THE RINGING WORLD

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A PRACTICAL SPIRIT OF BROTHERHOOD

Reference is frequently made to the spirit of brotherhood which exists in the Exercise, and there can be few bodies of men scattered as we are throughout the whole country who, with no tie but their common pursuit, are more ready to show in their actions the best traits of comradeship. Let a stranger go into the belfry and he is at once made welcome. If he claims to be a ringer, no matter what his capabilities may be, he is at once offered a rope; and even if it be only rounds that he can ring, he is given the opportunity of having a 'pull.' Doubtless many readers will be able to point to the exceptions that prove the rule, and to say that at this tower or at that visitors are not wanted. But taken as a whole, ringers are ready to welcome the stranger, if he is a ringer, with open arms and make it a point of honour to show him the 'courtesies of the belfry.'

In the same way a practical spirit of 'brotherhood' is readily evinced when it comes to helping a comrade in distress. In the last few weeks we have had a very fine example of this—another to be added to the many instances which, from time to time, have shown that the comradeship of the belfry extends to something more than formalities in the tower. Ringers throughout the country have rallied to our appeal for help for 'Irenæus Pistor' in the affliction which has overtaken him and placed him in distressed circumstances. The useful sum which we have received on his behalf has been the means of tiding him over his pressing needs, and will, we hope, assist in keeping the wolf from the door for a further period. How timely was the help given to the family, few will ever know, and no words can ever express the gratitude for that first gift or the appreciation of the kindness shown to Mr. Baker and his family. But for a man condemned to a lifetime of blindness, robbed of his power to follow his means of livelihood, with loved ones still dependent upon him, the sum which has been contributed—generously contributed—up to the present cannot for long lift the load that presses so heavily when the breadwinner falls stricken on the field. The £90 which we have now received will, we feel sure, grow into a greater sum yet, and we hope that every company of ringers will contribute their mite to so good a cause. Our columns remain open to acknowledge donations, and contributions, in accordance with the means of the givers, will, we trust, continue to reach us.

A correspondent, the other day, alluded to the fact that the present case once more illustrated the desirability for a relief fund in the Exercise. This is a matter that has in the past been advocated in these pages, and in some few instances associations have established such funds.

(Continued on page 34.)

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But these 'local' funds obviously have their limitations. They serve admirably the purpose of assisting in some degree ringers temporarily distressed, but a case such as that of 'Irenæus Pistor' comes in a different category and nothing but a big general fund could hope to provide the help which long-continued disability would require. There are great difficulties in the way of establishing such a source of relief, but it is a matter to which ringers might direct their attention in the hope of evolving a scheme. For instance, something might be possible on the basis of each association contributing one penny per annum for each member. Assuming there are 18,000 affiliated members (we have no means of knowing if this is even an approximate figure) that would provide an income of £75 a year. Little enough, but it might become the foundation of greater things, and the fund used to supplement whatever else was done by the association whose member made a claim upon it. It is a subject worth considering, and it might enable substantial help to be given to many a distressed brother ringer in the years to come.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 14, 1928, in Four Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 50 cwt.

*CHARLES W. R. GRIMWOOD	*Treble*	*WILLIAM J. NUDDS	7
GEORGE R. PYE	2	*JAMES E. DAVIS	8
CHARLES T. COLES	3	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD	9
*ALBERT W. COLES	4	*REUBEN SANDERS	10
*WILLIAM H. HEWETT	5	*THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN.	11
CHARLES W. ROBERTS	6	WILLIAM PYE	*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

* First peal in the method: also the first rung in London. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Reuben Sanders.

TEN BELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(LATE THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, January 7, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, WEST HAM,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt.

GEORGE HAYDEN	*Treble*	WILLIAM MILLER	6
ARTHUR J. NEALE	2	FRANK C. NEWMAN	7
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL	3	*GEORGE DAWSON	8
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER	4	†LESTER L. GRAY	9
WILLIAM H. THEOBALD	5	EDWARD D. SMITH	*Tenor*

Composed by YORK GREEN. Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER

* First peal of Treble Bob Royal. † First peal of Royal. Rung to celebrate the 65th birthday of Mr. A. J. Neale, which took place on January 6th.

APPLETON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, January 11, 1928, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5075 CHANGES;

Tenor 14⅝ cwt.

HENRY BENNETT	*Treble*	GEORGE HOLIFIELD, SEN.	6
ALBERT E. LOCK	2	FRED LAMBETH	7
MRS. A. E. LOCK	3	GEORGE HOLIFIELD, JUN.	8
WILLIAM BOLWELL	4	GORDON CAUDWELL	9
FREDERICK MESSENGER	5	FRED WHITE	*Tenor*

Composed by G. HOLIFIELD, SEN. Conducted by G. HOLIFIELD, JUN.

The ringer of the 4th hails from Devizes, and was elected a member of the Guild previous to starting. Ringer of the 7th is from Chippenham.

EXETER, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
(EXETER DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, January 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SIDWELL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5067 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

EDWIN SHEPHERD	...Treble	ALFRED G. BETTS	6
*REGINALD DAVEY	2	WILLIAM HOWE	7
ALFRED MONKLEY	3	JOHN HAYMAN	8
WILLIAM DRAKE	4	WILLIAM RICHARDSON	9
TOM G. BARTLETT	5	JOHN HARRIS	...Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by EDWIN SHEPHERD.

* First peal.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

ALFRED H. WINCH	...Treble	*ALBERT A. HUGHES	6
CHARLES HAZELDEN	2	MAJOR J. H. B. HESSE	7
FREDERICK A. HOLDEN	3	†WILLIAM R. MELVILLE	8
GEORGE MARRINER	4	ALBERT HARMAN	9
WILLIAM T. BEESON	5	ARTHUR DEAN	...Tenor

Composed by YORK GREEN. Conducted by ALBERT HARMAN.

* Elected a member previous to starting. † First peal of Royal on tower bells. First peal on ten bells for the Guild. The band consisted of five College Youths and five Cumberlands.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

THOMAS SEYMOUR	...Treble	AUGUSTIN V. GOOD	6
WALTER H. L. BUCKINGHAM	2	HORACE E. C. GOODENOUGH	7
THOMAS J. HULL	3	*FRANK KIRK	8
FREDERICK J. SPICER	4	*LEWIS A. GOODENOUGH	9
JOHN MALYAN	5	FRANCIS KIRK	...Tenor

Composed by H. J. TUCKER. Conducted by FRANCIS KIRK.

* First peal on ten bells, and first attempt. First peal in the method and as conductor. The ringer of 8th was elected a member previous to starting. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to the conductor.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt. in D.

*THOMAS E. WASE	...Treble	ALFRED S. BAYLEY	6
JOSEPH L. STANIER	2	WILLIAM D. WASE	7
JOSEPH HANLEY	3	WILLIAM SAUNDERS	8
ROBERT EVANS	4	JOHN H. RIXOM	9
GEORGE L. HEWITT	5	BERTRAM L. JONES	...Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by WM. SAUNDERS.

* First peal. This composition contains all the possible 6.9.7.8.'s in the first part, and 7.6.9.8.'s in the last. First peal as conductor on 10 bells. First peal of Grandsire Caters for all except the conductor. First peal of Caters to be rung in the Hereford diocese by a local band. The above peal was rung on the day of the annual dinner, all the ringers being local Sunday service ringers. Also to celebrate the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Jones, Mr. Jones having been a member of the Coalbrookdale band for nearly 40 years, and still holds the position of hon. treasurer.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 28, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 17¼ cwt.

FRANK MORRIS	...Treble	ERNEST CUTSFORTH	5
GEORGE PINCOTT	2	PETER CROOK	6
JACK KAY	3	THOMAS B. WORSLEY	7
PETER NUTTALL	4	JOHN NUTTALL	...Tenor

Conducted by PETER CROOK.

Rung to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first peal by the association, which was rung at the above church. Mr. Henry W. Jackson, the captain at that church, is the only survivor of the band, and is still a regular ringer. The peal was also a birthday compliment to a former church officer, Mr. J. W. Sharpies, who has generously given a four-dial electric clock for the tower of this church.

LONDON.
THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(LATE THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, January 3, 1928, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, ROTHERHITHE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

*JAMES A. HALES	...Treble	WILLIAM R. MADGWICK	5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER	2	RONALD BULLEN	6
*JACK WAUGH	3	LESTER L. GRAY	7
WILLIAM BERRY	4	JEFFERY R. GAMMON	...Tenor

Composed by T. DAY. Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

* First peal of Major.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, January 5, 1928, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb. in G.

*FREDERICK G. GRIFFEN	...Treble	JOHN W. FAITHFULL	5
FRANK BLONDELL	2	FREDERICK G. COLE	6
GEORGE PULLINGER	3	OWEN H. GILES	7
CHARLES J. FRAY	4	GEORGE WILLIAMS	...Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal of Double Norwich. First peal under the joint heading of the two dioceses.

FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(GRAPPENHALL BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 7, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt. in F sharp.

*OSWALD CLAYBROOK	...Treble	WILLIAM BIBBY	5
*ARTHUR BEVINGTON	2	CYRIL VALENTINE	6
NORAH M. BIBBY	3	GEORGE H. RANDES	7
JOHN E. BIBBY	4	FRANCIS BIBBY	...Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by J. E. BIBBY.

* First peal of Surprise. All the band are Sunday service ringers at Frodsham. First peal of Surprise on the bells by a band resident in the parish. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss L. M. Bibby.

ROTHWELL, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 7, 1928, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

*ROBERT G. BLACK	...Treble	JOHN R. MAIN	5
MISS KITTY MOORE	2	HARRY BAXTER	6
GEORGE BASFORD	3	ANDERSON Y. TYLER	7
JOHN KING	4	CHARLES W. BIRD	...Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by ANDERSON Y. TYLER

* One hundredth peal.

JUBILEE PEAL

CORSTON, NEAR BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(Founded January 8th, 1878.)

On Saturday, January 7, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 9½ cwt.

