THE RINGING WORLD

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Founders
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FROM CHOIR STALLS TO BELFRY.

The chief difficulty in recruiting new ringers is to find the material. Nearly everywhere the lament is that young people cannot be got to take an interest in ringing, because counter influences are so many that the belfry offers little or no attraction. Thus companies become depleted, and in some cases vanish for lack of new blood. The task of finding new material is unquestionably a very real one. It is gratifying, however, to read that at Ranmoor, an important suburb of Sheffield, a determined effort is to be made to overcome the difficulty, and it is more pleasing to find that the scheme has been put forward by the Vicar himself. The suggestion is that the choir should be made the reservoir upon which to draw for young ringers. The idea is not new, but it takes on a much more hopeful aspect when the action comes from the east end of the church instead of from the west end, and when the transition from the choir to the belfry takes place, as is proposed at Ranmoor, through a properly organised church channel.

The scheme which has been put forward is the establishment of a guild of old choirboys, in order to retain their interest in church work after they are no longer able to take their places in the choir, and thus try to get them into the belfry as a means of maintaining touch with the church and continuing their service. Such an organisation should prove of considerable value, and we hope it may be copied elsewhere. There are, of course, a number of churches where bands are helped by the migration of boys from the stalls to the tower when their voices break, but it is done by the inducement of the ringers rather than the influence of the clergy. The Vicar of Ranmoor's scheme would give it an official encouragement that ought to have good results.

In the most successful case which we know of a band maintained for some years largely from the choir, the results have been achieved solely through the ringers, but the secret has been the continuous inflow of youth, so that newcomers do not find themselves alone in an age-stratum, if one may use such a term, in which there is no one with similar outlook. In this particular instance there are always three or four of an age, and these continue the companionship formed in the choir, and they grow up together in the art. That, it seems to us, would be a valuable feature of any scheme for bringing youth into the belfry. A solitary lad, among a band much older in years, and with, naturally, a totally different outlook, has little inducement to remain, unless he happens quickly to develop an unusual keenness for ringing; but a little group of young people brought along together will find

(Continued on page 222.)

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something in common and with it, often, a desire to keep their connection with the tower. This policy has been pursued at Aldershot, and the band there numbers nearly thirty enthusiasts. What a vastly different prospect there would be before the Exercise if this kind of spirit spread throughout the many churches where the bells are of the easily handled type. Guilds such as that proposed at Ranmoor would give it just the encouragement that it needs.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 2, 1938, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-BOW, CHEAPSIDE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5035 CHANGES;

Tenor 54 cwt. 12 lb.

WILLIAM H. HEWETT	...*Treble*	JAMES BENNETT	7
CHARLES T. COLES	2	ALAN R. PINK	8
GEORGE R. PYE	3	RUPERT RICHARDSON	9
HARRY HOVERD	4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	10
*THOMAS J. LOCK	5	REUBEN SANDERS...	11
RAYMOND G. COUSINS ...	6	JACK A. WAUGH	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.

* First peal on 12 bells.

TEN BELL PEALS.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 26, 1938, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

*THOMAS J. HULL ...	...*Treble*	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW	6
HENRY HODGETTS	2	†FRANCIS KIRK	7
†STEPHEN H. HOARE	3	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ...	8
*GILBERT E. DEBENHAM ...	4	WALTER AYRE	9
MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ...	5	†HAROLD V. FROST ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by HAROLD V. FROST.

* First Surprise peal. † First peal of Surprise Royal. First peal of Surprise Royal on the bells and in the county by a resident band. Rung in honour of the first anniversary of the induction of the Vicar (the Rev. A. M. Fergusson, M.A.).

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 2, 1938, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb.

THOMAS W. LEWIS ...	...*Treble*	*GEOFFREY J. LEWIS	6
*JOSEPH PIGOTT	2	†REGINALD WOODYATT ...	7
*WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT	3	*CHARLES H. WOODBERRY...	8
*JOHN BASS	4	*ROBERT MATTHEWS	9
SIDNEY T. HOLT	5	CHARLES CAMM	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS, No. 61. Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT

* First peal of Double Bob. † First peal of Royal and of Double Bob. First peal of Double Bob Royal by the rest and for the association. First peal of Royal on the bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 26, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT BROOKFIELD CHURCH, GORTON,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILLIAM BRAMMER ...	...*Treble*	ALAN D. STEEL	5
ALFRED BARNES	2	JOHN HASSELL	6
FRANK REYNOLDS	3	EDWARD F. MAWBY	7
EDWARD STEELE	4	WILFRED J. MOSS... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by W. J. MOSS.

BOCKING, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 26, 1938, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE DEANERY CHURCH,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 18¾ cwt.

RONALD SUCKLING	...*Treble*	ALBERT WIFFEN	... 5
CLAUDE SNOWDEN	... 2	*SAMUEL WARNE	... 6
FREDERICK RIDGWELL	... 3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	... 7
FRANK CLAYDON	... 4	HILDA G. SNOWDEN	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. HUNT. Conducted by HILDA G. SNOWDEN.

* First peal in the method 'inside.' A birthday compliment to Miss Hilda Snowden and Miss Sylvia Bowyer.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 26, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF STAFFORDSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 12¾ cwt. in F.

*EDWIN BARNETT	...*Treble*	*EDWIN A. BARNETT	... 5
*ERNEST C. S. TURNER	... 2	HARRY HOVERD	... 6
FREDERICK J. CULLUM	... 3	HARRY PARKES	... 7
*JOHN W. EUSTON	... 4	*ALAN R. PINK	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. G. DRIVER. Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION
(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, March 26, 1938, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 16¼ cwt.

NORMAN CHADDOCK	...*Treble*	ERNEST THORPE	... 5
SIDNEY F. PALMER	... 2	*HAROLD CHANT	... 6
*JOHN E. TURLEY	... 3	JOHN J. L. GILBERT	... 7
*REGINALD PAYNE	... 4	*G. GORDON GRAHAM	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN J. L. GILBERT.

* First peal in the method.

STANDISH, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 26, 1938, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt.

*GEORGE T. JENKS	...*Treble*	WILLIAM TAYLOR	... 5
JOHN BOOTH	... 2	E. ROGER MARTIN	... 6
FRED RIGBY	... 3	WILLIAM SHARPLES	... 7
*CYRIL CROSSTHWAITE	... 4	JAMES W. GROUNDS	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. TIMBRELL. Conducted by E. R. MARTIN.

* First peal in the method and first attempt.

SUTTON-ON-TRENT, NOTTS.
THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, March 28, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 12½ cwt.

MISS KATH. BURCHNALL	...*Treble*	FREDERICK HOOPER	... 5
MISS GRACE BURCHNALL	... 2	FREDERICK J. MILNER	... 6
*MISS DOROTHY VESSEY	... 3	ARTHUR J. CHAMBERLAIN	... 7
*FRANK VERNON	... 4	ERNEST A. MIDWINTER	...*Tenor*

Conducted by F. J. MILNER.

* First attempt for a peal of Stedman. Specially arranged and rung as a welcome to the new Vicar, the Rev. W. C. Bates.

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HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)
On Monday, March 28, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
J. J. PARKER'S IRREGULAR FIVE-PART. Tenor 10½ cwt.

FRANK L. BARNES	...*Treble*	RALPH HARRIS	... 5
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON	... 2	J. WILLIAM HEATH	... 6
*JAMES HEMMING	... 3	JOSEPH E. NEWMAN	... 7
†CHARLES N. EDWIN	... 4	‡FRANCIS F. JOHNSON	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

* First peal in the method. † First peal. ‡ First peal on eight bells. Rung as a farewell to the Rev. V. C. Blyth, a vice-president of the association, on his resignation from the incumbency of Hinton. It was the branch quarterly peal.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, March 31, 1938, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PITSTOW'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 23¾ cwt.

JOHN H. B. HESSE	...*Treble*	GEORGE L. GROVER	... 5
THOMAS E. DENYER	... 2	ARTHUR J. BARTLETT	... 6
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	... 3	ALFRED H. PULLING	... 7
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON	... 4	HERBERT W. COLLIER	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute to the late Dr. J. H. Greig, first Bishop of the Diocese of Guildford and first president of the Guildford Diocesan Guild.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, March 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, CAMBRIDGE, SUPERLATIVE, BRISTOL, EALING AND RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD	...*Treble*	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	5
HENRY HODGETTS	... 2	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT	... 6
STEPHEN H. HOARE	... 3	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW	... 7
FRANCIS KIRK	... 4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

The peal consisted of 1,440 London, 768 Bristol and Ealing, 672 Rutland, 864 Superlative and 576 Cambridge, with 135 changes of method. First peal of Spliced Surprise in six methods on tower bells by all the band and by the association. Rung on the tenth anniversary of the conductor's wedding, and also as a birthday compliment to Mrs. F. W. Brinklow.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Friday, April 1, 1938, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

*ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN	...*Treble*	T. WILLIAM LAST	... 5
LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN	... 2	*GEORGE WIGHTMAN	... 6
LESLIE G. BRETT	... 3	GEORGE WHITING	... 7
*WILLIAM WIGHTMAN	... 4	ALBERT E. WHITING	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by G. WHITING.

* First peal of Bristol. Rung on the eve of the fiftieth anniversary of Harrison's 10,176 Kent Treble Bob, rung at Coddenham.

ACTON, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 2, 1938, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

PHYLLIS M. MAYNE	...*Treble*	J. E. LEWIS COCKEY	... 5
J. EDWARD CHURCHILL	... 2	HARRY KILBY	... 6
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE	... 3	WILFRED G. WILSON	... 7
ERNEST C. S. TURNER	... 4	*FRANK MILLER	...*Tenor*

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by E. C. S. TURNER

* First peal.

EAST MEON, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 2, 1938, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 19 cwt. 18 lb. in E.

LESLIE TREMBER	...*Treble*	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY... ...	5
GEORGE WILLIAMS	2	REGINALD A. REED	6
CHARLES E. BASSETT	3	C. ERNEST SMITH	7
FREDERICK W. BURNETT ...	4	FREDERICK W. ROGERS	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.

