

THE RINGING WORLD

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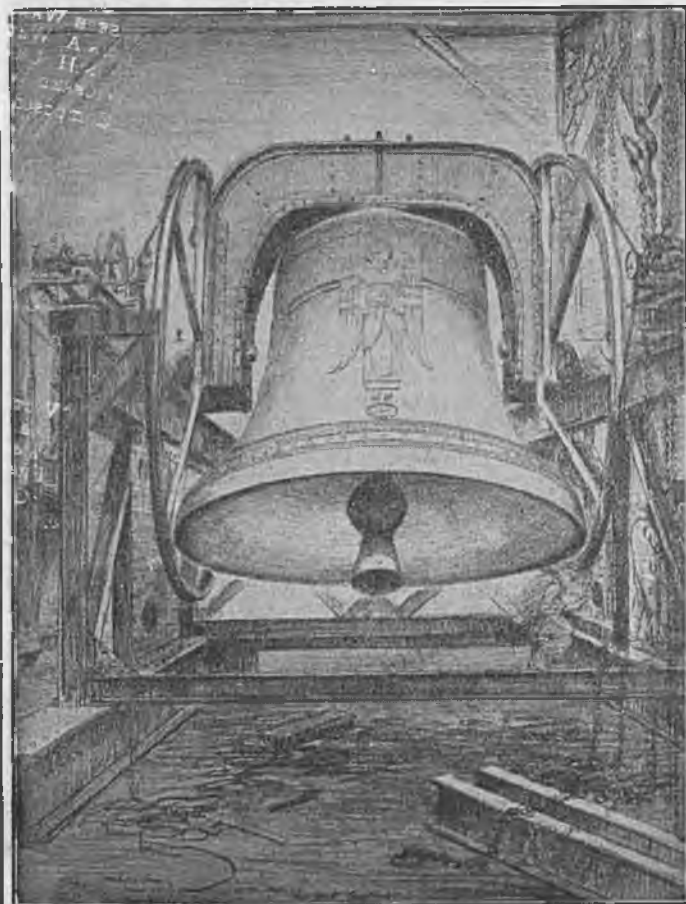
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'ROWS' AND 'CHANGES.'

Ringers are notoriously loose in their terminology. In connection with both the science and art of ringing they use expressions which have different meanings under different circumstances; sometimes they use different terms to indicate the same thing, and sometimes a term is used which, strictly, does not represent what it is intended to convey. This practice has grown up largely because the men who first used the words in their different applications were not, probably, capable of drawing fine distinctions, but the terms which they employed have remained with us to this day. The Rev. H. Drake, in his letter in this issue, tries to make plain a point that is still not appreciated by many ringers—the difference between 'rows' and 'changes.' With the question of what is right or wrong in the wording of the Painswick peal board we are not concerned in this article, but the right use of the words 'rows' and 'changes' has a not unimportant bearing on certain other questions in connection with peal ringing. There is, for instance, a considerable school of thought which holds that a peal of Minor cannot be considered true unless it consists of seven extents each completed before the next is begun, that each 720 must start from and end with rounds. In this case each extent is produced by 720 'changes.' There are others who think that an extent can be equally true if it consists of the 720 'rows'—which need not necessarily mean quite the same thing as 720 'changes.' There is, of course, a third view that a peal of Minor is true as long as, in the 5,040, no row occurs more than seven times, although individual 720's, true in themselves, are dispensed with. Into this last phase of the question we do not propose to enter here, but we want to emphasise the fact that there is need for ringers to recognise that there is a difference between a 'row' and a 'change.' A 'row' is a set of figures representing a distinct permutation; a 'change' is a rearrangement in the order of striking the bells, and it is because it takes two rows to make the first change that the idea has grown up that a method begins with the first change after rounds. A method, however, is constructed of rows, and the first row of any method with a hunt is rounds. When a method is rung the bells change from permutation to permutation, but the initial rounds is as essential to the first change as the final rounds to the last. Both, however, cannot count, and it is custom alone that has led us to count only the final rounds. That the initial rounds is an essential part of the method is recognised in the latest edition of the Collection of Minor Methods, where the line, which used to be drawn under

(Continued on page 774.)

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this row, is transferred to the other end of the lead, where it makes a division between the hand and back-stroke leads of the treble. And let it not be supposed that this is merely a modern way of looking at a method. Fabian Stedman, in his first book, 'Tintinnalogia,' printed all his figures with the initial rounds as part of the method and, if he put a dividing line, it was in front of the final rounds. If the initial rounds is, therefore, an essential part of the method, there is strong reason why it should be taken into account in settling the truth of an extent.

TEN BELL PEALS.

CARDIFF.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 26, 1931, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATER, 5051 CHANGES;

Tenor 27 cwt. in D.

*FREDERICK HANNINGTON	Treble	ERNEST COOMBS	...	5
WILLIAM HEATH	...	ERNEST STITCH	...	7
CHARLES H. PERRY	...	GEORGE LARGE	...	8
ALBERT J. PITMAN	...	FRED CHAMBERLAIN	...	9
JOHN W. JONES	...	SKYMOOR R. BARKER	...	Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by FRED CHAMBERLAIN
* First peal of Stedman Caters. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. James Abraham Lewis, B.A., who was inducted as Vicar on November 14th, and also as a birthday compliment to Mr. James George, of Birmingham, to whom the above band offer their sincere congratulations on his recovery. Great credit is due to the treble ringer for the way he handled and struck his bell throughout the peal, having only one arm, the result of a railway accident some years ago.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 28, 1931, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATER, 5043 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 20 lb.

ERNEST G. HIGGIN	...	Treble	STANLEY E. ARMSTRONG	...	6
FRANK ROWSELL	...	...	FRANK BENNETT	...	7
HENRY J. TUCKER	...	...	HENRY STALHAM	...	8
*BERNARD SAUNDERS	...	...	ROBERT J. DAWE	...	9
ALFRED W. GROVES	...	...	GEORGE W. STOKES	...	Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.
* First peal in the method. Rung to commemorate the Stedman Tercentenary.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 28, 1931, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt.

*FREDERICK W. RADFORD	Treble	†WILLIAM W. THORNE	...	6
SEPTIMUS RADFORD	...	*GEORGE TOMSETT	...	7
†SIDNEY ELTON	...	†WILLIAM R. MELVILLE	...	8
*ARTHUR COLLIER	...	CHARLES H. KIPPIN	...	9
WILLIAM J. WHITING	...	CHARLES HAZELDEN	...	Tenor

Composed by G. HAYWARD. Conducted by CHARLES HAZELDEN.
* First peal of Royal. † First peal of Bob Royal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HILGAY, NORFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 14, 1931, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

ANTHONY R. PRICE	...	Treble	†CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	5
ALFRED BACON	...	...	LEE FEATHERBY	6
*ERNEST J. MASTIN	...	...	EDWARD BARKER	7
*CHARLES NEWMAN	...	...	REV. B. H. TYRWITT-DRAKE	Tenor

Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.
* First peal of Major. † 100th peal.

DUNSTER, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 18, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 21 cwt.

*ARTHUR R. TUDBALL ... Treble	THOMAS ELLIOTT ... 5
WILLIAM HOYLE ... 2	ISAAC FARMER ... 6
†HENRY W. LLOYD ... 3	JAMES J. HOLE ... 7
WALTER G. DIBBLE ... 4	*WILFRED OWENS ... Tenor

Conducted by ISAAC FARMER.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' First peal of Triples as conductor. First peal on the bells since they were rehung. All are Sunday service ringers.

WYRARDISHURY, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, November 18, 1931, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF SINGLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

WILLIAM HENLEY ... Treble	WILLIAM WELLING ... 5
MISS STELLA DAVIS ... 2	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL ... 6
GEORGE H. GUTTERIDGE ... 3	WILLIAM T. BEESON ... 7
LEONARD STILWELL ... 4	GEORGE GILBERT ... Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by GEO. GILBERT.

First peal in the method in the county, by all of the band and on the bells.

WOKINGHAM, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(SONNING DEANERY BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, November 18, 1931, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paul,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S ONE-PART.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

*LESLIE W. PAICE ... Treble	EDWARD LANGLEY ... 5
WILLIAM J. PAICE ... 2	SAMUEL C. ADAMS ... 6
FRANK LUSH ... 3	EDGAR HUMPHREY ... 7
JOHN RANCE ... 4	WILLIAM J. BROOKS ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. PAICE.

* First peal.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 19, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ... Treble	WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD ... 5
JOSEPH J. ALLEN ... 2	WILLIAM SEELY ... 6
STEPHEN H. HOARE ... 3	HAROLD J. CASHMORE ... 7
EDWARD P. ASHEY ... 4	WILLIAM CROSS ... Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by M. F. R. HIBBERT.

Umpire—FREDK. W. BRINKLOW.

The author's short course seven part peal, No. 29, which is now rung for the first time. The umpire checked every call and course-end.

STOKE, COVENTRY.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Thursday, November 19, 1931, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

FRANK E. PERVIN ... Treble	†GEORGE ROBBINS ... 5
EDWARD H. JOHNSON ... 2	†JOHN TAYLOR ... 6
*CHARLES A. PARKER ... 3	WILLIAM T. COX ... 7
DOUGLAS ELLENDER ... 4	FRANK ROUSE ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK E. PERVIN.

* First peal of Grandsire 'inside.' † First peal of Grandsire Triples. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect for William Georgio Webster, for 30 years a ringer at Stoke Church, who was interred in the adjoining churchyard on the above date.

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.—On Sunday, November 15th, for evening service, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Major: D. Phillips 1, A. Rolph 2, J. Boast (first quarter-peal) 3, J. Cross 4, J. G. Macdougall 5, G. Playle 6, J. Blay 7, J. Cornford (conductor) 8.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, November 20, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paulinus,

A PEAL OF STEOMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION.

*EDWIN A. BARNETT ... Treble	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 5
JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... 2	JOHN WHEADON ... 6
MRS. G. H. CROSS ... 3	EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. ... 7
EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... 4	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

* First peal in the method.

HADLOW, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, November 20, 1931, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5312 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. in A Hat.

