

No. 275. Vol. X.

FRIDAY, JUNE 23rd, 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. GILLET & 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. BECK,
Architect, Diocesan Surveyor.

THE COUNCIL'S BUSINESS.

Two letters appear in our columns this week upon the subject of the Central Council, and both should carry weight, not only with those who desire to see the usefulness of the Council increased, but also with those who are indifferent as to the Council's future. Lady Heywood's communication very aptly sums up the position. There is no reason whatever why the Council should be ended, but with changing times it is necessary to adapt it to the varying circumstances. This is, as we have all along insisted, the business not only of the Council itself, but of the organisations which are represented upon it and in whose interests it exists. Ringers, as a body, we believe, do not realise to what an extent they could increase the utility of the central organisation and increase, also, the interest in its doings by bringing forward subjects for discussion at their own meetings so that, if they were matters which concerned the Exercise generally, they could be taken on to the Council for debate.

The letter from the Rev. H. Law James deals more particularly with the detailed work of the Council, and shows that the reports presented usually form the principal, though not always the most interesting, part of the business. With this, of course, all acquainted with committee work will agree. It is by these smaller bodies of experts that the threshing out of abstruse or scientific questions must be done, and no one will deny that what has been done in this way in the past has largely contributed to the raising of the standard of ringing. But truth to tell, with a small number of exceptions, the committee reports in recent years have been quite brief verbal statements, which have contained very little matter of a substantial nature. The discussion of general resolutions, Mr. James holds, does not form the most important work of the Council, and he might have added that the debates are often uninteresting in the bargain. They turn upon subjects about which the general body of members may be ready to learn, but concerning which they are not always competent to speak. That is a difficulty which is not easily surmounted, and we have sometimes wondered whether, in matters such as these, a better purpose might not be served if the subjects were treated by papers read, rather than by discussion on a resolution. This may be thought by some to be a distinction without much difference, but it has certain advantages which those acquainted with the working of bodies of this kind will be readily aware of. At any rate an experiment on this line might be worth consideration, for it opens up opportunity to discuss and elucidate matters which do not require any resolution, and which, for that reason, are at present more or less beyond the scope of the business of the Council.

MODERN WORK.

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.

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BIRMINGHAM**

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OR IN PEALS.

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PEALS AUGMENTED,
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IN BEST SEASONED OAK,
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Best Workmanship and
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REPAIRS AND REHANGING
IN ALL BRANCHES.

BELLHANGERS sent to inspect
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Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Alban's, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough,
Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester,
and Worcester Cathedrals etc., etc.

TEN BELL PEAL.

SOLIHULL, WARWICKSHIRE.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, June 17, 1916, in Three Hours and Twenty-one Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5067 CHANCES;

Tenor 19½ cwt., in D.

ALBERT WALKER... .. Treble	GEORGE WALKER 6
STANLEY BRAGG 2	JAMES E. GROVES 7
JAMES GEORGE 3	GEORGE YENDALL 8
J. FRANK SMALLWOOD 4	JOHN BRAGG 9
ERNEST T. ALLAWAY... .. 5	SIDNEY J. JESSOP Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Rung half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of Lord Kitchener.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

DERBY.

On Saturday, June 17, 1916, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

A VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

*FREDERICK WALDRON ... Treble	JOSEPH LORD 5
GEORGE TOMLINSON 2	†FREDERICK FOSTER 6
JOHN HAYNES 3	JOHN WM. GLEW 7
†FREDERICK W. STONE 4	*JOHN ED. ROWLAND ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN WM. GLEW.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal on an inside bell. First peal as conductor. Rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of Lord Kitchener.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD.

On Wednesday, June 14th, 1916, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qrs. 10 lbs. in E.

WILLIAM BODEN Treble	RICHARD JONES 5
LEONARD HEWITT 2	WILLIAM SAUNDERS 6
JAMES L. YORK 3	WALTER LAGO 7
ALBERT WOODVINE 4	JACK ASTON Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER, and
Conducted by WILLIAM SAUNDERS.

R. Jones was proposed a member of the above Guild before starting the peal. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to all the soldiers and sailors who have lost their lives during the War. It is eighteen years since the ringer of the 5th took part in a peal.

SIX BELL PEALS.

WEST RETFORD, NOTTS.

THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION

On Sunday, June 11th, 1916, in Two Hours and Fifty-five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

LCE-CPL. F. WILSON, R.E. Treble	G. TURNER 4
C. BLAGG 2	J. SEGAR, Junr. 5
J. S. BLAGG... .. 3	R. MILES Tenor

Conducted by J. SEGAR, Junr.

The first peal on tower bells by all except the ringer of the tenor. This peal was rung half-muffled as a tribute to the late Lord Kitchener.

STEDMAN AT DUFFIELD.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I thank Mr. F. E. Dawe for his information. Now just one slight correction. I said that I conducted the first peal of Stedman on Duffield bells, not Sir Arthur's first peal. 'Nuff said.

JOHN JAGGAR.

RINGSTEAD, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, June 12, 1916, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

Being two 720's of Oxford, two of Woodbine, and three of Kent, each called differently.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ARTHUR BELLAMY Treble	W. J. GILBERT 4
JOHN BALL 2	*FRANK CHAPMAN 5
LEONARD WYMAN 3	REGINALD C. LOVEDAY ... Tenor

Conducted by REGINALD C. LOVEDAY.

* First peal and first attempt. First peal of Treble Bob Minor by the ringers of Treble, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the late Lord Kitchener and the men of H.M.S. "Hampshire"; also of those who lost their lives in the great naval battle.

GREAT ADDINGTON, NORTHANTS.

THE CENTRAL NORTHAMPTONSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, June 17, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANCES;

720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Oxford Bob, and Bob Minor.

Tenor 10 cwt.

JOHN BALL Treble	W. J. GILBERT 4
FRANCIS BALL 2	HARRY MEADOWS 5
LEONARD WYMAN 3	REGINALD C. LOVEDAY ... Tenor

Conducted by REGINALD C. LOVEDAY.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled in memory of Lord Kitchener, and all those that have fallen in this great World's War.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thursday, June 15th, 1916, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

In the Belfry of the Parish Church of St. Martin,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANCES;

Tenor 17 Size, in B flat.

FRANK W. PERRENS ... 1-2	JAMES E. GROVES ... 7-8
GEORGE F. SWANN ... 3-4	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ... 9-10
ALBERT WAKER ... 5-6	JAMES GEORGE ... 11-12

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. GROVES.

Referee: MR. THOMAS RUSSAM.

First peal on handbells by F. W. Perrens, and first peal of Cinques in hand by the rest. This is the first handbell peal on twelve bells rung in the City of Birmingham and by the above Guild.

SHIPLEY, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 17, 1916, in Two Hours and Forty-three Minutes,

In the Belfry of the Church of St. Paul,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

JOSEPH BROADLEY ... 1-2	PERCY J. JOHNSON ... 5-6
JAMES COTTERELL ... 3-4	THOMAS B. KENDALL ... 7-8

Composed by YORKE GREEN, and

Conducted by PERCY J. JOHNSON.

Attested by GEORGE NETTLETON.

A BOSTON FAREWELL.

The Boston (America) Guild has suffered a loss by the removal to Worcester, Mass., of Mr. P. J. Allfrey, who was the first Master of the Guild. As a farewell, a touch of 556 Grandsire Triples was rung by: A. Matthews 1, P. J. Allfrey (conductor) 2, W. Bashford 3, J. F. Laker 4, J. Goodhead 5, E. E. Randall 6, R. Newton 7, A. Thompson 8.

ROLL OF HONOUR.