GREAT BADDOW, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 2, 1938, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF ST. CLEMENT'S COLLEGE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb.

GEORGE GREEN	...*Treble*	HARRY CARTER	5
HERBERT DEVONISH	2	ARTHUR H. EVERETT	6
*NORMAN F. GRINHAM ...	3	PERCY GREEN	7
†HIRZELL EDWARDS	4	RONALD SUCKLING ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by GEORGE GREEN.

* First peal in the method away from treble. † First peal in the method. Especially arranged for the wedding of Mr. Harold Pennack, one of the local band, also for the silver wedding of Mr. J. Wilks, churchwarden of Widford Church.

RAINHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 2, 1938, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 18¼ cwt. in E.

GEORGE A. NAYLOR ...	...*Treble*	FRANCIS J. CHEAL	5
CHARLEY BELSEY	2	WILLIAM J. WALKER	6
EDWARD A. G. ALLEN... ...	3	FRANK BELSEY	7
VICTOR A. JARRETT	4	CHARLES E. J. NORRIS...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by F. BELSEY.

Rung to celebrate the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Charley Belsey.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 2, 1938, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT D. GUNTON ..	...*Treble*	FREDERICK C. GUNTON ...	5
WALTER ELSEY	2	CHARLES W. LOOME	6
CHARLES BAKER	3	FREDERICK ROOPE	7
FREDERICK C. ROPER... ...	4	ERNEST WHITING	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.

First peal in the method by all the band and in the county.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 2, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF ROCHESTER SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

C. KENNETH LEWIS ...	...*Treble*	ERNEST BENNETT	5
WILLIAM FERNLEY	2	JAMES A. MILNER	6
JAMES FERNLEY	3	LIONEL CLOUGH	7
REV. FRANK BONNER	4	JOHN WORTH...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. K. LEWIS. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

First peal in the method in the county, by the Guild and the band.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, April 2, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 15½ cwt.

C. JOHN TROTMAN ...	...*Treble*	A. STANLEY WOODARD ...	5
JAMES W. WOODRUFFE ...	2	FRANK L. FISHER...	6
CHARLES E. FISHER	3	ALDERMAN LING	7
WILLIAM A. WOODS	4	ROBERT MALSTER ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK L. FISHER.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

RANWORTH, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, Marc 19, 1938, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
In 42 extents, 10 callings. Tenor 12 cwt. in F.

*BERTIE A. GRAPES ...	...*Treble*	*GEORGE W. DAVISON ...	4
*MISS JOAN M. GREENHAM	2	R. WILLIAM BARBER	5
MRS. R. W. BARBER... ...	3	*JACK A. ROGERS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by R. W. BARBER.

* First peal at first attempt, and ringers at the above church.

FRESHFORD, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, March 24, 1938, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores. Tenor 14 cwt.

*DR. C. N. VAISEY ...	...*Treble*	SAMUEL J. HECTOR	3
WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT ...	2	THOMAS F. KING	4
GILBERT H. HARDING...	...*Tenor*		

Conducted by GILBERT H. HARDING.

* First peal. Rung in honour of the induction of the Rev. G. Watton, M.A., to the living of Freshford.

TRYSULL, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Thursday, March 24, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being four six-scores each of Plain Bob, St. Simon's and Reverse Canterbury, 10 six-scores of Grandsire and 20 of Stedman.
Tenor 11 cwt.

*HARRY GRIFFITHS ...	...*Treble*	BARNABAS G. KEY	4
HAROLD SMITH	2	HOWARD HOWELL	5
†DAVID HINGLEY...	3	‡FREDERICK BENNET ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by B. G. KEY.

* First peal of Doubles. † First peal of Doubles on tower bells. ‡ First peal and first attempt.

OTLEY, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Friday, March 25, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of St. Clement's, Double Court, Double Oxford, Plain Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob.
Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

RONALD W. STEWARD...	...*Treble*	GEORGE BENNETT	4
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER ...	2	URBAN W. WILDNEY	5
LESLIE G. BRETT...	3	JAMES BENNETT, JUN. ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JAMES BENNETT, JUN.

Specially arranged as a birthday compliment to Miss Bowyer.

HUISH-CHAMPFLOWER, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(DUNSTER DEANERY BRANCH.)
On Saturday, March 26, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 11¾ cwt.

EDGAR QUICKE	...*Treble*	JOHN SUMMERHAYES	4
SYDNEY SMITH	2	ALBERT TURNER	5
*CLAUDE TARR	3	HARRY PURCHASE... ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by H. PURCHASE.

* First peal of Bob Minor. First peal of Bob Minor on the bells.

DEANE, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 26, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven differently called 720's. Tenor 10¼ cwt.

*RONALD F. KINGHAM	...*Treble*	ERNEST P. AUSTIN	4
*DAVID H. ANSTEY	2	CHARLES W. MUNDAY ...	5
*DONALD W. H. NASH ...	3	*FREDERICK A. MUNDAY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. W. MUNDAY.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

GORSEINON, GLAMORGANSHIRE.
THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 26, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CATHERINE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 9 cwt.

*RONALD DOBBINS ...	...*1 reble*	WALLACE DOBBINS	4
*AUBREY TEW	2	HAYDN DOBBINS...	5
*GLYN THOMAS	3	*JAMES SAWKINS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by HAYDN DOBBINS.

* First peal of Doubles. First peal as conductor. A birthday compliment to Mr. W. Dobbins. First peal of Doubles on the bells, also the first by an entirely local band at this church.

STUTTON, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sunday, March 27, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent of Cambridge Surprise, and two each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

RONALD W. STEWARD ...	...*1 reble*	CLAUDE SNOWDEN	4
*MISS BERTHA REEVE ...	2	MISS HILDA G. SNOWDEN ...	5
FREDERICK J. SMITH	3	MISS SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER	*Tenor*

Conducted by MISS BOWYER and MISS SNOWDEN.

* First peal in four methods. Miss Bowyer called the first half and Miss Snowden the second.

WEST STOW, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sunday, March 27, 1938, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents called differently. Tenor 15 cwt.

*EDWARD A MURRELL ...	...*1 reble*	GEORGE W. ABLETT	4
*ALBERT G. BALAM	2	ARTHUR F. BALAM	5
ERNEST FOOTER	3	HORACE W. FOULGER ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by H. W. FOULGER.

* First peal.

STANDISH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 27, 1938, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 10 six-scores of Grandsire and 32 of St. Dunstan's, called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

MELVILLE JORDAN ...	...*Treble*	ERNEST J. MATTHEWS... ...	4
THOMAS BALDWYN	2	HARRY WORRALL...	5
THOMAS WORRALL	3	CHARLES HODGES... ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ERNEST J. MATTHEWS.

Rung in honour of the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Melville Jordan.

MARHAM, NORFOLK.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(WISBECH BRANCH.)

On Thursday, March 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Court, Double Oxford, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Oxford Bob, St. Clement's and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

FREDERICK MATTHEWS, SEN.	*Treble*	CECIL V. EBBERSON	4
CLAUDE COUSINS	2	JOHN BUCKENHAM	5
WALLACE COUSINS	3	WILLIAM BUCKENHAM ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by W. BUCKENHAM.

THE TULSE FONT.

NEW MEMORIAL COVER AT PARSONS GREEN CHURCH.

There was a large congregation at the Church of St. Dionis, Parsons Green, on Wednesday evening, March 23rd, when the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Kensington dedicated the new cover to the 250 years old font, brought from the mother church, which formerly stood in the City. The font was originally the gift of Sir Henry Tulse, Lord Mayor and Master of the College Youths in 1684.

The Bishop was supported by the Vicar, the Rev. W. H. S. Dumphreys, the curate (the Rev. E. Jenkins) and all the church officers. (The Rector of the mother parish, Dr. Tatlow, was unfortunately kept away at the last moment.) There was an augmented choir, and music entered largely into the service.

The lesson (I. John, v., 1-12) was impressively read by Mr. E. H. Lewis, M.A., who was robed and also wore his badge as Master of the College Youths. There followed the anthem, 'Rejoice in the Lord' (Calkin), and then, to the singing of the hymn, 'We love the place, O God,' the church officers and clergy preceded the Bishop to the font, the congregation turning to the west. At the verse for 'the sacred font,' the architect, Mr. Martin Travers, drew aside the veils and disclosed the very beautiful cover designed by him.

The procession (with the handbell ringers) having assembled at the font, the Bishop, placing his hand upon the cover and the mural tablet, dedicated them to the glory of God and in memory of the late Vicar, Dr. William Samuel Carter, and his wife, Katherine Carter. His closing words were followed by a course of Stedman Triples rung on handbells by four members of the Ancient Society of College Youths standing beside the font, viz.: Challis F. Winney 1-2, Edwin H. Lewis 3-4, Herbert Langdon 5-6, E. Alex. Young 7-8. The procession returned during the singing of the hymn, 'Jesu, Lover of my soul.'

The Bishop, in his address, dealt with the subject of memorials, and particularly this to Dr. and Mrs. Carter, with his usual eloquence. He said he knew the parishioners had for many years been desirous of beautifying the church, and this cover to the font was a worthy offering. It was right that those coming to a font should take away a memory of beauty, both parents and children, even if the latter only gained that memory in later years. It was right to cultivate beauty, it had been so from the earliest days of the Church. They linked up beauty with the worship of God, for He loved beauty and had given them the power to love it as manifested in all His works—the sky, the forest and the flowers. It was true that in Puritan days there was misjudgment, so that suspicion urged the destruction of all things beautiful in the Church—music, painting, sculpture. But we had escaped from this dislike, and brought back beauty into worship.

It was his regret not to have personally known Dr. and Mrs. Carter, but those who worked for and so loyally loved a parish must have awakened a deep response over so long a period as 33 years. That it was so the presence of that congregation testified. They did well in dwelling on those fruitful years. But he would, for the moment, take them back further, to a time when, over 260 years ago, a former Lord Mayor of London gave the font itself to the mother church, where later he was buried and where it had remained as his memorial up to some 50 years ago. Sir Henry Tulse was, whilst Mayor, also Master of the College Youths. That was why several members of the society were there that evening honouring the memory of Dr. and Mrs. Carter as well as that of their Master of long ago.

