are left, ringing might be in a much more parlous plight. Everyone hopes that before the end of another year war will be a thing of the past, and while we shall not next Monday be able to assemble in our towers at midnight to "ring out the old," Tennyson's words will find an echo in many a heart—

Ring out old shapes of foul disease;
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

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
FLAT 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 185, 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.

PENN, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD AND THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, December 22, 1917, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

HORACE SADLER	...*Treble*	EDWARD G. BOWYER ...	5
DANIEL JONES	2	BENJAMIN GOUGH	6
*EDWARD F. MITCHELL ...	3	WILLIAM FISHER	7
ARTHUR RODEN	4	BENJAMIN FULLWOOD	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM FISHER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Rev. O. A. Holden, M.A., Vicar of Penn, who died for King and country whilst serving with His Majesty's forces in France as Chaplain.

* First peal in the method with an inside bell. Messrs. Sadler and Roden were proposed members of the Guild previous to starting for the peal.

SIX BELL PEAL.

ALLESLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, December 15, 1917, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720s each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

*WILLIAM PRYCE...	...*Treble*	ALFRED WILSON...	4
OSWALD J. HUNT	2	HARRY THORPE	5
JOHN TAYLOR	3	JOSEPH H. W. WHITE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOSEPH H. W. WHITE.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect and esteem for Pte. George H. Kettle, who died of wounds in France on Nov. 28th. * First peal of Minor.

PROGRESS AT HARPENDEN.

At Harpenden, only four old members of the band are left, but ladies are taking their place, and rang their longest touch on November 28th, for practice, viz., a 504 Grandsire Triples: C. Dellar 1, G. Newson 2, Miss Eileen Shannon 3, W. Hill 4, Miss Molly Knuish 5, — Gillett 6, B. Jarman (conductor) 7, D. Dellar 8. The ladies have only been under tuition about twelve months.—On December 2nd, for men's service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 55 mins., by: Miss Sybil Wilson (first quarter) 1, W. Hill 2, G. Newson 3, R. Coburn 4, D. Dellar 5, — Gillett 6, B. Jarman (conductor) 7, C. Dellar 8. R. Coburn was home on furlough from France.

THE CAPTURE OF JERUSALEM.

KINGTON MAGNA RINGERS' BUSY DAY.

On Tuesday December 11th, when news was received of the British occupation of Jerusalem, joyous peals were rung on the bells of Kington Magna Church, Dorset, and the ringers subsequently visited five other towers, in order to enable neighbouring parishes to participate in the celebration. Ringing also took place at Dorchester, Devizes and elsewhere in the Salisbury Diocese.

To celebrate the capture of Jerusalem, 420 Stedman Triples was rung at St. Mary's Church, Acton, at 7.30 a.m. on December 12th, by: C. Edwards 1, F. Skevington 2, J. W. Fruin 3, E. W. Abbott 4, R. Holloway 5, G. Vickery 6, W. Lawrence (conductor) 7, A. E. Smith 8.

At Oxton, Birkenhead (Chester Diocesan Guild), on Dec. 11th, 1100 of Grandsire Doubles, to celebrate the taking of Jerusalem by the troops under the command of General Allenby: H. J. Samuels 1, H. Brocklebank 2, W. Hughes 3, T. F. Barnes 4, H. Martin (conductor) 5, S. Moston 6.

After a silence of many months, the bells of St. Peter's, Colchester, were rung at noon on Dec. 11th to celebrate the entry of the British troops into Jerusalem. Touches of Bob Major and Kent Treble Bob were rung by: A. Burch, G. Rashbrook, W. Button, H. Evers, R. W. Stannard W. J. Schofield, W. Chalk, and H. T. Pye.

At Lavenham, on Sunday morning, Dec. 16th, to celebrate the entry of the British Army into Jerusalem, 560 Grandsire Triples: S. H. Symonds (conductor) 1, W. Fayers 2, S. Smith 3, W. W. J. Roper 4, H. Smith 5, F. Parker 6, L. Locks 7, F. Pryke 8.

THREE YEARS IN FRANCE.

INTERESTING LETTER FROM FORMER ELY ASSOCIATION SECRETARY.

