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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18th, 1925.

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Price 8d.

GILLETT AND JOHNSTON CROYDON

Established 1844



The Recast Ring of 10 (Tenor 28 cwt.) for
MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL, Nov., 1925

BELLFOUNDERS
CLOCK AND CARILLON MAKERS

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BRIGHTER DISTRICT MEETINGS!

'Do we make our district meetings interesting enough?' That is a question which most associations might well ask themselves. Often the district meetings are really dull affairs, out of which members get but a small proportion of their time occupied with anything of a really educational nature. This may seem a sweeping statement, but if it be analysed it will be found to contain much truth. A man may put in six hours at a ringing meeting, and, on an average, is likely to get less than an hour's actual ringing; the remainder of the time will be spent in listening while others ring; attending service and tea and sitting through a meeting at which the business is largely a formality. It may be pleasant, but it cannot be said that it is always profitable.

The limited period of actual ringing practice cannot be avoided, because for every one who exceeds his fair share of actual bellfry work, someone else has to go short. Again, the service is a very appropriate recognition of the ringer's intimate association with the work of the Church, but the average address given on such occasions is on lines which tend to become monotonous in their reiteration. Unless there are special circumstances, we see no real reason why, ringers having joined in an act of corporate worship, the sermon on these occasions could not be cut out without any loss to the dignity of the service or detriment to the future of the congregation.

But a great deal more might be done with these gatherings to make them interesting and educative, if discussions on subjects relating to ringing and ringing affairs could be introduced at the meetings. Many matters about which ringers, both young and old, could enlarge their ideas by hearing the views of others, could be discussed, and those of our readers who perused the report, in our last issue, of the meeting of the Stockport Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild must have been struck with the fact that several subjects of real importance and general interest were forthcoming for debate. The work of the associations themselves could be made more efficient, if 'domestic' affairs were more generally discussed at district meetings. Valuable suggestions, which would merit the attention of the Central Council, might spring from informal debates at these local gatherings, and the idea might even be extended to the reading of short papers on suitable subjects relating to ringing. This is a field in which there is much room for progress, and it might be utilised with excellent results. Advancement in the art does not depend entirely on practice in the bellfry. A ringer's education can be promoted outside as well as inside the ringing chamber, and we should like to see a

(Continued on page 802.)

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more general effort made to introduce topics of general interest to ringers at these district gatherings. We believe that much good would eventually come of it.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 12, 1925, in Three Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes.

AT ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 34½ cwt.

*EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... Treble	WILLIAM J. NUDDS ... 7
EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. ... 2	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 8
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY ... 3	JAMES E. DAVIS ... 9
*ARTHUR J. NEALE ... 4½	HAROLD W. CLARK ... 10
GEORGE R. PYE ... 5	WILLIAM PYE ... 11
CHARLES T. COLES ... 6	FREDERICK J. TILLET ... Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

* First peal in the method.

TEN BELL PEAL.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Thursday, December 10, 1925, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

REV. R. H. WHITFORD ... Treble	ARTHUR PRINCE ... 6
MISS NORAH G. WILLIAMS ... 2	WILLIAM KNIGHT ... 7
WILLIAM A. CAVE ... 3	CHARLES W. BELL ... 8
HENRY PRING ... 4	ALFRED E. REEVES ... 9
CHARLES H. JENNINGS ... 5	E. GEORGE TREW ... Tenor

Composed by G. R. FARDON.

Conducted by ARTHUR PRINCE.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

CAERPHILLY, GLAM.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 1, 1925, in Three Hours.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 lb.

*SINCLAIR ADDICOTT ... Treble	HARRY BROUGHTON ... 5
EDWARD DARE ... 2	GEORGE COOKE ... 6
WILLIAM PIKE ... 3	ALBERT ADDICOTT ... 7
PERCY JONES ... 4	THOMAS LOVE ... Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by A. ADDICOTT.

Rung as a wedding peal to the conductor. * First peal of Stedman.

GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 3, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. W. WASHBROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 18 cwt.

C.S.M. J. BENNETT, R.M. ... Treble	JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... 5
ISAAC G. SHADE ... 2	GEORGE MORRAD ... 6
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 3	JAMES GORGE ... 7
EDWARD J. BEER ... 4	EDWARD HADLOW ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

HALESOWEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5050 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S VARIATION.

Tenor 17 cwt.

ROBERT MATTHEWS ... Treble	WILLIAM H. COOPER ... 5
WILLIAM COLEY ... 2	ALFRED HACKITT ... 6
JOHN BASS ... 3	SAMUEL GROVE ... 7
VICTOR WHITE ... 4	JAMES GEORGE ... Tenor

Conducted by S. GROVE.

BRENCHLEY, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. in E.

THOMAS E. SONR Treble	LEWIS NEWMAN 5
FREDERICK J. LAMBERT, SEN. 2	REGINALD E. LAMBERT ... 6
CHARLES H. SONE 3	*JOHN WHEADON 7
†HERBERT J. HAMMOND ... 4	PHILIP HODGKIN Tenor

Composed by N. J. PISTOW.

Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

* 150th peal. † First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells. Arranged for Mr. P. Hodgkin, of Headcorn, whose father was born in the above parish one hundred years ago.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

HENRY HEAD Treble	JOHN WOOD 5
WILLIAM LINCOLN 2	LESLIE J. CLARK 6
THOMAS LINCOLN 3	WILLIAM KERBLE 7
EDWARD P. BOCKINGHAM ... 4	ARTHUR HEAD Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by WILLIAM KERBLE.

First peal in the method on the bells. Also by L. J. Clarke inside. Rung as a farewell to the Vicar (the Rev. G. M. Thompson), who is leaving to take up duties abroad.

STANDISH, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRED.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

FRED HINDLE Treble	ERNEST BIRCHALL 5
JOHN BROWN 2	JOHN WATSON 6
FRED RIGBY 3	ARTHUR TOMLINSON 7
JAMES WM. GROUNDS 4	JOHN BOOTH Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

Ringers of treble, 6th and 7th hail from Blackburn; 3rd from Chorley; 2nd from Hoghton; 4th, 5th and tenor from Standish.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 6, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

PETER TYLER Treble	WILLIAM STANFORD 5
BERNARD WELLS 2	ALBERT ELLIS 6
JAMES BURFIELD 3	ALFRED J. BULL 7
GEORGE ILLMAN 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS Tenor

Composed by the late H. DAINS.

Conducted by OLIVER SIPPETTS.

* First peal in the method.

DERBY.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 7, 1925, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

*CYRIL PORTER Treble	WILLIAM POYSER 5
*JACK BAILEY 2	HENRY FLETCHER 6
CYRIL JENNINGS 3	*ALFRED MOULD 7
JOHN W. GLEW 4	JOSEPH LORD Tenor

Composed by G. THORN.

Conducted by J. LORD.

* First peal of Treble Bob. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last mark of respect to the late Bishop of Southwell.

GODSTONE, SURREY.—On Wednesday, Nov. 18th, at the Church of St. Nicholas, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, in 50 mins.: G. Humphreys 1, D. Cooper 2, G. Hoad 3, J. Galyer 4, F. Darby 5, T. G. Bannister 6, W. Clayton 7, C. H. Kippin (conductor) 8.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 8, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF NORFOLK SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

EDWARD LANKESTER Treble	E. MAURICE ATKINS 5
CHARLES T. COLES 2	CECIL V. EBBERSON 6
GEORGE M. KILBY 3	*HARRY KILBY 7
GEORGE R. PYE 4	J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

First peal in the method by ringers of 1st, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 7th. * 100th peal.

HOOK NORTON, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(BANBURY AND DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, December 8, 1925, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

*HERBERT IMPEY Treble	MAURICE SMITH 5
RUPERT R. LEWIS 2	FREDERICK SELWYN 6
†WILLIAM TANDY 3	JOHN SIMONS 7
RICHARD W. BURROWS ... 4	*ROBERT HIGHAM Tenor

Conducted by JOHN SIMONS.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' First peal as conductor. First peal by Banbury branch. All the above are Sunday Service ringers at Banbury.

ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 9, 1925, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES.

G. LINDOFF'S TWELVE-PART No. 8.

Tenor 17 cwt.

MAURICE SWINFIELD Treble	JOHN H. SWINFIELD 5
THOMAS MEREDITH 2	JOHN CURTIS 6
RICHARD C. BELTON 3	JAMES GEORGE 7
CHARLES DRAPER 4	THOMAS K. DEACON Tenor

Conducted by M. SWINFIELD.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 12, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

EDWARD KEMP Treble	FRANK CLAYDON 5
EDWARD P. BUCKINGHAM ... 2	WALTER ARNOLD 6
WILLIAM LINCOLN 3	ARTHUR SAUNDERS 7
THOMAS LINCOLN 4	WILLIAM KERBLE Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by WILLIAM KERBLE.

NORWICH.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, December 12, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-DE-SEPULCHRE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

GEORGE CLAXTON Treble	GEORGE H. CROSS 5
WILLIAM CLOVER 2	WILLIAM E. BASON 6
WILLIAM B. DUNCAN 3	GEORGE MAYERS 7
BERTIE BASSINGTHWAIGHTE 4	FREDK. J. HOWCHIN Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEO. H. CROSS.

Arranged and rung as a compliment to Mr. Frederick Knight, on his 74th birthday.

GET YOUR
RINGING
FRIENDS
TO SUPPORT

THE RINGING
WORLD

BY
TAKING
A COPY
EVERY
WEEK

FRINDSBURY, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 12, 1925, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6056 CHANGES;

V. JARRETT, Mus., R.E. ... Treble	† PHILIP SPRINGHAM ... 5
EDWARD A. G. ALLEN ... 2	WILLIAM J. WALKER ... 6
SYDNEY JARRETT ... 3	CHARLES WINSER ... 7
THOMAS BEAUMONT ... 4	WILLIAM HAIGH ... Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

Conducted by W. HAIGH.

* First peal inside. † First peal in the method.

PULFORD, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 12, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION.

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb.

ROBERT SPERRING ... Treble	JAMES SWINDLEY ... 5
WILLIAM S. HIGGINSON ... 2	GEORGE R. JONES ... 6
JAMES H. RIDING ... 3	THOMAS R. BUTLER ... 7
THOMAS BUTLER, SEN. ... 4	WILLIAM HIGGINSON, SEN. Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS R. BUTLER.

Arranged and rung as a compliment to the ringer of the second on his 21st birthday.

CORSTON, Near BRISTOL.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, December 12, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 9½ cwt.

