

THE RINGING WORLD

No. 274. Vol. X.

FRIDAY, JUNE 16th, 1916.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 1d.

GILLETT & JOHNSTON CROYDON, Surrey. BELLS, CLOCKS, CARILLONS.



St. Peter's Collegiate Church,
Wolverhampton.
Tenor (33 cwt.) of the New Ring of 12

WULFRUN CHAMBERS, WOLVERHAMPTON,
MESSRS. GILLETT and JOHNSTON, CROYDON, 4th March, 1912
Gentlemen,

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

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

Yours faithfully, F. T. BEOK,

Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

MODERN WORK.

THE FUTURE OF THE COUNCIL.

Had events pursued their normal course, the Central Council would have met this week at Plymouth, but the fates have ordained otherwise, and, under all the circumstances, the decision taken to postpone the proceedings has proved by no means unfortunate. The year which is to pass before the Council meets again, is one which may very well be devoted to stimulating the work of the central body, so that when it starts, as it were, upon a new era—for the present marks the parting of the ways in more senses than one—it may do so with something more than the formal support which the associations, for the most part, have given it in recent years. It needs the good will of the whole Exercise as well as the nominal sanction of the various bodies if it is to serve a purpose of full usefulness in the future. The associations have a year in which to assist in the work of adding to the value of the Council, and if they really desire to see the best made of the organisation they ought to make a point of discussing the question. An attitude of apathy and laissez-faire will only lead to further failure, and if that came about it would be useless for the members of the Exercise to put all the blame on the Council. The letter which we publish this week from a member of the Winchester Guild Committee contains suggestions which are worth thinking over, and, if they only open the way to debate, they will serve a good purpose.

And while the associations are talking over what they can do to improve and strengthen the Council, the members of this body will doubtless be thinking over the question of Sir Arthur Heywood's successor in the presidential chair. The choice which is open to the Council is not a wide one, for the necessary qualifications for the post are numerous. To begin with, the president needs to be a man of affairs and of business experience, just and firm in control, urbane in manner, and, above all, a man with an intimate knowledge of ringing and ringers. There resides in the Midlands one gentleman who possesses these qualifications in marked degree. He has long been a member of the Council, his professional training has specially fitted him for such a post, he occupies a prominent place in the public affairs of one of our largest cities, he already presides over the destinies of an important ringing organisation, and is himself a ringer of high attainments. We wonder whether, when the time comes, this gentleman's name will be among the nominations? We are certain that a more fitting successor to the founder of the Council could not be found than Alderman J. S. Pritchett, of Birmingham.

CHARLES CARR, LTD.



**OPINION OF OUR
MODERN WORK.**

Broomfield Vicarage,
Chelmsford.

Dear Sirs,

I have great pleasure in stating that we are perfectly satisfied with the manner in which you have carried out the work entrusted to you of re-arranging and re-hanging the Broomfield Church Bells.

We consider that the work reflects great credit upon your firm, and believe that your system of hanging the bells reduces the vibration of the steel frame supplied by you to a minimum.

The CHURCHWARDENS unite with ME in this expression of opinion. The BELLRINGERS are also unanimous in their praise of the alterations effected by you.

Yours truly,

CHAS. EDMUNDS,

Vicar of Broomfield.

Messrs C. CARR, LTD.
Smethwick.

Kindly ask us to inspect, Report and Tender before deciding your contract, — we may be able to assist you.

**SMETHWICK,
BIRMINGHAM**

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SINGLY,
OR IN PEALS.**

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CRACKED BELLS RECAST.

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OF ALL KINDS.

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BRACKETS.**

MALLEABLE IRON BRACKETS.

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IN ALL BRANCHES.

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and report on Bells and Towers.

SEND FOR CATALOGUE.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 10th, 1916, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION.

Tenor 21 cwt. 0 qr. 14 lbs.

| | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| HARRY CHAPMAN Treble | ROBERT DAVIES 5 |
| *FRED GRUNDY 2 | PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE ... 6 |
| *WILLIAM JONES 3 | JOSEPH RIDYARD 7 |
| *WILLIAM OAKES 4 | JOHN EDGE Tenor |

Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.

* First peal in the method. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to Lord Kitchener, and to Frederick Derbyshire, late clerk and sexton at St. Mark's Church, Worsley.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 10, 1916, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 11½ cwt., in F.

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ALFRED E. ACFIELD ... Treble | FREDERICK W. EDWARDS ... 5 |
| ALFRED TARBUN, JUNR. ... 2 | HENRY F. COOPER 6 |
| JAMES TARBUN 3 | ARTHUR HEAD 7 |
| *PERCY TIMSON 4 | *WILLIAM G. PEASE ... Tenor |

Conducted by HENRY F. COOPER.

* First peal. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Lord Kitchener and others of H.M.S. Hampshire; also to all who lost their lives in the Great Naval Battle. R.I.P.

The ringers of 2nd and 3rd are members of the local company; 5th and 7th belong to Writtle; treble, 4th, 6th, and tenor to Chelmsford.

RUARDEAN, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(FOREST OF DEAN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, June 10, 1916, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| WILLIAM G. BEARD ... Treble | ERNEST J. MATTHEWS ... 5 |
| JOHN AUSTIN 2 | EX-SERG. J. WILLIAMS ... 6 |
| JOHN HARPER 3 | WILLIAM E. BISHOP ... 7 |
| WALTER T. BENNETT ... 4 | JAMES BISHOP Tenor |

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the memory of Lieutenant-Commander R. L. Clayton, who was killed on H.M.S. Queen Mary in the battle in the North Sea. He was the son of the late Admiral Clayton, of Ruardean.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, June 12th, 1916, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT 32, EDGELEY ROAD, CLAPHAM, S.W.,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| HERBERT LANGDON ... 1-2 | WILLIAM T. COCKERILL ... 5-6 |
| CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... 3-4 | JOHN N. OXBORROW ... 7-8 |

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

Umpire: EDWIN GIBBS.

Should there be any ringers visiting Manchester in connection with the Royal Agricultural Show, arrangements can be made for ringing at St. Thomas' Church, Pendleton, on the evenings of June 27th, 29th and 30th, by communicating with Mr. H. Chapman, 11, Beech Grove, Plymouth Grove, Manchester.

ANOTHER D.C.M. RINGER. MAIDSTONE MAN'S BRAVERY.

Another ringer has gained the Distinguished Conduct Medal for valiant service in the field. Lance-Corpl. P. Hassock, a member of St. Michael's, Maidstone, band, who is serving with the 1/6th City of London Rifles, in which he is a machine gunner, has received his decoration at the hands of General Munro, commander of the 1st Army in France. After having been buried with his gun by enemy mining operations, Lance-Corpl. Hassock managed to extricate himself. Then he dug out his gun, and although his comrades were killed he succeeded in bringing the gun into action again, and by his gallantry largely contributed to the repulse of the enemy.

Lance-Corpl. Hassock, who is a chorister as well as ringer at St. Michael's, writing to a fellow member of the choir, described the incident as follows:—

"It was," he said, "at Souchez, a month ago. Two huge German mines went up, followed almost immediately by a terrible bombardment. My gun position was located by the enemy's artillery, and my machine gun, myself and gun team were blown up and buried, three of my comrades being killed. Being unhurt myself I was able to dig myself out, also my gun and ammunition, and proceed to the top of the parapet, where, under a heavy bombardment, I was able to build a new position for my gun and once again get it into action."

Lance-Corpl. Hassock is a member of the Kent Association, and prior to joining the Army, soon after the outbreak of war, was engaged as a butcher at Maidstone.