Spr. T. R. Dennis, of Cambridge, who for three years past has been in France in the Signal Section, R.E., has written the following interesting letter, which his many friends will read with pleasure. He says:—The "Ringing World" has been regularly received, and I don't think I have missed a single number during the whole time. If they have been overdue they have always turned up sooner or later. Reviewing events in ringing circles, many old friends have passed out of this world, and it makes one wonder how we shall all shape up at the end of this war. However, looking on the bright side, I was very pleased to see that the public at last want us ringers to cheer them up when we have a victory, and I wish I could for just five minutes have heard the merry old church bells ringing for a victory, and, better still, have been helping. To-day being All Saints' Day, the bell in the village church has been clanging all day. Not a bad bell in tone, but so awfully monotonous. I think some of the residential critics, who so often go up in the air about bell noises, would have something to complain about if they heard this. I have read with great interest all the little items of news from brother ringers serving in different parts, and have wished I could run across them. I have met very few out here, although, of course, many must have been in and around where I am. The only person I knew was Lieut. Atkins, who I ran against in 1915 just before the battle of Loos.

Yesterday (October 29th), I believe, was the anniversary of the first battle of Ypres, which was my first day's work in the signal office to which I was then attached. Although we did not know then the importance attached to that great battle, it was quite a time of stress and tension for us, and news was very eagerly awaited. Although firing of greater intensity has often taken place, nothing ever impressed me so much as when I first arrived from base at 4 a.m. in the morning, and hearing the heavy cannonading that preceded that great battle. Being attached to headquarters, I have never travelled about so much as those who are attached to other units or divisions. Naturally army headquarters is a big organisation now, and a move must be somewhat a big affair. One thing that is very striking as regards our branch, and that is the tremendous growth and organisation of the signals, and I can safely say I have seen it grow up from a poky little signal office in a side street, to the tremendous offices of the present day, when we have to be accommodated in a small theatre. Communication in the early days of the war was often precarious, and we were often stopped till lines of cables could be repaired. Now we have permanent poles, and miles of them, too, carrying wires just as if we were on the great north road in England, and, of course, linemen in their thousands to keep communications going, with hundreds of test points and small offices dotted here and there for test purposes.

THE ATTENTIONS OF FRITZ.

It fell to my lot to be placed at one of these test points for about eight months in 1915, where day after day these lines had to be repaired. Needless to say, the French lines were not to be compared with ours as regards reliability, and often on stormy nights we had to make the broken down cables, etc., good. I had many pleasant memories of this small office, and was very happy here, inasmuch as it gave an opportunity to look after the inner man, and I became an expert cook, and we very often rendered a good service to our less fortunate brethren on the road. Only once did we receive the attention of Fritz, who came over the latter end of May, 1915, and dropped a few bombs, which gave us some work to do all night, repairing lines. However, he had full sway, but never did us much damage. He has been over many times since, but has never done us much harm. Towards December, 1915, I was brought back to Advance Headquarters, and I have been with them ever since. Life at Advance Headquarters was somewhat rural, and though, of course no worse than others, the sleeping quarters were rather rude, and required some getting used to. To be pitched amongst the straw for a bed in the midst of winter, after having had a fairly good time, altered the complexion of affairs somewhat. But I think no one can blame us for making ourselves comfortable when the opportunity arises. About February, 1916, we joined Army Headquarters again, and were once more housed in hospitable barracks and a nice Cathedral town. Here we were "put through it" properly, and as soldiering goes, we had plenty of parading to do, and many show parades. Polishing, etc., was quite a fine art. Routine work was quite a feature, and I don't think there is much more I can say on that point. A part of the canal ran near the town, and many a pleasant walk along the banks, trying to imagine myself along the [illegible] Cam, made up for some of the deficiencies. It was particularly nice in summer, and I think most of us appreciated it.

BEHIND THE LINES.

In August, 1916, we again shifted to a town about seven miles away, and here we passed the winter and summer of this year. Although not so pleasantly situated as the Cathedral town, it was fairly lively. Here the authorities were able to get one of the best and most accommodating signal offices in the whole of France, and an official photograph has been taken of it which will no doubt be reproduced after the war. This place marked the commencement of concert parties, boxing contests, and the exhibition of cinema films, all of which was under the control of our company.

The winter passed quickly, and much of the very cold spell we experienced, but nearly all of us came through none the worse, although morning after morning we were not able to get any water to wash with until the pump had been thawed. Shaving was a great trial, but we did it somehow. I hope we shan't have the same again this winter. Our sports held last September were quite a feature in army life, and easily the best that had hitherto been held. Prizes were good, and the best of athletes from all other armies came to compete. One little incident of interest I must not forget, was in May, when a house caught fire in the town, and all the garrison troops were requisitioned by the town major to assist in putting it out. The appliances consisted of two sets of hand pumps, and we had to form a cordon to the nearest pump and pass the pails of water along to feed the pumps. Neighbours also lent their utensils of various descriptions for carrying water, and much amusement was caused by the assortment of articles which were passed as water carriers. The jet of water when it came forth was a little bit larger than a good size garden hose, and to see the chief of the fire brigade with his tin helmet in "civvies" operating with this hose caused much amusement. However, the weather was very kind to us, and as there was no wind we were able to get the fire under after two hours' hard struggle.