* REGINALD C. GILBERT ... Treble	HENRY PRING ... 5
EDWIN J. RIDLER ... 2	WILLIAM KNIGHT ... 6
ALFRED E. REEVES ... 3	* E. GEORGE TREW ... 7
WILLIAM H. THOMAS ... 4	WILLIAM A. CAVE ... Tenor

Composed by the Rev. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by W. A. CAVE.

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

WITHYCOMBE, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, December 12, 1925, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' TEN-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

EDWARD G. STOCKER ... Treble	ROBERT G. C. MANBY ... 5
EDWIN SHEPHERD ... 2	JOHN M. SKINNER ... 6
WILLIAM J. MANBY ... 3	JOHN R. HAYMAN ... 7
FRED DIMOND ... 4	GEORGE RENDELL ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN R. HAYMAN.

WIVELISCOMBE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 12, 1925, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSCRIPTION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

* WILLIAM J. GREEDY ... Treble	WILLIAM H. COLES ... 5
ALFRED J. WYATT ... 2	* WILLIAM H. BAKER ... 6
* WILLIAM H. HARTNELL ... 3	JAMES HUNT ... 7
PERCY MERSON ... 4	* SYDNEY FORZE ... Tenor

Conducted by J. HUNT.

* First peal on eight bells, and belong to local band. The remainder hail from Taunton.

BIRCH-IN-RUSHOLME, LANCs.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 12, 1925, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

BANKS' No. 1.

JOSEPH HALL ... Treble	WALTER WOLSTENCROFT ... 5
ALFRED FROST ... 2	FRANK STONELEY ... 6
ROBERT DAVIES ... 3	ARTHUR RIDYARD ... 7
JAMES H. COLLIER ... 4	WILLIAM H. SHCKER ... Tenor

Conducted by F. STONELEY.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a last mark of respect to the late William Edward Ryder, 64 years a ringer at this church.

GAINSBOROUGH, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, December 12, 1925, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 6056 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr. 23 lb.

JESSE J. MOSS ... Treble	JOHN HOLMAN ... 5
J. EDWARD CAWSE ... 2	BERNARD DITCHER ... 6
REV. R. F. WILKINSON ... 3	JOHN H. BROTHEWELL ... 7
CHARLES MASON ... 4	JOHN FLINT ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by JOHN FLINT.

First peal in the method in the county.

CHATHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 12, 1925, in Three Hours and Five Minutes, ½

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 25 cwt. in E flat.

GEORGE WIFFEN ... Treble	WILLIAM SPICE ... 5
ISAAC G. SHADE ... 2	C.S.M. J. BENNETT, R.M. ... 6
JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... 3	FREDERICK J. COLLUM ... 7
CHARLES E. J. NORRIS ... 4	FRANK BELSEY ... Tenor

Conducted by J. H. CHEESMAN.

First peal of Stedman Triples by Mr. G. Wiffen, for whom it was specially arranged whilst on a visit to Chatham. He is late of the Royal Marines, and a former member of this tower, and was elected a non-resident life member of the above association prior to starting.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 12, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6184 CHANGES;

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in B.

† LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD Treble	THOMAS ATKINS ... 5
E. HARRY STONELEY ... 2	* PERCIVAL A. ALDHAM ... 6
EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ... 3	J. FREDERICK MILNER ... 7
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 4	PERCIVAL PRICE ... Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by E. H. STONELEY.

* First peal of Treble Bob, and first attempt. † First peal of Kent.

OLD HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, December 12, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 23½ cwt.

* WALTER FENDALL ... Treble	WILLIAM GREEN ... 5
JOHN PRICE ... 2	* LEONARD JOHNSON ... 6
* BERTRAM PRICE ... 3	JOHN GOODMAN, JUN. ... 7
PERCY HACKETT ... 4	GILBERT GUEST ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN GOODMAN, JUN.

* First peal. It is upwards of 19 years since a peal was rung upon these bells. The ringers of the 7th and tenor belong to Dudley, and the rest are members of the local band.

PLYMPTON, DEVONSHIRE.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, December 12, 1925, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MAURICE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

* WILLIAM G. LAVERS ... Treble	† THOMAS M. KITCHEN ... 5
WILLIAM A. WONNACOTT ... 2	WARREN S. HORN BROOK ... 6
† REGINALD J. BEER ... 3	ALFRED T. WESTCOTT ... 7
WILLIAM B. RICHARDS ... 4	* GEORGE R. MARSHALL ... Tenor

Conducted by W. S. HORN BROOK.

* First peal. † First peal with a 'bob' bell. ‡ First peal in the method. Ringer of 4th hails from Pudsey, Yorks, and of tenor from Sleaford, Lincs.

NORTHAMPTON.—At St. Edmund's Church, for morning service, on Nov. 1st, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. W. Sharp 1, J. W. Metherall 2, W. J. Dove 3, W. Gammage 4, J. Mackay 5, H. Marlow 6, F. Hopper (conductor) 7, A. Monk 8.

HALESOWEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 12, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 17 cwt. in E flat.

WILLIAM COLEY Treble	WILLIAM H. WEBB 5
THOMAS GREENHALL 2	VICTOR WHITE 6
ERIC FOREST 3	ALFRED HACKETT 7
ALBERT HARRIS 4	WILLIAM BROWN Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM COLEY.

All are members of the local band of service ringers.

GREAT BADDOW, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 12, 1925, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

WILLIAM RICE Treble	JOHN WOOD 5
ALFRED RICHELL 2	† DR. SPENCER PHILLIPS 6
* REGINALD THRIFT 3	GEORGE GREEN 7
ARTHUR HEAD 4	† NORMAN BOUGHTWOOD Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE GREEN.

* First peal in the method. † First peal. Messrs. Wood, Head and Thrift hail from Chelmsford; the rest are local men.

SIX BELL PEALS.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(OXFORD SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, December 1, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Canterbury Pleasure, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, College Single, Kent and Plain Bob.

* W. COLLETT Treble	FREDERICK A. H. WILKINS 4
HARRY TOLLEY 2	FREDERICK CLINKARD 5
WILLIAM HARRIS 3	WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS Tenor

Conducted by W. H. B. WILKINS.

* First peal; also the first peal on the bells.

KELVEDON, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 3, 1925, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Each 720 called differently. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

* JOHN STEED Treble	JOSEPH ELLIOTT 4
WILLIAM KEEBLE 2	WILLIAM ELLIOTT 5
* LESLIE CLARK 3	GORDON KEEBLE Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

* First peal and first attempt. This peal was rung to celebrate the marriage of Miss Christine Renee Cotton Croft (daughter of the Vicar and Mrs. Croft) and Mr. William Albert Fairbairn, which took place at the church on the same day.

HOOLE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Cambridge Surprise, two of Oxford Treble Bob, and three of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor (approx.) 8½ cwt.

ROBERT SPERRING Treble	JAMES H. RIDING 4
GEORGE R. JONES 2	JAMES MORGAN 5
SAMUEL JONES, JUN. 3	HENRY W. WILDE Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.

EPSOM, SURREY. — On Wednesday, December 2nd, at Christ Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 43 mins. (1,260 changes): W. Robinson 1, A. Harman 2, J. Crawford 3, G. Cook 4, C. H. Kippin 5, G. Marriner 6, T. G. Bannister (first quarter of Stedman as conductor) 7, G. Risbridger 8.

WEST DEEPING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, viz.: Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's, Plain Bob, College Single, Single and Double Court, Single and Double Oxford. Tenor 10 cwt.

WILLIAM TILLEY Treble	WILLIAM NEAL 4
HORACE M. DAY 2	JOHN H. RODEN 5
* JOHN LUNN 3	JOSEPH LONDON Tenor

Conducted by H. M. DAY.

* First peal in nine methods. H. M. Day has now called a peal from each bell in this tower.

TAUNTON, SOMERSET.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE, WILTON,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London, Wells, Durham, York, Surfleet, Beverley and Cambridge. Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM H. COLES Treble	GEORGE S. COLES 4
ALFRED J. WYATT 2	PERCY MERSON 5
ARTHUR W. HAYWARD 3	* JAMES HUNT Tenor

Conducted by J. HUNT.

First peal in seven Surprise methods by the association, by all the band, and in the county. * 450th peal.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's.

Tenor 2 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in F sharp. Diam. 22 ins.

EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ... Treble	CHARLES ALLSOP 4
J. FREDERICK MILNER 2	WALTER WHITE 5
GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS 3	ERNEST MORRIS Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

The lightest tower bell peal yet rung, also the quickest. First peal of Cambridge Minor by the Association, and by all except the conductor.

TEMPSFORD, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 5, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Woodbine, and two each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

HUBERT FOLBIGG Treble	MISS EVELYN STEEL 4
TOM BARTRAM 2	WILLIAM HOLDEN 5
HERBERT L. HARLOW 3	WILLIAM STAPLETON Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM STAPLETON.

STAPLEFORD, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 9, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's. Tenor 7 cwt. in A flat.

CHARLES JENNINGS Treble	ALBERT E. AUSTIN 4
MISS KITTY WILLERS 2	EDWARD H. FINCH 5
WILLIAM A. TACK 3	ROBERT HOWARD Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT HOWARD.

First peal of London Surprise Minor by all the band, and believed to be the first by the association. The ringer of the 2nd is from Trumpington, Cambs; 3rd and 6th from Barley, Herts; 1st, 4th and 5th belong to the local band.

COTTENHAM, CAMBS. — On Saturday, Oct. 31, 720 Cambridge Surprise: E. Wakeling 1, F. Ginn (first in method) 2, C. W. Woolley 3, F. G. Gleaves 4, C. W. Cook 5, F. Warrington (conductor) 6. Rung after peal attempt failed. The band thank Mr. Camps for having the bells in readiness.

MEMORIAL PEALS.

The following Memorial Peals were rung for the death and funeral of the beloved Queen-Mother.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

HOLM LACY, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM J. DOWNES Treble	CHARLES EDWARDS 5
WALTER S. EVANS 2	GEOFFREY W. TAYSON 6
THOMAS H. TAYSON 3	ARTHUR W. DAVIES 7
WILLIAM H. SYMONDS 4	JOHN HUSBANDS Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES EDWARDS.

• Rung with the bells half-muffled.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

LEIGH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten different callings.

ALBERT STUBBINGS Treble	*CHARLES INGRAM 3
*DOUGLAS PANKHORST 2	BERNARD PANKHORST 4
PERCY DENTON Tenor	

Conducted by PERCY DENTON.

Rung with the bells half-muffled. First peal on the bells by a local band. • First peal, and first attempt.

HARROLD, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MINOR;

Being seven 720's each called differently.

CLIFFORD CHAMBERS Treble	HARRY GAYTON 4
WILFRED SHEARPE 2	PEARL INSKIP 5
WILLIAM STOCK 3	HENRY STAPLETON Tenor

Conducted by PEARL INSKIP.