ALBERT STOWELL ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM KNIGHT	5
ALFRED E. REEVES	2	WILLIAM H. THOMAS	6
RICHARD CLARK	3	JOHN A. BURFORD	7
HENRY PRING	4	WILLIAM A. CAVE ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by WILLIAM A. CAVE

Rung on the eve of the jubilee of the founding (at Gloucester) of the above association. The composer rang in two of the most notable peals in its history, i.e., the 15,000's of Grandsire and Stedman Caters at Cheltenham. It was rung on the conductor's birthday.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 7, 1928, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

JOSEPH H. RIDYARD ...	...*Treble*	JAMES GROUNDS...	5
JOHN BOOTH...	2	JAMES BOLTON	6
PETER CROOK	3	*JOHN POTTER	7
GEORGE PINCOTT...	4	PETER NUTTALL... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

* 250th peal. Arranged for J. Bolton, who is on a visit from U.S.A.

LLANGIBBY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 7, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

*STANLEY A. GWILLIAM	...*Treble*	PERCY JONES...	5
*ARTHUR G. SPARKES... ...	2	SAMUEL JONES	6
GEORGE POPNELL	3	WILLIAM PHILLIPS	7
WILFRED WILLIAMS	4	AMOS JAS. HURFORD ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by SAMUEL JONES.

* First peal. Rung as a wedding peal for Stanley White, one of the Caerleon band, also as a birthday compliment to the conductor's eldest daughter.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 7, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, BELGRAVE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 23 lb. in F.

WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ...*Treble*		*ALFRED G. GRANT	5
THOMAS K. DEACON	2	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ...	6
LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD ...	3	ROWLAND BARROW	7
JOSEPH A. FENTON	4	ALBAN DISNEY	...*Tenor*

Composed by W. H. INGLESANT. Conducted by W. P. WHITEHEAD

* First peal in the method. Rung as a birthday compliment to ringers of 5th and 7th. The ringer of the tenor has now rung each bell in the tower to a peal. This is only the second peal of Treble Bob on the bells, the first having been rung in 1888, being the first peal on the bells. The composition is now rung for the first time.

FELTHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 7, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CATHERINE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 11½ cwt.

WILLIAM H. HOLLIER	...*Treble*	FRANK CORKE	5
WILLIAM WELLING	2	J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ...	6
CHARLES I. EDWARDS... ...	3	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ...	7
LEONARD MANNERING ...	4	WILLIAM T. GODFREY...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

Rung as a birthday compliment to J. Armiger Trollope and Henry C. Chandler (Heston). The band were entertained to tea after the peal by Mr. Arthur Lewis, captain of the local band, and Mrs. Lewis, and their hospitality was greatly appreciated.

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 10, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor 13¾ cwt.

ERNEST CUTSFORTH ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE PINCOTT...	5
JOHN DENNER	2	JAMES BOLTON	6
*JOSEPH H. RIDYARD	3	JOHN POTTER	7
JAMES DENNER	4	ROBERT DENNER	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

* 50th peal. Rung as a memorial peal to Mr. Frank Potter, son of the conducter, on the anniversary of his funeral.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, January 12, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

FRANK BLONDELL ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE PULLINGER	5
HARRY BADGER	2	FREDERICK G. COLE	6
JOHN W. FAITHFULL	3	GEORGE WILLIAMS	7
CHARLES J. FRAY	4	OWEN H. GILES	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

This and the peal on January 5th were arranged as a farewell to Messrs. F. Blondell and H. Badger, who have been attached to the North Stoneham band during their residence in the county.

CHILVERS COTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Thursday, January 12, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

HARRY HARRIS	...*Treble*	JAMES DRAYCOTT...	5
MISS D. EVA LEWIS	2	CHARLES E. RAYSON	6
THOMAS W. CHAPMAN ...	3	ARTHUR H. BEAMISH	7
ABRAHAM WILKERSON... ...	4	JOHN E. S. MORETON ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by ARTHUR H. BEAMISH

Rung with fully muffled clappers as a token of deepest sympathy and respect to the memory of Canon M. A. Dodds, M.A., R.D., Vicar of the parish, and an honorary member of the above Guild, who was interred at Nottingham earlier in the day.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, January 13, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, JUN.	...*Treble*	HERBERT AUDSLEY	5
EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ...	2	JOHN KENTISH	6
RONALD BULLEN...	3	JOHN CHEESMAN	7
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN.	4	JAMES E. DAVIS	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. BARNETT, SEN. Conducted by JAMES E. DAVIS.

HUGHENDON, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS & SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

MISS PHYLLIS M. MOSS	...*Treble*	RICHARD BUCKLAND	5
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL ...	2	WILLIAM HENLEY	6
HARRY WINGROVE	3	GEORGE MARTIN	7
JOHN EVANS	4	CECIL C. MAYNE	...*Tenor*

Composed by JOSEPH J. PARKER. Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN.

A birthday compliment to the ringer of the treble, and a welcome to the Hughendon veteran, Mr. John Evans, who had not attempted a peal since his serious illness of two years ago.

EXETER.—On Wednesday, Jan. 11th, at the Church of St. Thomas, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 44 mins.: J. Hosgood 1, S. Shepherd (conductor) 2, R. Davey 3, E. W. Biffin 4, A. Monkley 5, W. Howe 6, T. J. Stokes 7, A. H. Goad 8.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 14, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HALEY'S VARIATION. Tenor 12¼ cwt.

BENJAMIN GOUGH	*Treble*	CHARLES E. PERKINS	5
JAMES GEORGE	2	ABRAHAM GREENFIELD ...	6
ALFRED ROWLEY	3	CYRIL WINWOOD	7
*THOMAS HEMMING	4	CLIFFORD SKIDMORE	*Tenor*

Conducted by ABRAHAM GREENFIELD.

* First peal in the method. Mr. Jas. George has now completed the circuit in the above tower.

COMPTON GIFFORD, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, January 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE EMMANUEL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 12 lb. in E flat.

CHARLES R. LILLEY	*Treble*	WARREN S. HORNBROOK ...	5
G. HARRY MYERS	2	JOSEPH WOODLEY	6
JAMES E. LILLEY...	3	FRANK HACKADAY	7
WILLIAM B. RICHARDS ...	4	THOMAS G. MYERS ...	*Tenor*

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY

First peal in the method on the bells for 18 years, the ringers of 2nd and 7th having taken part of the former peal. The above was specially arranged for Mr. Woodley, the towerkeeper, to enable him to complete the 'circle' and so score his first peal of Treble Bob.

GUISELEY, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 14, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt.

WILLIAM DIXON	*Treble*	FREDERICK W. DIXON... ...	5
THOMAS W. STRANGEWAY ...	2	GEORGE W. STEEL	6
CHARLES E. LAWSON	3	JOSEPH BROADLEY	7
WILLIAM WOODHEAD	4	WILLIAM E. H. ASH ...	*Tenor*

Composed by JAMES S. WILDE. Conducted by FREDERICK W. DIXON

Rung with bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Stanley Walker. J. Broadley has rung peals on every bell in this tower.

EYE, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, January 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

ALBERT G. HARRISON...	*Treble*	ERNEST F. POPPY...	5
ALPHÆUS J. BERRY	2	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ...	6
GEORGE PRYKE	3	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY	7
WILLIAM J. GROOM	4	WILLIAM STEGGALL ...	*Tenor*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by WILLIAM C. RUMSEY.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, January 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

WILLIAM E. BANKS ...	*Treble*	WILLIAM GREEN	5
GILBERT GUEST	2	HERBERT SHEPPARD	6
JOHN PRICE	3	JOHN GOODMAN, JUN.	7
WILLIAM GOODMAN	4	WILLIAM MEEK	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN GOODMAN, JUN.

This peal was rung for the 74th birthday of Mr. J. Goodman, sen., who has been a Sunday service ringer at the above church for 45 years.

ACCRINGTON.—At St. James' Church, on December 20th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor, the first 720 of Treble Bob on bells after rehanging: J. Beattie 1, A. Brown 2, C. Bowen 3, A. Ingham 4, S. Brown 5, L. J. Williams 6. Rung as a farewell to Mr. C. Bowen, of Bucknall, Staffs. on his leaving Accrington for home again.

SIX BELL PEALS.

STAMFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, December 24, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising ten 240's, L. W. C. Morris' arrangement, ten 120's, and six 240's, A. J. Pitman's arrangement, all called differently.
Tenor 15 cwt. (approx.).

FRED LIPSCOMBE	*Treble*	PERCY BALDOCK	4
JOHN R. NICHOLS	2	JAMES BLUFF	5
JOHN H. BLUFF	3	SAMUEL BRITTAIN ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN H. BLUFF.

First peal on the bells. Also first peal by all the band, and rung at the first attempt. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar, the Rev. E. L. C. Clapton, for the use of the bells.

ECKINGTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 26, 1927, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 Kent Treble Bob and two each of Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, and Plain Bob. Tenor 19 cwt.

ARTHUR CARTER	*Treble*	JAMES ATTWOOD	4
WILLIAM RIMELL	2	FRANCIS MILES	5
CHARLES TRAPP	3	OLIVER ATTWOOD ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by O. ATTWOOD.

The ringers all belong to the Bredons Norton band.

BREDONS NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 27, 1927, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College Single and Oxford Bob, Grandsire, Canterbury Pleasure, and Plain Bob.
Tenor 6½ cwt.

ARTHUR CARTER	*Treble*	JAMES ATTWOOD	4
WILLIAM RIMELL	2	FRANCIS MILES	5
CHARLES TRAPP	3	OLIVER ATTWOOD... ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by O. ATTWOOD.

First peal in seven methods by all the band, except the conductor. Rung entirely by the local band.

THAMES DITTON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
(THAMES DITTON GUILD.)

On Tuesday, December 27, 1927, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores in ten callings. Tenor 7½ cwt. (approx.).

REUBEN COLES	*Treble*	GEORGE F. ADLEY	4
GEORGE HIGGS	2	WILKINS MASSEY	5
HARRY BARBER	3	*ALBERT WEST	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE F. ADLEY.

* First peal. This peal was rung in commemoration of a peal rung in the tower exactly a hundred years ago.

