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HISTORY.

History is not only a most fascinating subject for those who study it; it is one of the best means we have of understanding the conditions and problems of the present. It is pre-eminently so in the case of the Exercise and the art of change ringing, for few things with which we are acquainted are so much the direct result of past events or have deeper roots in bygone years than they have.

We may be quite certain that if we had not inherited change ringing from our ancestors it never could have been invented in our days. We may go so far as to say that there was only one period in the history of the people of England and the Church of England when change ringing could have appeared; and the fact that it did appear, and develop with increasing vitality, was due not only to the inherent qualities of the art, but equally to the peculiar religious and social conditions of the time, conditions which for the most part have passed away, but which have left their deep impress on the character of Englishmen.

When we closely study the history of the Exercise through the centuries we are conscious of two main tendencies which dominate everything and have made ringing and ringers what they are to-day. The first was the obscure influence which took what had already been a purely athletic sport; classed in the time of Shakespeare among other manly sports, such as football and wrestling, and transformed it by adding to it an art based on a strictly mathematical science. The story of the Exercise during these last three centuries is largely concerned with the way in which this combination of athletics, art and science developed and gave evidence of vitality which after all these years shows no signs of exhaustion.

But that is only half the story. By a strange chance to which we may fairly apply that much abused word 'unique,' the athletic sport of the sixteenth century used for its tools the bells of the parish churches. The bells had already much older and much more important uses, uses which were concerned with the services of the Church and, almost equally, with the civic and common life of the people. The use of church bells for the purposes of a sport seems to many to-day an unnatural and improper one, but it did not seem unnatural or improper two or three hundred years ago, and the very fact that it was practically universal and has lasted so long forbids us to condemn it offhand. Men in those days were not less zealous in the cause of religion or the service of God.

What we should do is to try and understand how all this happened, and when we do so we are conscious of

(Continued on page 510.)

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another tendency which should form the second great in-
terest in our study of the history of the Exercise—the
tendency, which at first, and for long, alienated the art
of change ringing from direct participation in the services
of the Church, and then sought to bring into harmony
things which in their nature seem so very diverse.

The relation of the Exercise to the Church is a subject
which calls for much close and careful study, and any
hasty and ill-informed judgment on it is to be deplored.

The Exercise and the art of change ringing are what
they are by virtue of their past. They live to-day be-
cause of the life that was given them three centuries ago.
And because they are alive, and as long as they are alive,
on the one hand they cannot break with their past, and
on the other hand they must adapt themselves to the
conditions of the present.

The problem of the future existence of the Exercise
can be summed up in a sentence. There must be in-
creased and close co-operation with the Church; and on
the other side there must be no weakening of the interests
which first created the art of change ringing and then
sustained and developed it through the centuries.

HANDBELL PEALS.

DUBLIN.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, November 1, 1942, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT 23, SCREEN ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten different callings.

MISS ADA C. DUKES 1-2 | FREDERICK E. DUKES 3-4

*MRS. F. E. DUKES 5-6

Conducted by F. E. DUKES.

Witness—Miss Irene Eyre.

* First peal. First handbell peal by all the band. Believed first
peal by members of the same family outside England, viz., sister,
husband and wife.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Sunday, November 1, 1942, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 18 in G.

GEORGE A. FLEMING 1-2 | CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 5-

HOBART E. SMITH 3-4 | WILLIAM J. G. BROWN 7-

WILLIAM P. GARRETT... .. 9-10

Composed by W. GARRARD. Conducted by CHAS. J. SEDGLEY.

LIQUID REFRESHMENTS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—It would be interesting to know where M. F. Ll. Edwards
got his information about the above subject at Sefton, near Liverpool,
and the approximate date when it occurred.

I showed the letter to our Rector, who is writing a book about the
parish of Sefton. He tells me he has not come across it when going
through past records. There never was an abbey at Sefton and so
not likely to be an Abbey Arms. S. FLINT.

39, Sefton Lane, Mayhull, near Liverpool.

SIXTY YEARS AGO.—Of all the sad things that have happened to
our Norfolk villages, two of the saddest and most to be regretted
are, first, the decay of all instrumental music among the country
people; and, secondly, the decay of bellringing.

How has this deplorable effacement of our rural music been brought
about? There is only one answer—It has been brought about by the
general deluge of smug and paralyzing respectability which has over-
run our country villages. And for this I am bound to say the clergy
and their families are in great measure answerable.—The Rev.
Augustus Jessopp, D.D., Rector of Scarning, Norfolk, 1886.

THE LATE JOHN JAGGAR.

As was announced briefly in our last issue, Mr. John Jaggar passed away on October 30th, at the age of 81. The funeral was on the following Tuesday at Oldbury Road Cemetery, West Smethwick, where he was laid to rest in the same grave as his wife, who was buried there 27 years ago.

In addition to members of his family, several of his ringing friends were present to pay their last tribute to one who for so many years had been a popular and well-known figure in the Midlands. His old friend, Mr. John Austin, of Gloucester, was there, while the St. Martin's Guild was represented by Mr. Albert Walker (vice-president), Mr. E. T. Alloway and Mr. F. E. Haynes (Ringing Master). Among the numerous wreaths was one from the St. Martin's Guild, and at the conclusion of the service a plain course of Grandsire Triples was rung at the graveside by J. Austin 1-2, F. E. Haynes 3-4, A. Walker 5-6; E. T. Alloway 7-8.

Mr. Jaggar's kindly personality and unflinching good humour, his ever cheerful countenance and twinkling eyes, his readiness to help at all times, his obvious enjoyment of all things appertaining to ringing—including a 'pint of the best'!—and, above all, his quiet gentlemanly bearing and innate modesty, endeared him to all. Although well on in his 82nd year, he retained his interest in ringing to the very end, and was, indeed, an active performer on tower bells until the ban was imposed two years ago. His ringing career, in which may be seen reflected much of the development of change ringing throughout the last sixty years or so, is one of which any man might well be proud.

Born at Oxford on January 3rd, 1861, John Jaggar received his first lesson in bellringing on May 6th, 1869, at St. Thomas' Church, his tutor being his father, Mr. Charles Jaggar, ringer and chorister, master cooper and a Freeman of the City of Oxford. Little over a year later John Jaggar was responsible for the introduction to the Exercise of one who was to become one of the greatest ringers of all time. At the age of 9½ he persuaded a six-year-old schoolfellow, Jim Washbrook by name, to climb up into St. Thomas' tower with him and get into the belfry, where he proceeded immediately to show his young companion how to pull a bell.

In 1873 the Jaggar family moved to Burton-on-Trent, and Jack became one of the choirboys at St. Paul's Church. There he assisted the Rev. J. H. Fish in the instruction of a band of young ringers, who were allowed to ring on Sundays from 7 to 8 a.m. and on Monday evenings, while the old 'regulars' rang on Thursday and for the morning and evening services on Sundays. When, in 1879, trouble arose with the 'regulars' and the Vicar 'sacked' four of them, Jaggar and his pupils were invited to fill the vacancies. This they did, and so rapid was their progress that on November 6th they rang their first peal, one of Kent Treble Bob Major. This band at St. Paul's became the pioneers of Surprise ringing, for after Double Norwich they rang a peal of Superlative in 1884, Cambridge in February, 1887, and New Cambridge (then called the 'Burton Variation').