HARRY BAKER ... Treble	†THOMAS E. SONE ... 5
MRS. H. BAKER ... 2	TOM SAUNDERS ... 6
CHARLES H. SONE ... 3	†GEORGE KENWARD ... 7
*ARTHUR P. CANNON ... 4	LUTHER J. HONESS ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.
 * First peal of Major. † 100th peal of Major. ‡ 50th peal for the Kent County Association. Birthday peal for C. T. G. Sone. This composition (No. 383) is now rung for the first time.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, November 20, 1931, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

ERNEST WHITING ... Treble	*CHARLES LOOME ... 5
CHARLES BAKER ... 2	*WALTER BARRETT ... 6
FREDERICK R. BORRETT ... 3	EDWIN R. GOATE ... 7
CECIL BARRETT ... 4	TOWNSON ADCOCK ... Tenor

Conducted by E. R. GOATE.

* First peal of Stedman.

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paul,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

JOHN POTTER ... Treble	CHRIS GUDGEON ... 5
MISS ANNIE POTTER ... 2	MATTHEW BERRY ... 6
JOHN DENNER ... 3	PETER CROOK, JUN. ... 7
*JAMES DENNER ... 4	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD ... Tenor

Composed by H. HOWLETT. Conducted by JOHN POTTER.
 * First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. John Potter, wife of the conductor.

MAIVERN LINK, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Matthias,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

FRANK LAWRENCE ... Treble	FRED HAWKES ... 5
WILLIAM NIBLETT ... 2	SIDNEY T. HOLT ... 6
ROBERT G. KNOWLES ... 3	CYRIL TANSELL ... 7
DENNIS R. MORRIS ... 4	CHARLES CAMM ... Tenor

Composed by JOSEPH W. PARKER. Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, CRANTHAM

BRIDSTOW, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Bridget,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 9 cwt.			
REGINALD POSTON Treble	ARTHUR ALFORD 5		
JOHN J. WEBB 2	ALFRED T. POULTON 6		
*GLYN SHAW 3	WILLIAM POSTON 7		
WILLIAM T. POSTON 4	† HARVEY WYNNE Tenor		

Conducted by W. POSTON.
* First peal. † First peal on eight bells. J. J. Webb has now rung each bell in this tower to a peal.

HOGHTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.			
WILLIAM E. WILSON Treble	EDWIN JENNINGS 5		
THOMAS CALDERBANK 2	† JOSEPH A. TOMLINSON 6		
*JIM TEBAY 3	ARTHUR TOMLINSON 7		
JOHN BROWN 4	JAMES HARRISON Tenor		

Conducted by A. TOMLINSON.
* First peal in the method and first attempt. † First peal of Stedman away from tenor. 25th peal together for the 3rd and 5th ringers, who hail from Windermere and Kendal respectively.

BROMBOROUGH, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
At the Church of St. Barnabas,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in E flat.			
EDWIN C. BIRKETT Treble	JAMES E. SMITH 5		
ROBERT SPERRING 2	LESTER L. GRAY 6		
THOMAS HAMMOND 3	EDWARD CAUNCE 7		
G. RONALD EDWARDS 4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON Tenor		

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON.
First peal of Superlative on the bells. J. F. Smith's first peal in the method, and rung on the occasion of his 21st birthday.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
At the Church of St. Thomas,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in F.			
JAMES FERNLEY, SEN. Treble	† LIONEL CLOUGH 5		
WILLIAM FERNLEY 2	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 6		
JAMES FERNLEY, JUN. 3	† JOHN WORTH 7		
*HARRY LANGLEY 4	ERNEST BENNETT Tenor		

Composed by J. S. WILKINSON. Conducted by ERNEST BENNETT.
* First peal of Bristol. † First attempt for a peal of Bristol. First peal in the method as conductor.

HARPENDEN, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. Nicholas,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.			
JOHN MALYAN Treble	* GILBERT DEBENHAM 5		
*FREDERICK SPICER 2	THOMAS HULL 6		
*HAROLD FROST 3	FRANCIS KIRK 7		
BEN JARMAN 4	† GEORGE CURL Tenor		

Conducted by JOHN MALYAN.
* First peal in the method. † First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. E. P. Debenham and Mr. George Debenham. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar of Harpenden for the use of the bells, as St. Peter's bells at St. Albans, on which the attempt was to have been made for the peal, are being overhauled.

EAST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, October 11th, for harvest festival morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: G. Lambert 1, E. J. Ladd 2, B. Saunders 3, P. Thompson 4, J. O. Weller 5, J. Wren 6, E. J. Oliver (conductor) 7, S. W. Chesson 8.

PERRY BARR, BIRMINGHAM.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
At the Church of St. John,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
JOHNSON'S VARIATION.

Tenor 13½ cwt.			
JOSEPH W. PEMBERTON Treble	MORRIS J. MORRIS 5		
*GEORGE E. FEARN 2	FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH 6		
GEORGE F. SWANN 3	WILLIAM DAVIES 7		
WILLIAM C. DOWDING 4	FREDERICK E. COLLINS Tenor		

Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.
* First peal of Major in the method.

CAVERSHAM, BERKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Three Hours,
At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. (approx.).

HARRY SIMMONDS Treble	*SYDNEY TAYLOR 5
FRANCIS E. TAYLOR 2	RICHARD A. POST 6
WILLIAM G. COLLETT 3	WALTER F. JUDGE 7
GEORGE ESSEX 4	WILLIAM SIMMONDS Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.
* First peal in the method. Rung in honour of the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. William Simmonds.

PETERSFIELD, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Three Hours,
At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

EDWIN J. HARDING, SEN. Treble	FREDERICK W. BURNETT 5
CHARLES E. BASSETT 2	TOWER R. TAYLOR 6
HENRY JENNINGS 3	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD 7
ERNEST G. WILLIAMS 4	FREDERICK W. ROGERS Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.
This composition appeared in 'The Ringing World' of Nov. 20th.

NORTHWRAM, HALIFAX.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
At the Church of St. Matthew,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 15½ cwt.			
ARTHUR BAIRSTOW Treble	WILLIE PROCTOR 5		
VERNEY BAIRSTOW 2	JOE GREENWOOD 6		
JOHN WINDLE 3	WILLIAM AMBLER 7		
CLIFFORD ELLISON 4	CECIL DRAKE Tenor		

Conducted by WILLIAM AMBLER.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Master Ernest Ambler, son of the conductor, and Miss C. Bairstow, youngest daughter of the 2nd ringer.

DIDSBURY, LANCs.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION
On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
At Christ Church,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

SAMUEL GREENHALGH Treble	FRANK MERRETT 5
ALFRED FROST 2	WILLIAM H. SEUKER 6
THOMAS JONES 3	BENJAMIN THORP 7
SAMUEL HOLT 4	ROBERT DAVIES Tenor

Composed by JOHN THORP. Conducted by BENJAMIN THORP.
Arranged for Frank Merrett, of Bath, who was on a visit to Manchester, it being his first peal in the method.

SOUTHGATE.—At Christ Church for morning service, November 22nd, 1,280 London Surprise Major in 48 mins.: A. R. Glasscock 1, S. Wade 2, G. Plater (first quarter-peal in this method) 3, J. G. Nash 4, N. A. Tomlinson 5, H. Miller 6, J. E. Miller 7, J. Armstrong (conductor) 8.—For evening service, 1,259 Grandsire Caters in 51 mins.: Mrs. King (first quarter-peal Grandsire Caters) 1, J. Armstrong (conductor) 2, D. Pink 3, E. H. King 4, G. Plater 5, J. E. Miller 6, H. Miller 7, W. Pickworth 8, N. A. Tomlinson 9, A. G. Crane 10.

RAINHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

W. SPICE, SEN. Treble	G. KENWARD 5
S. TAYLOR 2	W. WALKER 6
S. SHELLOCK 3	F. BELSEY 7
W. WOOD 4	W. GORMAN Tenor

Conducted by F. BELSEY.

Rung to celebrate the Stedman Tercentenary, also to celebrate the 48th anniversary of the wedding of W. Spice, which fell on the previous Thursday.

SALISBURY, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

NORMAN V. ANDREWS Treble	JOSEPH T. DYKE 5
EDWARD G. COWARD 2	WILLIAM A. CAVE 6
D. CECIL WILLIAMS 3	WILLIAM E. CHEATER 7
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY 4	GEORGE WILLIAMS Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

First peal of London Surprise on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. G. D. Thurston, uncle of ringer of second.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

RALPH BIGGS Treble	FRED BIGGS 5
HARRY WINGROVE 2	ARTHUR MARTIN 6
GEORGE MARTIN 3	ROLAND BIGGS 7
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 4	WILLIAM HENLEY Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by H. WINGROVE.

First peal in the method as conductor.

SEDGLEY, STAFFS.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

SYDNEY G. THOMPSON Treble	THOMAS HEMMING 5
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE 2	SAMUEL GROVE 6
WILLIAM SHORT 3	HECTOR G. BIRD 7
*THOMAS GREENHALL 4	ROBERT MATTHEWS Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT.

Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.

* First peal in the method.

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND MARY.

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

ARTHUR GRIMWOOD Treble	GEORGE W. ABLITT 5
*KEITH W. WHITTLE 2	HARRY D. LISTER 6
SHELFORD SPARROW 3	LAURENCE POULSON 7
*PERCY L. JOHNSON 4	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by HARRY D. LISTER

* First peal of Oxford Treble Bob.

TILEHURST, BERKS.—On Saturday, October 10th, at the Parish Church, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): H. Goodyer 1, *H. Hunt 2, Miss S. Davis 3, R. N. Runham 4, H. Smith 5, P. J. Dyke 6, G. Gilbert (conductor) 7, *D. Sellers 8. * First quarter of Stedman. Rung as a birthday compliment to H. Goodyer.

GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

MRS. G. H. CROSS Treble	EDWARD J. BEER 5
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 2	FREDERICK M. MITCHELL 6
RICHARD SMITH 3	HARRY HOVERD 7
GEORGE H. CROSS 4	HERBERT E. ADDSLEY Tenor

Composed by G. H. CROSS.

