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RECONSTRUCTION.

Although the war is not yet over, responsible persons are already making plans and drawing up schemes for the rebuilding of our towns and cities damaged by enemy action. Elaborate schemes have been published for reconstruction in London, Liverpool and other provincial towns, and, but recently, for the City of London. All this is necessary, for directly peace comes there will be an urgent desire to resume those activities which the war interrupted, and unless authority has a definite plan ready, rebuilding will be begun on the old sites and the opportunity of creating better and more convenient towns will be lost. That was what happened to London in 1666. The Great Fire had laid waste the largest part of the City, the chance was offered to rebuild on a better plan and in a finer style, and the man of genius was there to prepare the plan. But authority was slow to act; before anything was decided the rebuilding was begun on the old lines, and the opportunity was lost. It is hoped that the mistake will not be repeated.

This is a matter which concerns everyone, for architecture is the one art which directly concerns everybody. The average man may be completely indifferent to styles and fashions in literature, and music, and painting; he cannot escape the influence of the street he lives in, the shop or the factory he works in, or the buildings he passes every day.

We, as ringers, have a further interest in restoration plans, for the art we practise is closely connected with architecture and indeed cannot exist without it. However fine a ring of bells, however skilful a band of ringers, there can be no ringing unless the tower they are associated with is a suitable one. Several hundred towers and spires will have to be rebuilt or repaired, and not one of them will be fit to hold a ringing peal of bells unless the architects who are responsible for the work know something of the problems that are involved and take care to find the correct solutions.

In the past it has been far too often the case that the last thing architects (even the most eminent) considered about church towers was that they should be capable of holding ringing peals of bells. Outside appearance was the first thing thought of and often it was the only thing. To it was sacrificed not only the necessary and right sort of strength of fabric, but the convenience of the ringers, the musical effect of the bells, and the space necessary to hang them properly. Thus

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there are throughout the country many tall slender towers and spires unbuttressed and almost detached from the church building in order to give an illusion of great height; towers with windows to the bell chambers so large and so badly placed that the bells can hardly fail to be a nuisance to the people in the vicinity of the church; towers where the belfry is cramped and ill-lighted and cluttered up with clock cases; towers where the noise of the bells in the belfry is overpowering and comfort in ringing an impossibility.

There is no need for these things. When the towers of our ancient parish churches were built they were intended first of all to carry bells, and when that condition had been fulfilled, men were able to make them beautiful as well. It could be so to-day, but unfortunately bells are seldom thought of until after the church is built. Architects do not take them into consideration, and like most other professional men, are not inclined to pay any attention to the opinions of outsiders. The men who could and do speak with authority on the subject, and who would be listened to, are the bell founders, but they have no chance of making their voices heard until after the tower is finished and the mischief done.

It is hard to say what remedy can be had. There may come a time when architects look on a steeple as a place for holding bells which can be made an ornament, and not merely an ornament in which by luck bells may sometimes be hung. But that time does not seem very near.

Meanwhile, any member of the Exercise who has any influence at all should do what he can to ensure that the work done in connection with repaired and rebuilt towers should be as suitable as possible. Any competent architect, when once he recognises the necessity, would have no difficulty in arranging for the bricking up of unduly large sound windows, the provision of deadening floors, the proper lighting of the belfry, and similar things. Carried out as part of the restoration work they would add little to the cost, but if left until afterwards they would quite likely make demands on the financial resources of the parish which would be difficult and perhaps impossible to meet.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

MEETING AT KNUTSFORD.

The Stockport and Bowdon Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild held its summer meeting at Knutsford on July 22nd. Service was conducted by the Vicar, who in his address gave the history of the ring of six bells, which had been doing service for over 200 years.

Mrs. Beeston occupied the chair at the meeting. She said that the bells recalled many memories of her husband, the late Rev. A. T. Beeston, who loved the bells and the work of the Guild. She was pleased to see so many young ringers present and she appealed to them to persevere in the work they had undertaken, a great and useful service to the Church and something which would be a pleasure to themselves.

Staley was selected as the place for the next meeting on September 9th, and an additional meeting was fixed to be held jointly with the Macclesfield branch at Macclesfield on October 14th.

Votes of condolence were passed with the relatives of the late Samuel Mottershead, of Bowdon, and with the relatives of the late Lieut. J. H. Lewis.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicar and wardens, the organist, the local ringers and the ladies who had provided the tea.

The hon. secretary, moving a vote of thanks to the chairman, referred to her long association with the branch as an hon. member and to the work of her late husband. He made the branch what it is to-day, and those who had the privilege of knowing him and working with him were ever inspired by his example.

Over 70 members and friends were present and visitors came from the Macclesfield, Northwich, Crewe and Grappenhall branches. Another visitor was Mr. J. Wheadon, of Dartford, Kent.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

HITCHIN.—On Sunday, July 16th, 1,008 Stedman Triples: C. V. Hare 1, T. R. Scott 2, R. Davidson 3, W. E. Symonds 4, H. Else 5, E. Winters 6, L. Fidler (conductor) 7, A. E. Symonds 8.

READING.—On Sunday, July 22nd, at St. Lawrence's, 1,269 Grandshire Caters: R. T. Hibbert (conductor) 1, Mrs. D. Catherall 2, Miss P. Hart 3, A. D. Cullum 4, Mrs. P. Lewington 5, G. Foxell 6, H. Smith 7, C. Pullen 8, E. Humphrey 9, E. G. Foster 10.

FULMER, BUCKS.—On July 23rd, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: G. E. Swift 1, A. C. Levett 2, G. H. Guttridge 3, N. V. Harding 4, P. H. Hicks 5, W. L. Guttridge (conductor) 6.

AUGHTON, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday, July 23rd, 720 Bob Minor, 6-8 covering: J. Marsh 1, S. Flint 2, J. Taylor 3, R. Kirby 4, R. Critchley 5, R. Moorcroft 6, A. Mawdsley (conductor) 7, C. Ackers 8.

BLACK NOTLEY, ESSEX.—On Sunday, July 23rd, 720 Bob Doubles: Rev. J. R. Southam 1, S. Bones 2, Pte. E. Elliot (Harlow) 3, D. Talbot 4, H. A. Pratt (conductor) 5.

RUSHMERE, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, July 23rd, 720 Bob Doubles: Michael Woodward 1, Miss Grace Jennings 2, John Jennings 3, James Jennings (conductor) 4, Frank Wiseman 5.

NORTON-IN-THE-MOORS.—On Sunday, July 23rd, for morning service, 720 Hanley Double Surprise Minor: S. B. Bailey 1, S. Ryles 2, J. E. Wheeldon 3, W. C. Lawrence 4, W. P. Deane (conductor) 5, J. Walley 6.—For evening service, 720 Durham Surprise Minor: J. Ryles 1, S. B. Bailey (first 720 Durham) 2, J. E. Wheeldon 3, W. C. Lawrence 4, W. P. Deane (conductor) 5, J. Walley 6.