Rung fully muffled. First peal of Double Oxford by all the band, and in the county.

WOLVEY.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(HINCKLEY DISTRICT.)

On Friday, November 27, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. John,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 12 six-scores of Plain Bob and 30 of Grandsire. Tenor 12½ cwt.

*A. THORPE Treble	W. THORPE 4
J. UPTON 2	J. H. BEALE 5
*J. TAYLOR 3	*BERT POND Tenor

Conducted by J. H. BEALE.

Rung with the bells half-muffled. • First peal and first attempt. First peal by an entirely local band at this tower since the bells were rehung in 1912.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 1, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with ten varied callings.

LESLIE HADFIELD Treble	JAMES CLAYTON 4
*WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 2	WILLIAM HAWKE 5
EDWIN JOHNSON 3	FRED ROBINSON Tenor

Conducted by W. W. WOLSTENCROFT.

Rung with the bells muffled. First peal by all except the conductor. • First peal of Doubles.

ACCRINGTON, LANCs.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 28, 1925, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's called differently.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

*ALBERT YATES Treble	*JOHN HIRST 4
*ROLAND HALL 2	ARTHUR INGHAM 5
*FRED READ 3	LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ... Tenor

Conducted by LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS.

Rung with bells fully muffled. • First peal. A. Ingham belongs to Accrington; remainder to Rishton.

HANDBELL PEAL.

MONKSEATON, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 10, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

At 19, DENEHOLM,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERPS, 5043 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 17 in A.

JAMES E. GOFTON 1-2	WILLIAM H. BARBER 5-6
THOMAS T. GOFTON 3-4	R. ALDER GOFTON 7-8
WILLIAM L. GOFTON 9-10	

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by W. H. BARBER.

IMPORTANT TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Owing to the Christmas holidays, 'The Ringing World' will be published next week on Thursday. All matter intended for insertion in that issue must therefore reach 'The Ringing World' Office not later than Monday.

Conductors of peals rung on Saturday next are particularly requested to post reports the same night. Publication of those that do not reach us by Monday may be postponed in the event of congestion of our columns from Christmas and New Year ringing.

NEW RING OF SIX IN CHESHIRE.

On Sunday afternoon, December 6th, a new ring of six bells was dedicated at Astbury Parish Church, Cheshire, the Rector performing the ceremony. The new bells, installed in new frames, were made from the old four by Messrs. Taylor and Co. The total weight of these was about 39 cwt., the tenor being about 14 cwt. The weight of the new tenor is about 13½ cwt. The four old bells were recast by Paul Hutton, of Congleton, the treble in 1629, 2nd and 3rd 1638, and tenor 1647. The date of their original casting is not known by Astbury people.

As it took two men to ring one or two of the old bells, it was decided to ask Mr. Rigby, of Lawton, to take a band of ringers for the opening service, a request which was gladly accepted. During the service, 120 Bob Doubles was rung; after service, 720 Bob Minor, in 23 min.: J. Wildblood 1, J. Booth 2, E. Harper 3, W. Longman 4, G. Biddulph 5, W. Rigby (conductor) 6. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor were also rung.

A splendid tea was provided for the ringers by the Astbury Parochial Church Council.

The tone and 'go' of the bells, which are hung on the latest principles, were all that could be desired, and several ringers expressed the opinion that they are the finest ring of six in Cheshire.

On Friday, December 11th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung on the new bells, in 25 mins.: W. Longman 1, E. Harper 2, T. Arrowsmith 3, J. Booth 4, G. Biddulph 5, W. Rigby (conductor) 6, being the first 720 of Kent on the bells.

WEST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX. — On November 1st, for evening service, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: V. Turrell 1, T. Adams 2, G. Warnett (first in the method) 3, R. Stredwick 4, H. Turrell 5, W. Denman (conductor) 6. Also 288 Woodbine, with V. Goacher taking part.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX. — On Sunday, Nov. 1st, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 50 mins.: Miss Grace Church (first quarter-peal) 1, G. Peace 2, G. Maxim 3, A. Radley 4, G. Thurgood (conductor) 5, F. Perrin 6, G. Radley 7, G. Cole 8.

GREETINGS AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

BY IRENEUS PISTOR.

[A Chinese Scribe's complete outfit, purchased by 'Uncle Joe' during his wanderings in the Far East, has reached our correspondent, Ireneus Pistor, who sends his thanks and greetings.]

By all the tangible signs, I know that 'Uncle Joe' is again at home! Ah! 'Home, home, name how endearing!' Eh, Joey, we all look forward to being at home for Christmas. To home, the stranger in a strange land turns his thoughts at Christmastide, and to most of us this season, above all others, is bitter sweet! When we in the home circle enter, as it were, the unseen, and memories stir of Christmas past, the acute loss of some dear material presence is revived, and as the phantasmagoria passes, we realise the time is not far distant when we shall all have finished with school-days in this world, and when we shall again join our own in the 'Great Home Festival,' and be filled with a fuller knowledge of its meaning in the wonderful and Glorious Homeland of God! And as we muse, something within seems to say, 'Cast care aside, 'tis Christmas.' They who have preceded us into that 'Great Homeland,' would not have us grieve, but rejoice, and be happy, and right glad this Christmas.

So 'look to, here's gone,' Mr. Editor. Let's be 'Giddy-little-gay-young Curates.' For once in a way, let us play—I was going to suggest tennis, but that's unseasonable. Let's consider. 'Gifts'!

Ha! Ha! To-buy? or not-to-buy? To buy! for it's a joyous task. Still, it's not untinged with doubt, and agony. Nevertheless we 'flatter' among those who come under the prosaic name of Christmas shop window gazers. There in the 'Far East' we 'spot' Uncle Joe, with ink, pen, pencil and seal. Ah, he was out there present buying, and with tact he selected that which he knew the recipient would like. For Uncle Joe alone was master of the 'Wee Wee Chinese Cityvation.' No, he fears not, for his selection will not clash by some unhappy chance with that of a similar article, and one can imagine the delicious spirit behind the desire of 'Old Uncle Joe' to give a suitable present, which will intensify the asinine qualifications of I-re-n-e-us!

But Reader, 'Ye Pen' which writes these lines is most difficult to control, ye thing will insist on following ye laws of gravitation. Aye me, it writeth from 'Chief, to B-a-s-e'! Whereas, ye one we formerly wrote with ran from 'Dexter, toward a point sinister.' This 'Sing Lee Wee pen' persists in bringing me to the 'point of honour,' and that's just ye spot wherein I must offer 'Uncle Joe' my

heartfelt appreciation, for this, his gift—which I shall cherish—even if it hath a tinge of a 'Yaller Peril' about it. Zooks! it strikes a keynote of real joy! and for the first time in my life, I write with a pen, which, if 'Grandsire'—who-was-my-pedagogue!—saw, he would unquestionably say that civilisation had not made very rapid progress, and he would prefer to go back to —.

But Dear Uncle Joe, many thanks for the Sing Ling Wee Wee outfit. Have no fears, for 'ye pen of my fathers' is in no wise enfeebled, it hath a 'real sturdy constitution,' and its 'temper' is very even, like unto 'laskit,' which has not yet reached ye modulus of 'laskitercy.' No, it's not taken a permanent set, and, 'D.V.,' it will keep spittin', and spurtin', blottin', and squirtin' in a vain endeavour to keep ye heart young, to triumph over ye insidious fiend, Time. May ye Happiness which my Writing Outfit gives me permeate ye whole Exorcise at this season. 'An-heres-to-hall-on-ye (ne-an-hall)' a Merry, Merry Christmas! and I do hope ye culmination of ye festivities will not synchronise! with ye Advent-of-ye-Pleece.—Yours merrily,
IRENEUS.

SUFFOLK GUILD.

A district meeting was held at Long Melford on Saturday, Dec. 5th, when members attended from Cavendish, Cowlinge, Glemsford, Lavenham, and the local company. In the unavoidable absence of the Rector (the Rev. R. S. Bree), the Rev. W. Gilbert, of Cowlinge, presided at the tea, which was followed by a short business meeting.

Five new members were elected, and a previous election of another confirmed.—It was proposed to hold the next meeting at Clare, in March, and a joint by-meeting at Stansted and Glemsford in January.

Mr. S. H. Symonds, assistant secretary, again voiced the opinion that each district secretary should try to arrange at least one meeting per year in his respective district. Mr. Symonds also welcomed the young hand from Cowlinge, and urged them to aim at higher methods in the future.

Mr. A. Symonds, district secretary, suggested that a ringing anniversary be held at Holy Trinity Church, Long Melford, on the Saturday previous to Trinity Sunday.—Mr. C. Bixby, captain of the local band, replied that he would approach the Rector on the subject.

Votes of thanks were then accorded the Rev. R. S. Bree for the use of the bells; the Rev. W. Gilbert for kindly taking the chair; and also Host Bixby for the excellent tea provided. Touches on the handbells followed. During the afternoon and evening, touches of Grand-sire and Stedman, Bob Major, Kent and Oxford were rung.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

■■■■■

THE

LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

MEARS & STAINBANK,

**Foundry
Established
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ESTIMATES SUBMITTED

for

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HANDBELLS
In Sets of any number.

BELL ROPES. MUFFLES. &c

BELFRY GOSSIP.

The old-established firm of J. B. Joyce and Co., Church, Turret and House Clock Manufacturers, of Whitchurch, Salop, who have secured the contract for the clock at Noibury Church, Cheshire (where Messrs. Taylor and Co. have just installed a new peal of eight bells), are erecting a new clock and bells at Cowling Church, Yorkshire. The clock will have four dials of six feet diameter, and will strike the hours and Westminster chimes.

Last week's sensational announcement in connection with the financial arrangements of the great firm of Vickers recalls the fact that this firm was started in Sheffield about sixty years ago for the purpose of making steel bells. Those ringers who have had experience of these 'instruments' know how unsuccessful, musically, they were. There are very few rings of steel bells left.

Ben Annable's peal of Bob Triples, a masterpiece of symmetrical composition, was rung for the first time, and conducted by the composer at Southwark on December 18th, 1730.

The first peal of Stedman Triples rung 'on handbells retained in hand' was accomplished at the 'Three Kings,' Clerkenwell, London, by the Royal Cumberlands on December 19th, 1853. The ringers were John Cox (conductor), Thomas Powell, Henry Haley and Thomas Brittan. The peal was rung in the presence of nineteen members of the College Youths and Cumberland Societies.

A peal of Stedman Caters on the bells of St. Saviour's, Southwark, was rung for the first time on December 20th, 1836. This was by the Junior College Society, and John Cox was the conductor of this also.