Conducted by J. H. CHEESMAN.

Specially arranged as a birthday peal for the ringer of the 3rd.

HAGBOURNE, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

O Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

MISS DORIS BLENOWE Treble	RICHARD T. HIBBERT 5
MISS PATRICIA HOLLOWAY 2	WILLIAM HIBBERT, JUN. 6
EDWARD SNELLER 3	JAMES S. NAPPER 7
KINGSLEY BURT 4	GEORGE HOLLOWAY Tenor

Conducted by R. T. HIBBERT.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

GREAT HOLLAND, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 31, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, called differently.

Tenor 15 cwt.

*W. SOUTHGATE Treble	E. DURRANT 4
A. B. KING 2	H. WRIGHT 5
W. Y. WILDNEY 3	E. DAVEY Tenor

Conducted by E. DAVEY.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

BEDFORD.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 10, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-DE-MERTON.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

MISS EVELYN STEEL Treble	HARRY TYSOR 4
WALLACE CHURCH 2	WILLIAM STAPLETON 5
REGINALD WEST 3	THOMAS HARPIN Tenor

Conducted by W. STAPLETON.

60th peal as conductor. Rung to celebrate the anniversary of the signing of the Armistice.

MADRESFIELD, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, November 10, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten different callings.

Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT G. KNOWLES Treble	WILLIAM NIBLETT 4
*WILLIAM O. GARDNER 2	JOSEPH LAWRENCE 5
WILLIAM HALFORD 3	FREDERICK STANTON Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT G. KNOWLES.

* First peal. Rung to celebrate the 64th anniversary of this church.

STEVINGTON, BEDS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 14, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being six six-scores of London Single and 12 six-scores each of Grand-sire, Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob.

AMOS SMART Treble	ALFRED J. ELLIOT 3
HENRY W. GAYTON 2	JOSEPH J. PARTRIDGE 4
	HENRY STAPLETON Tenor

Conducted by HENRY W. GAYTON.

ROTHWELL, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 12, 1931, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Killamars, Norbury, Kingston, London Scholars' Pleasure and College Exercise.
Tenor 13 cwt.

JOSHUA WORMALD Treble	THOMAS WM. STRANGEWAY 4
ARTHUR G. WOOD 2	PERCY MASSAM 5
FRANK ELLIS 3	GEORGE WM. STEEL Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS WM. STRANGEWAY.

Rung fully muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. Eli Moss, formerly sexton of the above church for 38 years.

TREVETHIN, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 14, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes;
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CADOC,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, 6-4-8 covering. Tenor 12 cwt.

W. JONES Treble	† A. G. WILLIAMS 5
C. TRIMPLE 2	* S. ASHER 6
W. V. COWLEY 3	T. LADE 7
* H. JONES 4	* A. THOMAS Tenor

Conducted by T. LADE.

* First peal. † First peal away from treble.

SHENFIELD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, November 14, 1931, in Two Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's. Tenor 9 cwt.

WILLIAM H. POOLE Treble	GEORGE MILES 4
* EDWARD W. PALMER 2	† JACK C. BELCHAM 5
* JAMES C. BRACKLEY 3	HARRY TURNER Tenor

Conducted by H. TURNER.

* First peal 'inside.' † First peal of Minor. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

ASHWELL, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 14, 1931, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Duke of York, Oxford Delight, Woodbine, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 18 cwt.

GEOFFREY WILLIAMS Treble	ARTHUR PHILLIPS 4
ROBERT HOWARD 2	SIDNEY CARTER 5
ALBERT LAWRENCE 3	WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE.

This is believed to be the first peal on these bells, which are a grand ring. The Rector (the Rev. H. A. Griffith) kindly entertained the band to tea before the peal.

HEIGHINGTON, DURHAM.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 14, 1931, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's. Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr.

WILLIAM OLIVER Treble	* ROBERT RAWLINGS 4
* HERBERT E. HALL 2	* ROBERT T. SIMPSON 5
* GEORGE W. HUTCHINSON 3	ROBERT B. ROBINSON Tenor

Conducted by R. B. ROBINSON.

* First peal.

LOWICK, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 14, 1931, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's.

ERNEST E. WHITMORE Treble	JACK D. BELL 4
* REGINALD BUTCHER 2	WILLIAM J. WHITMORE 5
* STANLEY ROBINSON 3	GEORGE W. JEFFS Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE W. JEFFS.

* First peal of Minor.

FRAMPTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 14, 1931, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising seven different extents in five methods, viz., 720 each of Double Court, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and two 720's each of Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob. Tenor 13½ cwt.

ARTHUR YOUNG Treble	HARRY GIBBARD 4
JOHN R. KEMP 2	GEORGE A. COLEMAN 5
JOHN R. YOUNG 3	GEORGE COLERMAN Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE COLEMAN.

The peal was arranged for H. Gibbard, of Rippingale.

WORDSLEY, STAFFS.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 14, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten different callings. Tenor 12½ cwt.

* HENRY COOPER Treble	† WILLIAM H. HODNETT 4
† S. HERBERT QUARRY 2	HAROLD V. COOPER 5
† H. DONALD SHEPLEY 3	HAROLD W. KIRKHAM Tenor

Conducted by H. V. COOPER.

* First peal away from tenor. † First peal. All the above are service ringers, and this was the first peal on the bells by a local band. Rung as part of the centenary celebrations at this church.

SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD, NOTTS.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, November 20, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Double Court, and two 720's each of Plain Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

JOHN W. ENGLAND Treble	* CYRIL M. HEATHCOTE 4
ERNEST A. WILSON 2	† CECIL M. BECKLEY 5
CORNELIUS J. PARTRIDGE 3	TOM CLARKE Tenor

Conducted by JOHN W. ENGLAND.

* First peal on an 'inside' bell. † First peal in four methods.

BELTON, RUTLAND.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being six six-scores of Plain Bob, six of Canterbury and 30 of Grandsire. Tenor 10 cwt. 25 lb. in G.

ERNEST A. MARSH Treble	GEORGE HOLLOCK 4
HENRY FAULKNER 2	RONALD RUSSELL 5
J. GEOFFREY GEARY 3	A. NORMAN GEARY Tenor

Conducted by J. GEOFFREY GEARY.

STOKESAY, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(LUDLOW AND CHURCH STRETTON DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten different callings. Tenor 12 cwt.

ARTHUR C. NASON Treble	JOHN J. PRICE 4
ROBERT A. GITTENS 2	HUBERT JONES 5
WILLIAM J. BENIAMS 3	CHARLES H. CARTWRIGHT Tenor

Conducted by WM. J. BENIAMS.

HANSLOPE, BUCKS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge, College Exercise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Single Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 22 cwt.

JOSHUA PARTRIDGE Treble	SYDNEY FOSKETT 4
AMOS SMART 2	PEARL INSKIP 5
HENRY W. GAYTON 3	HENRY STAPLETON Tenor

Conducted by P. INSKIP.

HINTON ST. GEORGE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 14, 1931, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. George,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven extents. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb.

EDWARD T. GRIFFIN Treble	THOMAS J. SETTER 4
HENRY J. SANGER 2	H. JIM RALPH 5
SIDNEY A. RICKETTS 3	WILLIAM C. SHUTE Tenor

Conducted by W. C. SHUTE.

First peal on this excellent ring of bells, which have recently been retuned and hung in a new frame by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. A birthday compliment to the conductor.

HARTFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION
AND THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Sunday, November 15, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Bob Minor, two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob and three 720's of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

*ALFRED L. RYMAN Treble	*PHILIP S. THOMPSON 4
†GEORGE LAMBERT 2	JOHN O. WELLER 5
JAMES W. KNIGHT 3	LEONARD A. TIDY Tenor

Conducted by LEONARD A. TIDY.

* First peal. † First peal in three methods. Rung as a birthday compliment to Alfred L. Ryman.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

THE BENTLEY COLLIERY DISASTER.

The bells of Doncaster Parish Church were rung half-muffled throughout the day on Sunday as a token of respect to the 44 miners who lost their lives in the explosion at Bentley colliery. Before the memorial service held in the afternoon, when the Archbishop of York addressed the mourners, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) was rung in 50 minutes, together with the 'whole pull and stand,' the tenor being tolled by Mr. F. Newsome. The ringers of the quarter-peal were: G. Halksworth (conductor) 1, E. Baldwin 2, J. Holmes 3, C. Clark 4, F. Newsome 5, W. E. Lloyd 6, H. Wagstaff 7, H. Baldwin 8.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

NEWBURY BRANCH OFFICERS.

The annual meeting of the Newbury Branch, held at Newbury, was attended by about seventy ringers, including visitors from Hereford, Devizes, Reading, Basingstoke, Mortimer, Overton, Aldermaston, Marlow and Abingdon. Service was conducted by the Rector of Newbury (the Rev. W. L. Cooper), assisted by the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn (Master of the Guild), the address being given by the Rev. W. L. Cooper. Mr. Ramsey presided at the organ. Tea was served in the Parish Room by Mrs. H. W. Curtis, assisted by other ringers' wives, 65 sitting down to an excellent repast.

The business meeting followed, over the first part of which the Master presided, in the absence of the chairman (the Rev. H. Bonsey), who sent an apology, and also said he wished to resign the chairmanship, as he found he could not attend the meetings of the branch. Apologies were also received from the Rev. H. Wardley-King, Rev. R. C. Moore, Rev. J. E. Smith-Masters, Rev. A. Brown-ing, Mr. E. J. Davis and Mr. C. A. Hawker (churchwarden).

Mr. H. W. Curtis (honorary secretary and treasurer) presented his report. Six peals had been rung in the branch, and meetings had been well attended.

The balance sheet, showing a balance in hand of £13 7s. 2d., was read and adopted.

The Rev. W. Kingsley Kefford was unanimously elected chairman of the branch. Mr. H. W. Curtis was re-elected hon. secretary and treasurer. Messrs. S. Quinlin, T. Curtis, F. J. Owen and A. Smith were re-elected as representatives on the general committee.