Amongst those present was Mr. A. A. Hughes, treasurer of the College Youths.

The occasion was also taken advantage of to hang on the wall next the font a framed photograph of the unveiling of the Tulse Memorial, as restored by the Ancient Society of College Youths last November.

E. A. Y.

HANDBELL PEAL.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, March 29, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,

AT 45, WALSINGHAM ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

EDITH K. FLETCHER	1-2	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	5-6
GEORGE W. FLETCHER ...	3-4	JOHN THOMAS	7-8

*RONALD H. BULLEN 9-10

Composed by W. H. BARBER. Conducted by EDITH K. FLETCHER.
Umpire—James Parker.

* First peal on handbells. First peal of Bob Royal as conductor.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

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PEAL NOTES.

LADY'S FEAT ON TENOR.

Miss Hilda G. Snowden is becoming a veritable 'back-ender.' Already she had turned in one or two tenors when on March 26th she achieved the unique feat for a lady of ringing the 18¾ cwt. tenor at Bocking, Essex, to a peal of Double Norwich Major in 3 hours 13 minutes. This is a great achievement, for the striking throughout the peal was excellent.

What makes Miss Snowden's performance the more noteworthy is that she called the peal without having previously called a touch in the method. Miss Snowden wants to thank the gentlemen for their permission to ring the tenor, but the gentlemen lift their hats to her upon a fine performance.

It was a birthday peal for Miss Snowden and Miss Sylvia Bowyer, who were 22 years old on the 25th and 27th March respectively.

This peal was Ronald Suckling's 50th and with it he 'completed the circle' in Bocking tower.

Other peals were rung for these young ladies' birthdays. A peal in seven Minor methods at Otley, Suffolk, was rung on Friday, March 25th, and on Sunday, March 27th, a peal in four Minor methods at Stutton. As they could not decide which of the two ladies should call this latter peal, in which they were both taking part, a solution was found by each calling a half.

Miss Bowyer, ringing the 12 cwt. tenor, called the first half, consisting of 720 each of Cambridge, Kent, Oxford and Plain Bob up to the half-way single, and then Miss Snowden took over the calling, finished the 720 of Plain Bob and called an extent each of Plain Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

It was intended that this peal should be rung by a band of three spinsters and three bachelors, but one of the bachelors was taken ill in the preceding week, and a married man, Mr. Fred Smith, had to be 'roped in.' Naturally, he was somewhat embarrassed.

The peal was actually rung on Miss Bowyer's 22nd birthday, but Miss Bertha Reeves, as well as Miss Snowden, had celebrated their birthdays earlier in the week, and it was, therefore, a collective compliment to them all, and also to Mrs. Brundle, wife of the oldest Ipswich ringer, Mr. Robert H. Brundle.

INTERESTING FACTS IN A JUBILEE CELEBRATION.

Fifty years ago last Saturday, Harrison's 10,176 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at Coddenham, Suffolk, in 5 hours 55 minutes. The tenor was rung by Mr. Alfred S. Wightman, one of a famous Suffolk family of ringers. In celebration of the jubilee, a peal of Bristol Surprise Major was rung at Framsden on the eve of the anniversary, Mr. Wightman ringing the treble.

Mr. W. Dye, who conducted the long peal, is still ringing at Grundisburgh. The jubilee peal was conducted by Mr. G. Whiting, who rang his first peal 36 years ago on March 31st. That was a peal of Double Norwich at Framsden, conducted by Mr. George Wightman, who also rang in the peal on April 1st. Another member of the family who took part was Mr. Leslie C. Wightman, who 'completed the circle' of Framsden tower for the eighth time.

Improvements have been effected in the ringing room at East Meon, Hants, where a peal of London Surprise Major was rung on Saturday. The chamber is without any windows and formerly oil lamps were used, which made it very 'stuffy' for peal ringing. Electric light has now been installed, and, with new cocoanut matting over the belfry floor, the visitors on Saturday found it a much more pleasant place to ring in.

The peal of Doubles rung at Freshford, Somerset, on March 24th, in honour of the induction of the Rev. G. Watton, M.A., enabled Dr. C. N. Vaisey to ring his first peal. He was instrumental in raising funds to augment the bells from four to five, the tower not being large enough to hold six. After the peal the ringers were kindly entertained by Dr. and Mrs. Vaisey.

Four members of the local band took part in a peal of Grandsire Doubles at Ranworth, Norfolk, on March 19th. It was their first peal and they deserve much credit upon their performance, for they could only just ring rounds when the dedication of the bells took place on November 7th last year. It was their first attempt for a peal.

A half-muffled peal of Stedman Triples was rung at Guildford Cathedral on March 31st as a tribute to the first president of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, Dr. J. H. Greig, first Bishop (1927-1934) of the new diocese of Guildford. A memorial service had been held in the Cathedral earlier in the day.

Two ringers from Staffordshire, Mr. A. D. Steel, of Stoke-on-Trent, and Mr. Edward Steele, of Longton, were elected members of the Lancashire Association on March 26th before a peal of Bob Major at Gorton, which was rung as a birthday compliment to the former.

Another Lancashire peal rung on the same day at Standish was a birthday compliment to Mr. John Booth. This was Double Norwich Major.

A wedding peal of St. Clement's College Bob Major for one of the local band at Great Baddow, Essex, Mr. Harold Pennack, was begun as the bridal couple left the church and successfully brought round. The peal was also a silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. J. Wilks, of Widford, where Mr. Wilks is churchwarden.

A peal of Stedman Triples was rung on March 28th as a welcome to the new Vicar of Sutton-on-Trent, the Rev. W. C. Bates. His induction took place on the following evening.

(Continued in next column.)

COUNTY FIRSTS.

(Continued from previous column.)

The first peal of Rochester Surprise Major in Cheshire, as well as by the Chester Diocesan Guild and all the band, was rung at Norbury on Saturday, conducted by Mr. John Worth.

The composition, a 5,088, by Mr. C. Kenneth Lewis, was also rung for the first time.

23456	M	B	W	H
45236			1	1
32546	1	—		2
35426	1	—	2	2
26543	1		2	2
23645	2			1

Twice repeated.

Another 'first' in the method in the county and by all the band was a peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major rung at Pulham, Norfolk, on April 2nd.

Not for 30 years had a peal of Double Norwich Major been rung on the bells at Woodbridge, Suffolk, until Saturday, March 19th, when several Ipswich ringers helped to ring a peal there. Mr. C. J. Sedgley, who has called Double Norwich on twelve, as well as many Surprise Maximus methods, called a peal of Double Norwich Major for the first time.

After meeting short for Oxford Treble Bob, a band at Broughton, Staffs, rang a peal of Bob Major as a birthday compliment to Miss A. E. Chester, of Wappenham, Northants, and to the conductor, Mr. Arthur Pritchard, who, by the way, called a composition by J. R. Pritchard. The peal was rung on March 19th.

A peal of Grandsire Doubles by a band all, with one exception, 19 years of age or under was rung at Gorseinon, Glamorganshire, on March 26th. It was a birthday compliment to the senior member of the party, Mr. Wallace Dobbins. It was also the first peal on the bells by a local band and the first peal of Doubles on the bells.

Mr. Alan Pink added another to his long list of peals in Surprise Major methods on March 26th when he called a peal of Staffordshire at Crayford, Kent. The composition, by A. G. Driver, was rung for the first time, it was the first peal in the method on the bells, and of the five who rang their first peal of Staffordshire, three had never struck a blow in the method before.

The first peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal in Hertfordshire by a resident band was rung on Mar. 26th at St. Peter's Church, St. Albans. It marked the first anniversary of the induction of the Vicar (the Rev. A. M. Ferguson). Mr. Francis Kirk, who with five others of the band rang their first peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal, has now 'circled' the tower in ten-bell peals.

Four members of the band rang their first peal when seven 720's of Bob Minor were rung at Deane, Hants, on Saturday week, the peal being called by Mr. C. W. Munday, of Basingstoke, who thus rang his first peal as conductor.

Double Bob Royal has been added to the methods rung at Kidderminster. On Saturday the first by the Worcestershire Association, the first by all the band and the first peal of Royal on the bells was rung.

Six Surprise Major methods were rung in a peal at Bushey, Herts, on March 31st, for the tenth anniversary of the wedding of Mr. Harold G. Cashmore, the composer and conductor of the peal. It was also a birthday compliment to Mrs. F. W. Brinklow.

It was the first peal in six Surprise methods on tower bells by all the band and by the Hertfordshire Association. Four of the band, however, have previously rung a similar peal on handbells; to have only one bell to think about instead of two must have made it something like child's play to them.

The Rev. V. C. Blyth, a vice-president of the Worcestershire Association, has resigned the incumbency of Hinton, a village near Evesham. On March 28th a peal of Oxford Bob Triples, the quarterly peal of the Southern Branch of the association, was rung there as a farewell to a very good friend.

HUDDERSFIELD AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

TWENTY-TWO NEW MEMBERS ELECTED.

The first district meeting of the Huddersfield and District Association was held at Almondbury on Saturday, March 26th, when a fair number of ringers attended and enjoyed some good ringing in the standard methods. The association is already showing its usefulness and justifying its formation by the number of learners who take advantage of these meetings, and the Minor ringers who venture to try the higher numbers and attempt different methods.

The business meeting was held after tea in the Conservative Club adjoining, with the president, the Rev. T. Mathieson, in the chair. The members were very pleased to welcome the Rev. A. L. Mins, of St. John's, Birkby, who is himself a keen ringer and has had a good deal of experience of ringing meetings. He was elected as co-president with Mr. Mathieson, and, though this procedure might seem to some unusual, it is, as all the members agree, a very sound one.

Twenty-two new members were elected, making a total to date of 56.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar and wardens and the local ringers was proposed by Mr. H. Armitage, of Huddersfield, and seconded by Mr. W. Hargreaves, of Lindley.—Mr. W. C. Dransfield replied.

After the meeting the tower was again visited for further ringing.