The following ringers have joined H.M. Forces:—

Pte P. Turner, of St. Wulfram's, Grantham, Royal Engineers, now at Clipston, Mansfield.
 Pte C. H. Varo, of Burstow, Surrey, 1st Reserve Garrison Batt., Suffolk Regiment, now at Milton, Gravesend
 Pte. W. E. Dale, of Stretford, Lancs, Cheshire Regiment, now at Bedford.
 Pte William Goodman, Dudley Parish Church, Devonshire Regiment, attached 5th Worcesters, now at Plymouth.
 Pte W. H. Austin, St. Peter's, Northampton, Royal Flying Corps, now at South Farnborough, Hants.
 Sapper Jack Brewin, of St. Oswald's, Wragby, Royal Engineers, now at Chatham.
 From St. Mary's Society, Fen Ditton:—
 L. G. Mallion, R.E.
 J. Martin, R.E., now in France.
 A. Wilkin, 1st Cambridgeshire Regiment, now in France.
 J. Turner, 1st Cambridgeshire Regiment.
 A. Turner, Bedfordshire Regiment.
 H. Wishbeach, Royal Garrison Artillery.
 T. Ward, Royal Garrison Artillery.
 From St. Barnabas', Linslade, Bucks:—
 Rifleman A. Sayell, King's Royal Rifles, C.L.B., now at Wimbledon.
 Pte A. E. Seddon, R.M.A., now at Eastney Barracks, Portsmouth.
 Pte R. J. Seddon, 5th Royal Sussex Regiment, now at Rye.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

HONORARY MEMBERS' INTEREST.

A meeting of the Bristol Branch was held at Abbots Leigh on Saturday last. At half-past three the bells were raised, and started to Grandsire Doubles, Bob Minor and Kent Treble Bob Minor following until 5 o'clock, when service was held in the church, the Rev. F. B. Brinkley (an honorary member) officiating. After service, the party, which numbered 23, and included visitors from Newport (Mon.), Bath, and Caversham, adjourned to tea at the George Inn, where a splendid spread was awaiting them.

At the business meeting which followed, two new members were elected, one of whom was the first young lady to join the branch.—It was decided to hold the next meeting at Dyrham, on July 15th.

Other items brought forward for discussion were quickly dealt with, and the ringers, once more visited the tower and indulged in further ringing until about eight o'clock, when the bells were lowered, and the company dispersed.

The presence of the Archdeacon of Bristol was hoped for at this meeting, but previous arrangements necessitated his presence elsewhere. It is a most gratifying feature to find honorary members expressing a wish to attend some of the meetings other than at their own churches. At Bitton, in May, the branch was favoured with a visit from the Rev. G. H. Willmott Elwell (Vicar of St. George, Bristol), who brought his party of lady handbell ringers by motor, and then in like manner, later in the evening, landed them at the residence of the Rev. H. A. Cockey, where the young ladies greatly delighted the party there with some selections on the Rev. H. A. Cockey's fine peal of handbells. It is felt that by such practical interest as this from honorary members the association will make progress and keep on the right track.

A YORKSHIRE VETERAN.

The death has occurred at Kildwick, Yorks, of Mr. Wm. Birch Holmes, the oldest resident of the village. He was in his 89th year, and in his younger days took a great interest in ringing. Advancing years had caused him to give up ringing for some time past, the last occasion on which he handled a rope being at a period when the then Kildwick ringers, several years ago, went on strike. The deceased was for many years village postmaster, a position previously occupied by his father, the business being in the family for over 40 years, and being carried on in the same cottage during the whole of that period. During the quarter of a century that Mr. Holmes trudged the steep lanes, within sound of Kildwick Church bells, to deliver his letters, it is estimated that he travelled over 60,000 miles. For over 66 years Mr. Holmes had been a member of the Ebarocum Lodge of Oddfellows (Keighley), of which he had been for some years a free member. He had served under three postmasters, and had been three times married, and had a family of one son and four daughters. In appreciation of the services of the veteran postman the inhabitants of the district made a presentation to him of a purse of gold on his retirement about seven years ago.

The funeral took place at Kildwick Church on Monday week, and on the preceding day the Kildwick Church ringers rang a muffled peal in the morning and half-muffled in the evening, in memory of their veteran colleague.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday, May 7th, for men's service in the afternoon at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples, in 45 mins.: *Pte S. Meadows (A.S.C.) 1, G. Spencer 2, *E. Newell 3, H. Cook 4, F. Skevington 5, *A. Beckensale 6, C. Hunt (conductor) 7, *H. Brooks 8. * First quarter in the method.

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING 1915.

Compiled by the Committee appointed by the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

Association.	Treble Bob Maximus.	Stedman and Grandsire Cinques.	Treble Bob and Little Bob Royal.	Stedman and Erin Caters.	Grandsire Caters.	Cambridge Surprise Major.	Guildford and Yorkshire Surprise Major.	Double Norwich Major.	Treble Bob Major.	Plain Bob Major.	Stedman Triples.	Grandsire and Oxford Bob Triples.	Minor.	Doubles.	Total Tower Bell Peaks.	Total Handbell Peaks.	Total Peaks.	Total Points.	Average Points per Peal.
Ancient Society of College Youths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	32	32'000
Bath and Wells	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	5'000
Bedfordshire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	59	29'500
Central Northants	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	65	10'833
Chester Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	21	7'000
Cleveland and North Yorkshire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	46	5'111
Dudley and Districts	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	10'000
Durham and Newcastle	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	100	14'285
Ely Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	5'250
Essex County	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	42	21'000
Gloucester and Bristol	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	102	11'333
Hereford Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	3'000
Kent County	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	54	9'000
Ladies' Guild	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	7'000
Lancashire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27	331
Lincoln Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31	15'500
Llandaff Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	6'333
Middlesex County	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	494	23'523
Midland Counties	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	290	13'181
North Notts	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	29	5'800
North Wales	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	7'000
Norwich Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	29
Oxford Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	11'000
Royal Society of Cumberland Youths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	78	9'750
St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	398	28'428
Salisbury Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3
Salop Archidiaconal	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	45	6'428
Archdeaconry of Stafford	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	161	23'000
Surrey	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	56	23'000
Sussex County	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	62	10'333
Warwickshire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	76
Winchester Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	11
Worcester and Districts	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	24	304
Yorkshire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	211
Independent Societies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	69	6'900
TOTALS	2	7	6	6	4	4	2	5	13	10	28	38	32	16	173	86	259	3531	13'633

(a) Grandsire.

(b) Little Bob.

(c) Erin.

(d) Guildford.

(e) Yorkshire.

(f) 1 Oxford Bob.

HANDBELL PEALS.

	Stedman Cinques.	Plain Bob Royal.	Stedman Caters.	Grandsire Caters.	Treble Bob Major.	Plain Bob Major.	Stedman Triples.	Grandsire Triples.	Minor.	Doubles.	Total.
Ancient Soc. of Col. Youths	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Central Northants Assn.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Chester Diocesan Guild	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Cleveland and North Yorks	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Durham & Newcastle Assn.	—	2	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	6
Ely Diocesan Association	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Essex County Assn.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Lincoln Diocesan Guild	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Middlesex County Assn.	7	1	7	—	—	2	1	2	—	—	20
Midland Counties Assn.	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
North Notts Association	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Royal Cumberland Youths	—	1	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	6
Surrey Association	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Winchester Diocesan Guild	—	—	3	—	—	1	2	4	—	—	10
Worcestershire & Dists.	—	—	—	3	1	1	—	3	1	—	9
Yorkshire Association	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Independent Societies	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Total	8	5	12	6	1	13	4	14	20	3	86

The 10 peals rung by Independent Societies were thus distributed: Derbyshire, 2; Gloucestershire, 3; Hants, 1; Warwickshire, 1; Ireland, 3.

The 21 peals of Treble Bob were rung as follows: In the Kent Variation; Maximus, 2; Royal, 3; Major, 14. In the Oxford Variation; Royal, 2.