KILNDOWN, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, December 30, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four 720's of Oxford Bob and three of Plain Bob.

JAMES WAGHORN, JUN.	*Treble*	FREDERICK FOREMAN	4
ALBERT RELFE	2	FRANK PATTENDEN	5
JAMES WAGHORN, SEN. ...	3	GEORGE WAGHORN ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by A. RELFE.

A 'silver wedding' peal for Frederick Foreman.

HELD OVER.

Among the numerous items which pressure on our space has compelled us to hold over is an article on Lincolnshire Surprise by Mr. W. Taylor, letters on the subject of 'Theory and Practice' from Mr. J. A. Trollope, Mr. George Baker and Mr. G. L. Joyce, another on Surprise Major methods by Mr. E. W. Tipler, and other paragraphs.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 3, 1928, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's. Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in B.

LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD	*Treble*	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ...	4
*DAVID S. COLLINS	2	†F. HORACE E. STUBBS ...	5
JAMES S. HUTCHBY	3	JAMES GEORGE	*...Tenor*

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal in the method 'inside,' and first peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor.

HEPTONSTALL, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 7, 1928, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent of Plain Bob and three extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 18 cwt.

HERBERT DAVENPORT	*...Treble*	*WILLIAM H. MARSLAND ...	4
*JAMES INGHAM	2	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ...	5
*WILLIAM HORAN	3	FRED HODGSON	*...Tenor*

Conducted by FRED HODGSON.

* First peal of Minor. Rung after meeting short for Major.

HOLBETON, DEVON.
THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.
(SOUTH-WEST DEVON BRANCH, HOLBETON PAROCHIAL SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, January 12, 1928, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, each called differently. Tenor 13 cwt.

OWEN MILLER	*...Treble*	FREDERICK LAPTHORN... ...	4
REV. EVERARD S. POWELL	2	A. CEDRIC BOOKLESS-BROWN	5
*MISS MOLLY DAVENPORT...	3	BENJAMIN MILLER ...	*...Tenor*

Conducted by REV. E. S. POWELL.

* First peal of Minor.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Wednesday, January 4, 1928, in Two Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH TOWER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

BRO. F. A. TURNER, P.C.R.	1-2
BRO. W. R. J. POULSON, P.C.R.	3-4
BRO. S. H. SYMONDS, P.C.R.	5-6
BRO. F. A. POULSON, P.S.B.	7-8

Composed by the late SIR A. P. HEYWOOD.
Conducted by BRO. S. H. SYMONDS.

Specially arranged as a Foresters' peal. The above four ringers are all past officers of Court 'British Lion,' No. 5848, Ancient Order of Foresters.

CAMBRIDGE.
THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Sunday, January 15, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
IN TRINITY COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS, 5016 CHANGES;

Tenor size 19 in F.

E. M. ATKINS (St. Cath's.)...	1-2	W. H. J. HOOTON (Queens')	7-8
E. G. BENSON (St. Cath's.)	3-4	S. H. WOOD (Magd.)	9-10
F. G. HAYNES (St. Cath's.)	5-6	J. R. DUFFIELD (Selwyn)	11-12

Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by S. H. WOOD.

First peal of Bob Maximus by all. Is this the quickest peal of Maximus yet rung?

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over until next week.)

DERBY CATHEDRAL PRACTICES.

The Monday nights' success of the Derby Cathedral ringing practice was somewhat marred on Jan. 2nd, when ringers from near and far had their first disappointment at this tower. The cathedral bells could not be rung owing to workmen being engaged in getting a huge flag pole through the ringing chamber and bell chamber to the top of the tower. Ringing of the bells was stopped at the last moment, and the postponement of practice could not be notified. Mr. James Pagett expresses his apologies, and hopes this singular occurrence will not create any doubt as to the future regularity of ringing practice at the cathedral, which will be as before.

HATFIELD CHURCH AND ITS BELLS.

BY HAROLD WALKER.

After having been silent for over two years, during which time they had been recast and rehung, the bells of Hatfield Parish Church, Yorks, again pealed forth their music on January 7th, after having been rededicated by the Lord Bishop of Sheffield (Dr. Burrows).

Hatfield Church, which ranks as one of the most important of the village churches of South Yorkshire, is built in the Perpendicular style of architecture. Its proportions are splendid, it being more like an abbey church than the parish church of a village. The building consists of a chancel, with chantry chapels, clerestoried nave, transepts, north and south aisles, and a central lantern tower. Parts of a much older church of Early Norman origin have been incorporated in the present building, the western doorway being the chief of these.

The church contains many interesting relics of the past, foremost among them being a Norman font, a rood screen of great interest, a chained book dated 1569, and an old oak chest known as a Peter's pence box. Hung up in the south chapel is part of a suit of armour reputed to have been worn by the Black Prince at the Battle of Crecy.

The crowning glory of this beautiful church is its noble tower and the magnificent ring of eight bells which enrich it. The recast bells, which are now in tune with themselves and with each other, set a standard far above similar peals in the district, and are similar to the recently recast Thorne bells, with the exception that they are heavier and deeper in tone.

Before being recast, the bells were a very poor ring, indeed, the individual bells, especially the tenors, being out of tune with themselves and with each other. The old bells bore the following inscriptions:—

Treble.—'DEO DICAT THOMAS JOHNSON FOX NUPER DE HATFIELD. A.D. MDCCCLXXIV. J. TAYLOR AND CO., FOUNDERS, LOUGHBOROUGH, 1874.'

2nd.—'HANC CAMPAMAM DONO DEDIT GEORGIUS WRIGHT DE LINDHOLME. A.D. MDCCCLXXIV. J. TAYLOR AND CO., FOUNDERS, LOUGHBOROUGH, 1874.'

3rd.—'A BEQUEST OF ROBERT FORSTER, A NATIVE OF HATFIELD AND ULTIMATELY A CITIZEN OF LONDON. A.D. 1619. HENRY HOGARTH, M.A., INCUMBENT. THOMAS CHATTERTON, ROBERT HAGGITT, WILLIAM OLIVER, CHURCHWARDENS, 1864. J. TAYLOR AND CO., FOUNDERS, LOUGHBOROUGH.'

4th.—'J. GOODWORTH, T. CHESTER AND W. SMITH, CHURCHWARDENS, 1815.'

5th.—'OMNIS SPIRITVS LAVDET DOMINVM HALLELVIA. HEN. MOORE, CHURCHWARDEN, 1684. S. S. EBOR.'

6th.—'GLORIA IN ALTISSIMIS DEO. HEN. MOORE, CHURCHWARDEN, 1684. S. S. EBOR.'

7th.—'THO. LEE, ESQ., JOHN HATFIELD, ESQ., CORN. LEE, GENT., SIMON SIMSON, MIN., HENRY MOORE, CHURCHWARDEN, 1684. S. S. EBOR.'

Tenor.—'SOLI DEO GLORIA PAX HOMINIBUS. 1649.'

There was no founder's mark on the tenor bell, but it may have been the work of William Oldfield, who had the York foundry between 1601 and 1642, his favourite inscription being 'SOLI DEO GLORIA.'

The 5th, 6th and 7th bells were cast at the York foundry by Samuel Smith, whose bells are fairly common in the Doncaster district, there being two at Arksey, two at Wadworth, three at Fishlake, and one each at Rossington and Finningley. Although the 4th bell bore no founder's mark, its characteristics led one to assume that it was the work of James Harrison, who had a foundry at Barton-on-Humber. The 3rd bell was added in 1864 to complete the ring of six, and it is rather curious to learn that the money for this bell was left to the church nearly 250 years before the bell was cast. The two trebles were added and the octave completed in 1874, when the existing bells were taken down and rehung in a new oak frame.

COMPLETE RESTORATION.

The work of recasting and rehanging the bells was entrusted to Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and it is interesting to learn that they were in the foundry at the same time as the famous Great Peter of York.

The bells have been recast and tuned on Taylor's harmonical system of tuning, which ensures absolute sweetness and purity of tone, all harshness and dissonance being eliminated thereby. The peal has been rehung with entirely new fittings of the most modern type, Messrs. Taylor having introduced many improvements in bell hanging recently which are designed not only with a view of reducing the labour required to ring the bells, but also that the bells should remain in perfect ringing order with the minimum amount of attention required to the fittings. For instance, the old-fashioned type of bearings required to be lubricated almost every time the bells were rung, whereas the patent ball bearings now fitted to the Hatfield bells do not require lubrication except once in every ten years or so. Then, again, the iron headstocks now fitted do not require screwing up and adjusting as did the old wooden headstocks. The clappers are also of a vastly superior type, the joints being fitted with lubricators, so that wear is reduced to a minimum. The whole of the hangings are so designed as to reduce to a minimum the forces exerted by the swinging of the bells and the stresses thrust on the tower structure. The weight of the new tenor bell is 18 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb., and its note is E natural. The old inscriptions have been faithfully reproduced on the new bells with the following additions:—

On all the bells, 'RECAST 1927,' and Taylor's foundry mark.

On the tenor bell: 'THIS PEAL WAS RECAST BY PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION. F. MERIDYTH BROOKES, VICAR. GEORGE H. HUDSON, SYDNEY ALLEN, CHURCHWARDENS, 1927.'

In addition to the work carried out on the bells themselves, the old timber framework and its supports, which were designed according to the ideas of the late Lord Grimthorp, have been thoroughly stiffened and tied together. For the comfort of the ringers a new ceiling made of sound-deadening material has been put in the ringing chamber. The belfry steps, which were very much worn down by countless generations of ringers, have been retreaded.

The whole scheme has cost something like £520. Of this sum £460 was raised prior to the rededication. A further £12 was collected on Saturday week. The credit of raising the money belongs in the main to Mr. and Mrs. Sydney Allen, of Dunscroft Abbey, who have been untiring in their efforts for the bells restoration fund. They have, of course, been ably backed up by the Church Council. Mr. Allen has 'overseered' the work from a professional point of view, so the people of Hatfield can be assured that they have got the very best value for their money.

THE REDEDICATION.