PRE-REFORMATION BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—No doubt those of your readers who are interested in ancient bells will be glad to hear that Thurlbeer Church, near Taunton, contains one of the most perfect peals cast before the Reformation. It is a peal of four, tenor 41½in. in diameter, cast at Exeter by Robert Norton about 1425. J. HUNT.

Taunton.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The joint meeting of the Shropshire Association and the Bridgnorth Branch of the Hereford Diocesan Guild, held at Coalbrookdale on Saturday, March 26th, was an unqualified success. Fifty ringers, including visitors from Stourbridge and Worcester, attended, the ringing being the best that a local meeting has produced. Superlative and Double Norwich Major were followed by Treble Ten and Stedman Caters.

The Rev. T. Eland, Coalbrookdale, conducted service, delivering an interesting address. He traced the use of bells from the earliest days, through the centuries, and spoke of the ideal of service to the Church which should be the motive of every ringer.

Mr. L. Stainer (Madeley) read an appropriate lesson.

After tea the Shropshire Association elected three new members, all from Cound, and an early return was made to the belfry.

DEATH OF CRICH RINGER.

NEARLY 50 YEARS' SERVICE TO THE CHURCH.

We regret to record the passing on Monday, March 14th, of Mr. William Piggin, of Crich, Derbyshire. He was 69 years of age and had served his church for 49 years as chorister and bellringer. By his regular attendance at Sunday services, practice and association meetings, he has left an example which may worthily be followed. His genial disposition made many friends, evidence of which was shown at the funeral on Thursday, March 17th. The muffled bells were rung by the local company and the East Derbyshire and Notts Association, of which he was a member for 48 years, was represented by the hon. treasurer, Mr. C. M. Heathcote.

A muffled touch of 546 Grandsire Triples was rung on Saturday evening at Crich Parish Church by F. Heappy 1, J. Hobbs (conductor) 2, J. W. England 3, T. Jennings 4, A. Elliott 5, F. Ashman 6, T. Clarke 7, C. M. Heathcote 8. Mr. Piggin was never a man of many methods, but it can be said of him with sincerity, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servant.'

CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING AT LEEDS.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION.

The committee of the Yorkshire Association responsible for the arrangements for the Central Council's visit to Leeds, at Whitsun, have prepared an interesting programme.

As hotel accommodation in Leeds is somewhat limited, members should make early application. The following are the hotels and charges: Golden Lion, Briggate, daily 13s. 6d., bed and breakfast 8s. 6d.; Guildford, The Headrow, 13s. 6d. and 8s. 6d.; The Griffin, Boar Lane, 14s. and 8s. 6d.; The Imperial, Briggate, 12s. 6d. and 7s.; Hotel Metropole, King Street, 18s. and 9s. 6d.; Victory Hotel, Briggate, 16s. and 9s. 6d.; Queen's Hotel, City Square, bed and breakfast from 14s. 6d. Temperance hotels: County, Vicar Lane, 12s. 6d. and 7s. 6d.; The Mount, Clarendon Road, 15s. and 8s. Most of the hotels also offer special inclusive terms for the periods Saturday or Sunday dinner to Wednesday breakfast.

A NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RESTORATION.

BELLS REHUNG AT BRAFIELD-ON-THE-GREEN.

'The bells of this church were rehung and the fourth bell recast A.D. 1938, in memory of Margaret Mary Sargeant, of Brafield-on-the-Green, who died April 23rd, 1937. May she rest in peace.'

The above inscription, which appears on a stone tablet, briefly records for all time the work recently undertaken to the bells of Brafield Church, Northamptonshire. They are a ring of five with a 12 cwt. tenor, and for many years have had a terrible reputation. The work of restoration was placed in the hands of Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who have completely restored the old timber frame and provided entirely new fittings, incorporating all the latest improvements, with the result that the bells are once again in excellent ringing order.

This restored work was rededicated at evensong on Sunday, March 27th, by the Lord Bishop of Peterborough. As is usual on an occasion of this sort, there was 'standing room only' when the service began, but as the time clashed with the ringing at other churches, only a few visiting ringers were present, amongst them Mr. J. P. Fidler, representing Messrs. John Taylor and Co.

The opening ringing was carried out by members of the local company, who were much impressed by the greatly improved 'go' of the bells. Much comment was also made upon the greatly improved tone of the peal, and the contractors are to be congratulated upon achieving such splendid results with a difficult job.

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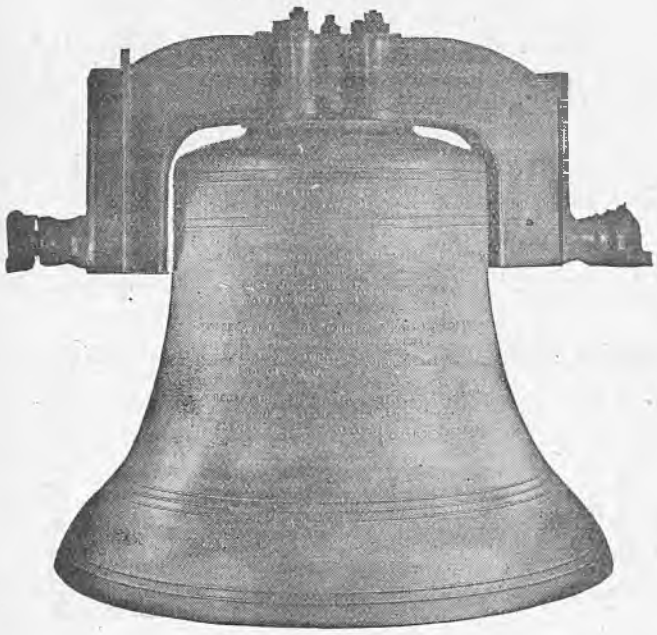

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EARLY PUBLICATION NEXT WEEK

As Good Friday occurs in next week, 'The Ringing World' will be published on Thursday. All communications intended for insertion in that issue must reach us not later than first post on Monday.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

Restoration of the bells at St. George's-in-the-East, London, is approaching completion, and a band has already been formed in connection with the church. Some old ringers have rejoined, but new ones have been brought in, and, until their bells are ready, they are getting practice at Stepney.

The handbell band at Burton-on-Stather had a bit of bad luck the other day when they had the misfortune to lose a 'spliced' peal in 19 Minor methods half-way through the last 720.

It had been hoped to attempt a peal of Stedman Cinques at Exeter Cathedral on Easter Monday, but it has been found necessary to postpone it to a later date.

The Mid-Devon Branch of the Devon Guild are holding a quarterly meeting at Kingskerswell, near Torquay, on Saturday, April 23rd, and any visitors who may be staying in the neighbourhood during Easter week will be heartily welcomed. An announcement will appear in the appropriate columns next week.

DOUBLE NORWICH MAXIMUS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Whilst willing to appreciate and accept Mr. Trollope's dictum on things historical, and having no desire to reopen an old controversy, yet it seems the stubborn little facts remain, that the peal in question is described on the Mancroft peal board as 'Norwich C.B. Max.'—not 'Double'—and no figures are in existence, so that my description of it as unauthenticated is in no wise incorrect. It may have been Double Norwich—possibly it was—but until the figures come to light it must remain 'locked in the womb of mystery.'

CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

MR. SAMUEL SLATER'S INVESTIGATIONS.

Dear Sir,—After the two peals in this method rung at Ipswich in 1896 there was a long controversy and much doubt as to what was rung at Norwich in 1817, whether it was 'Double' or 'Single.' Mr. Samuel Slater, of Glemsford, was asked by his Ipswich friends and the late Rev. H. Earle Bulwer if he could give any information on the matter so as to settle the dispute. He could not do so at that time, but some time after he held a reader's ticket at the British Museum, and in the Osborne MSS. in the library of the Museum it there states that 'a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Maximus was rung at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, on Monday, January 20th, 1817.'

On returning home Samuel Slater sent a copy of what he found in the Osborne MSS. to the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, and at a meeting of the Norwich Association, held at Eye on May 17th, 1900, the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, who was chairman, informed the members that Mr. Samuel Slater had discovered a document which proved that the peal was rung in the double method. When this statement was made there was great applause, and both parties accepted this statement as settling the matter.

Mr. Osborne visited Norwich in 1820, so he would be able to get his information from those who rang in the peal.

I think this information settles any doubt that may exist as to what was done in Norwich in 1817. T. E. SLATER.

Glemsford, Suffolk.

DEATH OF MR. CHARLES DRAPER.

ONE OF THE MIDLANDS 'WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON' BAND.

It is with deep regret we have to report the death of Mr. Charles Draper, of Duffield, who passed away on March 28th at the age of 73 years. He was laid to rest on April 2nd at Alrewas, where he lived as a boy, and where he taught himself to be a ringer. He became a member of the Midland Counties Association in 1887.

Charles, as he desired himself to be called, was a very reliable ringer, and will be missed by the Midland Counties Wednesday Afternoon band, with whom he rang a good number of his peals, chiefly Stedman Triples, but he also took part in the longest lengths of Duffield and Forward Major.

At any time he was glad to be of assistance to young ringers attempting their first peal, and he will be missed by many in the M.C.A.

Four of his comrades, Messrs. J. H. Swinfield, A. H. Ward, M. Swinfield and J. George, rang a course of Grandsire Triples over the grave after the funeral, and later fully muffled touches were rung on the church bells.

Thus dear old Charles' last course is finished, and his friends of the Wednesday Afternoon band say 'Goodbye' to a straight and much respected comrade. He had rung over 400 peals for the Midland Counties Association. M. S.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—13.

GEORGE F. SWANN.

Birmingham, a home of Stedman, has produced no more brilliant conductor of the method than Mr. George F. Swann, who, among other things, has called a peal of Stedman on handbells from each pair in Triples, Caters and Cinques. Only one other ringer, Mr. G. N. Price, has, we believe, done this.

Mr. Swann's 163 handbell peals, of which he has conducted 47, include 105 on twelve bells, viz., 101 Stedman, 1 Grandsire, 1 Erin Cinques, and 2 Kent Treble Bob Maximus. In addition he rang 7-8 to the memorable peal of Stedman Sextuples. His conducting has also included three peals of Erin Triples, one of Forward Major, one of Little Bob Major, in addition to most of the usual methods up to London Surprise. Besides these he has called Stedman on tower bells from Doubles to Cinques, and he has rung two silent peals of Stedman Cinques and one of Grandsire Triples on handbells, two silent peals of Stedman Triples on tower bells, and taken part in the non-conducted Cambridge Surprise Maximus at St. Martin's, Birmingham.