The 51 peals of Grandsire Triples may be sub-divided as follows: Holt's Original, 6; Holt's 10-part and variations, 10; Parker's 12-part, 13; Parker's 6-part, 3; Carter's 12-part, 3; Taylor's peals, 4; Hollis' peals, 2; Day's 6-part, 2; Moorhouse's peals, 2; other peals, 6.

The 29 peals in Plain Methods comprised: Bob Royal, 5; Bob Major, 23; Oxford Bob Triples, 1.

The 32 peals of Stedman Triples were: Thurstons' 4-part and variations, 19; Washbrook's peals, 5; Carter's No. 35, 3; by Sir A. P. Heywood, Lates and Lindoff, one peal each, 3; and unnamed, 2.

The 19 peals of Doubles are shown in the following statement:

Association	No. of Methods			
	1	2	3	Total
Bath and Wells	1	—	—	1
Cleveland and N. Yorks	3	—	—	3
Hereford Diocesan	3	—	—	3
Midland Counties	—	1	—	1
Salisbury Diocesan	1	—	—	1
Salop Archidiaconal	1	—	—	1
Sussex County	4	—	—	4
Worcestershire & Dists.	1	—	1	2
Independent Societies	1	2	—	3
Total	15	3	1	19

The number of peals rung on Church bells was 173; and on handbells, 86. Owing to the continuance of the war, there has been a great drop in the number of peals rung; the total being 259 only, compared with 2359 for 1913, and 1415 for 1914, when the war stopped peal ringing in the latter months.

The peals rung month by month in 1914 and 1915 are appended for purposes of comparison:—

	1914.	1915.		1914.	1915.
January.....	211	26	July	121	10
February	216	16	August	63	21
March	143	19	September	26	18
April	183	29	October	21	19
May	189	24	November	37	27
June	187	18	December	18	32
Jan. to June ..	1129	132	July to Dec. ..	286	127
Total for the year 1914 ...	1415				
Total for the year 1915 ...	259				
being a decrease of ...	1156				

The total number of peals, whether on tower bells or handbells rung year by year since 1881, is as follows:—

1881...156	1889...797	1897... 905	1905...1519	1913...2359
1882...244	1890...699	1898...1002	1906...1313	1914...1415
1883...330	1891...878	1899... 912	1907...1339	1915... 259
1884...419	1892...802	1900... 924	1908...1474	
1885...500	1893...705	1901...1194	1909...1628	
1886...556	1894...859	1902...1313	1910...1725	
1887...646	1895...766	1903...1469	1911...1739	
1888...759	1896...791	1904...1512	1912...2329	
Grand Total, 36,237.				

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1915.

The Analysis Committee find themselves in some difficulty with regard to their work this year, as to the form in which the Analysis and Report should be presented to the Central Council. It is evident that, under present circumstances, all idea of competition is out of the question. The committee have, therefore, arranged the Societies in alphabetical order, and as the status of peals on tower bells and on handbells is so different, it has been thought better to give a separate analysis of each. In these circumstances the peal values might, perhaps, have been dispensed with, but the committee have decided to include them rather than interrupt further the continuity of the analysis in its accustomed form.

The total number of peals on tower bells in 1915 was 173, of which 79 were rung with the bells muffled. For Church Festivals, Institutions, etc., ten peals were rung; for weddings, eight; for the King's and other public birthdays, 11; Empire and Coronation Days, 5; peals arranged for service members (Navy and Army), 6; farewell peals, 4; Quarterly Association peals, 3; Anniversaries 3; one peal was rung in honour of King Albert, and one for the success in South Africa. First peals on the bells were 9, and first after restoration 3, of which 6 appear under other heads. For the remaining 36 no special reasons are given. The number of peals on tower bells and handbells combined was only 259, a smaller number than in any year since 1882.

Sixty-nine ringers are stated to have rung their first peal; first away from the tenor, 3; first with a bob bell, 12; first peal as conductor, 8; and one first peal by a local band is recorded.

The conductors of four peals and over are as follows:—W. Shepherd, 11 peals, all on handbells; J. D. Johnson (H.B. 6), A. H. Pulling (H.B. 8), and S. H. Symonds (H.B. 8), 8 peals; J. E. Groves, W. Pye (H.B. 6) and G. F. Swann, 6 peals; J. R. Barton (H.B. 5), and E. Morris, 5 peals; T. Baldwin, F. H. Dexter, J. A. Goffton (H.B. 4), S. Grove, A. Knights (H.B. 2), B. Knights, C. R. Lilley, J. Potter and E. Wightman (H.B. 4), 4 peals each. There were also five conductors of 3 peals, 25 of two peals and 95 of one peal. Two ladies appear as conductors in 1915, viz.: Miss Doris Coles, who at 15 years of age, conducted a peal of Grandsire Triples for the Ladies' Guild at Portishead, and Miss E. M. Johnson, who conducted a peal of Grandsire Triples on handbells for the Worcestershire and Districts Association.

(Signed)—

E. W. CARPENTER, Boothby Pagnell Rectory, Grantham.
JOSEPH GRIFFIN, 11, Shobnall Street, Burton-on-Trent.
ARTHUR T. KING, 1, Southsea Terrace, Southsea.
GEORGE WILLIAMS, West End, Southampton.

RINGING AT PORTSMOUTH.

On Saturday week, at the Church of St. Thomas-a-Beckett, Portsmouth, a combined practice was held, with the bells deeply muffled, as a token of respect to Lord Kitchener and the men who lost their lives in the naval battle off Jutland, and also to the men of H.M.S. Hampshire, who were drowned. Touches in the following methods were brought round: Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob and Bob Major, the following members participating: Messrs. G. Williams and W. Tucker (North Stoneham), G. Conduit (Holy Road, Southampton), J. H. Shepherd (Swindon), Rev. E. Banks James, and friends (Lee-on-the-Solent), Messrs. E. J. Harding, J. Harris, J. Symons, W. Wheeler, C. Creasy (St. Mary's, Portsea) and R. Davies and F. A. Burneth (St. Thomas', Portsmouth).

DEATH OF MR. FRED RUMENS. WALTHAMSTOW SOCIETY'S LOSS.

The St. Mary's, Walthamstow, Society, has sustained an irreparable loss by the death of Mr. Frederick Rumens, who died on Tuesday, June 13th, at the age of 58. During the last three or four years he had suffered poor health, owing to kidney trouble, and recently complications set in, causing his death.

His remains were laid to rest on Saturday last under the shadow of the tower, where he had spent the greater portion of his ringing career, and the funeral was attended by a large number of ringers and friends, who, besides many members of the local band, included Mr. W. M. Beck, churchwarden and an hon. member of the St. Mary's Society; Mr. J. Wilkins, senr., hon. secretary; Messrs. A. Hughes, A. A. Hughes, C. F. Winney, W. D. Smith, J. C. Adams, and W. A. Alps, representing the Ancient Society of College Youths; Mr. C. T. Coles and Lance-Corpl. W. J. Kemp, representing the Middlesex County Association; Gunner H. Rumens, representing the Essex Association; Messrs. T. Watson, R. K. Knight, W. B. Manning, I. G. Shade, G. T. Clayton, A. S. Waddington, H. Stubbs, Pte J. Smith, etc.

The first portion of the service was held in St. Mary's Church, the Vicar (the Rev. H. D. Lampen) giving a short address, in which he spoke of the great amount of work the late Mr. Rumens had done for the St. Mary's Society during the many years he had been with them. The coffin was carried to the grave by four brother ringers, and at the conclusion of the service a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells by Messrs. R. Maynard, junr., W. D. Smith, C. F. Winney and H. T. Scarlett.