On December 17th, 1810, a peal of 8,448 Oxford Treble Bob was rung at Richmond, Surrey, in 5 hrs. 1 min.

The first peal by the Lancashire Association (Grandsire Triples) was rung at Bolton on December 22nd, 1877.

CHRISTMAS BELLS.

FROM 'THE LITTLE COMPANY,' by ARMEL O'CONNOR.

I hear them chime—
The joy-bells swinging, saying:
'Come, busy world, start singing, praying,
'Tis Christmas time!'

The belfries sway;
Tower and steeple quiver
With joy. Why do the people shiver,
Heart-cold to-day?

Have they not heard
The fairest truthful story
Of earth's unending, youthful glory—
God's human word?

For long, this morn,
Dear bells, keep swinging, playing . . .
And start a sad world singing, praying . . .
For Christ is born.

NOISY BELLS AND FAST RINGING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Personally I am very pleased 'The Ringing World' has called attention to another 'nail in the coffin' of the Exercise. What with 'tubes' instead of a ring of bells, 'recasting' fine old peals, and mechanical devices to take the place of the older methods, and the serious depletion of our younger men owing to the recent war, it began to look as if campanology was soon to be—like myself—on its last legs.

I admit in all my public performances that the word and myself are old-fashioned.

Here's the attitude of many people to-day: A friend with an office in Fleet Street greeted me. 'Look here,' he said, 'you are a bell ringer, why on earth can't you go and stop that awful din?'

The 'din' in question was the bells of St. Bride's, Fleet Street! In vain I tried to explain the occasion demanded 'joy bells,' that St. Bride's had a very fine ring of bells, and the men engaged in ringing were the Society of College Youths, perhaps the very pick of campanologists! My final remark that they were trying for a peal, and would probably take some hours yet, if they were successful, brought such an outburst of language that compelled me to flee, forgetting the business that brought me there.

What can we do with such people? Educate them! But fast ringing won't do it.—Yours in the craft,

THE HANDRELL EXPERT.

'Brinsworth,' Twickenham.

NOTES BY THE WAY. THE LITERATURE OF RINGING.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

Henry Hubbard was a first-class ringer, a good composer, and a skilled composer, but it is not for these that he chiefly deserves to be remembered. He was the author of a book on ringing; and while good ringers, conductors and composers have been many, authors of ringing books are of necessity few.

The earliest of all was Fabian Stedman, who published his *Tintinnalogia* as long ago as 1668. Stedman had, perhaps, the finest intellect of any man who has written on ringing, and his book is in some respects the best we have; not from the present day practical point of view, of course, for it deals largely with Plain Changes, which have long since been superseded and survive only in a debased form as 'Stoney'; and where it does deal with. Cross peals goes no further than a 720 of Bob Minor. It is the way in which those things are described and explained that is the excellence of the book, and it is here that the most modern writers can learn of Stedman and look up to him as a master. He professes to give 'a full Discovery of the Mystery and Grounds of each Peal,' and he does make good his word. Of this book one copy only survived to recent times. It was in the possession of the Rev. C. W. Lukis, of Wath, in Yorkshire. I am not quite sure what has become of it, but I think it is in the British Museum. In 1895 a reprint of it was issued by 'The Bell News,' and it has thus been made accessible to a good many ringers. The Exercise owes a debt of gratitude to the late Mr. Harvey Reeves for this.

Ringing was developing rapidly in Stedman's time, and after a few years he found it necessary to publish a second book, which he called the 'Campanalogia.' In this was printed for the first time the method with which Stedman's name is so widely associated. He gives it on no higher number than five bells, and he designed it as a system which should be an entire change from the traditional composition by means of Hunts. The 'Campanalogia' became the standard book on ringing, and its prestige is acknowledged by the fact that for nearly two hundred years every book on ringing bore the same name.

A few copies of this book are still in existence. Inevitably there is the risk that, as years go on, the number should get smaller. Ringers do not seem to appreciate the value of it, and to other people naturally it has no value at all. It would be a good thing if steps were taken to find out how many copies still remain, and where they are, so that in case of the death of an old ringer his copy should not be destroyed. Efforts should be made by associations to acquire any copy of this or other old book. Especially it would be a gracious act for anyone who has a copy to give or bequeath it to his association or to the Central Council or to any public library, where for all time it might be available for future generations of ringers. Within the last few years the Hertford County Association was given a copy by an old ringer, and it now forms the most valuable item in the valuable library in St. Peter's belfry at St. Albans.

The next book published was the 'Campanalogia, or the Art of Ringing,' by J. D. and C. M., issued in 1702, and dedicated to 'our honoured and esteem'd friends the Society of London Scholars.' 'J. D.' was Doleman, a noted ringer in the later part of the seventeenth and early part of the eighteenth centuries. He was the man, you will remember, who was bracketed with Stedman by Thos. Melchior as an authority on Stedman Doubles. The book follows Stedman's work closely. Two other editions of it were issued, and it remained the only text book on ringing for eighty years. Long before that time, however, it was hopelessly out of date. The first quarter of the eighteenth century saw ringing developed to its present form, and to men like Annable or Holt or Melchior, and their bands, the J. D. and C. M. book was as little good as it would be to us. Annable intended to write a book, but unfortunately it came to nothing, and it was not till 1788, one hundred and twenty years after Stedman's 'Tintinnalogia' that with the *Clavis Campanalogia* we have the earliest book that deals with ringing as we now practise it.

This justly famous book was the work of three London ringers—Jones, Reeves and Blakemore—and it is interesting to speculate on the share each had in it. John Reeves we know was a first-class ringer and composer, and to him has always been given the credit of all the compositions in the book. All that is, with such obvious exceptions as Holt's peals. Yet it should be remembered that no such claim is made in the book itself. The authors do say with no little pride that *Superlative Surprise* is 'our own,' but they are silent about the other methods and peals. It would be strange if no use at all were made of the work of other men, and there is one instance of a peal which since it is in 'The Clavis' is always given as Reeves', that in the Cumberland's peal book is said to be the composition of George Gross. Anyway, Reeves was a very clever composer, and the great majority of 'The Clavis' peals are certainly his.

Thomas Blakemore was also a good ringer. He called the first peal of Stedman Cinques ever rung. He was the man who visited Norwich in search of material, and is supposed to have taken Lindsay's notes. Perhaps his share was the collecting of methods and peals from different parts of the country.

I do not remember Jones as a composer or conductor. But his name stands first of the three on the title page, and he undoubtedly was the man who made the book out of the material the others supplied. He wrote the letterpress and descriptions which show very considerable literary ability.

Shipway's 'Campanalogia' appeared in 1816. This book is inferior to 'The Clavis' in some respects, but much superior in general arrangement and usefulness. I hope to say something about it at a future time.

Then in 1845 came Hubbard's 'Campanalogia,' of which more presently.

The next two books were written in Yorkshire. The first of them was by Benjamin Thackeray, and copies of it are very scarce. It is not a good book, though it contains several interesting things. Thackeray points out how, by making what he calls a Single in Cambridge Surprise, a good deal of its falseness may be done away with. This fact was rediscovered in later times, and the method so altered is rung as New Cambridge. What is called a peal of Superlative Surprise appears in the book. The calling is 1 M, 1 W, 3 R, 1 W, 3 R, 1 W; twice repeated. This, of course, is only twenty-one courses, but if you add 3 R in any one part you have a 5152, and if you add them in every part you have a 6048. This is the peal that is usually printed over John Cox's name. Now, Cox had a copy of Thackeray's book, and made a pencil note that the peal was incomplete. Cox was a perfectly honest and honourable man, and the incident only illustrates the fact that at that time the ideas of what constitutes an original composition were very different to what they are now. And likely enough in the future men will wonder how the composers of to-day could consider many of the modern peals original compositions. We ought to remember this when we feel tempted to condemn men like Shipway and Hubbard and Harrison for varying other people's peals, and claiming them as their own. And the man most needing charity in this respect is William Sottanstill, the author of the second book published in the north. This appeared in 1867. Properly speaking, it is hardly a book at all. It is a big heap of material from which a good book could have been made. There would have had to be careful selection and ruthless rejection. Reduced to about half its size and properly arranged, it might have been a good work. Sottanstill was a painstaking, industrious man, and a composer of more than average ability, but it takes something more than that to write a book.

After Sottanstill appeared Banister's book, which is very much like Hubbard's work, and that was the last of a series. The authors of all these books had the same object in view, and that was to deal comprehensively with the whole of ringing. They tried to give a text book which should assist ringers from changes on three bells up to London Surprise, or whatever was the most difficult method at the time, and they included composition and conducting as well as actual ringing. It is safe to say that no other similar book will again be published. Ringing has got too complex, and has expanded too much to be dealt with in a book that one can slip into one's pocket. All later books deal with only a small part of the subject. Troyte's and Canon Wigram's books are purely elementary. Jasper Snowden set the fashion of taking a single method and dealing thoroughly with that, and this is the plan adopted by Sir Arthur Heywood in his 'Duffield,' and Mr. Davies' in his 'Stedman,' while the Central Council books are for the most part frankly collections of compositions or methods.

Besides the books I have mentioned there have from time to time appeared broadsheets and pamphlets. Holt published one containing his peals. J. P. Powell published one containing Stedman Triples; so did Shipway. Then there are Mr. Thompson's two pamphlets, one on the composition of Grandsire Triples, and the other on the composition of Union Triples; Carter's broadsheet of peals, and a few others. If a man possessed the whole of the books published on ringing, including a copy of each of different editions, they would occupy but a modest shelf. Such a collection would be a treasure indeed, but to make it it would need a man with plenty of patience, plenty of enthusiasm, and, I think I may add, plenty of money.

MORE INFORMATION WANTED.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In view of the remarks made by Mr. T. Wilde at the Stockport branch meeting, held at Hyde, I feel sure the Exercise would be interested to know what length of time Mr. Wilde considers should be occupied in ringing a peal of 5,040 changes, taking into consideration weight of bells, length of draft, nature, and condition of hangings, principle on which the bells have been tuned; and, further, Mr. Fidler's reasons for suggesting that a band who can ring Kent Treble Bob well, and who desire to make progress, should commence to practise Minor methods as a stepping-stone to higher things, and eventually Surprise Major methods.—Yours truly,

Frodsham.

W. BIBBY.

FUNERAL OF MAJOR R. C. HUDSON.

AN IMPRESSIVE SERVICE.