A ringer who had previously gained the D.C.M. was Corpl. Robert W. Jesson, of East Langton, Market Harborough, who, unhappily, was killed the day after receiving the notification of his decoration.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The Rev. C. B. Hulton, Vicar of Worsley, and an hon. member of the Lancs Association, left home on Ascension Day for Belfort, France, where he is to drive a motor ambulance attached to the French Ambulance Corps. The following have joined H.M. Forces:—

Pte F. A. Youngman, of Leiston, A.S.C., now at Catford.

George Crisp, All Saints', Long Stanton, 6th Batt. Middlesex Regt.

From Pettistree, Suffolk:—

David Leggett, 2/10th Suffolks, now at Woolwich.

George R. Finch, 3/5th Suffolks, now at Windover.

Alfred Clements, 3/4th Suffolks, now at Tring.

From Weston Favell, Northants:—

Charles Haines, 3rd Batt. Northants Regt.

Alfred J. Richardson, Royal Engineers.

From Wellingborough, Northants:—

H. Lilley, Middlesex Regiment.

R. Lilley, Royal Navy.

L. Waterfield, R.A.M.C.

PRESENTATIONS TO MR. A. H. PULLING.

WELL-KNOWN CONDUCTOR "JOINS UP."

Having responded to "the call," Mr. A. H. Pulling, of Guildford, last week joined the Royal Garrison Artillery. For eight years he has been caretaker at the Royal Grammar School, and before his departure the headmaster, on behalf of the masters and himself, presented Mr. Pulling with an illuminated wrist watch, and, on behalf of the boys, the vice-captain of the school, Knight, senr., handed him a Gillett safety razor, and presented Mrs. Pulling with a bottle of eau-de-Cologne, as a slight token of the affection and esteem in which Mr. and Mrs. Pulling were held. The Headmaster spoke of the good feeling which had always existed between Mr. and Mrs. Pulling and the staff and boys, and expressed the hope that it would not be long before Mr. Pulling's military duties would be completed, and they would be able to welcome them back to the school.

On Sunday week, at Holy Trinity Church, Guildford, for evensong, as a farewell to Mr. Pulling, and as a birthday compliment to Mr. B. Chorley, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1260 changes): B. Chorley 1, W. E. Jelley 2, C. Hazelden 3, H. Hutton 4, G. Gunner 5, W. R. Melville (first quarter-peal) 6, A. H. Pulling (conductor) 7, H. Harris 8.

SOLDIER RINGERS MEET.

Ringers from the various camps in the neighbourhood of Ludgershall met at St. James's Church on a recent Sunday and rang a well-struck quarter-peal of Grandire Doubles (1260 changes): Pte W. Smith (Worcestershire Association) 1, Pte W. Spalding (Worcestershire Association) 2, Pte J. Cox (Oxford Guild) 3, Pte G. Fisher (Winchester Guild) 4, Pte B. T. Jeunes (Bath and Wells Association), conductor, 5, Pte Noic (Winchester Guild) 6. This was the first quarter-peal on the bells.

The bells at Ludgershall are open to ringers previous to and after evensong on Sundays, and on any evening during the week by arrangement with the captain of the local band, Mr. Hailstone, Bill Street, Ludgershall. Ringers in the neighbouring camps will be especially welcome, and a practice night can be arranged to suit their convenience.

The Rector and those of the local band who have not been called up for service, have recently been made members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

"OUR OUTING."

BRADPOLE RINGERS' 140-MILE MOTOR TRIP.

The word "our" appeals to every band of ringers, because to them it means their own particular band to the exclusion of all others, and, no matter where you go, the personal touch appeals to the individual band rather than the general body of ringers. In the present instance the word "our" may be taken to stand for the Bradpole (Dorset) band of ringers. A fortnight ago the question was raised as to whether there should be an outing or not, and a "straight" vote taken on the subject. This vote was "yea," mainly owing to the fact that no outing had been held in 1915, and so steps were at once taken to carry the decision into effect. Fortunately there was one well-versed in the matter of detail, and he soon put the matter in hand by securing a motor char-a-banc from the Rodwell Motor Garage, Weymouth. Having done this he next mapped out a circular trip of something like 140 miles, and worked out the details on this basis.

Ringers and the friends accompanying them were warned to meet at 6 a.m. sharp on Saturday last. Hardly had the whistles of the local factories ceased their blasts than the car was speeding on its way with twenty-three happy people (including four ladies) aboard. Taunton was the first stop, and a 32 miles run was taken by way of Broadwindsor, Winham, Chard and Combe St. Nicholas.

A halt was made at the Parade Hotel, where Host Roberts had breakfast ready. Needless to say the spin through the fresh morning air had whetted the appetites of all, and ample justice was done to the splendid repast. The inner man having been satisfied, time was found for the after-breakfast smoke and a stroll round the market. Nine a.m. saw us again seated on route for Dunster, 22 miles farther on. How we wished time had permitted us to call at some of the towers en route, but we had to pass them with regret.

DUNSTER.

Quaint old Dunster is in itself worth a day's visit, or even longer. Here there is much to linger over—the venerable "Yarn Market," an old English "Market Cross"; fourteenth and fifteenth century houses still in splendid condition, the handsome, almost Cathedral-like, priory Church of St. George, and last, but by no means least, the venerable castle still in the possession of the Luttrell family, as it has been for the past six hundred years. Small wonder that two hours were spent here in viewing the church and having a touch on the fine peal of eight bells (21 cwt.), and then going over the castle grounds, through the special permission of Mr. A. G. Luttrell—Saturday not being one of the show days. Here could be seen yew hedges 60ft. high, palm trees in flower, lemon trees bearing fruit fit to pick, six hundred year old cedars, and other horticultural and floricultural specimens too numerous to mention, yet lovely to look upon. The castle itself is still inhabited, and in this respect may rank with either Alnwick, Arundel or Warwick.

Leaving this place most reluctantly, a short spin of two and a half miles brought us into Minehead, where the car pulled up at the Plume of Feathers. Mine Host Chidgey had a substantial luncheon spread in one of his numerous rooms, and we did credit to his splendid catering. Luncheon over we climbed the hill to the church and rang for a short time on the easy running peal of ten. The way our six youngsters handled the front bells, even if only in call changes, evoked praise from the local ringers present.

A short stroll and a visit to some of the shops brought on three o'clock, the time for leaving.

EXMOOR.

Across Exmoor to Tiverton, thirty miles away, was our next spin. And what a glorious drive it was! The way by which the road winds and twists through the hills, the glorious scenery, the lovely flowers and gushing streams, made this section of the journey most enjoyable. Readers of "Lorna Doone" could, in imagination, again traverse the hills and dales over which Jan Ridd walked, and picture to themselves the nature of the meetings between him and the Doones of Bagworthy. The thirty miles was safely negotiated in two hours, and we pulled up at Clapp's Restaurant in Tiverton, quite ready for the cup that cheers. After a chatty meal we made our way to St. Peter's Church and had a pull with the local ringers. The bells are a mellow-toned peal of eight, in D, and go like the proverbial tops, so it was a pleasure to ring.

Once again seated, we made for Honiton, by way of Collumpton. Being well within our scheduled time we had half an hour to stretch our legs, and then embarked on the last stage of our journey. Axminster, Charmouth and Bridport were passed in turn, and we drew up at Bradpole within five minutes of the anticipated time—10.30 p.m. Fine weather, pleasant company, and splendid scenery all tended to make the outing a most enjoyable one.

TOWER STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.

During a thunderstorm which passed over Lancashire on Friday last, the lightning struck the tower of the Horwich parish church, causing a fire in the clock room which is just below the bell chamber. Fortunately the outbreak was seen from outside almost immediately, and was extinguished before much damage was done.

