

THE RINGING WORLD

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FRIDAY, JULY 13th, 1923.

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The Recast Tenor (30 cwt.) at
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New Ring of Ten opened May 14th, 1921.

**BELLS,
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THREE HUNDRED YEARS.

The ringing festival at Saffron Walden was an event of unique interest in the annals of ringing. The tercentenary of any Society is a historic occasion, and no ringing organisation has previously had the opportunity of celebrating a record of three hundred years of continuous existence. Therefore there is cause for special congratulation. Bells there were and ringers there were, for hundreds of years before 1623, but the foundations of the Saffron Walden Society were laid before the days of change-ringing as we now know it. The society came into existence eight years before Fabyan Stedman was born at Cambridge, and fourteen years before the College Youths were established, and its history is authenticated by the curious bequest which has perpetuated the 'annual ringing day.' Thomas Turner, who owed his deliverance to the bells of Saffron Walden, did greater service than he knew, when he showed his gratitude by bequeathing a sum of money for an annual sermon to the ringers and the ringing of the bells. He was the means of building up a society which has not only kept his memory green, but which, in turn, has played its part in the building up of the Exercise.

Saffron Walden was one of the first among provincial towers to adopt scientific change-ringing, and from time to time the society has been among the foremost exponents of the art. In confirmation of this we have only to turn to the fact that Holt's Original was rung there in the year 1753, conducted by one of the ringers taking part—a feat which stands as almost, if not quite, the first on record in regard to this peal. Coming to later days, we associate with Saffron Walden the great family of the Pitstows. Fred—and ringers thus speak of him affectionately—is still the Ringing Master, after 65 years' connection with the belfry; and who, among the older generation of ringers to-day, does not recall the genius of his gifted brother Nathan, one of the greatest composers the Exercise has known, and one of the gentlest and most modest of men? Another composer, whose association with the tower goes back for half a century, is J. F. Penning, who in his day has rendered great service in the field in which he worked.

We recall these facts so that Saffron Walden's contribution to the art of ringing shall not be lost sight of in the brighter glare in which, at the moment, the Society is now basking. The three hundredth milestone is an interesting epoch in the onward march of any organisation, but the part that the Society has played in the progress of events is of more importance. For a provincial tower, Saffron Walden, largely by the men it has produced, has left its mark more deeply than most, and the Exercise will hope,

(Continued on page 434.)

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with the Vicar of this fine old Essex parish, that there may be no risk of any falling off in the future. There are always difficulties in infusing young blood into country bands, but the tradition of Saffron Walden demands that the Society shall be handed on to future generations in a condition not less vigorous than it has come down to us.

TEN BELL PEAL.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, July 4, 1923, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 9 lb. in F.

JOHN W. WOOD	2	WALTER H. WOOD	6
GEORGE LADD	2	WILLIAM DICKINSON	7
FRANK I. HAIRS	3	FRED WILFORD	8
MRS. HAIRS	4	WILLIAM HOLLINGWORTH	9
WILLIAM RICHARDSON	5	REV. H. LAW JAMES	Tenor

Adapted from ANNABLE. Conducted by the REV. H. LAW JAMES.

Rung for the wedding of Mr. S. Clarke and Miss Mabel Reynolds organist of Surfleet, on Monday, July 2nd, in the Parish Church, also of Rupert Richardson, a sidesman and ringer in the parish, and Miss Annie Parkins, a ringer in St. Augustine's, Woodston, in Woodston Church, on Tuesday, July 3rd. * First peal of Bob Royal on tower bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

POPLAR, E.

On Tuesday, June 26, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH, COBITT TOWN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

"DALBY S. HODGSON	Treble	ARTHUR J. NEALE	5
JOHN J. LAMB	2	REUBEN SANDERS	6
GEORGE R. PYE	3	GEORGE H. DAYNES	7
HAROLD W. CLARK	4	DALBY HODGSON	Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE H. DAYNES.

Rung in honour of the marriage of Mr. S. E. Daynes (son of the conductor) to Miss N. Pattenden. * First peal and first attempt. Great credit is due to the ringer of the treble (who is son of the tenor ringer) for the excellent way he rang throughout.

HURSTPIERPOINT, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, June 26, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT GREEN	Treble	FRANK BENNETT	5
JOHN FEIST	2	ALFRED J. TURNER	6
ARTHUR GRAVETT	3	KEITH HART	7
GEORGE LUCAS	4	WILLIAM STENNING	Tenor

Conducted by KEITH HART.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, June 30, 1923, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

DAVID G. WHITEMAN	Treble	FRANK RUFFLES	5
GEORGE PRYKE	2	JOHN HALL	6
LESLIE G. BRETT	3	HARRY HALL	7
WILLIAM J. G. BROWN	4	WALTER RUFFLES	Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by D. G. WIGHTMAN.

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DAVID MAXON, Rope Works, Grantham.

WIGSTON MAGNA, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 30, 1923, in Three Hours and One Minute.

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

WILLIAM H. HUMBERSTONE ... Treble	HAROLD J. POOLE ... 5
HARRY BROUGHTON ... 2	JOSEPH A. FENTON ... 6
JOSEPH B. FENTON ... 3	ERNEST MORRIS ... 7
WALTER MALINS ... 4	JOHN W. CHANDLER ... Tenor

Composed by N. J. PIRSTOW.

Conducted by WALTER MALINS.

Rung on the anniversary of the dedication of the bells, and as a birthday compliment to the fathers of the ringers of 7th and tenor.

BUNBURY, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 30, 1923, in Four Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes.

At the Church of St. Boniface,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 7488 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb.

ROBERT SPERRING ... Treble	JAMES SWINDLEY ... 5
JOHN HAYES ... 2	EDWARD V. RODENHORST ... 6
GEORGE R. JONES ... 3	SAMUEL JONES, JUN. ... 7
WALTER THOMAS ... 4	JAMES H. RIDING ... Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.

* Longest length.

TWERTON-ON-AVON, BATH.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, July 2, 1923, in Three Hours and Four Minutes.

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

HENRY W. BROWN ... Treble	WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT ... 5
GEORGE W. TEMPLE ... 2	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... 6
*THEODORE GRANT ... 3	*CHARLES W. BELL ... 7
*RICHARD J. COUSIN ... 4	THOMAS F. KING ... Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by THOMAS F. KING.

* First peal in the method. This peal was arranged as a compliment to the Rev. B. W. and Mrs. Shephard Walwyn, on the christening of their daughter.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Wednesday, July 4, 1923, in Three Hours and Three Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S VARIATION.

Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb.

*EDWARD G. GRINDELL ... Treble	WILLIAM J. GROOM ... 5
ERNEST E. GRIMES ... 2	*THOMAS H. CHAPPELL ... 6
*PERCIVAL WOODS ... 3	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... 7
*LESLIE G. BRETT ... 4	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY ... Tenor

Conducted by WM. C. RUMSEY.

* First peal in the method. First attempt by the ringer of the 4th who had previously only rung a plain course of the method. Arranged as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

TAUNTON, SOMERSET.
BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 5, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes.

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S 12-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

PERCY MERSON ... Treble	ARTHUR R. THORN ... 5
FRANK MILLARD ... 2	HENRY BOSLEY ... 6
*WILLIAM H. TARR ... 3	JAMES HUNT ... 7
ARTHUR S. BOAR ... 4	†FRANK CAVILL ... Tenor

Conducted by JAMES HUNT.

* First peal on bob bell. † First peal on eight bells. Rung to celebrate the 21st birthday of W. H. Tarr.

THAMES DITTON.—On Wednesday, May 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles: W. Massey 1, F. Goddard (conductor) 2, G. Higgs 3, G. Adley 4, F. Hawthorne 5, W. Tilley 6. All except the conductor are of the local band, and is their first attempt having only learnt method ringing since Christmas last. Their first 120 was rung on the Thursday previous.

HELMESHORE, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 7, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes.

At the Church of St. Thomas,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

JOSEPH BANKS ... Treble	LAWRENCE J. WILLIAMS ... 5
THOMAS WALLWORK ... 2	ROBERT WALLWORK ... 6
JAMES SHAW ... 3	JAMES HOULDSWORTH ... 7
ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... 4	JAMES H. BANKS ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by J. HOULDSWORTH.

The composition is the author's No. 139, and is now rung for the first time.

ALBURGH, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH, ST. EDMUNDSBURY AND IPSWICH ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 7, 1923, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes.

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. in G.

ERNEST WHITING ... Treble	CHARLES CUTTING ... 5
*WILLIAM CLOVER ... 2	GEORGE CROSS ... 6
GEORGE MAYERS ... 3	FREDERICK BORRETT ... 7
CHARLES BAKER ... 4	FREDERICK SMITH ... Tenor

Conducted by F. BORRETT.

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

WHITTLE-LE-WOODS, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 7, 1923, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes.

At the Church of St. John,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 23 lb.

*ADAM BLOGG ... Treble	*FRED RIGBY ... 5
H. STANLEY ROBINSON ... 2	*WILLIAM LANCASTER ... 6
*JOHN BOOTH ... 3	*JOHN GARTSIDE ... 7
*WILLIAM SHARPLES ... 4	BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by B. A. KNIGHTS.

* First peal of Oxford. First peal of Oxford on the bells. Rung as a farewell to the Rev. Charles H. Dyer, many years vicar of the above church.

WOTTON-UNDER-EDGE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 7, 1923, in Three Hours and Three Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

HORACE ROBINSON ... Treble	HENRY FUSSELL ... 5
JAMES PARKER ... 2	ALBERT BURCOMBE ... 6
ALBERT WRIGHT ... 3	JAMES SMITH ... 7
WILLIAM DYER ... 4	FRANK COLE ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

First peal of Major on the bells.

SIX BELL PEALS.

BLUNSDON, WILTS.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 5, 1923, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes.

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of ten 120's of Plain Bob and St. Simon's and twenty-two of Grandsire.

Tenor 6 cwt.

EDWIN BALL ... Treble	ALBERT TRUMAN ... 4
JOHN VINCENT ... 2	†WALTER TRUMAN ... 5
*ALAN LOVELOCK ... 3	*ALBERT DENNIS ... Tenor

Conducted by WALTER TRUMAN.

* First peal. † First peal as conductor. Rung after the wedding of Major H. C. Ponsonby and Miss B. M. C. Levinge. First peal on the bells by a local band and rung at the first attempt.

KIDDERMINSTER.—On Monday, June 2nd, at the Parish Church, in honour of the King's birthday, a quarter-peal of Bristol Surprise Major (1,280 changes): J. Woodberry 1, N. Davies 2, E. J. Brookes 3, K. Salter 4, T. J. Salter 5, J. Davies 6, J. Smith 7, C. H. Woodberry (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal of Bristol by K. Salter and J. Davies.

KIMPTON, HERTS. THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 7, 1923, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. approx.