APPLETON, BERKSHIRE.—On Sunday, July 23rd, 1,260 Grandshire Triples rung half-muffled: E. Drewitt (first quarter-peal) 1, A. Cornish first quarter-peal inside) 2, F. Messenger 3, H. White 4, H. White 5, R. White 6, C. G. Calcutt (first quarter-peal as conductor) 7, C. White 8.

EGHAM, SURREY.—On Sunday, July 23rd, 1,260 Grandshire Triples: W. Parker 1, W. Shepherd 2, B. J. Hessey 3, J. Crocker 4, R. J. Andrews 5, E. Morey (conductor) 6, W. Peck 7, J. Greenough 8.

STAINES.—On Sunday, July 30th, at St. Peter's, 1,260 Grandshire Triples: W. Parker 1, B. J. Hessey 2, W. Peck 3, W. Shepherd 4, R. J. Andrews 5, J. Crocker 6, E. Morey (conductor) 7, E. W. Ryder 8.

HALFSOWEN.—On Tuesday, July 25th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. Shilcock 1, G. H. Williams 2, A. Greenhall 3, W. H. Webb 4, L. Clissett 5, J. H. Cox 6, T. Greenhall (conductor) 7, A. H. Harris 8. Rung for the wedding of N. E. Saunders, a local ringer now in the Royal Navy, and Miss Joan Hunter, of Bournemouth.

GREAT GRANDSEN, HUNTS.—On Thursday, July 27th, 720 Bob Minor: F. Britten 1, S. Stubbings 2, H. Mason 3, H. Inskip 4, Cpl. Stubbs 5, F. W. Budgen (conductor) 6.

TROWBRIDGE, WILTS.—On Sunday, July 30th, 1,257 Stedman Caters: *Mrs. F. A. Penn 1, W. Loud 2, J. Francis 3, C. Butcher 4, R. Amor 5, W. B. Baxter 6, *F. A. Penn 7, *E. Parker 8, G. H. Harding (conductor) 9, S. Francis 10. *First quarter-peal of Caters in the method.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ANNUAL FESTIVAL.

The annual festival of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held at Oxford on July 22nd. Preceded by three courses of Stedman Cinques, service in the Cathedral was conducted by the Rev. C. E. Wigg, Deputy Master, the preacher being the Rev. W. E. McFarlane, Vicar of Blewbury.

As the Master was delayed by transport difficulties, Mr. Wigg took the chair at the business meeting, and when Canon Coleridge did arrive he asked his deputy to carry on until the end. All the officers were re-elected and were thanked for their services. It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Oxford, and to publish an abridged report for 1944.

Mr. Wigg congratulated Canon Coleridge on the completion of his fiftieth year as Vicar of Crowthorne, and the meeting enthusiastically supported him. Canon Coleridge thanked the members for their kind wishes.

Capt. Poyntz spoke of the untiring energy of the Master and asked that the appreciation of the Guild should be shown by being entered on the minutes of the meeting.

One hundred and thirty members sat down to lunch in St. Aldate's Rectory Room.

The Oxford Guild had made excellent arrangements for ringing, and during the afternoon and evening eleven of the college and city towers were open, always with someone in attendance. The ringing was in many methods from rounds, to Stedman Cinques and Bristol Surprise Major.

SUFFOLK GUILD.

MEETING AT BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

A meeting of the Suffolk Guild, held at Bury St. Edmunds on July 22nd, was attended by ringers from Lavenham, Great Barton, Waldingfield, Chevington, Chelmsford, Long Melford, Halstead, Newton, Cambridge, Horringer, Sudbury, Barningham and the local company. Various Minor, Major, Cater and Royal methods were rung on the fine rings of ten at the Norman tower, and eight at St. Mary's. Mr. R. Rippingale, of Wickham St. Paul, was made a life member.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GULL FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, July 22, 1944, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL, ASTON.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

FRED PRICE Treble	WILLIAM PATTIGREW ... 7
RICHARD C. INGRAM 2	*WILLIAM BEST 8
ERNEST T. ALLAWAY 3	FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH 9
A. PADDON SMITH 4	NELSON ELLIOTT, R.A.F. 10
FRANK E. PERVIN 5	ALBERT WALKER 11
GEORGE F. SWANN 6	WILLIAM T. FROGGATT ... Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by FRANK E. PERVIN.
* First peal of Stedman Cinques. Rung for the 70th birthday of Mr. F. W. Rishworth.

TEN BELL PEAL.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 29, 1944, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-DIVINE,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

MISS VALHALLA HILL... .. Treble	HAROLD J. POOLE 6
WALTER F. JUDGE 2	SIDNEY O. CHENEY 7
SHIRLEY BURTON... .. 3	REDVERS F. ELKINGTON ... 8
HARRY WAYNE 4	MAJOR J. H. FREEBORN ... 9
JOHN R. SMITH 5	ERNEST MORRIS Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.
A birthday compliment to the conductor.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

NORTH WINGFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 22, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

*ERNEST PAULSON Treble	STANLEY SLANEY... .. 5
WALTER ALLWOOD 2	G. GORDON GRAHAM 6
WILLIAM H. WAIN 3	HERBERT E. TAYLOR 7
VERNON BOTTOMLEY 4	JOHN E. TURLEY Tenor

Composed by BENJAMIN ANNABLE. Conducted by JOHN E. TURLEY

* First peal.

PINCHBECK, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 29, 1944, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 9 lb.

JOHN CURRY Treble	JOHN G. AMES 5
STANLEY E. BENNETT 2	HAROLD BARSLEY 6
WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON 3	ARTHUR J. FARR 7
*HORACE BENNETT 4	RUPERT RICHARDSON ... Tenor

Composed by STEPHEN H. WOOD. Conducted by R. RICHARDSON.
* First peal of Major. Rung for the wedding of Cyril R. Burrell, a ringer of the above church, and Miss Mavis L. Dowse, of Radcliff-on-Trent, who were married at Radcliff-on-Trent on the same date.

STRATTON ST. MARGARET, WILTS.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 29, 1944, in Three Hours, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation).

Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lb.

CHARLES J. GARDNER ... Treble	†WILLIAM A. T. CARTER ... 5
*THOMAS COLLINGWORTH ... 2	†A. GEORGE WELLS 6
*F. JOHN DANIELL 3	W. BERTRAM KYNASTON... 6
WALTER H. TRUEMAN ... 4	*WILLIAM M. GREENAWAY Tenor

Composed by W. B. KYNASTON.
* First peal of Triples. † First peal. ‡ First peal of Grandsire Triples. Rung for the tenor man's 72nd birthday.