John Jaggar took an active part in all these performances, not only as a ringer, but to some extent as conductor and composer, a notable composition being 5,024 New Cumberland Major rung at St. Paul's in 1886, the first peal ever rung in that method. In that year also he took part in a 'silent' peal of Stedman Triples at Burton, which was witnessed by the Birmingham worthy Henry Johnson. He was one of the foundation members of the Midland Counties Association and for some years he occupied the position of local secretary, while on May 5th, 1888, he conducted the first peal on handbells for them. At this time also he acted as instructor to the ringers at Ashby-de-la-Zouch.

Whilst at Burton he was employed as cooper at Bass' Brewery, in the same trade as his father. In 1897, however, he left Burton and went first to Wolverhampton and later to Oldbury, where he became landlord of the 'Wrexham.' We can well visualise the convivial ringers' gatherings that would take place under his patronage. A notable performance of this period was the 'John' peal at Hagley, Holt's Original, in 1902, which he conducted.

His association with Birmingham was of long duration. In 1884 he was one of the band who rang in Henry Johnson's last peal, 5,093 Stedman Caters on February 23rd. The names of those who rang that peal are worthy of mention: H. Bastable 1, G. H. Phillot 2, H. Johnson, sen. 3, H. Johnson, jun. 4, W. R. Small 5, J. Jaggar 6, Rev. C. D. P. Davies 7, J. Buffery 8, W. Wakley 9, S. Reeves 10.

He regularly attended the Henry Johnson dinner, and on several occasions was entrusted with the toast of 'The Memory of Henry Johnson,' which he always rendered in a witty and attractive manner, being possessed of a fund of interesting anecdotes concerning famous ringers of the past. Always ready to give a helping hand, he was one of the first to offer his services when Birmingham Cathedral bells were recast in 1937, at which church he rang regularly until the ban came, while he was also a frequent visitor to St. Martin's. On Christmas morning, 1940, he rang handbells at the Cathedral, and, there being no public transport, then walked home—a distance of six miles, being then a young man of 80!

(Continued in next column.)

SPORT AND CHURCH WORK.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am fond of the gun and dog, and also of change ringing. I have often been invited to a partridge drive on the same day that I have been booked to stand in for a peal. The sport of ringing a peal has always won. I have gone ringing.

My shooting friend said to me, 'I cannot understand you giving up a good day's partridge drive to go ringing.' My reply was, 'You are not a ringer. You do not understand the fascination of ringing a peal of Stedman, getting the bells into a beautiful beat, and all the band trying to keep them there. More combination is required in ringing than in football.'

Peal ringing will always be a sport to me, and the best of sport.

R. EDWARDS.

Tenterden.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT WOOLWICH.

The annual district meeting of the Lewisham District of the Kent County Association was held in the Rectory, St. Mary's, Woolwich, on October 24th, some twenty members attending.

Handbell ringing during the afternoon was followed by a short service, conducted by the curate, the Rev. P. Astre, who gave a very fine address worthy of a larger audience.

The business meeting followed, the curate presiding. Extending a warm welcome to Woolwich, the Chairman apologised for the unavoidable absence of the Rector, the Rev. Cuthbert Bardsley.

The district secretary made a statement of the activities of the past year and presented the balance sheet, which was adopted.

Mr. A. G. Hill was re-elected as district secretary, Mr. E. Barnett enjoyed the continued confidence of the members as district representative, Mr. J. Bailey, of Dartford, being appointed as his co-representative in place of Mr. T. Groombridge, jun., whose removal from the district had vacated the post. Mr. T. Groombridge, sen., was reappointed Ringing Master.

In response to a kind invitation, it was resolved to hold the January meeting at Woolwich, when it is hoped the Rector will be able to attend.

Questions were asked about the annual reports, and the district secretary was instructed to get into touch with the secretary of the association concerning this matter.

News of serving members in various theatres of war was welcomed.

The secretary was instructed to convey the sympathy of the members to Mr. J. Morton, of Erith, in his recent sad bereavement.

A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector for the use of the Rectory room and to the curate for his address and for presiding at the meeting.

Further handbell ringing followed to complete an enjoyable afternoon and evening.

RINGERS' JUGS AND PITCHERS.

Sixty years ago this week a correspondent wrote to 'The Bell News' and asked if it was correct that the ringers of St. Peter's, Norwich, always have a new year's feast in the belfry in the shape of hotpot and bread and beef; and was it subscribed for by the principal gentry of the city.

This brought a reply that it used to be the custom for the leading citizens to meet in the tower on New Year's Eve, when the contents of a kind of loving cup contributed by one of the churchwardens was handed round, the ringers, of course, coming in for their share. The cup or pot (for it is simple earthenware) bears the date 1648.

The custom was discontinued in the year 1876 when the Rev. Sidney Pelham became Vicar.

THE LATE JOHN JAGGAR.

(Continued from previous column.)

But perhaps his greatest 'labour of love' was his custom of arranging for a handbell party to visit West Bromwich Hospital on Christmas Day and entertain the patients with tuneful selections. This he did for 34 years in succession, for some time in company with Mr. Reuben Hall, more recently with Mr. Jesse Screen.

Mr. Jaggar belonged to various ringing societies, among them being the Midland Counties Association, the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham, the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford and the Oxford Diocesan Guild, of which he was one of the original members. In all he rang 212 peals, 36 as conductor:—

Grandsire Triples 53 (conducted 15); Grandsire Caters 10 (2); Stedman Triples 58 (10); Stedman Caters 8; Stedman Cinques 3; Plain Bob Major 3 (1); Kent Treble Bob Major 15 (2); Kent Treble Bob Royal 3; Double Norwich Major 22 (6); Double Oxford Major 2; New Cumberland Surprise 1; Cambridge Surprise 6; Superlative Surprise 22; London Surprise 3; Duffield Royal 1; Forward Major 1; Forward Maximus 1; total 212 (36).

FABIAN STEDMAN AND HIS CONTEMPORARIES.

(Continued from page 501.)

The 'Tintinnologia,' as I have said, marked the close of a period in the development of change ringing, and it was followed by a great expansion of the art. Five-bell ringing had already almost reached its zenith, and there was little room for further improvement. Seven and eight-bell ringing was not practicable except rarely, because there were as yet few complete octaves. But on six bells there was a very great development of method ringing. In many of the large towns men were composing and bands were practising methods of a style which a few years before would have been thought impossible, and indeed it would have been impossible to ring them had not great improvements been made in bell hanging.

The most important of these was the introduction of the complete wheel. Down to the beginning of the seventeenth century bells were fitted with half wheels, which were a development from the original levers fitted to the stocks and which served well enough for the round ringing which at one time was the common use. When changes were introduced, the circumference of the wheels was increased so that the bells could be rung at a 'greater compass,' as the phrase was. They could now be rung up to a 'set pull' at handstroke, and it was possible to make changes there, though hardly at backstroke, and so the early skilled bands rang their peals in whole-pulls.

Duckworth in the 'Tintinnologia' gives some instructions for hanging bells, and the wheel he refers to is the three-quarter wheel. This explains a passage in the book which has been much misunderstood by later writers. 'Tis very convenient,' he says, '(if the frame will permit) to fasten a piece of timber about half a foot long on the end of the main spoke at the top of the wheel (whereon the end of the rope is fastened), with a notch on the end of it; so at the setting of the bell the rope will hit into that notch from the roll, and this will make the bell lie easier at hand when it is set, and fly better.'