MEMORIES OF CAMBRIDGE.

Many air fights took place round about while we were there, and I had the pleasure of seeing a Boche brought down in flames on one occasion. Last September I was again moved to another pretty little village nearer the line, and here we expect to spend this winter. Leave seems to be the only tonic out here to live for, and I was very pleased to be in old Cambridge last August Bank Holiday. It brought memories of three faces, alas! I shall never see again, and for whose loss the Exercise is all the poorer. I had a walk round St. Mary's that afternoon en route to the sports at the 1st Eastern General Hospital, and tried to imagine that peal of Cambridge Maximus being rung. How things will have changed by the time this war is finished! I understand from the late George Taylor's brother that they have only five Cambridge Youths to ring for victory and peace, so I don't know how they will manage, and, of course, it's the same all the way round. If the public want the bells rung properly they must have us back, that is all. I think the War Office ought to be able to release all ringers when peace is declared, and let them come back and ring the joy bells, toute de suite.

A CINEMA PICTURE OF THE BELLS.

CANADIAN RINGER'S SUGGESTION.

Sapper A. C. Limpus, of the Canadian Engineers, writes: "I have just been reading the article in 'The Ringing World' of Dec. 7th, headed 'A libel on ringers.' I am one of what must have been a number of other lovers of our art who saw and bitterly resented that advertisement, which has likely done more harm to our cause than anything else could do with the exception, perhaps, of poor striking and clashing. Now, I beg to make a suggestion. It has become generally acknowledged that the Cinema is a very powerful educator of the public. Could it not be arranged for some good reliable Cinema firm to take a picture of a band in some spacious tower? Surely there are many quite suitable in this country, and I am sure a good steady band would be only too pleased to ring for that purpose. The bells and their mechanism should also be shown, and the details explained in the usual method. It was, I think, some time in September, 1914, that I had made just such arrangements with a 'movie' operator in Vancouver, who was on a tour for some firm in New York, and about the time the 'Boston Herald' had a long article explaining the art, then being taken up with such determination by Mr. G. Mackman, Mr. H. A. Petts and others. But the 'movie' man was unfortunately called away unexpectedly, and so a splendid opportunity was missed. I was given to understand that with a minimum distance of five feet from the nearest man a good picture could be taken. I should think there could be no better time than now for such an experiment, when the man in the street is anxiously listening for 'victory bells.'"

DITCHLING, SUSSEX.—At the Parish Church, for evening service, on September 16th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, as a farewell compliment to H. Bish, who was leaving Ditchling to take up business at Shoreham: G. Edwards 1, H. Stalham (conductor) 2, E. E. Bish 3, H. Horney 4, J. Parsons 5, A. Cripps 6, J. Feist 7, H. Bish 8.—On November 25th, 720 Bob Minor, rung in honour of the victory in France: G. Edwards 1, W. Horney 2, J. Parsons 3, J. Buckshaw 4, J. Feist 5, E. E. Bish (conductor) 6, J. Vigor 7, C. Merritt 8.

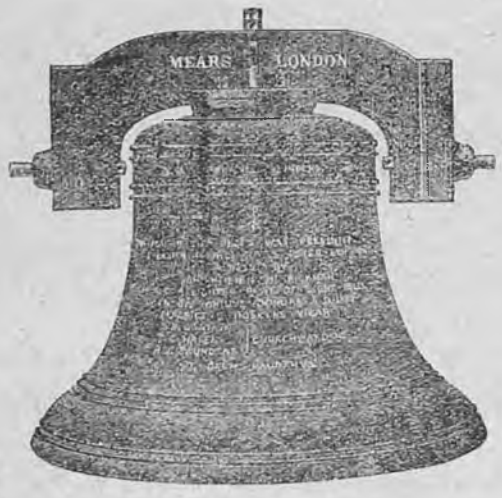
MEARS & STAINBANK,

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

DEATH OF MISS MAUD PIGOTT.

SMETHWICK BAND'S LOSS.