SKIPTON, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 29, 1944, in Three Hours and Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb. in E flat.

*ERNEST RAYNER Treble	PERCY J. JOHNSON 5
ERNEST H. SIMPSON... .. 2	ALFRED SMITH 6
WILLIAM BARTON 3	CAPTAIN J. L. WRIGHT ... 7
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ... 4	FRED HODGSON Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.
* First peal of Surprise. Rung for the diamond wedding of Mr. and Mrs. W. Billows, of Skipton. Mr. Billows has been a ringer for upwards of 60 years, and a member of the Yorkshire Association since 1887. The first peal in the method on the bells.

DODDERHILL, DROITWICH, WORCESTERSHIRE
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 29, 1944, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE PART (7th observation) Tenor 18½ cwt.

ARTHUR G. THOMAS ... Treble	WALTER H. RAXTER... .. 5
CHARLES R. SMITH 2	THOMAS H. YOUNG 6
ALLEN MORGAN 3	REGINALD WOODYATT ... 7
GEORGE E. LARGE 4	*ALFRED SPARKES Tenor

Composed by WALTER H. RAXTER.
* First peal on eight bells.

SIX BELL PEALS.

MAULDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 29, 1944, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 of Oxford Bob, and two each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and two of Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt.

*C. HENRY HARDING... .. Treble	REGINALD J. HOUGHTON 4
†MISS PATRICIA GILBERT ... 2	†LEONARD BOWLER 5
HERBERT L. HARLOW 3	ANDREW C. SINFIELD ... Treble

Conducted by C. H. HARDING.
* 60th peal. † First peal of Minor. The ringer of the tenor has now completed the circle in the tower.

ALVASTON, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 29, 1944, in Three Hours and Five Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-AND-ALL-ANGELS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 18 cwt.

JACK BAILEY... .. Treble	CHARLES HAYCOCK 4
WILLIAM LANCASTER 2	ARTHUR OVERTON 5
JACK W. GLUE 3	ALFRED MOULD Tenor

Conducted by ALFRED MOULD.
Rung for the 50th anniversary of the dedication of the bells. First peal as conductor.

HANDBELL PEALS.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 22, 1944, in Two Hours and Twenty-One Minutes, AT GLYN GARTE.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION. Tenor size 13 in E.
MISS JILL POOLE 1-2 | RUPERT RICHARDSON 5-6

HAROLD J. POOLE 3-4	MRS. H. J. POOLE 7-8
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Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.
Rung for the christening of Patricia Mary Wayman, granddaughter of the ringer of 5-6.

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

On Tuesday, July 25, 1944, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes, AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

*DENNIS H. LANGDON ... 1-2	JOHN THOMAS 5-6
MRS. J. THOMAS 3-4	ERIC A. DENCH 7-8

Composed by F. G. MAY. Conducted by J. THOMAS.
* First peal of Caters away from 9-10. † First peal of Caters.

HENRY THOMAS ELLACOMBE.

Into the story of the Exercise there come the names of several men who, although not ringers themselves, have by their work and activities done much good for ringers, and influenced the development of the art of change ringing. William H. Thompson is an example, and Dr. J. J. Raven and Henry B. Walters, and (perhaps the most eminent of all) Henry Thomas Ellacombe.

Ellacombe is to-day probably best known among ringers in connection with the familiar chiming apparatus which he invented and which bears his name, but that was a comparatively small achievement. Strictly speaking it is not correct to say he was not a ringer, but he did not progress beyond Grandsire Doubles, and he took no interest in, and had no knowledge of composition and the science of ringing. His work was done as a bell antiquarian, and as a leader in that belfry reform movement of which so much was heard sixty or eighty years ago, and which (mainly on account of its success) is now almost forgotten. He was a pioneer in much that he did, and during many years was for the general public the leading authority on everything connected with bells. We cannot understand the Exercise of the last century and the conditions out of which our present Exercise has directly come, unless we know something of Ellacombe, his work, his writings, and his opinions.

Henry Thomas Ellacombe was born in 1790 in the parish of Alphington, near Exeter, where his father, William Ellicombe, was rector. He was educated at Oxford and in 1812 graduated B.A. from Oriel College, where his name is entered with the same spelling as his father's—Ellicombe. At first he intended to become an engineer and studied under Brunel, the famous engineer at Chatham dockyard; but in 1816 he took orders and a curacy at Cricklade, proceeding M.A. at the same time. From 1817 to 1835 he was curate at Bitton, near Bristol, and in the latter year he was appointed vicar. He was very active in his parochial duties, and not only restored Bitton Parish Church, but built three other churches to serve the district over which he had charge. In a testimonial presented to him the churchwardens said he had provided church accommodation for 2,285 worshippers and school accommodation for 820 children. In 1850 he was presented with the rectory of Clyst St. George, and was succeeded at Bitton by his son, Canon Ellacombe.

Clyst St. George is a parish on the rising ground west of the Exe valley and behind the small port of Topsham. It contains the church, two or three gentlemen's mansions, the rectory, and some scattered houses. Here Ellacombe lived until his death in 1885, and here he made his influence so much felt that the memory of him survived to recent times.

The rectory which he largely rebuilt is a mansion with nearly twenty bedrooms and stands in a large and beautiful garden, with coachhouse and stabling for several horses, orchards and kitchen gardens. The church, which is only a few yards from the rectory, occupies, with its churchyard, a corner of the rectory grounds. The whole is eloquent of the social position the rector held in the parish, for Ellacombe was a fine example of a type of parson which has long since passed away—scholarly, cultured, well-to-do, hardworking in the duties of his parish, caring for his people, but essentially of

the gentry class, and sharing its habits, opinions and prejudices. We shall need to remember this when we come to what he has to say about the ringers of his time. There is, or recently was, in the church vestry a portrait of him in his old age. It shows a short, thickset man with a long white beard and bowed with age. He usually carried about the parish a long shepherd's crook, which not only symbolised his office, but was used on children and even on adults much in the same way a shepherd would have used it on his sheep.

Ellacombe thoroughly restored the church, almost entirely rebuilding it, except for the tower. Its decorations, painted windows, and mosaics are evidence of the loving care he bestowed on it, though it does not altogether agree with modern taste. When he went to the parish there were three ancient bells. He added two trebles and a tenor, the last paid for by subscriptions in the parish in memory of the Prince Consort. During an early air raid in the present war the church was set on fire by incendiaries and badly damaged.