Good reports were received from nearly every tower in the branch. The Master referred to the illness of the Rev. L. R. Majendie (Rector of Sandhurst), late chairman of the branch. He added that he was sorry there were not so many clergy present at that meeting as in previous years.

Mr. R. T. Hibbert (Guild secretary), complimented the East Isley ringers on ringing a local peal, and Mr. A. J. Wright congratulated the branch on the number of its honorary members, which, he said, was second for the whole of the Guild.

The next meeting was fixed for Shaw in February, and the spring meeting for Hampstead Norris in April, the dates being left to the secretary to arrange.

Four new members were elected, and votes of thanks were accorded to the Rev. W. L. Cooper for his address and welcome to the ringers; to the organist; and to Mrs. Curtis and her helpers. The tower was again visited and the bells kept going till nine o'clock in the following methods: Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise Major.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Will those who attended the meeting of the Middlesex County Association (South and West District) at Hillingdon on October 31st please note, that copies of the photograph taken on that day are now available. The three-quarter plate size (mounted) are 2s. each and postcards 6d. To secure a copy, please send your requirements to F. W. Goodfellow, 16, Nellgrove Road, Hillingdon Heath, Middlesex, who can vouch that the result is very successful.

There are some towers which ringers, according to the success or otherwise which attends their efforts, consider 'lucky' or 'unlucky.' It appears, also, that there are bells which come into the same categories. Last Saturday Mr. G. Whiting rang the sixth at Framden to a peal for the first time. It is twenty-nine years since he first attempted to do so.

Large placards bring to the notice of Bristol people the usefulness of the B.U.R.G. A request from the Lord Mayor of Bristol has been acceded to, and combined Guilds will give handbell selections at the Colston Hall on March 10th, 1932. An audition has also been granted to the Guilds, and it is quite likely at an early date that the B.U.R.G. will give a broadcast from West Regional area.

The members of the new Guild of Ringers at the Church of the Holy Nativity, Knowle, Bristol, have been elected as members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

The story of the rivalry between the two Norwich companies of ringers to ring the first peal of Stedman Triples has often been told. St. Peter Mancroft ringers claimed the first, on October 25th, 1731. The truth of the peal was disputed by the ringers of St. Michael at Coslany, who themselves rang a peal on December 6th in the same year. That was exactly 200 years ago next Sunday.

In this steeple on the sixth of December, 1731, was rung that most incomparable as well as intricate peal of Stedman Triples, which had been long ye Study of many well skilled in the Art of Ringing but without Success till Edward Crane, one of the company, with much pains and application brought it to perfection with two Doubles. This peal contains 5,040 Triple changes, 2 Doubles only excepted and is allowed by all Judges of the Art to be the most Ingenuous Peal that till now has been composed.

That is part of the record on the peal board in the tower. It is an interesting coincidence that the 200th anniversary of this peal falls on almost the same day as the celebration of the 300th anniversary of the birth of the author of the method.

Forty-eight years ago next Tuesday the 'five ones' (11,111) Stedman Caters was rung at Fulham. Although that was nearly nearly half a century ago, half the band are still alive, and most of that half are still engaged in ringing. The tenorman, Mr. Walter Prime, can be seen any Sunday on the 'big box' at St. Paul's Cathedral 'drumming' to the celebrated 'three courses of Stedman Cinques' for service. Frank Dawe, Challis Winney and John Rowbotham also still have an active interest in ringing.

Although the first peal on the bells of St. Paul's Cathedral was rung only two years before (December 10th, 1881—so that the jubilee occurs next Thursday), there are now no survivors of that company of College Youths.

BELLS IN PROSE AND VERSE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am hoping to publish an anthology of passages in English literature, both prose and verse, which deal with the subjects of bells and ringing. May I make an appeal to your readers for assistance in collecting material for this book, which should, I think, prove of interest to a large number of ringers? All suggestions forwarded to the following address will be gratefully acknowledged.—Yours truly,

C. E. WIGG.

Wycliffe Hall, Oxford.

THE CHAPEL YOUTHS OF STOURBRIDGE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—As there is no mention of the Chapel Youths of Stourbridge, Worcestershire, in Mr. E. Morris' book, 'The History and Art of Change Ringing,' under ancient ringing societies, perhaps the following paragraph which appeared in 'Borrow's Worcester Journal' of October 12th, 1775, will be of interest to the author and ringers in general:—

'We hear that last week the new peal of eight bells at Walsall which was cast by Mr Rudhall of Gloucester was opened by several Societies of ringers from Birmingham and other parts but on the 2d inst the society of Chapel Youths from Stourbridge rung five handed the first true peal of 5,040 Bob Majors in 3 hours and 10 minutes to the General Satisfaction of the Inhabitants.'

Yours faithfully,

L. C. DOWDESWELL.

Worcester.

THE STEDMAN TERCENTENARY.

TO-MORROW'S HISTORIC GATHERING AT CAMBRIDGE.

The stage is set for to-morrow's great and historic gathering of ringers at Cambridge, when Fabian Stedman's tercentenary will be celebrated. The restoration of the tower and bells of St. Benedict's Church has been completed, and the work will be offered as a thanksgiving from the ringers of Great Britain, Ireland and overseas to the memory of one whose labours, nearly three hundred years ago, did so much for our art.

Although the month is December, ringers are travelling from all parts of the country to be present upon this unique occasion, while thousands of others will, we are sure, be there in spirit, and many of them will share in making the celebration a truly national event by ringing in their own towers.

The service at St. Benedict's Church is timed for three o'clock, and ticket holders should be in their seats by 2.50 p.m. The service will be conducted by the Vicar, and the lessons read by the Rural Dean and the Master of Corpus Christi College—Vice Chancellor.

After the second lesson the clergy will proceed to the tower, where the president of the Central Council will unveil the bell-metal memorial tablet and request Bishop Price, Archdeacon of Ely, to dedicate the work. When this has been done, and while the procession returns to the chancel, a special band, consisting of the president of the Council and the Masters of the Ancient Society of College Youths, the Royal Cumberland Youths, the Oxford Diocesan Guild, the Essex Association and the Middlesex Association, will ring an extent of Stedman Doubles in the manner in which it was rung in Stedman's days; that is, with two 'extremes.' The sermon will be preached by Canon G. F. Coleridge. At the close of the service special representative companies will ring, and the bells will be open to bands of ticket holders. It is expected that it will take at least four hours for all who desire to ring to have a pull on the famous bells, and a limit of 120 has had to be fixed for each 'touch.' Stewards will be in charge, and will make up bands to follow each other in quick succession.

There will be a big luncheon party in Corpus Christi Dining Hall at 12.30, and after the service tea will be partaken of in two sittings in the same hall.

Early visitors who wish to be shown round some of the most interesting places in Cambridge can be provided with guides if they will call at the Lion Hotel, which will be the 'headquarters' for the day, and where a room will be reserved for the use of ringers and their friends. It is hoped that visitors will make full use of this accommodation.

In addition to St. Benedict's bells, the following will also be available:—

Great St. Mary's	(12)	11 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. 4.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. 7.30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Roman Catholic Church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs	(8)	1 p.m. to 2.30 p.m. 4.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.
Great St. Andrew's	(8)	
Old Chesherton	(6)	11 a.m. to 2 p.m. 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Trumpington	(6)	12 noon to 2 p.m. 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

Visitors will ring at these towers during these hours to suit their own convenience.

SOUVENIRS.

In connection with the commemoration, a souvenir is to be published to-morrow at the popular price of sixpence. It will contain, in addition to the details of the Tercentenary Commemoration Scheme, an article on 'Fabian Stedman,' which deals with all the known facts of his life and work, and a description of St. Benedict's Church, tower and bells, with illustrations. A complete list of the subscribers to the Tercentenary Fund will also be printed. The souvenir will be on sale at Cambridge, or may be ordered from 'The Ringing World' Office, Woking, Surrey, by post 8d. Every ringer should secure a copy of this booklet; it will be found to be full of interest and a pleasing memento of a unique event.

Another interesting form of souvenir will also be on sale. One of the ancient beams, which had to be taken from the tower—oak that may well be five hundred years old or more—has been converted into ash trays, and these will be disposed of for the benefit of the restoration fund.

FABIAN STEDMAN AND THE TIMES HE LIVED IN. WHEN THE FOUNDATIONS OF THE ART OF RINGING WERE LAID.

When we think of some great figure in history, we often try to visualise what manner of person he was, what his surroundings were, and what kind of life he led. Many of our readers must have tried to picture Fabian Stedman, but we have nothing but our imagination to draw upon. There is no known portrait of him. Of his character we can glean something from the work which he left to us. That he was an enthusiast for the art of ringing goes without saying; that he was anxious to secure its future is obvious from his own statement in his first treatise on the art, which, he tells us, was written in order that 'the rules thereof might not be lost and obscured to some, as the Chronicles before William the Conqueror, being given only by tradition from father to son.'

Stedman must have had a good education; that is made plain from his style of writing. He must to have had an orderly mind; he was a master of detail and had a wonderful gift of clear expression. He would seem, also, to have been a generous and friendly soul, and that he was highly respected by those who counted most in the Exercise in his time is proved by the fact that he was not only welcomed into the ranks of the College Youths of those days but, in spite of his residence in Cambridge, was elected their Steward in 1677 and their Master in 1682.

But while we know little about the man himself, it is interesting to recall something of the times in which he lived, and from them get a glimpse of the conditions under which the art of ringing was carried on. It was in Stedman's days that the Puritans rose to the height of their power and made a deep impress on the social life of the country. In their desire to put down all amusements on Sundays, they objected to the ringing of bells, even for the purpose of calling people to church. 'The Lord's Day,' says Fuller, the historian, 'began to be precisely kept. People became a law to themselves, forbearing such sports as were as yet by statute permitted: yea, many rejoicing at their own restraint therein. On this day the stoutest fencer laid aside his buckler; the most skilful archer unbent his bow; games and morris dances grew out of request; and good reason that bells should be silenced from jingling about men's legs if their very ringing in steeples were adjudged unlawful.' Even before the Civil War had run its course the Puritans laid a heavy hand on popular amusements, and in 1643 all persons were forbidden, under heavy penalties, to practise on the Lord's Day any such sports as shooting, bowling, wrestling, ringing church bells for pleasure, or dancing.