This is not, as has been supposed, a form of stay and slider. The piece of timber was fixed to the spoke where the circumference of the wheel ended, and acted as a lever. When Duckworth spoke of a bell being set; he did not mean what we should mean now. He meant that it was held on the balance by the ringer. Stays and sliders were as yet unknown.

Whether this arrangement was ever generally adopted, we do not know, for the spread of method ringing was bound to lead to the introduction of the full wheel. The earliest example of it I know of is the ring of five at St. Bartholomew's by the Exchange, which were fitted with round wheels in 1649. It naturally would take some time for the improvement to become general, but it was common by 1677. About the same time (though of this there is no definite information) woollen sallies were put to ropes.

Of the new methods and the names of their composers, most has been forgotten; but we know that at Nottingham what we now call Single Court Minor was produced and rung, as well as other methods; and that at Oxford the third of the standard methods was composed and practised. Plain Bob was the logical development of the Sixes through the Singles and Doubles on four bells and

Old Doubles. Grandsire was the original work of Robert Roan. Oxford Treble Bob was a further important development opening up vast possibilities which even today have not nearly been exhausted.

At Oxford, too, were composed at this time Single and Double Oxford Bob, methods which have taken permanent places in the ringers' repertoire, as well as some others now obsolete.

Curiously enough, there seem to have been no composers among the London men, no one to carry on the work of Robert Roan and John Tendring and, though the College Youths were foremost in practising new methods, they had to go for their material to Fabian Stedman, who was generally recognised as the foremost authority on the science of ringing. There were other composers at Cambridge among the University men, and the most important of them was Samuel Scattergood.

A notable man among the divines of the late seventeenth century was Anthony Scattergood, a Cambridge graduate and a friend of Sancroft, afterwards the non-juring Archbishop of Canterbury. He was Rector of Winwick, in Northamptonshire, and a prebendary of Lincoln, and also of Lichfield. He was entrusted with the task of seeing the revised Book of Common Prayer through the press in 1662, and in the following year the University at the King's request conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Divinity.

His eldest son, Samuel, was born at the Rectory at Winwick in 1646. There are still three bells in the parish church, which were then already old, and on them quite likely the boy first learnt to ring. He was designed for the Church, and on April 29th, 1664, he was admitted a student of Trinity College, Cambridge, at the same time that Isaac Newton joined. He graduated B.A. in 1665 and M.A. in 1669, and in the previous year was elected a fellow of his college.

Samuel Scattergood's compositions in ringing are all interesting, though none has proved of permanent value. Winwick Doubles, which he named after his native place, is a bobbed lead of Grandsire with two kinds of singles; in My Honey the treble hunts in whole pulls; and one or two Six-scores are constructed by joining together different kinds of leads, thus anticipating by two and a half centuries modern spliced ringing.

He also tried to break fresh ground by introducing what he called Jumping Doubles, in which bells, instead of having an unbroken connected path, move up or down two positions at one blow. Although the idea of movement is supposed to be retained, this really broke the fundamental laws of the art, and was never adopted by the Exercise. The notion was not altogether new, for Roan had suggested the use of jumps in Grandsire and Plain Bob to get rid of singles.

In 1672, Scattergood joined the Society of College Youths. As he never was resident in London, this may have happened on a visit to the Metropolis, but perhaps more likely when the society visited Cambridge. If there is any truth in Parnell's statement that Stedman's Principle was first rung by the College Youths at St. Benet's, Cambridge, this was about the time.

In 1669, on the occasion of the opening of the Sheldonian Theatre, Scattergood and his father were incorporated members of the University of Oxford. In 1676

(Continued on next page.)

FABIAN STEDMAN.

(Continued from previous page.)

he took Orders. From 1678 to 1681 he was Vicar of St. Mary's, Lichfield, where a society of ringers, the Loyal Youths, was formed in 1685. By that time he had been appointed Rector of Blockley, after holding the vicarage of Ware for less than a year; but he was still intimately connected with Lichfield, for in 1682 he was collated to the prebend of Pipa Minor in the Cathedral, which had been held by his father. In the next year he succeeded his father in his other prebend at Lincoln Cathedral.

It is likely, therefore, that Scattergood was instrumental in putting the ring of ten bells in Lichfield Cathedral. He retained his love of ringing throughout his life. He was steward of the College Youths in 1676, and Master in 1685. His duties evidently in those offices were confined to the annual feast. At Blockley he added a treble to make a ring of six, and he visited other bell-fries in the Midlands.

In 1686, when Henry Bagley cast a new octave for Solihull, Scattergood was asked to give a report on them — '27th day of August, 1686. These are to certify whom it may concern; that I, Samuel Scattergood, Minister of Blockley in the County of Worcester, having several times viewed and tryed ye sound of ye 8 new Bells lately cast by Mr. Henry Bagley, Bellfounder, of ye Parish Church of Solihull in ye County of Warw. and now hung in ye sd. Church; especially at ye ringing thereof ye day and yeare above said by myself and about 20 other skillful p'sons accompanying me from Leicester to that purpose, doe with ye generall approbation & consent of ye

said Persons, judg all ye sd 8 Bells to be well and workmanlike made, every way right for tone and metall, ye chearfullest & best Ring of Bells for their weight that I have ever heard. And also that ye clappers and other iron work & tackle with which ye aforesaid 8 Bells are hung, are now made quite good, so as to need no further alteration that I know of. In witness whereof I have hereunto sett my hand this aforesd. 27th day of August ano dni 1686. Sam. Scattergood.'

Scattergood wrote and published a Greek poem, and in his lifetime had a great reputation as a preacher. One of his sermons was printed by order of King Charles the Second, and some years after his death fifty-two of his sermons were collected and published in two volumes. They are excellent discourses, such as with very little verbal alteration might be delivered to an educated congregation of the present day. A short quotation from one of them will give a very good idea of the preacher's character and outlook on the religious opinions of his time. He had drawn attention to a passage in the Gospel and went on to say that 'it was a reproof of the too hard censors of our age whose religion consists chiefly in sour looks, demure carriage, and a different garb from the rest of the world; who will needs have heaven peopled with none but morose and ill-natured persons, and think there is no way thither but from a cell or a hermitage, that will not allow a disciple of Christ to laugh.'

Samuel Scattergood died at Blockley, aged 50, and was buried there on December 10th, 1696. There is no memorial to him in the church save his name on the present third bell. His daughter gave £100 to the poor of the parish, a charity which is still administered.

(To be continued.)

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Hearty congratulations to Canon G. F. Coleridge, who reached his 85th birthday last Tuesday, and to Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, whose anniversary was yesterday.

Canon Marshall, president of the Yorkshire Association, has been appointed Rural Dean of Leeds.

In the middle of the last course of the peal rung at Ipswich on a recent Sunday the air raid sirens sounded, but that did not interfere with the completion of the peal.

By a remarkable coincidence, the death of Mr. John Jaggard occurred exactly (except for one day) fifty years after his full-paged portrait appeared in 'The Bell News.'

The Burton-on-Trent band rang 6,720 changes of London Surprise Major on November 8th, 1888. The composition, which has the extent with the tenors together, was the longest in the method at the time.