Being 720 each of Oxford Bob, Canterbury and Plain Bob, and two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

† THOMAS J. HULL Treble	W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM ... 4
* JOSEPH F. CHATLEY 2	† HARRY HOLICK 5
JOHN MALYON 3	WALTER AYRE Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal in five methods. First peal on the bells.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Thursday, June 28, 1923, in Two Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

At 12, GREVILLE PLACE, ST. JOHN'S WOOD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

H. G. BENSON (King's) ... 1—2	E. M. ATKINS (St. Cath.) ... 5—6
E. G. BENSON (St. Cath.) ... 3—4	REV. F. P. CHEETHAM (S. John) 7—8

Composed and Conducted by E. M. ATKINS.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, July 5, 1923, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

At the Royal Grammar School,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Holt's Original. Tenor size 14 in D.

WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... 1—2	ALFRED H. POLLING ... 5—6
ARTHUR J. BARTLETT ... 3—4	JOHN H. B. HESSE ... 7—8

Conducted by A. H. POLLING.

Witnesses: MRS. POLLING and Miss J. MELVILLE.

Two previous attempts for this peal without an umpire were lost after 1 hr. 5 mins. and 2 hrs. 15 mins. respectively. It is 19 years since Mr. Hesse rang a handbell peal.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(Late the St. James' Society.)

On Friday, July 6, 1923, in Two Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,

In the Tower of St. Clement Danes, Strand,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

HERBERT LANGDON ... 1—2	CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... 5—6
WILLIAM T. COCKERILL ... 3—4	* E. ALEXANDER YOUNG ... 7—8

Conducted by C. F. WINNEY.

Umpires: THOMAS BENNEY, WILSON RUSHTON, CHARLES W. ROBERTS
* First peal.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCE.

STANTON SHROPSHIRE.—On Saturday, May 5th, six members of the Salop Guild attempted a peal of Minor in seven methods, but owing to the indisposition of the ringer of the second, the bells were allowed to run round after two 720's (Double Court and Oxford Treble Bob) had been rung: W. Clay 1, J. E. Lilley 2, W. B. Kynaston 3, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 4, R. Polo 5, E. V. Rodenhurst 6.—After tea, 720 Oxford Treble Bob was rung: A. Shotton (first 720 of Minor) 1, C. R. Lilley 2, W. B. Kynaston 3, R. Polo 4, W. Clay (first 720 of Treble Bob on a bob bell) 5, E. V. Rodenhurst (first 720 of Treble Bob as conductor) 6.

WEDDING BELLS.

At St. Chad's Church, Shrewsbury, on July 4th, on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. E. T. Hector and Miss D. A. Smith, 50' Stedman Triples: J. Griffith 1, J. E. Lilley 2, R. Polo 3, W. B. Kynaston 4, G. Jones 5, W. Fairhead 6, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 7, D. J. Boucher 8. Also 504' Stedman (from Washbrook's 10-part peal): W. B. Kynaston 1, J. E. Lilley 2, R. Polo 3, W. Fairhead 4, D. J. Boucher 5, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 6, G. Jones 7, J. Evan 8.—500 Bob Major: J. Griffiths 1, J. E. Lilley 2, R. Polo 3, W. B. Kynaston 4, G. Jones 5, D. J. Boucher 6, W. Fairhead 7, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 8. Also two courses of Double Norwich on hand-bells.

A NEW PEAL FOR RUTLAND.

IMPRESSIVE DEDICATION AT GREETHAM.

Just an old-world village out of the beaten track, miles from a railway station, and in the heart of the country where only the motorist disturbs the peace of the pastorate—such is Greetham, in the county of Rutland. Here on June 30th, the sound of bells broke the silence of a century. More than a hundred years ago, the steeple of the village church collapsed, and buried beneath boulders of stone, the old four bells, three of which were broken in pieces—therefore the oldest inhabitant had never heard the village bells.

The idea of a restoration as a war memorial occurred to the Rector (the Rev. J. D. Massey), himself a ringer, and one time a curate of Aylestone, near Leicester. The idea grew into tangible shape, and Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon, were given a contract to recast the old bells, adding another to make a ring of five. This the firm has done with its accustomed ability, hanging the bells on latest principles, with iron H frames, on steel girders anchored in the walls, with gudgeons and rollers on ball bearings, the result being a most musical ring of bells.

The dedication and opening ceremony was fixed for Saturday, June 30th, at 3 p.m., and shortly before that time, the village brass band paraded and marched to the church. Many of the rustics wore 'the red badge of courage,' and decorations won on the fields of Flanders, and the sight of these humble heroes back from a world-war paying their homage to these comrades who have 'marched on' into the Unknown, revived the waning spirit of patriotism.

In the absence, through illness, of the Lord Bishop of Leicester, the service was taken by the Rev. J. H. Charles, M.A., Rural Dean and Rector of Oakham, and commenced with Psalm 31 followed by the usual prayers. Significant was the one for the local men who had fallen, and as their names were read out—'who gave their lives to defend us, accept, O Lord, their self-sacrifice and grant them a place of Peace where the Light of Thy countenance shines for ever, and where all tears are wiped away'—in that old church that would know them no more, down many a wrinkled face a furtive tear found a furrow. The hymn, 638 (A. and M.), might have been written for an occasion such as this, with its wonderful pathos for those who have passed on:—

Not spilt like water on the ground,
Not wrapped in dreamless sleep profound,
Not wandering in unknown despair,
Beyond Thy Voice, Thine Arm, Thy care;
Not left to lie like fallen tree,
Not dead, but living unto Thee.

The address by the Rural Dean followed descriptive of the message of the bells to all men, after which the well-known bell hymn, 'Lift them gently to the steeple,' was sung. Then the Blessing, and, after a minute's tense silence, from beneath the tower at the west end came the strident tones of 'The Last Post,' blown splendidly by a grizzled warrior wearing the Boer War medal, and with the 1914 and numerous other ribbons 'up.' Many of the men stood to 'Attention' with the memories of other days, while those who had never before figured in the last tribute to a soldier, waited in wonder and shuddered as the bugle-call wound its way to the weird angle, sounding as it does like the cry of a lost soul—'Are you there? are you there?'

It was over, and the bells spoke for the first time as ringers from St. John-the-Divine, Leicester, and from Oakham pulled off. Three six-scores of Doubles were rung, and then the bells were 'fired.' The congregation was loath to move, and when it was seen that a lady was ringing with the ease of the men, others came in to see, until all were satisfied that Greetham had really got a peal of bells of its own again!

After tea, ringing was continued, and the unanimous opinion was that Messrs. Gillett and Johnston had given of their best, and the utmost satisfaction, the sweetness of the bells being excellent, and the workmanship leaving nothing to be desired. As the frame is made for six bells, the time may come when a treble will be added, and if so the pleasure will be thereby increased.

DEATH OF A SHIPLEY RINGER.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Job A. Ross, who passed away at his residence, Bradford Road, Shipley, Yorks on May 26th, at the age of 73 years. The deceased was a service ringer at the Parish Church for upwards of 40 years, but owing to ill-health retired from ringing about two years ago. The funeral took place at Pudsey Cemetery on May 30th, Mr. Thomas B. Kendall representing the local company.

On Saturday, June 2nd, a half-muffled peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted, but after 1 hr. 50 mins.' ringing a bob was missed, and stand was called. The ringers taking part were: S. Palfreman 1, H. Davison 2, A. Gill 3, T. B. Kendall 4, R. Unpley 5, F. Hopwood 6, E. H. Simpson (conductor) 7, J. Broadley 8.—For Sunday morning service, a 1,008 of Grandsire Triples was rung half-muffled by the local company. His many ringing friends extend their deepest sympathy to the bereaved family.

RINGERS' OUTINGS.

A TRIP INTO SHROPSHIRE AND STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, June 23rd, the King's Norton ringers met for their annual outing. They were accompanied by a few friends, ringers and otherwise, amongst whom were Mr. Moore, one of the churchwardens, Mr. Boffey (late churchwarden), and Messrs. James George, Sam Grove, and Ernest Allaway.

A good run of about 30 miles brought the party to that fine old town of Bridgnorth, where they were met by Mr. Overton, one of the local veterans. The bells (a beautiful peal of eight, with a 19½ cwt. tenor) were soon raised in peal, and going to the tune of Cambridge Major, a two course touch being successfully brought round, followed by touches of Double Norwich Major and Stedman Triples, after which the bells were lowered in peal. The Rector was thanked for the use of the bells.

Coallbrookdale was reached after a delightful run through some of the valleys of the River Severn. The party were met by the Rector and Mr. William Saunders, of the local men, who conducted them to the belfry. The local band are certainly to be congratulated on the way they keep their ringing chamber. The bells (a very good peal of eight, with a tenor weighing 19½ cwt.) having been raised in peal, a touch of Cambridge Major was then rung in excellent style, followed by three courses of Stedman Triples. Mr. Saunders taking part in the latter touch. Shrewsbury was the next stop, and was reached about one o'clock.

Here permission to ring was only obtainable at St. Chad's, and while some of the party, accompanied by Mr. Lilley, captain of the St. Chad's ringers, went to prepare lunch at the Parish Room, the rest spent the time in looking round the church, which is rather peculiarly built, being round in shape in the classic style. In plan it consists of two unequal circles intersecting each other, the larger forming the nave and chancel, and the smaller an inner vestibule. It is interesting to note that wherever one sits in this church they face the pulpit.

After lunch, Mr. Churchwarden Moore, during the course of a few remarks, said how pleased he was to be with the party again, and thanked them for inviting him. He also, on behalf of the ringers, thanked Mr. Percy O. Laffin, who had had all the arrangements in hand, for the most efficient way in which he had carried them out. Mr. Boffey also expressed his pleasure at being with them once more. Mr. Laffin replied, mentioning Mr. William Ball and Mr. and Mrs. Harry Williams, who had helped in no small way towards making the outing a success. Mr. James George thanked the King's Norton ringers for inviting him.

A move was made to St. Chad's belfry to 'try' that fine peal of twelve, with a 39½ cwt. tenor, by Taylor. At the church the ringers met Mr. Pryce Taylor, who took part in the subsequent ringing. When the bells had been raised, Stedman Cinques was attempted, but unfortunately lost. Then followed a touch of Stedman Caters, which, if it did not come round, was well struck. With the help of Mr. Lilley and three of his young pupils, three leads of Treble Bob Maximus were, more or less, successfully brought round, and after some well-struck Cambridge Major (which was the first Cambridge on the bells) the party adjourned to the Parish Room for tea. Tea being finished, the party boarded the old bus, and started for Brewood, the last place to be visited. At Brewood the bells are of a very nice tone (tenor about a ton), and they were soon ringing out Cambridge and London Surprise Major, Double Norwich Major and Stedman Triples, the bells being lowered at about 3.45 p.m.

The ringers take this opportunity of thanking the various incumbents and local men, and all who helped to make this outing such a great success.