It is with the deepest regret that we have to record the death of Miss Maud Pigott, of Smethwick, which took place on December 14th, from heart trouble. The deceased lady, who was only 22 years of age, was one of a family of ringers, and was taught to handle a rope by her brother, Mr. Joseph Pigott. When he volunteered in the early days of the war, she, with her sisters, undertook to "carry on" until "Joe" came back. Miss Maud Pigott was a capable ringer in several methods, and had taken part in four peals. She was a member of the Worcestershire and Districts Association, the Ladies' Guild, and the Dudley and District Guild.

This is the second death in the ranks of the members of the Ladies' Guild, and her loss will be greatly felt amongst those whose pleasure it had been to take a rope with her.

The interment took place on the 17th inst., and most of the local ringers were present at the church. Many beautiful floral tributes were sent, including one from the local band.

In the evening the bells were rung muffled as a last tribute of respect by Messrs. W. Farrow, C. Tyreross and Douce, and the following lady ringers: Mrs. E. Reading and Miss M. Caffey (of Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham), and Misses R. M. Howat, O. Gare and L. Holbrook, of the local band. The deepest sympathy is extended to Mr. and Mrs. Pigott and family in their great loss.

5031 STEDMAN CATERS.

BY JAMES E. GROVES, BIRMINGHAM.

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314265				5					16
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Composed by James E. Groves. First rung at Aston Parish Church, December 15th, 1917. Conducted by Albert Walker.

LAVENHAM.—On Sunday, Nov. 4th, on handbells, 720 Bob Minor, by: A. Symonds 1—2, Bert Keeble (first 720) 3, S. Smith 4, S. H. Symonds (conductor) 5—6.

KILLED IN ACTION.

CORPL. FRANK S. ANDREW, OF ISHAM.

News has just been received that Corpl. Frank S. Andrew, 9th Royal Fusiliers, a member of the Isham (Northants) Society, has been killed in action by a shell during the German counter-attack on the Cambrai salient on November 30th.

Twenty-seven years of age, he was one of the original band which learned to ring when the bells of Isham Parish Church were restored in 1906, and he had made great strides in the art. Under the able tuition of Mr. J. E. Chapman, of Kettering, this band became attached to the Central Northamptonshire Association, and succeeded in ringing its first peal on Boxing Day, 1907, which was seven 720's of Bob Minor. The first peal in seven methods was accomplished on September 16th, 1909, and this was done without any outside help. The deceased took part in both these peals.

Removing to Coventry in 1913, his interest in the art continued, and under the guidance of Mr. Roberts, he became proficient in the standard eight-bell methods, including London and Bristol Surprise. He was not a great believer in peal ringing, having only rung about a dozen, of which at least one was conducted by himself.

As recently as November 11th he was home on leave and his cheery smile was in evidence in the belfry, when he conducted several touches for the Sunday services.

The sad news of his death was received on Saturday, Dec. 15th, and the same evening a band was got together, and a 720 of Double Oxford Minor, his favourite method, was rung with muffled clappers. This was rung at a very slow rate, the time being nearly 30 mins., and the band was as follows:—A. Green 1, E. M. Atkins (conductor) 2, J. E. Chapman 3, W. C. Lewis 4, W. T. Wilson 5, G. A. Blaxley 6.

On Sunday afternoon last, the 23rd, a special memorial service was held, after which the whole pull and stand and some muffled touches were rung.

RINGERS MEET AT SALONICA.

Writing from Salonica, Sapper C. T. Coles, R.E., hon. secretary of the Middlesex Association, says:—"We all out here hope to be home long before another year has passed by, and I think we shall be. I have had the good fortune to meet an old ringing friend in Sergt. Fred J. Pitstow, who is situated about two miles away from me, and who is in the A.O.C. He knew of my presence here in Salonica by seeing a paragraph some long time ago in 'The Ringing World,' and by what he read he came to the conclusion that I was somewhere not far from him. He only knew that I was in the R.E.'s, and so found some difficulty in tracing my whereabouts. He inquired of every R.E. whom he met, but with no success, and after about four months of fruitless inquiries he wrote home for my address. I had a very pleasant surprise when I heard from him, and at the earliest opportunity I paid him a visit. You may guess we had a lot to talk about, especially in discussing the whereabouts of our many ringing friends, and ringing matters in general. Later I met Fred again, and had a few hours with him in town, looking at the ruins, and making a call or two. One difficulty in town is to get a fair meal, but we got over this by going to three places, and as a result we felt that we had done very well in difficult circumstances. Unfortunately what would have proved a nice walk back was spoiled by a very strong, and very cold, wind, which sprang up, and which we faced all the way. Fred had nearly two miles to go when I left him, and he had quite enough before he got back to camp. However, it was a real treat for both of us (I am sure I can speak for Fred as well as for myself) to meet each other, and we look forward to the next outing together. He told me that Peter Laffin had been out here, but a day or two before I first met Fred he had been sent to somewhere else across the sea. They had had the paper regularly, and I think it was the means of Fred eventually getting on my track.