There was a large congregation at the rededication service, among those present being Messrs. J. Oldham and J. F. Fidler (J. Taylor and Co.), Mr. F. Clarke (divisional secretary, Yorks Association), Mr. C. D. Potter (hon. secretary, Barnsley and District Society), Messrs. G. Clarke and H. Walker (Ringing Master and hon. secretary, Doncaster and District Society), and a good gathering of ringers, the towers represented being Doncaster, Arksey, Ardwick-le-Street, Conisborough, Tickhill, Thorne, Sprotborough, Fishlake, Barnsley and York Minster. Mr. G. H. Hudson, churchwarden, was unable to be present, but his duties were carried out by Mr. Barnett, one of the sidesmen.

The service commenced by the singing of the hymn, 'We love the place, O God.' Evensong was then sung, the Vicar of Hatfield (the Rev. J. Haythornthwaite) reading the prayers. After the third collect the Bishop, standing under the tower, read several prayers suitable to the occasion and rededicated the bells with the words: 'In the faith of Jesus Christ and in the name of Almighty God, we rededicate these bells to the use of the church and people of Hatfield.' The Bishop then tolled a bell eight times, and afterwards prayed that the bells 'be solemnly set apart from all profane and unhallowed uses.' The hymn, 'When morning gilds the skies,' was then sung. For his sermon the Bishop took as his text, 'Come ye and let us walk in the light of the Lord' (Isaiah ii. 5). He said that the fundamental principles of the bells were always the same, but periodicallly the bells required recasting to improve the tone and bring them up to modern standards. After recasting, the principles of the bells were still the same as before. So it was with the other things of life. The principles of law, of government, trade, industry and the Church were always the same, but all these things required recasting to conform with modern ideas and conditions. The Reformation was only a recasting of the Church. The principles of worship as contained in the Prayer Book were always the same and always would be the same, but still the Prayer Book needed recasting to improve its tone and make it consistent with present-day knowledge.

After the Blessing had been pronounced, Mrs. Sydney Allen tolled a bell eight times. Then as the recessional hymn, 'Now thank we all our God,' was being sung, the bells began to peal out. First one, then another joined in until finally the whole ring was pealing forth in one joyous crescendo of sound.

The Hatfield ringers rang the bells for the first time after rededication. Subsequent ringing was done by the visiting ringers. The bells were rung at intervals until nine o'clock, the methods being Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, and Cambridge Surprise Major.

The ringers were entertained to tea by Mr. S. Allen, over thirty sitting down. A vote of thanks to Mr. Allen was proposed by Mr. H. Walker, who congratulated the people of Hatfield on having the best-toned peal of bells in the district. He also congratulated Messrs. Taylor and Co. on their excellent workmanship, and said the bells left nothing to be desired, the tone and 'go' being splendid. Mr. C. D. Potter seconded the vote, and said he remembered being present at the dedication of the old bells over fifty years ago. Mr. Allen suitably replied, and said it was quite a pleasure to have the members of the Doncaster and District Society at Hatfield, and hoped it would not be long before they came again. The Vicar in a few words welcomed the ringers, and then read a telegram from the Rev. Meridyth Brookes, who regretted his absence, and sent greetings to the ringers. After tea, the ringers returned to the belfry and kept the bells going until a late hour.

BICESTER RINGERS' DINNER.

The Bicester bellringers held their third annual dinner on Thursday evening, January 5th, at the Rose and Crown, under the chairmanship of the Vicar, the Rev. O'Reilly. The loyal toast was honoured, as also was that of 'The Vicar,' and the remainder of the evening was spent in a musical entertainment. Songs were given by members of the band, and there were a few touches on the handbells.

EDWARD F. MITCHELL'S 100 PEALS.

Grandsire Doubles, tower bells 1, handbells 1, Triples 28, Caters 5, Cinques 4; Stedman Doubles 1, Triples 34, Caters 10, handbells 1, Cinques 7; Bob Major 6, Royal 1, Maximus 1: tower bells 98, handbells 2; total 100.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Instead of dividing an annual collection of £6 11s. among themselves, Stanbridge, Beds, bellringers gave it to one of their members who is ill.

Mr. Alfred C. Fussell, of Slough, passed away on January 5th in his 74th year, and was buried in the family grave at St. Mary's Church, on Monday last. The local ringers met in the evening and gave a muffled peal in memoriam.

It has been suggested that a fully qualified M.D. be invited to give the Exercise 'hints on health' in the belfry, and to advise the parochial authorities if the belfry and bell ropes ought not to be disinfected as a precaution against stoney cramp, bellitis, Minor mania, Stedman microbe, Cambridge miopia, etc., etc.

The peal of Superlative Maximus at Southwark Cathedral was rung at the first attempt after four practices. The band much regret that Mr. and Mrs. F. I. Hairs were prevented from ringing in the peal owing to the sad death of Mrs. Frank Bennett, mother of Mrs. Hairs. Acknowledgment is made of the experience gained on a visit by some of the band to Ipswich in July last.

A peal has been rung at Thames Ditton, Surrey, to commemorate the centenary of a peal rung on the same bells. What the method was a hundred years ago no one seems to know, for the board hanging in the belfry only records 'a peal of 5,040 changes without the aid of plain bob.' Has anyone any other record of this peal, or can they elucidate the mystery?

At the annual meeting of the Surrey County Association at Guildford on Saturday, amalgamation with the Guildford Diocesan Guild is to be discussed.

Thirty years ago to-morrow a new vogue in ringing was set up. What was believed at the time to be the first peal of Surprise Royal was rung at Cheltenham, when a peal of Cambridge-Ten was scored. It was only a few years ago that the present generation discovered that both Cambridge and Superlative Royal had been rung more than 70 years before at Wakefield.

A peal of 6,600 Bob-Maximus was rung at Cambridge on January 21st, 1788.

The Sussex County Association was established on January 24th, 1885, and rang its first peal two days later at Cuckfield.

January 25th, 1842, was an unlucky day, for a peal of 8,105 Stedman Caters at Painswick and 8,081 Grandsire Caters at Stroud then rung turned out to be false.

Can any of our readers say whether a peal of Double Norwich Major has been rung at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate? Mr. James E. Davis, the tower custodian, seeks the information.

'The Ringing World' penetrates to distant places, and the December 17th issue of the 'Regina Daily Post' (Saskatchewan) devoted half a column to quoting a letter which had appeared in this journal relating to the Regina chime of twelve bells, and giving its readers other points of interest, including particulars of the Freemasons' peal at Solihull.

Canon Coleridge has been re-elected chairman of the Sonning Deanery Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, and Mr. W. J. Paice hon. secretary and treasurer.

A Surrey paper advertised last Friday: 'For sale, ringer, 20-inch rollers.' A mechanical bell-puller, we presume.

CHELTENHAM BELFRY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—When I visited Cheltenham for the unveiling of the memorial to the late Mr. G. H. Phillott I went up into the belfry as soon as I found that the door had been opened, and I had time to look round at my leisure, and I was well repaid. In no belfry that I have been in up to now is there so much to interest and instruct the conductor or would-be conductor. I saw in a frame the photographs of those men who rang in the long peals of Grandsire and Stedman Caters (some of whom are still with us), and also the compositions, both of them by the late Henry Johnson. On another board, recording the first peal on the twelve bells, is the composition, Grandsire Cinques. Then there was a framed tablet showing hundreds of courses of Stedman on all numbers produced by singles. Also one showing the extent of Doubles without bobs or singles—at least, that is what last caught my eye before more arrivals prevented a closer inspection. I hope to pay another visit and have a chat about them with their author, Mr. W. T. Pates. I am certain, from the evidence in the tower, that all he knows in connection with ringing he is ready and willing to hand on to his fellow-ringers.—Yours, etc.,

W. A. CAVE.

HALF-PEAL OF BOB MAJOR.

On Saturday, January 14th, an attempt for a peal of Bob Major was made at Aberavon, but owing to a very bad light in the tower the bells were brought home at half-peal end: *G. W. Hollis 1, J. E. Bloxham 2, *C. Lake 3, H. Boyce 4, *E. Phillips 5, *G. I. Lewis 6, A. J. Pitman (conductor) 7, E. Stitch 8. * Longest length in the method and first attempt.

BELL TUNING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have read Mr. Laflin's letter with much interest. He does not mince his words. I do not therefore intend to mince mine. I cannot say myself that I am in love with either Lord Grimthorp's system of casting or Canon Simpson's tuning, but there are exceptional peals in both classes.

I consider St. Paul's Cathedral bells one of the exceptions, and if their weight is taken into consideration they are certainly not a failure. What grounds has Mr. Laflin for describing them as such? They sound their weight. The 62 cwt. tenor is B flat, old pitch, which is near enough A concert pitch. The small bells are also cast in proportion to the large ones. Can this be said of the Simpson-tuned bells at Exeter?

Mr. Laflin states that if St. Paul's bells were in another tower they would have been scrapped years ago, but I am afraid his opinion will not carry very much weight in that direction. If those bells hung in a tower outside of London (preferably in Beddington Park) they would be heard to their proper advantage.

I understand York Minster bells are very voluminous. What would they sound like in St. Paul's tower? Would they want scrapping, too?

Now we come to Bow bells. I might say I have never heard such a degrading description given before of any bells as Mr. Laflin describes Bow trebles, and it must be pretty obvious to all who know Bow bells that Mr. Laflin must have paid a prolonged visit to the Gog and Magog before hearing the bells. This would also account for the glasses having a touch of St. Vitus' dance.

His description of the tenor is rather alarming, but for the benefit of Mr. Laflin's blissful ignorance I would tell him that the bell hangs on a cast-iron stock, the shape of a bridge, and, in my opinion, tucked up far too much, but the other eleven hang out on the old wooden stocks. Goodness knows what a modern Simpson-tuned tenor would sound like hung under the same conditions;

There is one thing Mr. Laflin admits, and that is he heard the trebles. I have never been fortunate (?) enough to hear the trebles of a Simpson-tuned peal of 10 or 12 when ringing. This, perhaps, may be an advantage, as when heard singly the bells would certainly fit the description that Mr. Laflin applies to Bow trebles.