Ellacombe enjoyed a great reputation in his own time, and here is a contemporary description of him written by Thomas Mozley, a member of a famous clerical family, fellow of Oriel in the early days of the Oxford Movement, and brother-in-law of John Henry Newman, who died a cardinal of the Roman Church. Mozley was afterwards Rector of Plymtree in Devonshire. He published his 'Reminiscences' in 1882. It is one of the authorities for the Oxford University men of the early and middle part of the last century.

'Very early did I hear of Henry Thomas Ellacombe. Happy were they that knew him, or had talked with him, or even seen him. Yet I am ashamed to say I did meet him once in Oriel common room and failed to retain an image which was not eclipsed by the name. Ellacombe survives, and is of about the Provost's standing, ninety-three, or thereabouts. He is of that fortunate race—"sons of the gods" they may be truly called—that care for everybody and everything. There is no wealth like sympathy, for it is inexhaustible. I had heard of Ellacombe's addiction to church bells, to plants and flowers, to armorial bearings and genealogies, but when I went into Devonshire I might say that not half had been reported to me.

'His magnificent quarto on the bells of Devonshire gives the size, tone, quality, date, and legend of every church bell in the county with full particulars of their condition and surroundings. The first thing that strikes the reader is the evidently strong attachment of the people to their bells, and the lead bells have taken in church restoration. Long before Simeon was skeletonising our sermons, churchwardens were recasting our bells, and doing it very well too. They made mistakes and they dealt rather recklessly with the church towers. When they had not room for a larger peal, or even one more bell, they thought nothing of scooping out a wagon-load of masonry. What was worse, when the cage would oscillate so much as to disturb the ringing they drove in big wedges between it and the walls, thereby communicating the oscillation to the walls and in many cases cracking them from top to bottom.

'Ellacombe went about suitably apparelled and with proper tools and materials, running up every tower in Devonshire. He did not think it always necessary to

ask the parson's leave, but when the parson heard his bells tinkling, clanging and jangling, he knew somebody must be at them, and rushed out to see who or what it was. He found an extraordinary figure, who might have stepped out of a scene of German diablerie, ascertaining the key note of the bells or taking a tracing of the legend, or a cast of the devices. One clergyman exorcised Ellacombe at once, and his church is conspicuous by its absence from the book.

'After a very kind invitation and some unsuccessful attempts at last an appointment was made, and we drove to spend a day at Clyst St. George. There had now for ten years been an interesting link between us. The Clyst, which gives its name to a dozen villages or hamlets, rises in my parish and reaches salt water in Ellacombe's. The tide there works its way up the water-courses to within a few hundred yards of the parsonage. There are ships and shipbuilding at Topsham a mile off.

'Clyst St. George is the ancient birthplace of the Gibbs family, so renowned for its munificent doings at Keble College and elsewhere. The church is handsome, and has been as much restored and decorated as it is possible for a church to be, by Ellacombe's taste, and chiefly by his means. The painted windows, the heraldic ornaments, the mosaics on the font and on the walls, are beyond me altogether. I will freely confess that, earth-worm as I am, I should appreciate better the contents of the parsonage. Every wall of every room or passage, upstairs as well as downstairs, we found covered with engravings, portraits and caricatures of the great turning-points of history at which Ellacombe was born. But you might pass to and fro between church and parsonage, for they were close together, hardly a fence be-

tween them, and the church, I think, was very likely open from sunrise to sunset. Heraldry, I may observe, is no trifle in Devonshire, where a single name and coat may ramify into some dozen differences. At least a dozen of my labourers could have shown good coats of arms.

'Ellacombe's garden was, or rather has been, one of the wonders of the county. He was his own gardener, employing only labourers. But his staff was now low, and there had been a long drought. He had a record of 5,000 different plants and flowers grown with success. They had come from all parts of the world, and here had been the first introduction of many to English society. The old gentleman talked to me more of people than of flowers, or church ornaments, or church bells; for he was as full of men as of anything.

'Ellacombe is a very short man, very much bowed with age, with a white beard reaching half way to the ground, a beaming countenance, a pair of bright eyes, and a good clear ringing voice.

'One could not be in Ellacombe's company five minutes without learning something worth knowing, and in a distinct and positive form. What a loss it is that there are not the men to rescue these accumulations of knowledge before they sink into the grave where all things are forgotten. But the aged only speak as one memory raises another and you may not catch the fish you have baited your hook for.'

(To be continued.)

ACTON.—On Sunday, July 30th, 720 Bob Minor: Jeffery Birt (first 720) 1, E. C. S. Turner (conductor) 2, J. A. Trollope 3, J. E. L. Cockey 4, A. Jones 5, A. Harding 6.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

.....

THE

LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

THE WHITECHAPEL BELL FOUNDRY

ESTABLISHED 1570

MEARS & STAINBANK

AT

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Telephone BISHopsgate 2599

Founders of the new ring
of twelve for
Liverpool Cathedral
Tenor 82 cwt.

HANDBELLS, BELL ROPES,
MUFFLES,
Etc.

'THE RINGING WORLD.'

The official journal of the Central Council of
Church Bell Ringers.

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THE SABBATH BELLS.

The cheerful Sabbath bells, wherever heard
Strike pleasant on the sense, most like the voice
Of one, who from the far off hills proclaims
Tidings of good to Zion: chiefly when
Their piercing tones fall sudden on the ear
Of the contemplant, solitary man
Whom thoughts abstruse or high have chanced to lure
Far from the walks of men, revolving oft
And yet again hard matter which eludes
And baffles his pursuit—thought—sick and tired
Of controversy, where no end appears
No clue to his research, the lonely man
Half wishes for society again.
Him, thus engaged, the Sabbath bells salute
Sudden! his heart awakes, his ears drink in
The cheering music; his relenting soul
Yearns after all the joys of social life
And softens with the love of human kind.

—Charles Lamb.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

MEETING AT NETTLEHAM.

On July 22nd, ringers from the towers of the Cathedral, St. Giles' and St. Peter-at-Gowts', Lincoln, and from Blankney, Saxilby and Scothern met at All Saints', Nettleham.

The visitors were entertained to tea in the Institute, and votes of thanks were given to the Vicar (the Rev. H. Cotton Smith) and to the local ringers' wives for the tea. Handbells were rung in eight and ten bell methods, and on the tower bells during the afternoon and evening Grandsire, Plain Bob, Single Court, Oxford Bob, St. Clement's, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Cambridge Surprise and Stedman. With the exception of Stedman, all the touches included at least one member of the local band. Mr. Stokes (Blankney) acted as Ringing Master until the arrival of the Guild Branch Master, Mr. J. A. Freeman.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Eastern District of the Durham and Newcastle Association was held at St. Michael's, Bishopwearmouth, Sunderland, and ringers attended from Chester-le-Street, Houghton-le-Spring, Newcastle (Cathedral), South Shields, Sunderland (St. Ignatius), Whickham, West Hartlepool (St. Oswald's) and the home tower.