There was little ringing in those days except as a secular pastime, and it was doubtless this that, in the first instance, drew to St. Benedict's tower men of the University. They shared with Stedman the pleasure and recreation which was got from ringing. Of one such, Samuel Scattergood, we have now some definite information, brought to light recently by Mr. J. A. Trollope. Samuel Scattergood, who afterwards became an eminent divine, was the author of the 'Cambridge Peals,' which Stedman included in his 'Campanologia,' published in 1677.

London, when Stedman first knew it, was still a city of narrow streets and overhanging houses, and when he visited it in connection with the publication of his 'Tintinnalogia' the rebuilding of the city after the Great Fire was only just beginning, and St. Paul's Cathedral had not yet risen out of the ashes. Many of the houses left in the portion which escaped the ravages of the conflagration were built of wood.

Travel in those days was difficult and dangerous; the art of road making was almost unknown. Roads were merely tracks across country—in dry weather deep in dust, in wet weather a quagmire into which the wheels of a vehicle would often sink to the axles. Coaches had begun to be in general use, but many people still preferred horseback, and it was by this means that Stedman travelled in 1689, when he visited Leicester to explain 'to ye bell ringers ye desirability of establishing a Societie of Scholars for setting forth ye "artes and mysteries" of change ringing not onlie for ye edifyinge of their minds, but also for their enjoyment and the healthfull exercise of their bodies.' Highwaymen then roamed the countryside, and it may have been partly for the mutual protection which would be obtained by the presence of other travellers that Stedman chose the Leicester 'fayre tyme' to make his journey, which was no light undertaking. The difficulties of transport in those days was one of the reasons why so many of the church bells of that period were cast in the villages where they were to be used. It was easier for the bell founder to build his furnace on the spot than, in many cases, to transport new bells across country.

Stedman lived in times of great political turmoil—the trial and execution of Charles I., the period of the Commonwealth, and the restoration of the house of Stewart. The Great Plague and the Great Fire were events which preceded his first book on change ringing, and the Battle of Sedgemoor was fought after he had been Master of the College Youths. Village life in its main features remained almost the same as in the Middle Ages, and the discipline of the stocks and the pillory, as well as of the 'ducking stool' was freely used. Stedman must have watched the first great efforts made to reclaim the Fenland, which began as an adventure, with the land as its reward, from the Cambridge side. Stedman lived in stirring days; the modern history of England was in the making; and it was in this time the foundations of the art of ringing were being developed, in which Stedman played a great and lasting part.

DERBY CATHEDRAL.—In honour of the Stedman Tercentenary on December 5th the peal of ten bells will be available for ringing from 3.30 to 5 o'clock. Visitors and friends will be welcome.—James Pagett, Ringing Master.

'LIVELY' PEALS OF STEDMAN TRIPLES.

TWO SEVEN-PARTS BY MR. J. W. PARKER.

There can be few people who look upon Stedman Triples as a monotonous method to ring, but, for those who do, here are two peals, recently rung at Bushey, which will keep everyone on the alert. They are the compositions of Mr. J. W. Parker, of Sunderland.

Mr. M. F. R. Hibbert, the conductor of the two peals, expresses the opinion that there should be an umpire. With so many bobs and singles it would be quite easy to change any pair back again after a shift, or if, say, there are three bobs and a single in a block, to call the single anywhere, without the band knowing whether it was right or wrong.

COMPOSITION No. 29.										
2314567	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
5134627					S					
2154673	S			S	S					
3154762		S							S	
3157624	S					S	S			
3254617		S				S				
3275146										
3216475	S									
3214756	S					S	S			
3516724		S				S				
3541267										
7561243	S		S							
4561273		S								

Six times repeated.

First rung at St. James', Bushey, on Thursday, November 19th, 1931, conducted by Maurice F. R. Hibbert.

COMPOSITION No. 6.										
2314567	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
7345621	S									
6435271		S								
6213745				S					S	
6731425				S						
6415273	S							S		
2145763		S								
2734615				S				S		
2643175				S						
2135764	S							S		
7315624		S								
7641235				S				S		
7645213	S							S		

Six times repeated.

First rung at St. James', Bushey, on Thursday, October 29th, 1931, conducted by Maurice F. R. Hibbert.

ROWS DO NOT CHANGE.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The letter which Mr. Cave has sent to the Gloucester and Bristol papers is an excellent one in every way, and I hope it will have the desired effect. If, therefore, I comment on two points, it is not in the way of criticism, but rather to indicate how understanding could be arrived at. It is as well to have one side of the case put down definitely, but there usually has to be some give and take before a settlement is arrived at.

Mr. Cave suggests adding a line stating that the composition of the peal was false. There are several difficulties here. The tablet was fixed by a faculty. This means that such an addition (supposing, of course, that there is room for it) would have to be approved by: (a) the local church authorities; (b) the P.C.C.; (c) the Advisory Committee; (d) the Diocesan Chancellor. The latter would then probably insist on a hearing in Court, and the issue of a new faculty, with the necessary fees. Now I cannot imagine any one of these people agreeing with Mr. Cave's words. I certainly would not myself, if I were in their position. Sooner than have anything with the word false on it in the church I would dispense with the tablet. Moreover, the proposed words would not meet the objection that many of us have to the tablet. The wrong use of the word 'changes' would remain, and there would be added an unpleasant sentence which the ordinary reader would not understand. Two wrongs would emphatically not make one right.

On the other hand, if the wording has been painted, it would be a small thing to scrape off the word 'changes' and to substitute the word 'rows.' All that would be required would be to ask the Chancellor's permission, which he would probably grant, without further formality, when it was explained to him that a mistake had been made.

The other point is that Mr. Cave says that some 'changes were rung twice.' Now anyone accustomed to studying long arguments in text books (as are those persons who have permitted the erection of this tablet) would say to him—in fact, probably one of them has already said something like this to those who have used such an argument: 'What you are saying seems to me nonsense. If a thing occurs twice it is a repetition, which is the exact contrary to a change. You ringers may use the word "change" in some Pickwickian sense that makes nonsense of it to other people, but, if so, you must keep it to your own books and papers, which no one but a ringer need read. You cannot claim to have placed in a public position where anyone can read them words which appear to the ordinary person to be untrue; and then, in addition, to say that these words which are quite in accord with your own use of the word "changes" are misleading.'

Now, why is it that we of the older generation, such as Mr. Cave and Mr. C. T. Coles, use the word 'changes' in this wrong way? It is because when we learned to ring the word 'row' was not in common use. People used the word 'change' when they really meant 'row.' They spoke of 'false changes'—an obviously contradictory form of words, which I hope I never used myself.

Then someone, it may have been the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, pointed out to us that the word row was correct, and that a row does not itself change, but that it is the result of a change, or of a repetition. In the former case we call it a true row, in the latter a false row. Then it was said that changes took place 'between the rows.' This was found to mean too much; but we all agreed that 'it takes two rows to make a change.' Here is the real criterion. One row is either the same as some other row, or it is different. In the latter case there is a change; in the former case we do not say that it is a false change, or a repeated change, or a change rung twice, because any of these terms would be untrue, being self-contradictory. We simply say there is NO CHANGE.

If then, in a false peal, x number of rows are repeated, there is NO CHANGE in 2x number of rows. Thus to find out how many changes were actually rung at Painswick, we must deduct from 17,687 twice the number of rows that were repeated. How then can it possibly be true to say that 17,687 changes were rung? Those who do not see this are making the same error as those who cannot see the truth of the rule in arithmetic, which tells us that if we multiply anything by nothing, the result is nothing. If we repeat a row (i.e., multiply it by 'no change') we shall get as a result only 'no change.' We may go on repeating a row any number of times, but we still shall not get a false change, or a repeated change, or any other kind of change, but simply NO CHANGE.

Mr. C. T. Coles speaks of those people whose 'views on rows and changes do not coincide with those that Mr. Drake holds.' He does not, however, in any of his letters, tell us what those views are. I hope I have shown that there is no room for any views (either mine or anyone else's) in this matter. We do not hold views on matters of arithmetic. We simply have to accept them—that was the first thing we learnt at school. Mr. C. T. Coles also says he wishes I would tell him whether the Suffolk Guild intends to expel him. In the first words of my first letter I pointed out that the Guild intends to expel no one. I worded my resolution (which, of course, need not be the form ultimately put before us) in such a way as clearly to exclude people who, like Mr. C. T. Coles, continue to sit on the fence; and apparently have not decided whether to come down on the change ringing side or the other.

HERBERT DRAKE.

ROYAL CUMBERLANDS' JUBILEE.

MESSRS. FUSSELL AND BARNETT CELEBRATE 50 YEARS' MEMBERSHIP.

On November 27th, 1881, the previous election, in the belfry of St. Giles-in-the-Fields, of William H. Fussell, as a member of the Royal Cumberland Youths, was formally confirmed by the society in general meeting. On December 9th of the same year Edwin Barnett, was elected a member.



MR. EDWIN BARNETT.

On Saturday last these two men, now veterans in the Exercise, stood together in the tower at Shoreditch to celebrate the jubilee of their membership. Unfortunately the peal of Stedman Cinques, which was to mark the event, was lost after three hours' ringing, but both received the congratulations of the band and good wishes for further years of health and strength to enjoy participation in the art with which they have been linked for so many years.

Mr. Fussell has rung peals in every county in England, and all but one in Wales, as well as in many in Ireland and Scotland. He is one of the greatest organisers of ringing tours who have ever taken a hand in the task, and his descriptions of these excursions always make interesting reading.

Like Mr. Fussell, Mr. Barnett has a long score of peals, accumulated through more than half a century of ringing, but he has one other claim to celebrity which his brother Cumberland will not be able to wrest from him. Mr. Barnett has rung peals in which both his son and grandson have taken part, and only the other day the three generations rang together in a peal of Stedman Triples.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the South and West District was held at Christ Church, Ealing, on Saturday last, and nearly 30 attended. Standard methods were practised, as well as 'Spliced' Surprise Major. A short service was conducted by the Rev. W. D. W. Greenham, and Mr. J. A. Trollope (vice-president) read the lesson. After service, the company adjourned to the church Schoolroom for tea, ably served by the hostess, Mrs. Wilson (mother of the assistant secretary).