It was thought at first that two of the bells were cracked, but on Sunday they were tried in peal, and were found to be quite sound. It is fortunate that the bells were undamaged, as they are a fine ring only just recently augmented to eight.

HINTS ON CONDUCTING.

HELP FOR BEGINNERS.

We have been told that "the best laid schemes o' mice and men gang aft a-gley," and however nicely it had been schemed for me to continue my articles under this heading without undue interruption, force of circumstances has crowded me out and the "hints" prepared some weeks ago have been excluded until now. But I know my readers will excuse both me and the Editor—me because it is not my fault; the Editor because, while he does not perhaps always succeed, he does his best to please us all.

In my article which last appeared I tried to make clear how the young conductor can call Grandsire Triples by the bells "before." It is done, as we saw, by watching for the bell, which is to come "before" at the bob, hunting down in front of the treble. To call touches or peals by this method, of course, necessitates memorising the order in which the bells are called "before." Now, as leading up to the eventual calling of a peal, a good practice touch is a 500 from Holt's famous ten-part. In this peal the calling in each of the last five parts is the reverse of the calling in each of the first five parts, and, without the insertion of the singles, the calling in each half brings the bells back into the plain course and thence into rounds. The 2nd is in the hunt at each part-end and in each part you have a bob at the first lead to call the 2nd out. There are only nine more bobs to the part, and at seven of these the same bell is called "before," divided into two sequences by one other bell being called "before" twice. Here is the calling of each half:

| First half. | | Second half. | |
|-------------|---|--------------|---|
| 234567 | | 234567 | |
| 752634 | 1 | 752634 | 1 |
| 347265 | 2 | 657423 | 5 |
| 243576 | 5 | 456372 | 5 |
| 542637 | 5 | 354267 | 5 |
| 765342 | 1 | 673425 | 2 |
| 367254 | 5 | 476532 | 5 |
| 543726 | 2 | 254376 | 1 |
| 745632 | 5 | 352647 | 5 |
| 647253 | 5 | 653724 | 5 |
| 246375 | 5 | 246375 | 2 |

The above are the calling and figures of the first part of the first half, but the calling only of the second half. The singles which are used to join the two halves together, and, at the end, to bring the bells round, reverse 4, 5, and 6, 7. My object at the moment, however, is to show how easily the bells "before" in this peal can be memorised. To take the first half, and putting aside the call which brings the 2nd out of the hunt at the first lead, we have the following as the bells before:—

| | | | | |
|----------|-------|-------|-----|---------|
| 1st part | | 4 4 4 | 6 6 | 4 4 4 4 |
| 2nd part | ... | 6 6 6 | 7 7 | 6 6 6 6 |
| 3rd part | | 7 7 7 | 5 5 | 7 7 7 7 |
| 4th part | | 5 5 5 | 3 3 | 5 5 5 5 |
| 5th part | | 3 3 3 | 4 4 | 3 3 3 3 |

You will notice that the order in which the bells are brought in is the plain course coursing order. Now take the second half, ignoring the bob at the end, which brings the 2nd back into the hunt; and remembering that when we are ringing the peal the half way lead end, from which we work, will be 235476. The bells before will be:

| | | | | |
|-----------|-------|---------|-----|-------|
| 6th part | | 4 4 4 4 | 6 6 | 4 4 4 |
| 7th part | | 3 3 3 3 | 4 4 | 3 3 3 |
| 8th part | | 5 5 5 5 | 3 3 | 5 5 5 |
| 9th part | | 7 7 7 7 | 5 5 | 7 7 7 |
| 10th part | | 6 6 6 6 | 7 7 | 6 6 6 |

Here the order in which the bells are brought in is the reverse of the plain course order. Note, too, that in both halves the bell interposed in the middle is the bell which, in the coursing order of the plain course, is next after the one that is seven times before; i.e., the 6th with the 4th, the 7th with the 6th, and so on.

As to the rest of the calling, there ought to be little difficulty. It is no trouble to remember, in the first half, to call the 2nd out of the hunt the first lead after the part end, while in the second half the 2nd has to be called into the hunt after the last of the sequence of bobs "before." If the beginner cannot see this clearly enough by watching the 2nd itself, he can easily get over the difficulty by calling "before," the bell which is coursing after the 2nd.

There is only one other point that may cause some difficulty, and that is recollecting how many times a bell has been called "before" in a sequence. It would be rather awkward, to say the least, if in the last part, for instance, a conductor did not know whether he had called the 6th three or four times "before" in the first sequence. To guard against this sort of thing—for memory, however well trained, will play tricks—some sort of guide is necessary and the best that I have found is this. In each part of the first half the 2nd comes out of the hunt at the end of the first sequence and goes into the hunt at the end of the second. In each part of the last half, the bell "before" at the preceding part end goes into the hunt at the end of the first sequence and comes out at the end of the second.

Here, then, you have a few hints for calling Holt's ten-part from any bell. You can practise it by calling as many parts as you like up to half a peal, and the bells will always come round after any part end without further bobs, as they are in the plain course. But remember, after the first part, which runs round at 518, the touches will not be true (unless you go to the half peal), as one or more leads of the plains course will be rung over again.

The Editor has asked me to answer a correspondent who desires to know what "lapping" is, as it has been mentioned that Henry Haley "lapped" quite a number of peals in his youth. "Lapping" is done with handbells by sitting in a circle and making the changes by passing the bells from lap to lap. Four men, for instance, would have eight bells. They ring them round and then get the first change by each changing over the pair of bells in his hands. The next change is got by A putting the bell from his left hand into B's lap, retaining the bell in his right hand, and B giving the bell in his right hand to A and that in his left to C, receiving in exchange that from the right hand of C. The same thing happens in regard to C and D, except that the latter, having no one to give his left hand bell to, retains it. This process goes on, of course, while the bells are being rung round and requires quickness and precision. The third change, again, is got by each one changing hands with his own pair. And so the business proceeds, until a lead end, when the necessary place has to be made and the dodging done. It requires a good ear, plenty of concentration and not a little practice to lap properly, but when it is done nicely it is not a bad amusement, and it is certainly more spectacular for the on-lookers than handbells "retained in hand," but for actual skill it is not to be counted with the latter form of change ringing.

LONDON.—Royal Cumberland Youths.—On May 28th, for divine service, at St. Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, a quarter-peal of Stedman Cinques: J. D. Matthews (conductor) 1, W. J. Nudds 2, E. Wightman 3, B. Foskett 4, F. Smith 5, J. Hunt 6, W. T. Powell 7, H. T. Scarlett 8, G. A. Card 9, W. Berry 10, W. Shimmins 11, H. G. Stubbs 12.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**THE PAST YEAR'S WORK.**

The annual report of the Essex Association has just been issued to members. In reviewing the work for the past year, the Master (Mr. C. H. Howard) refers to the deplorable effect which the war has had upon ringing institutions all over the country. "The ranks of our members," he says, "have been again sadly depleted by the call to service which has been made to the manhood of the nation, and in the coming year we are faced with the certainty that the continued and increasing demand for men must drastically reduce the number of our more active members. In this sad national necessity we must be prepared to face even greater sacrifices in the coming months, and all our efforts must be concentrated to keeping alive the essential part of our work as ringers—the summoning of worshippers to Divine service. We hope many of our loyal members will return to us again from the fighting forces."

RINGERS' CHIEF MISSION.