Afterwards, in the tower, a touch of 483 Stedman Caters was rung with the bells half-muffled, by a band representing the College Youths, Kent, Essex, and Middlesex Associations, as follows: W. D. Smith 1, Lance-Corporal W. J. Kemp 2, A. A. Hughes 3, I. G. Shade 4, C. F. Winney 5, W. A. Alps 6, Gunner H. Rumens 7, R. Maynard, junr. (conductor) 8, H. T. Scarlett 9, A. Chapman 10; and, later in the day, the local ringers, assisted by one or two friends, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1259 changes), in 57 minutes, as a last token of respect. In this the following took part: A. Chapman 1, W. B. Manning 2, H. T. Scarlett 3, I. G. Shade 4, R. Maynard senr., 5, J. C. Adams 6, R. Maynard, junr. (conductor) 7, F. C. Maynard 8, C. T. Coles 9, H. C. Stubbs 10.

Among the very large number of floral tributes sent were wreaths from the St. Mary's Society of Change Ringers; Mr. J. Wilkins and family; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wilkins and family; Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Manning; Mr. T. Watson and Miss Watson; Mr. A. T. King, I.S.O., President of the Middlesex County Association; Walthamstow Conservative Club; Colleagues in the Comptroller's Dept., L.C.C.; teachers, Cranbrook Road Girls' School, etc.

The late Mr. Rumens commenced his ringing career at the Church of St. John at Hackney, and up to the day of his death remained a member of the Hackney Society, a period of 40 years. Part of this time, however, was spent in S.E. London, where he regularly rang at St. Mary's, Lewisham, and at Camberwell, and he was hon. secretary of the Trinity Youths before that society became merged into the Kent County Association. In 1892 he joined the St. Mary's, Walthamstow, ringers, and has been an active member ever since, during the last seven years being assistant hon. secretary to the society, an office which he filled in a most efficient manner, the whole of the secretarial work, owing to various reasons, falling upon his shoulders.

A complete list of his peals is not available, but he rang his first at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, on March 3rd, 1878, the method being Grandsire Triples, and the conductor, the late Mr. J. Pettit. This peal was one of many, which he rang for the Ancient Society of College Youths, of which he was a member since he began ringing. He joined the Middlesex County Association soon after that society was formed and rang in the first peal of Stedman Triples for that Association, besides ten others in later years. He rang in several peals in the Greenwich and Lewisham districts for the Kent County Association, and also in four of the Essex Association. He was also a member of the St. James' Society, and, as stated above, of the late Trinity Youth's Society. He will be greatly missed by the band he has served so faithfully for the past seven years as acting hon. secretary, and of which he was a member for such a long period, during which time he rang for the various services with never-failing regularity, except during the last three or four years since his health began to fail. Only a few weeks ago he attended the annual meeting of the Middlesex Association at West Ealing, meeting, for the last time, many ringing friends of days gone by. R.I.P.

SERVICE TOUCH BY SERVICE RINGERS.

There was a gathering of the clans, so to speak, at St. Mary's Church, Dover, on Sunday, the following members of H.M. Army ringing 180 Stedman Triples for evening service: Gnr. A. H. Pulling, R.G.A., of Guildford (conductor) 1, Gnr. J. J. Hole, R.G.A., of Dunster, 2, Lance-Corpl. R. H. Stevens, Kent Cyclists, of Dover, 3, Pte J. Thomas, Royal Fusiliers, of Edmonton, 4, Q.-M.-S. J. Whitehead, R.A.M.C., of Teddington 5, Spr. C. R. Walker, Royal Engineers, of Acton, 6, C.-S.-M. J. R. Mackman, East Surrey Regiment, of Acton, 7, Pte J. E. Titmarsh, East Surrey Regt., of Hertford, 8.

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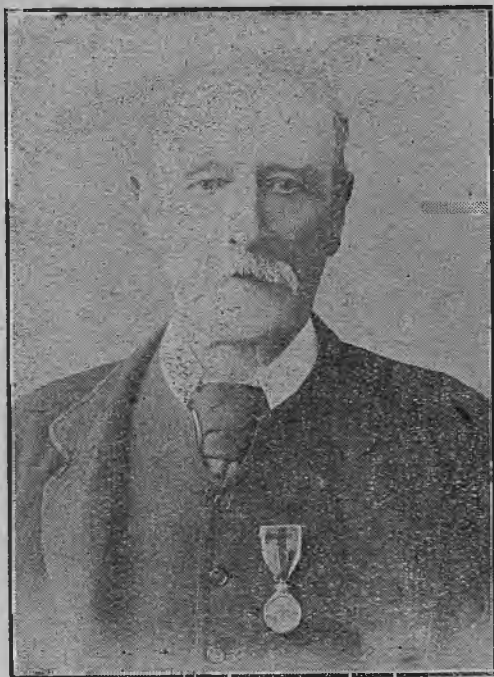
DEATH OF MR. A. HAYWARD.

A PAST MASTER OF THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

We deeply regret to announce the death of a highly respected member and past master of the College Youths, Mr. Arthur Hayward, who, at the advanced age of 84 years, passed away suddenly from cardiac failure, at his residence, 3, Princes Square, Kennington, S.E., on Whit-Monday. By his death another of the "old school," who put striking before everything, and who, in their day, made ringing history, has been removed from our midst, and that fast dwindling band of famous London ringers, which included Cox, Haley, Pettit, Wood, Hayes and others well known a generation ago, is still further depleted.

The late Mr. Hayward's ringing career commenced through his early association with the late Mr. Matt. Wood on the cricket field, for both were keen cricketers. Matt. at that time was equally keen on ringing, and he soon roused in his friend of the cricket field enthusiasm for the fascinating pastime of the belfry, and for 50 years "Old Matt." and "Joe" Hayward, enjoyed a close friendship.

Mr. Hayward joined the College Youths in 1864, and on November 18th, 1865, he rang his first peal, the tenor, to Stedman Triples at Bethnal Green, conducted by the late Mr. William Cooter, the band being: H. Haley 1, W. Cooter 2, J. Pettit 3, M. A. Wood 4, H. Boswell 5, J. M. Hayes 6, W. Rose 7, A. Haywood 8. Mr. Hayward was usually to be found at the heavy end, and the band of that day always welcomed him in a peal, especially when there was a tenor that



THE LATE MR. ARTHUR HAYWARD.

"wanted ringing." In July, 1872, Mr. Hayward was one of the band of College Youths who rang the first peal in Ireland. This was at Christ Church Cathedral, Waterford, Mr. James Pettit calling Holt's Original, and the company being: W. Cooter 1, J. Pettit 2, J. R. Haworth 3, G. A. Muskett 4, C. Lee 5, M. A. Wood 6, A. Hayward 7, W. Greenleaf 8. Of this band only Mr. C. Lee, who still rings at St. Paul's Cathedral, and Mr. W. Greenleaf survive.

In 1874-5 Mr. Hayward served in the office of Master of the College Youths. He assisted in the formation of the Yorkshire Association, and took part in its first peal, on November 9th, 1875, at Holy Trinity, Hull. This was Holt's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples, rung by E. Prince 1, G. Harrison 2, T. Jackson 3, H. Jenkins 4, W. Southwick 5, C. Jackson (conductor) 6, A. Hayward 7, H. Eastwood 8. Mr. Hayward's last peal was Holt's Original, by the St. James' Society, at Pinner, Middlesex, on December 14th, 1889, conducted by his old friend Richard French. In addition to the College Youths, the Yorkshire Association and the St. James' Society, Mr. Hayward was a member of the Waterloo Society, and he had rung altogether 96 peals made up as follows: Grandsire Triples 63, Grandsire Major 2, Grandsire Caters 11, Stedman Triples 15, Stedman Caters 4, Stedman Cinques 1.