Mr. Trollope presided, supported by the Rev. W. D. Greenham, Mr. Goodfellow (Ringing Master), Mr. H. C. Chandler (assistant Ringing Master), etc.

At the business meeting eight new members were elected. Feltham was selected for the meeting on January 16th, and Isleworth for the annual meeting on February 6th. Due notice of these will be given in 'The Ringing World.'

It was announced that a peal of Stedman would be attempted at St. Peter's, Staines, and St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, for the Stedman Tercentenary celebration on December 5th.

Touques of Grandsire Caters and Cinques were rung on the handbells by Messrs. F. Goodfellow, J. A. Trollope, G. W. Roberts, W. G. Dilson, E. S. Turner and J. Herbert.

The Ringing Master read a paper on the handling of the bell rope and the teaching of learners (supplied by Mr. Andrews, of Trowbridge, Wilts), which was most interesting and appreciated by all.

The usual vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar, to the Rev. W. D. Greenham, to the organist, to the hostess for the excellent tea, and to her many lady assistants, and, last but not least, to Mr. Wilfred Wilson for making the necessary arrangements, which proved so successful.

A further visit was paid to the tower and ringing maintained until nearly 9 p.m., when a pleasant meeting closed.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

The November meeting of the Warwickshire Guild was held at Bulkington, near Nuneaton, on Saturday, November 21st. The six bells were set going soon after three o'clock, and various methods were rung until a halt for tea was called. A sumptuous meal was partaken of in the schoolroom prepared by Mrs. Hinde, an hon. member of the Guild, together with the wives of the local ringers. A few enthusiasts rang handbells after tea, but the majority returned to the belfry, where ringing continued until about eight o'clock. The attendance was splendid for a monthly meeting, Allesley, Chilvers Coton, Lillington, Shilton, Stoke, Warwick and Wolvey being represented, together with the local band. The methods rung during the day included Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Cambridge, London, York and Durham Surprise.

THE LADIES' GUILD.

CENTRAL DISTRICT'S ACCESSION OF MEMBERS.

The annual meeting of the Central District of the Ladies' Guild was held on Saturday last at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, London, between 50 and 60 members and friends being present. Amongst those who came from a distance were Mr. and Mrs. C. I. Davies, of Liverpool. Ringing commenced at 3 o'clock, and, with the assistance of the gentlemen, the methods rung included Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Cambridge, Bristol and London, with rounds for the beginners. A good course of Cambridge was also rung by members of the Guild.

A short but cheery service was conducted by the curate (Rev. L. C. Loveless), the Rector unfortunately being absent through illness. After the service tea was partaken of in the room adjoining the church, at the close of which Miss E. Steel (president of the Guild) thanked Rev. L. C. Loveless for taking the service and his cordial welcome, Miss Cornish and her helpers for the excellent tea provided, and Mr. A. W. Coles and other members of the local company for having everything in readiness and being present.

Tea being over, at the request of the Rev. Loveless, a course of Grandsire Caters was rung on handbells, in which two members of the Guild took part.

Then followed the business meeting, the gentlemen having adjourned to the tower for further ringing, Miss Steel (president) being voted to the chair.

The following were elected new members: Mrs. C. I. Davies, Mrs. G. Goodship and Mrs. Shelloek (hon. members), the Misses McIntior, Eades and Shorney (Milton-next-Gravesend), Mrs. E. Beer and the Misses K. Beer, D. Britton, and S. Tibbrooke (Gravesend), Miss Durling (Northfleet), Miss Colishaw (Frintsbury), Mrs. Spice (Canterbury), Miss Hoveyd (Dartford), Miss Mutton (Chislehurst), the Misses E. Greenall, P. Knights, D. Knights and L. Wheeler (Enfield), also the Misses Church, G. Pack and Prockson and Mrs. Osborne.

Mrs. R. F. Deal was re-elected vice-president. Owing to the resignation of Mrs. A. Discrens, the position of district secretary had become vacant. It was proposed by Mrs. R. F. Deal, and seconded by Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, that Mrs. G. H. Cross be elected to fill this vacancy, and this, on being put to the meeting, was carried.

The following were chosen as members of the committee: Mrs. Deal, Mrs. Barker, Mrs. Mitchell and Miss D. Fletcher, with Mrs. Deal and Mrs. Barker on the Central Committee.

At the kind invitation of Mrs. Mitchell, it was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Milton-next-Gravesend, the date to be either at the end of February or the beginning of March.

A vote of thanks to the president concluded the meeting, and the ladies afterwards joined in further ringing.

NATIONAL POLICE GUILD.

During the visit to London of Chief Inspector James Meldrum (Liverpool City) and Station Sergeant Peter Crook (Bolton Borough) on the occasion of the annual Police Conference, a peal a Kent Treble Bob Major, by members of the National Police Guild, was attempted at the Church of St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark: P.C. E. Gwilliam 1, S.D. Inspector W. Bottrill 2, ex-P.C. F. Digby 3, Sergt. G. Schleuter 4, P.C. T. Bannister 5, Ch.-Inspector J. Meldrum 6, St. Sergt. P. Crook 7, ex-P.C. E. Brett 8. After an hour and a half's good ringing, the single light electric bulb fell out of its socket and plunged the ringing chamber into darkness. Such was the end of this attempt. An opportunity to go for this peal again in the near future will present itself, when it is to be hoped better luck will be experienced.

All the band, with the exception of Messrs. Meldrum and Crook, are serving or ex-members of the Metropolitan Police.

A CHEERY CROWD.

The East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild held their monthly practice at Bray on Saturday, when the usual cheery crowd turned up. The visitors, including the Master (Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn) and Rev. A. J. Harris-Revet, were welcomed by Canon Jones, a newcomer to Bray, although no stranger to the Guild.

A bright service and interesting talk was followed by tea, which had been tastefully prepared by Mrs. Hobbs and Mrs. Norman (of Cookham) in the face of many difficulties, including 1s. for the light and 6d. for boiling the water. It is rumoured that one well-known member was only able to have three cups of tea instead of his usual seventeen. The difficulties, however, did not end with the tea, as some who were present found to their cost.

Among the methods rung were Cambridge Surprise and Kent and Oxford 'spliced.' London Surprise was attempted, but was unsuccessful.

It is hoped to hold the next practice at Boyne Hill on December 19th.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CANTERBURY DISTRICT ENTERTAINED AT LITTLEBOURNE

A most successful meeting of the Canterbury District of Kent County Association was held at Littlebourne on Saturday, where the six bells have recently been rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

The meeting was held by the kind invitation of the Vicar (Rev. C. A. Manley), who, during the course of a most interesting address at the service, both surprised and pleased the ringers by his wide knowledge of and interest in change ringing. About 35 members were present, representing the Cathedral, St. Alphege, and St. Stephen's, Canterbury; Deal, St. Nicholas-at-Wade, Whitstable, Wingham, Wickhambreau, Sturry, Kennington, Ashford, Egerton, and all the local ringers.

The association form of service was used, the Vicar officiating and Mr. J. P. Cobbold (Littlebourne) ably presiding at the organ.

In the course of his appropriate address Rev. C. A. Manley quoted a poem from Canon Raven's 'Bells of England,' dealing with the various excuses made by ringers on the occasion of breakdowns of peals. The poem concludes:—

And now from henceforth be it known,
When'er a peal turns lame,
The ringers never are in fault,
The bells are all to blame.

Subsequently the ringers adjourned to the Vicarage, where the Rev. and Mrs. Manley had prepared a splendid tea for the visitors. Before leaving, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the host and hostess for their kind hospitality and entertainment, and to Mr. Cobbold for the musical arrangements. A course of Grandsire Triples on the handbells brought to a close a very enjoyable hour at the Vicarage, and the ringers again returned to the tower, where ringing, which had taken place during the afternoon, was continued until 8.30 p.m.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The South-Western Division annual meeting at Romford on Saturday, November 21st, was well attended, over 60 members and friends from various parts of the county being present. Touches in various methods were rung before the service, which was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. P. S. Abraham). At the business meeting after tea, two honorary and ten ringing members were elected.

Messrs. A. Prior and E. J. Butler were re-elected district Master and secretary respectively, and St. Saviour's, Walthamstow, selected as the place for next meeting.

A vote of thanks was accorded the retiring officers for their work during the past year, and one also to the Vicar for allowing the use of tower and bells and conducting the service, to Mr. Griggs, the organist, for accompanying the hymns, etc., at the service, and to Mr. H. Dawkins, hon. secretary of the Romford band, for having everything in readiness. This was responded to by the Vicar.

During the afternoon and evening members were present from Leytonstone, Harlow, Brentwood, Romford, Grantham, Stowmarket, Bentley, Walthamstow, Hornchurch, Maldon (All Saints') and St. Mary's, Barking, Bentley, Loughton, Orsett, Prittlewell, Shenfield, Wanstead, and West Ham, and the bells were kept going to various methods till 9 p.m.

SOUTH-EASTERN DIVISION.

The annual meeting was held at Widford on Saturday, November 28th, when forty-three members were present from Braintree, Broomfield, Blackmore, Bentley (South Weald), Chelmsford, Galleywood, Goldhanger, Great Baddow, Kelvedon, Maldon (All Saints'), Romford, Springfield, Writtle and Widford.

The service was conducted by the Rev. S. J. Burling (curate of St. John's, Moulsham), owing to the absence of the Vicar (Rev. F. R. Thurlow) through illness. The lesson was read by the Master of the association, Mr. C. H. Howard.

The tea was served at the White Horse, presided over by the Rev. S. J. Burling. The annual district meeting followed, at which the chair was taken by Mr. C. H. Howard.

Mr. G. Green, District Master, did not wish to be re-elected, and Mr. H. W. Kirtan was therefore elected to the office.—Mr. A. E. Coombes was re-elected hon. secretary, the chairman thanking the District Master and secretary for their services during the past year.