100 MILES AND 6 TOWERS.

On Thursday, June 21st, the ringers of St. Mary's Church, Ambleside, Westmorland, had their outing, through West Cumberland, via Coniston, Seascale, and St. Bees. At St. Bees a short touch of Grandsire was rung. The next stop was Egremont, a peal of eight, where a 504 Grandsire was rung, conducted by T. Newton. After dinner the party journeyed to Cleator Moor, another handy ring of eight (tenor 21 cwt.). This tower suggested another 504, which was tapped off in good style, conducted by T. F. Hewertson. Next to Kensington, where there is a very handy ring of eight tenor about 13 cwt., a 350 and two touches of Bob Minor were rung, with the local ringers. Tea was partaken of at Cockermouth, where the tower was visited after tea. Here a very handy ring of eight (tenor 13 cwt.) has been rehung. Time was allowed for a quarter-peal, which was tapped off in 50 minutes, conducted by W. Robinson; then a course of Stedman with Mr. T. W. Holme, who had made all ready for the visitors. Keswick was reached at 8.15, where three of the local band were waiting. A short touch of Grandsire was rung, conducted by E. L. Bennett. A short touch of Stedman was attempted, but after two attempts was given up, and this concluded the day's ringing. Ambleside being reached about 11 o'clock. The party expressed themselves well satisfied with the day's outing, having covered 100 miles and rung in six towers.

A TRIP ON THE WOLDS.

On Whit Monday members and friends of the All Saints' Guild, Gainsborough, numbering 24, had a very enjoyable outing, by charabanc, Louth, Waltham, Caister and Bigby being visited. At Louth a 2½ hours' stop enabled the party to look round the town and have some good ringing on the fine peal of eight bells (tenor 30 cwt.) at the Parish Church. At Waltham some excellent six-bell ringing was done, everybody getting a short touch. At Caister they met Mr. Segar, of Retford, who was on his way home by motor-cycle from Claethorpes, and who stopped for a pull on the peal of six.

Caister was one of the first towers to take up change ringing in North Lincolnshire. On arrival at Bigby at 5 p.m., the visitors were welcomed by the local company, who joined them at tea.

Afterwards the Rev. H. T. Parry invited the party to look round his gardens, and took several photographs of them. Several good touches were brought round on the light ring of six bells. Home was reached at 9.20 p.m., everyone having had a happy time. The methods rung were: At Louth, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Superlative Surprise Major; at the six-bell towers, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court and Cambridge Surprise Minor.

RINGERS WEDDED.

MR. RUPERT RICHARDSON AND MISS A. PARKINS.

The wedding of Mr. Rupert Richardson, of Surfleet and Miss Annie Parkins, of Woodston, Peterborough, took place at Woodston Church on Tuesday of last week. Mr. Richardson, who is well known throughout the Exercise, is a prominent member of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, which he represents on the Central Council. Miss Parkins is also a well-known ringer, and the marriage has created the greatest interest throughout ringing circles. The Rev. H. Law James assisted at the ceremony, and gave an impressive address, the service being attended by a number of ringing friends of the happy pair.

NEW PEAL OF EIGHT IN CORNWALL.

St. Stephen's-by-Launceston is now in possession of a peal of eight bells, which were dedicated on Thursday, June 28th. Messrs. Taylor and Co. returned the six old bells, added two trebles, and have hung the octave on ball bearings in a frame constructed on the latest engineering principles. The bells, with a tenor of 16 cwt. in E, have been tuned on Messrs. Taylor's reinforced harmonic principle, doing away with harshness, close to the tower, and giving the sound a greater carrying distance.

The Vicar, in the absence through indisposition of the Archdeacon of Bodmin, dedicated the bells, and the founders were represented at the ceremony by Mr. Pryce Taylor.

Subsequently there was a public luncheon in the Church Hall, presided over by the Mayor, who was accompanied by the town clerk and members of the Corporation.

The Mayor, who is a Nonconformist, proposed the toast of 'The Bishop and Clergy and the Ringers of St. Stephen's,' and in a broad-minded speech urged that the churches should minimise their differences and co-operate with all their sympathies in fighting the enemies of the church universal.

Canon Lewis (St. Neots) replied, and Canon Drewa submitted the toast of 'The Mayor, his chaplain, and the members of the Town Council.'

'The Health of the Vicar' was also drunk, and testimony to Canon Drewa's work in the parish and the universal affection, respect and love in which he was held was paid by the proposer.

Later there was a public tea, followed by evensong in the church, and afterwards the parishioners entered spiritedly into various amusements which concluded with a dance.

GRANDSIRE CATERS AT CHELMSFORD.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In your report of a peal of Grandsire Caters at St. Mary's, Chelmsford (now the Cathedral), on Saturday, June 30th, this is called the 'first of Grandsire Caters on the bells.' The first peal of Grandsire Caters on the Chelmsford bells, to which I rang the 8th, was on May 21st, 1888, conducted by the late Mr. G. Newson. The next was conducted by Mr. J. W. Washbrook on Feb. 25th, 1889, in which I also took part, with the Revs. J. F. Hastings and F. E. Robinson; Mr. Arthur Edwards (then a member of our Writtle company) ringing the treble, and Mr. W. Lincoln the 9th. It will hardly be contended, I suppose, that since the church has become a Cathedral, and the bells have been increased to twelve, an entirely fresh belfry star has been made?—Yours faithfully,

T. L. PAPILLON,

formerly Vicar of Writtle, Essex.

P.S.—May I congratulate Mr. Edwards upon this peal, in which no fewer than seven members rang their first of Grandsire Caters?

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. THE PROPOSED DIVISION OF THE DIOCESE.

The ancient city of Winchester was on Saturday the meeting-place of members of the Diocesan Guild for their annual festival, and the event was memorable from the fact that the Bishop took a share in the proceedings. Something like eighty ringers were present, representing many towers in this widespread diocese, Surrey and Isle of Wight bellfries contributing their quota, as well as the Hampshire branches. The Cathedral, now in possession of a ring of twelve bells, was the centre of attraction to the visitors as they arrived, and many of the members had their first pull on this number. The business meeting was held in the Oddfellows' Hall, and was well attended. The Rev. C. E. Matthews (vice-president) occupied the chair, and was supported by Mr. G. Williams (Master) and the Rev. N. C. Woods (hon. secretary and treasurer).

The general balance sheet showed that the receipts amounted to £81 2s. 10d., and the expenditure to £45 18s. 2d., the balance in hand having increased from £33 0s. 3d. to £48 4s. 11d. The accounts had been audited by Mr. G. Smith, and were adopted.

THE PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC BELLS.

The Rev. C. E. Matthews was re-elected vice-president, and in thanking the members, said that was the 29th year he had been connected with the Guild, and it had been a great pleasure to him, ever since he had been in the diocese, to be associated with the members of the Guild. Referring to some of the work of the past year, he said he had had the honour of dedicating the new peal at Hursley, and he thought those who had heard them would agree that the bells were a very musical lot. He had also inspected the bells at Farnborough, and was going on the morrow to Sopley to confer with the Vicar upon restoration work, a serious crack having developed in the south-west corner of the tower owing to the condition of the bell frame. Continuing, the Vice-President said he was a member of the Advisory Committee for the diocese, and was giving special attention to any application in connection with church bells. He regarded the agreement reached between the Central Council and the Society for the Preservation of Ancient Buildings as a very important one. They had only to look at the Rev. W. E. Colchester's record of the bells of that county to be persuaded that the ancient bells should be protected and taken care of and not recast unless it was absolutely necessary. He was quite sure most of the members would agree with that. There had been a great inclination on the part of modern bell founders to recast old bells in order to make them more tuneful. In some cases that might be absolutely necessary, but it was a very wise recommendation that really historic bells that represented a period of bell founding of which specimens were rare, should not be recast at all, but kept either in a museum, or locally as objects of ecclesiastical art, and that new bells should be supplied to take the place of the old (hear, hear). He hoped the report of the conference would be read by all incumbents and churchwardens, who in many towers did not always realise the value of the bells they had got (applause).

Earlier in the proceedings the chairman had stated that the report of the conference had appeared, in a watered down condition, in the 'Canterbury Diocesan Chronicle,' and would appear in the 'Winchester Diocesan Chronicle' next month.

The Rev. C. D. P. Davies, one of the representatives of the Central Council at the conference with the S.P.A.B., said their great desire was to come to a united statement that they could both back, because the society looked at things from rather a different point of view to that of the Central Council. The whole object was to avoid anything like friction between them. It, therefore, followed that one could not say anything very decided either on the side of wood or metal frames, and they drew up a schedule of the advantages and disadvantages of each kind of material.

JOINT SECRETARIES ELECTED.

Mr. George Williams was re-elected Master.

The Chairman said he had been unable to get the services of a person to fill the office of general secretary, and the committee recommended that Mr. George Williams and Mr. George Pullinger be elected to act jointly for the year.—This was unanimously agreed to, and the Rev. N. C. Woods, who had temporarily carried out the duties of hon. secretary and treasurer, was re-elected hon. treasurer.—Mr. F. W. Rogers (Portsea) was appointed Recorder of Peals, in place of Mr. Pullinger, and Mr. George Smith (Twyford) was re-elected auditor, with thanks for his services in the past year.

The following were elected to represent the Guild on the Central Council: Rev. C. E. Matthews, Messrs. G. Williams, A. H. Pulling and H. Barton.

DIOCESAN DIVISION.

The Chairman said the committee had that morning discussed at length the proposed division of the Diocese, and its effect upon the Guild, and the committee came to the conclusion that the best course to pursue was to hold a special meeting when the result of the deliberation in the National Assembly in the following week, was known. As the members were aware, the National Assembly would decide the matter one way or the other, and a Bill would then go

through Parliament to make the scheme legal. The committee thought it would be premature to discuss any question of the possible division of the Guild until they knew exactly what the division of the diocese was going to be. Personally he would be very sorry to see the Guild split up, but if the diocese should be divided into three, it was for ringers in each of the new dioceses to say what they would like. If the ringers in a new Guildford diocese were to wish to have a diocesan guild of their own, there would be nothing to stop them from having it. The same would be true of a new diocese of Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight, but the committee felt that no decision should be arrived at until the various districts had been sounded as to their wishes, and until they knew exactly what was going to happen. When they knew how matters stood they would call a meeting of the committee to go into the whole question.

Mr. W. Andrews (Winchester) said the ringers in Hampshire would very much regret losing any part of the present membership of the Guild. The visit of Surrey men was always looked forward to, and they would feel their loss very much. He hoped if the diocese were divided, that it would be possible to carry on the Guild as it was at present. He thought a division would not make for efficiency, but rather the reverse, and he should personally very much regret it, if old associations were broken. The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association had continued, in spite of the division of the diocese with very satisfactory results, and he saw no reason why their own Guild should be divided, even if the division of the diocese took place (applause).

Mr. J. J. Jones (Guildford) said Surrey members would feel a severance as much as, and probably more than, Hampshire members, because they would miss the grand old Cathedral and the hearty welcome they met in Winchester. But if they did form a separate Guild he was sure by far the greater portion of the present Surrey members would remain as 'compounding members' of the Winchester Guild, and would come to their meetings whenever possible (applause).