The first peal of Alliance Major was rung at Crawley on November 8th, 1894. It was composed and conducted by Mr. James Parker.

The Bushey band—Messrs. Hodgetts, Woolley, Cashmore and Brinklow—rang the first peal of Spiced Surprise Major (London and Cambridge) on handbells on November 8th, 1935.

The College Youths rang a peal of London Surprise Royal at Stepney on November 11th, 1907.

The first peal of Waveney Surprise Major was rung at Leiston on November 11th, 1933, and the first peal of Camdon by the same band on November 14th, 1931.

John Noonan called 6,003 changes of Stedman Cinques with a band of Junior Cumberland Youths on the old ring of twelve at Spitalfields on November 13th, 1797.

Sixty years ago last Wednesday the College Youths rang the first peal of Stedman Cinques on the bells of St. Leonard's Church, Shore-ditch. It was the first peal in any method on the bells for fifty-two years. James Pettit conducted, and Walter Jones, who was mentioned in Mr. Woodley's interesting letter last week, rang the 9th. Mr. F. E. Dawe is the only survivor of the band.

Three other living men took part in peals the 60th anniversaries of which fall in this week. Mr. James S. Wilde rang the tenor to Bob Major at Hyde, Cheshire, on November 10th, 1882; Mr. R. H. Brundle rang the 5th to Oxford Treble Bob Major at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, on November 14th; and Mr. Joseph Griffin called Penning's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples at Burton-on-Trent on November 9th. The late Mr. John Jaggard rang the 3rd to this last peal.

MR. NORMAN H. MANNING.

We are glad to hear that Mr. Norman H. Manning, of Chiswick, who was reported missing, is alive. He is a prisoner of war in Italian hands.

DEATH OF AN OLD LUTON RINGER.

The death is announced of Mr. Bert Wilson, who passed away on October 28th at the age of 69 years.

Mr. Wilson was born at Barton-le-Clay, Beds, and migrated to Luton, where he joined the Parish Church band and was a member for upwards of 43 years. He was a most conscientious member and always attended the tower for Sunday services twice a day and practices except during his holidays.

He was not a great peal ringer, although he had rung peals from Grandsire Triples to Bristol Surprise Major.

The funeral took place on October 31st at the church cemetery, preceded by a service in church. The Vicar of Luton, Canon Davison, who conducted the service at the Parish Church and officiated at the graveside, paid tribute to Mr. Wilson's services. His brother ringers sent a wreath and were represented at the service by Messrs. L. A. Goodenough, J. Herbert, F. Hunt and A. King.

He will be greatly missed in the belfry. He leaves a widow, four sons and a daughter to mourn their loss.

YORK MINSTER BELLS.

THE LAST PEAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—On Wednesday, November 9th, 1892 (50 years ago last Monday), the York band rang a peal of Grandsire Caters on the Minster bells. This peal will almost certainly be the last to be rung at York Minster. The reason for this is that just below the bell tower, in fact not 100 yards away, a nursing home has been erected in memory of Dr. Percy-Cust, who was Dean of York from 1880 to 1916. This puts the veto on the bells being rung for any length of time. Plenty of good ringers were eager to come to York to ring a peal for the Coronation of George VI., but the bar was not lifted even for that occasion. Of the band who rang the peal, all are dead except two, T. F. Earnshaw, who rang the 3rd, and George Worth, who rang the 4th, both now 74 years of age. George Breed, a noted heavy bell ringer in his day, rang the 9th, and Mr. W. H. Howard, the well-known northern ringer, then 71 years old, rang the tenor (with help, of course). Thomas Haigh was the conductor, number of changes 5,129, time 3 hours 35 minutes. GEORGE WORTH.

11, Howe Street, Acomb.

Mr. Earnshaw has sent us similar information.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

THE ANNIVERSARY LUNCHEON.

One hundred and six members and friends were present last Saturday at Slater's Restaurant, in the City of London, on the occasion of the anniversary luncheon of the Ancient Society of College Youths. The Master, Mr. Ernest G. Fenn, presided, the hon. treasurer, Mr. A. A. Hughes, being in the vice-chair. Canon G. F. Coleridge, was on the Master's right hand, and the company included Mr. A. B. Peck, the hon. secretary, Capt. Poyntz, the Rev. V. W. Dumphries, Messrs. E. P. Duffield, E. A. Young, A. Walker, J. Shepherd, R. Richardson, C. T. Coles, G. Steere, T. Hibbert, T. B. Worsley, J. Hawkins, J. Thomas, H. R. Newton, G. N. Price, F. Dench, W. Pasmore, R. F. Deal, T. Groombridge, C. Deane, E. C. S. Turner, C. Roberts, F. Sharpe, P. E. Clark, H. Miles, M. Atkins, F. Perrens, J. E. L. Cockey, J. Strickland, F. Skidmore, J. W. Jones, F. W. Rogers, C. Kippin, D. Cooper, W. Melville, A. Harman, R. Newman, J. Worth, D. Vincent, R. Bullen, R. Newman, W. Farley, F. Collins, C. Potheary, G. Cecil, J. Prior, L. Fox, G. Hoad, G. Kilby, J. Chapman, W. Williams, D. Clift, W. Hibbert, E. Hartley, J. Bullock and his son, R. Stannard, J. E. Davis, F. Newman, J. Wealdon, H. Hoskins, H. Pitstow, H. Hodgetts, W. Elson, J. Rumley, S. H. Green, D. Wright, H. Reynolds, A. W. Heath, R. Wilson, H. Markwick, R. Allen, W. Allen, W. Osborn, E. Owen, W. Miller, C. Dobbie, W. Hughes, W. C. Cook, W. Austin, H. Alford, A. H. Brown, C. Munday, C. Myer, H. Bishop, W. Dennis, A. Fox, G. R. Goodship, J. A. Trollope and others.

After the toast of 'The King,' given by the Master, had been honoured, a bobbed course of Stedman Cinques was rung on handbells by C. Roberts 1-2, A. Walker 3-4, F. Perrens 5-6, W. Williams 7-8, J. Thomas 9-10, A. B. Peck 11-12.

THE TOAST OF THE ANCIENT SOCIETY.

College Youths' was given by The toast of 'The Ancient Society of Mr. Charles T. Coles, the hon. secretary of the Middlesex County Association. He said: It falls to me this afternoon to propose what I think is, apart from the toast of 'The King,' the most important of the day, the toast of 'The Ancient Society of College Youths.'

I do not propose to dwell at length on the history of the early days of the society; all of us here have read Mr. Trollope's book on that subject, and should be quite conversant with that early history, but I do wish to say that the Ancient Society has been to the forefront of ringing ever since ringing started, and that any history of the society for the first 200 or 250 years of its existence would be almost a history of the Exercise itself, especially here in London. When our thoughts go back to those bygone days, to those early experts, we realise how greatly we are indebted to the College Youths for handing down to us so much of our present-day knowledge of our art.

At the present time our ringing is much more extensively organised. We have our territorial and diocesan societies all over the country, but we look up to the College Youths, not only as one of our chief links with the past, but as being amongst the leaders in progress and in all that makes ringing worth while.