"By necessity of circumstances peal ringing has been practically abandoned in the county; only two peals have been recorded during the year, one by the Leytonstone band in a metropolitan tower and the other on handbells by Mr. Lewis Wiseman's band at Sible Hedingham. This result is, to our members, a sufficient indication of how ringing has been curtailed, as in normal years we have generally rung between fifty and sixty peals. But although peal ringing has suffered to this extent and practically ceased in our midst, it behoves us in the critical times through which we are passing, and, in view of even more trying times that are undoubtedly to come, to concentrate all our endeavours upon the chief mission of our work in serving the Church. Whilst regretting the lapse of peal ringing, we must also recognise that the restrictions imposed by the competent authorities will practically prevent meeting for practice in the coming winter evenings. Still we must acknowledge the devotion to duty of those who formerly derived great pleasure and instruction from peal ringing in remaining loyal to their duties as church workers, by continuing, in many instances under great difficulties, the Sunday ringing, and here I must appeal again to the older members to rally to the towers where they formerly rang, and so assist in preserving an art which it must be our one object to maintain during the time that our younger members are away bearing the burden of the war. Nothing would be more lamentable than that during the enforced absence of our more active members in foreign lands, the music of the bells, which had been a prominent part of our worship for centuries, should cease in the homeland. Our roll of honour shows an increasing number of members who have joined the Army and Navy during the year. Unfortunately we have to lament that three have fallen serving their King and country. Death has removed from our midst several prominent members whose loss we deplore: Mr. E. Pye, of Chadwell Heath, was a genius among ringers, and we are proud to have been able to claim him as a resident member of our Association; Mr. E. A. Davies, of Barking, who was for many years a regular attendant at our annual meetings, and whom we shall greatly miss; Mr. J. J. Bradley, of Chadwell Heath; Mr. G. Taylor, of Cambridge, and Mr. H. Bottrill, of Harlow, had each in their own locality rendered good service to the exercise."

IMPROVED FINANCIAL POSITION.

"We have to report a decreased membership, brought about partly by the normal shrinkage due to members dropping out through being in arrears. The possibilities of increase have been affected by the curtailment of facilities for teaching beginners who, in ordinary times, would be joining our ranks. It is a pleasure to be able to announce that the Castle Hedingham band have become affiliated during the year, thus making a welcome addition to our numbers. It will be remembered that at our last annual meeting we decided the names of all members on active service should be retained on the books without payment of subscription during the period of the war. Notwithstanding the diminution in income brought about by this concession we are able to meet all expenses and carry forward a balance of £17 6s. 11d., against £10 1s. 11d. in hand at the commencement of the year. In view of the probability of a decreased income in the present year we have decided, in order to keep our expenditure within our expected income, to economise by publishing only essential features. A record will be kept of the details omitted in the hope that, with the return of normal times, they may be again included in the annual report. The balance sheet discloses that £50 of our reserve fund, which was formerly in the post office at 2½ per cent., has been invested in the 4½ per cent. War Loan, thus showing our patriotism to the national funds and securing a larger income from the capital. During the year restoration work has been unavoidably restricted. The chief restoration was the opening of the new ring of eight at Felsted. The bells of Rettenden have been rehung and quarter-turned. It is interesting to report that at Wethersfield Sir Fortescue Flannery, Bt., M.P., Lord of the Manor and Patron of the Living, has inaugurated a fund for the restoration of the ancient Saxon tower and bells of the Parish Church. In conclusion I cannot do better than endorse the auditor's report that the careful management by the various Masters and Secretaries has enabled such a satisfactory balance sheet to be shown. I wish to thank them on behalf of the Association for their zeal and valuable services in the past year."

ENJOYABLE MEETING AT MATCHING.

A most successful meeting of the North-Western Division of the

Essex Association was held at Matching on Saturday week. Members attended from Stansted, Saffron Walden, Bishop's Stortford, Great Bentley, Walthamstow, Braintree, Great Totham, Sawbridgeworth, Matching, Romford, Writtle and Chelmsford. Ringing opened with a 720 Kent Treble Bob on the fine little peal of six, rung by: T. J. Watts 1, F. W. Edwards 2, C. H. Howard 3, E. J. Butter 4, O. L. Twist 5, W. Watts (conductor) 6.—The Vicar (the Rev. J. B. Brinkworth) conducted a short service, and gave a very interesting address on bells and the purposes of ringing.

At the conclusion of the service, an adjournment was made to the old Marriage Feast Room, where 27 sat down to tea.—The business meeting followed, the Vicar presiding, supported by the District Master (Mr. F. Pitstow), the district secretary (Mr. W. Watts), Mr. C. H. Howard (Master of the Association), the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre (hon. general secretary), Mr. E. J. Butter (Master of the South-Western Division), and Mr. F. W. Edwards (district secretary, South-Western Division).

Mr. C. Charter, of Roydon, was elected a ringing member, and it was decided, on the motion of Mr. A. Evenett, seconded by Mr. H. J. Tucker, to hold the next meeting at Bishop's Stortford.—The Rev. H. T. W. Eyre proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for his address, and for presiding over the meeting.—The Vicar, in replying, thanked the members, and said it gave him very great pleasure to welcome them to Matching.

The ancient Marriage Feast Room adjoining the church, and an interesting description of it was given by the Vicar, who stated that the handsome structure was erected by Lord Rich 400 years ago to provide accommodation for the rejoicings of newly-married couples, and it was still occasionally used for that purpose.

After tea some of the members enjoyed a look round the beautiful grounds of the Vicarage, and drove to Harlow Parish Church. Ringing was kept up until about 8 p.m. in the following methods: Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob and Bob Minor, Stedman and Grand-sire Doubles. The thanks of the members are due to Mrs. Brinkworth and her daughter for helping at the tea, and making the meeting a successful one. It is hoped to hold another meeting at Matching before very long.

DUDLEY GUILD.

A quarterly meeting of the Dudley and District Guild was held at St. Peter's Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton, on Saturday week. The weather being all that could be desired, a fairly large number of members availed themselves of the pleasure of being present and having a pull on the beautiful peal of twelve bells. The Guild service was said in church, conducted by the Rev. T. W. Wilkes, one of the staff of clergy of St. Peter's, who also gave a very eloquent address.

At the conclusion of the service the business meeting was held in the upper vestry, the chair being taken by the Rev. T. W. Wilkes, who gave the members a hearty welcome to St. Peter's on behalf of the Rector, who could not be present owing to indisposition. Apologies for absence were received from Mr. S. Spittle (Ringing Master) owing to illness, and Mr. H. Mason, Old Hill.—The hon. secretary was instructed to send a letter of sympathy to the Ringing Master in his illness, and it was mentioned that this was believed to be the first time that Mr. Spittle had been absent from a meeting since the formation of the Guild in 1899. Hopes were expressed that he would soon be in his usual health again.

It was decided that the next meeting should be held at Darlaston, if the consent of the Vicar were obtained.—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. T. W. Wilkes for his kindness in conducting the service in church and presiding at the meeting, also to the Rector for granting permission to hold the meeting at St. Peter's, to the organist (Mr. Leslie Guest), to Mr. Herbert Knight and his band for making the necessary arrangements, and all who in any way assisted in making the meeting successful and adding to the comfort of the members.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Glastonbury Branch was held at Baltonsborough on Saturday week, when eighteen members were present from Baltonsborough, Street, Meare and St. John's, Glastonbury. The bells were set going about 3.30 p.m., four lady members of St. John's, Glastonbury, taking part in the ringing. Service in the Parish Church followed, the Rev. F. C. Fitch (Vicar) and the Rev. W. M. K. Warren (chairman of the branch) officiating, and the Rev. Atchley (Vicar of Godney) giving an address upon bells, their inscriptions and meanings.