The methods rung varied from Minor to Triples and Surprise Major interspersed with handbell ringing.

Service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. J. F. Richardson. Mr. Bevin was at the organ. Special prayers were offered for the late Donald May, a ringer at St. Michael's, Bishopwearmouth, who was killed whilst cycling on July 17th.

At the business meeting, with Mr. R. L. Patterson, vice-president, in the chair, it was decided to hold the next meeting at Gateshead, St. Mary's, on August 19th, and to combine with the Western District in a meeting at Chester-le-Street on September 2nd.

THE J. D. & C. M. 'CAMPANALOGIA.'

(Continued from page 315.)

J.D. and C.M. give touches of Grandsire Triples of various lengths up to a half-peal, and then say, 'Now, having gone through the several peals or divisions of this peal, what remains thereof, is to show the method for the whole, which is 5,040; but in regard that there is no certain method known whereby this peal (as to truth) can be rung, and that the number of changes contained therein being so many that they require so long a time as four hours to perform them in, which being not only very tedious but likewise tiresome for any person to ring a bell so long, we shall therefore for these reasons, suspend what may be expected in reference to this matter, save only add for the satisfaction of those who are desirous to adventure upon so great an undertaking, that the only way that hath been practised is by making of a double change at the end of the half, wherein the bells in second and third places (when the treble leads) must lie still, according to the same method and rule as the singles in Grandsire upon five bells, then by observing the same method for the bells as is before shown, will double the peal to 5,040 changes.'

This seems to show that 5,040 changes had been rung before 1702; once at least, probably more than once. There is evidence that the College Youths rang a peal of Bob Triples at St. Sepulchre's in 1690, and if either just before or just after 1700 that society had rung a peal of Grandsire Triples, we should have expected that the men who preserved the list of members from the very beginning would also have preserved the record of such a performance; but that is no reason why other bands may not have rung five-thousands. The Exercise has agreed to recognise the 5,040 of Grandsire Bob Triples rung at Norwich in 1715 as the first true peal, and the 5,040 of Grandsire Caters at St. Bride's as the first true peal in London, but that earlier five-thousands were rung is certain.

The still existing board which records the Norwich performance says that it was 'the 3d whole peal that they (the Norwich Scholars) have rung, but the first whole peal that ever was rung to the truth by any ringers whatsoever'; and the board in the same belfry which records the peal of Grandsire Triples rung in 1718 says, 'the extent of this peal being 5,040 have oftentimes been rung with changes alike, but the first time that ever it was rung true was in three hours and a half without any changes alike, or a bell out of course, by these men whose names are underwritten.'

A very great interest was taken in ringing by Norwich people; they seem to have been well acquainted with what ringers were doing in other parts of England, and we may take the statement that five thousand and forty changes had oftentimes been rung as literally true and not as mere rhetoric.

It is evident that Doleman knew that the five-thousand obtained by doubling his half peal would not be true, but his comments on it are so worded that his readers would not necessarily read it so; and it is more than likely that most of the early peals were this composition. It is noticeable that in many of the early records the expression 'whole' peal is used, and when it is used it is pretty certain that the reference is to this false peal.

Here, too, we may find the explanation of the statement in the 'Clavis' that the peals rung in the method before the time of Holt were false. 'Not but they had a peal, to be sure, which they rang, but what credit or satisfaction can arise from repeatedly practising a false peal when so many true ones present themselves in other methods?'

It is interesting to notice that John Patrick, who assisted the authors of the 'Campanalogia,' in his copy of the work now in the British Museum, made a note referring to the 5,040—'This is a composition that's wrong. The first half may do.'

It seems likely that the first five-thousand was rung before the seventeenth century ended, but where and when can never be known. The first true peals accomplished were almost certainly those generally accepted as such by the Exercise.

By the time the J.D. and C.M. 'Campanalogia' was published most of the technical terms used in practical ringing were known. They were originally ordinary English words adopted almost unconsciously because their meaning in ringing was almost the same as in ordinary life. Only gradually they became technical terms, and consequently they were for long used rather loosely, though the context in which they appeared always saved them from ambiguity. The most striking example of this is the word 'change.' In ordinary English the word then meant (as it still means) the alteration from one thing or condition to another, and in a secondary sense it also meant the result produced by that alteration. Both meanings were adopted by ringers. The movement between two or more bells which altered their position was a change, and early writers, especially Duckworth and Stedman, continually use the word in that sense. But it also meant the order of the bells produced by the movement and in the course of time this meaning became much the more prominent.

A third meaning, and perhaps the original, was the reversal in position of one pair of bells, and as an extension of this meaning we have single changes, double changes, triple changes and the rest. The earlier meaning became obsolete, but in the 1702 'Campanalogia' we are told that in Oxford Treble Bob Minor 'every time the half hunt makes a change next the whole hunt a bob must be made.'

The word 'course' originally meant the work or path of a bell in the sense that we talk of the course of a river. Thus Duckworth says that in new Doubles the whole hunt has 'a perfect course in hunting up and down'; in Paradox each of the other bells has the same course as the whole hunt until the whole hunt leads'; and similarly elsewhere J.D. and C.M. continually speak of the 'course of the peals' meaning the general rules for ringing them. They say that in Oxford Treble Bob Minor 'a constant dodging course is assigned to the treble,' and they talk about the course of a bobbed touch of Plain Bob. They did, however, perhaps more than any others to fix the modern meaning of the term. For instance, they describe the plain course of Grandsire Triples as the 'ordinary' course of the method. Stedman wrote that in The Wild Goose Chase 'the first five bells go a perfect hunting course,' and, though the idea in his mind was not quite the modern one, in effect it was the same.

(To be continued.)

SEVEN BELL METHODS.**DOUBLE OXFORD AND ST. CLEMENT'S.**

(Continued from page 313.)

Double Oxford Bob.	St. Clement's Bob.
1234567	1234567
2135476	2135476
2314567	2314567
3241576	3241657
3425167	3426175
4352617	4362715
3456271	3467251
4365721	4376521
3456712	3475612
4365172	4357162
3461527	3451726
4316257	4315276
4132675	4132567
1423657	1423657
1246375	1246375
2143657	2143657
2416375	2416375
4261357	4261735
4623175	4627153
6432715	6472513
4637251	4675231
6473521	6457321
etc.	etc.

Some years ago there was an opinion widely held in the Exercise that only those seven bell methods were fit to ring in which the plain course is constructed throughout of triple changes. On seven bells you must have one place made in every change, the whole pulls at the lead and behind counting as places. 'Less than this is not possible, more is not necessary.'