During the last 25 years we have had two great interruptions in ringing. There was the war of 1914-18, and now there is another war. During the first Great War it was not too difficult to carry on and during that war the College Youths kept the society going. The position in this war, especially since the imposition of the ban, is much more difficult, as without bells there is little incentive to attend meetings. But the College Youths were not deterred—they carried on their fortnightly meetings. They were blasted and burned out of their old headquarters at The Coffee Pot, they lost many of their treasures, but they carried on elsewhere. Again Hitler went after them. He said, 'These people are keeping up the morale of the nation and they must be destroyed.' But the College Youths found quarters in the heart of the ruins of East London and still carry on, determined to keep up the continuity of their meetings. We honour them for their courage in such conditions.

WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

Now what of the future? This is something about which many of us have given a great deal of thought and of which we should like to know more. We may find that ringers will seriously consider organising themselves in one great society, a National Association. Well, this is not the occasion on which to start a discussion on that subject, and I do not wish to do so, but if such a project means that societies like the College Youths lose their identity, I go so far as to say that we want none of it (hear, hear).

Of the future there is one thing we can say for certain, things will not be the same again. We shall not be able to start just where we left off. When one looks round the ruins of this great city and other parts of London and sees the ruins of our churches and our bells, one realises that there will be many changes. We wonder sometimes if there will be any future at all. We shall need co-operation between societies, mutual assistance between ringers, and a sweeping aside of that exclusiveness that all of us, for some reason or other, have at times been guilty of. We must all work together, and in all this we may confidently look to the Ancient Society of College Youths to play a leading part.

I have one other point, perhaps a contentious one. There are certain barriers to membership of this society. I need not specify

what they are. The future will bring many changes. Might I suggest a change in this respect and that these barriers may be swept away? When one looks at this gathering and realises that about 100 ringers can come from all parts of the country in war time, one perhaps need hardly fear much for the future, and we are grateful to the College Youths for carrying on and giving us this opportunity of getting together and meeting old friends, and, might I add, of getting a good meal once in a while (laughter).

Gentlemen, I ask you to drink to the prosperity of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and I couple with the toast the name of the hon. secretary, Mr. A. B. Peck (cheers).

THE YEAR'S ACTIVITIES.

In his reply, Mr. Peck thanked Mr. Coles and the company for the way they had responded to the toast, and gave a summary of the society's activities during the preceding year. Twenty-five meetings, in addition to the annual meeting, had been held, and the Master, hon. treasurer and hon. secretary had attended them all. In addition, 92 members had attended, some of them 25 times. Nine peals had been rung, all by provincial members, and among them three called for special mention. They were the Stedman Cinques at Birmingham, the silent Holt's Original just a year ago, and the silent peal of Minor by the Bullock family.

Sixteen members had passed away during the year, and Mr. Peck asked the company to honour their memory by standing while he read out their names. He added the names of two friends of the society, Messrs. J. S. Goldsmith and W. J. Nevard.

A telegram of congratulation was received from the Barking ringers, and letters of apology for absence from Messrs. E. H. Lewis, J. H. B. Hesse, Rowland Fenn and F. S. Cole, and from Corporals K. Arthur and E. Coward. Mr. Lewis was able to put in an appearance before the day ended.

Mr. Peck paid a tribute to the work Mr. Hughes had done for the society, and said they were looking hopefully to the future and were ready to co-operate with all other societies in an endeavour to get ringing going again when the war is over.

Mr. E. P. Duffield, in proposing the toast of 'Kindred Ringing Societies,' first referred to the fact that, as in national affairs, so in the affairs of their beloved art of ringing, these were days of austerity. The ban on the ringing of bells was naturally imposing a strain upon those responsible for keeping in being and in a state of preparedness their ringing organisations, as it was also rendering exceedingly difficult the maintenance of the ringers' journal, 'The Ringing World.' But times of adversity always had the effect of drawing closer together those who shared common ideals and tastes, and the bond between the ringing societies were never more cordial.

The Ancient Society was honoured indeed that members and friends had assembled there that day from all parts of the country to join in the proceedings of the society's annual festival. Mr. Duffield thought it was entirely a good thing for them to break away for a few hours from their occupations, or should he say preoccupations, and to gain a renewal of strength in fellowship with kindred spirits such as were gathered there.

They rejoiced just now that, thanks to the bravery and devotion of the armed forces of the Crown (cheers), they met at a time when the general situation for the Allied Nations was brighter than for some time past. Whilst it was right that they should rejoice at the good tidings they were receiving, it was nevertheless right for them to remember that the price of the good news had to be paid in the blood and, in some cases, with the lives of their sons and brothers bearing the brunt of battle for us. Some of the latter would doubtless, in normal times, have been with them at their annual dinner that very day.

HARD TIMES AHEAD.

In conclusion, Mr. Duffield spoke of the hard tasks ahead of the ringing societies if change ringing was to be restored to the proficiency it had attained in the past two generations. He shared the views expressed by Mr. C. T. Coles and Mr. A. B. Peck that, in so far as co-operation between the various societies could assist, that co-operation would be forthcoming, and he believed that all who had the welfare of the ringing Exercise at heart would play their parts in getting the bells ringing again so soon as the ban was lifted.

Mr. Albert Walker replied to the toast in a pleasant and witty speech. He said he felt like the man who looked at his mother-in-law and said, 'Look what's been thrust on me!' He had been a member of the society for 46 years and he knew how much the provincial societies did appreciate the efforts of the College Youths to keep going and to maintain their old activities. Country ringers valued the opportunity of coming to gatherings like that one and the opportunity of meeting old friends. He was glad of the new spirit that was abroad, ringers were getting more broadminded and there was less of the rivalry that was not nearly so 'friendly' as it had been called. What was wanted was more co-operation, but it was far better that societies should keep their own individuality than that there should be one central association.

Mr. Walker referred to the discussion on umpires for handbell peals. He said that when they rang the College Youths' peal in Birmingham they had an umpire, but when they met later for Stedman Cinques there were only six of them. But there were six umpires, for not one of the band would have gone on if anything

(Continued on next page.)

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

(Continued from previous page.)

wrong had happened. We must trust the honour of bands and strive for the best. If there are any bands who want to ring false peals let them do it. They would only be doing themselves harm. The provincial ringers would support the society through thick and thin.

Mr. George Steere, the secretary of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, also replied. He said it was an honour to speak for all the kindred societies. When he was young he was told that if you wanted sociability you should join the Cumberlands, but if you wanted good ringing you should join the College Youths. He had joined the Cumberlands, but wherever he had met the College Youths he had experienced nothing but hospitality and friendship. They looked on the College Youths and admired them, and would go forward with the knowledge that with the help of that society they could look to the future with confidence.

The Master gave the toast of 'Absent Friends' and referred to those who were fighting for freedom, and those whom business had kept away that day. When the war is over they hoped to see their friends once more.

• PAST MASTERS.

Mr. E. A. Young asked the company to drink to the memory of the Masters of the society of 100, 200 and 300 years ago. Of Thomas Gray little was known. He joined the society in 1839, the last of Richard Mills' three years, and was thus a connection with their bicentenary. He was one of six who joined during those rather lean years (in 1835 there was no member joined and only one in 1837, the festival year). His address is given as Cromer Street. Four well-known ringers joined with him, viz., Bulgin, Sawyer, Balle and Hayworth.