Public sympathy was strongly manifested on Monday, Nov. 30th, at the funeral of Major Robert Challis Hudson, O.B.E., who was people's warden and Master of the Bell Ringers' Guild at Bishopwearmouth Parish Church, Sunderland, and who died under tragic circumstances while muffling the bells for the memorial service for the late Queen-Mother.

Military honours were accorded, and a service was held in the church, which was filled to its capacity, many of the general public being unable to gain admission. The coffin, covered with the Union Jack, and with the dead Major's cap, sword and belt resting on the top, was carried direct from the residence near by to the church by warrant officers of the R.A.S.C. Immediately behind walked Col. Dent, O.C. Northumbrian Division Train, R.A.S.C., T.F., carrying the medals of the deceased officer.

The service was conducted by the Rev. Probendary Wynne Wilson, and the lesson read by the Rev. Chas. Hudson, Vicar of Sealswood, cousin of the Major. The Revs. F. J. Sinnamon and J. G. Nye, curates, assisted.

The principal mourners were Mr. Thos. Hudson (brother), Mr. Jas. Hudson (cousin), Mrs. J. and Mrs. C. Hudson, Mr. Wm. Hudson, Mr. and Mrs. Simpson, Mr. Albyn Coore (representing the Vicar of Scruton, Yorks, where the family had a residence), Rev. T. Rigby (Scruton), Mr. and Mrs. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Hudson and Dr. Robinson.

The coffin was borne to the cemetery on a gun carriage supplied by the 74th R.F.A., with warrant officers as drivers, and great crowds of sympathisers watched the procession, and bowed the head, as the procession passed through the streets. A large number of the officers attached to the R.A.S.C., or of neighbouring units, attended, besides a large contingent of members and ex-members of Major Hudson's No. 3 Company, Divisional Train, R.A.S.C. The Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association of Ringers was represented by Mr. E. E. Ferry, hon. secretary, Messrs. C. L. Routledge, J. T. Gofton and R. A. Gofton; Messrs. J. W. Parker, R. L. Patterson, G. S. Taylor (treasurer of the Association), from St. Ignatius' Belfry, Sunderland, while his own belfry was represented by Messrs. R. W. Langton, R. Towie, R. W. Towie, J. Pickering, F. Lingwood and R. Pick.

Other bodies represented were the local Ironmongers' Association, of which the deceased was a past president and a committeeman; the National Protestant League, Bishopwearmouth Church Council, Bishopwearmouth contingent of the Girl Guides, the Sunderland Photographic Association, the Boy Scouts' Association, the Allotment Holders' Association, the Sunderland Branch of the British Legion, and the Church Institute.

After the committal service at the graveside, four members of the Durham and Newcastle Association rang the handbells over the open grave, into which the coffin of their dead comrade had just been lowered. It bore the simple inscription: 'Robert Challis Hudson, died November 26th, 1925, aged 49 years.' Then volleys were fired by a firing party, and the 'Last Post' sounded by buglers from the D.L.I.

In the evening a peal of Stedman Triples was attempted at St. Ignatius' Church, but failed, too late to start again. A well-struck quarter-peal was, however, brought round by the following: T. Stephenson 1, G. S. Taylor 2, M. F. Harrison 3, R. A. Towie 4, E. E. Ferry 5, J. W. Parker (conductor) 6, R. L. Paterson 7, R. Langton 8.

The Bishop of Durham, Dr. Hensley Henson, in sending his condolences to the bereaved family, said: 'I can well believe that this untoward event is not only a stroke of heavy bereavement to the family, but also a very serious blow to the church of which he was people's warden. I recall Major Hudson on many occasions when visiting the church, and I regard his death as a grave loss to this diocese.'

Major Hudson rang his first peal on February 2nd, 1899, a peal of 5.392 Bob Major, at St. John's, Newcastle, conducted by Mr. W. Storey, and followed that up by many notable performances in the two Northern dioceses, and also in other counties, to wit, peals of Treble Bob Maximus at Ipswich and Norwich; Royal at St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, and at Newcastle Cathedral. In all he rang about 60 peals for the association, but since the outbreak of war had done no peal ringing whatsoever. The methods in which he rang his peals were Grandsire and Bob Triples, Bob Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major and Royal, Stedman Triples and Caters, Double Norwich Major, and Superlative Surprise Major.

It is easy to write an appreciation of one who led so simple a life—so straight, honest and God-fearing—it was so patent to all that the man was sweetness and earnestness itself; anything said beyond that would be redundant. To quote his own Rector, in his tribute on Sunday morning, the 29th ult.: 'Of Robert Challis Hudson it may truly be said that he was a beautiful example of that pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father, which leads a man to love his fellow-men and to keep himself unspotted from the world. We hear the echo of

his Saviour's welcome, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."'

At St. John's Church, Darlington, on Nov. 29th, 1,008 Grandsire Triples, with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Maj. R. C. Hudson, of Sunderland (an ex-vice-president of the Durham and Newcastle Association), who was accidentally killed on Nov. 26th: F. W. Johnson, jun. (longest length), 1, A. Coates 2, F. W. Johnson, sen., 3, W. D. Lister 4, W. Dowson 5, R. H. Johnson 6, H. Taylor (conductor) 7, A. Hunter 8.

A SAFETY HINT.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The tragic death of Major R. C. Hudson, of Bishopwearmouth, is so distressing that it is impossible to express one's feelings of sympathy and regret at the loss of a life like his.

Everyone who has the care of bells in a tower must face the same dangers, and having spent a period of fifteen years as towerkeeper, it may not be out of place if I mention some of the guides I have used during that time. I first had the care of six in a timber frame, and afterwards of eight in a modern iron and steel frame. Soon after I commenced these duties, I had been adjusting a rope on one of the bells at rest, being on the top of the frame. The bell in the next pit was set—very lightly set, too, which I did not realise at the time—and I took hold of the wheel to pass to the next one, when I felt a slight movement, and the bell almost overbalanced. This startled me for a moment, and without finishing my task, I came down. I thought if that is the result of being in a hurry, I must contrive to find a remedy, so after some consideration I went up very carefully, took a short piece of stout bell rope, and lashed it around the beam of the cage and the spoke of the wheel, which runs along the side of this beam; the bell was then secure, and I could work with safety. This can be lashed on in a few moments, and may save a life. If a piece of rope of a suitable length be kept in a convenient place, on entering the cage it can be got at easily, and used when required. I still think this is the best remedy for a bell that is set while one is working among them. It is simple, always at hand, and is efficient. Try it, and do not enter among the bells in a hurry. Lastly, have a good and convenient light. It was thought somewhat of a luxury when we introduced electric light in the church to have a light among the bells, but it has been a great boon, and all bell chambers should be properly lighted.

St. Mary's, Godstone.

W. T. BEESON, Senr.

DEATH OF MANCHESTER'S OLDEST RINGER

A LIFE-LONG CONNECTION WITH BIRCH-IN-RUSHOLME CHURCH.

The death occurred, on Saturday, Dec. 5th, of Mr. William Edward Ryder, in his 80th year. He had been connected with St. James' Church, Birch-in-Rusholme, all his life; in fact, he was the first male to be christened in the church, and he had been a ringer there for 64 years. He was looking forward to attending the opening of Manchester Cathedral bells, but unfortunately he had a fall the day before, from which he never recovered.

Not a great peal ringer, having rung only about a dozen, yet he liked to be amongst ringers whenever it was possible. He was well known and respected by all ringers in the Manchester area, and had been a member of the Lancashire Association for almost fifty years. He had regularly taken his place in the belfry he loved so well up to the Sunday before his accident. All ringers will sympathise with his family in their bereavement.

On Saturday a muffled peal was rung at St. James' Church.

DEATH OF A STOURBRIDGE RINGER.

We regret to record the death of Mr. J. H. Parsons, of Wollaston, Stourbridge, which sad event took place at his home, very suddenly, on Monday, December 7th.

Mr. Parsons was for many years a member of the Worcester and Districts Association, and started to ring about 50 years ago at St. Thomas' Church, Stourbridge. For nearly 40 years, however, he had been attached to St. James', and during the last 16 years or so had held the position of clerk and sexton. He was attending to his duties on the Sunday morning before his death, although he was not well. His end came as a great shock to everyone on the following day.

The interment took place on Friday last at St. James', where many of the congregation and friends of the deceased were present. The Rector of Oldswinford officiated in the unavoidable absence of the Vicar of Wollaston. Deceased's fellow ringers acted as bearers. The choir boys were also present. The 90th Psalm was sung, and the hymns, 'Nearer my God to Thee,' and 'Abide with me,' the organist also playing the 'Dead March.' After the committal, three of the local band, kindly assisted by Mr. G. H. Pagett, of Stourbridge, rang a course of Grandsire Triples on handbells at the graveside. Muffled touches were afterwards rung on the tower bells, and a peal of Cambridge Minor on Saturday, which will be found recorded elsewhere.

Many beautiful tributes of flowers were received, amongst them being a magnificent cross from the Vicar and churchwardens, and a wreath from the ringers.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND DONCASTER SOCIETY.

JOINT MEETING AT PONTEFRAC.

A combined meeting of the Eastern District of the Yorkshire Association and the Doncaster and District Society took place at Pontefract on Saturday, December 5th, and was attended by some 40 visitors from Ackworth, Badsworth, Doncaster, Hemingbrough, Howden, Hull, Ripon, Selby, Shedbourn-in-Elmet, Wakefield, Wortley, Wragby, and the local ringers. A short service was held in the Parish Church, where a very instructive address was delivered by the Vicar (the Rev. J. Young), and was followed by an excellent tea, which was served in the All Saints' Church House.

At the business meeting, the chair was taken by the Rev. A. G. Shipley, the Vicar of All Saints.—Five new members were elected—Mr. W. Hobson (Holy Trinity), Hull; Mr. G. Eggleston (All Saints), Pontefract; Mr. W. Palmer, Ackworth, and Messrs. E. Bradley and H. Thornton, Sherburn-in-Elmet.

The annual meeting will be held at York (provided the new peal is ready), failing which, at Sherburn-in-Elmet.

An appeal made in August, 1924, at Eastrington for subscriptions from ringers towards the restoration of Thorne bells, resulted in a total of £11 15s. 6d. being subscribed, details of which are acknowledged in the Thorne Parish Magazine.

A movement has now been instituted for the restoration of the bells of St. Lawrence, Hatfield. The old peal of eight (tenor 18 cwt.) are to be recast and rehung with entirely new fittings in a new iron frame. The total cost will be over £800, and over £150 has already been given. Contributions will be gratefully accepted and promptly acknowledged by Mr. H. Walker, 3, Beech Crescent, Old Hexthorpe, Doncaster.