The only point upon which I agree with Mr. Laflin is 'to improve Simpson tuning,' and there is certainly room for improvement. When they sound as though they have body in them, yet mellow and no howls and mysterious overtones, I shall be the first person to support Simpson tuning, and I really think that the tuning machine will have to do a little work, and the strikes play a more important part.

The next time Mr. Laflin comes up to London I shall be only too pleased to meet him and show him round to some of the most magnificent peals in the locality, not Simpson tuned; but he must not get an opinion that there are not any Simpson-tuned peals round here, especially as I happen to live within a quarter-of-an-hour's ride of Gillett and Johnston's.—Yours faithfully,

CHAS. H. KIPPEN.

Beddington, Surrey.

GOOD AND BAD.

Dear Sir,—It seems that my worthy cousin of King's Norton would be more convincing if he were a little less one-sided. He might help the discussion on bell tuning if he would take particular notice of that Arab proverb so opportunely quoted by Mr. Jenkins this week. If Percy would give credit to Mr. Young for a point here and there in his argument, remembering that Mr. Young by no means discredits entirely the Simpson tuning, it would be different. But no. Percy O. seems bent on having every old standard peal recast into a beautiful but characterless lot of Simpson peals, so much alike that there will soon be no pleasurable anticipation in going to hear a new peal. It will be like attending a flower show consisting of all geraniums. Surely, Bow bells are entitled to 50 per cent. of their alleged fame; and have not St. Paul's been described as 'like a big band'?

There are good and bad peals, both Simpson and old standard. I know some of both. There are old peals in which you can find a minor fault in every bell if you want to, yet they give great pleasure when running in peal.

Simpson peals there are that are more perfectly in tune, maybe, but with an 'edge' on their voices like a nasal baritone singing, that you could shave with; and some not so. I notice that Percy O. seems to discredit what Mr. Carter told Mr. Young, yet accepts his opinion as regards Erdington bells; but in general I quite agree that Mr. Carter's hearing probably did not enable him to give an opinion on tuning with any weight, even had he so desired.

Further, why give free advertisements to bellfounders. This is common to debaters on bell tuning, especially Simpsonians. Do they reflect that these same well-advertised knights of the melting pot are perfectly willing and even anxious, being business firms, to melt their own products up as often as the church authorities can find the money? I suspect they would recast the tower, too, if it would melt. Let them do their own advertising. Some of them, at all events, have been talked into fame, perhaps against their desire. Who can tell?

If correspondents pointed out some of the less successful jobs, would the same feeling prevail between founders and ringers as at present exists?

(Continued in next column.)

STEDMAN.

STRUCTURE AND EXTENSION.

So far we have dealt with the structure and extension of plain methods, and we have been able to see a theoretical system of extension which is common to them all, but we now come to something which is quite different. Stedman Doubles consists of a plain hunting course of three bells combined with a plain hunting course on two bells twice repeated, then one of those two bells goes into the three-bell work, and one of the bells in the three-bell work comes out; the next plain hunt in front is reversed, and the two bells behind do the same work as in the previous six. These twelve rows four times repeated make what is called the plain course, but it must be clearly understood that it is a totally different kind of plain course from any that we have seen in the plain methods.

21435
12345
21354
23145
32154
31245
13254
31524
35142
53124
51342
15324
13542

The extension, unlike any extension we have seen before, leaves the three-bell work alone and the two-bell work alone, and adds more two-bell work of exactly the same kind in 6-7, 8-9, and 10-11.

This disposes once for all of any attempt to find a theory covering all extension, because we cannot, after all these years, alter the system of extension, which I proved years ago can only be done by treating the slow six as plain and the quick six as a bob—a system of extension which is very interesting on paper, but would be be very dull in the belfry.

H. L. JAMES.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

LEICESTER DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Leicester District was held at St. Saviour's, Leicester, on Saturday. The bells were raised in peal about 3.45 p.m., and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major were then rung. Only eight members partook of tea, provided at the Black Boy Hotel. The belfry was then again visited, and by this time there were 16 or 17 members present. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major were then rung.

After the bells had been lowered in peal about 7.30, a move was made to the Black Boy Hotel, where the business meeting was held. The local vice-president (Mr. A. J. Harris) took the chair, and asked the meeting to stand for a moment in silence as a token of respect to the memory of Mr. Alfred Ballard, a member of St. Margaret's band, and for many years a member of the M.C.A., who died under very sad circumstances two days previously.

The general officers of the association were renominated 'en bloc,' except that Mr. Frederick H. Dexter was nominated to take the place of the late Mr. Pryce Taylor on the Central Council.

On the proposition of Mr. W. H. Clarke, seconded by Mr. W. H. Humberstone, the local officers were re-elected 'en bloc.'

One new ringing member, Mr. Frank Haslum, of St. Saviour's band, was elected.

It was next decided to include Belgrave in the cycle of towers at which the annual meeting of the Leicester District is held. The order now is: St. Martin's, St. Margaret's, St. John-the-Divine, St. Saviour's, St. Peter's, Belgrave. It was resolved to hold the annual meeting next year at Belgrave; it was also decided to have it on a Saturday afternoon and not on the practice night, as is often done at district annual meetings.

On the proposition of Mr. J. Pole, seconded by Mr. A. Cufflin, it was decided to send a letter of condolence to Mrs. Ballard. This was left in the hands of the secretary and vice-president.

The question of placing certain of the older and respected members of the Leicester District on the list of hon. life members was discussed, and it was left to the committee to complete these arrangements.

Two places were then proposed for the next quarterly meeting—Humberstone and Countesthorpe, and on being put to the meeting the latter place was selected by one vote.

Mr. A. J. Harris then proposed, and Mr. J. Clarke seconded, a vote of thanks to the Vicar for use of the bells, to Mr. Needham for having everything in readiness, and Mr. N. S. Bagworth for making the necessary arrangements for the tea and meeting.—Mr. Needham suitably replied, and proposed a vote of thanks to the vice-president and hon. secretary, which was seconded by Mr. J. Clarke.

This brought the meeting to a conclusion. It might be mentioned that during this rather lengthy meeting members were helped along by some good bread and cheese, and also by some less solid refreshment. During the remainder of the time, Mr. Needham's famous cup handbells were brought into use.

(Continued from previous column.)

Finally, remember this, owing to the 5th above the tonic present in every bell, new or old, the running of a number of bells in peal is a bad progression in music anyway, taking a bell and its tones, as representing a chord; therefore, where both styles carry a fault at present unavoidable, it is not wise to sentence a peal like Bow until you really know more.—Yours, etc.,

PETER LAFLIN.

Manchester.

THE EXTENSION OF METHODS.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

I will now give one or two illustrations of the cyclical movements which make up various methods. The first will be Plain Bob, and that not only because it is the simplest of methods, but it is really the foundation and typical method. The first cycle is the hunting course—the Plain Principle—in which all the bells are equally involved.

This will only give you twice as many rows as there are bells. To get more rows, a secondary cycle is made on part only of the bells, and this is done in the simplest and most obvious position, viz., when the treble (the bell not affected by this secondary cycle) is leading. Here it is. You can easily see that is a complete cycle on the three working bells, and it moves in the opposite direction to that of the primary cycle.

1234
2143
2413
4231
4321
3412
3142
1324

And these two cycles together involve a third cycle, which is that of the treble or hunt through the coursing order of the extreme or working bells. The coursing order of the first lead of Minor is 653124. Throughout the course the extreme bells keep this coursing order, but the treble in successive leads passes from between 2 and 3 to between 3 and 5, then between 5 and 6, then 6 and 4, then 4 and 2, and, lastly, between 2 and 3, when the cycle is complete and the bells come round. This construction of hunt and extreme bells with the hunt's cyclical path in coursing order always occurs in every bit of work in every method. You get not only the main hunt of a method, which is usually the treble, but often the work in the interior of the lead contains hunts and extreme bells.

1234
1234
1324
1342
1432
1423
1243
1234

The second example is Kent Treble Bob Minor. First you have a hunting course on six bells—twelve changes.

Second, after every second change a dodging movement is inserted one step backward followed by one step forward:—

123456
214365
123456
214365
241635
etc.

Thirdly, in each lead the slow bell is a hunt; the treble and the rest of the working bells make a cycle among themselves:—

214365
241635
246153
264513
265431
256341
253614
235164
231546
213456

Fourthly, the places in 3-4. These are a complete hunting course on two bells, the movement being in the opposite direction to that of the principle:—

34
34
43
43

Fifthly, the cycle on the working bell:—

123456
124365
142635
146253
164523
165432
156342
153624
135264
132546
123456

In all these illustrations we must write out hand strokes as well as back strokes, or we miss the true construction.

As a third illustration take Double Court Minor. Here you will find that the two places—4th's and 3rd's—together have the same effect and give similar cycles as the second's place in Bob Minor.

Or again, to take a different illustration altogether, examine Holt's Original. Resolve it into its P. blocks, its B. blocks, and its Q. sets. Write down back and hand stroke rows as we have done above, and you will find they are all cycles of movement.

These are all fairly simple illustrations. The more complex methods differ only because there are more cycles. If my reader is interested in this matter, let him turn to Double Coslany Court Major in the new 'Central Council Collection of Methods.' Let him study the construction of it as there given and see how it is made up of a combination of simpler methods. Then let him turn it into a Treble Bob method by repeating every two changes. He will then get:—

(Continued in next column.)

DEATH OF MR. A. M. HALL, GATESHEAD.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION'S LOSS.

It was a great shock to the members of the above association and to all his friends when a newspaper announced on Thursday, January 12th, that Mr. Albert Martin Hall had been suddenly called to his long rest. He had just retired—on December 31st, to be exact—from the bank on reaching the age limit, and was looking forward to many years of service with the Church of St. John, Newcastle, and with the cathedral belfry. He joined the National Provincial Bank in 1882 at Chester-le-Street, Durham, and from thence was drafted to Barnard Castle, Norwich, Bristol and, eventually, to Gateshead and Newcastle, serving as cashier and manager in each of these important centres.