Gray apparently never rung a peal. His name appears in the peuce book of the St. James' Society. The peals around the years of his Mastership, of which there were several, were mostly called by Tolladay, Landsell and Cox.

The Master in 1742 was Thomas Overbury. He joined the society in 1718, a year in which the Master's name is missing. Of those who joined with him, three others became Masters, Sir Henry Hicks in 1731, Matthew East in 1733, and Samuel Fielding in 1734-5. Overbury probably never rung a peal, and there was only one peal recorded by the society during his year, Bob Major at St. Margaret's.

Henry Mackworth joined the company in 1641, being seventh on the list. It was before the days of peal ringing. Two brothers, Henry and Robert Mackworth, the sons of Sir Henry Mackworth, of Empingham in Rutlandshire, were Masters in 1642-1643. Henry was the youngest in the long line of Masters of the society; Robert was admitted to the inner Temple in 1640, died in 1717, at the good old age of 97. A great link with the earlier days.

Mr. Young presented the society with a framed medallion portrait of the late Challis Winney, a replica of the bronze which was intended to be installed in St. Clement Danes' belfry.

'THE RINGING WORLD.'

Mr. A. A. Hughes, in proposing the toast of 'The Press,' said since our last anniversary we have suffered the grievous loss by death of the founder, owner and editor of our one ringing paper—John Goldsmith—and I do not propose at this meeting to make any personal reference to him except to repeat what a very great loss the whole Exercise has suffered and what a very dear personal friend so many ringers have lost. The details of his life and work have been published in 'The Ringing World,' and all here will have read the account.

The toast is 'The Press,' or, as I prefer to put it, 'Our Press.' We all realise that a paper is absolutely necessary, if only to enable our peculiar art to be properly organised. Take this gathering to-day as a small example—we have with us members and friends from many parts of the country, but how would it have been possible for us to make our arrangements known except through the medium of a paper such as 'The Ringing World.'? This is only one small example and there are so many others I could name.

It is now generally known that 'The Ringing World' was the personal property of John Goldsmith—his to close down or to carry on, as he wished, but he chose to carry on, although, unfortunately, at an appreciable loss. The loss was chiefly due to insufficient support and to some extent, I am more sorry still to say, to bad debts—I mean unpaid subscriptions. It is small wonder, therefore, that at the end his estate was in a very bad way, and I do not think there is any harm now in mentioning the fact that an accumulated debt of about £1,800 was due to the printers.

In February last, Mr. Fletcher, hon. secretary to the Central Council, discovered the state of affairs, and, as you all know, an appeal was launched for the personal benefit of the Editor. Unfortunately, the end came before he was able to enjoy much benefit. Several members of the Standing Committee attended the funeral and later were able to hold a meeting to discuss with the executors and Mr. Jenkins, of the Woodbridge Press, the question of the continuity of the paper. It was agreed that 'The Ringing World' should be carried on for the time being, the Standing Committee agreeing to guarantee the executors against any loss.

Well, the paper has carried on and has been managed entirely by Mr. Trollope. Mr. Trollope is not a journalist, nor has he had any

journalistic training. It is, therefore, all the greater reason that we should extend to him our sincere congratulations on the way he has carried on. He has really done a fine job of work, and the whole Exercise is deeply indebted to him.

I must, however, give a warning; it is no easy job, especially in these times, to carry on a specialised paper such as 'The Ringing World.' It depends almost entirely on the support of ringers, and if sufficient support is not forthcoming, well—the paper will have to cease. We all know, as I said before, that a paper is necessary, and it is, therefore, up to us all to see that sufficient support is forthcoming. I had hoped that we would have been able to place suggestions before the Exercise ere this, but Mr. Fletcher has had a mountainous job in sorting out the accounts, and, in addition, he has taken up another post in Yarmouth which has entailed much work. I, however, understand that he has now practically completed his report, and I hope very shortly we shall have something definite to suggest.

I now give you the toast of 'Our Press,' and couple with it the name of the Editor, Mr. Trollope, with our grateful thanks for all that he has done.

Mr. J. A. Trollope, replying, thanked Mr. Hughes for the kind things he had said and the company for the way they had drunk the toast. He did not know that he deserved it, but he thought he could say that he had tried to do his best. He considered himself very fortunate in this matter. All through his life in business he had been something of a square peg in a round hole, and now in his old age, when he was on the scrap heap, he had found a job for which he was by nature and inclination fitted. That was a great blessing. There were, however, drawbacks. Journalism is a trade which has to be learnt like any other trade, and he had to serve his apprenticeship after he was 60 years old. There were some things he could not do. He could not report speeches. Goldsmith was a trained journalist and gave his skill and knowledge to the service of ringers. They would probably find the difference in the report of that meeting, but he hoped with the help of Mr. Peck to do what could be done.

A NARROW MARGIN OF SAFETY.

Mr. Trollope said he did not think ringers realised by how small a margin of safety 'The Ringing World' had survived the last three years. He was not referring to the financial question. That was serious, but, fortunately, it was not his immediate concern. It was in better hands, and it could, and would, be solved. What he meant was that there was a real danger that the paper would have to cease for want of material. Before the war Mr. Goldsmith had told him that he did not expect to be able to carry on the paper if war did come. All he hoped for was to preserve continuity by a small monthly periodical. The day after war was declared the speaker went to see Goldsmith and they discussed matters. They decided to carry on as long as possible, but the future was very bleak. All the supplies of copy which normally filled the paper suddenly ceased. He would not tell them what plans they made, but he did thank those people who had written letters on different matters. They were most helpful, and he asked anyone who had anything to say to write. If they wished, they could do so anonymously. We know some people do not like anonymous letters, but they are quite legitimate, and he would see that there was no abuse in the use of them. The difficulties of finding good copy did not lessen as time went on, they increased, but he hoped to be able to carry on until better times came.

The annual business meeting followed the lunch. One honorary member, Mr. R. W. Wilson, churchwarden of St. Lawrence Jewry, was elected, and four ringing members, Messrs. J. F. Milner, of Kirklington, F. G. Bullock, of Dagenham, Titus Barlow, of Bolton, and W. C. Cook, of Woodford.

The Master proposed a very sincere vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Hughes who, he said, not only took the society in when they were homeless, but also fed them. The treasurer responded and thanked the Master on behalf of Mrs. Hughes and himself, and said the society would always be welcome at the Bell Foundry.

Mr. R. T. Hibbert was then called to the chair and the society re-elected Mr. Fenn as Master, Mr. A. B. Peck was re-elected hon. secretary, Mr. A. A. Hughes treasurer, Messrs. Waugh and Cecil stewards, and Messrs. Newton and Miles trustees.

A course of London Surprise Major was rung on handbells by E. C. S. Turner 1-2, W. Williams 3-4, C. Roberts 5-6, C. H. Kippin 7-8.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT SWINDON.

An enjoyable meeting of the Swindon Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Association was held at Christ Church, Swindon, on Saturday, October 31st, when eight of the ten tower bells were available for ringing. Ringers attended from several local towers, and some welcome visitors were Pte. S. T. Russell, R.A.S.C. (Rotherfield, Sussex), and Tpr. S. J. Elliott, Northants Yeomanry (Yardley Hastings), also A.C. Jack Roberts, a local ringer now in the R.A.F. Good use was made of the bells, Grandairs and Stedman Triples and Plain Bob and Kent Major being rung on the tower bells, and Grandairs Triples on handbells. Despite the lack of constant practice, it was good to see the ringers had not lost their skill, although some of the striking may have been faulty. Christ Church bells still 'go' as well as ever, and it is hoped more will come along to the next meeting.