Mr. Hayward was at one time one of the ringers at Westminster Abbey, and in that capacity had the honour of helping to ring the six Abbey bells on the occasion of the Coronation of the late King Edward VII in August, 1902. The other ringers were: J. R. Haworth, Richard French, W. Weatherstone, W. Waghorn, H. Flowers and D. Lovett,

and each received a commemoration medal. Our portrait of Mr. Hayward is reproduced from a photograph taken shortly after the event, and shows him wearing the medal he received. Those who have seen Mr. Hayward recently will notice how little his features changed with his declining years.

The mortal remains of the deceased were buried at Tooting Cemetery on Saturday last.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A very successful and enjoyable meeting of the London County Association was held at All Saints', Edmonton, on Saturday last, the beautiful weather, no doubt, being responsible for bringing members from such distances as Camberwell, Willesden, Brockley, Marylebone, etc., whilst Holborn, Battersea, West Ham, Hammersmith, Islington and Bishopsgate were represented. Touches were rung in the following methods: Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob, and Double Norwich Major, Cambridge, Superlative and London Surprise Major.

At the business meeting held subsequently, Mr. Charles B. Hare, now residing at Tottenham, was elected a member. — A vote of condolence was passed, in silence, with the relatives of the late Mr. F. Rumens, of Walthamstow. — The Hon. Secretary called attention to the serious depletion of ringers owing to the war, and urged those left behind, also young men and women now under instruction, to use their best endeavours to support and increase the circulation of "The Ringing World." The fact of its being the only journal devoted to ringing matters, made it important that every effort should be made to keep it going, as its withdrawal would mean a serious loss to the Exercise.

It was left to the hon. secretary to fix the date of the next meeting, notice of which will appear in "The Ringing World."

A vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, also to Mr. G. Paice, Mr. James Parker and Miss E. K. Parker for their kindness and courtesy in making every arrangement for the comfort of the visitors. — Mr. Parker responded, and remarked that all ringers, of whatever society, were always made welcome at their tower.

MARRIAGE OF THE REV. E. V. COX.

The wedding took place last Tuesday in Bampton (Devon) Parish Church of the Rev. E. V. Cox, assistant curate of the parish, and Miss Gertrude Holmes, second daughter of the Vicar and Mrs. Holmes. The Rev. A. V. Cox, father of the bridegroom, performed the actual ceremony, assisted by the Rev. Fanshawe Bingham, uncle of the bride, whilst the Rev. C. Carew Cox (cousin) acted as best man.

Not only, as is known to many, are the bridegroom and his cousin ringers, but also the father of the bridegroom. The local band rang at intervals during the day. The bridegroom was the recipient of a case of very handsome carvers and steel from the Bampton ringers.

BUSHEY SOCIETY'S OUTING.

On Saturday, June 3rd, the Bushey Parish Church Society held their annual outing. Owing to the Master (Mr. B. Prewett) and others having enlisted, the outing was only a half-day one. The Rector, too, was unable to join the party owing to another engagement, but a few friends and some of the "chips of the old blocks" accompanied the ringers. The journey was made by brake, and took the party through lovely country roads to King's Langley Church, where the fine peal of eight were set going to Stedman and Grandsire Triples and Bob Major. The bells were much admired by everyone. The drive was continued through Apsley and Boxmoor to Berkhamstead, where the visitors were met by some of the local ringers, and Stedman and Grandsire Triples were rung, some of the Berkhamstead ringers taking part in the latter. At the Crown Hotel a splendid tea was ready for the party, who, after the good things had been disposed of, were joined by Mr. Lewis, late of St. Albans, and some handbell ringing was indulged in, and a pleasant time spent with the local men and some of the Tring ringers. A start was then made for home, which was reached soon after ten o'clock, everyone expressing themselves very pleased with the outing, and hoping that all the "boys" would soon be home again with us. The ringers wish, through the medium of this paper, to thank the Vicars of Berkhamstead and King's Langley for the use of the bells and the sextons for having everything ready for them.

PEAL BOARD UNVEILED.

In the tower of St. Mary's, Otlands, Surrey, on Sunday evening last, the Vicar (the Rev. J. Vere Leigh) unveiled a peal board recording the first peal rung on the bells. The board is a gift from Mr. Ferris Shepherd, senr., who made and wrote it himself. A numerous company was present, when the Vicar, after a few prayers, spoke of the good work done by ringers. Being a new-comer he was glad to find the same spirit prevailing in Otlands and district, as he had found elsewhere. The board records a peal of Bob Major by the Hershman band on Whit-Monday, 1913, conducted by Wm. Shepherd. A portrait of the late Vicar has also been presented to the tower recently.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

LADY HEYWOOD AND ITS ADAPTATION TO CHANGING REQUIREMENTS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I have been touched by the number of votes of sympathy I have received from ringing associations on the death of my husband, Sir Arthur Heywood, for which I have sent my thanks privately.

I have noticed with concern a certain number of expressions of dissatisfaction in "The Ringing World" about the status and work of the Central Council of Church Bellringers. It strikes me forcibly that those who find fault with it should try, as far as in them lies, to amend, not to end it.

I know Sir Arthur felt strongly that a Central Council was a necessity if the art of change ringing and the position of ringers as church officers are to be maintained on a permanent basis. We are living in an age of changes on all sides, and of necessity, as time goes on, alterations and adaptations are needed. If these are wisely and carefully considered and acted on with a view to strengthening the representative character and usefulness of the Central Council, I personally shall feel that Sir Arthur's 25 years of work in trying to make it a living organisation has not been in vain.—Yours faithfully,

MARGARET G. HEYWOOD.

Dove Leys, Rocester, Staffs,
June 15th, 1916.

THE COUNCIL'S REAL WORK.

REV. H. LAW JAMES AND THE VALUE OF THE DISCUSSIONS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I have been a member of the Central Council now for eighteen years, a member of the Legitimate Methods Committee ever since it was appointed, and a member of the Standing Committee for a considerable time, and I think that I know something about the working of the Council and the real use it has been to the Exercise, and I am not at all pleased with the kind of destructive criticism which has appeared in "The Ringing World" lately.

By all means let us improve the Council if we can, but in order to do so we must get a clear understanding of the real state of affairs, or we shall do more harm than good.

The Exercise is apt to judge the Council by the discussions which take place at the meeting, and many members of the Council also make the same mistake; they come to a meeting, and, after the minutes have been read, come a number of reports from different committees, which take up a considerable time, and are passed over as being rather dull and uninteresting. Then comes what the bulk of the members and the outside public look upon as the business of the meeting, whereas nine times out of ten the business of the meeting is really over, for those reports represent the real work of the Council, and if the Exercise want to know what use the Council is, let them look at its list of publications, and if they want value for their money which is spent on the Council let them buy those publications which are published at a price which would be quite impossible but for the subscriptions of the various Associations.

Then I turn to the latter part of the meeting which has been represented as a discussion about the difference between tweedle-dum and tweedle-dee.

There have been long discussions about the nature of a method, and I can quite understand that the average ringer thinks these discussions quite useless, because he cannot understand them, but they have really been of very great value, and if he wants to know their practical value let him get the "Collection of Minor Methods" and ask himself if that collection is worth ninepence. Well, sir, but for those discussions that collection would either not exist, or it would be full of useless figures. Since it was published the Plain Major methods have been collected and a selection made from them, which but for the war would have been published a year ago, and Treble Bob methods are in hand, and will be ready some day; these things are the result of discussions which to the man who does not understand them must appear like the difference between tweedle-dum and tweedle-dee.

Finally, let me say that if we are to make progress we must build upon what has been done already; the mistake some people have made has been to try and upset reports already accepted. That does lead to useless discussion and waste the time of the Council; we must not

debate the same thing over and over again. No report is perfect, and while I never did agree with some of the conclusions of the "report on calls," I realise that it has been accepted, and that any attempt to upset it will only interfere with the "Collection of Peals," and I would plead with members of the Council who do not agree with the report on methods to leave it alone and let us go on with the practical work of publishing methods instead of having to waste time in fighting for the methods report, which, if not perfect, is a very good foundation to work upon.