MR. GEORGE F. SWANN.

Mr. Swann was born at Aston in 1878, and his family moved to Erdington two years later. He started ringing when 17 years of age with the old stoney band at St. Thomas' Roman Catholic Abbey Church, and, as he himself says, he thought he was quite good until the band was reorganised and the new instructor produced a course of Stedman Triples. Then he realised he had something to learn.

He rang his first peal on September 28th, 1901, at Erdington Abbey Church. This was Stedman Triples and was rung about twelve months after change ringing was introduced into the tower. Mr. Swann's first peal as conductor was also Stedman. It was rung on October 10th, 1903, and was only his eighth peal and was called, at the first attempt, from the treble. It was Heywood's transposition of Thurstans'.

Mr. Swann, who is now attached to the band at Erdington Parish Church, was auditor to St. Martin's Guild for some years and is now librarian. He has rung 516 peals, of which he has conducted 189.

Next Week: Mr. John Austin.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT BUCKNALL.

A meeting of the North Staffordshire Association was held at Bucknall on Saturday, April 2nd. A company of 31 attended from Burslem, Biddulph, Brown Edge, Bucknall, Cheadle, Draycott, Kingsley, Kettering, Loughborough, Longton, Norton and Newcastle. Service was conducted by the Rev. F. D. Gardner, Rector of Bucknall, and clerical secretary and treasurer of the association. In the course of his sermon he said 80 per cent. of the people of this country never darkened the door of the church, but he thought the ringers should attend every service for which they rang.

After tea had been partaken of, the Rector welcomed the association to Bucknell, and wished them to visit the tower more often, despite the fact that a meeting was held there every two years. He was pleased to be at the service of the association at any time.

A vote of thanks was proposed to the Rector and local ringers by Mr. H. Carnwell, seconded by Mr. T. Hurd.

Mr. J. E. Wheeldon, in proposing the vote of thanks to the ladies for serving tea, went on to say one of them was the only lady in the North Staffordshire Association to conduct a peal. Although now married, she was better known as Miss Alice Preston. Bucknall, he said, had only had bells since September, 1886, but they have always had a keen set of ringers, and on April 6th, 1897, rang a silent peal of Minor, consisting of London, Chester, Superlative, Worcester, Bristol, York and Cambridge, while not many years ago they rang a peal of Double Surprise Minor.

Mr. W. Wheeldon, in responding for the ringers of Bucknall, said he was pleased to meet so many old friends. He added that they were fortunate to have a Rector who took such an interest in them and a man who appreciated their work.

HASTINGS GUILD AREA EXTENDED.

NAME AND CENTRE CHANGED.

It has been decided to extend the area of the Hastings and District Guild, to move its centre to Hawkhurst, some 15 miles north, and to change the name to the Hawkhurst and District Guild. This step was taken at a meeting held at Salehurst on Saturday week, when the business, postponed from the annual meeting, was carried through.

The president, the Dean of Battle, was re-elected, as were the vice-presidents, but to this list was added the Rev. Noel E. Hope, the founder of the Guild. The chairman, Mr. W. Franks (Battle) was re-elected.

The hon. secretary, Mr. C. A. Levett, stated that he had been secretary since the first year of the Guild's existence, and felt that a change was called for. The ringers in the district did not support the Guild as he thought they should do, and a new secretary would mean new ideas and probably would make the Guild the force it should be.

It was pointed out that the district covered by the Guild was relatively small and the percentage of ringers attending meetings remarkably high.

After discussion it was decided, as mentioned above, to considerably enlarge the area served by the Guild, to move its centre from Hastings to Hawkhurst, and to change its name to the Hawkhurst and District Guild.

Mr. James G. Powell, of Hawkhurst, was elected secretary, and Mr. W. Gorringe re-elected treasurer.

Mr. B. Saunders proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the retiring secretary for his services in the past, and this was carried unanimously.

Ringing during the afternoon and after the meeting included touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major, and the meeting closed with a touch of Spliced Oxford Bob, Grandsire and St. Clement's Triples.

LEEDS SOCIETY AND LADIES' GUILD.

JOINT MEETING AND COMMUNION SERVICE.

On Saturday week the Northern District of the Ladies' Guild and the Leeds and District Society met at Armley tower. The bells were rung during the afternoon, and the Ladies' Guild service was incorporated with the Holy Communion service. The Vicar (the Rev. Dr. J. S. Hollingworth, M.A., LL.D.) in his address gave the members present a welcome to the church and tower.

Tea was served in the Parish Hall and some 43 people sat down.

The business meetings were held in separate rooms. Ladies' Guild members were present from Armley, Drighlington, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's) and Handsworth.

The Leeds and District Society held their annual nomination meeting, the chair being taken by the president, Mr. W. H. Senior, who was supported by members from Batley, Bradford Cathedral, Bramley, Burley, Drighlington, Elland, East Ardsley, Hunslet, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Idle, Leeds Parish Church, Pudsey, Rothwell, Rotherham, Shipley, Sherburn and the local company. The president gave a welcome to their latest clerical ringer (the Rev. D. Walters, M.A., of East Ardsley) and his tower secretary, Mr. E. Watson.

One new member, Mr. C. Palfreeman, of Sherburn, was elected. The usual vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens and the organist was proposed by Mr. W. H. Senior and seconded by Mr. F. Hutchinson. —The Vicar (Dr. Hollingworth) replied.

The vote of thanks to the local company and to the ladies for the tea arrangements was proposed by Mr. Barton and seconded by Mr. T. Hill.—Mr. H. Lofthouse replied for the local company.

Nominations for all officers of the society were received.

The annual general meeting is due to be held at Leeds Parish Church on April 30th.

While some members remained in the hall for handbell ringing, others returned to the tower and kept the bells going to 9 p.m., when another excellent meeting came to an end.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ELEVEN NEW MEMBERS ELECTED.

A by-meeting of the Canterbury District of the Kent County Association was held at Goodnestone on Saturday, March 26th. Although the village is somewhat isolated, with a bus service only once a week, the meeting was well attended, 50 members being present from Sturry, Ash, Eythorne, Dover, Wickhambreaux, Boughton, Canterbury (four towers), Littlebourne, Whitstable and members of the local band.

The bells, augmented to a peal of six by the addition of a new treble by Mears, were set going to changes at 3 o'clock. Service was afterwards held, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. H. Wigram, who also gave a short address. Mr. W. E. Pitman, Mus.Bac., was at the organ.

Tea followed in the Parish Hall, presided over by the Vicar, who also took the chair at a short business meeting which followed. Eleven new members were elected from St. Laurence's and St. Peter's, Thanet, St. Stephen's, Canterbury, Wickhambreaux and Goodnestone.

Lyminge was preferred to Whitstable for the next meeting, although the difference in the voting was only one.

After handbells, a return was made to the tower, and further ringing indulged in until 8.30, Grandsire, Stedman and St. Simon's Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob (singly and spliced), Cambridge and London Surprise being rung.

THE LATE MR. W. T. COCKERILL.

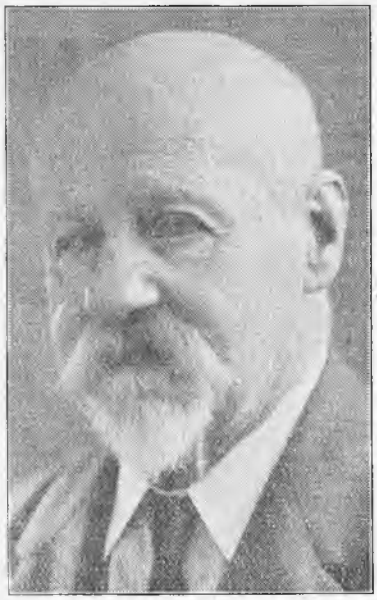
PASSING OF A GREAT LONDON PERSONALITY

Leader of St. Paul's Cathedral Ringers.

The news of the death of Mr. William T. Cockerill, recorded in our last issue, came in the nature of a shock to his many ringing friends, and the deepest regret has been expressed on every hand at his unexpected passing.

It is difficult to think of London ringing without Mr. Cockerill; he had been so long and so prominently concerned with it. For nearly 60 years he had been a ringer in the Metropolis, he was a College Youth for about 52 years, for 46 years he was hon. secretary of the Ancient Society, and for nearly as long a period a member of the band at St. Paul's Cathedral, as well as 'skipper' since the death of Mr. James Pettit.

Mr. Cockerill laid down his long labours as secretary of the College Youths after completing the arduous work in connection with the celebration of the tercentenary, but he was still the leader of St. Paul's company, where, on Sunday week, he called his last touch. He went home by tram, as was his custom, in company with Mr. W. H. Pasmore, whom he left in the vehicle to continue the journey. The collapse, which ended fatally, took place in the short distance between the tram stop and his home.



THE LATE MR. W. T. COCKERILL.

We have already mentioned some of the notable performances in which Mr. Cockerill took part, but it is worth recalling that after the peal at St. Paul's in which he rang the tenor single-handed, Sir Arthur Heywood entertained to dinner all those who had rung a peal at St. Paul's Cathedral, and proposed the toast of the evening, 'Our single-handed tenorman.'

Mr. Cockerill was undoubtedly one of the finest heavy bell ringers of his day. He had the advantage of a fine physique and the stamina of an athlete. One of the recollections of all who visited St. Paul's belfry in those years must ever be the figure of William T. Cockerill on the box of the eleventh.

Mr. Cockerill joined the Ancient Society of College Youths in 1886, a year in which no fewer than 65 members were elected, among them were Messrs. William E. Garrard, G. Mash and Robert Storey (Newcastle), William Storey (Newcastle), Henry R. Newton and Richard T. Hibbert.

He was made a member of St. Paul's Cathedral Society soon after his election as hon. secretary of the College Youths, which took place in 1890.