After service the members adjourned to the schoolroom, where a substantial tea was waiting, kindly provided by the Vicar. At the subsequent meeting, the Rev. W. M. K. Warren presided, and on the motion of Mr. H. Lee, seconded by Mr. S. J. C. Matthews, Dinder was selected for the next meeting, the secretary remarking that the Vicar of Dinder would welcome the branch there, and also provide tea.—Mr. S. J. C. Matthews proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar of Baltonsborough for kindly providing tea, and also arranging the service, also to the Vicar of Godney for his most interesting address.—Both the clergy responded, and a move was then made to the tower, where some good touches of Doubles were brought round.

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MR. C. R. LILLEY AND HIS 500 PEALS.

THE MASTER OF ST. CHAD'S, SHREWSBURY.

The last ringer to reach the 500 peal mark is Mr. Charles Richard Lilley, Master of the St. Chad's Society, Shrewsbury, who is among the best known provincial ringers, for he has travelled the country a great deal, and wherever he has settled he has scoured the country for "new towers," and has made the acquaintance of a large number of members of the Exercise. To say that Mr. Lilley is an enthusiast is to put the matter quite mildly, for he has often proved that neither distance, time nor difficulty need stand in the way. A keen cyclist, a matter of 60 miles by road for a peal, perhaps on bad going bells, was quite an insignificant detail, and when out on ringing tours he could always be relied upon to do the tower work of greasing or splicing. In this respect he has rendered valuable service to more than one touring band. His wide experience is now serving him in good stead, and as tower keeper and ringing master at St. Chad's, where there is one of the best rings of twelve in the country, Mr. Lilley finds himself absolutely in his element.



MR. C. R. LILLEY.

Born at Candlesby, Lincs, in 1874, Mr. C. R. Lilley is the eldest son of the late Mr. Richard Lilley, for many years churchwarden of his parish church. As quite a small boy he used to be taken to the church by the parish clerk, the late Henry Barker, to ring the eight o'clock service bell, and this seems to have aroused in him the liking for ringing which he may have inherited from his great-grandfather—William Fant—the only other member of the family who was a change ringer, and who was a member of the company at Frieston, Lincs. It is interesting to note that Mr. Lilley has in his possession an old ringing book which belonged to his predecessor.

Mr. Lilley began his change ringing career at Skirbeck Lincs, on the five bells there, with a young band who were struggling with a art by the aid of "Rope Sight." Then came along a ringer qualified to teach them, in Mr. H. Palmer, and they soon scored their first 120 of Bob Doubles. This was on Sunday, June 19th, 1892, and progress was quickly made from this point. This was a time when change ringing bands were few and far between in Lincolnshire, and to get a touch of Grandsire Triples meant a 30 mile cycle journey to Heckington. On December 26th, 1894, Mr. Lilley rang his first peal. This was at Wrangle in twelve methods of Doubles, conducted by Mr. J. Sharpe, of Frieston, and a few weeks later he took part in a similar peal at Skirbeck, in which three of his own band rang. Moving to Lincoln, Mr. Lilley came in contact with Messrs. Gabriel Lindoff and Arthur Craven, and soon got on to Treble Bob ringing. In 1897 he moved to Bedford, where the finishing touch, so to speak, was put to his ringing education by Mr. C. W. Clarke, and some of whose enthusiasm he imbibed. About this time St. Paul's bells were increased to ten, and Mr. Lilley rang his first peals of Caters and Royal on them in 1897. Double Norwich, at Leicester, was added in 1898, in which year Mr. Lilley went to Watford, where, on July 28th, he called his first peal of Grandsire Triples. Next he moved to Leicester, where he rang Stedman Triples, and while residing in that district called a peal of Royal at Duffield. Removing afterwards to London, he was a frequent visitor at the College Youths practice meetings, and joined the Waterloo and St. Margaret's Societies.

On May 22nd, 1899, he took part in the long peal of Double Norwich at Kidlington—17,024 in 11 hrs. 12 mins. After this he went in strong for peal ringing, and had the ambition to ring 52 in a year, but he did not achieve success in this direction until 1903, when he rang 65 and conducted 52. His first peal of Cinques was rung at Sheffield, conducted by the late Mr. C. H. Hattersley, with whom he formed a very great friendship and from whom he learned a great deal in conducting. In 1909 Mr. Lilley went to Caversham, and joined the famous St. Peter's Company, with whom he rang his first peal of Cambridge, and peals in other Surprise methods, his first of London having been rung at St. Stephen's, Bristol, conducted by Mr. W. A. Cave, and his first of Bristol, at St. John's, Waterloo Road, London, conducted by Mr. W. Pye. Mr. Lilley called the first peal of Royal west of Bristol, this being achieved at Charles Church, Plymouth.

In 1913 he removed to Shrewsbury, and called the first peal of Stedman Triples in the town, at St. Alkmund's. This latter tower was soon afterwards closed and Mr. Lilley was appointed ringing master at St. Chad's, where the authorities were determined to have a good change ringing band and to put the bells, which had got into a dilapidated condition, into good order. St. Alkmund's band joined St. Chad's, and a beginning was made with Cinques, but it was not until the bells had been recast and rehung in 1914 that much could be done. Messrs. Taylor's work has placed Shrewsbury in possession of one of the best peals of 12 in the kingdom, and on November 19th, 1914, Mr. Lilley called a peal of Bob Major on the back eight, it being the first time that the tenor had been turned in to a peal since December 27th, 1813, when it was rung by the celebrated Samuel Lawrence. The outbreak of war interfered with progress, and seven of the members are now with the colours, but when normal conditions arrive again doubtless more will be heard of the St. Chad's Society.

In addition to being a ringer and conductor, Mr. Lilley has rendered valuable service as an instructor. His 500 peals have been rung in no fewer than 270 towers in 31 counties, and it is curious that his 500th peal, rung at Shifnal and recorded last week, should have been at the tower where he rang his 100th peal of Grandsire Triples. The peal, it was hoped, was to have been Bob Royal at St. Chad's, but this had to be abandoned. His peals are made up as follows:

| On tower bells: | Rung. | Cond. |
|----------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Bristol Surprise | 2 | |
| London Surprise Major | 4 | |
| Cambridge Surprise Major | 3 | |
| Superlative Surprise Major | 25 | 2 |
| Double Norwich Major | 37 | 11 |
| (Including a 17,024) | | |
| Oxford Treble Bob Major | 3 | 3 |
| Kent Treble Bob Major | 32 | 22 |
| Kent Treble Bob Royal | 7 | |
| Bob Major | 39 | 34 |
| Bob Royal | 10 | 5 |
| Stedman Triples | 57 | 15 |
| Stedman Caters | 9 | 1 |
| Stedman Cinques | 3 | |
| Oxford Bob Triples | 1 | 1 |
| Bob Triples | 1 | 1 |
| Union Triples | 1 | |
| Grandsire Triples | 105 | 92 |
| Grandsire Caters | 22 | 9 |
| Minor, 1 to 7 Methods | 98 | 67 |
| Doubles, 2 to 12 Methods | 9 | 4 |
| On handbells: | | |
| Bob Royal | 2 | 2 |
| Bob Major | 12 | 12 |
| Bob Triples | 1 | |
| Grandsire Caters | 3 | 3 |
| Grandsire Triples | 3 | 3 |
| Kent Treble Bob Major | 3 | 3 |
| Total | 500 | 290 |

CENTRAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Although I am sure our secretary had no intention of misrepresenting what I had to say at the meeting at Scale on the question of representatives to the Central Council, yet, as a matter of fact, that is what he has done. Perhaps you will allow me to state what I actually did say on the subject. I told the meeting that I had got the idea into my "noddle" that until such time as the discussions and deliberations of the Central Council resulted in more apparent benefits to the general rank and file of ringers, I had thought of proposing at our coming annual general Central Committee meeting, that the Winchester Guild send only one representative to the meetings of the Council, and not as reported, no representatives. (We are entitled to send four, but, as a matter of fact, more than two very rarely go) I should just like to say that I have no antagonistic feelings whatever towards any past or present members of the Council, and should be very sorry to see the central body done away with. It would, of course, be wrong, and very unkind also, to say that the rank and file of ringers have never reaped any benefit from the work of the Council. The kind of work that men of the type of, for instance, the Rev. E. W. Carpenter and others have done must be of benefit to us all, but those kind of discussions which are entered into by a certain section of the members of the Council, and which have been very aptly described by Mr. F. E. Dawe as simply a discussion as to which is tweedle-dee, and which is tweedle-dum, are not of the slightest interest or benefit to the general body of ringers, and until there is less of that kind of discussion at the meetings of the Council, I sincerely believe that the Winchester Guild will be wasting money by sending more than one representative.