Mr. W. T. Tucker (North Stoneham) said Portsmouth district had passed a resolution that in the event of a division of the diocese they recommended that the Guild be called the Winchester, Guildford and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, and continue the same as before with a different name (hear, hear).

The Chairman said he thought that would be the best solution.

Mr. Whittington (Cranleigh) urged that the matter should be discussed at the district meetings, so that they might have some tangible scheme when the division did come.

The Chairman said the question was a most important one, and he hoped the members would go back to their different districts and discuss the question.

The matter then dropped.

OTHER MATTERS.

Mr. A. H. Pulling moved that the Guild record on the minutes a vote of congratulation to Mr. George Williams upon his having rung one thousand peals. He looked upon Mr. Williams as a great ringer, not simply because he had rung a thousand peals, but because, although he could ring anything, he did not mind ringing the lowest methods to help the less advanced ringers (applause). By doing this Mr. Williams had been doing a lot of good.—Mr. R. Brown seconded, and the motion was carried by acclamation.

Mr. J. J. Jones proposed that the next annual meeting be held at Farnham, whether the diocese had been divided or not. It would perhaps be the last meeting under the present Bishop.

The Rev. W. E. Colchester seconded. He said they would be transgressing the rule which laid it down that the annual meeting be held in Winchester, but as an exception, under special circumstances, he thought they might take this course.

The Chairman said it was a most charming idea, and the motion was agreed to, the first Saturday in July, 1924, being selected.

The Rev. W. E. Colchester explained the reason for his sudden resignation of the treasurer'ship during the year. He held it an unpleasant thing to do in the middle of the year, but the reason was that he had a letter from an official, telling him that a resolution, which had been passed by the Guild at its general meeting, had been absolutely negated by the action of certain members of the Guild. He felt that after that he could not act as an official of the Guild any longer. He wanted to make that explanation, but hoped nothing further would be said of the matter.

This concluded the business, and the members then attended the beautiful choral evensong in the Cathedral, beautifully provided with seats in the choir. The Bishop of Winchester was the preacher, and based his address upon words of the 150th Psalm. He enlarged upon the connection between material and spiritual things, as illustrated by the bell, and exhorted his hearers not to neglect their duty of attending worship after they had rung the bells for service.

Tea was served in the Oddfellows' Hall, and the Bishop afterwards looked in, and expressed the great pleasure which it gave him to meet the members of the Guild. He added words of counsel and encouragement, and was interested to hear from the Rev. C. E. Matthews (who proposed a vote of thanks to his lordship), the attitude of the members relating to the division of the diocese, as shown in the annual meeting.

There was further ringing in the evening at the Cathedral.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS RINGERS IN BEDFORDSHIRE.

On Saturday, June 16th, the ringers of St. Peter's Church, Irthlingborough, with friends from Finedon and Wollaston (all ringers) held their first but very successful whole day's outing, visiting five churches in Bedfordshire.

A start was made from Irthlingborough at eight o'clock, and after a good run of about thirty-two miles, the first stop was made at Barton-in-the-Clay. The bells were pulled up, and a course of Kent Treble Bob rung. After a good touch of Double Norwich, a course of London Surprise was thought to be the first in the method on the bells. Mr. Kendall, a local ringer, took part in a short touch of Stedman Triples, and the bells were then lowered in peal. The Vicar very kindly provided light refreshments.

Luton was reached about 12 o'clock. Several of the local band welcomed us. Stedman and Double Norwich were rung on the fine peal of eight, but London Surprise wouldn't go at all, and after two attempts the bells were lowered. At Dunstable luncheon was served. Mr. A. Sharman, secretary of the Bedfordshire ringers, joined the party. Dunstable has a beautiful church, and contains a fine peal of eight bells, tenor weighing about 26 cwt., and those trying this bell thought it the best, considering the metal, that they had ever handled. At all five of the bellries there were several ringers to welcome and assist the company. Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob and Superlative Surprise were rung. London Surprise unfortunately came to grief in the last lead. The Rev. Canon Baker was thanked for the use of the bells, and the ringers for their assistance.

A pleasant time was spent at Woburn with several local men. The church is a fine new building. The ring of eight bells were taken from the old tower and hung in the new one, after being recast, and are a very musical peal. Several methods were rung, including London and Cambridge Surprise. After tea, arranged by one or two of the local ringers, the handbells were brought into use.

Newport Pagnell was the next place. Half an hour's good ringing was enjoyed on the peal of eight, a well-struck course of Cambridge Surprise finishing a good day's ringing.

After a long stop at Olney, Irthlingborough was reached about 12 o'clock. All agreed that the first outing was a huge success.—Thanks were accorded to all the clergy for the use of their bells, the ringers who so kindly welcomed and assisted at the various towers, and Mr. A. Sharman for his great help with the splendid arrangements.

THE DISPUTED PEAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir.—Being one of the ringers in the peal of Bob Minor at Tilney All Saints I contradict the remarks made by Mr. W. Rose in his letter published in 'The Ringing World' of July 6th. I am not quite an infant in the art of ringing, and should know if a peal were false. The first 720 (9 bobs and 8 singles) was perfectly correct, as were also the following six (one with 22 singles and five with 18 bobs and 2 singles from the tenor).

Mr. Rose mentions they were called alike; therefore, if he says a bob was missed in the first, how was it he did not know the second was a different calling? The answer is that he knows very little about ringing. The tenor is 45 ins. (17 cwt. approximately in E flat). Mr. Rose is wrong in claiming it to be 22½ cwt.—Yours truly,
FRED C. WIGMORE.

Mr. Tony Price asks Mr. Rose to say what the calling of the first 720 was (or should have been), and say which bob was left out, so that it may be known what did happen. Bob Minor cannot come home at the 604th change, because the treble is striking her backstroke in fifth's place at the 604th change. Mr. Price adds: Mr. Rose says they only repeated it six times. Doesn't that make seven? Tilney tenor was cast by Thomas Norris, of Stamford, in 1661, and is 45 5-8 in. in diameter, the note being E flat. I tremble when I think of the sound resulting from anybody striking a bell (?) 22½ cwt. in F sharp, as Mr. Rose says it is. I should be surprised if she weighs more than 17 cwt. Will some expert please tell us the approximate weight? There is a good draft of rope, but nothing like 75ft. Some new ropes they had were only 75ft. total length, and they have yards to spare. This is only the third peal on the bells, so nobody can say for certain what is the fastest they can be rung. In conclusion, everybody who heard the peal (except Mr. Rose) said it was quick ringing and good striking. Mr. W. Rose is a Tilney ringer, and your correspondent is not the W. Rose of Thornham Magna, in Suffolk.

We have also received a letter from 'Magna est veritas, et praevalabit,' dealing with the same points.—Ed. 'R.W.'

'Why are you a ringer?' This little booklet, written with the sole object of impressing on ringers the sacred part of the church work which they are called upon to perform is being widely inquired for. Copies are twopence halfpenny each, or twelve for 1s. 6d., including postage, and can be obtained from Mr. W. J. Southwood, 14, St. James' Road, Exeter.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. E. Alexander Young, the hon. secretary of the Central Council, has scored his first peal—Stedman Triples on handbells. Although he has been connected with ringing for many years, and keenly interested, Mr. Young has never been an ardent peal ringer, but he has now 'broken his duck's egg' in a worthy manner.

Mr. W. Prickett, formerly of Chepstow, has reached Durban, and has joined the ringing society there, to which he is a valuable addition.

Cannock bells have just been rehung and augmented to eight by Messrs. Taylor and Co. They are to be dedicated to-morrow, and on Saturday week there is to be an 'open' day for ringers. An announcement in our columns gives particulars.

Enniskillen Church tower, which contained a peal of eight, cast in 1841 by the Whitechapel Foundry, was destroyed by fire on Thursday of last week, and, according to the 'Dublin Evening Herald,' the bells were damaged by becoming red hot.

According to a correspondent this was not the only disaster in an Irish belfry, for on the same day a peal of Bob Royal was destroyed at Christ Church, Dublin, through the conductor singing 'As pants the hart for cooling streams,' instead of calling a bob.

We understand that the Chester Guild men intend making an attempt for the postponed long peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Over, on July 21st.

The St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, Society, travelled to Winchester on Saturday for their annual outing, and their visit coincided with the annual festival of the Winchester Diocesan Guild.

The opening peal at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, was rung by the College Youths on July 18th, 1798—just a century and a quarter ago.

Two well-known Guildford ringers made an early excursion last week in order to attend the wedding of Mr. Rupert Richardson and Miss Parkins at Peterborough. They rose at 2.30 a.m., and, making the journey by road, were in Peterborough before 9 a.m.

Mr. George Williams, Master of the Winchester Guild, who was in charge of the ringing at the annual festival at Winchester on Saturday, first rang at the Cathedral exactly fifty years ago.

A Ladies' Guild is in process of formation in Exeter. The organisation has been taken up by Mr. W. J. Southwood, the enthusiastic hon. secretary of the Exeter Branch of the Devon Guild. Already splendid support has been accorded the effort, and a most suitable tower, St. Petrock's, with its recently rehung light peal, has been placed at the disposal of the ladies for practice, while the Vicar promises to become the first president. We presume that later on, this band will become affiliated to the larger Ladies' Guild, which covers the whole country.

The ring of ten bells at Hanley Parish Church, which have been silent for some years, have been recast and rehung by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston. The old bells did not go well for some time before ringing upon them was stopped, and the tone was always poor. The new bells have been tuned on the five-tone principle, and hung in a new frame on ball bearings. As stated in our Notice columns they will be dedicated on Saturday week by the Bishop of Stafford.

Very useful 'pocket information' is issued by the Devon Guild. It sets out the objects of the Guild, and gives a list of the branch secretaries and the practice nights of all the towers affiliated, the object being to encourage inter-tower visits.

COLLEGE YOUTHS' CERTIFICATE.

ORIGINAL ENGRAVINGS NOW AVAILABLE.

Considerable attention has been given by a special committee towards the interesting position arising from the discovery of the great value attaching to their certificate, inasmuch as it is a verified work of the famous Italian engraver, Bartolozzi. Arising from this is the important fact that for a long period of years the certificates have been produced by photolithography, and have thus lost much of the grand beauty of the original.

At a recent meeting of the society various prints in different shades of colour, including the well-known Bartolozzi tint, were shown, each having been taken direct from the plate itself. These, especially when contrasted with the lithograph prints, were the subject of the highest commendation, and the members present expressed not only delight, but considerable astonishment that such beauty and such a treasure should have remained practically dormant for so many years.

It was felt that an opportunity should be given to all members to obtain original engravings and the plate having been carefully renovated by one of the most expert engravers in England, and steel-faced for the production of these works of art, new certificates may be obtained by existing members on application to the hon. secretary with an enclosed postal order for 2s. 6d.

Entries on old certificates should be supplied when ordering, also whether a 'Black and white,' or 'tinted' is required. New members will be supplied with an ordinary print unless otherwise stated when the above amount must be charged.

The Saffron Walden Tercentenary.