Whilst on the topic of old friends, I must tell you that I only just missed meeting Percy Webb, of Ickleton, Cambs. I happened to go, one Sunday recently, for a walk with a friend in the A.S.C., and at a Greek village we paid a visit to a small church. There was a small steeple with a very decent toned bell, which I had to try by chiming it. My friend asked if I was interested in bells, and when I had replied, he said he would like me to meet his friend Percy Webb. Of course, I told him that I had many times heard or read of that ringer, and asked where I could find him. My friend could not say at the moment, but later on he found him, but before I could find time to pay Webb a visit he, and my A.S.C. friend as well, had been packed off to a place where they may be by the time you get this letter, where there are bells which ring and not chime only. Lucky men! There has been a very welcome change in the weather since I last wrote. We no longer suffer from the continuous and great heat, and although sometimes it is much warmer than it would be in England, there have been a few days when it has been quite cold. I understand that for this time of the year it is unusually cold for this country, and it may be because there is a large amount of snow upon the mountains, and the cold air is blown towards us by a wind that always seems to be with us. It is especially cold in the mornings, just when you have got comfortably warm in your blankets. I am pleased to say I am keeping in very good health, and am looking forward to the end of the war to return home again. What a blessing that will be, to be sure! I shall be glad if you will convey to all friends by the usual means, my very best wishes for a bright and happy Christmas, and peace in the New Year."

POPULAR YORKSHIRE OFFICIAL MARRIED.

PRESENTATIONS TO MR. PERCY JOHNSON.

On Saturday, December 8th, at St. Matthew's Church, Holbeck, Mr. Percy Johnson, the genial Ringing Master of the Western District of the Yorkshire Association, was married to Miss Annie Flockton, of Holbeck. Both bride and bridegroom are well known in the district, having been connected with St. Matthew's Church many years, the bride as a church worker, and Mr. Johnson as chorister and conductor of the ringing.

Many friends attended the service, which was conducted by the Rev. C. C. Marshall, M.A., Vicar of St. Chad's, Headingley, President of the Association, and a very intimate friend of the bridegroom for many years. He gave the young couple a short address, full of good advice and homely counsel. The service was fully choral, and after the ceremony the organist played the Wedding March. Meantime, ringers from many churches rang the bells in "Queen's" and "Tittums," and they were "fired" as the party left the church.

Afterwards a 504 of Grandsire Triples was rung by: Willie Gage 1, Johnny Whitaker 2, Robert Thomas 3, Rev. C. C. Marshall, M.A., 4, John W. Moorhouse 5, Henry Lindsay 4, H. Williams (conductor) 7, Walter Wood 8.

For some years prior to the war, Mr. Maude, of Pudsey, organised a party of ringers each Whitsuntide for a four or five days' ringing excursion. These outings were always a great success, Mr. Johnson being a regular member of the party, and adding much to the success by his prowess, both on tower and handbells. His fellow members, therefore, decided to honour the occasion of his marriage by presenting him with a handsome eight-day clock to tick away the happy hours of wedded bliss and to be a constant reminder of their good wishes for health and happiness.—On Sunday, Dec. 9th, before ringing for morning service, Mr. Johnson's comrades at St. Michael's, Headingley, gave him a barometer as a mark of their esteem, and in recognition of his valuable services in the tower. — Mr. Walter Wood, the ringer with the longest service, made the presentation, and in a few well-chosen words, voiced the feelings of the members, and conveyed their good wishes for long life and happiness to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson.

RINGER'S WEDDING AT WYKE REGIS.