H. LAW JAMES.

DEATH OF MR. SALMON, OF KENDAL.

We regret to record the death of Mr. James Salmon, which took place at his residence, Grayrigg Bank, Kendal, on May 29th, after an illness of three months.

Deceased, who was 72 years of age, had been an official ringer at the Kendal Parish Church for 44 years, and a member of the Furness Branch of the Lancashire Association since its formation in 1905. He had taken part in several peals of Grandsire, both Triples and Caters, and was known as a sound, steady ringer, and a man who won the respect of everyone he came in contact with, both in business and private life. His loss is deeply felt locally, and will be regretted by many friends in Lancashire, where he was a regular attendant at the Association annual meetings during the past ten years.

The interment took place at the Kendal Cemetery on June 1st, and was attended by many relatives and friends, whilst the ringers paid their last tribute to his memory with a full muffled touch during the passing of the cortege, and a half-muffled touch rung in the evening, while four of their number acted as bearers to the graveside.

COMING-OF-AGE FESTIVITIES.

On Friday evening, June 2nd, at St. Nicolas' Church, North Stoneham, Hants, touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major were rung, and the bells "fired" in honour of the coming-of-age of Second-Lieut. J. B. F. Willis-Fleming, son and heir of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. A. Willis-Fleming, of North Stoneham Park. The ringers taking part were: Messrs. C. J. May, E. Munday, W. Rowe, senr., A. Marks, W. G. Edwards, W. T. Tucker, W. H. George, E. Dumper, G. Williams, Pte A. Jones (A.S.C.), and Gunner A. Stubbington, R.G.A.

At the supper which followed, the loyal toasts were honoured, and the health of Lieut. Fleming was most enthusiastically drunk, hopes being expressed that he would be spared to return. Unfortunately his duties prevented him being present at the festive gathering. The toast of "The Rector and Mrs. Arnold" was also honoured, the party breaking up just before midnight, when all returned to their various domiciles by motor-cars kindly provided by the squire, who was thanked for his great kindness in entertaining the ringers.

The estate employes were given a holiday in connection with the celebration, which, but for the war, would have been on an extensive scale. The Flemings have been familiar in Southampton history since the 13th century, some as sheriffs and many as Members for the borough. One, Solicitor-General in Queen Elizabeth's time, was afterwards Lord Chief Justice. He it was who purchased the Stoneham estate in 1607 from the third Earl of Southampton. He was also connected with the Isle of Wight, and there is a statue of him of heroic size in Newport Guildhall. Second-Lieut. Fleming, whose mother was a daughter of the late Admiral Sir Augustus Phillimore, of Shedfield, was educated at Winchester and at Christ Church, Oxford. He joined the Hampshire Yeomanry soon after war broke out. Like his father, Second-Lieut. Fleming is a fine horseman and a good shot.

INTERESTING AND VALUABLE RECORDS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Will you allow me, through the medium of your valuable paper, to give my best thanks to the following gentlemen who have enabled me to keep up my acquaintance with the belfry, whilst placed in a rather awkward position out here doing my "bit" for King and country, viz.: Mr. J. Flint, of Bolsover; Mr. H. Haigh, of Worksoy; and Messrs. Smith and Lenton, of Cuckney, at which places I have thus been enabled to ring for evening services on Sundays.

I also note Mr. J. Jaggar's remarks on the valuable series of articles on "Bells of English Churches" by our friend, Mr. Jerram, of Salisbury, and those of my unworthy pen, and I must say that these should be encouraged more than in the past, for they are not only of the most valuable antiquarian and historical interest, but also restore and place on record many notable happenings and performances of the past which would otherwise be lost to us, and I quite agree with him that there are many other capable ringers who could, if they only would, give us some really interesting and valuable records on the many and varied phases of our art.—Sincerely yours, Pte ERNEST MORRIS.

27646 Sherwood Foresters, H.M. Factory, Langwith, Derbyshire.

TRING.—On Sunday, May 14th, for evening service, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: F. Filkin 1, F. Reeve 2, H. Lovell 3, A. Tompkins 4, H. Heley 5, O. Bayes 6, Pte Roland Bragg, O.T.C. (conductor) 7, W. Redman 8. The ringer of the 7th is stationed at Berkhamstead with the Officers' Training Corps.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

BY 'BOB MAJOR.'

A paragraph has appeared in some of the papers about a bell, in an East Lancashire town, which has fallen down and, as in the course of two previous wars it has fallen and peace has followed in three months, there are those who are waiting to see if the "spell," or the "charm" or the "fluence," or whatever you like to call it, is going to work again. I am perhaps a bit of a sceptic, and should have thought more of the story had the location been given in more definite terms. "East Lancashire" is a bit vague, but perhaps some of my readers can supply the missing particulars as to which bell in which church in which town has come tumbling down once more to herald peace. We ought to know, because it is of vital importance that we ringers should have early intimation of the coming final vanquishing of the Hun and his allies, for there are ropes to look to and bells to grease in readiness of the greatest "joy" day of all. If we were in some countries, that bell would be held by us all in the greatest veneration, and it is really a shame that we should not be told where it is to be found, so that the lurking suspicion that someone is "pulling our leg" may be removed.

A PROPHETIC BELL.

Here is the paragraph: "A remarkable story is told of a prophetic bell in an East Lancashire town. In the Franco-German War, it is stated, one of the bells in a certain church belfry suddenly and without any warning fell to the floor undamaged. Exactly three months from the date of its fall peace was declared in that war. During the Boer War the same bell came down again, and just three months afterwards peace was declared in that great war. The same bell fell to earth again last week. If the old bell is not on this occasion misinformed, the world war should come to an end about the end of August."

CENSORED!

When I read that paragraph, the maggot bit me, and I pencilled the lines given below. But as they related to a military matter they had to be submitted to censorship (in the editorial department), with the result that my rhyme is not as I intended in should appear. I presume it is because the enemy should not learn where they are likely to finish up:—

Have you heard of that wonderful bell
That the end of a war can foretell?

When it drops without damage
Old Fate seems to manage

To shut down the lid over . . . the strife.

ANOTHER LINK GONE.

Another of those "links with the past," whose disappearance is slowly but surely severing our direct connection with the ringing of half a century ago, has crossed the bourne whence no man returns. Arthur Hayward, familiarly known as "Joe," who in his day was a great man at the heavy end, has passed away. Present-day ringers, perhaps, knew little of him, for it was over 40 years ago that he was Master of the College Youths. But Joe Hayward wore well, and he was over seventy years of age when he took an official part in the Coronation ceremony of King Edward VII, by sharing in the duty of ringing Westminster Abbey bells. He was a remarkably fine striker was Joe, and his peal ringing was done among men who rang, not for the sake of getting the peal, as many do in these days, but for the sake of the striking. One of the peals of which he was proudest, because he considered it the best struck peal in which he ever took part, was a 5091 Stedman Caters rung by the St. James' Society at St. Clement Danes, in the year 1873. It was composed and conducted by John Cox, the band being: John Cox, J. Nelms, G. Stockham, G. Mash, J. R. Haworth, G. Newson, J. Pettit, W. Baron, A. Hayward, and W. Greenleaf. That band was a mixture of the best ability in the College and Cumberland Youths, and if they couldn't strike Stedman Caters, I should like to know who could.

THE BEST FAIL SOMETIMES.