That he should have been honoured in death by a funeral service in the great Cathedral was a fitting acknowledgment of his leadership of the ringers there and also a recognition, such as has never been accorded, of the position which ringers, generally, occupy in the Church.

A LAST HONOUR.

FUNERAL SERVICE IN ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

Honoured in the great Cathedral to which he had given nearly 50 years of service, William Thomas Cockerill passed to his last resting place on Monday afternoon. Week after week he had faithfully climbed the long stairway to the belfry there, twice every Sunday, to take command of the service ringing renowned throughout the country for its excellence. On Monday his colleagues, with scores of other ringers, gathered beneath the Dome to take a farewell of their leader. They brought him in by the great west door, where the Cathedral clergy and choir met the cortege. Ringers lined the steps as the flower-covered coffin was borne up into the Cathedral, and the procession moved up the nave to a beautiful musical setting of the introductory sentences of the Burial Service.

The clergy were the Dean of St. Paul's, the Ven. Archdeacon Sharp, the Rev. Canon Moseley, and Minor Canons Foxel and Donn. The 23rd Psalm was chanted, and Canon Moseley read the lesson from the fifteenth chapter of I. Corinthians. Then there swelled the strains of the hymn. 'Immortal, invisible, God only wise,' and, before the impressive service ended with the Benediction, pronounced by the Dean, 'Abide with me' was sung.

Headed again by the choir and clergy, the procession returned to the west door, and the cortege passed from the peace of the Cathedral once more into the rushing life of London to make its way to Brompton Cemetery, where the interment took place. Among a vast forest of memorials a grave had been opened, and round it the last sad rites were performed. Minor Canon Foxel said the committal prayers, and then the handbells sounded. Three whole pulls, slowly rung three times, were followed by a course of Stedman Triples, and three whole pulls three times more. It was a fitting parting, in the soft afternoon April sun, while the roar of London traffic throbbed in the distance.

The family mourners were Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Cockerill (son and daughter-in-law), Miss D. E. Cockerill (daughter), Mrs. G. E. Cockerill (daughter-in-law), Miss Rene Tilt, Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Tilt (nieces and nephews), Mr. and Mrs. H. Westbrook.

SOME OF THOSE PRESENT.

Among the ringers present were Messrs. C. S. Burden, F. Butler, E. G. Fenn, H. Langdon, H. G. Miles, W. H. Pasmore, A. B. Peck (Mr. Cockerill's successor as hon. secretary of the College Youths), W. Rushton, T. H. Taffender, and C. F. Winney, of the St. Paul's Cathedral company; Messrs. E. H. Lewis (Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths, who wore his badge of office), A. A. Hughes (hon. treasurer), L. Porter (senior steward), G. W. Fletcher (hon. secretary of the Central Council), Mrs. E. K. Fletcher (hon. secretary, Ladies' Guild), Canon G. F. Coleridge (Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild), Messrs. G. H. Cross (Master), G. W. Steere (hon. treasurer) and A. Hardy (representing the Royal Cumberland Youths), T. W. Taffender (hon. secretary, London County Association), J. E. L. Cockey (representing Middlesex Association), Major J. H. B. Hesse (Master), Messrs. J. S. Goldsmith (hon. secretary) and A. H. Pulling (representing the Guildford Diocesan Guild), A. Paddon Smith (representing St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham), W. A. Cave (Bristol), J. S. Hawkins and Norton (St. Andrew's, Holborn, Guild), Capt. J. H. R. Freeborn, Mr. W. G. Gray, Miss E. Gray, Mrs. R. F. Deal, Mrs. A. D. Barker, Messrs. F. V. Sinkins (representing St. Mary's Society, Portsea). A. B. Bennett, A. R. Macdonald, T. Groombridge, sen., E. Alex. Young, J. Parker, R. Sanders. E. Brett, C. H. Horton, W. Roughton, W. H. L. Buckingham, W. J. Jefferies, E. H. Oxenham, J. E. Davis, G. Lucas, I. Emery, R. Fenn, W. T. Elson, P. E. Clark, W. Smith, W. H. Judd, H. Hoskins, W. Hewett, W. Williams, H. N. Pitstow, J. G. Prior, A. Diserens, etc. Among others present were the Rev. W. Pennington Bickford (Rector of St. Clement Danes), Mrs. H. Langdon, Mrs. L. J. Porter. Mrs. W. H. Pasmore, Mrs. H. R. Pasmore, Mrs. W. H. Judd, etc.

The handbell ringing at the graveside was done by Messrs. W. Roughton 1-2, E. H. Lewis 3-4, H. Langdon 5-6, A. B. Peck 7-8.

There were many beautiful floral tributes. In addition to those from the members of the family and friends, wreaths were sent by the Ancient Society of College Youths; the Central Council of Church Bellringers; St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham; the Rector, churchwardens and Parochial Church Council of St. Mary-le-Bow; Archdeacon Hanbury and Cecil G. Hanbury.

IN ST. PAUL'S BELFRY.

Prior to the ringing for service at St. Paul's Cathedral on Sunday morning, the ringers stood at their ropes while Mr. C. F. Winney recited 'De profundis' (Psalm 130), and then remained for two minutes in silence until the clock struck the hour of ten, when the bells went off into rounds before the usual three courses of Stedman Cinques.

On Monday evening the Cathedral bells were rung half-muffled, including the 'whole pull and stand' 78 times by the Cathedral band, and this was followed by a touch of 399 Stedman Cinques.

Half-muffled ringing also took place at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, on Monday evening.

'THE SKIPPER.'

(COMMUNICATED.)

From Frodingham, in the East Riding of Yorkshire, William T. Cockerill came to London as a school teacher and was headmaster of Holy Trinity Church School, close to Vauxhall Bridge, for many years. He was also in the choir at this church, was a fine singer and one of the founders of St. George's Glee Union. He rode to and from school on a 'penny-farthing' bike for some years, afterwards using a more modern machine, and has often related how he practised double-handed ringing on the handlebars.

Very methodical and painstaking to master any subject he tackled, his early loves were singing and ringing. The latter he commenced in London, at Lambeth Parish Church and St. John's, Waterloo Road, but he was soon actively engaged with the Ancient Society of College Youths and became secretary about 1890, a position he held continuously until his retirement in November, 1937.

Described repeatedly by Canon Coleridge as the 'prince of secretaries,' he gave practically the whole of his leisure to the many and various duties of this office and resigned only through ill-health.

He followed James Pettitt as conductor at St. Paul's Cathedral (the only two conductors up to date since the bells were placed in the tower in 1878), where he was loved as 'The Skipper.' Martinet, yes, but kind withal, and a great stickler for discipline in the belfry. It was he who arranged for the middle six to be raised and fallen in peal every Sunday, for previously they had been raised and fallen singly, and he instituted the idea of having all the band at their ropes to wait for the clock to strike and then to go off into 'rounds' precisely on time.

(Continued on next page.)

THE DEATH OF MR. W. T. COCKERILL.

(Continued from previous page.)

He conducted his last touch of three courses of Stedman Cinques on Sunday afternoon, March 27th, when he appeared to be in better spirits than usual of late, but he collapsed on leaving the tram quite near to his home, and died early on the morning of March 30th.

He was a born leader of men, with great tact, although in the early years he created some impression of aloofness. Friends were not disposed to call him 'Bill,' but I am quite sure he would not have objected had they done so.

He tried very hard for the first peal of London Surprise in the City of London, but was forestalled by the Brighton band, and I think he took this rather to heart at the time.

A fine heavy bell ringer, he was the first man to turn St. Paul's tenor in single-handed, and also the famous Bow tenor to the first peal of Maximus (at a time when she was almost unringable). He was very keen to try the same at Exeter, but the authorities refused to allow single-handed attempts. He most likely would have succeeded in this, for he was then in the prime of his life and physical condition.

He rang many peals on handbells, the most important being Carter's Odd Bob, one-part, non-conducted, in 1917.

In his youth he was a great athlete—once he rode from London to Yorkshire and back on his penny-farthing bicycle—and he was fond of most forms of sport.

To know him and be in his circle of friends meant loving him, and one could not have a firmer or stouter friend.

MASTER'S TRIBUTE.

Speaking of Mr. Cockerill, Mr. E. H. Lewis (Master) said: By his death the College Youths have lost one who was one of the greatest secretaries that ever held office in the Ancient Society—for during the 300 years of its history there could have been none who rendered it more loyal or efficient service.

When Mr. Cockerill came to the task just over 46 years ago it was no easy job, for there were factions which did not make for harmony. Mr. Cockerill was the strong man who pulled them together, and, as I have mentioned before, throughout his long period of office the society continued on the up-grade. It was his great virtue, I think, that while he treated everyone with the utmost kindness, he could, when occasion required it, be quite firm. He had a very arduous year in connection with the Tercentenary, but in spite of his advancing years he discharged his duties with all his old devotion and ability.

'TEMPUS FUGIT.'

DEDICATED TO THE MEMORY OF WILLIAM T. COCKERILL.

Youth!—and our fond ambitions rise.
We plan as each new day is born;
We see the silver in the skies
Behind the gloomy clouds, our eyes
Towards the Dawn.

The passing years, with flying feet,
Remind us yet of deeds undone.
Undaunted still, our pulses beat.
We bear the burden and the heat
Till set of sun.

Age!—all too soon—that bane of men,
'Time and the Hour' the vesper calls.
We turn the page, put down the pen,
Sadly we close the book—and then
The shadow falls.

WILLIAM WILLSON.

LONDON RINGING.

(Continued from next column.)

Mr. Taffender pointed out that the war had stopped good progress, but since then he had been constantly making efforts to get ringing in the London towers for Sunday services. He had heard many grumbles as to the quality of ringing when youngsters were being taught, but he found that those who complained were the last ones to help (hear, hear). At city towers, such as St. Bride's, Fleet Street, it was impossible to obtain a local band, as there was no residential population from which to get ringers, and it was no solution to provide a band by depleting other towers. New blood was required, and the only solution was to teach more youngsters. Mr. Taffender also drew attention to the apathy of church authorities, and quoted one instance where a churchwarden, who was the scoutmaster of the local troop, had made a rule forbidding scouts to learn ringing until they were 19 years of age. Mr. Taffender added that he was not concerned with what the other societies proposed to do.