On the motion of Mr. J. H. Howell (Hull), and seconded by Mr. H. Walters (Pontefract), a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to the two respective Vicars for the use of the bells, service, and address, and to all who helped to make a successful meeting.

ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL JOINT MEETING.

The quarterly meeting of the Southern Division was held on Saturday, December 12th, at Barnsley, in conjunction with the Barnsley and District Society, and was very successful in every way, upwards of 40 members being present from Sheffield (the Cathedral, St. Marie's and All Saints'), Wakefield, Wath, Horbury, Ecclesfield, Hoylandswaine, Handsworth, Rotherham, Wortley, Bolsterstone, Earlsheaton, Arksey, Sandal, Shelley, Royston and Crofton. The bells at the Parish Church were kept going in various methods during the afternoon and evening; also a peal of six at Monk Bretton, which was placed at the disposal of the association, through the activities of Mr. Potter. A splendid tea at Whitham's Cafe, near to the church, was followed by the business meeting, Mr. F. Willey being in the chair.

Mr. Thickett, the president of the Barnsley and District Society, gave the association a very hearty welcome to Barnsley, and was supported by Mr. Potter, the secretary.

Mr. Willey moved that the congratulations of the Southern Division should be extended to the members of the Yorkshire Association who rang in the peal at Bradford on December 5th, and this was carried.

Six new members were elected, these being Miss Molly Davenport (Dore), Mr. M. Short (Totley), the Rev. W. P. Wright (Eyam), Mr. A. Smithson (All Saints' Sheffield), and Messrs. A. Haigh and F. Dyson (Bolsterstone).

Subject to the necessary permission being obtained, the annual meeting was arranged to be held at the Cathedral, Sheffield, on Saturday, March 13th, 1926. Messrs. G. Lewis, S. F. Palmer and F. Willey were selected to make the necessary arrangements for the annual dinner of the Yorkshire Association, to be held in Sheffield in September next, and were empowered to add to their number any member they thought desirable to make the gathering a successful one.

Mr. Willey proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the Barnsley and District Society for the very kind way in which they had met the association that day, and Mr. G. Lewis, in seconding the resolution, said that seeing that the joint meeting had been such a successful one, he hoped that it would be possible next year to have a big meeting of all the societies in the Southern area, viz. the Sheffield and District, the Barnsley and District, the Doncaster and District, and the Southern Division of the Yorkshire Association.—This was supported by Mr. Palmer and Mr. Thickett, and the secretary was instructed to communicate with the various secretaries, and try to bring this about. It was suggested that the meeting be held in June if possible, and at some place which would be convenient for all.

This brought the meeting to a close, and the members dispersed, some to the church for more ringing; others, not so fortunate, to the train or bus.

WINDSOR.—On Sunday, Nov. 7th, at the Parish Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 48 mins.: W. Phipps 1, W. P. Cross 2, T. Smith 3, W. Henley 4, J. W. Croft 5, E. S. T. Farr (conductor) 6, L. Stilwell 7, J. H. Copley 8.

SHORTENED DODGING.

AN APOLOGY, by the REV. H. DRAKE.

To begin with I must apologise fully to Mr. Trollope and your readers for the blunder in the sentence first quoted by him. How the sentence got into my letter, or what it meant, I cannot imagine. It may be that the right words in a sentence were crossed out in error, and only the wrong ones copied; at any rate the phrase 'before Stedman's time' has nothing to do with the argument. These words entirely misled Mr. Trollope, and he is quite justified in the capital he makes out of them.

For the rest, I am quite unrepentant. To take this argument first, and to put it in another way: If one looks at page 2 of *Standard Methods—Diagrams*, one sees the Plain Bob diagram, and on the next page the two methods, Double Court Bob and Double Oxford Bob. In the order in which they are there printed, it would appear that the methods progress in complication of dodging; and in order to ring them nowadays, this is the only order to place them. My theory (this is theory, and not history) is that as far as the names go, the more complicated came first. At any rate, we have the fact mentioned by Mr. Trollope himself, that 'bob' originally meant 'dodge'; also the fact that in Double Oxford there is plenty of dodging, so that it could be called a full Bob Method. We also know that the word 'Court,' as a description, meant Curt or Shortened; and we see that in Double Court, the amount of dodging is considerably shortened; while in 'Plain' Bob, the dodging is reduced to its plainest or simplest form. The same thing will be found on pages 26 and 27, with regard to Double Norwich and Double Oxford. It certainly seems a more sensible thing to connect the terms, Bob, Court Bob and Plain Bob, with dodging than with places.

I did not expect that with Mr. Trollope I should need to write 'This is a joke' after most of my sentences, but at any rate the sequipedalian nature of the phrase 'Act of sycophantic adulation,' might have warned him not to take it seriously.

When I said that it was 'unlikely' that Stedman developed Plain Changes, I was obviously not stating history, but my opinion, to which I am as much entitled as he is to his. How much the latter is worth may be deduced from the fact that he makes these statements: (a) That our earliest knowledge on these matters is dated 1668, and gives us both Plain Changes and Cross Peals; (b) that we may 'safely conclude' that Plain Changes were fully developed somewhere about 1680; and (c) that Plain Changes had scarcely been brought to perfection before they were superseded by Cross Peals. Of these three contradictory statements only one can be true. Of course, it is the last, and that is the very reason why it is so unlikely that Stedman had anything to do with developing Plain Changes.

There have been found, as I have already mentioned in your pages, inscribed on the tower of Buxhall Church in this county of Suffolk, a set of Plain Changes signed by one John Gooch, who, according to the antiquary who discovered them, died before Stedman was born, as far as can be ascertained. If this is so, Mr. Trollope is about 100 years out in his history, and his 'safe' conclusion.

Mr. Trollope seems to give the impression that Touches with Singles and Bobs were not rung much before 1700; if so, he is wrong, as Stedman tells us how to do this in 1667; only he calls Bobs 'Double Bobs,' and Singles 'Single Changes.' A 'Single Bob' is his name for a Plain Lead (i.e. of Grandsire).

Stedman is, in his 'Tintinnalogia,' so pre-occupied with Grandsire, on five bells; and with Grandsire Bob (our Plain Bob), on six bells, that we may (not 'safely conclude,' as Mr. Trollope would say, but) say that it is the most likely conclusion, that he simply recorded Plain Changes as he had been taught them, but gave his own researches into Grandsire Doubles; and also a number of suggestions about Plain Bob Minor.

The 'strictures' which Mr. Trollope queries are contained in the lines following my use of that word.

I did not say that he had not read our report, but he certainly does not give much evidence of having done so, in either of these long articles on it.

HERBERT DRAKE.

GIRL OF 16 RINGS 19 cwt. TENOR.

At the Church of All Saints', Wootton Bassett, Wilts, a young lady of 16 years has rung the 19½ cwt. bell to a quarter-peal. This was on Saturday, Nov. 28th, when 1,260 Grandsire Doubles was brought round, with the bells half-muffled, in 50 mins.: E. Flewelling (aged 13), 1. J. Gibbs 2, L. Box 3, L. A. Wilson (conductor) 4, H. Flewelling 5, Nora Reeves (aged 16) 6. This is the first quarter by the treble, 2nd, 3rd and 6th ringers, and great praise is due to Miss Reeves for the way in which she handled the tenor, the striking being perfect.

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS, HUNTS.—For 11 a.m. service, on Nov. 24th, 720 Kent Treble Bob: K. Sewart (first of Treble Bob) 1, E. Smart 2, H. Saunders (conductor) 3, G. Perkins 4, H. Lavender 5, F. Warrington 6.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. ISLE OF WIGHT DISTRICT.

The adjourned annual meeting was held at Brading on Saturday last, when a record gathering for the district attended. The bells were in use all the afternoon, touches being rung of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob, Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major, and Grandsire Doubles for the beginners. A gathering, numbering 35, sat down to tea, and as only 20 had notified that they would be present, it somewhat taxed the local caterer's accommodation. However, the party made the best of the space and the food at their disposal, and proceeded to the business meeting, at which the Rev. H. E. H. Coombes (Rural Dean of West Wight, and Rector of Freshwater) was elected next year's president, in succession to the Rev. J. C. Orr (Whitwell); Mr. B. J. Snow, of Ryde, succeeded Mr. Upton, Newport, as district secretary, and Mr. H. Phillips was appointed auditor in succession to Mr. W. Johnson. The other officers remain at their posts.

A motion, moved by Mr. H. Barton, that the Central Council's action in the matter of Coventry's bells be supported, was carried unanimously.

The Rev. Coombes proposed the Guild's thanks to the Rector of Brading for kindly entertaining the members to tea, and also for conducting the service.—The Rev. Weekes, in reply, hoped that next year the ringers would honour him with another visit.—Mr. Barton proposed thanks to the outgoing officers (the Rev. J. C. Orr president, Mr. W. Upton, secretary, and Mr. W. Johnson, auditor).—Mr. Callaway seconded, and, Mr. Upton having replied, the meeting terminated.

Ringers were present from Carisbrooke, Curdridge, Freshwater, Godshill, Newport, Ryde, Whitwell, Fareham, North Stoneham and Portsmouth.

GUILDFORD DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

Probably on account of the last minute change of day (caused by the death of Queen Alexandra) the attendance at the annual meeting of the Guildford District of the Winchester Diocesan Guild was not so largely attended as usual, but about 60 members and visitors were present, the affiliated towers represented being: Ash, Cranleigh, Clondun, Farnham, Guildford (Holy Trinity and S. Nicolas'), Godalming, Haslemere, Seale, Woking and Worplesdon. During the afternoon, ringing took place at both Holy Trinity and S. Nicolas' Churches, and the service, in which the Guild's form and special hymns were used, was held at the latter church, the Rev. J. Palliser David (Rector of Merrow) officiating, and giving an address.

The business meeting followed tea in S. Nicolas' Parish Hall, Admiral T. P. Walker, of Woking, who is learning to ring, taking the chair. He was supported by the Rev. J. Palliser David, Canon Kirwan, and the officials of the district.

The Chairman first expressed his pleasure at the opportunity of meeting so many ringers, and welcomed the visitors. He had only got as far as ringing call changes, he said, but he had already found out that ringers were a first-class set of men, very sympathetic, very kind, and very helpful. There was among them an excellent spirit of camaraderie, and a great sense of humour.

As the preacher had to leave early, Admiral Walker took the opportunity of thanking him for his excellent address.

PROPOSED RECASTING OF A GUILDFORD PEAL.

Mr. R. Whittington said that a proposal was on foot to recast and relang the ten bells at S. Nicolas' Church. He was told that the ringers there had made themselves responsible for recasting the treble bell, which would cost something like £25. He thought it would be a brotherly sort of thing to 'go round with the hat' and hand it over to the S. Nicolas' ringers towards the cost of their bell.