Six new members were elected from Writtle, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Galleywood on Saturday, February 13th.

Mr. C. H. Howard proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, to Rev. S. J. Burling for conducting the service, and to Mr. R. C. Clark for accompanying the hymns.—In reply, Rev. S. J. Burling said it had been a great pleasure to be present, and he hoped that he would have the opportunity to meet the ringers again.—Ringing continued till 9 p.m. in various methods.

ROSS-ON-WYE. — On Saturday, October 3rd, at the Parish Church of St. Mary, 1,008 Bob Major: T. Baldwin 1, J. Gillett 2, J. W. Jones 3, G. Popnell 4, W. T. Poston 5, J. Austin (conductor) 6, J. Webb 7, J. Clark 8. Rung after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Stedman Triples as a welcome to the Bishop of Hereford to Ross for an ordination service.

REVERSE STEDMAN.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I thank the Rev. E. S. Powell and Mr. Trollope for their letters, though neither, I think, justifies the transposing of the reverse methods.

Their contention seems to be that no starting place is, theoretically, more correct than any other, but Mr. Powell has a preference for starting with a whole six, and he tells us there is no sufficient reason for preserving the original go off. Mr. Trollope mentions that Stedman with the ordinary start shows a symmetrical 'twelve,' which seems to me to be quite a good reason for retaining this go off.

The plain course of Bob Minor consists of five symmetrical leads, and we start to ring it at the beginning of a lead. I agree with Mr. Powell that there is one reason for so doing which does not apply to Stedman, but I do not feel that it is the sole reason. If a plain course of Stedman Doubles, or of Reverse Stedman Doubles, consists (as it does) of five symmetrical divisions of 12 rows each, then it seems to me quite natural to start to ring it at the beginning of a 'twelve,' and that Mr. Powell's terms, 'an artificial starting place' and the 'strangeness of the go off' would apply more reasonably to a start at any point other than a 'twelve'-head.

But let us come to practical considerations. In ringing the slow work of Stedman we make our first whole turn by a whole pull (at lead) WRONG, a blow in second's and a whole pull RIGHT. In reversing the method, we understand that we must do our slow work behind, and the dodging in front; but in ringing Reverse Stedman Doubles, as given in the 'Collection,' we should have to do our first whole turn by a whole pull RIGHT, a blow in fourth's, and a whole pull WRONG, which closely resembles our LAST whole turn in Stedman. The remainder of the work is altered correspondingly, of course.

Surely this would prove confusing to a Stedman band attempting Reverse Stedman for the first time. Still I ask, why need this confusion be thrust upon them?

The committee does not profess to have given us a variation of Reverse Stedman, but 'Reverse Stedman' itself. My view that their 'Reverse Stedman' is not the old method reversed may perhaps be made clearer by a homely illustration. I part my hair on the left. When I look into a mirror I see a fellow who parts his hair on the right. He is 'The Mad Hatter' reversed. If I open Snowdon's Standard Methods—Diagrams—at Stedman, and hold it up facing the glass for that fellow to see, the diagram HE shows ME is Stedman reversed. If your readers will try it, I have little doubt what their verdict will be.—Yours faithfully,
THE MAD HATTER.

SYMMETRY.

Dear Sir,—When the present Methods Committee realise that the following Principles: Stedman, Reverse Stedman, Carter and Reverse Carter, all have separate BASIC PRINCIPLES of twelve rows to a division in which each separate move can be shown, just as the moves of methods can be shown in the Plain or Treble Bob Principles, they may possibly alter their views as to the symmetry of Principles.

That Stedman knew something of symmetry is evidenced by the way in which he produced his Principle.

That there are BASIC PRINCIPLES for 12, 10, 8, 6 and 4 rows to a division in Principles, in which can be shown the separate moves of the particular Principle, is known to—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE BAKER.

KENT SCHOOL RINGERS.

AMERICAN CLASS REBUILT AFTER VACATION.

With the opening of the new school year at Kent School, Connecticut, U.S.A., where Messrs. Mears and Stainbank erected a ring of ten bells, Mr. I. J. Attwater, the instructor, became actively engaged in rebuilding the band. Of his original 17 members who took up ringing when the bells were opened, four graduated and left the school, and five others lost interest. Mr. Attwater thus had eight, who had learnt to handle a bell, as the nucleus, when the new term began. He is building up a class of 20 students to allow for 'lenkage' of the non-enthusiasts.

Ten of the present band have been taking part in ringing 'hunting leads' on the open bells, while six of the others are very promising pupils. Plain courses of Grandsire Triples on the tower bells and Bob Minor, Grandsire Doubles and Triples on handbells are now being practised. Mr. Attwater tells us that progress has been very encouraging, and he looks forward to the winter's 'campaign' with confidence.

This week-end the ringers are paying a visit to Mr. S. Warren Sturgess, at Groton School, Mass., for a ringing meeting of the two schools to-day and to-morrow. This should be a most interesting event and a fine stimulant to the cause of change ringing in U.S.A.

Many people have been to the bell tower at Kent School during the summer to listen to the bells. While the school was closed for the vacation set changes, hymns and old English songs were played on the bells, in lieu of ringing, and were listened to with interest by the visitors.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

CROYDON.—At St. Peter's Church, on Sunday, November 29th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: W. J. Adcock 1, D. Wright (conductor) 2, C. Dean 3, H. E. Wills 4, F. W. Larbey 5, W. Bulpitt 6, F. Leek 7, E. Denham 8, F. E. Collins 9, R. H. Dove 10. Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Johnston on the first anniversary of their wedding.

READING, BERKS.—On Sunday, November 29th, at St. Giles' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: R. Sawyer 1, W. Osborne 2, A. W. Osborne (conductor) 3, L. T. Osborne 4, A. Bailey 5, H. A. Osborne 6, A. Jeffery 7, H. Osborne 8. Rung for the Confirmation service, also as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 2nd.

GOSPEL OAK.—At St. Martin's Church, for evening service, on Sunday, November 15th, 720 Bob Minor: A. Harwin 1, T. G. Bannister 2, F. Bondfield 3, R. Newman 4, E. Bondfield 5, A. Warren (conductor) 6. The conductor's first attempt to call a 720 in any method.

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.**FIRST STEDMAN AT TRURO BRANCH MEETING.**

A successful meeting of the Truro Branch of the Diocesan Guild was held at Vryan on Saturday, November 21st, when about forty ringers were present from St. Gluvias, St. Dennis, St. Ewe, Truro Cathedral and the local band. Vryan have lately rejoined the Guild after a lapse of many years, and the tower is all the more welcomed because it was one of the first to be affiliated when the Guild was formed over twenty years ago, and the Vicar at that time, Canon Kempe, was the first secretary of the Diocesan Guild.

The service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Gerwyn Rhys, who in the course of his address mentioned the early days of the Guild at Vryan.

A sumptuous tea was provided in the school, and two big log fires were greatly appreciated, seeing that the church heating apparatus had refused to work.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed by Major C. F. Jerram to the Vicar, the local ringers and lady helpers, and this was seconded by the Rev. W. H. R. Trowhella. Both speakers referred to the Stedman tercentenary, and urged the various bands to ring on December 5th for a short while.

A feature of the meeting was the good striking that prevailed throughout and the general improvement in the ringing was very noticeable.

After tea a splendidly struck 120 of Stedman Doubles was rung by: Major C. F. Jerram 1, A. S. Roberts 2, Miss E. J. C. Angwin 3, G. W. Taysom (conductor) 4, W. H. Southard 5, W. H. Sleeman 6. It is good to think that the first Stedman ever rung at a Truro Branch meeting has been accomplished in the tercentenary year.

NORTHANTS' OLDEST RINGER.**DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM J. GILBERT, OF RAUNDS.**

We regret to record the death of Mr. W. J. Gilbert, of Raunds, the oldest ringer in Northamptonshire, which took place on Sunday, November 8th. Mr. Gilbert, who had reached the advanced age of 80, had been a ringer for over 50 years. His first peal, Bob Triples, was rung at Titchmarsh in 1882, conducted by C. W. Clarke, of Bedford, and in 1883 Mr. Gilbert was one of the first to help form the Raunds, Wellingborough and District Association. With the late Mr. H. Stubbs, Mr. Gilbert did a lot of spade work in teaching young bands.

The funeral took place on Armistice Day. The bearers were four of his oldest friends. At the graveside were, among others, Messrs. H. Chapman, W. Perkins, A. Perkins, G. Jeffs, sen., G. Jeffs, jun., G. H. Roberts, C. Willson, T. Willson, and R. Loveday. Touches of Grandsire Triples were rung on the bells half-muffled by G. W. Roberts 1, A. Perkins 2, H. Copperwheat 3, F. Kirk 4, A. Sharman 5, H. Chapman 6, W. Perkins (conductor) 7, R. Loveday 8.

ROCHESTER RINGER'S DEATH.**THIRD LOSS TO ST. MARGARET'S TOWER.**

The Church of St. Margaret, Rochester, has suffered yet another loss among the bellringers, the third within just over a year, Mr. John Pope Kidd having died on Sunday evening, November 7th, after a long and painful illness, which was patiently borne.

Mr. Kidd had been a ringer at Rochester for 56 years and had been tower secretary for 40 years. He was also one of the first members of the Kent County Association, and his many friends will extend to his family their deepest sympathy in the loss they have sustained. Two of his sons are bellringers, one belonging to the St. Margaret's band, and the younger being a member of St. Mary's, Chatham.

On Sunday evening, November 14th, a representative band of the district rang a memorial quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Margaret's Church, Rochester, with the bells half-muffled: T. Brister (St. Margaret's) 1, H. Hogarth (Chatham) 2, D. T. Hills (St. Margaret's) 3, W. Walker (Newington) 4, S. Shellock (district secretary, conductor) 5, J. Rayner (Cathedral) 6, E. A. G. Allen (Frindsbury) 7, A. Haylor (St. Margaret's) 8.

NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—The subscription of 1s. 8d., which enables members who have not met twenty times to vote on matters of finance, is now due. Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on December 17th and 31st; St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 10th (8 p.m.); *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 15th; *St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 29th, at 7.30 p.m. * Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Churchkirk on Saturday, December 5th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Everybody welcome.—F. Hindle, Hon. Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—A by-meeting will be held at Linton on Saturday, December 5th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service at 4.45. Tea by kind invitation of the Vicar of Linton after service in the Institute. All ringers welcome. Good bus service from Maidstone. Please try to notify me early.—C. H. Sone, Dis. Sec., Bungalow, Linton, Maidstone.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Next meeting will be held at All Saints', Sheffield, on Saturday, December 5th. Bells (8) open for ringing at 2.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 221, Hanover Street, Sheffield.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Ratby, Leicester.—The dedication of the two new bells of the augmented ring of eight by Taylors, Loughborough, will take place on December 5th, at 3 p.m. All welcome.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The next quarterly meeting for ringing only will be held at Bowness-on-Windermere on Saturday, December 5th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Visitors welcomed.—W. T. Clark, Branch Sec., Broughton-in-Furness.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at All Saints', Hastings, on Saturday, December 5th. Tower open at 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea at the Parish Room at 5 o'clock (1s. per head). Business to follow. Half rail fares to members (maximum 1s. 6d.).—G. W. Stokes, 22, Melbourne Road, Eastbourne.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.—A Memorial Tablet will be unveiled at Holy Trinity, Bolton, to its late chief ringer, on Saturday, December 5th. Bells available for ringing during the afternoon. Ceremony at 7 p.m. A hearty invitation is extended to all.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., Bolton Branch.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Late St. James' Society).—Meetings for December at St. Clement Danes, Strand, W.C.: Sunday, December 6th, 10 a.m.; Mondays December 14th and 28th, 7.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—A ringing meeting will be held at Cowden on Saturday, December 12th. Tower opened 3 p.m. Will all requiring tea kindly notify me not later than December 9th? All ringers welcome.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, Moat Road, East Grinstead.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The next meeting will be held at King's Langley on December 12th. A service, tea and meeting will be arranged. Good bus service by the church.—J. Puplett, Hon. Sec., Aylesbury Road, Tring.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The next meeting will be held at Weybridge on December 12th.—Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Numbers for tea by Tuesday, December 8th.—H. Hancock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Chobham Road, Ottershaw, Chertsey.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—The next meeting will be held at All Saints', Benhilton, Sutton, on Saturday, December 12th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m., tea and meeting following in the Church Hall. Will all those requiring tea please notify me by Tuesday, December 8th? All ringers heartily welcome.—D. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Harrison's Rise, Croydon.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—A joint meeting of the Doncaster and Dis. Society, the Barnsley and Dis. Society and the Southern Division will be held at Rawmarsh, near Rotherham, on Saturday, December 12th. Bells (eight) available from 2 o'clock. Tea will be provided at 1s. each. Please notify Mr. F. C. Wilson, 131, Wheatecroft Road, Sandhill, Rawmarsh, by the 9th for same. Good bus service from Rotherham, Mexborough and Conisborough. Burrowes buses from Leeds, Wakefield and Barnsley pass the church every hour.—F. Clark, Hon. Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Philip's, Bristol, on Saturday, December 12th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Will those requiring tea kindly let me know by December 9th?—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.—Southern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Neath on Saturday, December 12th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome. Kindly advise me for tea by Tuesday, December 8th.—E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Lindley, Huddersfield, on Saturday, December 12th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Tea will be provided free to all those who send in their names to Mr. H. H. Smith, 86, Broomfield Road, Marsh, Huddersfield, not later than Wednesday, December 9th.—F. Hutchinson, Dis. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-West Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Bishop's Stortford on Saturday, December 12th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.30 p.m. Those intending to be present kindly advise me.—H. A. Wacey, 44, Rye Street, Bishop's Stortford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Whittle-le-Woods on Saturday, December 12th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Mr. Wm. Taylor will probably give a lecture on 'The Proving of Peals' at this meeting.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at York, on Saturday, December 12th. The Minster bells (12) will be available from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., and 6.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Tea will be served in the Feasegate Restaurant at 4.30 p.m. to those who notify Mr. G. Horner, 16, Clifton Green, York, by Thursday, December 10th. Business meeting in belfry at 5.30 p.m.—A. B. Cook, Hon. Dis. Sec., 58, Wyndham Street, Hull.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Lancaster Branch.—The next meeting is to be held at Lancaster on December 12th. Tea to those who notify Mr. T. Fawcett, 17, Balmoral Road, Moorlands, by December 9th.—E. Jennings, Hon. Sec., Castle Oval, Kendal.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Gloucester Branch.—The annual meeting of the Gloucester Branch will be held on Saturday, December 12th, at the Church of St. Lawrence, Barnwood. Bells (8) open at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5.15 p.m., by kind invitation of the Rector. Will those requiring tea kindly notify me not later than December 10th? All ringers welcome.—W. H. Harris, Branch Sec., 15, Painswick Road, Gloucester.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting of the Guild will be held at Kennington on Saturday, December 12th. Bells available 2.30. Tea 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—A. J. Battin, Hon. Sec., Heronden Hall Gardens, Tenterden.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Christchurch District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Christchurch on Saturday, December 12th. Bells (10) available from 2.30 p.m. Service in church at 4 p.m., to be followed by tea and business meeting at 5 p.m. at the King's Arms, P.R.H.A.—G. Preston, Christchurch.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Dunster Deanery Branch.—The next annual meeting will be held at Timberscombe on Saturday, December 12th. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at the Schoolroom at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow.—G. Stacey, Hon. Local Sec., 6, Park Street, Minehead.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—Please note. Owing to the illness of the Rector's wife at Witherley, the next monthly meeting will be held at Croft on December 12th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Tea in the Schools 5 o'clock. All ringers and friends welcome, and please turn up for tea.—W. A. Cope, Hon. Dis. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—A meeting will be held at Dallington on Saturday, December 12th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Will those who require tea please notify me not later than Tuesday, December 8th?—T. Tebbutt, West Street, Moulton, Northampton.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting will be held at South Wingfield on Saturday, December 12th. Bells at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Please send numbers for tea to me by Wednesday, December 9th.—J. W. England, The Common, South Normanton.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—A meeting will be held at Luton on Saturday, December 12th. The bells (8) will be available from 2.45 p.m. During the afternoon the unveiling of a peal board will take place. It will help if names for tea are sent to Mr. A. King, 6, Tavistock Crescent, Luton.—A. E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street N., Dunstable.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Bulwell (8 bells) on Saturday, December 12th. Bells ready 3 p.m. All ringers welcome. Please come and keep the bells going.—E. C. Gobey, Dis. Sec., 23, Shaw Street, Ilkeston.

SALISBURY GUILD.—North Dorset Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Sherborne on Saturday, December 12th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting. The bells at Milborne Port (8), Bradford Abbas (6), Bishop's Caundle (5), Lillington (5), Thornford (5), and Yetminster (5) also available. Those requiring tea please notify Rev. A. E. Nedham, Compton Abbas Rectory, Shaftesbury.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—On Saturday, December 12th, a by-meeting will be held at Gravesend. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at St. George's at 4.30 p.m. to be followed by tea by kind invitation of His Worship the Mayor of Gravesend, in the Church Hall. Those intending to be present must let me know without fail by Tuesday, December 8th.—Stanley J. T. Shellock, Dis. Sec., 162, Barnsole Road, Gillingham, Kent.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Central Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Wotton Underwood on Saturday, December 12th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—E. F. Gibbard, Hon. Sec., 92, High Street, Winslow.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The last meeting of the year will be held on Saturday, December 12th, at Worksop (8 bells), which will be open from 2.30 p.m. Tea provided for those who notify Mr. A. Johnson, 3, South View, Cheapside, Worksop. Good meeting hoped for. Good bus and train services to and from the town.—R. W. Stockdale, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. James', Taunton, on Saturday, December 12th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Meeting and tea to follow in the schools. Will any visitors requiring tea please notify me by the previous Tuesday?—P. Merson, Bishop's Hull.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Cheltenham Branch will be held at Leckhampton on Saturday, December 12th. Bells open at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 5.30, by invitation of the Rector, Canon F. W. Sears. Business meeting after tea. Notification for tea by the 8th.—Walter Yeend, Branch Hon. Sec., Millfield, Tewkesbury Road, Cheltenham.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Wisbech.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Dec. 12th, at Whittlesey. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Will members who require tea please let me know not later than Tuesday, Dec. 8th? All ringers welcome.—Edward Barker, Branch Sec., Shouldham, King's Lynn.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grappenhall Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at Grappenhall on Saturday, Dec. 12th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Please advise N. Smith, Stockton Lane, Grappenhall, by the 9th inst., number requiring tea.—J. E. Ashcroft, Branch Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Willington on Saturday, December 12th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. All welcome.—Percy C. Bonnett, Dis. Sec., Stagsden, Beds.

SUTTON-ON-TRENT, NOTTS.—The two new trebles to complete the octave will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Southwell on Saturday, December 19th,

at 3 o'clock. All ringers welcome. Will those requiring tea please send word to Miss G. Burchnall, Sutton-on-Trent, Newark, by December 16th. Bells open for ringing after the service.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Manchester Town Hall (10 bells), on Saturday, December 19th. Tower open for ringing at 3.30 p.m. All ringers and friends are cordially invited. Subscriptions due, and annual report to hand.—D. Brown, 140, Hulton Street, Moss-side, Manchester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Garston on Saturday, December 19th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. For tea, notify Mr. Walter Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.—Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec.

YATE, BRISTOL.—Reopening of bells (6) after re-hanging by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston will take place Tuesday, December 22nd. Service 7.15 p.m.; preacher, the Ven. the Archdeacon of Gloucester. Will those intending to be present please advise Canon E. F. Smith, Yate? Bristol ringers please advise me.—Edgar Guise, 48, Jamaica Street, Bristol.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The second annual dinner will be held at the Lion Hotel, Guildford, on Saturday, January 9th.

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