There is something to be said for this opinion (otherwise, of course, it would not have been held); but when it was stiffened into a general rule (as by many persons it was) it had the result of narrowing the number of permissible seven bell methods to within very small limits. All would be excluded that did not closely conform to the pattern of Stedman, or the pattern of Grandsire with its bell-in-the-hunt. A seven bell method with a fixed treble and six working bells of the style of Plain Bob, or Double Norwich, or Double Oxford Major, with their fixed trebles and seven working bells, would not be possible. Methods with a 3-lead course, in which half of the working bells did one work in the plain course and half another, would be possible; but the men who urged the necessity for continuous triple changes would have recoiled from such methods with contempt and something like disgust. It is true that the so-called bob-and-single peals of Grandsire Triples are really peals of such a method, and it is true that in early days one or two others were rung; but the truth was disguised by a pretence that what is really the plain lead is a bobbed lead and what is a bobbed lead is the plain lead.

This restriction of seven bell methods by rule did not in actual fact do much harm; for when the rule was made very few ringers gave a thought to any Triples methods other than Stedman, Grandsire and Plain Bob, and fewer still had any wish or intention to practise any. When the need and desire for expansion came it was to Major men turned.

When we apply this rule of unbroken succession of the nature of the rows and add to it two other rules (both of which are generally accepted as necessary in the Exercise), we find the number of possible Triples methods with a plain hunting treble is eleven. One of the two rules mentioned insists on what is called symmetry in the construction of the lead, and the other insists in what are called Bob Major lead-ends.

Of the eleven methods Grandsire is the simplest and the foundation. It has two close variations. One is Reverse Grandsire, in which, instead of Thirds place being made by the bell which the treble turns from the lead, Fifths place is made by the bell the treble turns from behind; the other is Double Grandsire, in which both places are made. During the eighteenth century both Reverse and Double Grandsire had some measure of popularity among the most skilful companies, but neither is likely to appeal much to a modern band except as a novelty or curiosity.

Of the other eight methods, Oxford Bob and Double Court are probably the most useful; but one of the reasons for these articles is to point out to ringers that if the matter is approached in the right way by any band of good average ability, there is no reason why the whole group should not be available for their use. The methods should not be treated as separate, but as more or less variations of each other, and knowledge and practice of one should be used as a stepping-stone to the next.

The two methods we come to now are scarcely inferior in any way to those we have mentioned. Double Oxford Bob Triples is full of interesting work, and it is rather surprising that its merits have been so much overlooked. Although as old as Shipway's time, it was not until the year 1908 that Mr. Edwin H. Lewis called the first peal of it, and few, if any, have been rung since.

Double Oxford Bob Triples can be rung by the same rules as Double Oxford Bob Minor, care being taken to treat the treble and the bell-in-the-hunt together as the equivalent in the former to the treble in the latter. And to remember that on seven bells all place making and dodging above the treble is done at handstroke, and all place making and dodging below the treble at backstroke.

Turn to the plain course and follow the path of the Third. It has just been turned from the lead by the treble and makes Thirds place over the treble and the bell-in-the-hunt. It leads and does a 3-pull dodge in 1-2 up. It then passes the treble in 2-3, dodges in 4-5 up, makes Fifths (handstroke) over the treble, passes the treble and bell-in-the-hunt, makes Thirds and dodges in 3-4 up (backstroke) and goes to a 3-pull dodge in 6-7 up. When it has lain its whole pull behind, the treble turns it, and the bell makes Fifths place (backstroke) below the treble and the bell-in-the-hunt. This completes half the work of the course.

The second half is similar to the first half, except that it is done from the back instead of from the front. A whole pull behind is followed by a 3-pull dodge in 6-7 down. After passing the treble in 5-6 the bell dodges in 3-4 and makes Thirds place (backstroke). It passes the treble and the bell-in-the-hunt makes Fifths place and dodges in 4-5 down (handstroke). It then goes to the lead, does a 3-pull dodge in 1-2 down, leads a whole pull, is turned by the treble and is ready to begin the work of the plain course over again.

As in all these methods, the Grandsire bob is used in Double Oxford Bob.

4316257
4132675
1436257
1342675
3146257

There is double dodging as in Grandsire and Oxford Bob, but only three bells actually do anything different from what they would have done at a plain lead. The bell which has just done a 3-pull dodge in 1-2 up makes Thirds place and goes into the hunt. The bell which was place making from the back and has just made Thirds, instead of making Fifths double dodges in 4-5, and begins the place making over again. The old bell-in-the-hunt double dodges in 4-5 down and goes to full work on the front.

St. Clement's Bob Triples is a method of which the rules can be learnt in a few minutes. The Grandsire Thirds place is made at the lead end and the two bells left on the lead by the treble and the bell-in-the-hunt dodge together (a 3-pull dodge) until the treble returns. Every bell that hunts from the back makes Thirds place (backstroke) and hunts up again except when the treble is below it. At the lead end the Grandsire dodges are made

The work of a plain course is as follows. Make Thirds over treble and bell-in-the-hunt, lead, and do a 3-pull dodge in 1-2 up; pass treble in 2-3, dodge in 4-5 up, lie behind, make Thirds place (backstroke), dodge in 6-7 up, and make Thirds place. This is half the work of the course. The second half is the same, but in reverse order. Dodge in 6-7 down, make Thirds place and dodge in 4-5 down; pass the treble in 3-4, go to the front, do a 3-pull dodge in 1-2 down, the treble turns you, and you are ready to begin the work of the plain course over again.

Notice that the sequence of the dodging positions is 4-5 up, 6-7 up, 6-7 down, and 4-5 down. This is the reverse order to that of Grandsire.

The bob is the Grandsire bob and is quite easy to make because the Grandsire conditions are almost exactly reproduced.

4315276
4132567
1435276
1342567
3145276
3412567

There is, however, this distinction. Instead of, as in Grandsire, the bob putting you on one lead further than you would otherwise have been, it puts you back to where you were at the last lead end.

In Double Oxford Bob the calling positions when the Seventh is the observation are the same as those in Oxford Bob. The Wrong comes at the first lead-end. The Before comes at the third lead-end. The In at the fourth, and the Right or Home at the fifth.

In St. Clement's Bob the Before is the only calling position at which the bob does not affect the observation bell. This comes at the third lead-end. A bob at the first lead-end is a Right. At the second lead-end, a Wrong. At the fourth the Seventh is called In. And at the fifth a Middle is brought up. So far as the observation bell is concerned every bob except the Before lengthens the course one lead.

ST. MARY'S, ISLINGTON.

The Edwardian inventories of the ancient Parish Church of St. Mary, Islington, have not survived, but in the eighteenth century there was a ring of six bells in the steeple. Here in 1734 Laughton and the Rambling Ringers rang a funeral peal for William Ibbott—two Grandsires and 720 Plain Bob. It was the earliest muffled ringing of which there is any record, although the custom was already an established one.