ESSEX TOWN'S GREAT FESTIVAL.

PUBLIC DINNER AND RECEPTION.

There was a notable gathering of ringers at Saffron Walden for the Tercentenary of the local society, which was celebrated on June 27th, as already briefly reported in our columns. The Saffron Walden Society has an authentic history throughout these three hundred years, for on June 27th, 1623, they were left a legacy by Thomas Turner, a merchant of the town, in gratitude for a deliverance from danger. He had lost his way in the woods at Audley End (doubtless a terrifying experience in those days), and was saved from his desperate plight by the bells of Saffron Walden, whose sounds guided him to his home. He bequeathed a yearly sum to the ringers with the stipulation that on that date each year they should ring the bells of the parish church, and have a sermon preached to them. He also left a suitable sum to the minister who preached the sermon, and to the church clerk who opened the church.

That was three centuries ago, and regularly ever since the annual 'ringing day' has been observed.

In order that the tercentenary might be fittingly commemorated a local committee was formed to collect subscriptions and make the necessary arrangements for entertaining the local ringers and their visitors, the committee consisting of Dr. J. P. Atkinson (chairman), Mrs. Hughes, Miss Clayden, Messrs. J. S. W. Leverett and H. Trigg (churchwardens), F. Pitstow (Master of the ringers), J. F. Penning (hon. treasurer), and R. A. Strong (hon. secretary). The local ringers taking part in the festival were Messrs. F. Pitstow (Master), E. Pitstow, F. J. Pitstow, A. E. Pitstow, H. N. Pitstow, L. Pitstow, F. Dench, J. F. Penning, A. Evenett, A. Coe, A. F. James, W. Parish, C. Freeman and R. A. Strong. Among the visitors were Dr. L. Taylor (Clapton), Miss Shorter (Cambridge), Messrs. W. Pilman (Canterbury Cathedral), W. Lawrence (Little Munden), A. E. Austin (Great Shelford), H. Tucker and H. Dew (Bishop's Stortford), W. J. Hazell, Green, Hibbins and T. R. Dennis (Cambridge), J. Wagborn (East Ham), T. Prior (King's Lynn), Rivers (Drayton), Bench (Woodford Green), A. Prior (London, E.), G. Dent (Harlow), G. H. Elliott (Sudbury), W. J. Neraud (Great Bentley), W. Prior, T. Jordan (Stansted), T. Fitzjohn (Grimsby), Oldacre (Great Chesterford), W. H. Russell (Slough), Chalk (Maldon), Buttress (Fulbourn), King (Royston), H. Sworder (Epping, late of Johannesburg), Saddler (Braintree), C. H. Howard (Braintree, Master of the Essex Association), G. H. Hills (Waltham Abbey), Richardson (Brockley), etc.

The bells were rung throughout the day in a number of touches, including Stedman and Grandsire Cinques and Caters and Superlative, Cambridge and London Surprise Major.

A festival service was held in the Parish Church at noon, the congregation numbering about 250. A full choir attended, and the singing was very heartily rendered by all present. The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Dr. L. Hughes), assisted by the Rev. A. J. Gillson and the special preacher was the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge. The opening hymn, 'We love the place, O God,' was sung as a processional, and the service included the chanting of the 150th Psalm, special prayers, the reading of a lesson from Numbers c. 10, and the hymn, 'Angel voices, ever singing.'

THE GOSPEL OF SYMPATHY.

The Rev. A. H. F. Boughey took for his text the words 'Rejoice with them that do rejoice, and weep with them that weep,' Romans xii. 15. He said that in those peaceful and beautiful words St. Paul had preached the gospel of sympathy, a sympathy manifested in acts and not merely in talk. The gospel of sympathy had a wider power and greater need than perhaps many realised. It applied to everything. They had met that day to do honour to the Saffron Walden Ringing Society for the useful and splendid work it had done for three centuries. There could be no association of men like this without sympathy, both to start and maintain it. Men would not join together and form an association unless they had fellow-feeling and were ready one and all to give up their own individual way for the sake of joining with others, taking their point of view, and having true and real sympathy; and no association could be maintained for long unless that sympathy and fellow-feeling existed. Whilst this was needed in all associations it had a special fitness for a guild or society which had to do with bells. Bells themselves conveyed to them the gospel of sympathy. No one knew the date great bells first began in their churches to give out their beautiful music and lift up men's hearts to God; but they knew they were the product of Christianity. For change ringing they had to go back 300 years, to the founding of this society at Saffron Walden. They wondered what England was like in 1623, when Thomas Turner died and left his legacy to the ringers here. Change ringing had

hardly come into existence then, and he expected all that the members of their society could do at that time was to ring out some score, or two dozen, changes; but it was the dawn of scientific change ringing. Five years after the founding of this society came the birth of one who was destined to give the first and greatest impulse to change ringing, Fabian Stedman, the father of scientific change ringing. During the 300 years which had passed since then enormous and wonderful progress had been made, marvellous feats had been performed, and better still, beautiful music in change ringing had been produced. The year 1623 came between two very important periods in the history of England. The English Bible had been translated into the authorised version, bringing the gospel of peace just before that date, and soon after came the beginning of the most dreadful civil war England had ever known. There was no doubt that when peace came after that horrible war the bells rang out the gospel of sympathy and love. Let the message of the bells always be the gospel of sympathy and love, rejoicing with those that rejoiced, and sharing the sorrow of those that wept.

The service concluded with the hymns, 'When morning gilds the skies' and 'Now thank we all our God,' the latter being sung as a recessional.

MR. FRED PITSTOW'S JUBILEE.

At one o'clock the local ringers and their visiting friends, to the number of 70, were given a dinner in the Parish Room, subscribed for by the townspeople in honour of the event. Dr. Atkinson, chairman of the committee, presided, supported by the Vicar, also the Rev. A. J. Gillson, the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, the Mayor, Messrs. J. S. W. Leverett and H. Trigg (churchwardens), Mr. F. Pitstow (Master), Dr. L. Taylor, etc. The gathering was a very pleasant one, the greetings of old ringing friends who had not met for years giving a decidedly happy touch to the proceedings.

The usual loyal toast having been submitted from the chair and duly honoured.

The Chairman read a telegram from Mrs. Edward Taylor, as follows: 'Best wishes and congratulations to Saffron Walden Bell Ringers on their Tercentenary Festival' (applause). Mrs. Taylor, they would remember, was the widow of Mr. Edward Taylor, a former Master of Ringers, and mother of Dr. Leonard Taylor, whom they welcomed amongst them again that day (applause). Mr. W. A. Alps had also written saying how much he regretted being unable to come.

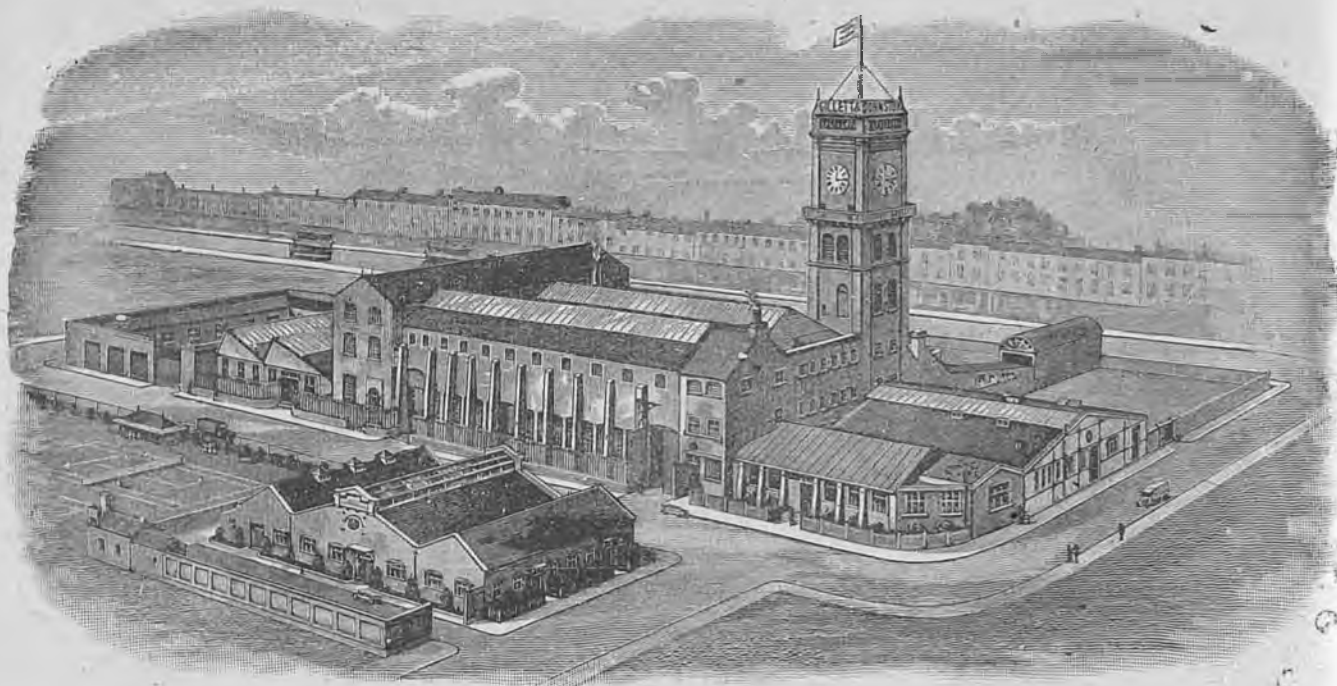
The Vicar, in proposing the toast of the Saffron Walden Society of Change Ringers, said he was proud to be there that day to welcome so many guests on behalf of the authorities of the Church, and still more to propose the toast of the Saffron Walden Society of Ringers. Saffron Walden was proud of its old associations and records. That day they were celebrating the ringers' tercentenary, and shortly they would be celebrating the quinqucentenary of Saffron Walden School. They were also celebrating on this occasion the fiftieth year of Mr. Pitstow's conductorship of the ringers (applause). Mr. Pitstow had already seen six vicars out. He had taken their 'middle stump,' for they could not stand up to his bowling and he expected to see his own wicket fall before Mr. Pitstow's time was up. On one occasion Mr. Pitstow had a class of lady ringers, and he said they disappeared because they got married, but his (the Vicar's) own theory was that the ladies disappeared because their conductor got married (laughter). His only fear was that with regard to their ringers they would not be able to live up to the splendid traditions they had inherited, and he would feel more comfortable if he saw a number of young men coming on to continue the traditions of bell ringing in Saffron Walden before Mr. Pitstow took his 'middle stump.' He expressed to the ringers his hearty thanks for their work, and would like to thank their worthy Mayor for all the trouble he had taken in connection with the tercentenary (applause). Dr. Atkinson had been chairman of the committee, and it was good news when he was told that the Mayor had consented to join the committee, and would give a reception in the Town Hall. He felt when that was the case and they secured Mr. Boughey as their preacher that the tercentenary could not fail to be a success. He gave them the toast of the Saffron Walden Guild of Ringers, and coupled with it the name of Mr. Pitstow (applause).