He learnt his ringing when the bells were installed at St. Cuthbert's, Chester-le-Street, in 1883, on the occasion of the 1,000th anniversary of the building of a church on the present site of that church. On returning to Tyneside some ten years ago he took up a more active interest in the Exercise, and acted for some years as treasurer for the Durham and Newcastle Association, and rang several peals, about a dozen in all, mostly taking the treble or tenor. He also took an active part in the restoration of St. John's bells, Newcastle, and rang in the first peal after their consecration.

The funeral took place at Gateshead Cemetery on Saturday last, and was attended by a large concourse of friends, professional brethren and colleagues in ringing.

The deceased lay in St. John's Church overnight, guarded by loving watchers, clerical and laymen alike, and a Communion (Eucharist) for the family and friends was celebrated at 8 a.m. A memorial service followed at 10.45, when the bells were rung muffled in the 'whole pull and stand.' Following the committal at the graveside a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells by Messrs. E. E. Ferry, W. H. Barber, J. E. Keen and C. L. Routledge.

And so we laid to rest one of the most earnest and dearest souls ever connected with our association, keen and enthusiastic to a degree, and one who did much to further the interests of our beloved association. And no one loved it and its prosperity more than he, and, as Vicar Noel Hudson said in his 'eulogy' after the memorial service at St. John's, 'Let us not mourn or be gloomy over his death; let us rather rejoice in the life spent in good to others, and in setting an example of constancy and labour for the glory of our Lord.'

The bells of St. Nicholas' Cathedral, Newcastle, were rung muffled on Sunday morning, also as a tribute to his memory.

C. L. R.

OXFORD RINGER'S DEATH.

As a tribute of respect to their late colleague, and one-time Master, Mr. W. Harris, members of the Oxford Society rang half-muffled at Christ Church, on January 2nd, 838 Stedman Caters: A. Dubber 1, F. Exon 2, W. Brigham 3, S. Hounslow 4, F. Taylor (conductor) 5, H. Tolley 6, W. Wilkins 7, V. Bennett 8, W. Finch 9, G. Horwood 10.

(Continued from previous column.)

12345678
21436587
12345678
21436587
24135678
42316587
24135678
42315768
and so on.

The four back bells are dodging three times. Instead of doing that, let them make one extended dodge—three steps forward, followed by three steps backward:—

5678		5678
6587		6587
6857		5678
8675	instead of	6587
6857		5678
6587		6587
5678		5678

When you have done a similar thing below the treble you have got Bristol Surprise. And you will have got all the cyclical movements of that method. The key to the construction of Superlative lies in the fact that the 4th and 5th are hunts, as in Kent. Leave out second's and seventh's, and the first lead is a round block. Now examine the work and path of the fourth and fifth and compare them with the second in the first lead of Kent. The comparison will be clearer if we give this first lead in its simplest form thus:—

12345678
21436587
12463578
21645387

26145837

Four times repeated.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

SOUTHAMPTON DISTRICT INAUGURATED.

The inaugural meeting of the new Southampton District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild was held at Southampton on Sat., Jan. 7th. St. Mary's and St. Michael's bells were available during the afternoon and evening; service was held in St. Michael's Church, conducted by the Vicar (Rev. R. A. R. Spread), after which tea and meeting took place in St. Michael's Parish Hall. Mr. Geo. Williams (Master) presided, supported by the Vicar of Dibden (Rev. G. T. Tritton). The officers for the new district were elected as follows: Chairman, Rev. G. T. Tritton; secretary, Mr. W. T. Tucker; Ringing Master, Mr. Geo. Williams; representative on the Central Council, Mr. J. W. Faithfull; auditor, Mr. Summerfield.

It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Southampton on Saturday, January 12th, 1929, and quarterly meetings at Eling on April 14th, Romsey July 14th, and North Stoneham October 13th. Notice of these will be given in 'The Ringing World.'

Members attended from St. Mary's and St. Michael's, Southampton, North Stoneham, Netley, Dibden, Romsey, Winchester, King's Somborne, Ringwood, Fareham, Brockenhurst and Portsmouth.

Votes of thanks were passed to Archdeacon Daldy (St. Mary's) and Rev. R. A. R. Spread (St. Michael's) for the use of both peals of bells, and to Mr. D. C. Williams, F.R.C.O., for presiding at the organ at the service.

WINCHESTER DISTRICT.

The inaugural meeting of the new Winchester District was held at Winchester on Saturday, January 14th, and was a great success, over 50 ringers attending from the following towers: Alresford, Basingstoke, Brown Candover, Hursley, Micheldever, North Stoneham, King's Somborne, Portsmouth, Stockbridge, Twyford, Woolton Hill, Winchester, and visitors from Bedford and Bromley.

Mr. G. Williams presided at the business meeting, and was supported by the Vicars of King's Somborne, Brown Candover and Basingstoke, and in opening he stated that the following towers had been placed in the new Winchester District: Cathedral, College, St. Maurice, Alresford, Hursley, Twyford, Avington, Owslebury, Old Alresford, King's Somborne, Stockbridge, Micheldever, Fitchbourne, Cheriton, Brown Candover, Barton Stacey, Bishop's Sutton, Crawley, Longstock, Sparsholt and Wonston.

Canon Braithwaite was elected district chairman, Mr. C. Smith (King's Somborne) district secretary, Mr. W. Andrews (cathedral) representative on Central Council, and Mr. G. Smith (Twyford) district auditor.

It was decided to hold the next annual district meeting at Winchester on January 19th, 1929.

Quarterly meetings were arranged as follows: King's Somborne on April 21st, Wonston and Micheldever on July 21st, and Brown Candover and Old Alresford on September 29th.

The bands at Micheldever and Brown Candover joined the Guild, also two new members from King's Somborne.

Mr. C. B. Scott (King's Somborne) was elected a life member, and the Vicar of Brown Candover an honorary member.

The bells of the cathedral and St. Maurice's Church were available for ringing during the afternoon and evening, and various methods practised, ranging from Doubles to Cinques. Several present had their first pull on 12 bells.

BY-MEETINGS IN THE KENT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 14th, the Tonbridge District of the Kent County Association held the third of its monthly by-meetings at St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells, and it was attended by 23 members. Some very useful practice was put in. Tea was provided by Miss Allen and a party of lady helpers, and was partaken of in the Parish Hall.

Following tea, a short meeting was held, when it was decided to hold these by-meetings on the last Saturday of each month, except when they would clash with any other meeting being held in the district, and Speldhurst was chosen as the tower for the February meeting.

It was decided also to keep a minute book embracing a resume of the practice at each of these meetings, so that the progress made could be recorded.

A very hearty vote of thanks was proposed to Mr. Richardson, who undertook to arrange these meetings, for the amount of work he had done in order to ensure the success of this new venture.

During the afternoon and evening, the methods practised included Grandsire, Plain Bob, Stedman, Kent Treble Bob, Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Major. The towers represented at the meeting included Speldhurst, Lamberhurst, Mayfield, Sevenoaks, Horsmonden, Tonbridge and the local band.

A DATE TOUCH.

At Goldhanger, Essex, on Saturday, January 14th, in one hour, a date touch, consisting of 360 College Exercise, 128 Plain Bob and 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob: F. Lewis (longest length) 1, J. H. Waldock 2, B. C. Mann 3, J. O. Buckingham (conductor) 4, H. J. Mansfield 5, F. Chalk 6.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

LINCOLN DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

Metheringham was the venue of the annual meeting of the Lincoln District of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, held on Saturday, January 7th. The attendance of about 40 ringers represented the following towers: Cathedral, St. Peter-at-Gowts, St. Peter-at-Arches, Gainsborough, Blankney, Branston, Wragby, Timberland, Bassingham, Eagle, Noclon, Metheringham, and Folkingham. Ringing on the very light peal of eight commenced early in the afternoon, and the new ropes, together with the lightness of the bells, presented difficulty in management on several occasions, with the result that prior to the service the stays of two bells were broken. New stays were fitted, and following the meeting the bells were once again in going order, but a little later similar disaster befell the same two bells. The ropes being new had not yet got to the stage of flexibility, with the result that they frequently ignored their guide, the bell then becoming unmanageable, and the consequent momentum of the bell being far too much of an irresistible force for the stay to resist.

There was the usual ringers' service during the afternoon, which was conducted by the Vicar of Metheringham, the Rev. Smith, whilst the pulpit was occupied by the Rev. C. H. Sibthorpe, of Blankney.

Tea was afterwards served in the Parish Room. A business meeting followed, and was presided over by the Rev. R. Bond, of St. Peter-at-Arches, Lincoln, who wished the ringers a happy and successful year.

In the re-election of the Rev. R. Bond as president, tribute was paid to the chairman for his untiring support and attendance at meetings. Mr. H. Marcon was re-elected hon. secretary, and those present signified in a most unanimous way their appreciation of the manner their energetic secretary had carried out his duties during his first year in that capacity. Mr. Marcon, during this period of office, has been a valuable asset to the Lincoln District, particularly in the way in which he has been instrumental in increasing the membership, both in honorary and ringing. He has devoted much of his time in efforts to brighten up the services held at meetings, and on more than one occasion his work in this respect has been much appreciated.

Mr. J. Walden, who had carried out the duties of Ringing Master, was again re-elected. He was also elected as the district representative to serve on the Northern Branch Committee.

The meetings for 1928 were chosen as follows, and are subject to the approval of the incumbents: Wragby February 18th, Eagle June 30th, Wellingore September 1st, and Branston November 17th.

Two new members were elected, and votes of thanks were accorded to the Rev. R. Bond, Rev. Smith, Rev. C. H. Sibthorpe, to the organist (Mr. Simpson, of Lincoln), and the caterers.

The Chairman, in closing the meeting, asked to be allowed to give two words as a motto to the ringers by requesting them to 'Go forward.'

Following the ringing of a course each of Grandsire Caters and Cinques on handbells, a move to the tower was made for further ringing.