In 1751 the church had become much dilapidated, and it was decided to pull it down and build a new one. The tower of flint and rubble proved stronger than was at first thought, and for a time resisted all attempts at destruction. Gunpowder was tried unsuccessfully, for it had to be used sparingly. In the end the building was shored up with timber, the foundations undermined, and the wooden supports burnt with fire.

The foundation stone of the new church was laid on August 21st, 1751, and the building was finished and opened for public worship on May 26th, 1754.

In 1774 the ring of six bells was recast and made into eight at the Whitechapel Foundry. The Cumberland Youths rang the opening peal, one of Bob Major, on January 7th, 1775, and next day the College Youths rang one of Oxford Treble Bob. Nothing is said about a ringing contest, but probably there was something of the sort with a set of gold-laced hats and a dinner for the winners. A week later the Cumberlands rang another peal of Oxford Treble Bob, three leads longer than their rivals.

In 1776 the College Youths rang Double Bob and the London Youths Grandsire Triples, and in 1777 the College Youths rang Bob Major. After that the Cumberlands gained the almost exclusive use of the belfry, which for many years was one of their strongholds. The longest peals on the bells were 6,208 Oxford Treble Bob Major in 1821 and 6,128 Grandsire Major in 1802. The most interesting peal was one of Imperial Place Major in 1802. The method was produced by William Shipway. All the bells plain hunt except that immediately before and after passing the treble a place is made. There is no dodging.

During the air raids three years ago, St. Mary's was set on fire and completely destroyed. The steeple still stands, and so far as we know the bells are undamaged, but whether it will be possible to ring them again is very doubtful.

TRURO DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

Considering the difficulties of travelling, there was a good attendance of members at a business meeting of the Truro Diocesan Association, held at Kenwyn Vicarage on July 22nd. It was the first business meeting of the Guild since 1939 and 14 towers were represented.

Canon Windsor was elected president in the place of the late Dr. Symons and the following as vice-presidents: The two Archdeacons, Canon Mills, Canon Jennings, the Rev. R. Hocking, the Rev. A. S. Roberts, Col. Jerram, Messrs. W. H. Southard and W. Wood: Ringing Master, Mr. W. H. Southard. The officers appointed were: Assistant Ringing Master, Mr. W. S. Garland; secretary, the Rev. W. H. R. Trehella; and peal secretary, Mr. C. E. Lanxon.

Canon Jennings spoke of what Dr. Symons had done for ringing and said it was mainly due to him that the Guild existed to-day. Mr. Southard suggested that a memorial to him might be placed in the Cathedral after the war.

It was proposed by the Ringing Master and seconded by the secretary that a letter of sympathy be sent to Col. Jerram on the loss of his elder son.

Mr. J. C. Britton invited the Guild to hold a ringing afternoon at Tuckermill in the early autumn in connection with the centenary of the church.

Tea was provided by members of the Cathedral and Kenwyn congregations, and afterwards ringing took place in the two towers, consisting of Grandsire Triples and Doubles, call changes and rounds.

CENTRAL TOWERS.

(Continued from page 317.)

By ERNEST MORRIS.

Burford is a quaint old-world town, with more relics of the past than any other in Oxfordshire. Its history begins far back in Saxon times, when a synod to fix the date of Easter was held here in 685, and attended by Ethelred, King of Mercia, and Archbishop Theobald. In Edward I.'s reign, Burford was one of the four Oxford boroughs which returned members to Parliament in 1306. Though Parliament only sat for one day, Burford may be said to have had a member for one day only. The magnificent church lies lowest of all the town buildings, with the river Winrush flowing quite close to the north wall. In size, fineness of detail and irregularity of shape, the church is only second to Dorchester Abbey. Of the original Norman work, there only remains the west door and the central tower, which rests on four massive piers and has a lantern surrounded by good though simple arcades. The whole church seems to have been altered into the Early English style, and a second wholesale alteration transformed it in Perpendicular times.

The tower well illustrates both changes. When the upper storey and the graceful spire (Perpendicular) were set upon the Norman tower, the Early English arches which had been cut to lead to the transepts were blocked by lower Perpendicular arches which act as buttresses. The tower parapet has carved panels above grotesque faces with pinnacles at three sides and a little battlemented tower at the fourth. The north transept is called the 'Bellfounder's Aisle,' after Edward Neale, bellfounder, who lies buried here with his wife, Elizabeth. A curious inscription to the latter reads:—

'Here May I Rest Vnder this Tombe
Not to be Moved til the day of Doome
Vnlese my Husband Who did Mee Wed
Doth Lye with Mee when he is dead.'

Of the eight bells in the tower (tenor 18 cwt.) four bear the name of Henry Neale, 1635. Others are by Matthew Bagley, 1771, and H. Bond and Son, 1868 and 1885.

Bampton, St. Mary-the-Virgin, also in Oxfordshire, has a cruciform church with massive central tower rising 170ft. It is Norman at base, Early English above, and with 13th century spire, which has four dormer windows round it, and at each corner a clustered pillar on which a draped figure of a saint stands in place of pinnacles. Above the chancel arch a pointed arch has been inserted to take part of the weight of the tower. The church is one of the grandest in the county and full of beautiful objects. The rude chancel arch shows herringbone work and may possibly be as early as Saxon. The lowest storey of the tower is plain Norman, with a good interior arcade, one window of which opens into the north transept. The tower piers, however, on which it rests have been changed to Transitional, with pointed arches and billet moulding. Finally, the belfry storey is Early English. There are eight bells and a 'ting-tang.' The 5th, 6th and tenor (25 cwt.) are dated 1629. The others are by Mears and Stainbank, 1865, 1903 and 1906.

The beautiful cruciform Early English church of Bishops Canning, Wiltshire, one of the most interesting in that county, has a central tower of two stages, topped with a fine octagonal spire. It contains a ring of eight bells, tenor 19½ cwt., which originally was probably the earliest ring of eight of which there is record since the

Reformation. These bells were cast by John Wallis during the incumbency of the Rev. George Ferebe (1602), who was Vicar 1593-1613.

Aubrey, in 'Natural History of Wilts,' says, 'Mr. Ferraby, the minister of Bishops Canning, was an ingenious man and an excellent musician. When King James was in these parts, Mr. Ferraby entertained His Majesty with bucoliques of his own making. Whilst His Majesty was thus diverted, the eight bells (of which he was the cause) did ring, and the organ was played on for State. This parish in those days would have challenged all England for musique, football and ringing.' Since those days several of the bells have been recast—the tenor in 1897 by Mears and Stainbank, the 7th and 4th in 1840 by T. Mears, jun., the treble by J. Taylor and Co., 1912. There is also a Sanctus by James Burrough, 1738.