The District Master expressed the view that they all ought to try and work in co-operation.

The meeting terminated with the usual votes of thanks, and ringing afterwards took place at All Saints' Church.

A letter from Mr. J. E. Bailey is unavoidably held over until next week.

LONDON RINGING.

AWAKENING INTEREST.

London County Association Activities.

Interest in the problems of London ringing was shown at the meeting of the Southern District of the London County Association, held at Wandsworth on Saturday. There was an attendance of some 35 members, who rang first on the very nice peal of eight at Holy Trinity Church, bells installed some few years ago by Messrs. Taylor and Co., and upon which the first peal was rung only recently.

The curate conducted a short service in the church, and in an address spoke of the message which the bells proclaimed, and of their reminder to those who had drifted away from the Church.

The business meeting followed tea in the Parish Church Hall and was presided over by the new District Master, Mr. P. A. Corby.

In announcing arrangements for future meetings, Mr. Corby said the committee had considered the proposal made to hold the next annual meeting at Southwark Cathedral, and, in view of the difficulties, suggested that the meeting should be held at Chelsea or alternatively at Putney and Fulham.—On a vote, Chelsea was agreed to.

Mr. Corby said the next district meeting was to be held at Isleworth in June, and it was also proposed to hold a joint meeting with the Middlesex Association at Chiswick on May 21st.

Miss Ashbrook asked whether, in view of what happened last year, when meetings of the London County Association and the Middlesex Association clashed and certain correspondence resulted, the proposed meeting at Chiswick was intended to restore good feeling.

The District Master said it was up to them all to promote a friendly spirit in every direction possible, but if there were any question as to the desirability of holding the meeting he would put it to the vote.

Mr. J. Herbert, as Master of the South and West District of the Middlesex Association, said when the proposal was put before that association at Ealing it was received with acclamation, and everybody would be heartily welcomed.

On being put to the meeting, the proposal was carried nem con.

The District Master announced that meetings of the district would be held on the third Saturday in alternate months, and the committee proposed to arrange a mid-week practice in the other months. This practice would take place on the usual practice night of the tower visited, and the first would be at St. George's-in-the-Borough on the third Wednesday in May at 7 p.m.

BATTERSEA BELLS TO BE RESTORED.

It was announced that the bells of St. Mary's, Battersea, were being restored. They were to be tuned and rehung in a new frame by Messrs. Taylor and Co. This work was being undertaken despite a heavy call upon parochial funds for the restoration of the church roof.

A collection was made towards the bells fund and realised £1.

Mr. T. H. Taffender (Master of the association) referred to the death of Mr. W. T. Cockerill. One of the first towers Mr. Cockerill entered on coming to London, he said, was St. Mary's, Lambeth, and he rang peals with their society and with the old Waterloo Society. He had always been a supporter of their society. He (Mr. Taffender) had known and rung with Mr. Cockerill for about 46 years. He proposed that a letter of condolence should be sent to the sons and daughter.

Mr. E. F. Pike said there was a peal board in Waterloo Road tower recording a peal for their society, in which Mr. Cockerill rang, in 1887, so that he had been a member over 50 years.

The motion was carried and the members stood in silence for a minute as a mark of respect.

The District Master said there was one matter, that of ringing in London, in which a good deal of interest had recently been aroused. He welcomed Mr. J. S. Goldsmith to the meeting and said he thought they would like to hear his views on the subject.

Mr. Taffender said the articles which had recently appeared in 'The Ringing World' on the subject had not been quite fair, and he would like to ask Mr. Goldsmith what his solution of the problem was.

Mr. Goldsmith said the articles which had appeared in 'The Ringing World' had been written in order to stir up interest in a matter of great importance; for the condition of the bells and ringing in London had reached a regrettable state. He did not think it was for him to provide the solution of the problem; that was a matter for the London ringing societies. There were a number of causes which had contributed to the present state of affairs, and clergy and ringers alike must share the responsibility. The neglect of the bells was largely due to the apathy of the Church authorities and the absence of ringers had been partly brought about by the fact that a good many ringers had rung only when they were paid to ring and had never stirred a finger to teach new ringers. There were other causes, but he thought these were the two main reasons. He admired the pertinacity with which Mr. Taffender, through the years, had worked to create bands in quite a number of churches, and if there had been more like him there would have been far fewer silent bells in London than there were to-day (applause). But it was a disgrace that so many peals of bells were entirely or very little rung. Despite what Mr. Taffender had said about the articles, he was unrepentant. It was for the societies to get together and get the Church authorities interested. He realised the difficulties; it was not going to be a work of weeks or of months, but of years; but if they did not soon start, it might be too late (hear, hear).

(Continued in previous column.)

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

CREWE BRANCH RECORD MEETING.

A pleasant afternoon was spent at Lawton Church on Saturday, March 19th, on the occasion of the monthly meeting of the Crewe Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild. Records were broken. In the first place, there was a record attendance of over 50 members, representing 17 towers, proving that Lawton is a popular meeting place.

A record was also established by a touch, 350 of Grandsire Triples, by a band which included the oldest member of the branch, Mr. William Rigby, aged 77, of Lawton, affectionately known as 'Old Bill'; and one of the youngest, if not the youngest member of the North Staffs Association, a schoolboy of 13.

The Guild service was conducted by the Rector of Lawton (the Rev. C. R. England), who in his address spoke of the many ancient and modern uses of bells.

After service tea was served, this being generously given by Mr. Hollinshead, of The Limes, Lawton, to whom a vote of thanks was accorded. Grace was sung to the unusual accompaniment of handbells.

The local band afterwards gave selections on the handbells, and later some of the visitors joined in. Further ringing took place in the tower and was much enjoyed, the methods including Grandsire Triples, Kent Treble Bob, Bob Major, Stedman Triples and Cambridge Major.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CROWDED BELFRY AT BETHNAL GREEN.

The meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild, held at St. Matthew's Church, Bethnal Green, on Saturday, March 26th, was very well attended, and a gratifying feature was the large number of young ringers present. Ringing commenced punctually at the time advertised, and very soon the small belfry became uncomfortably crowded. However, a walk in the church grounds between the ringing eased the situation and made the task of the Ringing Master much easier.

At the service the Rector (the Rev. S. L. Sarel), an honorary member of the association, preached a homely sermon. He reminded his hearers of the privileged position they held as churchworkers and of the call they made to others. He was sure they would not be like the ringers at a certain church in Cornwall, where prize ringing is in vogue, who, he was told, practised six days in the week and rested on Sunday.

Mr. F. E. Platt, a young ringer from St. Mark's, Dalston, presided at the organ, and did his job uncommonly well.

Tea followed, the catering department being taxed to the utmost (what a difference a postcard would make!). A very short business meeting took place when only empty plates were left. Four new members were elected, and Stanmore was chosen as the place for the next meeting on May 14th. Double Norwich Court Bob Major was the choice for the special method for that meeting.

The hon. secretary (Mr. C. T. Coles) announced that the annual general meeting would be held at Hillingdon on Saturday, April 30th, and the most important business would be the discussion of the new rules, details of which had already been circulated to the affiliated towers. He urged everybody to be present.

The Chairman (Mr. G. W. Fletcher) proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector, to the catering department, and to the organist.—The Rector, in reply, said he was glad to see a good meeting, and hoped the association would soon pay another visit.—The organist, too, replied, and said that any ringers would be welcomed at Dalston, where they were very short-handed.

The total attendance during the afternoon and evening was upwards of 50, which is much more encouraging than the poor attendances of 1937. The ringing reached a high standard—from rounds to Spliced Surprise in four methods, and included a course of Kent Treble Bob Major by eight members of the Ladies' Guild.

NEW BAND FORMED AT KERESLEY.

ADDITIONAL BELL HOPED FOR.

With the view of putting the band of bellringers in the parish of Keresley with Coundon, Coventry, Warwickshire, on a proper footing and the promotion of the art of campanology among churchmen there, a parish church society was formed at a meeting which was held in the belfry of St. Thomas' Church, Keresley, on March 7th. The society has the name St. Thomas', Keresley and Coundon Society of Church Bellringers.

The Vicar is president and the churchwardens vice-presidents. Mr. C. H. Webb was elected Ringing Master and Mr. W. Ensor steeplekeeper. Mr. F. East was appointed hon. secretary.

Members include all the old ringers and several newcomers to the district interested in bellringing. Two probationers are in training.

The society practises on Monday nights regularly. Nearly all the members and associates are members of the Warwickshire Guild. The church has five bells and a fund has been opened to provide a sixth bell.

BASINGSTOKE.—The young band at St. Michael's, Basingstoke, are making headway and some of them rang their first quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes) on March 9th: *F. G. Cooper 1, *D. H. Anstey 2, *D. W. Nash 3, *R. F. Kingham 4, E. P. Austin 5, C. W. Munday (first as conductor) 6, J. Chesterman 7, *F. A. Munday 8. * First quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major.

NOTICES.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

To all members:

All notices of motions should be sent to me immediately.

To all Secretaries of affiliated associations:

Subscriptions for 1937-38 became due in January.