On Thursday of last week, the wedding of Mr. Percy Willshire and Miss May Rose was solemnised at the Parish Church, Wyke Regis. The bridegroom is one of the esteemed ringers at the church, and the bride is the daughter of Mr. Wm. Rose, who was captain of the Wyke Regis band for 25 years, and niece of the present captain, Mr. Alf. Rose. The bridegroom was attended by Pte. W. Rose, A.S.C., brother of the bride, also a member of the local band, and just home from France. The ceremony was performed by Canon Davies (Rector), and the service was fully choral, as the bride's father and brothers not only have a long connection with the ringers, but also with the choir. The organist played suitable wedding music, and after the ceremony the bells rang out a merry peal, first in "rounds" and "queens," and then in fine touches of Grandsire Triples and Plain Bob, the local band being assisted by the soldier ringers in the district, who are always welcomé. Afterwards the ringers were kindly entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Willshire. Among the many useful presents was a fine set of carvers from the bridegroom's brother ringers.

DATE TOUCH OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

The year 1918 lends itself to the composition of date touches of Grandsire Triples—and other Triple methods with the treble a plain hunt—in that the number provides 137 complete leads. No doubt numerous such lengths will be composed, here is one by Mr. G. H. Newton, of Liverpool:—

234567		326457	
532746	5	423765	5
325746	4	234765	4
543267	3	732546	5
435267	4	467253	2
354267	4	234567	1
723654	1		
547362	2		
235647	1		

The foregoing four times repeated with S for B at 3rd part end produces: 326457

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

PORTSEA.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday evening, Sept. 16th, 504 Stedman Triples: J. Harris 1, C. Groves 2, S. Thomas 3, W. A. Cave (conductor) 4, J. Chaffey 5, E. Reynolds 6, E. J. Harding 7, A. Harding 8.—On Sunday evening, Dec. 16th, 504 Grandsire Triples: J. Harris 1, C. Groves 2, Pte. Umberston (conductor) 3, J. Symonds 4, J. Chaffey 5, G. Holloway 6, E. J. Harding 7, J. Green 8. Sergt.-Major Cave belongs to Bristol and Pte. W. Uhberston to South Wigston.

READING. — Oxford Diocesan Guild.—On Sunday, Nov. 4th, for evensong, at St. Giles' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins.: G. Cook 1, A. W. Osborne 2, N. Box 3, Corpl. C. Sconce 4, Miss E. Goodship (conductor) 5, H. Egby 6, Second A.-M. E. Butler 7, A. Wiggins 8. First quarter-peal by Miss Goodship as conductor.—On Nov. 25th 504 Grandsire Triples: Miss D. Batten 1, A. W. Osborne 2, G. Cook 3, Pte. A. Bailey 4, N. Cox 5, H. Egby 6, A. Wiggins (conductor) 7, A. Phillips 8.—On Sunday, Dec. 16th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (composed by J. George), in 46 mins.: Miss D. Batten (first quarter-peal) 1, G. Boddington 2, G. Cook (first quarter with a bob bell) 3, Lce.-Cpl. D. William (first quarter-peal as conductor) 4, Miss E. Goodship 5, A. W. Osborne 6, H. Egby 7, A. Phillips 8.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.—At the Parish Church for evening service, on Nov. 11th, Johnson's 504 Grandsire Triples: T. Bicknell 1, W. Stringer 2, H. Spencer 3, G. F. Swann 4, W. J. Meers (conductor) 5, J. Preston 6, J. W. Pemberton 7, W. C. Rhodes 8.—On Sunday, December 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins.: E. Hobbs 1, A. T. Scrivens 2, J. Preston 3, H. Spencer (longest length) 4 W. F. Webb 5, W. J. Meers (conductor) 6, J. W. Pemberton (first in the method) 7, T. Bicknell 8.

BROMLEY, KENT.—At SS. Peter and Paul's, on Sunday, Nov. 18th, for a Confirmation service by the Bishop of Rochester, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 43 mins.: Miss E. F. Burch 1, I. Emery (conductor) 2, A. E. Newick 3, P. J. Spice 4, W. H. Hewett 5, G. Huxley 6, G. Durling 7, G. F. James 8.

KEYMER, SUSSEX.—At the Parish Church, 720 Grandsire Doubles, in honour of the success of the British arms in France: C. Merritt 1, W. Horney 2, E. E. Bish 3, J. Backshaw 4, J. Parsons (conductor) 5, J. Feist 6.

WINDSOR.—At St. John's Church, for evening service, on Nov. 18th, 504 Grandsire Triples: G. Bedford 1, T. S. Smith 2, W. Henley 3, W. H. Fussell 4, G. T. Leader 5, E. T. Hooper 6, Gunner L. Stillwell 7, H. Farr 8. These touches were specially arranged and rung as a welcome to Sapper Young and Gunner Stillwell, who were home on leave.

NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.—On Nov. 22nd, in celebration of the British success on the Cambrai Front, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 51 mins.: J. Simmonds 1, W. Chambers 2, W. Upton 3, W. Scott 4, H. Phillips 5, W. Johnson 6, H. Jennings (conductor) 7, J. Leal 8. First quarter-peal on the bells since they were rehung.

PORTISHEAD, SOMERSET. — On Nov. 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Mrs. J. E. Staley 1, Miss D. Sage 2, Mr. T. Wyatt 3, Miss M. C. N. Jukes 4, Mr. G. Tippett 5, Miss E. M. Hole (conductor) 6, Mr. W. Gillingham 7, Mr. J. Nisbett 8. Rung in honour of the British successes in Palestine and France.

MERSTHAM, SURREY.—At St. Katherine's Church, on Sunday, November 25th, for morning service, a quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles: H. Morley 1, Miss C. M. Orlebar 2, E. Atkins (conductor) 3, G. Morley 4, A. Wood 5, W. Francis 6. Miss C. M. Orlebar's first quarter-peal.

SLOUGH, BUCKS.—On Sunday, Nov. 25th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: C. J. Kazer (first quarter-peal) 1, C. N. Leman 2, G. Bedford 3, T. S. Smith 4, W. Henley (conductor) 5, F. W. Brinklow 6, E. T. Hooper 7, G. T. Leader 8. Rung after meeting short for Stedman. Arranged for the ringers of 1, 2 and 6, who cycled over from Oxhey, Herts.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGAN.—At St. Illtyd's Church, on November 25th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 48 mins.: W. Hardwick 1, T. J. Evans 2, A. J. Stanley 3, R. Evans 4, C. H. Perry 5, J. Evans 6, A. J. Pitman (conductor) 7, B. J. Toby 8. Rung as a farewell to C. H. Perry, who is called up for service with the colours. This makes the eighth member of the band to join His Majesty's Forces.

ASHTEAD, SURREY.—At the Parish Church, on Nov. 26th, on the occasion of the wedding of Lieut. Templey, R.G.A., to Miss M. Joyce Grandsire Doubles: V. Hemus (longest length on the treble) 1, H. Corbett 3, H. Boxall 4, W. Marks 5, J. Wyatt 6, A. Dean (conductor) 7, E. Hull 8.

ELSTON, NOTTS.—On Dec. 1st, at the Parish Church, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: G. Nowell 1, Walter White 2, Rev. C. J. Sturton 3, William White 4, F. Spencer 5, A. Mackears (conductor) 6. Also 360 Single Court: Rev. A. D. Hill 1, William White 2, Rev. C. J. Sturton 3, A. Mackears 4, Walter White (conductor) 5, T. Squires 6; and several touches of Double Court Plain Bob and Grandsire.

MITCHAM, SURREY.—On Sunday, Dec. 2nd, at the Church of SS. Peter and Paul, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: J. A. Lambert 1, J. D. Drewett 2, D. W. Drewett 3, W. H. Joiner 4, C. Bance 5, A. Calver 6, W. S. Smith 7, J. Currell 8. Rung as a welcome to Mr. Douglas W. Drewett, who was home on leave from France, after a long absence, his brother ringers wishing him the best of good luck for the future.

BLETCHLEY.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday evening, Dec. 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Sapper E. Leonard, R.E., 1, F. Hedges 2, T. Best 3, A. Crane 4, W. Sear 5, E. Marks 6, H. Sear (conductor) 7, V. Sear 8. Arranged for Sapper E. Leonard, of the Railway Operating Division of the R.E., who was home from France on leave, and as a birthday compliment to F. Hedges.

EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, Dec. 2nd, ten 120's Grandsire Doubles: V. Hemus (longest length on the treble) 1, H. Withers (conductor) 2, W. Bryant 3, J. Eaton 4, G. Pigott 5, J. Johnson 6.—On Sunday, Nov. 25th, 720 Bob Minor: Miss K. Pigott (first 720) 1, Miss S. Pigott 2, J. Pigott 3, G. Pigott 4, J. Eaton 5, H. Withers (conductor) 6.

BIRMINGHAM.—St. Martin's Guild.—On Monday, Dec. 3rd, at 125, Victoria Road, Aston, Birmingham, on handbells (size 14 in D), a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 40 mins.: T. J. Bratton 1—2, W. Kent 3—4, M. J. Morris 5—6, J. George (composer and conductor) 7—8. Witness, J. B. Collett.