One reason why I brought the subject up at this time is because I have been given to understand that the Council does not meet at all this year, and that being the case, I thought this was a very suitable time for a discussion on the subject, giving ringers an opportunity of expressing their opinions, whilst at the same time no definite action need be taken until twelve months hence. I am also of the opinion that

in order to obtain a Central Council of a type that will be of real benefit, the general body of ringers must take a closer interest in the doings of the Council, and also a much closer interest as to who is chosen to represent their particular Guild on the Council. The way to stimulate that interest, in my opinion, is by introducing these discussions at our ringing meetings up and down the country. I have, on several different occasions, and in different parts of the country, when some question re the Central Council has been under discussion, asked the question—Who are your representatives on the Council? and have been met with the reply—"Bothered if I know who they all are, and it does not matter as I know." Until we get rid of that indifference I am afraid we shall not get a very efficient Council. Much more interest, and, perhaps, discretion also, should be shown in selecting the men chosen to represent the members of the various Guilds. Men are often chosen because, and simply because of their undoubted skill in and out of the belfry as first class ringers, or perhaps composers, and it does not by any means follow that because of those qualifications they are the best men available in that particular Guild as representatives on the Council. Something besides ringing or composing ability is desirable in a representative for the Central Council, or we shall very soon get nothing else but "tweedle-dee and tweedle-dum."—

Yours faithfully,
Cranleigh.

ROBERT WHITTINGTON.

OXFORD GUILD SECRETARY'S WEDDING.

The unique event of a bride conducting her own wedding peal, in which the bridegroom and two of the officiating clergy took part, made the ceremony at Bradfield, recorded last week, specially noteworthy. The bride was Miss Mary E. Chillingworth, and the bridegroom, Mr. A. E. Reeves, of Reading, General Secretary of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.



Photo

Foulsham, Reading.

THE BRIDE AND BRIDEGROOM.

BELLS FOR SHELLS.

Arrangements have now been completed, it is stated, for taking over the church bells in the province of Lower Austria by the military authorities. There will be no formal requisitioning, but the matter will be done by mutual consent. The bells will be paid for at the rate of about 1s. 6d. a pound. At present it is proposed to leave all bells cast before the year 1800. Altogether one-third of the bells will be left in the churches and two-thirds removed.

RINGING AT ST. MARTIN'S-IN-THE-FIELDS.

By arrangement with the Vicar, the Royal Cumberland Youths ring for service at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, every Sunday morning.

ST. MARY-LE-TOWER, IPSWICH.**THE RINGING RECORDS.**

If ever there was a belfry where ringing "history" has been made, that belfry assuredly is St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, and the early records made on those famous bells will be read with interest. In connection with our article, which appeared in a recent issue, on the bells themselves, it should have been stated that the peal was augmented to ten in 1812 and not 1845. To Mr. C. J. Sedgley and Mr. W. Motts, the tower keeper, we are indebted for the particulars of the peals rung. An advertisement in the old "Ipswich Chronicle" of that year throws some light on this: "On Tuesday next, the 7th of July, being the first day of the Ipswich races, will be opened at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, a peal of ten bells, two trebles being added to the former eight, provided and hung by John Naunton."

"The whole church," adds Mr. Sedgley, "was practically entirely rebuilt in 1862, the old tower was demolished, and, on the new one being completed, the bells were augmented to twelve by the addition of a treble and tenor, the old 4th and 8th being recast at the same time. This divides ringing matters very distinctly into two periods, that done before the restoration, and that after. I am sending you copies of all the boards relating to peals rung before the restoration, also the record of a peal rung in 1735, and another little record from an Ipswich paper, a century later."

There is no board relating to the following in the tower, but the record is taken from the "Ipswich Gazette," dated December 6th to 13th, 1735.

Ipswich, December 13th, 1735.—Yesterday, in the evening, was rung by our town ringers at St. Mary tower in this town, 5040 changes, being the whole peal of Grandsire Triples on eight bells, the persons were: James Kirridge, aged 61, 8th, Isaac Whitehand 7th, Stephen Bond 6th, George Bond 5th, Stephen Kirby 4th, Robert Hogger 3rd, Thomas Bennet 2nd, George Weston treble, which was done in three hours and eleven minutes by the above said persons to the satisfaction of all the lovers of that science.

From boards in tower:

Thursday, May 23rd, 1811, was rung on the old peal of eight bells, 5040 changes of Bob Major, in 3 hours and 15 mins. by the following persons: Treble, John Church; 2nd, John Pettit; 3rd, James Ling; 4th, James Burgess; 5th, Benjamin Bennett; 6th, William Callunn; 7th, Thomas Avis; tenor, John Naunton, who conducted the peal.

John Pettit rang in the 10,080 of Bob Major at Debenham in 1767.

On Monday, May 12th, 1817, a complete peal of 5088 changes of Oxford Treble Bob was rung in this steeple in 3 hours and 15 minutes by the following persons: Treble, John Pettit; 2nd, James Pipe; 3rd, Robert Bailey; 4th, Edward Smith; 5th, James Ling; 6th, Robert Burch; 7th, Thomas Avis; tenor, John Naunton. J. Naunton called the peal. *Tinniendi Arti Felicitas Adsit.*

On Tuesday, December 28th, 1824, Holt's complete ten-course peal of 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples was rung in this steeple in 3 hours and 11 minutes by the following persons: Treble, Robert Burch; 2nd, William Adams; 3rd, Robert Bailey; 4th, Edward Smith; 5th, William Garrod; 6th, Thomas Wright; 7th, William Leach; tenor, Samuel Capon. R. Burch called the peal. *Ars Campanarium Sonandarum Floreat.*

On Christmas Day, 1827, a complete peal of 5400 changes of Bob Royal was rung in this steeple in 3 hours 31 minutes by the following persons: Treble, Robert Burch; 2nd, William Adams; 3rd, Thomas Wright; 4th, John Bateman; 5th, Robert Bailey; 6th, Thomas Avis; 7th, William Tillet; 8th, Thomas Meadows; 9th, William Leach; tenor, Francis Andrews. Composed and conducted by Wm. Leach. *Ars Incognita Imperitis Contemnitur.*

On Friday, January 29th, 1830, Holt's six-part peal of 5040 changes of Grandsire Triples was rung in this steeple in 3 hours 6 minutes by the following persons, viz.: Treble, Robert Burch; 2nd, George Rose; 3rd, William Adams; 4th, William Garrard; 5th, William Tillet; 6th, Thos. Wright; 7th, Samuel Capon; tenor, William Leach. Conducted by Robert Burch.