Long Crendon, Bucks, Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is cruciform, with a central tower of the 13th century. This is 17ft. square and supported on four arches, part of the ground stage rising above the roofs of the other parts of the church. It is almost entirely faced with 16th century ashlar, but some of the old wall remains. The two upper stages are built of roughly squared rubble, the embattled parapet is much restored, and at the north-west angle is the stair turret, the ground stage of which is rectangular and upper stage octagonal. In each wall of the second stage is a window of two cinquefoiled lights under a triangular head, and in each wall of the third stage are two windows each of 16th century date.

The tower contains a ring of eight (tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb.), and a Sanctus of 1719. All the eight are by Lester and Pack in 1768, and bear these founders' typical couplets for inscriptions. They are hung anti-clockwise, and John Baker, mentioned on the second bell thus:—

'Although but small, our tones are good,
John Baker Blacksmith for us stood,'

was churchwarden when these bells were cast, and gave the ironwork in connection with their hanging. In 1552 Crendon had 'fower gret bells, a Sancte bell, a hand bell, two sacring bells.'

St. Andrew's, Boreham, Essex, has a central tower containing a ring of eight, tenor 13 cwt. 19 lb. The dressings of the church are of 12th century work and largely of Roman brick; the roofs are tiled except the north aisle, which is of lead. Chancel, nave and central tower were built in 11th or first half of the 12th century. Upper part of tower added or rebuilt probably c. 1200. The church is interesting for its plan, and for the exceptional height of its west tower-arch, with flanking altar recesses. The tower is 17ft. square and of three stages with embattled parapet, with 17th century brick quoins to the merlons and a moulded brick coping. It is surmounted by a pyramidal tiled roof. In both north and south walls is a late 11th century or early 12th century round-headed window, built partly of Roman bricks. In the south-west angle is an internally projecting stair turret.

Of the bells, the 3rd and tenor are by William Whitmore and John Hodson in partnership, 1653, 4th by T. Lester, 1746, 5th by Miles Graye, 1626, 6th by Thomas Gardiner, of Sudbury, 1759, 7th by James Bartlet, 1688. The old six were rehung by Mears in 1878, but in 1913 two trebles were added, 6th and 7th recast, and all rehung by John Warner and Sons.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR ONE INSERTION of a notice of a meeting is 2s. Other insertions are at the rate of 1s. each. Altered notices count as new notices.

All lines exceeding six in any one insertion are charged at the rate of 4d. per line.

The charge for notices other than of meetings is 2s. 6d. for each insertion.

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Meeting at Marden, Saturday, August 5th. Service 4.15 p.m., followed by business. Train leaves Tonbridge 2.15 p.m. Half travelling expenses up to 2s. paid.—T. Saunders, Hon. Dis. Sec., East Peckham, Tonbridge.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Meeting at Horsham, Monday, Aug. 7th, 3 p.m. Tea can be obtained in town (no arrangements). Business meeting in belfry. — O. Sippetts, 10, Three Bridges Road, Crawley.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN and WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILDS.—Combined meeting, East Tytherley, on Aug. 7th. Bells from 11 a.m. Service 4.30. Cups of tea at 5 p.m. Bring food and sugar. Lockerley (6), Broughton (6) available afternoon and evening.—F. W. Romaine, G. Pullinger.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Meeting, Ufford, Bank Holiday (Aug. 7th). Bells (8) 2 p.m. Tea, 1s. 6d., 4.30 p.m. Send names.—Chas. E. Fisher, Centre Villa, Ufford, nr. Woodbridge, Suffolk.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting at Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, Saturday, Aug. 12th, 3 p.m.—A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Shrewsbury, Saturday, Aug. 12th. Ringing at St. Mary's (10) 3-4, followed by service. Tea at Ward's Cafe 5 p.m. Ringing at St. Chad's (12) 6 p.m.—E. D. Poole, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—Monthly practice meeting at Shiplake on Saturday, Aug. 12th. Bells (8) from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.—E. G. Foster, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, 401, London Road, Reading.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—Meeting at Sutterton, Saturday, Aug. 12th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea by Tuesday, Aug. 8th. — W. E. Clarke, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston, Lincs.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Felkirk, Saturday, Aug. 12th, 2.30. Names for tea before Aug. 9th.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., 28, Chapel Street, Shafton, near Barnsley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—Meeting at Newchurch, Saturday, Aug. 12th, 3 p.m. Business 6 p.m., in tower. Bring food. Cups of tea provided.—H. Parkinson, Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting at Knebworth, Saturday, Aug. 12th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. A. G. Crane, Parame, London Road, Knebworth, by Aug. 10th.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough and Burton Districts.—Meeting at Ashby-de-la-Zouch Parish Church on Saturday, Aug. 12th, 3 p.m. Tea 4.30. Names to E. W. Beadsmoore, Packington Road, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Burton-on-Trent, by Thursday, Aug. 10th.—A. E. Rowley and J. W. Cotton, Hon. Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan and Liverpool Branches.—Joint meeting at Rainford, Saturday, Aug. 12th, 2.30 p.m. Tea, free. Names to Mr. S. Cadwallender, 51, Church Road, Rainford, nr. St. Helens, by Wednesday.—S. Forshaw, G. R. Newton, Branch Secs.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District. — Quarterly meeting at Alverstoke, Gosport, Saturday, Aug. 12th, 2.30. Service 4 p.m. Tea at 4.30. Names by Tuesday, Aug. 8th.—R. J. Stone, 16, Penhale Road, Fratton, Portsmouth.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—Church fete, Saturday, Aug. 12th. Bells available evening.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—Meeting at Ashby Folville on Aug. 12th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Bring food. Cups of tea provided. Business in belfry.—R. Barrow, 10, East Road, Birstall.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—Meeting at Northill on Saturday, Aug. 12th, 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—Meeting at Market Bosworth, Saturday, Aug. 12th, 3.30 to 5 p.m., and at Desford from 7 p.m. onwards. Bring own food. It may be possible to provide cups of tea.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Scuth and West District. — Meeting at Harmondsworth (bus from Hounslow West), Saturday, Aug. 12th, 3 p.m. It is hoped to provide cups of tea in the Vicarage Hall.—J. E. Lewis Cockey. Per. 5320.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—Next meeting at Berkswell, near Coventry, Saturday, Aug. 19th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea, 5 p.m., at The Cafe, Berkswell.—D. E. Beamish, 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Meeting at Balcombe, Aug. 19th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Tea for those who advise Mr. A. Lake, 4, Barnfield Cottages, Balcombe, Haywards Heath, by Aug. 16th.—C. A. Bassett, Hon. Sec.

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