BIGGLESWADE, BEDS.—On Dec. 6th, at St. Andrew's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 46 mins.: E. Hussey 1, W. Wagstaff 2, Cadet G. W. Newton 3, E. Stratton 4, W. J. Mayes 5, Dvr. W. Essery 6, C. Pratt (conductor) 7, A. Franklin 8.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.—At St. Peter's Church, on Dec. 8th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: Mrs. Wolstencroft 1, J. W. Holme 2, Miss Cissy Thorp 3, R. Wimpenny 4, Miss S. Holt (first quarter-peal) 5, F. Stonely 6, W. W. Wolstencroft (conductor) 7, J. Rolls 8.

MALVERN LINK.—Worcestershire Association.—On Sunday evening, December 9th, at St. Matthias' Church, 504 Stedman Triples, also Stedman and Grandsire Doubles: R. G. Knowles (conductor), Lance-Corpl. A. Hill, E. E. Barber, W. Ranford, F. Stanton, C. Camm, C. Layton, G. Jordan, and A. Richings. Lance-Corpl. A. Hill is a member of the Worcester Cathedral Guild, and was married on the previous day at St. John's. The heartiest good wishes of the band were offered to him and his bride.

WORKSOP.—North Notts Association.—At the Priory Church, in honour of the brave Bvng boys of the district, who took part in the recent victory, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 45 mins. The bells were also "fired" in volleys at intervals: H. Haigh (conductor) 1, H. H. Cartwright 2, S. C. Walker 3, G. Hardwick 4, W. Roberts 5, A. Johnson 6, E. Clark 7, T. Bartholomew 8.

LONDON.—On Sunday, December 9th, for morning service, at St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 44 mins.: C. Stevenson (first quarter-peal in the method) 1, A. Diserens 2, A. W. Davis 3, H. T. Fowlett 4, W. G. Matthews 5, H. N. Davis 6, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 7, A. R. Davis 8.

ACTON, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday morning, Dec. 9th, 420 Grandsire Triples, preceded by touches of Bob Major: Sergt. G. W. Trollope, 21st Canadian Regiment, 1, R. Holloway 2, E. W. Abbott 3, C. Edwards 4, W. Lawrence 5, G. Vickery 6, J. Armiger Trollope (conductor) 7, A. E. Smith 8.

RYHL.—North Wales Association.—On Sunday, Dec. 9th, for evening service, at St. Thomas's Church, two 720's of Bob Minor, with tenor covering: F. Homan 1, R. Collis 2, W. Bell 3, T. Evans 4, C. Egerton 5, J. Ellis (conductor) 6, F. Bailey 8. The first in the method by a local band.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Dec. 9th for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss E. M. Suart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson 4, J. Huddleston 5, J. Burrows (conductor) 6.—On Sunday, Dec. 16th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: T. R. Jackson 1, Miss E. M. Suart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson 4, T. Suart 5, J. Burrows (conductor) 6; and for evening service, two courses of Bob Major: Miss Sharpe 1, Miss E. M. Suart 2, Miss Gilchrist 3, T. Watson 4, J. Huddleston 5, T. R. Jackson 6, T. Suart 7, J. Burrows (conductor) 8.

NOTICES.

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

THE CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Kettering District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Isham on Saturday, December 29th. Short service at 4 p.m. Tea and meeting 4.30.—Walter T. Wilson, District Sec., Isham, near Kettering.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Estab. 1637).—Meetings will be held at the "Coffee Pot," Warwick Lane, E.C., for general business on January 1st, 15th and 29th, and for handbell practice on the 10th and 24th, at 8 p.m. The subscription of 1/8, which entitles members who have not attended twenty meetings in the past year to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The monthly meeting of this society will be held at St. Chad's, Far Headingley, on Saturday, Jan. 5th, 1918. Bells will be available from 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. The business meeting will be held in the Parochial Hall adjoining the Vicarage at 7 p.m.—Wm. Gage, Hon. Sec. *pro tem.*, 7, Burley Terrace, Burley Road, Leeds.

THE CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Northampton District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Kingsthorpe on Saturday, Jan. 5th.—Bells ready at 3 p.m. Service 5.30. Tea and meeting 6 p.m. (no sugar provided).—T. Low, District Secretary, Weston Favell, Northampton.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Estab. 1775).—The annual meeting will be held at the Tamworth Arms Hotel, Moor Street, City, on Tuesday, Jan. 8th, 1918, at 7.30 p.m. All subscriptions are due at this meeting.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

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.

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GREETINGS.

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