60 YEARS A RINGER.

On Thursday evening, January 12th, at the Church of St. Lawrence, Barnwood, Gloucester, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): T. Hawkes 1, F. T. Waite 2, A. T. Waite 3, W. H. Harris 4, G. L. Brundon 5, A. A. Waite (conductor) 6, H. Beckett 7, C. Hodges 8. Rung to commemorate the 60th anniversary of Mr. A. A. Waite as a ringer at Barnwood Church, and for his 71st birthday. The ringers were afterwards entertained at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Waite, and selections on the handbells were given.

MUFFLED BELLS.

WELL-KNOWN RINGERS BEREAVED.

The sympathy of the Exercise will go out to two prominent members who have just suffered bereavement.

The Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, has lost his mother, whose death occurred early in the new year; and on Wednesday of last week there passed away at 21, Warleigh Road, Brighton, Mrs. K. H. Bennett, wife of Mr. Frank Bennett, and mother of Mrs. F. I. Hairs.

Mrs. Jenkyn was interred at Witney on Saturday, January 7th, and on Sunday evening, January 8th, for divine service at Caversham, 1,120 Cambridge Surprise Major was rung, with half-muffled clappers, as a token of sympathy with the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn: H. Simmonds 1, A. D. Cullum 2, J. Hands 3, W. Lewington 4, A. Wiggins 5, E. J. Menday 6, G. Essex 7, E. W. Monday (conductor) 8. Two courses of Stedman were also rung.

On Tuesday evening, January 10th, at the Church of St. Mary de Crypt, Gloucester, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins., with the bells half-muffled, as a last token of respect to the late Rev. E. W. Jones, former Vicar of the church: Thomas Baldwyn 1, E. E. Davis 2, G. L. Brunsdon 3, J. Gillett 4, H. Beckett 5, J. Austin (conductor) 6, G. Condick 7, A. Martin 8.

At Beckenham, Kent, on Tuesday, January 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: R. Hollamby 1, H. Hawkes 2, W. Hollamby 3, W. Rawlings 4, F. Terry 5, F. King 6, W. Smith (conductor) 7, W. Meek 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to Mr. J. Dennis, late sexton and parish clerk, who was interred in the churchyard that day.

'IRENÆUS PISTOR.'

Below is given the list of subscriptions received since our last issue towards the fund for the assistance of Mr. A. T. Baker, of 22, Hawthorn Road, Hillsborough, Sheffield, who, until this appeal was opened to help him in his hour of need, was known to our readers as 'Irenæus Pistor,' a contributor who added to the gaiety of the Exercise by his amusing and sometimes caustic comments on the topics of the moment.

To all those who have contributed we tender grateful thanks. We hope to see the fund continue to grow, for Mr. Baker's affliction is not one which time will remove. He is permanently blind, and will need all the assistance that can be given.

The sum of £30 in all has been sent to Mr. Baker to relieve his pressing necessities, and the balance has been deposited in the Post Office Savings Bank to be at the disposal of Mr. Baker as occasion requires. Further reference to the appeal is made in our leading article, and we shall be happy to acknowledge in these columns further contributions from bands and individuals.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	79	4	6
Belfry collections:			
St. Andrew's company, Grimsby		11	0
Middleton Parish Church bellringers		10	0
St. Thomas' company, Pendleton	1	3	0
St. Mary's company, Rawmarsh		7	6
St. Michael's ringers, Headingley, Leeds		10	0
Ringers of St. Luke's Church, Derby		5	0
All Saints', Frindsbury, ringers		8	0
Ringers of SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Lavenham ...		10	6
Leicester Cathedral ringers		17	8
St. Margaret's Society, Barking, Essex	1	1	0
Ringers of St. Mary Magdalene, Woolwich		5	0
Ringers of St. John's Church, Kirdford, Sussex		8	0
St. Patrick's Cathedral Society of Amateur Change Ringers, Dublin		10	0
Ringers of St. John's, Raumoor, Sheffield		10	0
Some of the ringers of Christ Church, Dore	1	2	0
St. Nicholas' Guild, Harwich, Essex		7	6
Collected at the annual meeting of the Nottingham District, at St. Mary's Church, per F. W. Bailey		14	6
Collected at the annual meeting of the Lincoln District of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, per H. Marcon		10	0
H.I.		1	0
Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, Cambridge		5	0
E. Leggett, Wormingford		3	0
R. B. Chambers, Littleover, Derby	1	1	0
F. B.		5	0
Misses G. and K. Birschnall		2	6
A.J.C., Southwell		2	0
T.M.		10	0
	£92	4	2

THE CUMBERLAND ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the Cumberland Association was held at St. Michael's Church, Workington, on Saturday, January 7th. Members were present from Bridekirk, Cockermouth, Keswick, Egremont, Carlisle and the local band. The meeting was presided over by the Rector (the Rev. S. P. L. Curwen), supported by the hon. secretary, Mr. W. T. Holmes (Cockermouth).

The accounts, which had been audited by Mr. Brandwood, showed the satisfactory balance in hand of £9 1s. 9d.

It was decided to hold the annual ringing contest at Crosthwaite Parish Church, Keswick, on Easter Monday, and, if possible, to get Mr. G. Newton, of Liverpool, to act as judge.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicar for use of bells and room, and for presiding.

The belfry was afterwards visited, and practice was had in Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, Grandsire and Stedman Triples.

NOTICES.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch. — The annual meeting will be held at Freiston on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (6) available from 2 p.m. Divine service 4.15. Tea 4.45. Business meeting immediately after tea. Those who intend to be present are kindly asked to send in their names by Tuesday, January 24th. Other details next week.—John Phillip, Hon. Sec., School House, Butterwick, Nr. Boston, Lincs.

SUFFOLK GUILD. — East and West quarterly meeting at Hadleigh on January 28th. Bells available at 2 p.m. Tea 1/-, at Bloomfield's Restaurant at 4.30 p.m. Meeting follows.—H. Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

NOTICES.

BRISTOL UNITED RINGING GUILDS.—Seventh Annual Dinner.—Ringing at St. Stephen's at 2.15 p.m. (other bells available at 3 p.m.). Reception, tea and bun at St. Thomas' Church Room, Victoria Street, at 4.15 p.m. Meet Grand Hotel at 5.45 to start dinner punctual at 6 p.m. Tickets (few left) 5s. 6d. — Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's, Bristol.

ALL ENGLAND RINGERS' MEETING at the Croydon Bell Foundry on March 3rd.—Preliminary Notice.—We propose to issue in due course an invitation to all hon. secretaries of Diocesan Guilds and County Associations, inviting their members to the Bell Foundry on the above date to view the 19-ton Bourdon (for the new Riverside Church, New York). It will be rung in its frame, and chimed with nine others, as the tenor of a peal of ten. Full details of the day's programme will be forwarded at a later date.—Cyril F. Johnston, Gillett and Johnston, Croydon.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—The subscription of 1s. 8d., which enables members who have not attended twenty times in the previous year to vote on matters of finance, is now due. Meetings for practice will be held at *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 24th and Southwark Cathedral on the 26th. Both at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LADIES' GUILD (Central and Southern Districts combined). — A meeting will be held at St. Clement Danes', Strand, W.C., on Saturday, Jan. 21st. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. St. Giles'-in-the-Fields, W.C., will be open for ringing from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. It is hoped that all members will make a special effort to attend this meeting.—Elsie L. Hairs, Dis. Sec., 17, North Side, Clapham Common, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Cathedral, Manchester, on Saturday, Jan. 21st. Bells ready 5 o'clock. Meeting 7 p.m. Reports to hand. All ringers welcome.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting, Manchester.

DEVON GUILD.—South-West District Branch. — The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Holbeton on Saturday, Jan. 21st. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Address by the Lord Bishop of Plymouth. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Special bus service from Plymouth. All requiring seats please communicate with E. W. Marsh, Hon. Sec., 13, Edith Avenue, Lipson, Plymouth.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Guildford on Saturday, Jan. 21st. Service at S. Nicolas' Church 5 p.m. (Preacher: The Rev. Sir John Herschel). Tea at Prince of Wales Hotel, Woodbridge Road, 5.45. Meeting at 6.30. Bells of S. Nicolas' Church available 3.30 p.m. A good attendance is requested, as some important business has to be discussed.—Chas. H. Kippin, Hon. Sec., Winchester, Guy Road, Beddington, Croydon.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Central Division.—Meeting at Southover, Lewes, on Saturday, Jan. 21st. Tower open 2. Service 4. Tea 4.45, by kind invitation of the Rector.—Half rail fare (maximum 1s.).—A. D. Stone, Hon. Sec., 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Willenhall on Saturday, Jan. 21st. Bells available from 3. Service in church at 4.45, with an address by the Vicar (the Rev. R. L. Hodgson). Tea provided at 5.30.—H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The third general quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, Jan. 21st, at Syston. Bells (8) open from 2 p.m. Committee meeting 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. in Church Rooms, followed by general meeting. A good attendance is requested, as matters of vital importance will be discussed.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Taunton on Saturday, Jan. 21st. Ringing at St. James' from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Address by the Bishop of Taunton. Tea and meeting after service at St. Mary's Church Room. Visitors welcome.—P. Merson, Bishop's Hull.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Broughton, near Preston, on Saturday, Jan. 21st. Bells available at 3 o'clock.—F. Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD. — The first quarterly meeting of the year will be held at Monk's Kirby on Saturday, Jan. 21st. Bells (8) from 3 p.m., tea and meeting at Denbigh Arms 5 p.m. It was intended to hold this meeting at Leamington, but the Parish Church bells are under repair.—J. A. Fenton, Hon. Sec., 42, Bennett Street, Rugby.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Dodford (6) on Saturday, Jan. 21st. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, Fircroft, Braunston Road, Daventry.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern District.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Jan. 21st, at St. Mary's, Whitechapel. Ringing at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East 3-4.45 p.m.; St. Mary's, Whitechapel, 5-5.30 p.m. Service in church, followed by tea, kindly provided by the Rector. Business meeting after tea. A hearty invitation is extended to all.—James A. Hales, Hon. Sec., 20, Aspland Grove, Hackney, E.8.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Fylde Branch. — The next meeting will be held at St. Anne's-on-Sea on Saturday, Jan. 21st. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 5.30. Reports ready. Subscriptions due.—C. Sharples, Branch Secretary, 10, Warbreck Road, Blackpool.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at St. George's Church, Hyde, on Jan. 21st. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 7 o'clock.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Newchurch on Saturday, Jan. 28th. Bells ready at 2.30. Potato pie supper at 5 o'clock for all those sending in not later than Wednesday, Jan. 25th, to William Ashworth, 15, Wardle Street, Stacksteads. Meeting after supper. Subscriptions are now due. Reports to hand.—John H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 8, Oaklands Road, Edenfield.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Luke's, Bromley Common, on Saturday, Jan. 28th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea and business meeting to follow. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar, will be provided only for those who notify me before last post on Monday, Jan. 23rd. Subscriptions are now due, and should be paid at this meeting.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 53, Hengist Road, Erith, Kent.