They rang the peal—with a band like that it was as good as done before they went into the tower—and did not belie their reputation like one company I know of. A party were on tour in—well, never mind where; it is sufficient that the facts are true. Eight of them started for Treble Bob Major, and in their case one would have thought the peal as good as rung before they started, except for the formalities. They tapped the bells to perfection, and the odd man standing out held forth in raptures upon the skill of the performers, to the locals who were not well versed in the mysteries of the art. Said the odd man at last: "If there's eight men in this world that can ring Treble Bob they are up in that tower now." Hardly had he got the words out of his mouth when the bells came to a sudden stop, and, though he tried hard, the odd man never really convinced the locals that the best Treble Bob ringers in the world had visited their tower.

A DISAPPEARING BAND.

But this is straying from the recollections of Mr. Hayward. I have no doubt the Editor's obituary notice will do justice to the departed College Youth's performances, but I must just refer to one other noteworthy peal in which Mr. Hayward took part. That was the first peal in Ireland, which, on referring to my scrap book, I see was rung on July 27th, 1872. That band has nearly all left us. Only Charlie Lee and Bill Greenleaf are left. The former we can meet nearly any Sunday at St. Paul's, but what has become of Bill Greenleaf? He

seems to have disappeared from the ringing firmament, yet at one time he was a bright star. And what a wonderful ear he had. Probably no man ever had a better either for tuning a bell or striking a tenor. Of the rest of the band who took part in that memorable performance at Waterford Cathedral none remain, but what men they were, and what service they did to the Exercise in their day and generation: Bill Cooter, Jim Pettit, Bob Haworth, George Muskett, Matt Wood, Joe Hayward! But it only reminds us that sooner or later, Death the Reaper will call "This is all" for each one of us. And the years keep slipping by.

LAPPING.

I see our old friend "Conductor" has, at the request of a correspondent, been describing the process of "lapping." But he only described one form of lapping. There is, or rather was, another, which, I am told by those who ought to know, used sometimes to prevail in the bad old days among ringers. It wasn't done with handbells, and what passed went nearer to the lip than the lap, unless someone knocked the drinker's arm. But I won't go into details on this method of lapping, as "Conductor" did in the process which he described. It would need the poetic pen of a Fussell to do justice to the subject, and someone with more experience than myself. But I did once try lapping a peal with handbells. After about an hour the monotony of it made my head "fuzzy," and I dropped a bell through my knees as the most effective way of putting an end to it. I never realised, till I heard what the other three had got to say about it, how much some people think of a peal. Anyone would have thought I had dropped the crown jewels overboard in mid-channel.

WEDDING BELLS.

At Christ Church, Luton, on Whit-Monday, a pretty wedding was solemnised, the bridegroom being Mr. Harold Blackburn Mason, son of Mr. George Mason, of Doncaster, and Miss Violet Irene, second daughter of Mr. Thomas Blackburne, of Villa Road, Luton, late of Oakham and Salisbury.

As the bride's father is a well-known ringer, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes) was rung after the ceremony in 47 mins., on the Parish Church bells by: J. Shaw 1, J. Rookwood 2, B. Wilson 3, A. King (conductor) 4, W. Payne 5, T. Kendall 6, Pte H. Walker (Beds Regiment) 7, H. Shaw 8.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

FULHAM.—On Sunday, April 30th, at All Saints' Church, for evening service, 1260 Stedman Triples: W. H. Hollier 1, W. A. Garrard 2, A. Cutmore 3, W. E. Garrard 4, A. W. Darlington 5, J. W. Driver 6, H. G. Miles (conductor) 7, F. C. Edwards 8.—On Sunday evening, May 21st, 1280 Double Norwich Major. A. Cutmore 1, W. A. Garrard 2, W. H. Hollier 3, A. W. Darlington 4, H. G. Miles 5, J. W. Driver 6, A. F. Harris 7, W. E. Garrard (conductor) 8.

CANTERBURY.—At Christ Church Cathedral, on May 6th, for King's Coronation, 381 Stedman Caters: Miss Hague 1, Corpl. Buesden, R.E. (conductor) 2, F. G. Brett 3, C. E. Millway 4, Q.-M.-S. Whitehead 5, Rev. F. J. O. Helmore 6, F. Wells 7, Q.-M.-S. Mackman 8, M. W. Pierce 9, G. J. Jenkins 10. Also 301 Stedman Caters, with G. Simpson 10. Conducted by Corpl. Buesden. The band wish to congratulate Miss Hague on the able manner in which she rang, it being the first time she had rung Caters.

GREAT MALVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, May 7th, for morning service, at the Priory Church, to commemorate St. George's Day and the tercentenary of Shakespeare, 336 Double Norwich: H. Chance 1, E. Gibbs 2, E. E. Barber 3, F. Stanton 4, F. Bryan 5, C. Camm 6, H. T. Knowles 7, R. G. Knowles 8; also touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, in which W. Ranford and R. McCann took part. For evening service, at St. Matthias's Church, Malvern Link, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. Chance 1, C. Camm 2, W. Ranford 3, E. E. Barber 4, F. Bryan 5, F. Stanton 6, R. G. Knowles 7, A. Rickings 8. Conducted by R. G. Knowles.

NEWPORT, MON.—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—At All Saints' Church, on Sunday, May 7th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: T. Ford 1, J. Bullen 2, M. Selby 3, *G. S. Burley 4, H. Morgan 5, C. Greedy (conductor) 6, J. W. Jones 7, *G. Williams 8. * First quarter-peal. Rung for evening service, and as a birthday compliment to C. Greedy.

STANSTED, ESSEX.—On Thursday, May 11th, at the Parish Church, 240 Grandsire Doubles: W. W. Watts 1, G. Gray 2, H. G. Watts (age 15), first touch, 3, A. Jordan 4, W. Watts (conductor) 5, R. Law 6.—On Sunday, May 14th, for morning service 308 Grandsire Triples: W. W. Watts 1, G. Gray 2, T. J. Watts 3, R. Law 4, W. E. Carr 5, A. Jordan 6, W. Watts (conductor) 7, H. W. Watts 8.

BARKING, ESSEX.—At St. Margaret's Church, on Sunday morning, May 14th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: C. Fenn (conductor) 1, James Carrier 2, W. G. Jackson (Royal Flying Corps) 3, A. J. Neale 4, A. C. Hardy 5, E. Andrews 6, R. J. Fenn 7, D. Carrier 8. The ringer of the second, for whom this was arranged, hails from Vancouver, British Columbia, and is serving in the Canadian Artillery, now training in the old country.—On Sunday morning, May 28th, 1260 Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: Caleb Fenn (conductor) 1, J. Waghorn, senr., 2, A. Worboys 3, A. J. Neale 4, A. C. Hardy 5, G. W. Faulkner 6, R. Sanders 7, R. J. Fenn 8.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

NEWPORT.—Llandaff Diocesan Association.—At St. Woolos' Church, Newport, Mon., on Sunday, May 14th, for evening service, and to celebrate the 65th birthday of the conductor who has been a regular ringer at St. Woolos' for 30 years, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1260 changes), in 47 mins.: R. L. Lovel 1, F. Atwell 2, H. Weston 3, J. Goddard 4, J. Butler 5, W. Phillips 6, J. Pippin 7, F. Stansbury 8.

STREATHAM.—At St. Leonard's Church, on Sunday, May 14th, for evening service, a 504 Grandsire Triples: S. Greenwood (conductor) 1, G. Badrington 2, J. C. Mitchell 3, H. Pates 4, C. Lewry 5, L. Attwater 6, I. J. Attwater 7, H. Smith 8. Rung in honour of the 62nd anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. S. Greenwood's wedding.

HILLINGDON EAST, MIDDLESEX.—A quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1241 changes) was rung for the evening service at St. John's Church on Sunday, May 15th: Miss Edith Jones (West Ealing) 1, Geo. H. Guttridge 2, J. J. Pratt (conductor) 3, Wm. Lawrence 4, P. Jones 5, W. Henley 6, E. Hancox 7, A. Harding 8, H. H. Chandler 9, W. Honor 10. This was the first quarter-peal of Caters rung by Miss Jones, for whom it was specially arranged.