A collection was accordingly made, and realised £1 14s. 4d.

Apologies for absence were received from Canon Coleridge, Mr. G. Pullinger (Guild secretary), and Mr. Vincent.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. E. Raddon) reported that five meetings had been held during the year, and the balance sheet showed a sum of £7 5s. 8d. in hand. There were 143 full members, seven probationers, one unattached and four compounding members, the increase on the year being 18.—The report was adopted.

The Ringing Master reported that 22 tower bell peals had been rung during the year. Death had removed Mr. Lucas, of Shalford; Mr. Poyntz, of Godalming; and Mr. Boxall, of Dorking, the last named having been one of the pioneers of the Guild. He suggested that leaders of companies might advise the secretary of the death of any member so that it might be possible to send a wreath and representatives to the funeral, and even on occasion to provide a handbell party. The report continued that, while there was much for satisfaction in the present progress that was being made, there was also something to lament in the decay that was sometimes to be observed—decay by which bells were allowed to fall into neglect and ruin. He thought this was due to a wrong mental attitude towards ringing by ringers in the past, and, to some extent, to-day. He urged ringers to make ringing what it was already supposed to be—a definitely sacred art. This could not be done by merely printing the name of the

Bishop and Dean on the front of their report. What they wanted was to change the atmosphere in which the art was often pursued. The report added that the committee had considered the possibility of arranging a series of combined practices for the benefit of outlying towers, which in the ordinary way could not be visited very often. They hoped, perhaps, to have a whole day tour on Whit Monday. Their experience in the past in this direction had not been very encouraging, but they hoped the members would rally to the support of the scheme when it was inaugurated.

The report was accepted, and thanks tendered to the Master.

A RULE THAT RULES OUT MEMBERS' VIEWS.

A number of new members and probationers were elected, and Mr. E. Raddon was re-elected hon. secretary, and Mr. C. Hazelden Ringing Master. Messrs. Whittington and Jones were reappointed to represent the district on the Guild Committee.

The District Committee recommended that meetings be held during the coming year at Farnham, Dunsfold, Witley, Woking and Ewhurst.—It was suggested that a meeting should be held at Seale, where a new band is making progress, but it was pointed out that, under the rules, that meeting had no power to interfere with the decision of the District Committee, the only over-riding authority being the Guild Committee.

A resolution was passed, recommending the Guild Committee to take steps so to amend the rule that members in annual district meeting assembled could decide the places of meeting for themselves.

The business concluded with a vote of thanks to the chairman, preacher, organist and choir, and a smoking concert was then held.

PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT'S PROGRESSIVE YEAR.

The annual meeting was held at Alverstoke on Saturday week, when the musical ring of eight at St. Mary's were available during the afternoon and evening. Owing to the death of Queen Alexandra the bells were rung with half-muffled clappers throughout the day. Members and visitors, numbering 40, were present from Alverstoke, Bishop's Waltham, Curdridge, Fareham, Gosport, Portsmouth (St. Mary's and St. Thomas'), Ryde (I.O.W.), Swanmore and Wickham. The visitors included Mr. G. Williams (Master) and R. J. Hasted (Farnham).

An enjoyable service was held in the church, at which the Rector (Canon G. Landon, R.D.), officiated, assisted by Mr. E. Douglas, F.R.C.O., at the organ. In the course of a few remarks, the Rector said how pleased they always were to welcome the Guild to Alverstoke, and how appropriate it was for them to be there that day in a period of national mourning to take part in half-muffled ringing. In conclusion, he thought that one of the chief aims of membership of the Diocesan Guild should be to ensure a good standard of change ringing, and also of members attached to the various towers.

The members adjourned to the Broderick Hall, where tea awaited them, after which the business meeting was held, the Rector taking the chair. The balance sheet, which was presented by the district auditor, showed receipts amounting to £13 3s., and expenditure to £5 19s. 5½d., leaving a balance to the general treasurer of £7 3s. 6½d.—Seven full members and ten probationers were elected, nine of the latter being from Gosport.

Mr. H. J. Smith (Wickham) asked that he should be excused re-election as a Central Committee representative, as he found, owing to ill-health, it was increasingly difficult to get about. Mr. F. A. Burnett (Portsmouth) was duly elected to serve on that body. All the other officers were re-elected, viz.: Chairman, Mr. R. J. Stone; secretary, Mr. F. W. Rogers; Central Committee, Messrs. C. J. Fray and F. A. Burnett; auditor, Mr. H. G. Reynolds.

It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Wickham on Saturday, February 13th, 1926, and that application should be made for use of the peals of six at Shedfield and Swanmore.

On the proposition of the district chairman, votes of thanks were accorded the Rector of Alverstoke for the use of the bells and the hall, and also the organist, to which Canon Landon suitably replied.

This concluded the business, after which the members returned to the tower, the ringing during the day ranging from 'rounds' to Superlative Surprise Major.

A resume of the past year shows that meetings have been held at Portsmouth, Petersfield, Netley and Fareham, the average attendance being 26. The ringing, which had been quite up to standard, had included the standard methods, also Cambridge, Superlative, London and Bristol Surprise Major. There was an increase in full, probationary, compounding and honorary members, and also one affiliated tower, Hambledon being rejoined the Guild. It is hoped that the coming year will be an equally, if not, more progressive one than the past.

W. R. SMALL'S MEMORIAL FUND.

Previously acknowledged, £1 13s. 6d.; Willenhall ringers, 5s. All donations should be addressed to Mr. J. B. Evans, 52, Park Lane East, Tipton, Staffs, and will be acknowledged through this paper.

NEW PEAL FOR BELPER.

EIGHT LOUGHBOROUGH BELLS REPLACE SIX STEEL ONES.

Belper is one of the most historical towns in Derbyshire, with upwards of 12,000 inhabitants. At one time its staple trade was nail-making. It also possessed a cotton spinning mill early in the eighteenth century, which stood on St. John's Road, owned by a Mr. Robinson. It must have been very ancient, as it was worked by horses. In 1745 the Strutts built another mill on the banks of the River Derwent (the remains of which still stand). At that time the inhabitants numbered 541; ten years after the population had grown 5,000. This mill has been enlarged several times, and now employs over 1,300 hands. It is amalgamated with the English Cotton Co. In 1832, the Duchess of Kent and Princess Victoria stayed at Belper with the Strutt family. The land for miles round belonged to the de Ferrers during the two centuries succeeding the Conquest. Robert de Ferrers, who died in 1139, granted land at Heage for service in driving wolves out of the Lordship of Belper. They were a powerful and restless family, who held a Castle at Duffield and the Manor at Belper, but in the year 1266 the seventh Earl Robert rebelled against the king, Henry III., and at the battle of Evesham found himself on the losing side. He fled to Chesterfield, and hid himself among the bags of wool stored in the nave of the church for the Whitsuntide Fair. Being discovered, he was conveyed to Windsor in chains, and his land confiscated by the Crown. Duffield Castle was destroyed, and the estates of the de Ferrers were given to the King's second son, Edmund Crouchback, Earl of Lancaster.

About this date a chapel was built in the forest as a wayside place of worship for the keepers of the Duffield Forest, wayfarers, and the small isolated population, whose parish church lay several miles away across wild country at Duffield. In the official records of the Honour of Tutbury, which was the headquarters of the Duchy of Lancaster in these parts, in the year 1314, there is a charge of sixteen shillings for glazing the windows, and in 1398 we read that the honey and wax from wild bees in Duffield Ward were appropriated to the chapel. It was licensed for marriages, for in the year 1420 Sir Sampson Neverill, of Tideswell, was married to Isabella, daughter of Sir Roger Leche, Lord High Treasurer of England, who had a house at Belper. The chapel was disendowed, and had to depend upon an uncertain service from Duffield, and within a century of its disendowment it fell into dilapidation. In 1834 there are records of repairs, and so it went on until about 1870, when the Rev. F. A. Friend started an undertaking for the restoration which was carried out, and the church is now thoroughly restored and used for service. The present Church of St. Peter was built in 1822-24, and only had one bell, which was given by Mr. Strutt, but in 1861 a peal of six steel bells were installed, made by a Sheffield firm, and hung by a local carpenter. After sixty years' constant service they were found to be unsafe, and were only chimed.

Many meetings of the Church Council discussed the question of a new peal, and at length decided to have the bells restored and rehung in a new frame, leaving room for two trebles to be added. They were taken away to Messrs. Taylor and Co.'s Loughborough foundry. Messrs. Taylor then reported that, whatever was spent, it would be unsatisfactory. After the wardens and several members of the committee had heard a peal tapped at the foundry, the Council met to further discuss the matter, when a letter was received from Mr. G. H. Strutt offering to provide the largest bell. Mr. J. Hunter and Mrs. Hunter also promised two bells, and the Council, therefore, decided to go forward with the big scheme of eight new bells.

A subscription list was opened, and other bells promised by Mr. Sanders, Mr. Jackson, the Hey and Haynes families, leaving only two to be provided. The subscriptions rolled in so fast that in less than three months the amount required was raised. The eight new bells arrived on October 26th, and on November 5th the work was completed. The inscriptions are as follows:—

- Treble.—Venite. The gift of A. M. and E. Sanders.
 - 2nd.—Jubilate. Francis J. Jackson, 1854; Francis E. Jackson, 1858; Helen F. Jackson, 1898.
 - 3rd.—In Excelsis Gloria. In Memoriam. Robert Hey, Vicar, 1845—1885, and Maria Jane, his wife.
 - 4th.—Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam. From the Haynes family. In memory of our father and mother, J. Haynes, E. A. Haynes.
 - 5th.—Gloria in Excelsis Deo et in Terra Pax Homini-bus Bonae Voluntatis. Vicars, M. Tunstall, R. Hay, F. A. Friend, S. H. Clark, J. A. Cooper, 1925.
 - 5th.—Gloria in Excelsis Deo et in Terra Pax Homini-bus Bonae Vicar: H. Mellor, E. Gee, Churchwardens.
 - 7th.—Te Deum Laudamus. Given in memory of John Hunter, 1811—1886, and his wife, Margaret Hunter, 1820—1908, by their six children.
 - Tenor.—Laus Deo. Presented by George Herber Strutt, 1925.
- The dedication service was held on Saturday, November 28th, and there was a representative attendance, the church being crowded. After the hymn, 'O God, our help,' and the anthem, 'Send out Thy

light,' the Bishop of Derby, accompanied by the warden, chaplain and Vicar, passed down the church to the tower, where the Vicar recounted the gifts offered, and asked the Bishop to dedicate them. The Bishop blessed the bells, with special prayers, and as the procession returned, the St. Andrew's (Derby) ringers rang the bells half-muffled, after which the Bishop gave a short address. The closing hymn was 'We love the place, O God,' and as the congregation left the church the bells rang out, open, to a touch of Stedman, followed by another of Duffield Major.