The toast was accorded musical honours.

Mr. F. Pitstow, in reply, expressed his thanks to the Vicar and all who had assisted in making the festival such a success. He was pleased to see so many old friends whom he had known as ringers for many years. So far as the Saffron Walden company was concerned he thought it a body of ringers their Vicar might be proud of, and as a company he believed they could hold their own against any company, certainly in any town of the size of this in England. He agreed with the Vicar in his remarks about getting more young

GILLETT & JOHNSTON

ESTABLISHED 1844.



ROYAL EXCHANGE, 1921.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL, 1921.

THE CROYDON BELL FOUNDRY

CARISBROOKE, 1921.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL 1921.

ringers, but as Mr. Boughey and other old ringers knew, they could not get them 'cast' (laughter). They got lads on to a certain extent, and then they either went away from the town or some little thing 'fixed' them, and they would not come any more. They had one or two young ringers, and he hoped to get some more, so that their company would continue to carry on. For 65 years he had been a member, and several younger members of his family also belonged to the company, so he hoped they would continue the work. He thanked Dr. Atkinson, Mr. Strong and Mr. Penning for the way they had worked in organising their festival, and the ladies and gentlemen of the town who had contributed towards the cost, and, above all, their worthy Mayor for what he was doing for them (applause).

Mr. J. F. Penning, who said he had been a member of the Saffron Walden Society for fifty years, proposed the toast of 'The Visitors.' To his mind, he said, the chief event was to see so many old faces around them, which showed that Saffron Walden was still thought a little of in the ringing world.—Mr. H. J. Tucker, who first attended the festival 45 years ago, and had only missed three occasions since, Mr. W. E. Pitman, and the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey responded.

MAYORAL RECEPTION.

Later in the afternoon the Mayor and Mayoress (Mr. and Mrs. Miller) gave a public reception in the Town Hall. A number of the townspeople, including the wives of the local ringers, were invited to meet the visitors, the company numbering about 200. The hall had been tastefully decorated and furnished for the reception, and the names of the guests were announced by the Sergeant-at-Arms and the Mace Bearer, wearing their quaint and picturesque uniforms. The Mayor and Mayoress were assisted in making the arrangements for the reception by their daughter (Miss Miller), and by Miss Leverett, Miss Gilling and Miss Rolfe. Afternoon tea was served, and songs were contributed by Mr. and Mrs. J. A. S. Baily, Mrs. Kett, Miss Guy, Dr. Atkinson and Mr. T. A. Barrett, and handbell selections by Messrs. F. J., A. E., H. and L. Pitstow.

The Mayor, in the name of the Corporation and burgesses of the town, extended a hearty welcome to the ringers, their wives and friends, and the visitors who had come to support them on that unique occasion. The Saffron Walden Society claimed to be the oldest in England, and no one had come forward to dispute that claim. Saffron Walden in years gone by had not been behind in many things. They moved slowly, but surely. Three hundred years ago their forefathers might have been slow, but they laid the foundations of something which had stood the test of time: and to-day they were justly proud of their traditions. It was said that all the Pitstows were born with a bell rope in one hand and a musical instrument in the other (laughter). He congratulated the ringers on their proud record, and hoped they and their visiting friends would live to come again and enjoy many hours with the bells of their beautiful church (applause).

The Master thanked the Mayor and Mayoress for the welcome and hospitality given them, and said the ringers had never had such a festival and reception before.

Mr. W. H. Fussell (Slough) endorsed Mr. Pitstow's remarks, and said it was very gracious on the part of the Mayor and Mayoress, seeing they were not church people, to have given them such a reception. It showed how broadminded the Mayor was in all the affairs of the town (applause).

Ringing was afterwards again indulged in, and brought an enjoyable day to a close.

DEPTFORD RINGER WEDDED.

The marriage took place at St. Nicholas' Parish Church, Deptford, on June 24th, of Mr. Sydney Ernest Daynes, second son of Mr. G. H. Daynes (churchwarden of St. Nicholas), and Mrs. Daynes, of 66, Ashburnham Grove, Greenwich, and Miss Nellie Pattenden, youngest daughter of the late Captain and Mrs. K. Pattenden, of 'Duluth,' Whitstable, the Vicar (the Rev. T. W. Pitman) officiating. The service was fully choral. The bride was given away by her brother, Mr. Edward F. Pattenden, B.Sc., and was attended by Miss Grace Daynes (sister of the bridegroom). Mr. William H. Daynes was 'best man.' The bridegroom and his father and brother being members of the St. Nicholas' Bellringers' Society, the bells were rung before and after the service by their brother members. The reception was held at the residence of the bridegroom's parents, and Mr. and Mrs. Daynes afterwards left for Whitstable.

NEW BELLS FOR ELTHAM, KENT.

The bells at Eltham, Kent, are to be recast and augmented. Put in originally in the 15th century, they have been recast from time to time, and the present six were placed in the tower in 1794. Three were now cracked and it has been decided to recast the whole, and, with additional metal, make them into a peal of eight. At the same time a new clock is to be installed with automatic electric winding and an electric striking apparatus. The work, which is expected to cost over £1,000, is to be entrusted to Messrs. Gillett and Johnston.

OLDHAM BELLS.

'NO PARTING OF THE WAYS.'

The reopening of Oldham bells, as briefly reported in our last issue, was a great success, and all the visitors were delighted with the splendid peal of bells which Messrs. Taylor and Co. have installed. In tone they are one of the finest rings of twelve in the country, while the 'go' is perfection, indeed, turning upon ball bearings, the bells went too easily for some of the ringers, who had previously had no experience of this form of bell hanging. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Cinques and Caters and Kent Treble Bob Maximus were rung by numerous bands, ringers being present from Sheffield, Manchester, Huddersfield, Preston, Chester, Ashton-under-Lyne, Wakefield, and other places.

The visitors and others were entertained to tea by the Oldham ringers, to whom a vote of thanks was proposed by Alderman Houghton (chairman of the Bell Fund Committee). He said the day would figure very largely in the history of the new bells, and he was sure it would do so in the minds of the ringers. He was merely voicing the opinion of practically the whole of the inhabitants when he said they were all heartily glad that they had surmounted the difficulties which had presented themselves, and that they had a splendid peal of bells as their reward. He hoped that as far as ringers were concerned there would be no parting of the ways. Musical people were prone to fall out. He supposed that was in consequence of their being highly strung (laughter). Bell ringers were probably not immune from the rest of the musical community. That was why he asked them to see that there was no parting of the ways, but that all should pull together in harmony (hear, hear). They must remember that all the brains were not in one head, and different men looked at things from different points of view. Each must try to get the other's point of view and if the methods were pure to shake hands over differences. If that spirit was adopted the bells would go on ringing merrily. He was glad to be with them and to give them the assurance that if his help was needed in the future it would readily be given (applause). A peal of bells such as they had gave tone to the town. Bards might come and go, but they failed to thrill the hearts and minds of the people as a peal of bells. It was not to one set or one section, but to the whole community that the bells made their appeal, and he would go so far as to say that they struck a soft cord in the heart of the listener, even if he would be a sceptic or an agnostic. They were justly proud of their bells, and indebted to the ringers for their services. He paid a high tribute to the work of that committee, and particularly to the work of Mr. J. Cox, the ringers' secretary, who had been untiring in his efforts.

Dr. Martland, who seconded the vote, endorsed Alderman Houghton's remarks, and hoped that all who subscribed would be satisfied with the bells. Visitors had expressed to him their great admiration of the peal, and he was glad they had such a good set of ringers.

Mr. Taylor (representing the bell founders) said the committee had asked them to do their best, and they had done so, and he was glad the result was satisfactory.

Mr. Taylor (architect), Dr. Wilson, the Rev. R. R. Mackintosh (Vicar of Shaw), ringers from Manchester and Preston also spoke, the two latter speaking in high praise of the bells, and the vote was carried with acclamation.

Mr. J. Cox, who replied for the Oldham ringers, said it was his jubilee year in connection with the Oldham Church and Sunday School, and that was one of the proudest moments in his life.

FLORAL NAMES IN A MATHEMATICAL SCIENCE. CONFIRMING AN ABSURD NOMENCLATURE.

For Sunday services, at Norbury (Hazel Grove), Cheshire, on June 3rd, 1923, the extent each of No. 16 and 17 Treble Bob was rung. For practice on June 7th, the extent of No. 20, June 21st No. 21, June 28th No. 22, July 5th No. 24. For Sunday services, July 8th, No. 27 and 28. All the above are Treble Bob methods, and appear in the C.C. Collection except Nos. 27 and 28.

It is believed the extents have never previously been rung, and the band wish them to be known by the names they bear in the report of the committee of the Central Council which was published in 'The Ringing World,' March 30th, 1923.

The following ringers took part: Rev. A. T. Beeston James Fernley, senr., James Fernley, junr., William Fernley, John P. Fidler, John W. Hartley, Harold Hallworth, Harry Langley and W. W. Wolstencroft.

No. 16 is Shamrock, No. 17 Bluebell, No. 20 Daffodil, No. 21 Fuchsia, No. 22 Foxglove, No. 24 Marigold, No. 27 Dahlia, No. 28 Geranium.

By confirming this absurd type of name for scientific methods, the Norbury band, who have done so much to raise the standard of six-bell ringing, have we are convinced, taken a retrograde step, for nothing is more likely to bring the art under ridicule than the use of terms of this description. They sound pretty in nursery stories, but in a serious science they are altogether out of place. The next namer of methods may prefer vegetable culture to floriculture and we suppose the Exercise would have to accept such names as Onion Delight or Beetroot Surprise if they were foisted upon them in the way these titles have been.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

GREAT WYMONDLEY, HERTS.—For morning service, on July 8th, 1,320 changes, consisting of 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor, 360 Woodbine and 240 Oxford Treble Bob: A. Lindsay 1, E. W. Day 2, R. E. Day 3, F. Croft 4, R. Croft 5, G. T. Croft (conductor) 6.

PULBOROUGH.—On Sunday, July 8th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. C. Greenfield 1, Miss K. Willers 2, A. V. Corden 3, A. C. Greenfield 4, R. Ploton 5, P. A. Doick 6, A. Greenfield (conductor) 7, H. J. Doick 8. Arranged for Miss R. Willers, who was on a visit from Cambridge.

GREENWICH.—On Sunday morning, July 8th, at St. Alfege Church, 1,010 Stedman Triples: I. G. Shade (conductor) 1, W. J. Nevard (Great Bentley, Essex) 2, F. W. Thornton 3, H. Hoskins 4, W. Rawlings 5, G. Rawlings 6, W. Berry 7, W. H. Billing 8. Also two courses of Stedman Caters, J. J. Lamb and E. E. Richards taking part.

CHELSEA.—On Sunday, July 8th, for evensong, at the Church of St. Luke, a quarter-peal, 1,280 changes of Cambridge Surprise Major: W. Dean 1, G. Boon 2, C. Mitchell 3, E. Reeve 4, H. H. Huxley 6, P. Spice 7, W. H. Hewitt (conductor) 8.