NOTTINGHAM SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS (Established 1672).—W. D. Crofts' Memorial Dinner. — The sixth memorial dinner to the above Nottingham ringer, 1742-1809, will be held at the Welbeck Hotel, Nottingham, on Saturday, Jan. 28th, at 6 p.m. Tickets 4s. each. An early application will oblige. Ringing: St. Mary's, 3 to 5.30 p.m. The Bishop of Southwell has promised to be present. Visitors from kindred societies will be welcomed on this occasion.—F. Blood, Hon. Sec., 91, Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Long Ashton on Saturday, Jan. 28th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Divine service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock, with business meeting to follow. Please notify by Wednesday, Jan. 25th.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—A special meeting will be held at the Bolton Parish Church on Saturday, Jan. 28th. Bells available from 2 p.m. At 4 p.m. a short service will be held and a peal tablet recording the record of Superlative Surprise Major dedicated by the Vicar of Bolton (Canon Carpenter, M.A., B.D.). In the evening a social will be held at the Bolton Police Club, Old Hall Street. As these are licensed premises, please forward names to the Hon. Sec., Peter Crook, 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District.—The next meeting will be held at Handsworth, Sheffield, on Jan. 28th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Service at 4 4 o'clock, with address by the Vicar. Those requiring tea (price 1s.) please notify Miss Cawthorne, 394, Handsworth Road, Sheffield, by Jan. 25th. The secretary is particularly anxious for a good attendance at this meeting, at which important business is to be discussed.—Molly Davenport, Broomfield, Dore, near Sheffield.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Shrewsbury on Saturday, Jan. 28th. Ringing 2.30 to 4.30 at St. Mary's (10) and St. Chad's (12). Service in St. Chad's 5 p.m., address by Rev. B. S. Lombard, O.B.E. (Vicar). Tea 5.45 in St. Chad's Institute, 1s. each. Meeting at 6.30. Please send number requiring tea before Jan. 24th to Rev. F. Tennison, St. Alkmund's Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Finedon on Saturday, Jan. 28th. Bells available at 2.30. Service at 4.30, conducted by the Ven. Archdeacon Greaves, who will also give the address. Tea and meeting will follow. Will those who hope to be present kindly notify me not later than Tuesday, Jan. 24th?—F. Barber, Branch Sec., School House, Gordon Road, Wellingborough.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Rainham on Saturday, Jan. 28th. Tower open at 3. Association service in church at 5, conducted by the Rev. W. A. R. Ball, Vicar of Rainham. Tea will be arranged for those who notify me on or before first post Wednesday, Jan. 25th. Subscriptions for 1928 are now due, and should be paid at or before the meeting.—Fred M. Mitchell, Dis. Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Reading on Saturday, Jan. 28th. The bells of St. Mary's and St. Giles' available from 3 p.m. A ringers' service at St. Mary's at 5 p.m., to be followed by a meat tea and business meeting at the Central Café, Friar Street, at 6 p.m. Tickets, 1s. each, to all who let me know their intention of being present by Wednesday, Jan. 25th. All ringers welcome.—F. W. Hopgood, Hon. Branch Sec., 75, Kensington Road, Reading.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The annual meeting of the Bristol branch will be held at St. James', Bristol, on Saturday, Jan. 28th. Bells (10) available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30 by Rev. M. E. Thorold, M.A. (Vice-President). Tea and meeting to follow. Please notify me by Jan. 24th.—P. C. Williams, Branch Hon. Sec. pro tem., 22, Bruce Avenue, Easton, Bristol.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bowden and Stockport Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Reddish on Saturday, Jan. 28th. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Please inform Mr. A. Barnes, 3, Longford Road, Reddish, Stockport, by Tuesday, Jan. 24th, number requiring tea.—T. Wilde, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—The Swindon Branch annual meeting will be held at Highworth on Saturday, Jan. 28th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. A tea will be arranged at 1s. per head for those who notify me by Jan. 24th, followed by the business meeting. Important business to be done. Come and support the branch. Visitors heartily invited. The Rev. Clark Kennedy (Vicar) has promised to take the chair. — S. Hopper, Branch Hon. Sec., 79, Edinburgh Street, Gorse Hill, Swindon. P.S.—Good bus service to and from Swindon.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—The inaugural meeting of this district will be held at Portsmouth on Saturday, Jan. 28th. St. Mary's bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Service, with address by the Archdeacon of Portsmouth, at 4.30. Tea and business meeting in the Parish Institute. A good attendance is hoped for and all ringers are welcome. Will those requiring tea kindly inform me on Tuesday, the 24th?—F. W. Rogers, Sec. pro tem., 52, Samuel Road, Portsmouth.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cirencester Branch. — The annual meeting will be held at Cirencester on Saturday, Jan. 28th. Watermoor bells open at 3 o'clock. Tea 5 o'clock, Viner's Restaurant, followed by business meeting. Service, Parish Church, 6 o'clock. Parish Church bells (12) open for ringing after the service. Will those who require tea please let me know by the 24th?—F. J. Lewis, Branch Hon. Sec., 67, Chester Street, Cirencester.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—Mid-Devon Branch. — The next annual meeting will be held at Totnes on Saturday, Jan. 28th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome. Those who intend to be present please notify me by the previous Wednesday.—H. J. Hole, Hon. Sec., Tauntonia, Church Street, Paignton.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Pudsey on Saturday, Jan. 28th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Usual arrangements.—H. Lofthouse, 8, Wortley Road, Armley.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch. — The branch annual committee meeting will be held at Cookham on Saturday, Jan. 28th, at 4 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m. at 1s. per head. Bells (6) will be available for all ringers.—A. D. Barker, Branch Sec. and Treasurer.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Hertford on Jan. 28th, when the bells of All Saints' (10) and St. Andrew's (8) will be available during the afternoon and evening. Service in All Saints' at 5. Tea at 5.30. Business meeting after. All ringing friends will be made welcome.—W. H. Laurence, Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Presteigne District.—The annual meeting will be held at Weobley on Saturday, Jan. 28th. Bells (6) available 4 p.m. Service at 5. Tea and business meeting afterwards. All for tea please notify me by Tuesday, Jan. 24th.—Jabez Preece, Dis. Sec., Lea Lodge, Staunton-on-Arrow, Pembridge.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Branch.—Annual meeting will be held at Bridgwater on Saturday, Jan. 28th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Evensong at 4 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—C. Evans, Hon. Local Sec., 14, Redgate Street, Bridgwater, Somerset.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at West Hallam on Saturday, Jan. 28th. Bells (6) available from 3 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—Chas. Draper, Local Sec., Town Street, Duffield.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—By kind permission of Rev. Canon Solloway, and the churchwardens of Selby, the annual meeting of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Selby on Saturday, Feb. 4th. Divine service in the Abbey at 4 p.m. Bells (10) available from 12 noon onward. Tea will be provided at a charge of 1s. 6d. each, and all applications for same must reach Mr. W. A. Hall, 12, Newport Avenue, Brayton Road, Selby, not later than first post Wednesday, Feb. 1st. Annual reports will be issued at this meeting, and subscriptions received.—P. J. Johnson, Hon. Gen. Sec., 396, Meanwood Road, Leeds.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Annual meeting, St. Giles'-in-the-Fields, Saturday, Feb. 4th. Bells 3 p.m. Short service, with address by the Rector, at 5 p.m. Tea at 5.30, followed by business meeting. One shilling will be charged for tea, and it is essential that I should know by Feb. 1st how many to provide for. Please advise me if you are coming. Other ringing arrangements: St. Clement Danes', 3 to 4.30 p.m.; St. Andrew's, Wells Street, 7.45 to 9 p.m.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Horley on Saturday, Feb. 4th. Bells available from 3. Service at 5. Tea and business to follow. Those requiring tea please let me know by Wednesday, Feb. 1st.—A. J. Bull, Hon. Sec. pro tem., Jesmond, Queen's Road, Horley, Surrey.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The annual meeting will take place at Isleworth on Saturday, Feb. 4th. Tower open at 2.45. Service 4.45, followed by tea and meeting in the Church Hall. Will members requiring tea kindly notify me by the 1st inst.?—Wm. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at West Ham (10 bells) on Saturday, Feb. 4th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. Subscriptions for 1928 are now due.—E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath.

LADIES' GUILD.—Lincolnshire District.—A meeting will be held at Bassingham, near Lincoln, on Saturday, Feb. 4th. Bells (6) available from 2 p.m. Service at 4.15. Tea 4.45. Tea arranged for those who notify me not later than Wednesday, Feb. 1st.—Mrs. R. Richardson, Glyn Garth, Surfleet, near Spalding, Lincs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James' Church, Church Kirk, on Saturday, Feb. 4th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Reports to hand.—F. Hindle, Hon. Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Sevenoaks on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea after service, followed by business meeting. Members requiring tea must notify the district secretary not later than Tuesday, Feb. 7th. Subscriptions are now due, and can be paid at this meeting or sent to the district secretary. — W. Latter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

DEATH.

BENNETT.—On Jan. 11th, at 21, Warleigh Road, Brighton, Katharine Helen, the devoted wife of Frank Bennett, and mother of Mrs. F. I. Hairs.

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