The bells are hung in a steel frame on ball bearings, and go like the proverbial 'fiddles.' Everybody was pleased with the work, and spoke of the excellent tone and easy 'go' of the bells.

A tea was provided for the St. Andrew's and local ringers, with the Vicar (the Rev. J. A. Cooper, R.D.), Mr. H. Mellor, Mr. E. Gee (churchwardens), Mr. J. Hunter, and others.

The Vicar said how pleased he was with the bells, and the way the work had been carried out by Messrs. Taylor and Co., and thanked the St. Andrew's ringers for their service during the afternoon. Other speakers also supported his remarks, and Messrs. C. E. Hart (churchwarden and captain of St. Andrew's) and C. Draper responded. The ringers then returned to the belfry, and, with a few visitors, kept the bells going until eight o'clock.

LAMBERHURST BELLS RESTORED.

There was a crowded congregation at the Parish Church, Lamberhurst, Kent, on Wednesday, December 2nd, when the bells, which had been silent for over four years, were dedicated, after restoration, by the Archdeacon of Tonbridge. Other clergy present were Canon Champneys, the Rev. E. Owen (Pembury), and the Vicar (the Rev. E. S. Jose).

The Archdeacon, in the course of his address, said he supposed it was not known exactly when the bells were first given, but they had been associated with their beautiful church for many years. He quoted instances to show how the bells entered into the lives, both religious and secular, of the people, and added that it was difficult to say when they were first introduced into the Christian Church. Might they who lived there this Christmas, and, indeed, through the successive seasons of the Christian year, never fail to listen to the message taught them by the bells. After the service, the bells were rung by the local ringers. The third bell has been recast, and the peal rehung with all new fittings in a new steel-frame by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston.

The tower was open on Saturday, December 5th, when ringers came from Tunbridge Wells, Kildown and Horsmonden to try the bells. At five o'clock the ringers were met by the Vicar and churchwardens, and all were kindly entertained to tea by Mr. Beach.

After tea the ringers went back to the tower and rang further touches, the methods ranging from Grandsire Doubles to Cambridge Surprise. All present were agreed that Messrs. Gillett and Johnston have splendidly carried out the work, the 'go' of the bells being perfect.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

NORTH BUCKS BRANCH.—SUGGESTED INTER-TOWER MEETINGS.

A successful quarterly meeting of the North Bucks Branch was held at Buckingham on Saturday, December 5th, when about 35 attended, representing the following towers in the branch: Bletchley, Beachampton, Fenny Stratford, Maids Moreton, Newport Pagnell, Padbury, Stony Stratford, Twyford, and Buckingham. The bells were ringing from 2.30 until 3.30 p.m., when service was conducted by the Rev. C. C. T. Naters, this being the first time he had been able to officiate at a Guild meeting. His address, though brief, was very interesting, and appreciated by the members. After service tea was served at the 'Bakery,' where a room had been set apart for the occasion. The Secretary (Mr. W. Sear) announced to the meeting that no special business had to be transacted, but he was very pleased to see such a nice gathering, which certainly showed that there was real life in the branch. He said that he had been asked to accept Shalstone tower in the branch for next year (1926), and he was sure they would all be pleased to welcome the band. The Twyford tower was once more in union, having rejoined this year. The secretary also said that it would be serviceable if several towers could meet and assist each other. The Buckingham tower was practically at a stand, and it seemed, with the grand peal of eight which it possessed, that it was a pity more advantage could not be taken of them.

Thanks were expressed to the Rev. C. C. T. Naters, Vicar of Buckingham, for entertaining the branch, for making the necessary arrangements for tea, and for conducting the service.—This was suitably responded to, and reference was made to the death of Mr. Robinson, of Buckingham, who for many years was the leader of the tower, and who was missed that day.

The members then adjourned to the tower for further ringing, the methods during the afternoon ranging from Grandsire and Stedman Triples to Cambridge Surprise Major.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

We regret that, owing to the demands upon the space available for Sunday Service Touches, we are unable to undertake to insert anything less than a quarter-peal on eight bells and upwards, and 720 of Doubles or Minor. Many correspondents send us quite short touches for publication and they must not be disappointed if we are unable to find room for them.

FARNHAM, SURREY.—On Sunday, Dec. 6th, at St. Andrew's Church, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), from Parker's 12-part, in 49 mins.: H. Prior 1, J. Read 2, C. Wells 3, S. Meadows 4, E. Clapshaw 5, T. Upshall 6, R. Hasted (conductor) 7, H. Kemp 8.

WALTHAM ABBEY.—At the Abbey Church, on Sunday, December 6th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 50 mins.: Miss H. Church (first quarter) 1, G. Peace 2, W. Ellis (conductor) 3, E. Adams 4, W. Dickinson 5, G. Thurgood 6, H. Ellis 7, G. Cole 8.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.—On Sunday, Dec. 6th, at the Parish Church of St. Peter, for evensong, a quarter-peal of London Surprise Major, in 44 mins.: A. Bellamy 1, H. Chambers 2, J. Mawby 3, J. Ward 4, A. Perkins 5, A. Bingley 6, A. Y. Tyler 7, W. Perkins (conductor) 8.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, Dec. 6th, for evening service, at the Church of St. Nicholas, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,277 changes), in 52 mins.: H. Stallam 1, G. H. Shuker 2, H. Rann 3, G. Aides 4, F. Tindall 5, R. J. Dawe 6, F. Bennett 7, J. C. Jay 8, G. Smart (conductor) 9, P. A. Coard 10. Rung for the Patronal Festival.

OSWESTRY, SHROPSHIRE.—On Sunday, Dec. 6th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 45 mins.: T. Marshall 1, R. Martin 2, J. Hughes 3, R. T. Evans (conductor) 4, R. Kynaston 5, W. B. Kynaston 6, R. Edwards 7, E. H. Kynaston 8. Rung in honour of the first birthday of Miss D. M. Kynaston, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Kynaston.

PORTMADOC.—At St. John's Church, for evening service, on Sunday, November 29th, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: R. Macmillan 1, H. Roberts 2, H. Macmillan 3, J. V. Humphreys 4, P. Roberts 5, J. Owen (conductor) 6, H. Jones 8.

EALING, MIDDLESEX.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, Nov. 29th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), from 'Thurstans', in 44 mins., for evensong: Miss G. Baker (first quarter-peal in the method) 1, E. J. Walsom 2, A. M. Stacey 3, P. E. Clark 4, J. H. Hunnisett 5, H. J. Hunnisett 6, F. W. Goodfellow (first quarter-peal in the method as conductor) 7, W. A. Hunnisett 8.

LONDON, S.W.—On Sunday, Nov. 22nd, at the Church of St. Leonard, Streatham, for evensong, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss E. E. Hardcastle 1, Miss E. E. Chapman 2, Miss F. E. Orr 3, J. W. Chapman 4, J. L. Watkin 5, T. Welbourne 6, C. W. Roberts (conductor) 7, S. Gardner 8.

KILBURN, LONDON.—At St. Augustine's Church, on Sunday, Nov. 22nd, before the thanksgiving service, at the conclusion of the parish mission, 1,260 Bob Triples, in 42 mins.: W. S. Ball 1, E. M. Atkins (conductor) 2, Rev. M. C. Edgar 3, F. G. Saxby 4, A. Gardiner 5, W. T. Wilson 6, J. B. Williamson 7, W. Ware 8.

SELBY ABBEY, YORKSHIRE.—On Sunday, Nov. 8th, for evensong, in memory of those killed in the Great War, a quarter-peal (1,259 changes) of Grandsire Caters, with the bells half-muffled: J. W. Hall 1, R. Fenton 2, F. W. Hinton 3, T. Morgan 4, H. S. Morley 5, E. Storr 6, F. Cryer 7, G. W. P. Fenton 8, H. Fairlam (conductor) 9, T. Strudwick 10. The bells were also rung half-muffled on Nov. 11th in Grandsire and Stedman Triples.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 8d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with a minimum charge of 1/6.

The EDITORIAL OFFICE of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 63, Commercial Road, Woking.

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ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at *St. Paul's Cathedral on December 29th, St. Magnus' on the 24th, *St. Mary-le-Bow on the 15th, all at 7.30; St. Michael's, Cornhill, for service, on the 20th, at 6 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members who have not made 20 attendances in the past year to vote on financial matters, is now due.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frod-ingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Manchester Town Hall on Saturday, Dec. 19th. Bells ready 3.30. Meeting 7 o'clock. A good attendance is requested. Business important. Reports to hand.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting, Manchester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, South Shore (6 bells), on Saturday, Dec. 19th. Bells ready 2.30. Business meeting 6 p.m.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 320, N. Promenade, Blackpool.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Great Chart on Saturday, Dec. 19th. Bells

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available at 2.30 p.m. Tea will be arranged.—C. W. Franklin, Hon. Sec., 18, Kingsnorth Road, Ashford.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—South District.—A business meeting will be held on Saturday, Dec. 19th, at St. Mary's, Battersea. Tower open from 4 to 8. Tea at 5.30, at 1s. Business after. Everyone invited.—C. F. Mitchell, Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Phené Street, Chelsea, S.W.3.

BROMLEY PARISH CHURCH.—The work of restoration on the tower of this Church being now completed, ringing will re-commence on December 22nd. All visiting ringers will be welcomed on practice nights, Tuesdays, 7.30 until 9, and on Sundays, 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Woolos', the pro-Cathedral, Newport, on Boxing Day, Dec. 26th. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea and business meeting to follow in Waters Lane Mission Room. Bells available before and after the meeting, and also the bells of All Saints.—John W. Jones, Hon. Sec., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—A representative gathering of the branch is requested for the meeting at Holy Trinity Church, Bolton, on Boxing Day. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

The post of Sexton has been filled by a temporary appointment. 'Chaplain' thanks applicants for their letters. A further notice may be issued on a later date.

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BIRMINGHAM.—At Bishop Ryder's Church, on Sunday, Nov. 8th, after evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes); from Thurstans' four-part, in 43 mins.: B. W. Witchell (conductor) 1, E. Lange 2, J. George 3, G. E. Lange 4, W. Anker 5, E. J. Stringer 6, B. G. Leedham 7, L. Starbuck 8. Rung as a welcome to the Bishop of Birmingham, who had preached that evening at this church.

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