DETACHED TOWERS OF ENGLAND.

BY ERNEST MORRIS.

In England there are quite a number of detached campaniles, bell-towers and small bell-houses belonging to various churches. Many have, for divers reasons, been demolished and destroyed. In mediæval days they were attached to several cathedrals, as, for instance, Old St. Paul's, Chichester, Salisbury, Worcester, Rochester.

The bells of Old St. Paul's were traditionally gambled away by Henry VIII in 1534, and the campanile at Worcester did not survive the Reformation. That at Salisbury—a most picturesque structure with a wooden spire—survived until 1777. Westminster Abbey had a detached tower, and the remains of the 'five-bell tower' on the north side of Rochester Cathedral are still to be seen. That at Chichester alone remains to this day, and is a fine perpendicular erection, 120ft. high, containing a clock with chimes, a ring of eight bells, and a large bourdon bell. The bells of Oxford Cathedral now hang in a tower some distance away from the cathedral itself, having been removed from the tower and spire when the latter was considered unsafe. A similar instance occurs at Holy Trinity, Coventry, where the eight bells hang in a wooden tower in the churchyard. The bells of St. David's Cathedral (Wales) do not hang in the Cathedral tower, but in the Gateway tower, some distance away.

At King's College, Cambridge, there was a noble ring of five bells hung in a low wooden belfry on the north side of the chapel. The structure was destroyed when the bells were sold in 1754. New College, Oxford, possesses a fine detached tower containing a ring of ten bells. Some of the parish churches of England have similar detached towers, many being most curious in their quaint positions, and their unusual architecture. Thus at Gunwalloe, Cornwall, the tower stands fourteen feet away from the church, and is of two stages with pyramidal roof, and contains three bells. On three sides the walls are formed of the solid rock against which it stands.

Talland tower, formerly detached, is now connected to the church by a recently erected large porch with two entrances. Launceston tower, which contains a ring of eight bells, is also now similarly connected to the church by a room used as a vestry. Herefordshire has quite a number of quaint detached towers of curious design, viz., Bosbury, Pembridge, Yarpole, Richards Castle and others. That at Ledbury is surmounted by a fine spire, 120ft. high. Norfolk, too, has a number of detached belfries, that at West Walton being the finest. It stands 70ft. away from the church, forming a grand entrance to the churchyard, and contains five bells.

Little Snoring has a detached round tower, and a similar one is at Bramfield, Suffolk. One of the quaintest of these detached belfries is at Brookland, in Kent, described as 'three old-fashioned candle snuffers placed one on another.' It is of massive oak framing, weather boarded, and contains five bells. At Warmsworth, Yorkshire, the tower (of the 12th century) stands just outside the hall entrance, fully half a mile from the church. The Rector writes: 'We have no peal, only a terrible bell which rings for a quarter of an hour before Sunday services.'

At Evesham, Worcestershire, is a beautiful detached tower with a roadway through its base, standing in two churchyards, those of All Saints' and St. Lawrence's. It

is a magnificent building begun by Sortes before 1207, and rebuilt in the 15th century as a receptacle for the clock and great bell of the Abbey, as well as to form a gateway to the conventual cemetery, as it still does to the churchyard. It is 110ft. high, 28ft. square, containing a clock and noble ring of ten bells.

East Bergholt, Suffolk, has a quaint 'bell-cage' in the churchyard, a low building with a tiled roof, in which hang five heavy bells hung in pits, complete with headstocks and wheels. Elstow, Bedfordshire, is renowned for its connection with John Bunyan, the famous author of 'Pilgrim's Progress' and other religious works. Here also is a detached campanile which now has a ring of six bells. In Bunyan's day there were five, and he himself used to ring the fourth bell. Carfax tower, Oxford, is all that remains of St. Martin's Church, which was demolished in the 18th century. It has a ring of six bells which are rung on civic occasions.

In the private grounds of Quex Park, near Birchington, Kent, there is the tower called 'Waterloo Tower,' which was erected by J. Powell-Powell, Esq., an enthusiastic ringer, who placed therein a ring of twelve bells. The following list embraces the detached towers of Great Britain, and if there are any omissions I shall be grateful if readers will rectify same. The figures in brackets denote number of bells in the tower, and an asterisk (*) denotes the tower is semi-detached:—

- Bedfordshire.—Elstow (6), Marston Mortayne (5), Woburn Mortuary Chapel (8).
 Berkshire.—*Theale (6).
 Brecknock.—Bronllys (?).
 Cambridgeshire.—Tydd St. Giles (6).
 Cheshire.—*Astbury (6).
 Cornwall.—Chacewater (?), Feock (3), Gwennap (6), Gunwalloe (6), Illogan (6), Lamorran (3), *Launceston (8), Mylor (3), *Talland (6).
 Cumberland.—Kirkoswald (2).
 Devon.—Chittlehampton (8).
 Durham.—Middleton-in-Teesdale (3).
 Denbigh.—Henllan (?).
 Essex.—*Hempstead (?), *Wix (1), *Wrabness (1).
 Glamorgan.—Llanfelach (4).
 Gloucestershire.—Berkeley (8), Westbury-on-Severn (8).
 Hampshire.—Gosport, Holy Trinity (8), *Quarley (3).
 Herefordshire.—Bosbury (6), *Garway (5), Holmer (6), *Kinnersley (4), Ledbury (8), Pembridge (5), Richards Castle (3), Yarpole (3).
 Kent.—*Bilsington (1), Brookland (5), Westgate-on-Sea (?), Quex Park (12).
 Lancashire.—Bradshaw (1), Ringley (1).
 Lincolnshire.—Fleet (8), Flexborough (1), Long Sutton (8).
 Middlesex.—Hackney, St. Augustine's (?), Hornsey, St. Mary's (6), *Twickenham, All Hallows' (nil).
 Northants.—*Irthlingborough (8).
 Norfolk.—East Dereham (8), Terrington, St. Clement's (8), *Terrington, St. John's (6), Little Snoring (5), West Walton (5), Woodrising (1).
 Northumberland.—Morpeth (8).
 Oxford.—New College (10), Christ Church Cathedral (12), Carfax (6).
 Pembroke.—St. David's Cathedral (8+2).
 Suffolk.—Beccles (10), Bramfield (5), Bury St. Edmunds (10), *Elvedon (8+1), East Bergholt (5).

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**THE USE OF SINGLES
IN SEVEN-BELL METHODS.**

(Continued from page 506.)

We saw last week that if we wish to compose a peal of Bob Triples, or one of the kindred methods, without singles, we must first bob a Q Set, which will involve the observation bell. That will join into one round block three independent natural courses, two of which are of one nature, and the other of the other nature.

We used as our example the following:

- 36254 out.
- 42536 fourths.
- 23456 in.

The first two are both odd, the third is even. What we must do next is to join the right twenty-eight out-of-course natural courses to 36254 and 42536; and the right twenty-nine in-course natural courses to 23456. So long as we compose by means of bobs at M, W and R, the courses we add to the first two can never be false with any we add to the third course, although every course we use contains an equal number of odd and even rows.