On Wednesday, December 22nd, 1830, a complete peal of 5147 changes of Grandsire Caters was rung in this steeple in 3 hours and 18 minutes by the following persons, viz.:—Treble, Robert Burch; 2nd, William Leach; 3rd, William Garrard, senr.; 4th, Thomas Wright; 5th, Walter Meadows; 6th, Williams Garrard, junr.; 7th, William Tillet; 8th, John Naunton; 9th, Samuel Capon; tenor, Thomas Avis. Conducted by Robt. Burch. *Famam Extendere Factis Vis Unita Fortior.*

On Monday, April 2nd, 1832, a complete peal of 5000 changes of Treble Bob Royal in the Kentish Variation was rung in this tower in 3 hours 15 minutes by the following persons: Treble, Thomas Wright; 2nd, Robert Burch; 3rd, William Garrard, senr.; 4th, William Adams; 5th, Walter Meadows; 6th, William Garrard, junr.; 7th, William Tillet; 8th, John Naunton; 9th, William Leach; tenor, John Bateman. Composed and conducted by Wm. Leach. *Per Incentem Perseveratiam Hinc Societati Bene Evenit.*

On Saturday, Feb. 16th, 1850, was rung in this tower a complete peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, consisting of 5200 changes, in 3 hours 28 minutes by the following persons: Treble, Robert Birch; 2nd, Thomas Cook; 3rd, John Sherman; 4th, John Standing; 5th, Henry Card; 6th, Robert Naunton; 7th, William Woods; 8th, William Garrard; 9th, Joseph Lewes; tenor, John Naunton. The above peal was composed and conducted by William Garrard. *Semper Memorandum.* Rev. W. A. St. Leger, Minister; T. Silburn, T. E. Rabett, Churchwardens.

The following is taken from the "Ipswich Chronicle" of Saturday, April 25th, 1855: On the evening of 18th inst., eight of the Society of Ringers, in this town accomplished on the bells of St. Mary Tower a quarter-peal of that scientific and intricate method, Stedman Triples, the first ever completed by any society in this county.

The present society was formed in 1816, and have rung the following peals on the bells since then:—

| | |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| Cambridge Surprise Maximus | 2 |
| Cambridge Surprise Royal | 1 |
| Cambridge Surprise Major | 2 |
| Double Norwich Court Bob Maximus... | 3 |
| Double Norwich Court Bob Royal ... | 8 |
| Double Norwich Court Bob Major ... | 4 |
| Oxford Treble Bob Maximus | 1 |
| Oxford Treble Bob Royal | 1 |
| Oxford Treble Bob Major | 2 |
| Kent Treble Bob Maximus | 39 |
| Kent Treble Bob Royal | 9 |
| Kent Treble Bob Major | 1 |
| Plain Bob Maximus | 1 |
| Plain Bob Royal | 2 |
| Plain Bob Major | 1 |
| Stedman Cinques | 20 |
| Stedman Caters | 19 |
| Stedman Triples | 3 |
| Grandsire Cinques | 4 |
| Grandsire Caters | 6 |
| Grandsire Triples | 5 |
| London Surprise Major | 1 |
| Superlative Surprise Major | 2 |

Total ... 137

DEATH OF MR. F. DERBYSHIRE.**FORMER VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

The Lancashire Association has lost a valued member by the death of Mr. F. Derbyshire, of Worsley, who joined the Association in 1882, and served in the office of vice-president in the years 1896 and 1897. He was clerk and sexton at St. Mark's Church, and among the parishioners, as well as among his many friends in ringing circles, he was highly esteemed. He rang his first peal—Grandsire Triples—at Eccles on November 15th, 1884, and his last at Worsley on May 15th, 1915. This was Stedman Triples. Altogether he had put to his credit 102 peals, of which the following is a list: Grandsire Triples 15, Grandsire Major 1, Grandsire Caters 2, Erin Triples 1, Stedman Triples 23, Treble Bob Major 39, Treble Bob Royal 3, Double Norwich Major 15, Bob Major 3.

On Saturday last a half-muffled peal of Stedman Triples was rung to his memory at Worsley.

A LONDON RENOVATION.

The bells of St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, several of which date from 1693, and upon which the first peal of London Surprise in the City of London was rung some 17 or 18 years ago, have just been thoroughly overhauled by Messrs. John Warner and Sons. The bells had not been rung for a long time, and now that they have been put into going order again it is hoped that the church authorities may be persuaded to allow the tower to be open more often in the future for practice, etc.

On Saturday week several ringers belonging to the Cumberland and College Youths met to try the bells, and found that a great improvement in the "go" had been effected. The ringing included 288 Stedman Triples (conducted by J. Hunt), 288 Kent Treble Bob (conducted by F. Smith), and a touch of Double Norwich (conducted by E. Wightman). Those taking part, in addition to the conductors mentioned, were: J. Scholes, W. J. Nudds, W. T. Powell, R. Sanders, G. Dawson, T. Walker and J. D. Matthews.

KING'S CLIFFE BELL FUND.

Up to the present a total of £5 17s. 6d. has been received by the Rector towards the fund for recasting the tenor at King's Cliffe. We hope that the balance necessary will quickly be raised among the ringers throughout the country so that the bells at King's Cliffe may be ready to ring when the time comes to celebrate peace. The smallest donations will be most thankfully received, and we hope to see the suggestion, which we have already thrown out, of collections made among ringers in the different towers and at ringing meetings, extensively carried out. Among the recent donations received are 12s. from the Long Stanton ringers, 5s. from St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham; 4s. from change ringers at Messrs. Brotherhood's works at Peterborough; 5s. from Miss Powell, King's Cliffe; and 1s. from Mr. W. H. Fussell, Slough. Further contributions should be sent to the Rev. H. A. Orlebar, King's Cliffe Rectory, near Peterborough.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT MEETING.

The Southern District held a quarterly meeting, Saturday week, at Whiston, near Rotherham. Favoured with lovely weather, over 40 ringers were present from Sheffield (Cathedral), Rotherham (Parish Church and Eastwood), Doncaster, Nottingham, Staveley, Leicester, Bolsover, Wath-on-Dearne, Bolsterstone, Chesterfield, Worksop, Anston, Beighton, etc., and the meeting proved a splendid success.

By kind permission of the Rector (the Rev. A. G. Allton), the Rectory grounds and gardens were open to the visitors, and many availed themselves of the opportunity. The bells were raised about 3 p.m., and touches of Grandsire, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob Major, Stedman, Double Norwich, etc., were brought round. A touch of Grandsire Caters (conducted by Mr. C. Glenn) was rung in the churchyard on the handbells; among those taking part were Mr. E. Morris, of Leicester (who is stationed in the district with the Notts and Derby Regt.), and Mr. A. Hague (R.A.M.C.), the district secretary. The Church Institute was hospitably lent for tea, and all the visitors admired this splendid building, which is practically a new addition to the village.

A short business meeting was afterwards held, Mr. G. Hawksworth (of Doncaster) presiding, in the regrettable absence of the vice-president (Mr. T. R. Hensher), who sent word signifying his disappointment at not being able to be present. Mr. F. Willey, of Sheffield, a member of the committee, also wrote expressing his regret at not being able to attend, and all members present were sorry to hear he had unfortunately met with severe injuries to his arm. Both gentlemen sent their good wishes for a successful gathering.—The meeting passed a vote of condolence with the relatives of the late Sir A. P. Heywood, and also with those of the late Mr. T. Whitworth (of Treeton), who had been a member of the Association for many years.