SCARBOROUGH, YORKS.—On Sunday, July 8th, for evening service, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 49 mins.: J. R. Fryers 1, W. Preston (Wakefield) 2, H. Ferguson 3, H. Gibson 4, G. Worth (York) 5, W. Bennett (Chesterfield) 6, J. R. Barton (conductor) 7, F. Davison 8. This quarter-peal, which was composed by A. J. Pitman, and published in 'The Ringing World,' Sept. 2nd, 1921, contains 14-6's, 14-7's and 14-4's at backstroke.—On July 1st, for evensong, 1,260 Grandsire Triples (by J. Carter): W. Barker 1, W. Preston 2, H. Ferguson 3, H. Gibson 4, G. Halksworth (Doncaster) 5, W. Bennett 6, J. R. Barton (conductor) 7, F. Davison 8.

FRYERNING, ESSEX.—Before evensong, on July 8th, at St. Mary's Church, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: L. Camp 1, C. Camp 2, C. Harrington 3, H. Wright 4, E. Sitch 5, A. Bradley (conductor) 6. Also 360 Woodbine Treble Bob, E. Sitch (conductor). First 720 of Surprise by all who are local ringers, and also first on the bells.

TAUNTON, SOMERSET.—At St. James' Church, on Sunday, July 8th, for evening service, 1,260 Stedman Triples: F. Millard 1, J. Hunt 2, W. Doble 3, H. Bosley 4, A. R. Thorne 5, S. Every 6, E. E. Burgess (conductor) 7, E. Priddle 8.

BROMLEY, KENT.—On Sunday, July 1st, for evensong, at the Parish Church, 1,216 Kent Treble Bob Major: G. Durling 1, Thos. Groombridge, senr., 2, G. F. James 3, E. F. Pike 4, J. Emery 5, G. Huxley 6, D. Spice 7, W. H. Hewitt (conductor) 8.

RUARDEAN, GLOS.—At the Parish Church of St. John's, for evening service, on Sunday, July 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: W. Beard 1, J. Bishop 2, Joe Harper 3, G. Wilks 4, E. J. Newell (conductor) 5, E. Matthews 6, W. Bishop 7, O. Meak 8. Arranged for E. J. Newell, who was on a visit from Hitchin, Herts.

NUNEATON.—On Sunday, June 17th, for morning service, at the Parish Church, 448 of Superlative Surprise, and 416 of Double Norwich: F. Brassington 1, C. Draper 2, W. Martin 3, H. Argyle 4, T. Dicken 5, E. Martin 6, A. Wilkerson 7, T. Chapman 8; and for evening service, a course each of London, Bristol, Cambridge and Superlative.

GUILDFORD.—At St. Nicolas' Church, for evensong, on the 10th June, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters was rung by the following members of the band: W. Chivers 1, Mrs. Hazelden 2, E. A. Etheridge 3, G. J. Nichols 4, C. Hazelden 5, G. Pettier 6, G. Tomsett 7, E. Raddou 8, S. Radford (conductor) 9, W. Entleknup 10.

HOORSHAM.—On Sunday evening, June 10th, at St. Mary's Church, 1,316 Grandsire Triples: G. Dibley 1, R. Dale 2, J. Whitehead 3, L. Price 4, S. Price 5, E. R. Warner 6, W. Short (conductor) 7, E. Sturt 8. Rung in honour of the engagement of Mr. E. R. Warner to Miss E. Mothersole, both of Cranleigh, Surrey.

CARDEFF.—At St. John's Church, on Sunday, June 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 47 mins., in honour of a visit of the Archbishop of Wales: W. Richards 1, F. Smith 2, F. Hamington 3, G. Large 4, A. Parnell 5, E. Coombes (first quarter as conductor) 6, F. Chamberlain 7, S. R. Barker 8.—For evening service, 517 Grandsire Triples: W. H. P. Evans 1, F. Smith 2, W. Richards 3, G. Large 4, E. Hunt 5, E. Coombes (conductor) 6, A. Parnell 7, S. R. Barker 8.

TOTTENHAM, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday, June 10th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: *W. J. Ellis 1, H. A. Barnett 2, *H. Ellis 3, *S. W. Crabh 4, C. T. Cole (conductor) 5, E. A. Hull 6, G. B. Lucas 7, *W. Patmore 8. * First quarter-peal in the method.

TAUNTON.—At St. Mary's Church, on June 7th 4 courses of Stedman Caters (423 changes): S. Wyatt (conductor) 1, E. Brown 2, A. Wyatt 3, W. White 4, E. Wyatt 5, P. Merson 6, T. Smith 7, F. Sadd 8, H. Mockridge 9, J. Fowler 10.—At St. Mary's Church, on June 16th, 5 courses of Stedman Cinques (651 changes): W. White 1, H. Creed 2, S. Wyatt 3, E. Lloyd 4, A. Wyatt 5, J. Burge (con-

ductor) 6, J. Fowler 7, E. Wyatt 8, P. Merson 9, F. Sadd 10, H. Mockridge 11, T. Smith 12.—At St. Mary's Church, on June 17th, for Sunday School Festival, for morning service, 4 courses of Stedman Caters (423 changes): S. Wyatt 1, E. Brown 2, W. White 3, H. Creed 4, E. Lloyd 5, J. Burge (conductor) 6, H. Mockridge 7, E. Wyatt 8, J. Fowler 9, A. S. Boar 10.—At St. Mary's Church, on June 17th, for evening service, 6 courses of Stedman Cinques (783 changes): W. White 1, H. Creed 2, S. Wyatt 3, E. Lloyd 4, A. Wyatt 5, J. Burge (conductor) 6, A. S. Boar 7, J. Fowler 8, E. Wyatt 9, F. Sadd 10, H. Mockridge 11, T. Smith 12. This is the first 5 and 6 courses of Stedman Cinques since the bells were augmented to 12 rung by local men.

ILAMINGTON.—At the Church of St. Mary, on June 3rd, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes), in 50 minutes, rung in honour of His Majesty's birthday: C. Mathews 1, H. Terry (conductor) 2, T. Hands 3, F. Boswell 4, G. Hands 5, C. Sabin 6.

TEMSBURY, SOMERSET.—On Trinity Sunday, at the Parish Church of St. Mary, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes), in 41 mins.: G. Hasell 1, Wm. Young 2, F. Brown 3, T. Clark (conductor) 4, J. Fear 5, W. Young 6.

NEWBURY, BERKS.—On Sunday, May 27th, for evening service, at the Church of St. Nicholas, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 48 mins.: H. Smith 1, C. Pool 2, E. Smith 3, S. A. M. Quintin 4, A. W. C. Bird 5, E. R. Robey (conductor) 6, H. W. Curtis 7, E. Challis 8.

WICKWAR, GLOS.—For evening service, on May 27th, 720 Grandsire Minor: A. Dyer 1, H. Hale 2, W. Dyer 3, H. V. Robinson 4, F. Sell 5, A. Handell 6. Conducted by W. Dyer. First 720 Minor in this method by all the band.

CARDEFF.—At St. John's Church, for morning service, on Sunday, May 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes), in 50 mins.: W. Richards 1, W. E. Clark (first quarter-peal of Caters) 2, S. Dawe 4, G. Large 5, E. Hunt 6, F. Viles 7, A. Parnell 8, W. Bolton (conductor) 9, S. R. Barker 10. Ringer of 2nd bells from Penleaton.

LONDON.—On Sunday, May 27th, for evening service, at St. Leonard's, Streatham, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: H. Winter (first quarter-peal away from tenor) 1, T. H. Tafender (conductor) 2, H. Taylor 3, G. W. Harris 4, T. W. Tafender, junr., 5, E. J. King 6, J. W. Chapman 7, J. R. Gammon 8.

BISHOP'S HULL, TAUNTON.—On Whit Sunday, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: H. Pocock (longest length in any method) 1, A. Wyatt 2, A. Hayward 3, G. Coles 4, A. S. Boar 5, J. Hunt (conductor) 6.

NEWPORT, MON.—On Whit Sunday, at All Saints' Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 45 mins.: T. Ford 1, H. Morgan 2, B. Wilson 3, A. E. Morgan (conductor) 4, F. Chapman 5, F. Whitfield 6, F. Morgan 7, W. Ridout 8.

BIRMINGHAM.—On May 20th, at St. Chad's Church, after morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: W. Hunt 1, A. T. Scrivens (conductor) 2, E. Large 3, J. Porter 4, W. Large 5, T. Kelly 6, T. Miller 7, C. W. Lock 8.—For evening service, at King's Norton, touches of Stedman Triples, W. Large and C. W. Lock and A. T. Scrivens standing in. Also touch of Double Norwich.—After service, at Northfield Parish Church, two six-scores of Stedman Doubles and 720 Bob Minor: A. T. Scrivens 1, J. Withers, junr., 2, W. Large 3, J. Withers, senr., 4, S. Grove 5, P. O. Laffin (conductor) 6. The above touches were arranged for W. Large and C. W. Lock, who were on a visit from Streiton-on-Fosse.

ERITH, KENT.—Kent County Association.—On Sunday, May 6th, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Kent Treble Bob, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Major, for evening service, at the church of St. John-the-Baptist, in 45 mins.: Mrs. A. W. Clark (first quarter-peal in the method) 1, J. S. Morton 2, T. Groombridge, senr., 3, John Weadon 4, A. H. Palmer 5, A. W. Clark 6, C. H. Kippen, junr., 7, T. Groombridge, junr. (conductor) 8.

HITCHIN, HERTS.—On Sunday, May 6th, at the Parish Church of St. Mary, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Superlative Surprise Major (1,280 changes), in 51 mins.: H. W. Else 1, E. W. Day 2, E. J. Newell 3, J. Hare 4, G. Wolfe 5, H. E. Day 6, L. Fidler 7, G. T. Croft (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal in the method by a local band and by all taking part. Also on Ascension Day Thursday, May 10th, previous to evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 49 mins.: E. J. Newell 1, E. W. Day 2, H. E. Day 3, J. Hare 4, G. Wolfe 5, L. Fidler (conductor) 6, G. T. Croft 7, H. W. Else 8.

THE BISHOP AND BELL RINGING.

The Bishop of Bath and Wells, in his charge recently delivered, spoke generally of the care and loving pride of the clergy and laity in the preservation of the churches of the diocese, and added that it was good, too, to find enthusiasm in the villages for the bells, and gratitude was due to those who maintained the fine old English art of ringing with all its demands on time, skill and endurance. The ringers were the Lord's remembrancers, and played no small part in the worship of God.