We picked our initial Q Set as the most suitable for purposes of illustration, but any Q Set would do as well, provided the seventh (the observation bell) is involved.

One of these operations is sufficient to enable us to produce a peal, but we are not confined to one; and if we want our peal to be in equal parts, we shall have to use at least three or five. And we can approach our task from another angle, though, of course, it comes to the same thing in the end.

In our issue of October 26th we explained the construction of Hubbard's Ten-part peal. We will turn back to it, and we will take the first half of it as the basis of a peal without singles. The first half is as follows:—

23456 M. W. R.

- 45236 — —
- 24536 — —
- 52436 — —
- 64523 — —
- 56423 — —
- 45623 — —

These six courses four times repeated will give us the thirty in-course courses we need. They are not all full natural courses, for that cannot be had by bobs alone, but we do get the same rows as we should if they were all full natural courses. If we make a single at any M, W or R, we can double the composition and produce the thirty out-of-course courses, and so get the complete peal.

Or, in any one of the first thirty courses, we can make a bob in which the seventh runs either in or out, and when we complete the Q Set we shall add two out-of-course courses, to which we can add, by means of bobs, the other twenty-eight out-of-course courses. But we cannot use the same calling as in the thirty courses, and so our peal will be somewhat irregular in form.

What we can do is to keep the first thirty courses as a regular five-part block, and by means of a Q Set involving the seventh add to each part the proper proportion of out-of-course courses. These will have to be in full natural courses.

	5,040.				
23456	M.	O.	F.	I.	W. R.
45236	—				—
24536					—
52436					—
35624	—	—			—
63524					—
56324					—
24356		—			—
32456					—
43256					—
64523			—	—	—
56423					—
45623					—

Four times repeated.

In a similar fashion it is possible by means of a Q Set of sixth's place bobs, which involve the treble, to obtain a 720 of Plain Bob Minor without singles. John Holt was the first man to discover this, and he composed extents of both Plain Bob Minor and Plain Bob Triples without singles. He was far in advance of his contemporaries in the knowledge of the in and out-of course of the changes.

Perhaps the most important general truth we have discovered in our investigations into the use of singles in the various classes of seven-bell methods is that it depends almost entirely on the symmetry of the natural courses and B Blocks of the methods, and also on the position at which the bobs are made. We must bear this in mind when we come to the last group of methods with which we have to deal—the group which is represented by Stedman.

THE BAN ON RINGING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The individual or those responsible for the ban on ringing are, I think, also responsible for the greater part of the damage our churches have suffered.

The order that bells must not be rung for church services, etc., but to be rung only in the event of enemy invasion, immediately made churches military objects, and, putting sentiment on one side, 'Jerry' was quite justified in his bombing of them.

The whole order is a muddle, as now after two years of 'ban' no one seems to know how the ringing to comply with the order will be done or who will do it. Had those responsible made a few inquiries before making the order they would have surely found out how silly the order would be and how difficult to carry out without arrangements and proper aid from ringers, but I suppose having made the order, to save his or their faces, they still say the order is necessary, and ringers will have to abide with that until victory is won, and in the meantime 'Jerry' will still have an excuse to bomb churches.

The dignitaries of the Church seem to take it all for granted, and I am very much afraid that, apart from the ringing clergy and a very small minority, the rest of the clergy do not care two hoots if their bells are rung or not, and that they would not be unduly worried if the ban becomes permanent.

Mount Pleasant, Liskeard, Cornwall.

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

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Joint meeting, Stockport, Bowden and Mottram Branch and Macclesfield Branch, at St. Thomas', Norbury (Hazel Grove), Saturday, Nov. 14th. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea in the school 4 p.m. Handbells during afternoon and evening.—T. Wilde and J. Worth, Hon. Dis. Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at Accrington on Saturday, November 14th. Silent tower bells and handbells from 2.30 p.m. Business meeting at 4 p.m. Business important. Election of officers. Bring your own refreshments, cups of tea provided. A good attendance is desirable.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Pinchbeck on Saturday, November 14th. Bells (silent) available from 2 p.m. Service 3.45 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.—W. A. Richardson, Hon. Sec., Glenside, Pinchbeck.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—Meeting on Saturday, Nov. 14th, at St. Mary's, Acton. Handbells in the church from 2.30 p.m. Short service at 4 p.m. Tea, as the guests of the Rector, followed by business meeting in the Rectory, after the service. The Rector specially asks for a good attendance, and is notifying the local Press of the meeting, so that people may come and hear the ringing. Outstanding subscriptions will be welcomed, and any information of interest relating to towers in membership for 1942.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 1, Listoke Edgehill Road, W.13. Perivale 5320.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—A practice will be held at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, on Saturday, November 14th. Bells (silent) available from 2 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Nicholas', Liverpool, on Saturday, November 21st. Meet in the vestry 3 p.m.

Handbells will be available. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by the meeting. Those requiring tea kindly let me know, and I will do my best to arrange for some. All ringers cordially invited.—George R. Newton, 57, Ampthill Road, Liverpool 17.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, November 21st, at the Bell Foundry, Whitechapel Road, E.1, at 3 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—The annual district meeting will be held at St. Peter's, St. Albans, on November 21st. Silent tower bells and handbells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at the St. Peter's Institute, Hatfield Road, followed by the business meeting. Please try to come and make this a representative meeting, letting me know numbers for tea.—R. Darvill, Dis. Sec., 23, Elm Drive, St. Albans.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery.—The next meeting will be held at Yatton on Saturday, November 21st. Bells (silent apparatus) available from 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at St. Chad's, Headingley, on Saturday, November 21st. Handbells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting 4.30 p.m.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds 12.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Newbury on Saturday, November 21st. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., followed by annual meeting. For tea, please notify Mr. H. W. Curtis, Church Road, Shaw, Newbury, by Wednesday, the 18th, at the very latest.—T. J. Fisher, Hon. Sec., Manor Lane, Newbury.

WANTED.

WANTED, COPIES of 'Double Norwich' (Snowdon) and 'Duffield' (Heywood).—Reply to Box 52, 'The Ringing World,' Woking.

ACCRINGTON.—On October 31st—in the belfry of St. James' Church, 720 Bob Minor: S. Smith 1-2, K. Hindle (first 720) 3-4, C. Sharples (conductor) 5-6.

DETACHED TOWERS OF ENGLAND

(Continued from page 517.)

Surrey.—Tongham (13 tubes), Lambeth, All Saints' (?).
Sussex.—Chichester Cathedral (8+1).
Warwickshire.—Coventry, Holy Trinity (8), *Lapworth (5).
Wiltshire.—Malmesbury Abbey (5), *Wilton (6).
Yorkshire.—Wentworth (?), Wykeham (5), Warmsworth (1).
Stirling.—St. Winan's.

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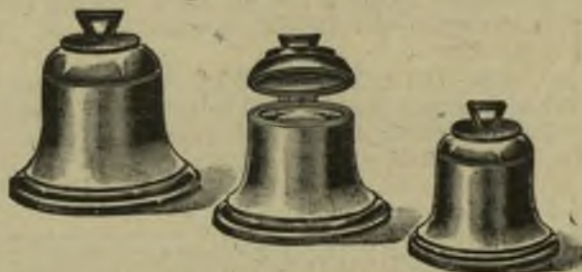
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