STOKE-IN-COVENTRY.—Warwickshire Guild.—On Monday, May 15th, in 47 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. J. Balcombe 1, W. J. Smith (conductor) 2, E. Johnson 3, H. Kettle 4, J. Herron 5, W. Cox 6, C. Freeman 7, A. Clements (first quarter) 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of Mr. J. Allen, a sidesman of the church, who was interred on this day.

HARBORNE.—At St. Peter's Church, on Sunday, May 21st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (from Biddlestone's): J. Such 1, A. T. Hyland 2, A. J. Cartwright 3, H. Grosvenor (conductor) 4, G. Hitchman 5, A. Pratt 6, A. Beacham 7, A. Price 8. Rung as a farewell to W. H. Keys, who was about to join the colours, but who was unable to take part in the ringing.

LEEK, STAFFS.—At St. Edward's Parish Church, on Sunday, May 21st, 576 Stedman Triples: J. Rider 1, A. Coppock (conductor), Nottingham, 2, F. Spilsbury 3, J. Newall 4, F. White 5, E. Sharratt 6, E. A. Ridgway 7, Pte J. Goodwin, R.W.F., 8.

COTGRAVE, NOTTS.—On Empire Day, May 24th, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: W. Clarke 1, W. Hickling 2, Rev. C. J. Atherton 3, Walter White (conductor) 4, William E. White 5, Thos. Squires 6.

BEDFORD.—At St. Peter's Church, on May 27th, touches of London, Durham, Wells, and Chester Surprise Minor.—On Sunday, May 28th, for morning and evening service, 720 Wells Surprise Minor and touches of Munden, Surfleet, Canterbury, York, Beverley, Newcastle, Stamford Lancashire, Carlisle and Cambridge. The ringers were: L. Harlow, A. Robinson, C. W. Clarke, W. Stapleton, Miss E. Steele, Miss D. Steel and W. Perkins. Arranged for W. Perkins, of Irthlingboro'.

WEST EALING.—On May 26th, at St. Stephen's Church, in honour of Her Majesty's birthday, 504 Grandsire Triples: J. Hunnisett 1, J. Fruin 2, J. Barrett (Willesden) 3, A. W. Davis 4, R. Holloway 5, G. Kilby (Willesden) 6, W. Lawrence (conductor) 7, C. Edwards 8.

BROMLEY, KENT.—At SS. Peter and Paul's Church, on Sunday, May 28th for evening service, 1280 Superlative Surprise Major, in 46 mins.: G. Durling 1, A. J. Neale 2, W. Hewett 3, I. Emery 4, E. Andrews 5, G. W. Faulkner 6, R. Sanders 7, A. C. Hardy (cond.) 8.

ACTON, MIDDLESEX.—For the evening service, on Sunday, May 28th, 518 Grandsire Triples: A. E. Smith 1, W. Phillips 2, Miss Edith Jones 3, R. Holloway 4, J. Fruin 5, C. Edwards 6, W. Lawrence (conductor) 7, J. J. Gray 8.

WORCESTER.—On Sunday, May 28th, for evening service, at All Saints' Church, by the resuscitated society of All Saints' Youths, 471 Grandsire Caters and 500 Bob Royal; also a course of Stedman Caters: B. Thorpe (Ashton-under-Lyne) assisting, and the following members taking part: J. Woodyatt, W. Lewis, G. Hinton, senr., G. Hinton, junr., C. Jones, J. Brettel, W. Powell, W. Page, W. Edgington, G. Checketts and E. Watkins, the Grandsire Caters being conducted by B. Thorpe, and the Bob Royal by W. Page. Longest touch of Grandsire by J. Woodyatt and W. Lewis, and longest touch of Royal by G. Hinton, junr., J. Brettel, W. Edgington and E. Watkins.

WICKHAM, HANTS.—On May 28th, for morning service, at the Parish Church, 720 Bob Minor: W. Churcher 1, W. Singleton 2, G. E. Chappell 3, N. Welch 4, H. Smith 5, G. Williams (conductor) 6. Also Kent Treble Bob, in which Mr. J. H. Sheppard, of Swindon, took part.

DORCHESTER.—Salisbury Guild.—On June 4th at St. Peter's Church, an attempt for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples came to grief in the last two changes: J. T. Godwin 1, Miss Alice White 2, C. H. Jennings 3, T. Page 4, T. Woolley 5, Gunner T. H. Hardy (R.G.A.) 6, W. J. Bengier (conductor) 7, W. S. Collins 8. Miss White hails from Basingstoke, Gunner Hardy from Leicester (stationed at Weymouth). Rung as a welcome home to Mr. Jennings (the hon. secretary of the Dorchester Branch).

WORSLEY, LANCs.—On June 4th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman (1260 changes), in 47 mins., for the anniversary service: J. H. Ridyard 1, J. Lowe 2, W. Jones 3, W. Oakes 4, F. Grundy 5, P. Derbyshire 6, Joseph Ridyard (conductor) 7, W. Grundy 8.

ACTON.—On June 4th, for morning service, 1260 Stedman Triples: W. E. Garrard 1, A. Outmore 2, J. W. Fruin 3, R. Holloway 4, J. H. Payno 5, W. A. Garrard (first quarter as conductor) 6, W. Lawrence 7, 2nd Air Mechanic V. Holloway 8.

NOTICES.

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.

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

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, followed 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.

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.—H. Knight, Hon. Secretary, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

LAVERNHAM, 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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next monthly meeting of the above society will be held at Rothwell on Saturday, July 1st. Bells available from 4 p.m. Business meeting in the White Swan Hotel at 7.30 p.m. — W. Barton, 10, Carlisle Road, Pudsey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Barlow Moor on Saturday, July 1st. Bells available from 4.30. Meeting at 7. — W. W. Wolstencroft, Branch Secretary.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION. — Kettering District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Kettering on July 1st. Bells available 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 (election of district representative). Kindly notify me by Wednesday, June 28th. — Robert F. Turner, District Secretary, 160, St. Peter's Avenue, Kettering.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — South-Eastern Division. — A meeting will be held at Brentwood on Saturday, July 8th, bells available 4 o'clock. Service 5.30. Will all those intending to be present please notify me not later than Wednesday, July 5th. — F. W. Edwards, Clifton Villas, Writtle, Chelmsford.

THE LADIES' GUILD. — The annual meeting will be held at St. Giles', Reading, on Saturday, July 8th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Short service at 4.30. Tea (1s.) at 5.15 at the "Rising Sun" Institute. Will all who intend to be present kindly notify me before July 4th. All ringers welcome. — Edith K. Parker, Honorary Secretary, 97, Edenbridge Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION and LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD. — North and East District. — A meeting will be held at the Church of St. Anne, Highgate, by kind permission of the Vicar, the Rev. R. Ellershaw, on Saturday, July 8th. Bells available from 3 to 7, business meeting to follow. All members and friends welcome. — C. T. Coles, Honorary Secretary, 49, Wood Street, Walthamstow.

SALOP ARCHIDIACONAL GUILD. — The quarterly meeting will be held on July 8th, 1916, at Shifnal, Salop. Ringing at 3 p.m. Belfry prayers at 4 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Meeting after tea. Please reply before July 3rd to Rev. F. Tennison, St. Alkmund's Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The summer festival will be held at Woburn on Saturday, July 15th. — A. Rust, Hon. Secretary.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Archdeaconry of Sudbury. — Owing to the resignation of the Rev. R. L. Gardner as secretary of the above Archdeaconry, Mr. Arthur Symonds, 41, Market Lane, Lavenham, has kindly agreed to act as temporary secretary. — A. E. Austin, Acting General Secretary, 4, Hills View, Great Shelford, Cambs.

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. — I. 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.