NOTICES.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Butterwick on Saturday, July 14th. Bells (6), which have recently been augmented and rehung by Messrs. Taylor, of Loughborough, available from 2 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. Freiston bells (6) will also be available if required.—John Phillips, Hon. Sec., The School House, Butterwick, Boston.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Harlington on Saturday, July 14th. Ringing from 3.15. Tea arranged for 5.30. Trains from Ealing Broadway at 2.14, 2.19, 2.43, 3.9 (G.W.R.) to Hayes Station.—W. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The opening meeting will be held at Wigmore on Saturday, July 14th. Bells (6) available afternoon and evening. Service 5 p.m. Tea, 5.45 at the Church Room.—A. Talbot, Dis. Sec., Staunton-on-Arrow, Pembrokeshire.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Tanfield on Saturday, July 14th. Bells available after 3 p.m. Will members intending to come please send word so as to arrange for tea?—H. Tyson, 23, Bungalow, Tanfield Lea.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Diocesan Guild.—A meeting will be held at Halewood on Saturday, July 14th. Bells ready at 3.30. Meeting at 5.30.—Walter Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—Northampton District.—The annual meeting will be held at Moulton on Saturday, July 14th. Tea on Rectory Lawn.—S. J. Lawrence, 60 Harlestone Road, Northampton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, July 14th, at Shore. Business meeting at 6.30 prompt. All ringers welcome.—T. K. Driver, Branch Sec., 31, Samuel Street, Middleton.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Yeovil on Saturday, July 14th, in St. John's School, at 3 p.m. Tea to follow at 1s. per head. Service in the Parish Church at 4.45 p.m. Bells (10), available during afternoon and evening.—E. E. Burgess, Hon. Sec., "Dunkery," Greenway Avenue, Taunton.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The Summer meeting will be held at Barnsley on July 14th. The Rector has kindly offered the use of the Rectory grounds, and trusts to have the presence of all members, with their wives and lady friends. Tea will be provided by Mrs. Hone at the Parish Rooms.—C. D. Potter, Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Gravesend on Saturday, July 14th. Bells at 3 o'clock. Service at 5, conducted by the Rector, the Rev. Canon E. L. Gedge. Tea and business meeting in Church House. These bells have been recast by Messrs. Taylor, and all ringers will be welcome.—Fred M. Mitchell, Hon. Dis. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The memorial to the late president of the above association, A. T. King, I.S.O., will be unveiled on Saturday, July 14th, at St.

John the Baptist, Barnet, at 6 p.m. There will be ringing, with half-muffled bells, from 3.30 p.m. This will be at 4.45 p.m. Short N. and E. District business meeting at 5.30. Ringing for service at 5.45. The bells will be rung open after the service, and the bells at Hadley will also be available from about 7 p.m. It is earnestly hoped that all members of the association will attend, as well as friends of the late Mr. King, who will be heartily welcomed. The peal tablet will be unveiled at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, on Thursday, July 19th, at 7 p.m.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec. to Memorial Committee.

THE LADIES' GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, London, W.C., on Saturday, July 14th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 4 o'clock, followed by tea and meeting in the Church Schools. All ringers welcome.—Edith K. Parker, Hon. Sec., 17, Wellington Road, Enfield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Deane, on Saturday, July 14th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m. At this meeting a peal tablet will be unveiled, and the usual good attendance is requested.—Peter Crook, Sec., 201, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

CANNOCK.—The bells have been rehung and augmented to eight by Messrs. Taylor & Co., Loughborough, and the dedication service will be held on Saturday, July 14th. On the following Saturday, July 21st—that being an 'open' day—all ringers will be welcome. Bells available from 3 o'clock.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meeting for practice will be held at Southwark Cathedral on July 17th; St. Magnus, Lower Thames Street, on the 19th; *St. Mary le Bow, Cheapside, on the 24th, and St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 26th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Crayford on Saturday, July 21st. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. It is particularly requested that all those who require Tea, let me know by Tuesday, 17th, the latest. Half fares up to 2/- paid at this meeting.—T. Groombridge, Hon. District Sec., 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. James', Haslingden, on Saturday, July 21st. Bells ready at 3.30. Meeting 7. These bells have only recently been re-hung, and are now in good ringing order.—J. H. Haydock, Branch Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A Quarterly meeting will be held at Oadby on Saturday, July 21st. Ringing from 3 p.m.—H. E. Norman, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual Festival, 1923.—The festival will be held at Oxford on Saturday, July 21st (D.V.). Service in Cathedral at 11.15. Preacher: The Rev. Canon W. W. C. Baker, Master of Bedfordshire Association. Business meeting in Chapter House, immediately after service. Dinner in Christ Church Dining Hall at 1.30. Tickets 2/6 each to members, 3/- to non-members. Application for dinner tickets, accompanied with remittance, to be made to General Sec., by Wednesday, July 18th.

The G.W.R. will issue return tickets at single fare from any station in Berks, Bucks and Oxon, and the L.M. & S.R. return tickets at single fare from any station within 60 miles of Oxford.—Richard T. Hibbert, Sec., Warren House Lodge, St. Peter's Avenue, Caversham.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham and District.—The monthly meeting of the above will be held at West Hallam (Bells 6), on Saturday, July 21st. Will all those requiring tea advise me not later than Thursday, July 19th. Train leaves Victoria Station 2.30, return fare 1/4 for party of 12 and over. Please communicate with Sec. early to make up party.—F. Blood, Loc. Hon. Sec., 91, Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

HANLEY PARISH CHURCH.—Re-opening of Peal of Ten Bells.—On Saturday afternoon, 21st July next, the Bishop of Stafford will dedicate the ring of ten bells at Hanley Parish Church, which have been recast and rehung by Messrs. Gillett & Johnston. The service will commence at 3.15 p.m., and after an opening touch by the local band the tower will be thrown open to visiting ringers. Tea will be provided for visitors free of charge. Will members of associations please notify their secretaries so that the latter may let me have the number coming by Wednesday, 18th July?—E. Corner, c/o Mr. Edmund Jones, Chemist, Hanley, Hon. Sec., Hanley Ringers.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—The Annual General meeting will be held at Ipswich on Saturday, July 21st. Service in St. Mary-le-Tower Church with sermon by Ven. W. T. Farmiloe, Archdeacon, at 3.30. Tea in the Co-operative Society's Small Hall at 4 p.m.—free to all sending in their names before July 18th, 1/- to others. Meeting there afterwards. Ringing as usual.—Herbert Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—A meeting of this branch will be held at Sharnford on Saturday, July 21st. Bells available 3.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—F. Cotton, Loc. Hon. Sec., Hinckley.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Goudhurst on Saturday, July 21st. Tower opens at 3 o'clock. Tea at the Star and Crown Hotel, followed by business meeting. All members requiring tea must notify the Dis. Sec., not later than Tuesday, July 17th. Half travelling expenses up to 2/- each will be paid to members attending.—W. Latter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Aldenham on Saturday, July 21st. Bells available at 4 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., followed by meeting. I shall be glad to hear from those who propose to attend.—H. Eden, Hon. Sec. Watford Division, 11, Pinner Road, Watford.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Central District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Richmond on Saturday, July 21st. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea and meeting to follow. Those requiring tea should let me know not later than Wednesday, 18th.—A. J. Trappitt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Mellows Road, Wallington.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—The next meeting will be held at Kimp-ton and Wheathampstead (two six-bell towers), on Saturday, July 21st. Bells available at Kimpton at 3 p.m. Short Service at 5 p.m. Tea after Service by arrangement. Wheathampstead available at 6.30 p.m. Will all who can please attend this meeting?—W. Nash, Dis. Sec., North Myms, Hatfield.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Kempston on Saturday, July 21st. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Will members who intend coming please notify me so that I can arrange tea? All ringers and friends welcome.—H. L. Harlow, Dis. Sec., 14, Newnham Lane, Bedford.

CENTRAL NORTHANTS ASSOCIATION.—GUILSBOROUGH District.—A monthly meeting will be held at Clipstone on Saturday, July 21st. Usual arrangements. Will those requiring tea please notify me by 18th?—W. Bott, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Seend on Saturday, July 21st. Bells (6) available 3 o'clock. Service 4.40. Tea 5. Meeting directly after tea. Will those requiring tea please write by July 16th, to F. Green, Hon. Branch Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes?

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The annual general meeting of the Guild will be held in the Birmingham district on Saturday, July 21st. The towers of Aston Parish Church (10), and Erdington R.C. (8), will be open for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Short Service at 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Election of officers, etc. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. B. W. Witchell, 58, New Street, Erdington, not later than Wednesday, July 18th?—A. Wilkerson, Hon. Gen. Sec., 68, Norman Avenue, Nuneaton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Pendleton on Saturday, July 21st. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Meeting at 7 p.m. A good 'turn-up' is requested, as the committee meeting is being held on the same date.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting, Manchester.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—The Annual meeting will be held at Carlton-in-Cleveland on Saturday, July 21st. Bells (8) available for ringing from 2 p.m. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea at the 'Fox and Hounds' at 1s. 9d. per head for all who notify the Secretary not later than Tuesday, July 17th. Ringers in the district who generally arrange an annual outing cannot do better than come to Carlton on Saturday, July 21st. A hearty invitation is extended to all ringers.—A. L. Henderson, Secretary, Mayfield, Pickering.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at St. Saviour's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, July 21st. Ringing at 3.30 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Business meeting after. I will endeavour to arrange for tea should sufficient notify me by the 14th. All ringers welcome.—W. Bottrill, Hon. Sec., 62, Thorpedale Road, Holloway, N.4.

LADIES' GUILD.—Southern District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Cranleigh on Saturday, July 21st. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. All welcome. Those requiring tea kindly notify me not later than Wednesday, July 18th.—Miss H. F. Mills, 125, St. Michael's Road, Aldershot.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.—The quarterly meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Middleton, on the 28th July. Bells ready 3.30 till 9. All invited.—Herbert Stansfield, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be at Loughborough on the 28th July. This meeting has been particularly arranged in connection with the opening of the War Memorial Carillon, which will be played during the day. Messrs. John Taylor & Co. have very kindly extended an invitation

for tea at 4.30 in the Fearon Hall (near Parish Church) to those members who will send an acceptance not later than Wednesday, the 25th, to Mr. Pryce Taylor, Bell Foundry, Loughborough. Owing to the large number of visitors to the town arrangements have to be made in good time. The general meeting of members will be held in the Fearon Hall after tea. During the day the Bell Foundry will—by kind permission—be open to visitors, and during the time the Carillon is not being played the Foundry Bells will be available for ringing. The times for such ringing and also for the Committee meetings will be announced when it is decided at what hours the Carillon will be played.—A. C. Wright, Hon. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The Annual Festival will be held on Saturday, July 28th, at Hyde. Service in St. George's Church, at 2 o'clock. Preacher, the Vicar. Other particulars by circular.—Rev. A. T. Beeston, Hon. Sec., New Mills.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Wrotham on Saturday, August 4th. Bells available for ringing at 3 o'clock. Short Service at 5 o'clock, followed by tea provided by the Rector, and business meeting. Those intending to be present please let me know not later than Tuesday, July 31st. Half railway fares paid up to 2/- at this meeting.—Stephen Hayzelden, Hon. Dis. Sec., Lower Street, East Farleigh.

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