George W. Fletcher, 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Croston Parish Church, Saturday, April 9th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. A good attendance is requested.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The annual meeting will be held at Sherburn-in-Elmet on Saturday, April 9th. Bells (8) available afternoon and evening. Short service in church at 4.30. Tea at 5.15 p.m., will be provided free to all who inform Mr. R. H. Vigor, Grange Farm, Sherburn-in-Elmet, by Wednesday, April 6th. Meeting for election of officers, etc., in Church Hall after tea. Subscriptions are now due and annual reports available. A good attendance will be appreciated by the local company.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Warwick, on Saturday, April 9th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Committee meet 4 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea (1s. 3d. per head) at the Porridge Pot, East Gate, at 5.15, followed by annual general business meeting.—Malcolm Melville, Gen. Hon. Sec., Highfield House, Exhall, Coventry.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A meeting will be held at Groby and Ratby on April 9th. Ringing at Groby (6 bells) 3 p.m. till 4 p.m., Ratby (8 bells) until 9.15 p.m. Service at Ratby Church at 4.15 p.m. Tea in Ratby Church Rooms at 5 p.m.—A. W. Perkins, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, April 9th, at St. Helens Parish Church. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting in schools. Visitors welcome.—H. Grundy, Sec., Alness, 3, Green Leach Avenue, St. Helens.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Cuthbert's, Lytham, on Saturday, April 9th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Tea, followed by business meeting, 5.30.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., Fylde.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Thomas', Moorside, Oldham, on Saturday, April 9th. Bells available from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Business meeting at 6.30 p.m. Please do your best to attend and make this meeting a success.—Stephen Lloyd Parry, Branch Sec., 24, St. James Street, Milnrow, Rochdale.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Uckfield on Saturday, April 9th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Everybody welcome, but don't forget the card re tea!—B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—A ringing meeting will be held at Stoney Stanton on Saturday, April 9th. Reports ready for those who have paid their subscriptions this year.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Maulden on Saturday, April 9th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. **Tea at 5.** All ringers will be welcome. We are looking forward to a large company. Please come.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—There will be ringing for evensong at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, E., on Sunday, April 10th, commencing at 5.30 p.m. The next quarterly meeting will be held at Hornchurch on Saturday, April 23rd. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at the King's Head. Kindly send in names by April 19th.—Norman Summerhayes, Hon. Sec., 28, Bean Road, Bexleyheath, Kent.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Welwyn.—A peal of six (tenor 8½ cwt.), recently augmented and rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of St. Albans at the morning service on Easter Day at 11 a.m. The bells will be available for ringing (by kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. Bate) from 2 p.m. to 3.30 p.m., and 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. First meeting, April 23rd, details later. Members who intend to be present please notify me the week before in order that arrangements may be made for everyone to ring. I mean this, as time is limited for ringing!—Don Mears, Hon. Sec., Fritton, Moormead Close, Hitchin.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Easter Monday, at Leicester. Towers open from 10.30 a.m. to 4.15 p.m. (subject to weddings or services): St. Margaret's (12), St. John's (10), Belgrave (8); 2.30 to 4.30 and 7 to 8 p.m., Cathedral (12). Committee meet at 3 p.m. in Church House, St. Martin's (side of Cathedral). Tea at 4.45 prompt at Oriental Cafe, Market Place, followed by general meeting. Tickets for tea must be obtained from Mr. H. W. Perkins, 53, Landseer Road, Leicester, not later than Thursday, April 14th. Only those who apply for and obtain tickets can be accommodated. All others must cater for themselves. A room will be reserved at the Hotel Victory, Great Central Street, 7 p.m., till 11 p.m. Concert at 8.30 p.m.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at Over on Easter Monday, April 18th. Bells (8) available from 12 noon. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea in the schoolroom at 4 p.m., 1s. each, followed by business meeting. It is hoped that Swavesey bells (6) will also be available. No ringing allowed during the business meeting. Good train services. The 11.32 a.m. from Cambridge will stop at Swavesey by request.—Kitty Willers, Gen. Sec., Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambridge.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Badby (6 bells) on Easter Monday, April 18th. Kindly notify me for tea not later than Thursday, April 14th.—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Bedford on Easter Monday. The bells of St. Paul's (10) and St. Peter's (6) will be available from 10.30 a.m. and throughout the day. Tea at St. Peter's Church Hall at 4.30, to be followed by the annual meeting.—Arthur E. Sharman, 199, High Street N., Dunstable.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Dorking on Easter Monday, April 18th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea at 5.30 in the Parish Hall, followed by business meeting. Numbers for tea to be sent to Miss E. J. M. Cottrell, 28, Hart Road, Dorking, by Wednesday, April 13th. All ringers heartily welcome.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting of the East Devon Branch will be held at Dalwood, near Honiton, on Easter Monday, April 18th. Bells (6) available at 2.30 p.m., also Stockland (6). Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5, Church Hall. All ringers and friends welcome.—John H. Godfrey, Hon. Sec., Silver Street, Ottery St. Mary, Devon.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on East Monday. Cathedral bells (12) available at 2 p.m., St. Peter's (10) 2.30 p.m. The bells of St. Michael's, St. Stephen's and Sandridge (6 each) open by arrangement with your secretary. Service in the Cathedral at 4.30 p.m., with special preacher, followed by tea and business meeting in the Abbey Institute. **If you want tea you must let me know, the latest by Easter Monday morning, post or phone 241.** Notice of alteration of rule: 'That the subscription be raised to 1s. 6d., commencing January, 1939.'—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., Duffield, Russell Avenue, St. Albans.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The 58th annual general meeting will be held at Margate on Easter Monday, April 18th. The committee meeting will be held at 11.15 in St. John's Church Room. The association service will be held in St. John's, Margate, at noon; preacher, the Vicar, Rev. C. Tyrell. Lunch at 1 o'clock in the Artillery Drill Hall, Victoria Road, followed by the business meeting. The following are the ringing arrangements: St. John's, Margate (8), before the service and after the meeting (ringing may be curtailed in the morning owing to weddings); St. Lawrence's, Ramsgate, after the meeting; St. Peter's, Thanet (8), Birchington (8), Quex Park (12), St. Nicholas-at-Wade (6), all from 10 a.m. to 11.30 and after the meeting. Major Powell Cotton has kindly offered to open his museum to ringers after the meeting, and will all who intend going please notify me before Thursday, April 14th. All applications for luncheon tickets free to members, 3s. non-members, much reach me, accompanied by a stamped addressed envelope, by first post, Wednesday, April 13th, after which no application can be entertained?—Fred M. Mitchell, Gen. Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

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WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 18th. Business meeting in the College Hall at 2.30 p.m. prompt; chairman, the Very Rev. Arthur Davies, D.Litt., Dean of Worcester. Service in the Cathedral at 4.15 p.m.; special preacher, the Rev. W. Buchanan Dunlop, Rector of All Saints', Worcester. Tea (non-members 1s. each) will be provided at 5.30 p.m. for all those who notify me before Wednesday, April 13th. Bells available: Cathedral (12), 1 to 2 p.m.; All Saints' (10), from 10 am.; St. John-in-Bedwardine (8), St. Nicholas' (6) and St. Swithin's (6), all from 11 a.m. Central committee meeting in St. Helen's Church House at 11.30 a.m. Subscriptions should be paid and reports obtained in St. Helen's Church House between 12 noon and 1 p.m.—J. D. Johnson, Gen. Sec., Cheltenham Road, Sedgeberrow, Evesham.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Selston on Easter Monday, April 18th. Bells available at 2 p.m. Service in church at 4 o'clock. Tea in Church Schools at 4.45. Meeting to follow. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. W. Dobb, Church Lane, Selston, by Thursday, April 14th?—J. W. England, Hon. Sec.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will take place at Norwich on Easter Monday, April 18th. The bells of St. Peter Mancroft, St. Giles', St. Michael at Coslany, and All Saints' are available. Service at noon in St. Peter Mancroft Church; preacher, the Ven. Thomas J. Perowne, Archdeacon of Norwich. Luncheon at 1 p.m. at St. Peter Mancroft Parish Hall, 2s. per head to resident members. The business meeting for the election of officers for the year follows. Please notify your intention of being present at the luncheon. Kindly note subscriptions are due. —Nolan Golden, Gen. Sec. and Treasurer, Winton, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Woolos, Newport, on Easter Monday, April 18th. Bells available from 2 o'clock. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea and business to follow in Water's Lane Mission Room.—J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., Cartref, Alteryn View, Newport, Mon.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Long Sutton on Easter Monday, April 18th. Bells available from 12.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Will those intending to be present kindly let me know by April 12th?—Geo. Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for April: St. Giles', Cripplegate, 19th; St. Andrew, Holborn, 21st; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 26th; St. Magnus', Thames Street, 28th. *Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Sec., Brankstone, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells (10) available from 2 o'clock. Service 4 p.m. Tea by invitation of the Cathedral Society. Business meeting. St. Cuthbert's bells (8) will be available in the evening.—Charles R. Raine, Hon. Sec., 21, Grosvenor Crescent, Edinburgh.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Wednesbury on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells from 3. Service in church at 4.45. Tea (1s.) in Parochial House at 5.30. Please send word not later than Tuesday, 19th inst.—H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Stratfieldsaye on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells available from 2.30. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Business meeting follows. All requiring tea please notify by April 19th.—J. G. Stilwell, Hon. Sec., Lea Cottage, Yateley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Rishton on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited. Subscriptions due.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual meeting at Guildford, Saturday, April 23rd. Bells of the Cathedral available 3.30 to 4.15, S. Nicolas' Church (10) and Shalford (8) 3 to 4.15 p.m. Service in St. Mary's Church, Quarry Street, 4.30 p.m. Tea at Holy Trinity Parish Hall 5.30, to be followed by business meeting. Further ringing afterwards at S. Nicolas' and Shalford. Numbers for tea by Tuesday, April 19th.—J. S. Goldsmith, Hon. Sec., Southover Cottage, Pyrford, Woking, Surrey.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Annual meeting, April 23rd, at Ipswich. The bells at St. Mary-le-Tower (12) and St. Margaret (8) will be available. Committee meeting in vestry of St. Mary-le-Tower 4 p.m. Service 4.30. Address by Rev. Canon G. H. Round-Turner. Tea and meeting 5.15 at Co-op Hall.—Harold G. Herbert, Hon. Sec., 61, Acton Lane, Sudbury.

ALDENHAM (8 bells), Saturday, April 23rd. Bells open from 3.30. Tea, Social Club, 5.30. Usual business. Ringing till 8.30. (Herts Association.)—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey (City 4270). Cycles can be put up at club. Nearest stations, Bushey or Radlett. Excellent bus service.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. John's, Hillingdon, on Saturday, April 30th. Full particulars later.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. G. E. Feirn has removed to Grasby, Lincoln.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. H. W. Impey (captain of St. Mary's tower, Banbury) has removed to 1, St George's Crescent, Easington, Banbury, Oxon.

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