Six new members were elected.—A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and to the local company for all arrangements, and also to the ladies who had helped so ably with the tea.

The committee decided to hold the next meeting on September 9th, at Wortley (if permission were granted) failing which, the secretary was instructed to apply for Barnsley.

The day's outing proved most enjoyable.

RINGERS IN FRANCE.

SOLDIERS' EXPERIENCE AMONG THE BELLS.

Pte Wm. Brett, who was leader of the ringers at Tuxford, Notts, and a guard on the Great Central Railway, has written to Mr. Haigh, secretary of the North Notts Association, an account of the experiences of himself and two other ringers in France. Pte Brett was wounded twelve months ago in France, and passed through five hospitals. He is, however, now back again in the fighting line. He writes from "Somewhere in France":—

"It may interest you to have a bit more news about myself and two fellow ringers out in France. Our battalion is now out of the trenches for a rest, and we arrived in a small village one afternoon. The next morning we were very much surprised to be awakened by the sound of church bells. You can guess how anyone would feel who takes the same interest in bells as I do. The sound of the bells soon found out we had more ringers in our battalion. There were soon two others aroused out of their sleep, so we discussed the matter and wondered whether there would be a chance of having a pull together. One of our officers was very good to ask the priest if three of his men could have a pull, so by kind permission of the priest we had the pleasure of being taken to the church on Wednesday night.

"CHURCHYARD BOB."

"We did not find the bells as we thought, or like they are in England, but quite different. There were three bells in the tower, and the same number of wheels in a frame, about 4ft. square all fastened together and worked on ball bearings with three wire ropes attached to each wheel running up to the bell. On the other side was a kind of handle fixed on the wheel, but no ropes whatever. There had been some at one time, as the holes in the ceiling and the rope guides indicated. The Frenchman who took us up tried to explain the different methods by which the bells were rung, but we could not understand him a bit, so we were allowed to ring for half an hour, and gave the inhabitants and our comrades a touch or two of 'Churchyard Bob' and 'Grave Diggers' Surprise.' The ringers taking part were: Pte Wm. Brett (13926), H Company, East Markham; Pte W. Good (11092), from Skegness; and Lance-Corpl. Wilmot (14780), from Arksey, near Doncaster. The weight of the bells are as follows: Treble 150 kilos; 2nd, 300 K; tenor, 450 K. We spent a very happy half hour, and were very much interested in what we saw. It may interest ringers if you would put an account of our experience in 'The Ringing World,' which I have sent me every week. We are now having much better weather than when I wrote to you, and it is quite a treat to be out of the sound of the guns."

RAINHAM, KENT. — On May 21st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, for divine service, in 50 mins.: L. L. Gray (Wickham Market) 1, W. Haigh 2, R. Ockwell 3, A. Manktelow 4, J. H. Champion 5, W. Easter 6, C. Belsey 7, A. V. Tucker 8.

NOTICES.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

—Established 1637.—Meetings will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., for handbell practice on June 29th; and for general business on the 20th, all at 8 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Hartlebury on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in the church at 4.45 p.m. The service will be taken by Archdeacon H. J. Greig. — E. J. Dowler, 11, Edward Road, Bournbrook, Birmingham.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Rochester District.

—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hoo St. Werburgh, on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available from 3.30 till 8.30 p.m. (election of district representative for Central Committee). — Edward A. G. Allen, Hon. District Secretary, 77, Bill Street Road, Frindsbury, Rochester.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.

Meeting at Beverley to-morrow (Saturday, June 17th). The bells at the Minster and also at St. Mary's will be available during the day.—Thos. Smith, Hon. District Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.

The next meeting will be held at Horwich on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—G. Pincott, Branch Secretary.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society).

—The next meeting will be held at the Church of All Saints, Edmonton, on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available at 4 p.m. to 9. A business meeting will be held in the tower. All ringers are welcome.—T. Walker, Hon. Secretary, 10, Police Buildings, Bishopsgate, E.C.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—

Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Abbot's Leigh on June 17th. Bells (6) from 3. Service 5. Tea 9d., at 5.45, in the George Inn.—A. W. Seviour, 5, Brunswick Street, City Road, Bristol.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.

The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Ribchester to-morrow (Saturday), June 17th, 1916. Tower open for ringing at 3 o'clock.—A. E. Woodhouse, Hon. Branch Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.

—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Oswaldtwistle on Saturday, June 24th, 1916. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Secretary.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.

A practice meeting will be held at Dagenham on Saturday, June 24th, 1916. Bells available from 3 p.m. All will be welcome.—E. J. Butler, Chadwell Heath.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

—The annual meeting will be held at St. Maurice's Hall, Winchester, on Saturday, June 24th, at 2 p.m. Service at the Cathedral 4 p.m. Preacher (The Master) Rev. C. E. Matthews. Tea at 5 p.m. — George Williams, Hon. General Secretary, West End, Southampton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—

The adjourned annual meeting will be held at Derby on Saturday, June 24th, for the election of a president, etc. Committee meeting in St. Andrew's Schoolroom at 4.15, fol-

lowed by general meeting at 5 p.m. No arrangements have been made for tea, but there are numerous cafes in the town. The bells at St. Andrew's will be available for ringing from 2 until 8 o'clock, excepting during the time of the meeting. Nominations for the presidency, signed by two members of the association, should reach me not later than first post on Saturday, June 24th. — W. E. White, Hon. Secretary.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Coaley on June 24th. Bells (6) open from 3 p.m. Tea 5. Visitors heartily welcomed. Kindly notify by June 21st to W. A. Lewis, Hon. Sec., Ham, Berkeley, Glos.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY OF CHANGE RINGERS (Established 1623). — The 293rd anniversary of the above society will be held on Tuesday, June 27th. Ringing commences at 9 a.m. All visitors are cordially welcomed.—R. A. Strong, Hon. Secretary.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The annual meeting will be held at Tamworth on Saturday, June 24th. Bells available at 3. Service in church at 4.45, with an address by the Rev. and Hon. M. Peel (Vicar). Tea (at 5.30), 6d. each, to those who have paid their subscriptions; to others 1s. Please send word not later than Tuesday, the 20th inst.—H. Knight, Hon. Secretary, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—The church bells will be available for ringing from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday, June 24th. Old and new visitors will be made welcome.—A. Symonds.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at North Wingfield on Saturday, July 1st. All ringers welcomed. Will those who intend being present kindly notify Mr. J. P. Tarlton, 16, Bright Street, North Wingfield, not later than Tuesday, June 27th. Clay Cross Station, Midland Railway. — Sam Thomas, Hon. Secretary pro. tem., 29, Stanhope Road, Sheffield.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting and six-bell contest will be held at Howarth, Saturday, July 1st, 1916. Weight of tenor 12 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt. Draw for order of ringing at 3.15 p.m. at the Black Bull Hotel. Entries for the contest to be sent in to me not later than Monday, June 26th, 1916. — F. Salmons, Secretary, 8, Salisbury Place, Halifax.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Shore Parish Church on Saturday, July 1st. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30. All ringers welcome.—T. K. Driver, Secretary, The Gardens, Hopwood Hall, Middleton.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—The quarterly meeting announced for June 24th at Crowle is cancelled.—R. G. Knowles, Branch Secretary, Madresfield, Malvern.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. W. H. B. Wilkins has removed to 47, Argyle Street, Iffley Road, Oxford.

PEAL BOOKS.—Price 3s., post free 3/6. Peals written in at 3d. per page. Prices for entering peals in Association official peal books upon application.—J. Beams, West Ewell, Epsom.

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Guildford, and Published by Messrs. WM. DAWSON & SONS
LTD., Cannon House, Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.